

Your Council,  
working for you

Comhairle Contae  
Fhine Gall  
Fingal County  
Council



**May 2022**  
**Chief Executive's**  
**Report on Activities**

A full moon burns in the sky at Dunsink Observatory, Dublin 15  
*Photo by Ian Carruthers, Housing and Community Development Department*



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

The Dublin Citizens' Assembly, has been convened to consider the type of directly elected mayor and local government structures best suited for Dublin, and to bring forward proposals in that regard. I was delighted to accept the invitation to participate in a panel discussion, along with the other Dublin Chief Executives, last Sunday, 1st of May, and to address the 80 members of the Assembly and present an overview of Fingal as an area and Fingal County Council as the third biggest local authority in Ireland in terms of the population it serves, the staff it employs and the budget it spends. I took the opportunity to highlight the strategic importance of Fingal to the Irish economy with Dublin Airport acting as the principal international gateway for trade, inward investment and tourism. Furthermore, we have also been entrusted by government to set up and operate the Aircraft Noise Competent Authority responsible for ensuring that noise generated by aircraft activity at Dublin Airport is assessed in accordance with EU and Irish legislation.

Our priority of making Fingal a good place to do business has seen much success due to our cross-departmental approach in helping indigenous and foreign direct investment businesses establish themselves within the county. We are Fingal-focused acting quickly and decisively for the good of the communities we serve and having councillors from Fingal making decisions that affect the people of Fingal is something that Fingalians identify with. This is largely due to the excellent working relationship between the executive and the elected members. The current Council, which was elected in May 2019, has made 276 separate decisions over the past three years, some of which were nationally significant and pioneering. Local Government is the form of government closest to the citizen with direct accountability for every one of the 380 different services we provide to the people of Fingal. Every day we have presence on the ground in every corner of the county through the work of our Operations crews, Community Officers, Librarians, Social Workers, Sports Officers, Litter Wardens, Arts Officers, Traffic Wardens, Lifeguards, Park Rangers, Environmental Officers, and many, many more of our 1,500 dedicated staff and I am immensely proud of what is achieved on an ongoing basis through the close partnership of the executive and elected members. The Fingal response to date to the Ukrainian crisis has been

commendable and we are endeavouring to assist to the fullest possible extent to meet the needs of refugees arriving in Fingal. We will continue to keep you updated as the situation evolves. The Liam Rodgers Centre in Drinan, Swords has been stood down as an emergency accommodation centre. The occupants have been transferred to more permanent accommodation. The Ballyogan site, in the Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Area, is now operational and will operate on a regional basis providing temporary emergency accommodation for those fleeing Ukraine on behalf of the six counties which comprise the Eastern Region for Major Emergency Management purposes. An online briefing for elected members on the Fingal response has been arranged for tomorrow, Friday, 6th May and will give an overview on the community response forum and information surrounding accommodation for refugees as well as providing information on what various FCC Departments such as Community, Libraries and Events have done and are doing as part of the response.

Since 2010, REDC have been tracking sentiment among Fingal residents through a regular residential satisfaction survey commissioned by Fingal County Council. The purpose of the survey is to understand attitudes and opinions among residents of the work of the Council which, in turn, helps the Council continue to provide the highest level of customer service to its residents.

The survey questions residents about their personal experience of living in Fingal, awareness and satisfaction with Fingal County Council, Housing and Council Services as well as their experience of dealing with the Council and knowledge of its work.

The 2022 survey involved face to face interviews with 1,012 residents aged 18+ across the county with interviews being conducted in each of the seven electoral areas. The results will be presented by REDC to councillors in an online briefing on Tuesday, May 17 at 5pm.

AnnMarie Farrelly  
Chief Executive



### EIRE 6 SIGN RESTORED

President attends ceremony to mark the restoration of the wartime neutrality sign

Find out more on Page 8

### FINGAL SKILLS PORTAL LAUNCH

A one-stop shop information resource for employers and employees looking to upskill at your fingertips

Full details on Page 7

### FINGAL SKILLS STRATEGY



## Features

**PORTERSTOWN ON TRACK**  
Work on the state of the art sports facility for Dublin 15 is progressing  
Details on Page 10

**CHURCH FIELDS UPDATE**  
Construction of 67 homes is underway onsite at Dublin 15  
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**BIKE WEEK 2022**  
See page 14 for all the events!



### FINGAL BIKE WEEK 2022

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

EVENT	DATE	DESCRIPTION
LAUNCH OF CYCLING WITHOUT AGE FINGAL	Wednesday, 18 May	Official launch of Cycling Without Age at St. Catherine's Park, Lucan. Providing motorbike rides so that older persons with reduced mobility can experience the joy of cycling.
E-CARGO BIKE DEMO FOR BUSINESSES	Friday, 20 May	Is eCargo delivery right for your business? Join us in Swords Castle for a demo session & a chance to try an eCargo bike from 2.30pm.
SALENDAY SPIN & SWIM FOR ENABLING	Saturday, 21 May	Spin to the beach for a refreshing morning dip in the sea, followed by a swim. Spin starts at 8.30am on Saturday, 21 May 2022. Register online.
ADULT CYCLE TRAINING WORKSHOP	Saturday, 21 May	Want to get back on the bike but feeling a little rusty? Join us at Ballylinn Recreation Park for adult cycle training from 10-12. Limited number of bikes available for those without their own. Register online.
GUARDED CYCLE FROM BALDYLEE TO HOWTH	Saturday, 21 May	Build your cycling confidence with a guided cycle on newly protected lanes from Baldylee to Howth. Saturday 21 May at 1pm. Refreshments provided.
FAMILY FUN DAY	Sunday, 22 May	We need to meet for one year at Mulhalla Castle on Sunday 22 May from 12-3pm for cycle races, outdoor games, bike shows, fitness challenges & more.
PEDAL FOR YOUR MEDAL	All week long	Get pedalling at home, on the gym or outdoors and earn a very special Bike Week medal when you complete 25 / 50 / 100km. Register online.
BRING YOUR BIKE & SUPERHERO CYCLE	All week long	Bring your bike or dress up in superhero style for a fun cycle to school. Schools should send photos to <a href="mailto:active@fingal.ie">active@fingal.ie</a> for a chance to win a class prize!
SELF LED CYCLES	All week long	Get on your bike to explore beautiful, safe and exciting cycle routes across Fingal. Bike Week is the perfect time to get on a cycle - check out our recommended route maps online!
#CYCLEHERE COMPETITION	All week long	Cycling to the shop, school or work during Bike Week? Show us your adventures with a photo on Twitter tagging @FingalActive for a chance to win great prizes.
ACTIVE TRAVEL ROADSHOW	All week long	Watch out for our teams popping up in Swords, Malahide and Blanchardstown to answer your questions about Active Travel and share some freedom!
BIKE WEEK SCHOOL EVENTS	All week long	Local schools from across the county to a series of events taking place throughout Bike Week. For more info email <a href="mailto:active@fingal.ie">active@fingal.ie</a>

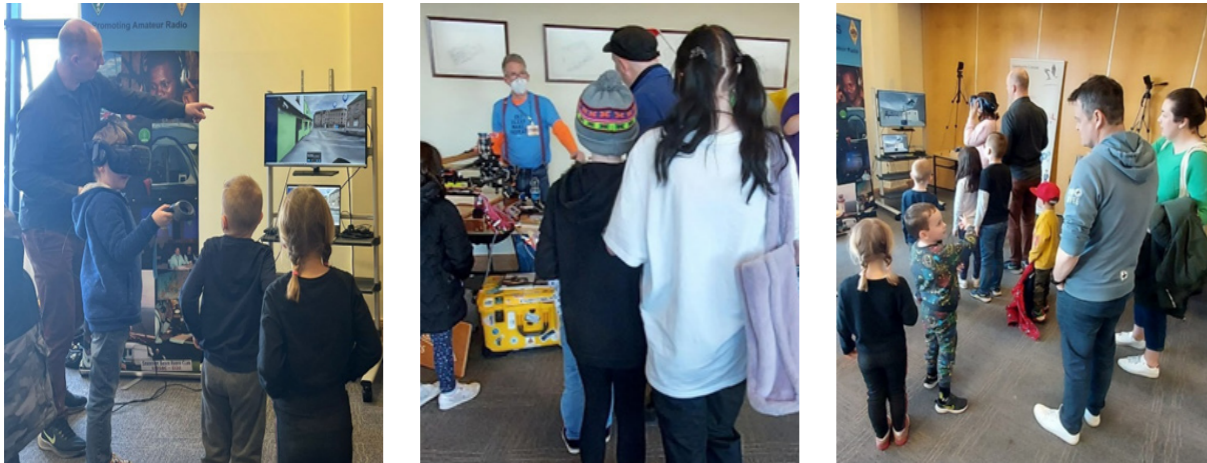
14-22 MAY

See full list of events & register today at: [fingal.ie/bikeweek](http://fingal.ie/bikeweek)

BikeWeek



# Smart Balbriggan Mini Maker Day a big hit!



Smart Balbriggan Mini Maker Day took place on Saturday 23rd April to kick off the Balbriggan Loves Learning Festival. Over 550 people attended the event which was organised by the Digital Fingal team working with Our Balbriggan and Fingal Libraries.

Balbriggan Mini Maker Day was open to visitors both young and old for a day of family-friendly workshops and maker showcases. The day had a mix of workshops suitable for all ages, including -

- Coding with Coding Ireland
- Lego craft with Bricks4kids
- Earlier years art workshop with Kim Jenkinson
- Maker craft classes with Fingal Makerspace
- Dungeons and Dragons sessions with Mark McCluskey, Blanchardstown library

The Maker showcase was held in the Hamilton Hall in Balbriggan Library building, makers who took

part in the showcase included –

- Smart Balbriggan
- Tog Hackerspace
- Fingal Makerspace
- East Leinster Amateur Radio Club (ELARC)
- Steve M. Potter’s Homemade CNC Machine
- Bremore Market
- Fingal Lighthouse Art Group

Visitors were able to see and interact with the amazing inventions that people can create with a little help. They were also able to take a virtual tour of the future design for Balbriggan Harbour through the use of the Smart Balbriggan 3D Model using a VR headset.

For more information on Smart Balbriggan Mini-Maker Day visit <https://balbriggan.ie/mini-maker-day/>

## Recent Communication Campaigns



The Communications Unit continues to assist in creating awareness of the Draft Fingal Development Plan and promoted the drop-in events in Swords, Blanchardstown, Malahide and Balbriggan over the past few weeks. Citizens are being encouraged to make submissions up until the May 12 deadline through a campaign which is using social, print and outdoor media.

The Communication Unit is also working with the Sustainable Travel team in the promotion of the non-statutory public

consultation on the Sutton to Malahide Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme and the launch of the Active Travel Strategy.

Alongside this work, we have also worked with colleagues on the East Region Communications Group to develop a communications plan and material for the new joint regional rest centre in Ballyogan, that which was established for Ukrainian nationals arriving in Ireland and for which Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council is the lead agency.

## Our Top Tweet of The Month!



Our Twitter account, @fingalcoco, had 452,900 impressions during April and an average engagement rate of 1.7% from 338 tweets.

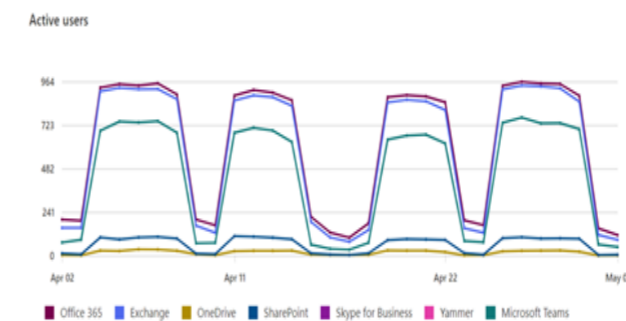
The best performing tweet was a post about the restoration of the Éire 6 Wartime Neutrality Sign on Howth Head which included aerial video footage of the sign. This tweet earned 20,085 impressions and the video has had 7,899 views leading to 799 total engagements including 202 likes and 40 retweets.

On Facebook, April's posts reached 161,520 people. The number of followers on Facebook is now 27,444 which is a rise of 173 from March.

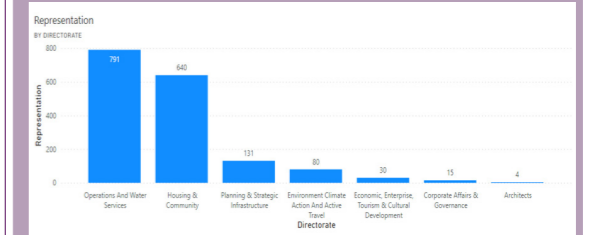
The number of followers on Instagram rose to 5,099 during April.

## Digital Working

In April staff took part in 8,677 Teams meetings, 27,746 calls took place, and 698,003 emails were received or sent by the Council.



## 453 Elected Members’ Reps Submitted in April



Staff continue to work on the Customer Relationship Management System (CRM) and issue responses to representations from Elected Members (Councillors, TDs and Senators) and complaints submitted by the public. The month of April had a total of 453 Elected Members’ representations. The table above shows the total number of Elected Members representations assigned to each Department to date in 2022.

## New Chief Executive Order System is live

The new CE Orders system went live in Fingal on Friday 22nd April. Initially the system has been deployed to the Directorate of Economic, Enterprise, Tourism & Cultural Development, and the Digital Services Department in a pilot phase which will run until 23rd May.

CE Orders is a new system specifically designed to streamline and automate the creation, approval and management of Chief Executive Orders across all Directorates and Departments in Fingal. It also automatically generates the CE Orders Register. The system utilises SharePoint Online technology for the document repositories and the associated search functionality.

Once the pilot for CE Orders has concluded, the system will be rolled out to remaining Directorates in four deployment cycles over the next two to three months. It is expected that all Directorates will be fully live by end July 2022.

## Customers Calling

For the month of April the Council’s Customer Care Agents dealt with -

- 13,583 phone calls
- 545 emails
- 1,940 in person visits to our offices



# Calling all local traders & exhibitors for Flavours of Fingal 2022

As we approach Flavours of Fingal we are calling on local traders and exhibitors to come to the County Show to sell, demonstrate their products or services. Where appropriate, priority will be shown to those that are based in Fingal.



# Fingal Skills Portal Launched



The development of a Fingal Skills Portal webpage has been completed, the purpose of the portal is to provide a one-stop-shop information resource to employers, employees seeking to upskill and those seeking employment and the portal can be accessed at <https://www.fingal.ie/business/skills-hub>

The Council launched the Portal on the 29th April at an event at Sonica in Skerries which featured addresses

from the Mayor, Councillor Seána Ó Rodaigh, the Chair of the Economic, Enterprise & Tourism Development SPC, Councillor Tony Murphy, Minister Simon Harris, Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, Dr. Mary-Liz Trant, Interim Director National Apprenticeship Office, Chair of the Fingal Skills Strategy Group, Siobhan Kinsella and included panel discussion with representatives from various industries and education and training institutions.



# Life and Legacy of Frank Lawless celebrated in film

Peace to the Ashes – Film Commission directed by Donal Dineen and Featuring Eithne Ní Catháin (Inni K) Fingal arts office was pleased to present a new film commission titled Peace to the Ashes directed by writer and broadcaster Donal Dineen and featuring featuring Eithne Ní Catháin (Inni K).

The work was developed by the commemorations unit as part of this year's programme dedicated to the life and legacy of Frank Lawless and the significance of his funeral which took place in 1922 at Rolestown Cemetery outside Swords.

The new work launched alongside the exhibition and is currently available across Fingal's Social Media Channels from the 25th of April.



## Reader Pens at Library branches

We have a new service on offer to members of the public called Reader Pens. Reader Pens read words and full lines of text aloud for independent reading. Those with dyslexia, those who have difficulty with reading or pronunciation, those learning languages or those with vision problems will find these pens extremely helpful pieces of technology.

This device reads text out with a natural speaking voice.

The pens have built-in dictionaries so you can access definitions as you read for better understanding.

At present the pens are in Balbriggan, Blanchardstown, Swords and Malahide Libraries for use in branch.

We plan by the summer to have them in all libraries with the option of borrowing them for a limited period.



## Students at Work!

Fingal's Student Entrepreneurs from Coláiste Pobail Setanta put their innovative product on display in Blanchardstown Centre following their success at the Fingal Student Enterprise Programme County Final.

Over 1000 students from 24 schools from across Fingal participated in the annual programme locally.

Finalists from Coláiste Pobail Setanta and Loreto Balbriggan will now compete against approximately 80 student enterprises from all over the country for a place in the Top 15 shortlisted teams to make it to a live event on Wednesday 18th May at The Helix in Dublin.





# Refurbished EIRE 6 Sign

The Eire 6 restoration team had their official launch of the Eire 6 neutrality sign at Howth's east mountain on Saturday 9th April. It was hosted by President Michael D. Higgins on the day to celebrate the event.

There was an Air Corps fly past at 3.10pm and a flotilla of local boats sailed by to celebrate the official launch of the EIRE 6 Neutrality WW2 sign. This WW2 era sign was sensitively restored by local volunteers over the past years with the support of Fingal's Operations department and following the advice of Fingal's biodiversity officer.



# Burrow Beach Dune Protection Works



First testing of the new multi-colour system for the Balbriggan viaduct



Works were completed to provide bollards and ropes to provide protection to the dunes at Burrow Beach, with the objective of reducing the volume of people walking on the dunes.



## Playground Refurb at St. Catherine's Estate



### Additional Playground Equipment - The Glebe Park Balrothery

Additional Playground equipment including a Trim Trail and Zip Wire was added to Glebe Park Playground in Balrothery. This additional equipment was partly funded via the DCEDIY funding from the Department of Children Equality Disability Integration and Youth.



Initial site works have commenced for the long-awaited playground refurbishment at St Catherine's Estate Rush. This project is being funded by the Fingal County Council 2022-2024 Capital Budget at a cost of €100,000 plus an additional €15,000 from DCEDIY funding from the Department of Children Equality Disability Integration and Youth.

## New benches & Picnic tables



The first of over 60 new park benches & 11 picnic tables, recently delivered to Operations, have been installed. The remainder will be rolled out in the coming months, in time for the summer season.





## Snugborough Interchange Upgrade Project



Bridge Central Piers, Columns and the central pier head beam were completed in April and following four nights of road closures on the N3, bridge beams were positioned in place to form the main bridge structure over the N3 motorway, a most significant phase of this project. Works have commenced on the underpass under the Snugborough Road, with excavations taking place in April in advance of the precast units being installed in May. Construction of walls and columns continued through April to support the bridge crossing of the River Tolka. The website [www.snugboroughinterchange.ie](http://www.snugboroughinterchange.ie) containing information on the project is now live and will continue to be updated with information relating to the project over its life term.

## Porterstown Park All-Weather Running Track & Sport Pitch Facility Update

On 4th April, work commenced on the site of the new All-Weather Running Track and Sports Pitch facility at Porterstown Park. The launch of the works was attended by Deputy Mayor Daniel Whooley and Dublin West TD and Minister for Sport Jack Chambers alongside local Councillors and community groups who will benefit from the new sporting facilities.

Significant earthworks are ongoing, following a topsoil strip, earth grading to the exact levels required using laser guided technology is taking place. (Pictured is the west curve of the running track taking shape). The next steps over the coming weeks include drainage installation and the importation of stone to form the base layer of the synthetic surfaces of the running track and pitch.

To date significant stakeholder engagement has kept park users, local sports groups and clubs well informed and the Council's Parks and Green Infrastructure Division will continue to liaise as required going forward. It is anticipated that the facility will be complete by Q1 of next year and will become a valuable state of the art sporting amenity for the people of Dublin 15 and the wider area.



## Dunsink Feasibility Project Published

A feasibility study for Dunsink has been published and is available on the Fingal County Council website.

For more details see:

<https://www.fingal.ie/dunsink-feasibility-study>

## Community Monuments Fund allocating over €391k in funding for Fingal Projects

Six locations of archaeological heritage in Fingal will share a total of €391,648 from the Community Monuments Fund 2022 to aid with their works and survey programmes. The CMF is administered by the Heritage Office on behalf of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

### Stream 1 (Consolidation works):

- Rush Tower House €85,000
- St Catherine's Church, Kenure €85,000
- St Marnock's Church, Portmarnock €85,000
- St Columba's Church & Round tower Swords €85,000

### Stream 2 (Survey and conservation plans):

- Moat Wood, Naul €30,000
- Balrothery Tower House €21,648



## Sutton to Malahide Pedestrian & Cycle Route 6 Week Consultation

The Project Team are currently undertaking a 6 week non statutory public consultation on the scheme preliminary design. The consultation period commenced on the 24th March and concludes on the 9th May. The consultation is being run to help the project team complete and develop the preliminary design in advance of a submission to An Bord Pleanála in 2023.

Consultation undertaken and documentation published includes:

- Promotional Video/Images
- Media Advertisements - Print & Social
- Leaflet Drop - 17,500 leaflets to residents and businesses
- Online Consultation Portal containing Submissions Portal, Online Questionnaire, Drawings, Reports and Videos/Images
- Drop-in session in Portmarnock Hotel where team members met local residents and discussed the proposals
- 2 Webinars with Q&A's





## Church Fields Dublin 15 Scheme Progressing onsite

The contractor is onsite constructing the Church Fields Link Road and Cycle Network which will facilitate the development of the entire Church Fields landbank with the potential to deliver 1,000 mixed tenure homes.

Construction is already underway of 67 social homes at Church Fields Phase 2B.

Construction of a further 20 homes at Wellview is also underway with delivery scheduled for later this year (pictured below).



## Meeting of Ukrainian Solidarity Group



On the 24th of April (Ukrainian Easter) the Ukrainian Solidarity Group met in Flemington Community Centre. People were encouraged to come along and bring Easter Baskets. With support of the Community and Sports Hub in Balbriggan, the Ukrainian Solidarity group have been meeting to plan activities, develop contacts, discuss group options for activities to support integration of Ukrainians into the Community.

## CBL Online Portal

The new online portal to facilitate the Choice Based Letting (CBL) scheme has proven efficient with staff and applicants. CBL is an approach used for the allocation of designated Social Housing Units. It allows housing applicants to express an interest in being considered for the allocation of designated Social Housing Units.

Applicants with active applications can access Choice Based Letting by logging onto <https://cbl.fingal.ie> using their unique username and password. To access their unique username and password applicants must contact [choicebasedlettings@fingal.ie](mailto:choicebasedlettings@fingal.ie) with their housing

reference number and phone number. The housing team has issued over 1,200 secure passwords and usernames to date. Applicants are actively encouraged to obtain their passwords and usernames to date. Applicants are actively encouraged to obtain their passwords and usernames to date. Applicants are actively encouraged to obtain their passwords and usernames to date.

Approved Social Housing applicants log in each week to check the dwellings that are available using their username and password.

Applicants are encouraged to obtain their username & password. To date 1654 passwords have been sent since the CBL portal opened (08/12/2021) of which 217 have been issued during the month of April.



## Women For A Better World

The Fingal Integration Team have collaborated with AkiDWA to present four workshops titled "Women For A Better World" which shares the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals and promotes discussion among women from near and far on the following topics Advancing Gender Equality Globally, Equality and Human Rights in Ireland, Connecting Sustainable Goals to our everyday lives and experiences and Re-imagining our future - developing a manifesto for change.

The four workshops will take place on 26th April 3rd, May 10th and 17 May in Blakestown Resource Centre.

## Fingal Older Person's Conference taking place

On the 24th May 2022 Fingal's Older Peoples Council (OPC) will host an Older Persons Conference with 100 participants in the Marine Hotel, Sutton.

Attendees to the conference are guaranteed to go away with lots of tips and information about aging well as specialist speakers will present on entitlements, decisions making supports and information on how to remain living at home as you age.

A technical expert will also attend on the day to demonstrate practical tips on the use of technology.

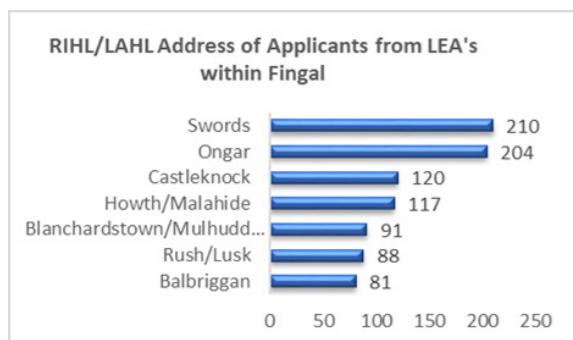
## 1,473 Local Authority Home Loan Applications

There were a total of 1,473 home loan applications received by Fingal County Council (FCC) since the introduction of the Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan (RIHL) now known as the Local Authority Home Loan (LAHL).

received, 911(62%) were received from addresses within Fingal and 562 (38%) were received from outside of Fingal.

The first chart below shows the breakdown of these applications within Fingal Local Electoral Areas, showing Swords to be the highest source of applications to date.

Any applicant normally resident anywhere in the state can apply for a mortgage under the scheme. Of the 1,473 applications



## Try the Fingal Virtual Couch to 2k

**Fingal virtual Couch to 2k**

The Fingal Couch - 2k is a five week programme designed for all. If you haven't been active and are ready to make a change this is for you. This is being run online through an App there are no face to face sessions.

- Getting you moving from your Couch to 2k in five weeks
- Sign up today for a chance to win a €100 Voucher
- Feel healthier, confident and less stressed

Programme Information:

- Sign up now - Closing date the 6th of May!
- 9th May Couch - 2k start on the 12th June we'll end with 2k.
- This is a 5-week gentle re-introduction to exercise designed and supported by our expert coaches. You will be jogging, rolling or pushing 2k by the end.
- You will need a smart phone or wearable device to participate as the programme is delivered through an App which will track your progress.
- It is FREE to take part and join - signing up is the first step.
- The programme is inclusive and caters for all participants.

Scan this QR code

Or visit <https://register.enthuse.com/ps/event/Couchto2k>

Do you have any questions? Please contact [noelmcmanus@fcs.ie](mailto:noelmcmanus@fcs.ie). We'll be happy to answer any questions.

Improving your fitness can seem like a daunting prospect, especially if you feel out of shape or unfit. The Sports Office team will help you work towards moving from your couch to jogging 2 kilometres in just 5 weeks.

This is a virtual programme in conjunction with Sport Ireland and the Behaviouralist starting on May 9th and is being delivered through an App you can download on your smartphone or computer.

sign up through our Enthuse link <https://register.enthuse.com/ps/event/Couchto2ka>

## Works continue on the Scheme Painting Programme



Works under the new Scheme Painting Programme are nearing completion in Dun Saithne Estate, Balbriggan and underway in Skerries.

This Programme provides for external painting and joinery repairs to council housing stock which currently operates on a 6/7 year cycle.





# Saddle Up for Bike Week 2022

**FINGAL BIKE WEEK 2022**

**PROGRAMME OF EVENTS**

EVENT	DATE	DESCRIPTION
LAUNCH OF CYCLING WITHOUT AGE FINGAL	Wednesday, 18 May	Official launch of Cycling Without Age at St. Catherine's Park, Lucan. Providing trishaw bike rides so that older persons with reduced mobility can experience the joy of cycling.
ECARGO BIKE DEMO FOR BUSINESSES	Friday, 20 May	Is eCargo delivery right for your business? Join us in Swords Castle for a demo session & a chance to try an eCargo bike from 2.30pm.
SATURDAY SPIN & SWIM PORTMARNOCK	Saturday, 21 May	Spin to the beach for a refreshing morning dip in the sea, watched over by lifeguards. Swim starts at 8.30am on Saturday, 21 May 2022. Register online.
ADULT CYCLE TRAINING WORKSHOP	Saturday, 21 May	Want to get back on the bike but feeling a little rusty? Join us at Baldoyle Racecourse Park for adult cycle training from 10-12. Limited number of bikes available for those without their own. Register online.
GUIDED CYCLE FROM BALDOYLE TO HOWTH	Saturday, 21 May	Build your cycling confidence with a guided cycle on newly protected lanes from Baldoyle to Howth. Saturday 21 May at 1pm. Refreshments provided.
FAMILY FUN DAY	Sunday, 22 May	We can't wait to see you at Malahide Castle on Sunday, 22 May from 12.5pm for cycle-in movies, outdoor games, trishaw rides, fitness challenges & lots more!
PEDAL FOR YOUR MEDAL	All week long	Get pedalling at home, at the gym or outdoors and earn a very special Bike Week medal when you complete 25 / 50 / 100km. Register online.
BLING YOUR BIKE & SUPERHERO CYCLE	All week long	Bling your bike or dress up in superhero style for a fun cycle to school. Schools should send photos to active.travel@fingal.ie for a chance to win a class prize!
SELF LED CYCLES	All week long	Get on your bike to explore beautiful, safe and exciting cycle routes across Fingal. Bike Week is the perfect time to go far a cycle - check out our recommended route maps online!
#CYCLEHERE COMPETITION	All week long	Cycling to the shop, school or work during Bike Week? Show us your #cyclehere with a photo on Twitter tagging @FingalCoco for a chance to win great prizes.
ACTIVE TRAVEL ROADSHOW	All week long	Watch out for our teams popping up in Swords, Malahide and Blanchardstown to answer your questions about Active Travel and share some freebies!
BIKE WEEK SCHOOL EVENTS	All week long	Local schools have been invited to a series of events taking place throughout Bike Week. For more info email active.travel@fingal.ie

See full list of events & register today at: [fingal.ie/bikeweek](http://fingal.ie/bikeweek)

Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall Fingal County Council

Fingal Bike Week 2022 will take place this year from Saturday 14th May to Sunday 22nd May and is coordinated by Fingal County Council's Active Travel Section who have organised a range of virtual, staff and public events which will take place at various locations across Fingal and has something for all ages.

Virtual events include Self-led family cycles using maps prepared by the Team of suitable family cycle locations, "Pedal for your Medal", Bling your Bike Competition and #CycleThere photo competition.

Other events include an all-inclusive cycle event with Prosper Fingal in Malahide Demesne, BMX bike tracks for local schools, transition year cycle in Balbriggan, Spin and Swim event in Velvet Strand, Adult Cycle Training, Cycling without Age launch and much more.

Staff events include guided and self-guided lunchtime cycles from Blanchardstown and Swords offices and we are encouraging staff to participate and catch up with their colleagues while also enjoying the outdoors and getting some exercise.

Bike week will culminate with a flagship, family fun cycling event to be held in Malahide Demesne on Sunday 22nd May.



## Conscious Cup Campaign

Fingal's Climate Action Section have partnered with Skerries Tidy Towns and The Conscious Cup Campaign [www.consciouscup.ie](http://www.consciouscup.ie) on a Skerries based pilot campaign which runs between 21st and 28th April and aims to promote reusables and encourage a move away from single use disposable cups.

In Ireland, 22,000 single use cups are wasted every hour, the combination of plastic and paper in their design making them virtually non-recyclable. In an effort to reduce this waste, 14 cafés and businesses in Skerries have signed up to the Reusable Cup Campaign. They are actively displaying campaign posters at their premises and are promoting the fact that they accept reusable cups on their social media.

Some businesses have branded and unbranded reusable cups to sell in-store and are displaying Conscious Cup Campaign posters provided by the Council.

The Council supported the event with prizes and promotional material and the participating cafés came together to produce a promotional video to raise awareness on social media.

Every hour in Ireland 22,000 single use cups are generated, and these cups aren't recycled. Play your part in cutting out single use waste and bring your reusable cup when buying takeaway drinks.

**Skerries Reusable Cup Campaign**

#wechoosereuse #SustainableSkerries

From the 21st - 28th of April you can be entered into a draw to win a reusable #KeepCup and by bringing your own reusable cup you could win a €150 One4All voucher



Campaign partners L-R: Emer McLoughlin Skerries Tidy Towns, Sorcha Kavanagh The Conscious Cup Campaign, Aoife Fitzpatrick & Janice Butler Climate Action Section FCC

# Environmental Awareness Updates

Musical instruments have been collected, repaired and donated to a Migrant reception centre where they were graciously received.

Green Schools Assessments have been completed for 2022.

The Composting for Schools Project delivered 20 food waste wormeries to Fingal schools.

To assist schools, manage their waste, a bilingual instructional video has been recorded by the VOICE in collaboration with the Dublin Local Authorities.

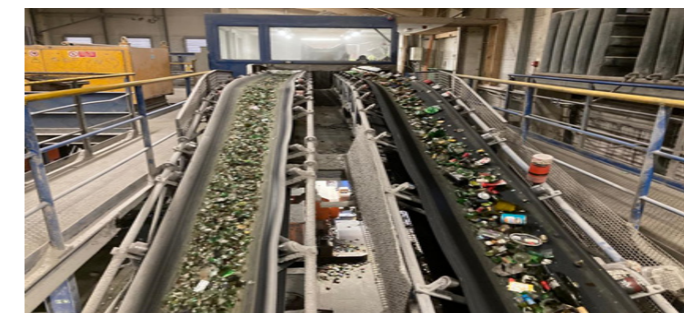
The anti-litter anti-graffiti

competition has been launched. The deadline for applications is Thursday 12th May.

Please see <https://www.fingal.ie/environmental-awareness-anti-litter-anti-graffiti-competition-2022> for details.



## Glass Recycling Made Clear



In April a visit to the glass recycling in Naas Co Kildare was conducted by staff from the ECCAT Department.

Fingal County Council manage the Regional Glass Collection and Recycling Contract on behalf of the 4 Dublin Local Authorities.

A detailed tour of the factory was undertaken showing the full process of how the glass is broken down into small pieces that are required to make into new glass bottles. All products are recycled as far as possible i.e., sand from the process is sent on to factories for recycling, as are metal and plastic which are bailed on site, the whole process striving towards zero waste.

The contractor gave a background to the company and what they do and how they process the glass, which is then transported to Fermanagh to be turned into glass bottle once again. This was an example of the circular economy being brought from start to finish on the island of Ireland.

**DUBLIN ROADSHOW 2022**

Clean Coasts Ireland ROADSHOW

April 9th at 10 am - 1 pm

Marram Grass Planting Workshop

Portmarnock Beach

## Marram Grass Planting Workshop held in April

Clean Coasts in collaboration with CARO and Fingal County Council hosted a marram grass planting workshop on Portmarnock beach on Saturday 9th April. Participants learned how to plant marram grass and about the critical role it plays in protecting coastlines.

Does your dog have a licence?

Purchase at any Post Office or online at [licences.ie](http://licences.ie)

Annual Licence Fee: €20.00. Lifetime Licence €140.00.

Failure to purchase a licence can result in on-the-spot fine of €100 or court prosecution and fine of €1,270



# The Month in Numbers

**€1.39m**

The budget for the 2022 Fingal SICAP Programme. The resources and staff of the Fingal SICAP Programme have been leveraged to assist with the emerging Ukrainian Refugee Crisis. The SICAP Programme will continue to help where required in the response to this crisis and is a central resource to the work of the Ukrainian Refugee Community Response Forum.



**32**

The number of waste complaints investigated by the Council in April. Complaints consist mainly of backyard storage/burning of waste and illegal dumping/fly tipping issues. Information in relation to unauthorised sites/collectors can be forwarded to [environment@fingal.ie](mailto:environment@fingal.ie).



**106**

The number of hires which were put in place from 1st April 2022 – 28th April 2022, engaging 23 suppliers.

Hires included 2 Automatic Ford Rangers Purchased for Operations Department and 2 Fully ELECTRIC LDV Maxus Purchased for Operations Department.



**€391,648**

The funding allocated to Fingal under the Community Monuments Fund. Six locations of archaeological heritage in Fingal will share a total of €391,648 from the Community Monuments Fund 2022 to aid with their works and survey programmes.

**69**

The number of units which will be delivered under the Fingal County Council Construction Scheme at Cappagh, Dublin 11.



**208**

The number of interviews for positions within the Council which were carried out by People Services during the month of April.



**858**

The number of Bleeper bike journeys which started within Fingal operating zone in March, an increase of 319 from February.

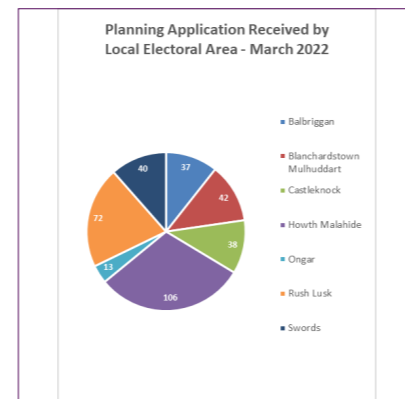
900 bike journeys ended within existing Fingal operating zone in March



**290**

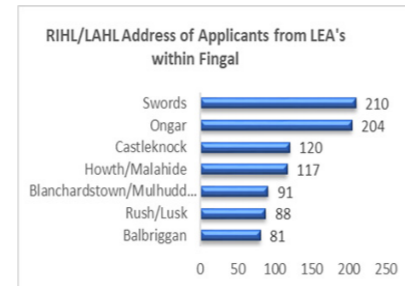
The number of planning decisions which have been made to the end of March 2022.

There have been 242 decisions to grant permission (83%) and 48 refusals of permission (17%). There have been 21 grants of permission in respect of single house construction, 144 grants of permission for domestic extensions, 60 commercial/retail grants of permission and 7 grants of permission in respect of housing developments of which 5 relate to development of 2 - 20, 1 relates to 20 - 50 and 1 relates to 50-100.



**1,473**

The number of home loan applications received by Fingal County Council (FCC) since the introduction of the Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan (RIHL) now known as the Local Authority Home Loan (LAHL).



**54.17 tonnes**

The total weight of textiles collected throughout Fingal between January and March 2022.



Mayor of Fingal Cllr Seána Ó Rodaigh and County Librarian Betty Boardman at the launch of Cruinniú na nÓg at County Hall. See <https://www.fingal.ie/cruinniú-na-nog-2022> for full details on events taking place.

## A Round Up from Fingal



The 2022 Our Balbriggan Loves Learning Festival took place from April 23-29 with four overarching themes – Learning for work (Business), Learning for Employment, Learning in the Community and Digital Learning.



Public Consultation on Fingal Active Travel Strategy now open. See [www.fingal.ie/activetravel/](http://www.fingal.ie/activetravel/) for details



The All Ireland Community & Council Awards 2021 presented by IPB Insurance and LAMA took place on Saturday 9th April 2022. Fingal County Council took home four awards on the night for projects and initiatives.



The launch of Maker Space at Blanchardstown Library which is a multi-use, creative and educational community space. It houses a range of facilities and tools including laptops, a 3-D printer and a vinyl cutter.

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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

