



# **Chief Executive's Management Report**

**12<sup>th</sup> February 2024**  
**Item 30**



# CONTENTS

<b>Chief Executive Foreword</b>	
<b>People, Corporate &amp; Digital Services</b>	<b>1 to 4</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People Services</li> <li>Health &amp; Safety Unit</li> <li>Customer Services</li> <li>CRM</li> <li>Communications</li> <li>Current Judicial Review Cases</li> </ul>	
<b>Economic, Enterprise, Tourism &amp; Cultural Development</b>	<b>5 to 25</b>
<u>Tourism Development</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tourism</li> <li>Events</li> <li>Heritage Properties</li> </ul>	
<u>Cultural Development</u>	
Arts / Libraries	
<u>Economic Development</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LEADER Economic Programme</li> <li>Local &amp; Rural Development</li> <li>Enterprise Centres</li> <li>Healthy Fingal</li> </ul>	
<u>Town Regeneration</u>	
Balbriggan Socio-Economic Strategy / T&V Scheme	
<u>Local Enterprise Office</u>	
<b>Operations</b>	<b>26 to 46</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Works Programmes</li> <li>Car Parking Services</li> <li>Burial Grounds Services</li> <li>Traffic Operations County-wide</li> <li>Fleet Management &amp; Plant Hire Unit</li> <li>Street Lighting LED Programme</li> <li>Recycling Centre Update</li> <li>Licences</li> <li>Surface Water</li> <li>Meetings / Briefings/Other</li> </ul>	
<b>Planning and Strategic Infrastructure</b>	<b>47 to 54</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planning Applications</li> <li>Planning Decisions</li> <li>Building Control Admin</li> <li>Strategic Policy Unit</li> <li>Built Environment Division</li> <li>Transportation Planning</li> </ul>	
<b>Housing and Community</b>	<b>55 to 75</b>
<b>Housing (55-70)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supply</li> <li>Asset Management</li> <li>Support</li> <li>Tenancy Services</li> <li>Housing Ukraine Response</li> <li>Vacant Homes</li> </ul>	
<b>Community Development (71 - 75)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Development</li> <li>Facilities Management</li> <li>Interagency</li> <li>Ukrainian Supports</li> <li>Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT)</li> <li>Age Friendly Fingal</li> <li>Funding</li> </ul>	
<b>Environment, Climate Action, Active Travel and Sports Department</b>	<b>76 to 97</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Active Travel</li> <li>Climate Action</li> <li>Environmental Awareness</li> <li>Bring Centres</li> <li>Litter Management</li> <li>Landfill Aftercare</li> <li>Water Quality Protection</li> <li>Sports Office</li> </ul>	
<b>Architects</b>	<b>98 to 100</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Architectural Conservation Funding 2023</li> <li>Architectural Conservation Funding 2024</li> </ul>	
<b>Finance</b>	<b>101</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rates</li> <li>Development Levy Income</li> <li>Payroll</li> <li>Procurement</li> </ul>	
<b>Appendix 1</b>	<b>102</b>
No of contracts awarded YTD	
<b>Appendix 2</b>	<b>103 to 107</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Active Travel Investment Grant</li> <li>Allocations</li> </ul>	
<b>Appendix 3</b>	<b>108 to 113</b>
Housing Delivery Construction Programme	

## **Chief Executive's Foreword**

This year Fingal was once again the location for TradFest as venues across the county played host to FingalFringe events in what was a true celebration of music, song, drama and the spoken word. Held from January 24<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>, a host of well known and accomplished Irish and international artists appeared in venues across Fingal including Malahide Castle, The Draíocht Arts Centre, Skerries Mills and The Séamus Ennis Arts Centre. Renowned artists such as Stockton's Wing, Janis Ian and Ralph McTell as well as local musicians including Tradisfaction and The Brook Group enthralled audiences across Fingal with their rousing and captivating performances. I was delighted to attend many of the FingalFringe events, which not only were hugely entertaining, but also provided an excellent opportunity for visitors to experience our wonderful heritage properties and performance spaces. There were many standout moments from this year's event which were very much enjoyed by audiences but, for me, the opportunity to see prestigious and talented acts who are such great ambassadors for creativity was a particular highlight.

A special Heritage Council publication, 'Opening the Door to Ireland's Heritage,' featuring stories from Heritage Officers in every county was launched earlier this month to mark 25 years since the Heritage Officer Network was founded. It is a relatively brief period of time since the first Heritage Officers were appointed and, in the intervening years, their knowledge and expertise has been instrumental in not only helping to preserve many crucial elements of our heritage but also in making history so accessible and interesting to so many. Here in Fingal several community archaeological projects have taken place under the guidance of our Heritage Officer and Community Archaeologist, Christine Baker, with one of these projects 'Digging Drumanagh' highlighted in the booklet. This project yielded many fascinating finds as evidence of our links with the Roman civilisation between the 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries AD were discovered. Beginning in 2018, the excavation of the site presented the almost 100 volunteers invaluable opportunities to witness first-hand the uncovering of artifacts including vessels, glass beads and a weaving comb from the site. Projects such as the Drumanagh Dig not only allowed volunteers to further develop their interest in archaeology and to foster a greater understanding of how the past has shaped our present but it also created opportunities to share the

findings with the local community through talks, school visits and exhibitions. You can read up on this and other fascinating journeys into the past here: <https://www.heritagecouncil.ie/content/files/Opening-the-Door-to-Irelands-Heritage.pdf>

On Friday February 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Mayor of Fingal Cllr Adrian Henchy and I were very pleased to welcome An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar TD and the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Darragh O'Brien TD, to locations at Malahide, Swords and Mulhuddart to highlight progress being made on some key projects for Fingal. The first stop on the visit was to Seamount Rise, Malahide to view 11 new homes nearing completion as well as a Safe Routes to Schools path for local school going children. The morning continued with a briefing from the Architects Department on the progress made in advancing the provision of housing and the development of the Swords Cultural Quarter (SCQ) in Fingal. Minister O'Brien visited sites at Seatown Road and North Street where 49 homes will be built before attending the official opening of the Carnegie Library on North Street by the Mayor. This iconic building was constructed in 1908 and has been an integral part of the fabric of Swords ever since. The refurbishment of the library cements its status as an important creative hub with flexibility for a range of community and arts activities including rehearsal and performance uses. Keen to see the progress at one of the biggest housing developments in the country, we travelled to Church Fields, Mulhuddart for a site visit and sod turning at the development by An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar TD. Once completed, the 37 hectare site will be home to 1,000 affordable purchase, cost rental and social housing properties and will be serviced by high quality community and retail facilities as well as the Church Fields Link Road and Cycle Network. The final location on the itinerary was Bowden Court, Rathbeale Road where Minister O'Brien visited the soon to be completed 11 homes which are comprised of one, two and three bed apartments close to the centre of Swords and recreational amenities. The Mayor and I appreciated the opportunity to facilitate the visit of An Taoiseach and assembled Ministers, Senators and Elected Members to Fingal to showcase the great strides being made in developing vibrant and sustainable communities across the county.

Best wishes,

**AnnMarie Farrelly CE**

## PEOPLE, CORPORATE AND DIGITAL SERVICES

Contents
People Services
Health & Safety Unit
Customer Services
CRM
Communications
Current Judicial reviews

### People Services

#### Recruitment

People Services' recruitment of staff will continue in 2024, with a total of 24 recruitment campaigns underway during the month of January.

Recruitment Programme 2024	
Total Recruitment Campaigns	24
Campaigns Completed	2
Current Campaigns	22
Interviews Held to date	33
New Starters	23
Number of Current Job Offers	43

January has been a busy month for the Learning and development team. Planning new courses and booking dates for the coming months.

Learning and Development January 2024	
Number of Courses	29
Number of Attendees	190
Number of Training Days	203
Scheme of Assistance applications	4

Our new dedicated learning and development webpage is performing well with over 924 visits to the registration page in since launching. Our new online registration is working well and delivering efficiencies on internal work processes.

Throughout February the following courses will be delivered:

### Personal Development

Grade 5 IPA Management Training  
Grade 7 IPA Management Training  
IGNITE Programme  
Supervisory Skills for Outdoor Based Staff  
Grievance and Disciplinary training  
Council Meeting, Staff Induction  
Personal Effectiveness Grade 3 & 4  
Pre-Retirement Training

### Health and Safety

Safety Rep Training  
Manual Handling (indoor / Outdoor)  
Chainsaw from an MEWP  
Safepass  
Ladder Inspection  
Mobile Lane Closure  
First Aid  
Mini Digger Assessment  
Site Dumper Assessment

### Business Skills

Getting the most from PMDS  
Interview Skills Competency Based  
MS Teams Training  
Basic IT Skills (outdoor)  
Time Management  
Court Room Skills

### Mandatory

Diversity and Interculturalism  
Managing Aggressive Behaviour  
Dignity and Equality



### Wellbeing Update

Fingal County Council Digital Gym February timetable has been released including Desk Yoga, Family Fit, Active Agers. Providing something for all staff to keep fit and improve their Wellbeing. The Digital Gym is available to staff live and on demand with over 150 classes to choose from on the Spectrum Life App.

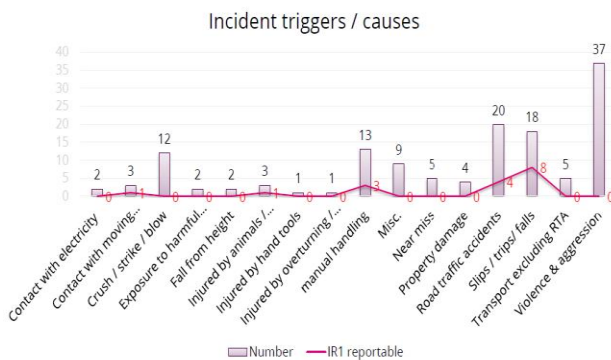
The first of our Organisational Mental Health Training Workshops will be provided for the Senior Management & Directors and middle managers will take place on Feb 22nd and 29th and will continue throughout 2024.

The Wellbeing Champions and Committee will also meet in February to discuss upcoming projects including our new Creativity for Wellbeing Project and upcoming wellbeing training workshops for management.

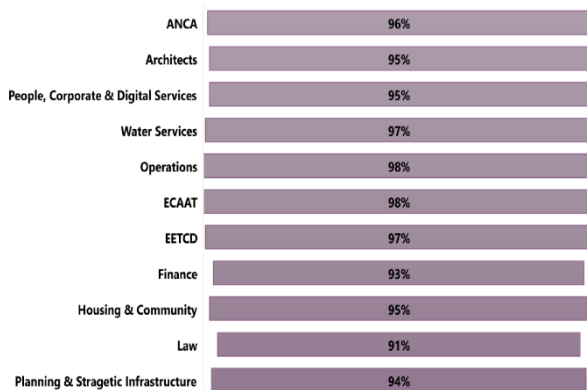
## HSU - Health & Safety Unit

The HSU reviewed occupational health and safety data for 2023 and compiled the annual report for the executive management team [EMT]. The annual report is in addition to the 12 monthly reports submitted to the EMT during 2023. The report indicated that overall site safety inspection compliance for the organisation was running at 98%. The report highlighted workplace incidents triggered by manual handling fell sharply in 2023 with this category moving to the fourth ranking for causes of accidents during that year. There was a rise in incidents triggered by violence and aggression with the report listing the control measures developed to respond to these incidents. The report concluded with data on 6 interactions with HSA inspectors during the year. January 2024 has seen 2 interactions with HSA inspectors along with audit, inspection, VDU assessment and incident investigation continuing during the month of January.

### Number of incidents by triggers / causes



### Safety inspection compliance by directorate



## Customer Services

Month	Total No. of Calls	Total No. of Emails	Presenting in Person
January	14,193	178	2,433

### New Customer Care Agent Uniforms



Some members of the Customer Care Unit in their new uniforms, County Hall, Swords

### Reader Pen available at Customer Care, Blanchardstown

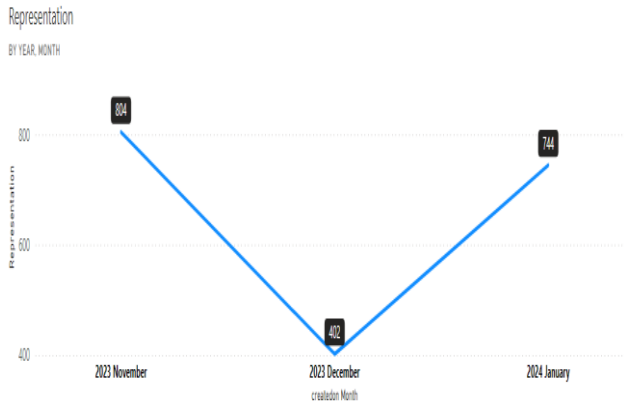
Blanchardstown Library have kindly provided CCU, Blanchardstown with a reader pen on a trial basis to ascertain the requirement for this service for members of the public with reading difficulties.

The portable reading device, when scanned over text, reads the scanned text out loud to the user, enabling them to independently go through application forms available at the Customer Care desk.

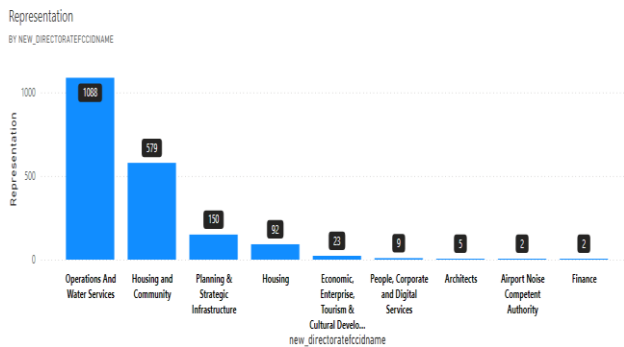


## CRM

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 total number of Elected Members' representations were as follows for January – 744.



The table below shows the total number of Elected Members' representations assigned to each Department to date in 2024.



## Communications

### Website

The website, fingal.ie, attracted 120,994 in January which was almost 17,000 more than in the same month last year, a rise of 16%. The number of Page Views also rose by 4,628 to 297,154. Visitors spent an average of 1 minute 53 seconds on the site. The most popular pages continue to be the likes of Planning Applications, Jobs, Recycling and Libraries but January also saw strong traffic to the school wardens page where there are a number of job opportunities available.

## Social Media

The number of followers on Facebook rose by 402 during January to 32,915 as 276 posts had a reach of 214,762. The number of Instagram followers rose by 225 to 8,725 with 78 posts having a reach of 10,732. On both these platforms women make up over 70% of those following.

LinkedIn now has 8,435 followers, a rise of 239 from December with 55.1% of that total based in the Great Dublin area.

Subscriber numbers on the YouTube channel now stand at 1,230, up 20 from last month while the number of followers on X, which was formerly known as Twitter, are now at 23,233 which is 116 more than at the end of December. Posts on X during January created 349,100 impressions with 94,694 coming on January 21 and 22 as Storm Isha swept across the county.

The five corporate social media channels now have a cumulative following of 74,538, having risen by 1,002 from last month,

The Communications Unit is currently trialling new accounts on the TikTok and Threads social media platforms.

## Videos

In an effort to increase awareness about job vacancies with Fingal County Council and increase the numbers applying for positions the Communications made a video to promote the two biodiversity officer jobs that were advertised in January. The video featured Senior Executive Parks and Landscape Officer, Hans Visser, talking about the two jobs on offer and the work that Fingal County Council has been doing around biodiversity.

Other videos were also produced about the introduction of the Irish Sign Language Service, the Local Sport and Activity Plan and the completion of work to bring derelict properties in Portrane back into use.

All Videos can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/@FingalCountyCouncilVideo/videos>



Eight press releases were issued during January. These included the launch of the new sports strategy and the decision by councillors to grant permission for public realm improvements on New Street, Malahide. Press releases were also issued to mark the staging of Tradfest Fingal and the visit of the Moldova Ambassador to Ireland to County Hall.



### Media Queries

The Communications Unit received 32 media queries during December. Some of these related to Dublin Airport, Tradfest Fingal, Clongriffin and the R132.

### Current Judicial Review Cases - October 2023

Jimmy Guerin -v- Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2022/116 JR
Kimpton Vale Limited -v- an Bord Pleanala and Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2022/390 JR
Fiacre Ó Cairbre -v- An Bord Pleanála, Garlandbrook Limited, Alcove Ireland Four Limited, and Uisce Éireann. High Court No 2023/570 JR
Ciaran O'Kelly and Dorone Paris -v- an Board Pleanala and Jacko Investments Limited and Fingal County Council High Court Record Number 2023/581 JR
Graymount House Action Group, Darragh Richardson, and Aoife Grimes v An Bord Pleanála, Fingal County Council, the Minister for Housing, Ireland, and the AG High Court Record Number 2022/1107 JR
Christian Morris v. An Bord Pleanála, Fingal County Council and Trafalgar Capital Limited High Court Record No. 2022 1074 JR
Joan Reynolds and Edel McDonough -v- Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2023/372 JR
MKN Properties Limited and another -v- Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2023/373 JR
daa plc -v- Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2023/383 JR
Portmarnock Real Estate Developments Limited and St Marnocks II DAC -v- an Bord Pleanala and Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2023/901 JR
daa plc -v- Fingal County Council and the Irish Aviation Auth. High Court Record No. 2023/916 JR
Friends of the Irish Environment CLG and SMTW Environmental DAC-v- the Minister for Housing Local Government and Heritage, Ireland and the Attorney General and the Office of Planning Regulator and Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2023/1047 JR
Niall O'Connor and Geraldine Kiernan -v- An Bord Pleanala and Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2023/1122 JR
Erigo Limited and Joseph Flood -v- Fingal County Council and others High Court Record No 2023/1233 JR
Timothy Fitzgerald and James Fitzgerald -v- Fingal County Council Record No 2023/1236 JR
Martin Ryan and Mary Ryan -v- Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2021245 JR
Kinwest Limited -v- An Bord Pleanala, Minister for Housing Local Government and Heritage, Ireland and the Attorney General and Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2023/1206 JR
Kinwest Limited -v- An Bord Pleanala, Minister for Housing Local Government and Heritage, Ireland and the Attorney General and Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2023/1207 JR
Kinwest Limited -v- an Bord Pleanala, Minister for Housing Local Government and Heritage, Ireland and the Attorney General and Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2023.1208 JE

## ECONOMIC, ENTERPRISE, TOURISM & CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Contents
<b>Tourism Development</b>
Tourism
Events
Heritage Properties
<b>Cultural Development</b>
Arts
Libraries
<b>Economic Development</b>
LEADER Economic Programme
Local & Rural Development
Enterprise Centres
Healthy Fingal
<b>Town Regeneration</b>
Balbriggan Socio-Economic Strategy
T&V Scheme
<b>Local Enterprise Office</b>

### TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

#### Launch of the Fingal Tourism Strategy



The Fingal Tourism Strategy 2024-2029 will be formally launched at Ardgillan Castle on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February. The event will be attended by representatives from across the tourism stakeholder community and the Strategy will be formally launched by the Mayor. It is expected that 60-70 people will be in attendance.

#### Fingal Food & Drink Network

The committee met for its first planning meeting of 2024 on 30<sup>th</sup> January. The main food projects include the Fingal Food Markets – they plan to put together a brainstorming workshop around establishing a food market with interested parties in the region. The Network will also start working on possible presence at the launch of the Fingal Food & Drink strategy.

Familiarisation visits are being organised for network members; the first will be to Belfast in February to learn best practices in creating food tours at the Belfast food market and Belfast food network members.

#### Tradfest Festival



The Tradfest in Fingal concerts took place in heritage and cultural locations across the county from 24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> January 2024. Most venues were sold out performances and there was extensive media coverage of Tradfest on all mediums including radio, tv and social media. In addition, Ardgillan Castle hosted the filming of the TV show 'Tradfest – The Fingal Sessions' that brought together artists discussing their music and playing together in this beautiful and atmospheric setting. Attended by the Mayor and the CE, the Tradfest festival concluded with the world premiere of 'Ocean Child', a new musical composition that commemorated the sinking of the RMS Tayleur and was narrated by Stephen Rea in St. Patrick's Church, Donabate on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January.





## AVEA Members Forum



The Association of Visitor Experiences and Attractions (AVEA) held their first Members Forum of 2024 in Malahide Castle on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2024. The networking and information event was very well attended and included a Fingal County Council presentation about the operating model for Malahide Demense, lunch in Nugents Hall and a tour of the Castle, focusing on the current conservation works.

## EVENTS

### **Festival & Event Funding Scheme 2024**



The 2024 Festival & Event Funding Scheme closed on the 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2024. It was launched on the 29<sup>th</sup> of September. We had similar numbers of applications to last year and the approval process will take place in the coming weeks. All applicants will be written to and successful events will be listed on our website and in a new events brochure due to be printed in March.

The current events calendar can be viewed on [www.eventsinfingal.ie/events](http://www.eventsinfingal.ie/events)

## **St. Brigid's Day 2024**



The free children's workshops sold out very quickly and the evening concert in Blanchardstown is now filling up nicely. The proceeds from the evening concert are being used to support Blanchardstown Tidy Towns

### **Fingal Fringe for Tradfest in Fingal 2024**



The Fingal Fringe for Tradfest was a great success in pubs across the County. In particular there were very enthusiastic crowds in the Abbey Tavern Howth and the Cock Tavern Swords.

Great awareness of Tradfest was created thanks to these gigs, illuminated buildings, social media ads and road signs.



## St Patricks Day 2024



Applications for this years parades are now open. For Swords, Balbriggan & Blanchardstown you can apply via: [www.fingalparades.com](http://www.fingalparades.com) and Malahide via: <https://form.jotform.com/240232506796053>

Particular attention is being given this year to try and animate the parades by more creative and artistic ways.

### HERITAGE PROPERTIES

#### **Malahide Castle – Conservation works of Drawing Rooms**



The Conservation and Redecoration works of the interconnected Drawing Rooms and adjacent Turrets in Malahide Castle commenced on the 8<sup>th</sup> January. The first phase of the works involved careful clearing of the rooms to allow for deep cleaning, and removal of old paint to enable wood preservation works.

Visitors to Malahide Castle will have the unique opportunity to witness the ongoing conservation works first hand as specialist Curator's tours are being scheduled on selected dates.

Book here –

<https://bookings.malahidecastleandgardens.ie/home>

## Guinness Bridge – Conservation Works



Conservation works on the Guinness Bridge is now in the final stages and is due to be completed in February.

The process of lifting the bridge back into position and stabilising is underway. This phase commenced at the end of January and traffic management restrictions are in place to help manage the risks, and safety measures associated with this process.

Reinstatement of boundary protection and roadway alongside the construction area will close out this project. This project does not include the reinstatement of a bridge deck; however, a structural appraisal allows for possible future installation of a 2m wide deck for pedestrian use within the steel structure.

**Page 8**

The feasibility of re-establishing a pedestrian link at this location will be progressed further upon completion.

## CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ARTS

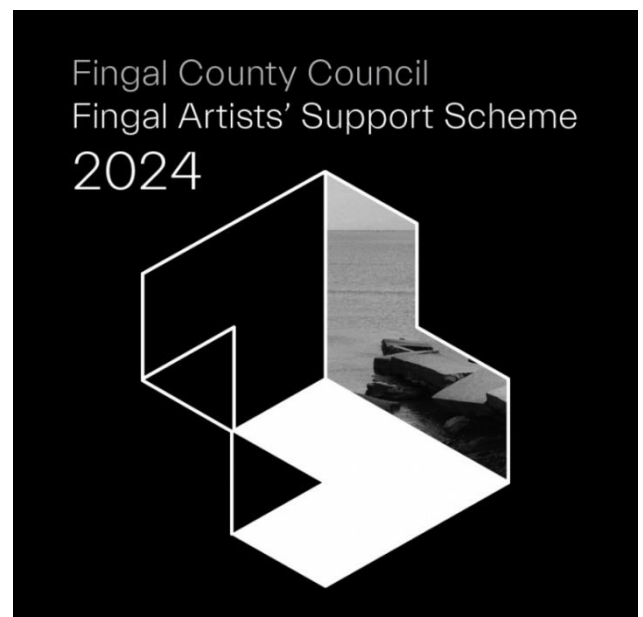
### Fingal Artists' Support Scheme 2024

Fingal Arts Office is delighted to announce the 2024 Artists' Support Scheme. This strand of funding allows professional artists to avail of up to €5,000 of an award towards travel and professional development opportunities, a residency, or towards the development of work.

The objective of the Artists' Support Scheme is to support individual professional artists from Fingal to develop their artistic practise. The award is open to practising artists at all stages in their professional careers working in music, visual art, drama, literature, film and dance. To be eligible to apply, applicants must have been born, have studied, or currently reside in the Fingal administrative area.

The funding is for projects or initiatives which will take place between 1st May and 31st December 2024.

The closing date for receipt of applications is **Friday, 1st March 2024**



## Youth and Education

### Youth Dance Research

Fingal Arts Office is working in partnership with Dublin Youth Dance Company to map youth dance activity in Fingal and to explore the development of a new contemporary youth dance programme for young people. Following an analysis of a range of perspectives, insights and ideas gathered via a countywide public survey, the team are now planning an action research phase which will involve the active participation of young people from Blanchardstown, Swords and Balbriggan to inform a programme that will suit the needs and ambition of young people in the county.



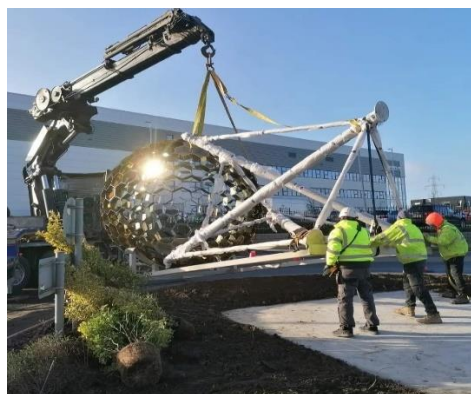
### Music Generation Fingal

The pilot of Swords Music Hub was launched with significant interest in available classes and associated instrument bank from local young people. In collaboration with Foroige, the new Rhapsody Programme is reaching young people in two locations - Phibblestown and Tyrrelstown community centres. Music Educator Eoghan McGale has begun a ten-week project with the senior classes of Danu Community Special School, which caters for children aged 5 - 18 years with profound special needs, and Oberstown Detention Centre is delighted to welcome Musician Educator Shane Latimer back to work with young people interested in developing their skills in music. Music Generation Fingal is a partnership formed between Fingal Arts Office, Dublin & Dun Laoghaire Education & Training Board and Music Generation Ireland. [www.musicgenerationfingal.ie](http://www.musicgenerationfingal.ie)



### Public Art

Two new Public Art commissions have been completed in partnership with Francis Breslin at Bayside Shopping Centre - Michelle Malone - Nana Loved her Roses & with Park Developments at Northwest Logistics Park - Alex Pentek - Hive Mind. These works fulfill the requirements of planning compliance for the private sector and this curatorial programme ensures that only the highest standards of contemporary art are developed for Fingal County Council.



## Draíocht

Our January 2024 performance programme started with [Coolmine Panto's](#) production of 'Freezin'. Their 17 sell shows (including a sensory friendly performance) sold out.

We were delighted to work with [TradFest](#) for the first time. The performance (Phelim Drew/Remembering Ronnie) sold out and was very well received. The Mayor joined us to welcome the audience and mark the occasion.

The [NEST](#) project saw our 4 visual artists (Una Sealy, Dorothy Smith, Sahoko Blake and Zsolt Basti) paint our 'hosts' portraits. All of our hosts live in Dublin 15 and are between the ages of 30 days and 22 years old. These works will be exhibited in our Ground Floor Gallery from February 17<sup>th</sup>, which is the day all involved in this project, gathers for the first time together. The works are being donated to Fingal County Council's Art Collection.

On January 28<sup>th</sup>, we gathered our 3 Community Choirs from Huntstown, Parslicktown and Castleknock for the '[Big Sing](#)' on Draíocht's Main Stage. It was a joyful occasion with over 60 people attending for the final session of this part of the project.



## The Séamus Ennis Arts Centre

### Tradfest 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> January

TSEAC's collaboration with Tradfest was a great success, across 14 events we had approximately 767 people attend. In an exciting initiative Dublin Bus kindly sponsored buses to transport guests travelling from the city centre. As part of the publicity for this we arranged Traditional Musicians for the first bus on the Wednesday.



- Singing Session - Ruth Clinton from Landless, Andrew Hendy from the Mary Wallowers and Denise Chaila were among the guest singers at our hybrid singing session (Zoom and in person) which was also live streamed across Youtube and Facebook.
- We welcomed guests from The Innisowen Singing Circle for the premiere of their film "It's a Fine Thing to Sing". Bob Gallagher, who made the film took part in a Q&A after the film.
- Music legends Janis Ian and Ralph McTell participated in live fascinating conversations with BBC presenter Lynette Faye
- Timothy O'Grady recited pieces from his book I Could Read the Sky, accompanied by music from performers such as Louise Mulcahy.
- Brenda Castles performed a live trad soundtrack to the film "Plight of the Bumble Bee", which used music to highlight environmental issues.
- The weekend also saw the use of TSEAC's outdoor space with a 153 strong family Céilí on Saturday and a record and music fair "Bia agus Beats" on Sunday.



### **Music**

In addition to the Tradfest events, Sam Baker sold out the theatre on January 23<sup>rd</sup>, our first gig of 2024.



### **Classes**

A new term of music classes began on 30<sup>th</sup> January with 33 students enrolled.

Art classes with Noel Manning begin on 31<sup>st</sup> January – both classes are sold out with 28 students enrolled.

### **LIBRARIES**

#### **Spring 2024 Programme of Events at Fingal Libraries**

The Spring in Fingal Libraries brochure is now available in library branches and on the website. It features a wide range of events, workshops, talks, and programmes supporting literacy, culture, creativity, STEAM, healthy living, skills for life, digital skills, and environmental awareness. The brochure is available at: <https://www.fingal.ie/fingal-libraries-spring-brochure-2024>

### **St. Brigid's Day**

Fingal Libraries marked St. Brigid's Day with events for all ages celebrating women's creativity. Best-selling authors Emer McLysaght and Sarah Breen of the Aisling series joined author Sarah Maria Griffin in Blanchardstown Library to discuss their work, followed by a Q&A session from the audience. Author Sarah Webb spoke to school children in Malahide Library and Donabate Library about her book *Blazing a Trail*, which celebrates Irish women who changed history. The story of St. Brigid's Cloak inspired collage workshops for children in several libraries and a quilt-making project for 12 – 16-year-olds in Blanchardstown Library's Makerspace.



*Emer McLysaght (L) and Sarah Breen*

#### **Launch of Sensory Resource Back Packs in Fingal Libraries**

Backpacks full of sensory-friendly resources are being made available in Baldoyle, Swords and Balbriggan Libraries under the Community Recognition Fund. The Community Recognition Fund is a major initiative from the Department of Rural and Community Development, designed to support communities across the country hosting people from Ukraine and other countries. The roll out of the sensory resource backpacks will be launched with a photo call in Swords Library.

#### **Children's Literacy**

Fingal Libraries 2024 literacy programming for children began with acclaimed author Mary Murphy launching her new book, *The Minute Minders*, in Blanchardstown Library on 27<sup>th</sup> January. To mark Ireland Reads Day, a national day to celebrate reading supported by public libraries on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February, author and illustrator Alan Nolan will visit Blanchardstown Library to talk about his children's books featuring Molly Malone

& Bram Stoker. This programming, which includes regular story sessions and junior book clubs in libraries, forms part of the national Right to Read programme to promote literacy and reading development.

### Literary Events for Adults

Balbriggan Library will host The Art of Reading Book Club on 7th February. This hybrid event invites readers and book clubs to join Colm Tóibín (via video link), the Laureate for Irish Fiction, in conversation with Balbriggan author Kevin Curran about *Youth* – Kevin’s third novel, published to critical acclaim last year. The Art of Reading Book Club is an initiative of The Arts Council of Ireland, in partnership with Libraries Ireland. Fingal-based poet Paula Meehan will give readings in Howth and Skerries Libraries. Writer Anne McDonald recently began a six-week creative writing course Baldoyle Library, exploring memory, everyday surroundings, and imagination.



Author Kevin Curran

### Skills for Life and Digital Literacy

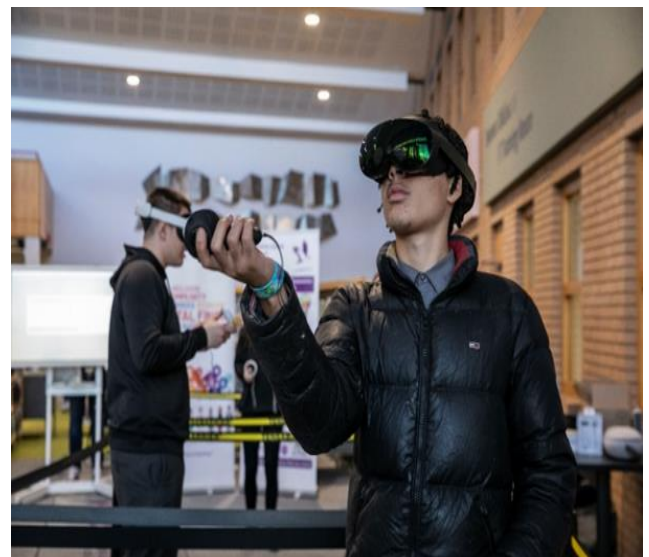
Fingal Libraries Skills for Life programme began in January with Sabine McKenna’s ‘Getting to know your Smartphone or Tablet’ classes in four libraries. This will be followed by a four-week computer course for adults. A series of workshops on budgeting and household finance management from Prudence Moneypenny Coaching, funded by Europe Direct, is taking place in three libraries.

CyberSafeKids, an Irish charity that helps children, teens and parents navigate the online world in a stronger, smarter, safer way, will facilitate sessions for classes invited from local schools to Balbriggan, Blanchardstown, and Malahide Libraries, as well as talks for parents in Malahide, Skerries and Balbriggan Libraries.

Drop-in sessions have been arranged in several libraries to give service users the opportunity of experiencing immersive worlds on an Oculus



Virtual Reality (VR) device. This is part of Virtual Reality (VR) for Libraries, a collaborative project between Fingal Libraries and Digital Services.



### Environmental Awareness

The Sustainable Life School is giving a series of talks in Donabate and Malahide Libraries to explore how we as individuals can make more sustainable choices in our everyday lives that impact on the environment, including packaging, food, fashion and energy use.

### Healthy Ireland at Your Library

Libraries, in partnership with the Sports Office, is offering students a six-week 'Memorize and Move' exercise programme, beginning on 6th February. These half-hour sessions in Blanchardstown Library are aimed at secondary school students. A six-week student wellness programme with Creating Wellness is taking place in Balbriggan, Blanchardstown, and Malahide Libraries to help students to look after their mental health and cope with exam pressure.

Other Healthy Ireland at Your Library events in January and February are designed to promote active living to adults of all ages and abilities, including a chair yoga course, a Tai Chi course, and a course of gentle exercises. Health information events during February include dementia awareness talks from The Dementia Services Information and Development Centre, talks on supporting people with an eating disorder from Bodywhys, the Eating Disorders Association of Ireland, and drop-in cancer information sessions from the Marie Keating Foundation's Mobile Information Unit.

### Fingal History and Heritage

On 24th January, Fingal Local Studies and Archives hosted a well-attended talk on The Sinking of the Tayleur Sailing Ship in 1854 by Edward J. Bourke. In February, Genealogist Claire Bradley will give talks in Donabate and Howth Libraries on how to use DNA test results to research family history.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### Fingal Skills Strategy

Planning has commenced for the 2024 "Xplore Your Future Expo" which will be held in The Helix, DCU on the 15<sup>th</sup> of October 2024.



A tender has published to procure consultants to prepare the next iteration of the Fingal Skills Strategy 2024 – 2029.



Workshops have been facilitated this month for each of the Skills Strategy Sectoral Sub-groups: Construction, Transportation & Logistics, Green and Services Industry to explore and focus on an agreed work programme for 2024.



The SKYLA Project "Smart Specialisation Skills Ecosystems for the Twin Transition" is a 4-year project which focuses on enhancing the role of VET in smart specialisation sectors. Projects partners include Italy, Poland, Sweden, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Greece and Belgium.



Reporting for Period 1 of the Project has been completed and the identification of good practices in Fingal is in progress with key stakeholders – DRSF and Baldoyle Training Centre – which will be shared with the Project Partners and presented at the next transnational meeting scheduled to take place in Florence in March 2024.

**Economic Development Strategy**

Grant Thornton Consultants have completed work on the Fingal Economic Development Strategy ‘Future Fingal’ which will be presented to members at the February Council Meeting. Work has commenced on a Marketing Plan, with consultations with key stakeholders taking place in January 2024. It is anticipated that the draft Economic Development Strategy will be launched in Q1 2024.

**URBACT – EcoCore**



Fingal County Council is leading the URBACT EcoCore Project which comprises a network of 9 small cities/towns in Europe focussing on challenges and opportunities for green growth and sustainable economic development along transport corridors.

Balbriggan is the lead town and the other partners committed to the network are Albu Iulia, Romania; Dubrovnik, Croatia; Kekava, Latvia; Ormoz, Slovenia; Parnu, Estonia; Santo Tirso, Portugal; Tuusula, Finland; Villena, Spain.



The EcoCore Project baseline study and roadmap for the project for the next 2 years has been approved by the URBACT Secretariat. As Lead Partner, Fingal is proceeding to schedule the transnational city visits in collaboration with our Project Partners and plan Balbriggan’s small scale actions.

The next core network meeting is scheduled for the 12/13<sup>th</sup> March in Santo Tirso, Portugal where members of the Balbriggan URBACT Local Group (ULG) will attend the two day programme.

As the project is entering the action planning stage for 2024 a series of masterclasses on key topics for partners has commenced, the first of which was held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January on the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD). The Masterclass was delivered by URBACT Ad-Hoc Expert Tiago Ferreira who is the Lead Expert of Urbact Residents of the Future Project.



Fingal County Council was invited by EMRA to present on the Council’s experience of Urbact Projects at the Urbact Information Day on the 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024 in the Customs House.



**Citizen, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (Cerv)**

CERV is an EU Funding Programme for citizens’ engagement and the implementation of EU rights and values. Fingal County Council has been awarded CERV funding to participate in 2 separate projects, which commenced in January 2023 and will continue for 18 months.



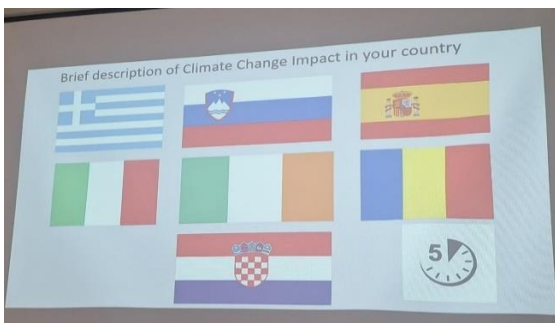
## Green It Your Work



**GREEN IT  
YOUR WORK**

Planning is now in progress for Fingal to host the fifth Green IT Your Work international meeting which is scheduled for the 6/7<sup>th</sup> March 2024 with a focus on "It's Time For Green Start"

Fingal County Council will host partner representatives from Romania, Spain Greece, Cyprus, Slovenia, Croatia, Italy and Ireland.



Work is ongoing on the objectives of 'Green IT Your Work' which are:

- Youth Debates about European Digital Age project highlighting the role of young people in the green transition.
- Promote green jobs with the aim of contributing to greener European cities

## InclusEU

The InclusEU project aims to encourage volunteer action as a social response for an inclusive Europe. Work continues on the project with partners from Italy, Poland, Hungary, Spain, Portugal, the Netherlands and Romania. The next project will take place in Romania in February 2024 with representatives from Fingal's Sports Office and Foroige attending.



## Alcohol Education

Healthy Fingal in collaboration with the North Dublin Drugs Task Force are piloting an alcohol education programme with Lusk Utd AFC from January 2024. The pre-crisis education programme targeting men over 35 will run for 8 weeks in tandem with an exercise programme to encourage men to evaluate their drinking levels and potentially reduce their consumption levels.



## We Can Quit

Healthy Fingal have teamed up with Empower to deliver two pilot We Can Quit programmes with the Blanchardstown Training Centre (to start in Q1) and the Tolka River Project, Mulhuddart. The We Can Quit programme, was developed by the HSE and is aimed at encouraging people to quit tobacco/vaping. The programme with the Tolka River project started in January 2024 and will run for 10 weeks with participants enrolled both quit smoking sessions and weekly yoga sessions to encourage a healthier lifestyle.



## Sustainable Fingal



The Council collaborated with DCU and DAA to submit two funding applications on sustainable projects, however the applications were not successful, work has commenced to re-orient the projects into other funding streams.



Work continues on the development of an action plan to advance the objectives of Circular Cities in Fingal. Fingal's profile has been published on the Circular Cities website and the first annual report on Fingal's transition to the circular economy under the Circular Cities Declaration was submitted in October 2023.

[CC Declaration | Fingal County \(circularcitiesdeclaration.eu\)](https://circularcitiesdeclaration.eu)

## Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor



Fingal County Council was awarded €150,000 by the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage under the Shared Island Local Authority Development Funding Scheme for a Feasibility Study for the development of regional innovation/enterprise hubs along the Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor. DBEC's ambition is to use innovation hubs to encourage the development of new and existing high-growth businesses to stimulate sustainable and climate-conscious growth along the Corridor. The Council is leading on the project with the support of the eight local authorities and two universities of the DBEC partnership.

The feasibility study has been completed and was submitted to the Department. Drawdown of the eligible funding has been completed and the Council is liaising with DBEC to consider potential funding streams to progress the implementation of the Study's recommendations.

Fingal County Council continues to liaise with DBEC on a series of potential projects for DBEC.

## LOCAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT



### Fingal 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 also manages the Healthy Ireland Initiative and the Social Enterprise Grants Scheme. The next meeting of the LCDC is scheduled for the 7<sup>th</sup> of February 2024.



### Fingal Local Economic Community Plan 2023 – 2028

The Draft LECP was adopted by the Council in January 2024 on foot of the recommendations and approval from the Eastern Midlands Regional Assembly (EMRA). In accordance with the LECP Guidelines 2021, a two year LECP Implementation Plan 2023 – 2025 has been prepared with actions to implement the Goals and Objectives set out in the LECP.

Plans are in progress to officially launch the LECP 2023 – 2028 towards the end of February.

### Local Enhancement Programme

The Local Enhancement Programme is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development. Fingal was allocated €220,842.98 in funding for groups across the county. A call for applications has been advertised by the Council with a closing date for applications from community groups/organisations of 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

### Community Recognition Fund

The Community Recognition Fund (CRF), funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development, approved the Council's project proposals in March 2023. Fingal County Council has received an allocation of €1,748,912 for 26 projects across Fingal.

There is an allocation of €850,512 for eight projects in Swords and €435,000 has been provided for four projects in Dublin 15. Three projects in the Howth Malahide Local Electoral Area have received a total of €92,000 while €96,600 will be spent on four projects in Skerries, Rush and Lusk. Three projects in Balbriggan will be funded by grants amounting to €44,000 while two projects in Baleskin will receive a total of €30,200 and one in Santry will receive €20,000.

All projects are required to be complete by 18<sup>th</sup> October 2024 and work is progressing on the implementation of the project with the Council submitting an initial drawdown on October 26<sup>th</sup> of €178,000 in respect of works completed during 2023.

### SICAP



The resources and staff of the Fingal SICAP Programme continue to be leveraged to assist with the Ukrainian Refugee Crisis response. The SICAP Programme continues to help in the response to this crisis and is a central resource to the work of the Ukrainian Refugee Community Response Forum. Additional funding has been received from the DRCD to help with the delivery of services to Ukrainian Refugees in Fingal.

Additional staffing resources from the Ukrainian community have been employed on the ground to assist with this.

The Fingal SICAP Programme has been allocated €304,369 in 2023 specifically for Fingal's Ukrainian Refugee Response with an additional allocation of €65,000 recently granted.

Procurement for SICAP programme period 2024-2028 has concluded and the new five year contract has been awarded to Empower CLG. The annual SICAP budget for 2024 is €1,520,811 not including a separate funding provision for new arrivals to the value of €375, 372 for 2024.



### Leader Programme

In December 2022, the Dublin Rural LEADER Local Action Group (LAG) approved in full the allocated LEADER 2021-22 Transition Programme.

Fingal LCDC was successful to run the next LEADER Programme 2023 – 2027 for the Dublin Rural LEADER (LAG) for eligible projects in the administrative areas of Fingal, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown and South Dublin. The Dublin Rural LAG and the implementing partner Fingal LEADER Partnership CLG have been approved to deliver the new Programme from 2024 onwards.

### ENTERPRISE CENTRES

Fingal's Enterprise Centres continue to participate in ConnectedHubs.ie.

ConnectedHubs.ie is a one-stop-shop for remote working hubs throughout Ireland.



All three Enterprise Centres have space available to start-up businesses and businesses/individuals who wish to avail of remote working options and facilities. Bespoke options or generic office fitouts can be considered.

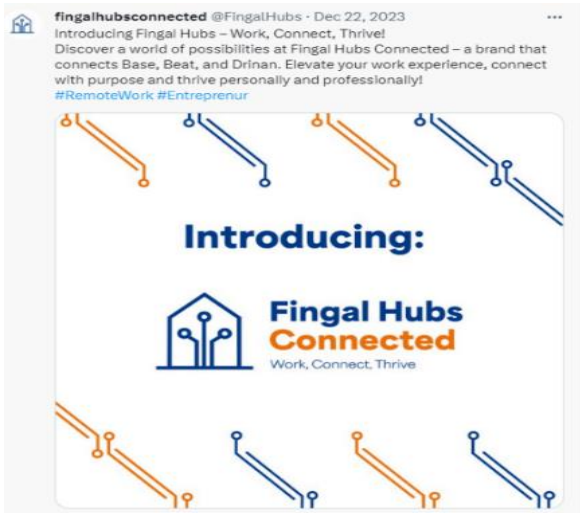
Occupancy rates at the Council's three enterprise centres are all over 90%. The three Enterprise Centres currently support 65 businesses and over 320 direct jobs.

Fingal County Council was approved for €50,000 in new funding to promote Remote Working Hubs in the County under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme Marketing Measure. A cross-departmental team within the Council is implementing initiatives to promote Fingal as a Remote Working Hub base for remote workers with a marketing campaign now underway across various media platforms.

Drinan Enterprise Centre is promoting the availability of a bespoke media studio facility available for immediate booking to all individuals, groups and business interests.



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



The Our Balbriggan Programme Office continues to support the Leadership Group and its five pillars - Growing the Local Economy, Public Realm & Infrastructure, Education, Skills & Employment, Community Integration, Health & Well Being and Community Safety. The Balbriggan Leadership Group, provides oversight and stewardship for the plan's implementation and are due to meet next in January 2024 where the review of the Our Balbriggan Programme will continue to progress.

Tenders submitted to appoint a contractor for the Quay Street, Harbour & Environs Scheme are being evaluated. Following successful selection and appointment, the appointed contractor is anticipated to be on site in April 2024 to be completed on a phased basis in 2025. Irish Water are currently on site in the Quay Street Car Park to complete upgrade works on the pumping station located there, with alternative car parking currently available at Bath Road/Balbriggan FC & Bremeare Castle. Communications to this effect have been issued on social media and other local channels in Balbriggan.



Part 8 Planning Permission for 2-4 Dublin Street was granted approval at full Council in October and the project has now progressed to detailed design phase. 2-4 Dublin Street is to be transformed into a new Creative Hub with 8 workspaces at 2 Dublin Street and an ancillary connected space at 4 Dublin Street which will support STEAM education, training and enterprise activities supported by SMART Balbriggan and the Fingal Arts Office.



Demolition works on 14 Bridge Street (house known locally as Keelings) have been completed and a temporary Pocket Park has been installed. Demolition contractors are on site and are working on a programme of works to demolish the rear of the De Bruns Buildings. An Integrated Design Team has been selected and will look at preparing a design based on best possible uses and options in line with site constraints. Early and on-going stakeholder engagement will take place shortly and throughout the design process.



Donnelly Civil Engineering Ltd and MWP Engineering have delivered a package of improvement works at Balbriggan Harbour. The main Harbour upgrade works and shoreside services are complete, with some lighting improvements awaiting final completion further to new electricity connections.

The programme office are engaging Project Management Consultants to complete the phase 2 element of the Balbriggan Tidal Pool and Swimming Platform Feasibility Study. Potential funding options and funding models will also be investigated and identified.

An Internal Project Team has been established from the Town Regeneration Office, Our Balbriggan and FCC Architects to progress the Boathouse and Bathhouse project. FCC has met with local stakeholders and potential end users for the Bathhouse and Boathouse. Enabling works contractor has been appointed with full surveys and assessment of the site to be completed, which will inform the full works design and planning proposal.



A comprehensive Balbriggan Public Realm Strategy - Masterplan & Design Guide and a Balbriggan Active Travel & Transportation plan are complete with both expected to be published shortly.





The Our Balbriggan Office continues to generate regular and unique content across all social media channels, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn with over 5.1k followers on Facebook.



Consultants to support the preparation of a new Town Plan were appointed to work with the Community, Businesses and Public Realm Pillars in Lusk to get their views for inclusion in the new town plan. Work on this has progressed well, with a draft of the new Town Centre First Plan for Lusk currently being reviewed.



### Town & Village Renewal Schemes

The 2023 Town and Village Renewal Scheme was launched during the Summer and the Town Regeneration Office submitted 5 applications to the Department of Rural and Community Development for consideration in November.

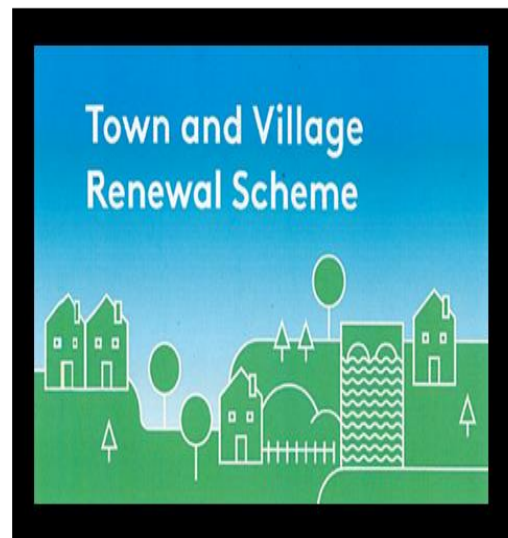
Six claims of funding for successfully completed projects approved in previous years have been drawdown from the Department.



Lár Bailte ar dTús  
Town Centre First

### Town Centre First – Lusk

The structure, membership and Terms of Reference for the new Lusk Town Team were agreed in the third quarter 2023. Together with the Town Team there are three Pillar Groups representing the Community, Business and Economy and Public Realm / Climate Action & Sustainability (to include Vacant & Derelict Buildings).



In 2023, the Town Regeneration Office completed the implementation of projects in Rush, Donabate, Oldtown, Naul, St. Margaret's and Balrothery.

With respect to these 6 schemes, the local authority has invested €282,276.00 in total funding from the Department of Rural and Community Development to support the revitalisation of our Rural towns.



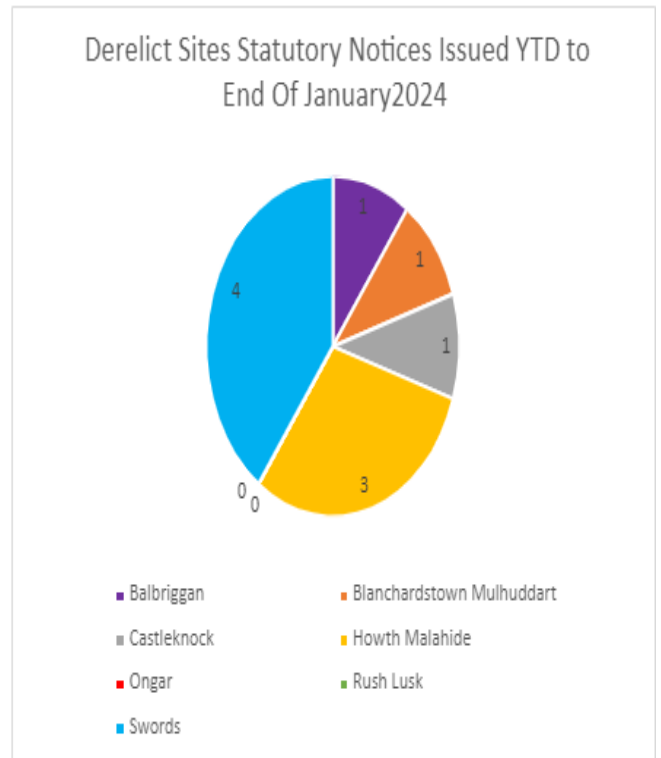
An application under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme for a feasibility study for facilities for sea swimmers in Skerries was successful in November. As of January 2024, the Town Regeneration Office has commenced the next stage of this study by gathering and collating feedback from local stakeholders to inform future options.

In 2023, the Town Regeneration Office was successful in securing €7 million for a new revolving fund that will acquire vacant or derelict properties to renovate, bring back into use and sell back into the market for housing purposes. An initial 19 properties under this fund have been approved for inclusion by the URDF Call 3 Fund administered by the Department of Housing Heritage and Local Government. These are being progressed.

**Derelict Sites**

The Derelict Sites section have begun 2024 with 10 statutory notices issued to owners of Derelict properties. This equates to 20% of the total notices issued in 2023 and the team are gaining momentum as they work through referrals throughout the County.

7 new sites were identified in January which are actively being progressed in line with the Derelict Sites Act 1990.



The Derelict Sites Section actively encourage the reporting of potential derelict sites. Referrals can be made by accessing the Report Form on Fingal County Councils public website and emailing the completed form through to [derelictsites@fingal.ie](mailto:derelictsites@fingal.ie)



## **LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE**



LEO Fingal provides a broad suite of support services to stimulate enterprise and enable small businesses to succeed. Some of the LEO highlights for January 2024 are as follows:

### **2023 Grant awards Photoshoot**



Local Enterprise Office Fingal has announced annual results for 2023 which revealed that the LEO played a pivotal role in facilitating the creation of 178 jobs by supported companies. The new figures show that the LEO Fingal financially supported 210 small businesses across Fingal, these companies in turn employ 879 people. Over the course of 2023, LEO Fingal approved €1,238,800 in funding for eligible small enterprises. This comes as members of Fingal's business community were out in force today to celebrate a prosperous 2023 along with Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Adrian Henchy, AnnMarie Farrelly, Chief Executive of Fingal County Council and the Head of Enterprise at LEO Fingal Oisín Geoghegan. Local business owners who successfully secured funding were honoured with certificates, officially acknowledging the support provided by LEO Fingal to their businesses.

### **Local Enterprise Week 2024**



Local Enterprise Week 2024 is scheduled for March 4th to 8th. In collaboration with key business support agencies and organisations, LEO Fingal has devised an engaging line-up of both in-person and online events tailored for individuals embarking on a new business venture or already overseeing their own enterprises. The week's agenda includes activities catering to start-ups and established businesses, featuring workshops, seminars, webinars, and multiple opportunities to network. Stay tuned for additional information, soon to be released on our website and training ezine.

### **Evaluations and Approvals Committee**

The Evaluation and Approvals Committee (EVAC) approved €888,023 in funding across Business Feasibility, Priming and Expansion Grants in 2023. A further 2 Agile Innovation grants to the value of €101,000 were also approved in 2023 as well as 14 Technical Assistance for Micro Exporters grants to the value of €33,705, a UECS grant for €20,000 and an Energy Efficiency Grant of €5,000. Total Grant aid approved in 2023 amounted to €1,238,800 which included 87 Trading Online Vouchers. The next EVAC meeting will be on 14th February 2024.

### **Management Development Programme**



The second Leadership for Growth programme concluded in December 2023. Graduates gathered at the grant awards ceremony in January to acknowledge their completion of the Leadership for Growth Programme. As part of the programme, the owner manager participants each produced Work Based Assessments which document their strategic plan and acts as a living document as well as a point in time reference for where their business is now and the actions they need to take to grow. Applications will shortly open for the 2024 programme.

## Upcoming Fingal Business Briefing Sessions



The first Fingal Business Briefing information session for 2024 was held on 10th January 2024 where 35 small business owners and entrepreneurs heard about supports and services available to them. The briefings outline services and supports for small businesses and individuals seeking to start their own business, through the LEO and other state agencies. 204 individuals attended a business briefing in 2023. The next business briefing is scheduled for February 6th 2024.

## Food Supports



The LEO-run Dublin Food Chain hosted an event on *Food Predictions 2024* at the Clayton Hotel, Liffey Valley on 17<sup>th</sup> January with over 80 food producers in attendance. The audience heard from Fingal based business Giselle Makinde from Cream of the Crop about sustainability in food, Gareth Chambers, CEO of Around Noon spoke about scaling your business and Larry Murrin of Dawn Farms briefed the attendees about international operations and growing the footprint of Irish food businesses abroad. The Food Chain also hosted a Grow with Aldi Webinar on 19th of January for Dublin based producers. There are numerous further exciting events planned for 2024.

## Energy Efficiency Grant Scheme



Applications are open for the Energy Efficiency Grant Scheme, which was rolled out in 2023 throughout the 31 Local Enterprise Offices. The Scheme enables small businesses to invest in technologies and equipment to make their businesses more energy efficient. The grant will cover up to 50% of the costs to a maximum amount of €5,000. The goal is to reduce the impact of small businesses on the environment and help them to reduce costs to enable them to become more competitive. As part of the process, applicants complete the Green for Business Programme, a customised initiative whereby the business develops a strategy to become sustainable.

## Trading Online Voucher Scheme



An initiative under the Government's National Digital Strategy, the Trading Online Voucher (TOV) scheme supports small businesses by allowing them to enhance their online offering by providing a grant of up to €2,500 for ecommerce and digital marketing activities, as well as giving businesses a better understanding of how they can exploit E-Commerce opportunities for their business. In January 2024, a total of 14 applications have been approved in the amount of €28,639.00. The next Trading Online Voucher seminar will be held online on Friday 30th January 2023

## Business Advice Clinics and Mentoring



LEO Fingal provides one to one business support services through Business Advice Clinics and a Mentoring programme, both online and in person. The Fingal mentor panel consists of a variety of skilled and experienced mentors from a range of business backgrounds. So far this year, 41 clients have availed of one-to-one advice in our Business Advice Clinics. The Mentoring Programme has already gotten off to a busy start, with 30 clients receiving expert mentoring in the month of January alone.

## Microfinance Ireland Loans

LEO Fingal provides a loan scheme through its partnership with Microfinance Ireland, with loans of up to €25,000 per approved applicant. LEO Fingal is actively promoting the availability of loans from businesses that have difficulty raising finance from their bank. Applications are processed and assessed by LEO Fingal and submitted to MFI (Microfinance Ireland). Applications submitted through LEO Fingal are eligible for a reduced interest rate. LEO Fingal has processed and submitted 4 MFI loan applications in January 2024.

## Training and Events

There has been a brisk start to 2024 with many training programmes booking out showing the continuing demand for the service.

The Start Your Own Business and Social Media and Digital Marketing courses which started in January are now running for the next couple of months to complete their multi-class runs.

Additional Start Your Own Business and Social Media classes have been scheduled for February and March to cater for the demand.

89 Training programmes were run by LEO Fingal in 2023 which were attended by 3,208 participants in total, this included 13 Start Your Own Business programmes attended by 238 participants & 9 Management Development Training programmes attended by 192 participants.

## Internationalisation and Export Development



LEO Fingal is providing a further opportunity to Fingal-based small businesses that wish to explore export markets through its latest Export Development Programme. An information session programme was held in County Hall on 18 January 2024. With spaces limited, following submission of Expressions of Interest, 5 Fingal businesses were confirmed as participants in the programme. The purpose of the programme is to provide clients with the skills and the confidence to identify, target and exploit new business opportunities in the Benelux Region. In addition, the TAME (Exporter) grant enables small businesses to explore and develop new market opportunities by providing up to €2,500 to businesses investigating and researching export markets. 3 Fingal businesses have been approved for Export Grants in January.

## Showcase Ireland 2024



Businesses from Fingal had the opportunity to meet buyers from all over the world this week as part of the Local Enterprise Showcase at Showcase 2024 at the RDS in Dublin. Ola Wartak-Tolak with "Stories by Ola," Nicola Weldon with "Nicola Weldon Art," Clémence Prosen with "Clémence Prosen Art & Design," Rob Stears with "Rob Stears Illustrations," Gillian Smith with "Waylon & Flo," Maura O'Rourke with "O'Rourke Art & Design (Iconic Ireland)," Nicola McKenna with "Outsider Art," and Karen Wilson with "Karen Wilson Art" were all exhibiting at the Local Enterprise Showcase, part of Showcase 2024, that saw over 4,000 buyers from retailers across the globe attend the three-day event in Dublin looking to secure new sales and partners for the year ahead. Upwards of €25 million in business was expected to have been transacted across the three-day event.

As part of Showcase Ireland 2024 an award ceremony took place to recognise the excellent quality of products at Showcase Ireland 2024. Winners of the annual Showcase Awards were announced on the Inspiration Stage on the opening day of Showcase and Balbriggan based business "Stories by Ola," were the winners of the national Local Enterprise Office award.

## Student Enterprise Programme



The 2023/24 Fingal Student Enterprise Programme is well underway. 26 Second level schools across Fingal are participating in this year's programme. The savvy students will develop their own actual businesses, researching, resourcing, trading services and products, with the guidance of business mentors. Fingal LEO boasts the largest enterprise programme for second level students in the country with prizes including an international educational trip to a European City for the senior category winning students and teachers.

The Fingal Student Enterprise Final will take place this year in the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Blanchardstown on 14 March, with the winners progressing to the National Finals in May.

# OPERATIONS

Contents
Works Programme
Car Parking Services
Burial Grounds Services
Traffic Operations County-wide
Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit
Street Lighting LED Programme
Recycling Centre Update
Licenses
Surface Water
Meetings/Briefings
Other

## Works Programme

### Balbriggan / Swords Area

#### Balbriggan Area Parks



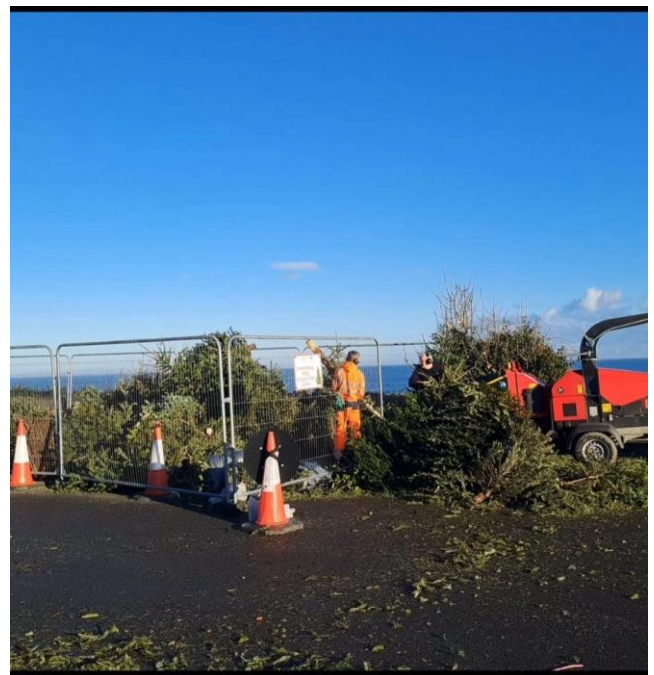
Recent hedge laying project along Hamlet Lane Balbriggan. The works are a collaboration between Balbriggan Tidy Towns, Fingal County Council Operations and Biodiversity Teams as part of The Fingal Hedgerow Project.



Playground Seating refurbishment works at Ardgillan Demesne Playground. The North County Operations staff have carried out a creative and colourful face lift to the existing playground seating.



Amalgamation of newly acquired lands into the existing open space at Chapel Farm Lusk. The initial works are to amalgamate the soil stored on site and merge into the existing site. Stage two will involve an outline plan being prepared to plan the future layout of this site. The outline plan will be prepared during Spring 2024.



Christmas Tree recycling collection point Barnageeragh Skerries

## Swords Area Parks



Recently installed Timber Knee Rail Boundary around Rathbeale Archaeological Park.



Newly installed Zipline at Newbridge Demesne Playground.



Recently installed public lighting along footpaths in public open space linking Broadmeadow and Castlefarm Estates to the Rathbeale Road Swords.



Updated map board signage at Newbridge Demesne



Removal of vegetation along paths edges in Rolestown

## Harbours

### ➤ Loughshinny Harbour

Remediation works complete.



Inner works completed also.



### ➤ Balbriggan Harbour

Fender installed at Balbriggan Harbour.



ESB Connection made at West Pier, Balbriggan.

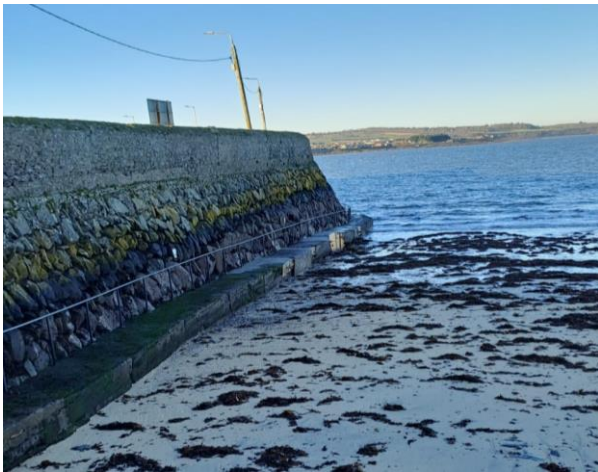


Samples being taken at Balbriggan Harbour.



➤ **Skerries Harbour**

Concrete repairs on Skerries Seawall.

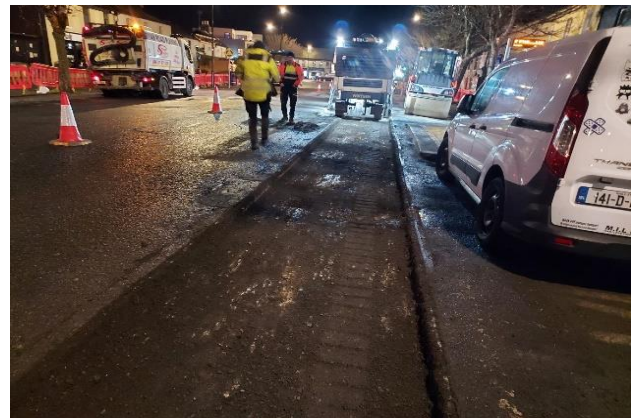


**Skerries**

Christmas Tree collection site at Barnageeragh.

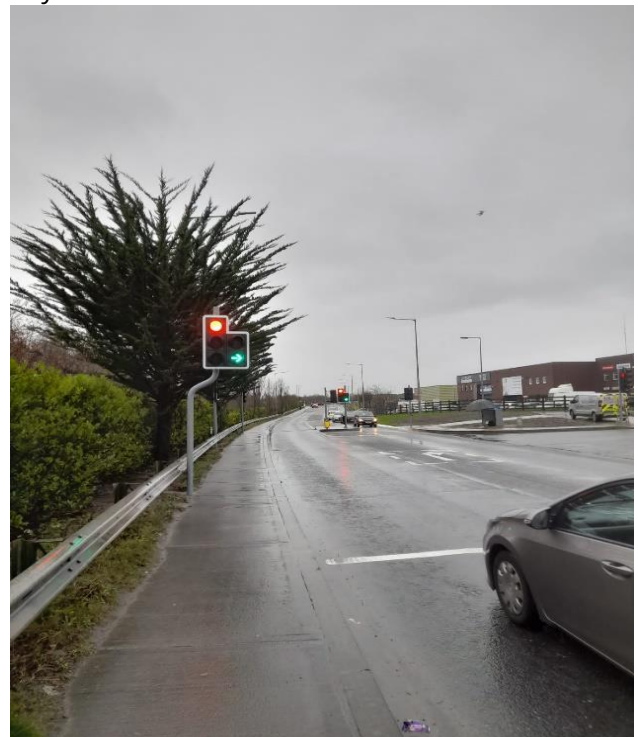


Road resurfacing works on Strand Street, Skerries.



**Swords**

New Signalised Junction of Mountgorry Way and Drynam Road Commissioned on 29/01/24.





**R132 at Corduff**

New drainage installed along the R132 at Corduff.



**Portrane**

Road repairs at Seaview Park, Portrane carried out by direct labour.





### Public Convenience Building Programme

**Rush South Beach** - The Part VIII planning consent process for the replacement of the public toilet at Rush South beach commenced following the Area Meeting in December. Plans and drawings of the proposal will go on display on the 30<sup>th</sup> of January 2024 with a final decision to be presented at the April Council Meeting. It is hoped to have the new toilet, which is to be constructed off site, to be in situ before the start of the bathing season.

**Portrane** - Draft Part VIII and pre-screening documents for Appropriate for a replacement toilet at Portrane are currently being assessed by the Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Department. Subject to approval it is proposed to commence the public consultation phase for the replacement of this toilet in March 2024.

**Donabate** - Work is ongoing on the replacement of the toilet at Donabate with the outstanding issue which had delayed progress now being resolved. The tender document is being finalised and will be provided to the Single Party Framework design and build contractor to price works. Once the tender has been approved works will commence on the planning drawing and the pre-screening for Appropriate Assessment. It is hoped to commence the Part VIII process before the summer. And to have the toilet in place later in the year.

Work will commence on the next phase of the toilet replacement programme for **Loughshinny, Rush North and Harbour Road Skerries**, once the planning process for the 3 toilets has been completed.

### Howth Malahide Area Programme of Works

The final projects on the 2023 POW were snagged and completed in January.

The team presented the 2024 Programme of Works to Councillors at the January Area Committee Meeting, and it was approved.

### Roads Works & Footpath Works in Howth Malahide Area

#### ➤ Texas Lane Rd Inlay POW 2023



Texas Lane being planned off prior to resurfacing.



Wearing course being laid on Texas Lane during Road Inlay

➤ **Balgriffin Park Rd Inlay POW 2023**



Road surface planed off and awaiting Road Inlay. The wearing course had reached the end of life and was in very poor condition. In addition, Fingal County Council had constructed a new bituminous footpath and installed road drainage prior to the inlay to alleviate flooding on this road.



Balgriffin Park Inlay and new concrete and bituminous footpaths



Deep patching repairs carried out by Fingal County Council on the R106 at Sutton Level Crossing.

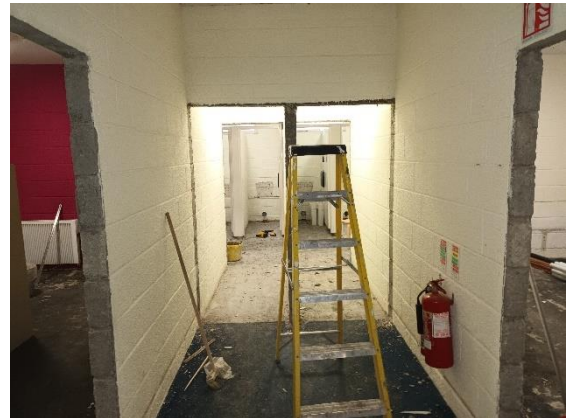


Replacement of Defective Footpaths in Bayside reported through the CRM system.

## Malahide Demesne

### ➤ Christmas Tree Recycling

Chipping Christmas trees in Malahide Demesne and around the Howth/Malahide Area.



### ➤ Refurbishment works of the existing Sports Pavilion and Cafe in Malahide

Series of photos tracking the progress of the works, including essential Health and Safety works, plumbing, and electrical works, new wall and floor coverings, newly widened accessible fire doors throughout and new wheelchair accessible toilet with access from the exterior for all park users.



➤ **Installation of new ability swing in Malahide Playground:**

Before and during Photos of installation of new swing



Topping up safety surface in the playground



Fingal Staff Working at the Hard Edging along Main Avenue

**Kettles Park Trim Trail**



Pictured above, Kettles Park Trim Trail installed and completed.



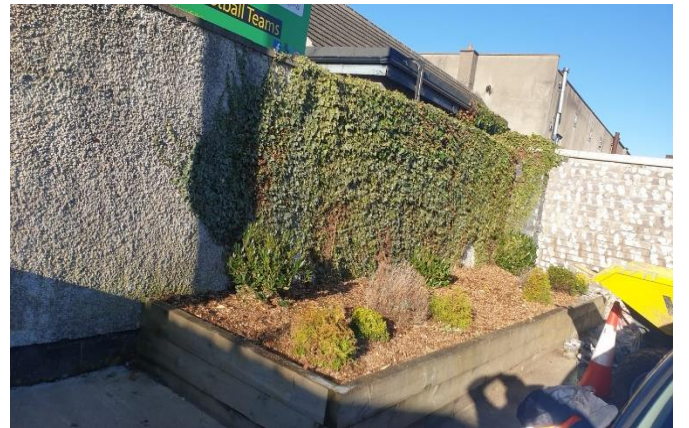
Delivering recycled Christmas tree mulch to Baldoyle community centre.

## Burial Ground Works

### ➤ Balgriffin Cemetery



Repair of water leak at Balgriffin burial grounds



Bedding clean up and refurbishment of our planters Fingal Balgriffin burial grounds.

### ➤ St Fintan's Burial Grounds



Concrete and macadam repairs at St Fintan's burial grounds ongoing.

## Beaches, Cleansing and Storm Support Works



Removal and replacement of cycle lane bollards  
Howth Malahide areas.



## Burrow Beach



Replacement and refurb of signage and lifebuoys  
at Howth - Malahide beaches.



Ongoing repairs to our dune protection posts and  
ropes Burrow Beach Howth.

## Public Convenience Building Programme

Howth Malahide update on Public Convenience Building Programme.

**Howth East Pier and Malahide Beach** - Work is ongoing with the aim to complete the toilets at Howth East Pier and Malahide Beach in 2024. It is hoped to commence the Part VIII process in Q1 2024. Final Part VIII Drawings and Pre-screening documents for Appropriate Assessment for the replacement toilets have been submitted to the Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Department in February 2024. Subject to approval it is proposed to commence the public consultation phase for the replacement of these toilets in March 2024.

Once the Part VIII process is complete the units will be built off-site and installed. Portalooos will be installed while the toilets are out of service.

## Portmarnock Toilets Upgrade

The Operations Department are planning to refurbish the Portmarnock Toilets during 2024. The works will comprise of two packages:

- 1 - Refurbishment of existing toilets.
- 2 - Remedial works on the foundation of the existing toilets.

The Operations Department are currently preparing screening and tender documents for the works.

## Castleknock Mulhuddart Area Beech Park, Clonsilla



Car Park resurfacing/extension Works been carried out at Beechpark, Clonsilla.

## Millennium Park



Footpath widening works been carried out at Millennium Park, Blanchardstown.



### Verona Football Club



Re-Planting of 500 Tree Whips along N3 Motorway embankment to thicken up shrubbery.

### Christmas Tree Shredding



Recent Car Park marking undertaken at Verona Football Club, Blanchardstown.



Christmas tree shredding took place this month at Millennium Park.

### N3 Motorway



Numbers of Christmas trees shredded in the Castleknock/Mulhuddart Administrative Area include:

- Millennium Park -3,805**
- Hartstown Park—234**
- St Catherines Park—246**
- Total = 4285**

## Car Parking Services

### December 2023

There was a total of 940 parking tickets issued during December 2023.

### Breakdown of Parking Offences

Top 10 Offences

Offence	Main Ticketing Offences - December 2023
9A - A VEHICLE COMMITTING AN OFFENCE CONTRARY TO PAY AND DISPLY/PERMIT PARKING	458
04G - PARKING A PRIVATE VEHICLE IN A LOADING BAY	134
08A - PARKING A VEHICLE ON A FOOTPATH	101
9A - A VEHICLE OUT OF TIME TICKET	82
9D - PARKING A VEHICLE ON A DOUBLE YELLOW LINE	82
04C - PARKING A VEHICLE IN A TAXI BAY	13
9C - VEHICLE OUTSIDE BAY	11
07A - OBSTRUCTION TO OTHER ROAD USERS/PEDESTRIANS	11
9F - PARKING/STOPPING A VEHICLE IN A DISABLED PERSONS PARKING BAY	11
04E - OBSTRUCTING AN ENTRANCE	8

### Main Ticketing Locations:

Top 10 Locations

Location	Main Ticket Locations December 2023
North Street - Swords	102
Main Street - Swords	93
Longlands - Swords	48
Church Road - Malahide	45
The Green - Malahide	44
South Strand Skerries	39
Coast Road - Malahide	37
Bridgefield Car Park - Malahide	37
Quay Street (short stay) Carpark - Balbriggan	27
Healys Lane - Malahide	27

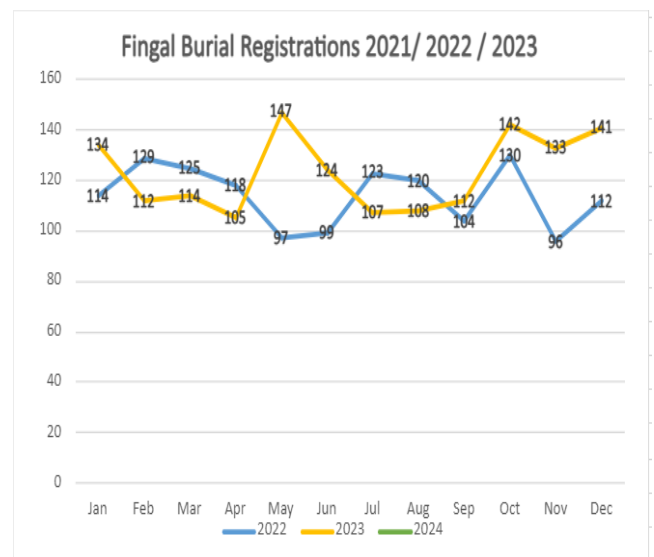
## Meter Replacement Programme

Howth/Malahide Operations Department are progressing the Annual Meter Replacement Programme, which replaces old end of life parking meters with newer machines that can accept contactless/card payment. 9 meters were replaced in December 2023, and it is envisaged that further meters will be replaced in 2024.



## Burial Ground Services

The Operations Department are continuing to administer and monitor delivery to ensure business continuity for Fingal's Burial Ground Service. There were 141 Interments in December 2023.



## Kelystown Burial Ground

As committed during the budgetary process the following is an update to Members on the current status of the proposed cemetery at Kelystown which is on the 3-year capital programme.

The Council went out to tender for the works at Kellystown Cemetery prior to Christmas 2023. Tender deadline been extended to the end of February 7. Once tender assessment is complete we hope to have the contractor commence the works on site by end of May depending on the tender process and work schedule for the successful contractor. In advance of the works members of the public who are waiting for a place for family members ashes in the planned Columbarium Wall can now register with [HowMalOpArea@fingal.ie](mailto:HowMalOpArea@fingal.ie).

In advance of the completion of the Cemetery burial plots, however, cannot be purchased in advance of a family member passing away and this is in accordance with the Burial Ground Bye-Laws 2023.

### **Traffic Operations County-Wide**

Final works were carried out completing the 2023 Program of Works in each Administrative Area.

The 2024 Programme of Works (POW) for Traffic was approved by Elected Members in all administrative areas.

### **Castleknock/Mulhuddart 2023 POW**

The signalised pedestrian crossing on Church Road in Mulhuddart was powered on in January and is now fully operational.



New signalised pedestrian crossing on Church Road

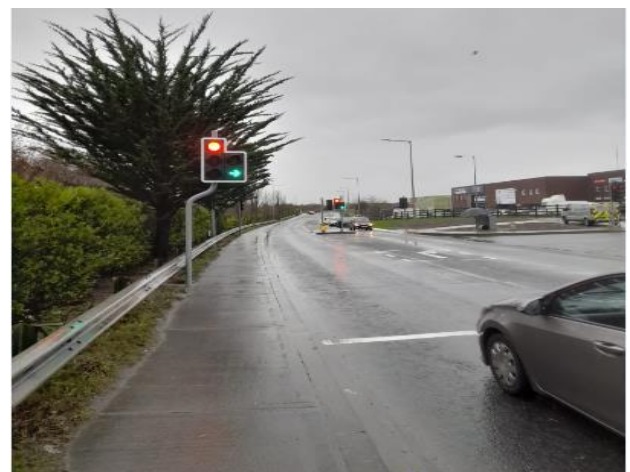
### **Road Markings – Lining**



New double yellow lines on the Littlepace Distributor Road installed in late 2023.

### **Balbriggan/Swords Area 2023 POW**

#### **➤ New Traffic Signals**



Swords – New Signalised Junction of Mountgorry Way and Drynam Road Commissioned on 29/01/24.

#### **➤ New Traffic Calming**



Naul- New Traffic Calming Ramps in the proximity of Naul National School



Garristown- New Kerb Build Out Garristown Main Street

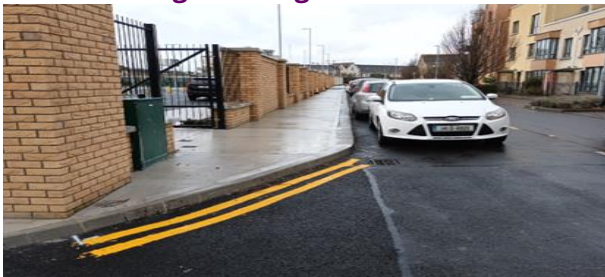
**Howth/Malahide Area - Traffic**

➤ **New Traffic Signals**



Estuary Road/Old Yellow Walls Road Junction (POW 23) - New LED Signal Heads Installed

**Road Markings - Lining**



Stapolin School ETNS - New line marking commenced across road frontage

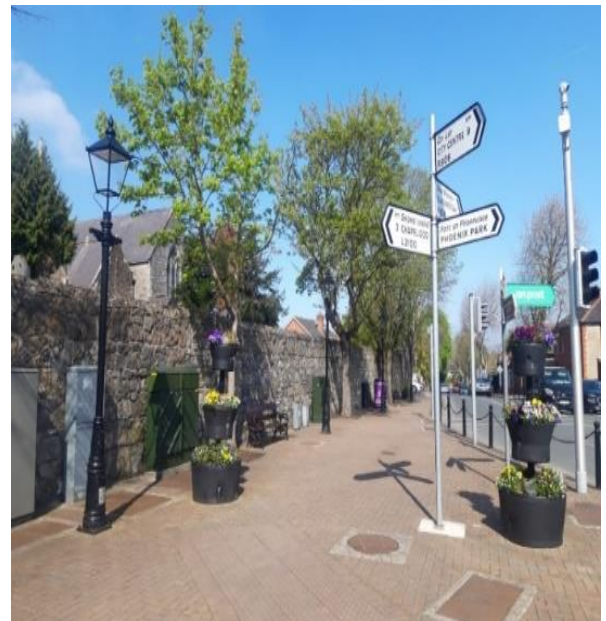
**Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit**

82 vehicle and plant hires were put in place from 01/01/202 to 26/01/202, engaging 22 suppliers.

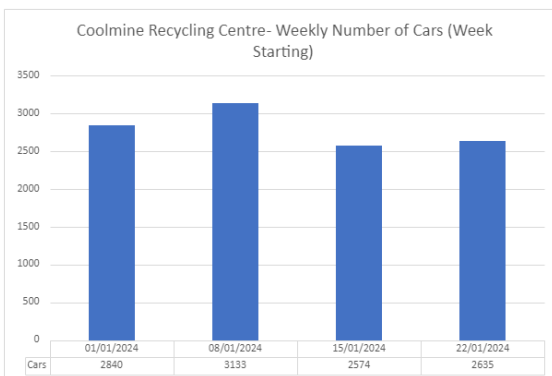
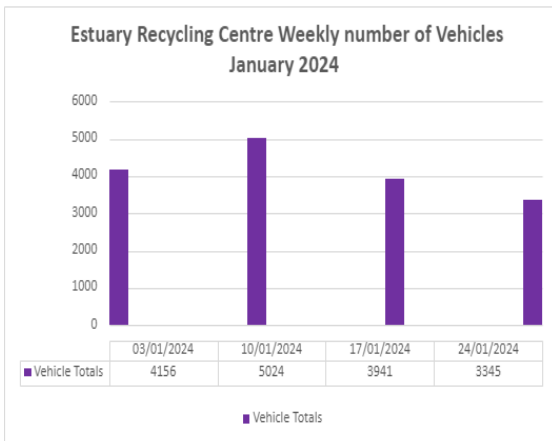
**Street Lighting LED Programme**

The Public Lighting Section will continue with the LED Programme with 99.6% of all lights switched to LEDs.

100% of new Decorative LED fittings have been installed in towns and villages across the county.



## Recycling Centres Update



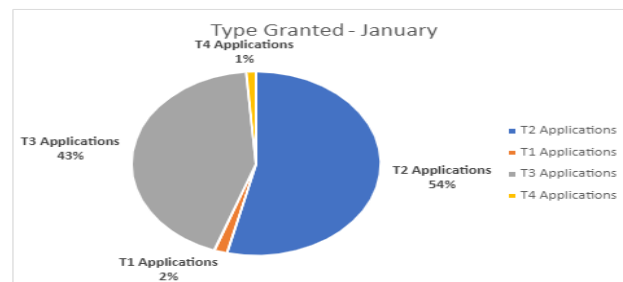
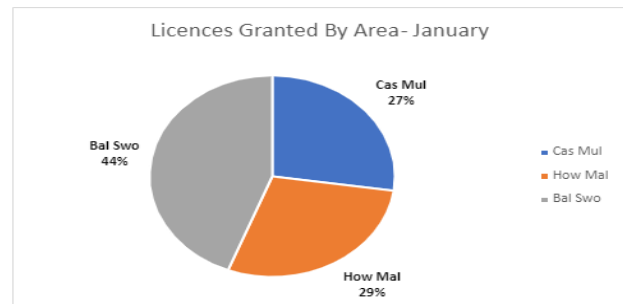
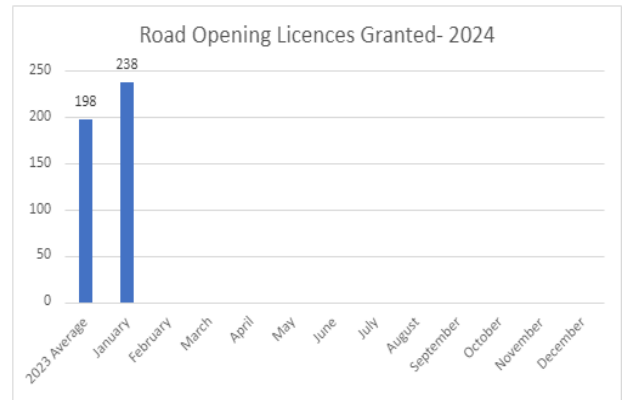
\*1/1/24 car number is an estimate based on income due to counter not operating during this week.

## Licences

### - Road Opening License's

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 are essential for the asset management of Fingal County Council Road network.

**238 Licences** were granted in the month of **January**, **44%** of which were granted by way of **automation**. Clerk of Works in each area continue to carry out regular inspections following road opening works by Utilities.



### Casual Trading License

Fingal County Council are currently accepting renewal applications for Casual Trading Pitches throughout the Administrative Area. Covering Hot Food/Tea & Coffee/Ice Cream and Flowers.

Current Casual traders will get the opportunity to renew their licence at the same pitch for 2024. Any remaining pitches will then be advertised, where there is a high level of interest a lottery system may be required to determine which Casual Trader will occupy a pitch.

We still have a small number of applications that continue to come in from parties interested in taking up pitches for February these applications are being processed on an Ad - Hoc basis.

The Castleknock/Mulhuddart Operations Department is in regular communication with our traders and area inspectors to assist in delivery of quality service and ensure compliance.

## Street Furniture Licences



Fingal County Council are currently processing Street Furniture Applications for 2024.

Similar to 2023 there is a high level of interest in securing a Licence for 2024.

The Castleknock/Mulhuddart Operations Department will continue to carry out site inspections to ensure compliance throughout the year.

## Storm Water

### ➤ Stormwater Capital Programme 2023-2025

Fingal County Council are continuing to progress projects recently adopted in the 2024-2026 Stormwater Capital Programme. The 3-year programme includes 17 projects estimated at approximately €2.5 million with this figure under review as the projects are developed.

Below is a brief update in relation to the status of some of the projects that have commenced and planned upcoming projects.

### ➤ Howth Stormwater Culvert

All Topographical, Manhole, Flow and CCTV Surveys are complete and satisfactory. WPB Optioneering report is currently under review by the consultant after which it will be issued to FCC for review. The Consultant Roughan O Donovan is to continue preparation of contract documents for the procurement of a GPR (investigations) contractor to enable design documents to be progressed. An updated programme is due.

### ➤ Bath Avenue Storm Water Pipe

This project involved the laying of a new Stormwater pipeline along Bath Ave in Malahide to alleviate localised flooding and allow for future capacity. In total 235m of pipe was laid, with the existing network on Grove Road connected to the new network. The new SW pipe is tied into an existing outfall on the Coast Rd. McQuillan Contractors have been appointed to carry out the reinstatement works. A road closure has been applied for to allow for the reinstatement works. Should there be no additional observations or requirements received from the road closure application, reinstatement works will commence in early March.



## - Burrow Beach

The proposed remediation of a surface water outfall pipe on Burrow Beach is scheduled to begin following the seabird wintering season around March 2024. Submissions are being evaluated following a tender procedure for the supply of anchor blocks. Works will be executed by FCC Direct Labour with technical assistance to be provided by design consultants.



## ➤ Wendell Avenue/Heather Walk

Stormwater sewer rehabilitation works in Portmarnock are now complete. In total 200m of collapsed sections of network have been replaced in the Dewberry Park, Wendell Avenue and Heather Walk estates. Trench reinstatement works are progressing. Following a tender process a contractor has now been appointed. Reinstatement works are planned for early February 2024.

## - Lusk Network Remedial Works

The above project consists of Stormwater infrastructure provision and improvement in the Lusk urban area. It will include second level/follow up investigation, surveys, non-invasive interventions jetting, root removal, pipe lining, replacement and new lay – using conventional cut and cover plus reinstatement of surface.

Currently the Direct Labour crew are upgrading sections of localised damaged pipeline. The works at the junction of Treen Hill/Ministers Rd are now complete. In total 60m of damaged and collapsed pipeline has been replaced with a 300mm diameter pipe.

Following additional CCTV surveys two sections requiring remediation along Lusk Main St have been identified. Works on these repairs will commence in late January. Sections of the network along Station Rd & Dublin Rd are currently undergoing camera survey works to examine its condition and confirm capacity. Most of the repair/replacement will be undertaken By Direct Labour with some input by contractors. The overall project is likely to take 24 months to complete.



## ➤ Clonsilla/Mulhuddart Network Improvements

Following historical reports of flooding additional CCTV surveys are being carried out to determine the condition of the Stormwater infrastructure in the Rusheeny and Manorfield estates in D15. So far, several large restrictions have been found and a manhole was completely blocked with household waste. Build-ups of concrete and collapsed sections have also been identified in other locations along the same network. Works are ongoing to carry out multiple trenchless repair works using a robotic cutting machine.



**- Castleknock**

CCTV surveys have been undertaken in **Georgian Village** to determine the cause of road flooding. Findings to date are that the line is heavily restricted due to the presence roots. Works are now complete and all root obstructions have been removed.



**- Lusk -Barrack Lane**

Following historical reports of ongoing road flooding along Treen Hill & Minister's Road. CCTV surveys were carried out and restrictions were identified along Barrack Lane. A new section of 300mm pipe has now been installed along the footway to replace the existing collapsed line. In total 60m of damaged and collapsed pipeline has been replaced. Installation work has now been completed with some reinstatement work still ongoing.

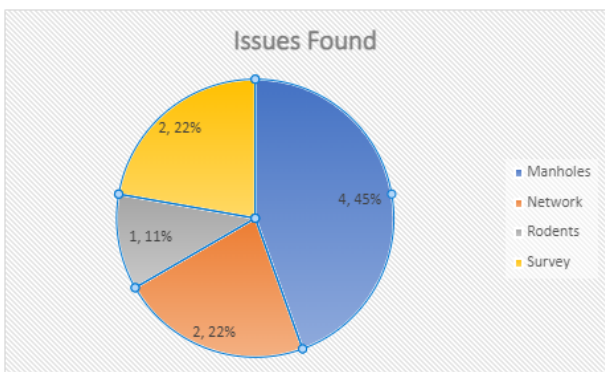
**- Carpenterstown Rd SW Pipe refurbishment**

Following survey work and subsequent analysis completed in 2023. The procurement process has begun to appoint a Contractor to carry various remedial works including part liner repairs on damaged sections of the network along Carpenterstown Rd.

**- Storm Water Maintenance**

Maintenance of the network and much of the capital works programme is generated by inspections which are tabulated on a Works Planner. The types and volumes of issues reported are shown in the chart.

2024 to January 24<sup>th</sup>





### - Donabate

Quotations were sought to carry out maintenance work on the **Beaverstown stream** to remove restrictions and clear and overgrown ditch to create storage and to remove flow restrictions. A contractor has been appointed to carry out these works with mobilisation on site planned for February 2024.

### - Balbriggan

A Contractor has been engaged to carry out reinstatement works following the removal of previously misconnected properties to the Surface Water network in **Flemington**. Full reinstatement is planned for completion in Q1 of 2024.

Following CCTV surveys in **Clonard Court** area of **Balbriggan** a collapsed section of pipe was found. This has since been excavated and replaced with a new section and all restrictions have been removed.



### > Assets

#### Ironworks

The Stormwater manhole cover and frame replacement programme for replacing assets at the end of life is ongoing. Covers and frames were recently replaced on highly trafficked locations in Lusk and Balrothery. Offline replacements were also completed in the Bun-a-Knock estate in the Naul.

### - Biodiversity

Assistance is being given by the Storm Water Unit to *Baldoyle Tidy Towns* who have secured funding for a Biodiversity project on the **Seagrang Park** stream, Baldoyle.

Recent inspections have focussed on a local culvert to determine the source of contamination to the surface water network and further sampling is being carried out to support this investigation.



#### **Storm Water Connections:**

20 new connection applications including one diversion application have been processed in 2023.

#### Meetings/Briefings

- Programme of Works 2024 briefings to Area Committee were held in December.

#### Other

##### **Barnageeragh Bay Beach Access**

Following a tender process, Engineering Consultants have now been appointed to conduct a feasibility study into providing easy and safe access to Barnageeragh Bay Beach for all citizens and visitors regardless of their age or physical ability.

# PLANNING AND STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE (PSI)

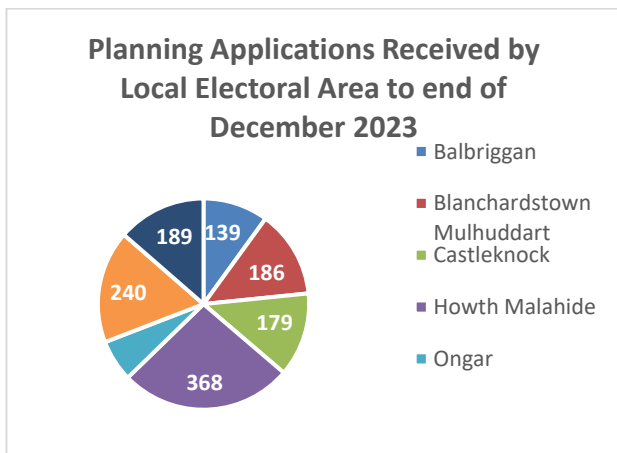
Contents
Planning Applications
Planning Decisions
Building Control Admin
Strategic Policy Unit
Built Environment Division
Transportation Planning

## Planning Applications

There have been 1390 planning applications received from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023, of these 163 applications were invalid leaving a total of 1227 valid applications. The volume of applications received by Local Electoral Area (LEA) is detailed in the table below.

From 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 13 Large-scale Residential Development (LRD) full applications have been made to the Local Authority. From 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 Fifteen decisions have been made on Large Scale Residential Developments. Of these Fifteen decisions made, twelve have been to grant Permission (3,791 Units) two decisions have been made to request further information and one decision has been made to invalidate an application.

An Bord Pleanála have issued 17 decisions (4 Refusals & 13 Grants -5709 units) on SHD applications in the period from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> December. There are five SHD's (4,577 units) remaining with An Bord Pleanála for decision.



## Planning Decisions

A total of 1217 planning decisions have been issued to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023. There have been 996 decisions to grant permission (82%) and 221 refusals of permission (18%). Included in the 996 grants there have been 80 grants of permissions in respect of single house construction, 549 grants of permission for domestic extensions/works, 82 commercial grants of permission, 24 retail grants of permission and 46 grants of permission in respect of housing developments of which 26 relate to development of 2 – 20 units, 6 relates to 20 – 50 units, 7 relate to 50 -100 units and 8 which relate to development of 100+ Units.

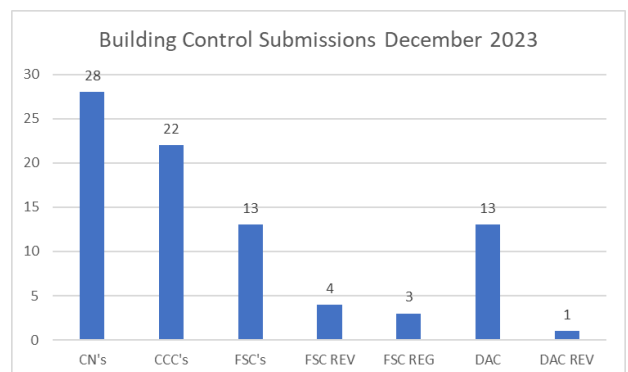
## Building Control Admin

In December 2023, there were 84 building control submissions made via BCMS.

This was made up of 28 Commencement notices, 22 Compliance of Completion Certificates, 20 Fire Safety related Certificates and 14 Disability Access related Certificates.

Commencement notices and Compliance on Completion Certificates are submitted through the Projects module on BCMS. Fire Safety, Disability Access, Regularisation and Dispensation/Relaxation Certificate applications can be submitted online via the Applications module on BCMS and the Council accepts hard copy applications directly into the office. Most applications are now being submitted via the online system.

The Building Control Admin team processed 130 decisions in December 2023 relating to Fire Safety and Disability Access Certificates. This was made up of 40 decisions to grant and 90 extensions of time.

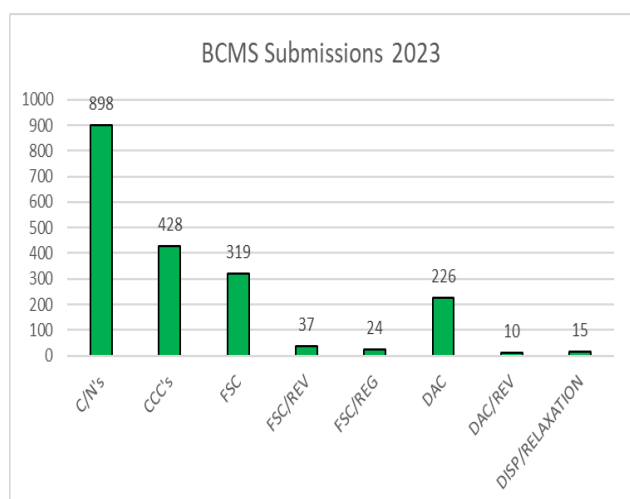


The total number of Building Control Submissions received during 2023 is 1957.

This was made up of 898 Commencement notices, 428 Compliance of Completion Certificates, 380 Fire Safety related Certificates and 251 Disability Access related Certificates.

Commencement notices and Compliance on Completion Certificates are submitted through the Projects module on BCMS. Fire Safety, Disability Access, Regularisation and Dispensation/Relaxation Certificate applications can be submitted online via the Applications module on BCMS and the Council accepts hard copy applications directly into the office. Most applications are now being submitted via the online system.

The Building Control Admin team processed 1604 decisions in 2023 relating to Fire Safety and Disability Access Certificates. This was made up of 1087 decisions to grant and 517 extensions of time.



## Strategic Policy Unit

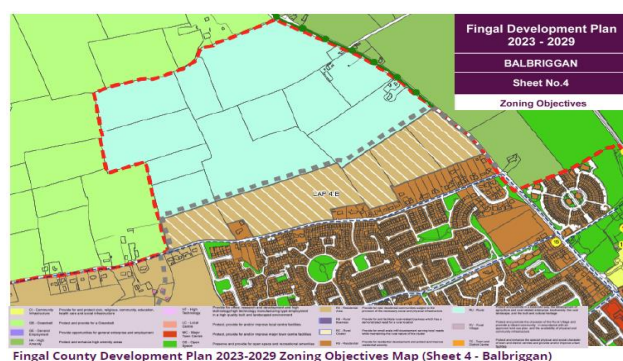
### Local Area Plans, Masterplans and Framework Plans

In July, the first round of Plans falling out of the development plan was agreed. This comprises Swords and Flemington LAP's, the Dunsink Plan, Kilbarrack and the Old School House Masterplans and the Stephenstown, Folkstown and Clonsilla Framework Plans.

Work has begun on the Flemington Local Area Plan and the Clonsilla Framework Plan.

### Flemington Local Area Plan

The proposed LAP boundary has been designated in the Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029. Local Area Plans play an important role in setting the framework for the achievement of integrated and balanced communities within a specified area. They seek to provide the optimal development framework to ensure the protection and enhancement of the existing areas, key features and the environment within an area, while providing for a high quality living environment through the use of robust urban design principles. Fingal County Council has commenced the consultation process which is a key feature of the Local Area Plan process. The pre-draft consultation period will run from 1<sup>st</sup> February to 1<sup>st</sup> March. A targeted workshop for local members, landowners and community groups is organised for Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February and an information drop in session for member of the public will be held on 19<sup>th</sup> February, 4pm – 7pm in **Bracken Court Hotel, Balbriggan.**



### Clonsilla Framework Plan

The Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 provides for an objective to prepare a Framework Plan for lands at Clonsilla (Plan Ref. FP 13.C).

The proposed FP boundary has been designated in the Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029 and includes an area of land south of Clonsilla Road/Larch Grove, bounded by Diswellstown Road to the east, Callaghan Bridge to the west and extends just south of the railway tracks.

The Kellystown Local Area Plan, located to the south of the Clonsilla Framework Plan area, was adopted in January 2021 and provides for the future development of that particular area. A specific and separate Masterplan will also be prepared for the Old School House area in the near future.

Public consultation is a key element in the preparation of the Clonsilla Framework Plan and the pre-draft consultation period will run from Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February to Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March. A targeted workshop for local members and community groups is organised for Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February and an information drop in session for member of the public will be held in February – **this final date has yet to be finalised.**

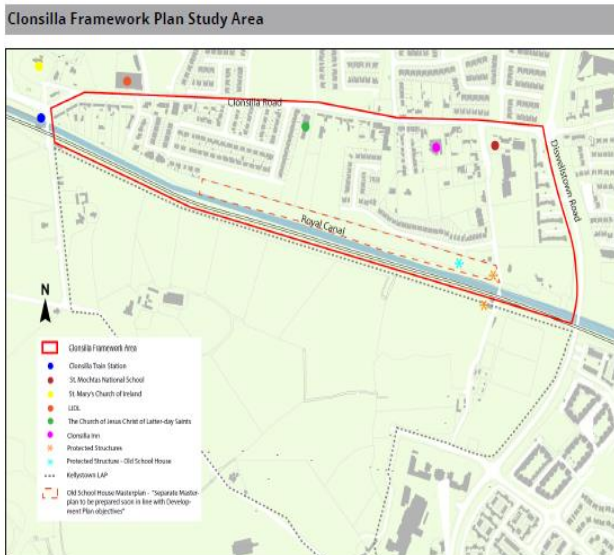


Fig. 6-6: St. Patrick's Sq. Indicative and Existing Views



### Donabate Framework Plan

Fingal County Council has prepared and published a Draft Framework Plan for Donabate, County Dublin. The draft Plan provides a vision for the Donabate town centre which will improve and enhance the Main Street area and guide careful urban improvement. The Plan will provide an opportunity to improve the public realm and setting of the town and will guide future funding opportunities. This Plan highlights the distinctive character of Donabate, its setting on the peninsula, current issues pertinent to Donabate and, lastly, outlines a programme of actions which must be agreed with the community.

The Draft Donabate Framework Plan, including SEA Statement and Screening Report for Appropriate Assessment is on public consultation until Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February and is available to view here: <https://consult.fingal.ie/en/browse>. A Public Information Drop-In Session took place Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January from 4pm – 8pm in the Donabate Portrane, Community Centre.

### Residential Zoned Land Tax

The Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) is a tax aimed at activating serviced and residentially zoned land for housing. Local authorities are responsible for identifying the land that is subject to RZLT.

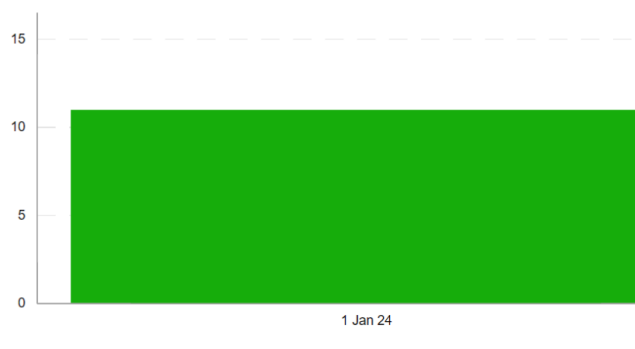
On 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024, Fingal County Council published the annual draft maps for 2025 identifying land currently in scope for the tax, land proposed to be removed from the current scope and land proposed to be added for the first time. Landowners may make submissions and submit rezoning requests regarding land identified on these maps. 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 is the last date to make submissions regarding removal of land from the 2025 annual draft maps if considered to be outside scope, including submissions by landowners in support of the exclusion of their land where it is identified on the annual draft map that the local authority proposes to exclude such land, or challenging the date of inclusion. Submissions may also be made recommending land be included on the maps. The 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024 is the last date to make a rezoning request regarding land identified on the 2025 annual draft map.

Fingal County Council's final RZLT map for 2024 is now available on our website and at our public office at County Hall, Main Street, Swords. The map includes lands that meet the relevant criteria for inclusion on the map as set out in the current legislation.

- In Scope Residential Lands in Fingal: 3,502 Hectares
- In Scope Mixed Use Lands in Fingal: 209 Hectares

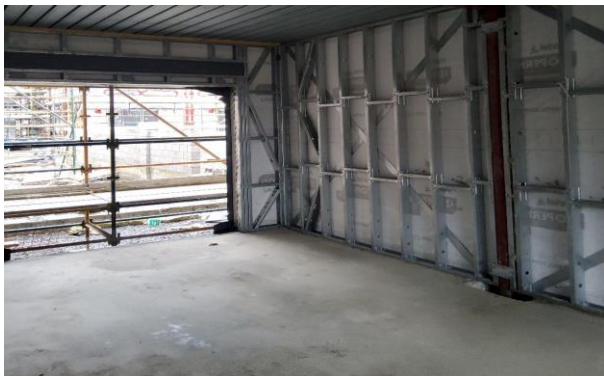
### **Built Environment Division**

Building Control/Taking in Charge Section - 30/01/2024



- There was 1 development Taken in Charge in the council meeting of the 16th of January 2024 (Bay Meadows in Dublin 15).
- There are 3 developments up for Taking in Charge in February 2024 (Barnageeragh Cove Skerries, Vauxhall Street Balbriggan and Drynam Hall Kinsealy).

### **Pictures**



Inspecting a light steel gauge building in Dublin 15.



Timber frame dwelling in Dublin 15 with fire barrier (red) installed.

### **Transportation Planning**

#### **PSI 001 Snugborough Interchange upgrade**

The Snugborough Interchange is currently programmed to be completed in April 2024. The last element of the scheme to be completed will be the shared active travel route through the underpasses. The scheme has been delayed mainly due to the complexity of the scheme and the number of utility diversions involved. Refurbishment works on the older bridge are continuing along with surfacing works in various locations. New traffic signals and the new junction layouts/ pedestrian crossings will be put in operation later in Q1. Updates will be posted on the scheme web site [www.snugboroughinterchange.ie](http://www.snugboroughinterchange.ie)

#### **PSI 002 Ongar Barnhill Road**

Bam Civil Ltd. are advancing the foundation of the bridge over the railway line. A consultation for extinguishment of public right of way on Barberstown Lane North was initiated by FCC to allow for the construction of the road [www.fingal.ie/ongar-barnhill](http://www.fingal.ie/ongar-barnhill) [Consultations | Fingal County Council Online Consultation Portal](http://www.fingal.ie/ongar-barnhill). Updates for the scheme will be posted on [www.fingal.ie/ongar-barnhill](http://www.fingal.ie/ongar-barnhill)

#### **PSI-039 R132 Connectivity Project**

Consultation with the National Transport Authority and with Transport Infrastructure Ireland regarding the connection with Metro Link is ongoing with Monthly meetings. Following a meeting with a developer on a new access onto the R132. Modelling the impact of this junction is currently being undertaken by consultants. Detailed design stage is underway and progressing as programmed.

A workshop was held with the various department of Fingal County Council to gather information for detailed design. Further workshop meeting is planned with Individual department as part of the detailed design process and ensure agreement with specification is reached.

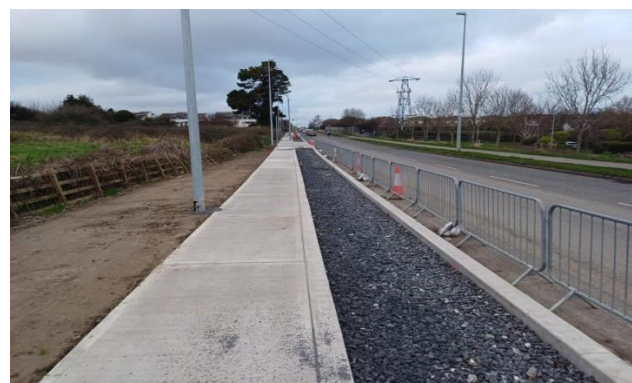
### PSI-005 Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian and Cyclist Route

Construction works is progressing on the Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian and Cyclist Route for this key infrastructure project for Balbriggan. The Project is now approx 30% completed. The work is ongoing and progressing well at three locations on the project on Hamilton Road, Harry Reynolds Road just south of the R122 and at Moylaragh Road. Additional meeting with the ESB in January onsite for the new connection points at 12 Controlled crossing points along the project. Also, relocation of existing ESB cables has been agreed on Harry Reynolds Road.

To assist with communication to the community a dedicated project website has been setup which will be updated throughout the project, highlighting the projects progression and key milestone stages; [Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian & Cycle Route | Fingal County Council](#)



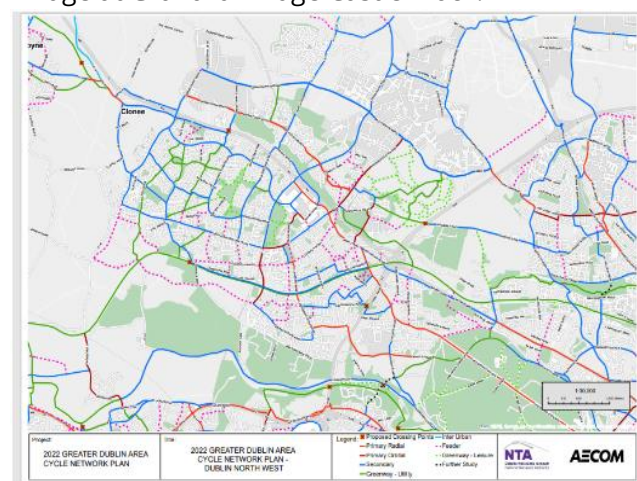
Works completed on the south side of the Hamilton Road



Works progressing on Harry Reynolds Road just north of Fingal Bay Business Park.

### Consultancy Framework for Dublin 15 Walking and Cycling Projects

The Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Dept has commenced the procurement process for a Single Party Framework for Engineering Consultancy Services for Pedestrian and Cycling Route Projects in the Dublin 15 Area. The assessment of the tender submissions for Stage 1 has taken place and the letters of intent was recently issued moving the procurement process to Stage 2. Proposed projects will include the Clonsilla-Damastown Cycle Route and Pedestrian & Cycling Bridge at Granard Bridge Castleknock.



Cycle Network Plan for The Greater Dublin Area - Proposed Cycle Network Dublin North West - Sheet N8

### PSI 063 Granard Bridge

A tender brief is currently being finalised for a Pedestrian and Cycling bridge over the Maynooth Rail line and Royal Canal at Granard Bridge on the Castleknock Road and will form an integral part of the walking and cycling route for Blanchardstown to Phoenix Park which is a proposed route in the NTA's Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan.

The tendering for this project will form part of the initial project for the Engineering Consultancy Services Framework for Dublin 15 Pedestrian and Cycling Route Projects which is currently at stage 2 of the procurement process.



Figure 1 - View from Rail Bridge towards Granard Bridge and Blanchardstown



Figure 2 - Site Location

#### PSI - 004 Royal Canal Urban Greenway

Dialogue continues to be held with key stakeholders the National Transport Authority and Waterways Ireland along the route of the greenway to ensure a coordinated, high quality final design is achieved at interfaces between existing facilities and the proposed scheme. The recently published Cycle Design Manual has led to some improvements being incorporated into the overall scheme design. Landowner searches and land referencing are ongoing also. Following this process, the preliminary design drawings will be finalised, the required documents including the Environmental Impact Assessment Report will be prepared for a planning application to An Bord Pleanála in mid-2024.

#### S2M Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme -

The preliminary design drawings are being finalised. The recently published Cycle Design Manual has led to some improvements being incorporated into the overall scheme design including revised layouts for crossings and bus stops to comply with the new standards.

A surveyor has recently completed topographical surveys of public and private lands within the proposed scheme. Ground Investigation Works will be required along the route at all locations where new structures are being proposed. These works have been procured and are scheduled for early 2024. A tree surveyor will be procured in the coming months and a survey of all trees along the proposed route will be carried out. Following this process, the preliminary design can be finalised, and documents will be prepared for a planning application to An Bord Pleanála. Engagement with potentially impacted property owners, businesses and stakeholders is ongoing. A search of unregistered lands is ongoing for production of the deposit maps for the land acquisition.

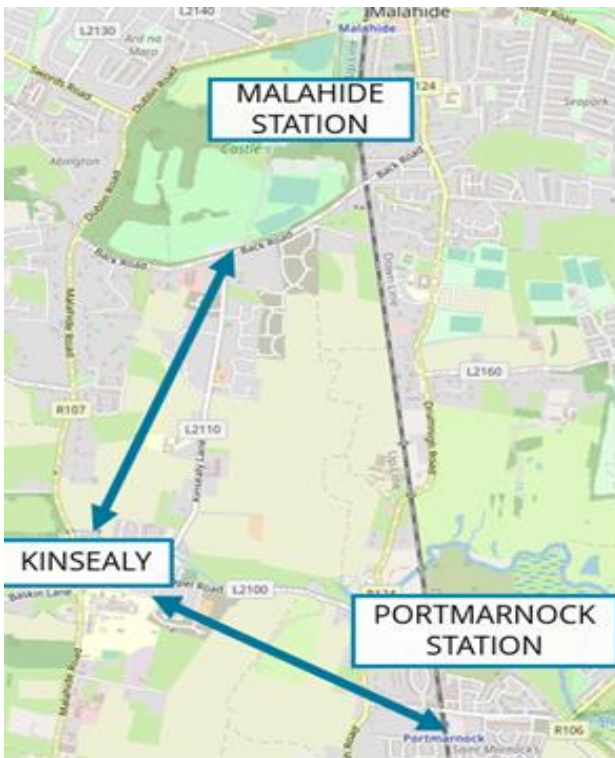


Artists impression for section of S2M Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme

#### Kinsealy Walking and Cycling Routes

The consultancy framework for various Swords & Kinsealy projects with the initial project being the Kinsealy Walking and Cycling Routes was recently awarded to Barry transportation. The appointed consultants are currently progressing the Kinsealy Walking and Cycling Routes Projects. The Options Selection phase is progressing on two routes, Kinsealy Lane and Chapel Road/Station Road to determine the draft preferred routes. Traffic surveys have been completed. In addition, a surveyor has been procured to carry out topographical surveys. Surveying work is scheduled for early 2024.

Briefings will be undertaken with the local members at the next milestone stage. Non-statutory stakeholder consultation which will include road users will be targeted for 2024 whilst targeted stakeholder consultation, for example with potentially affected landowners, will be undertaken as needed.



### Fingal Coastal Way

The topographical survey of public lands is nearing completion. This survey will allow designs in the town and village centres to progress. A local consultation is underway in the Quay Street Area of Skerries and will run to the end of March. The consultation is asking residents for their preferences on traffic management options to facilitate the Fingal Coastal Way. The responses will assist in the selection of designs to be developed further. Affected landowners with farming and horticultural businesses have been informed of the appointment of the scheme agronomist and given details of how to request a meeting. Searches continue for potentially affected landowners who have not been identified yet.

### Broadmeadow Way Greenway

Design options for the northern causeway have been developed using recently acquired ground investigation data from the ground investigation (GI) contract conducted over the summer months. These options will then be workshopped with the NTA and Irish Rail to seek approval to proceed with single preferred design option that meets the project objectives and ensure the safety and integrity of the railway causeway.

Tender competitions are complete for a number of sub-elements of the project. Irish Rail have awarded the following contracts which will allow the construction of the main bridge across the estuary:

- OHLE strengthening works to the foundations of the overhead electrical systems associated with the Dart which must be completed in advance of the bridge and ramp construction awarded to Global Rail Services Ltd.
- Manufacture and supply of precast concrete units for the 12-span 180m long precast bridge deck units awarded to Shay Murtagh Precast Ltd.
- Main estuary bridge Civil Engineering Contract awarded to Jons Civil Engineering Ltd.

The Underwater Archaeology Unit in the Department of Local Government and Heritage have requested that Fingal County Council undertake an underwater archaeology desktop assessment as part of planning and foreshore commitments. A tender competition for this piece of work was issued to the market and Archaeological Management Solutions were awarded the contract. The study is due to be completed by the end of March.

The Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage has advised that Minister has approved the granting of the Foreshore Lease, Licence and Consent and the application has now been referred to the Chief State Solicitor's Office for drafting and execution. This is the final step for Foreshore Licence Approval.

### Church Fields Link Road

Works are continuing on phase 2 of the Church Fields Link Road and Cycle Network project, including the upgrade and reconfiguration of the existing Wellview Avenue, Damastown roundabout and the installation of 670m of high-quality pedestrian and cycling facilities through the eastern parklands linking up with existing networks and future proposed facilities in the vicinity.





Image 9-8 Parklands entrance to Church Road South

### Turvey Avenue & Portrane Road

Fingal County Council has lodged an application to An Bord Pleanála (ABP) for a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) for the Portrane Road Enhancement Project and two landowner objections have been lodged with ABP in this regard. Further consultation regarding landowner concerns was progressed with one of the landowners having withdrawn his objection. Discussions continue with the other landowner to try to reach an agreement. The project involves works to widen the existing narrow footpath on the northern side of Portrane Road in order to provide a suitably wide and safe footpath for pedestrians to use in the vicinity of two national schools (St. Patrick's Boys National School and Scoil Phádraic Cailíni). The project also involves works to provide safe pedestrian crossings and appropriate traffic calming facilities. Subject to approval from An Bord Pleanála, the CPO will allow Fingal County Council to purchase privately-owned land that is required to widen the path and deliver the project. A decision from An Bord Pleanála on the CPO application is expected February 2024.

Separately, Fingal County Council has appointed a works contractor, Priority Construction, to deliver the Footpath Enhancement project on Turvey Avenue, in Donabate. The project will see the construction of a new section of footpath to improve pedestrian safety and increase connectivity for people walking between Donabate Village and the residential areas along Turvey Avenue, west of Donabate Train Station. Construction work is due to commence in February 2024.

### Donabate Pedestrian Bridge

License agreements are being finalised with the developers of adjacent lands to facilitate access to, and construction of the bridge. Procurement for a main contractor for the works is nearing completion. All necessary documents have been submitted to the NTA for approval to award the contract and for funding for 2024. Construction is expected to commence in Q1 2024.

### Donabate Transport Projects

Fingal County Council has appointed Roughan and O'Donovan, a leading multi-disciplinary consultancy firm, to provide engineering, planning and environmental services for the Donabate Transport Projects, which comprise a number of major projects with the objective of improving transport and active travel infrastructure and road safety on the Donabate-Portrane peninsula.

The projects include:

- Phase 2 of the Donabate Distributor Road project, to improve access to Donabate and Portrane from the M1-Lissenhall Interchange for all road users, particularly vulnerable road users such as pedestrians and cyclists;
- Blakes Cross Junction Upgrade, to provide a safer junction layout that caters for both motorised traffic and active travel modes of transport such as walking and cycling;
- A study of the M1-Lissenhall Interchange, in collaboration with TII, to assess all technical and operational traffic issues associated with this strategic motorway junction;
- 7no. Active Travel Routes which encompass number related local projects which aim to increase local connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists. Work on the initial data-gathering, concept development and option assessment stages of the Donabate Transport Projects is underway including traffic and topographical surveys. Further stages of work, relating to environmental assessment, planning consent, etc. will follow on in subsequent years as appropriate.

## HOUSING

Contents
Housing Supply
Asset Management
Support
Tenancy Services
Housing Ukraine Response
Vacant Homes

### Affordable Home Purchase Scheme



Fingal County Council are making homes available for sale under affordable dwelling purchase arrangements across the County.

Our pipeline for affordable housing over 2024 is:

Scheme	Partner	No. of Homes
Balmaston	Glenveagh	86
Church Fields 3A	GEM Construction	180
FCC Units (to be divided)	FCC	16
Kilmartin Grove	Glenveagh	36
Lusk	Lagan Homes	20
Rush	Ballymore	58
Wilkinsons Grove	LDA	57

Fingal County Council is also actively engaging with Developers for opportunities to collaborate on Turnkey developments that are suitable for sale under Affordable Purchase arrangements.

The Affordable Team will be holding an information evening for members of the public at the beginning of March.

### Construction Programme

Summary of unit numbers in the pipeline	Units
Under Construction	602
Schemes with Planning Approval and Tender Stage	500
Planning and Design	703
Part V	356
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,161</b>

### Progress of Projects on Site

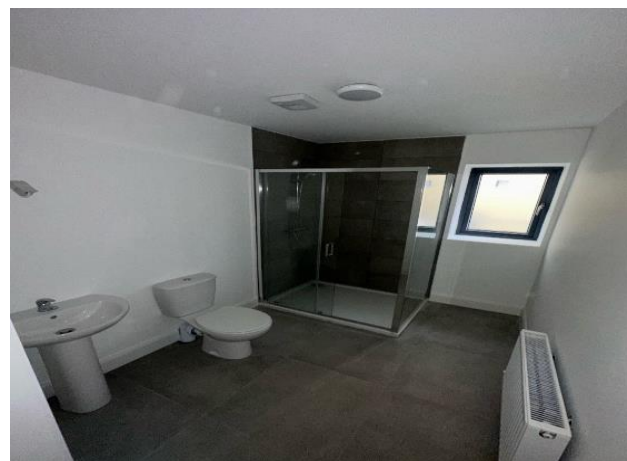
#### Fingal County Council – Restoration of St Ita’s Portrane - 14 units

Nine units have been completed and the restoration works commenced on the final 5 units and are due for completion in mid-2024.



**Fingal County Council - Update on Affordable Housing Scheme at Hampton Gardens Close, Balbriggan**  
**18 Affordable Units**

18 homes have been made available for sale under an Affordable Housing Purchase Arrangement with Orchid Homes in Balbriggan, Co. Dublin. The development is progressing well with completion expected in early 2024. 5 of the 9 no. 1 bedroom apartments are sale agreed and 9 no. 2 bedroom duplex units are all sale agreed.



**Fingal County Council - Affordable Housing Scheme at Hayestown, Rush**  
**52 Affordable & 10 Social Units**

Works are continuing with Phase 1 of the affordable units at Hayestown, Rush which is due for completion in early 2024. Phase 1 consists of a total of 26 units – 24 affordable private homes & 2 social homes.





**Tuath Housing – Construction Scheme at  
Kilhedge Lane, Lusk, Co. Dublin – 31 dwellings**

Works are continuing on the 31 units in Lusk being constructed by Tuath Housing. This development is due for completion in early 2024.

**Fingal County Council – construction scheme at Bowden Court, Swords – 11 dwellings**

Works are progressing at Bowden Court, Swords.



**Fingal County Council - construction scheme at Ballough Place, Lusk – 10 dwellings**

Works at Ballough Place, Lusk are progressing without significant delays.



**Fingal County Council - construction scheme at Monastery Court, Lusk – 5 dwellings**

Works are progressing at Monastery Court, Lusk and the scheme is on track for completion in Quarter 2, 2024.



**Housing Asset Management Report**  
**Energy Efficiency/Retrofitting Programme**

Fingal County Council's Energy Efficiency Retrofit programme is progressing well. The 2024 Programme will commence in the coming weeks with Strandmill Phase 3.

Investigative works are ongoing in several other housing estates across the county to include them in this programme.



*Post-works – Strandmill Estate, Portmarnock (external wall insulation, new windows and doors)*

**Returning Dwellings to Productive Use**

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

<b>Voids for Re-letting</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> January 2024</b>
In the letting process	50
Undergoing re-let repairs	18
With County Architect for procurement of pre-let repairs	9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>77</b>

**Planned Maintenance Programmes**  
**Cyclical Maintenance - Scheme Painting**

The Scheme Painting Programme provides for external painting and joinery repairs to Council housing stock and currently operates on a 6/7-year cycle. Works are currently reaching completion in Domville Woods and works are on going in Corduff Park and Whitechapel Estate.

**Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)**

HAP continues to be the primary source of rent support for those in private rented accommodation. Fingal County Council has set up over 18 new tenancies in 2024 to date with approximately 3945 tenancies set up since HAP began in 2017.

The HAP team is on hand to deal with any queries from applicants and landlords in person at the Housing Department in the Fingal County Council Blanchardstown Office, by phone at 01 8905000 via the CCU or through email at [hap@fingal.ie](mailto:hap@fingal.ie).

**Rents**

The new rent review process continues, and tenants are required to return their Rent Assessment Form with the relevant documents so that an assessment can be carried out and the correct rent charge applied to the account.

The Rent Arrears team is working methodically through accounts in substantial arrears to encourage tenants to engage with the Council in reducing their arrears. In cases where there is no engagement, despite repeated efforts, proceedings will progress through the legal arena, and to date, the Rents Section has secured two Possession orders with 5 others currently before the courts. We have recently resolved one case to a satisfactory conclusion for both the tenant and the council. Regarding the two possession orders secured, both tenants are engaging with the team to address their areas.

The Rents team encourages any tenant who is having trouble paying their rent to engage with the Council to examine possible solutions.

However, there are instances where tenants do not engage or make alternative payment arrangements, and, in those situations, the Council needs to take further action.

### Housing Loans

The Local Authority Home Loan (LAHL) is a government-backed mortgage for first-time buyers and certain other applicants who are unable to obtain home loan financing from a commercial lender.

A key feature of the LAHL is that the interest rates are fixed for the full term of the mortgage, so borrowers have the same repayments for the lifetime of the loan. Loan terms are available for up to 30 years.

Further amendments to properties eligible for the LAHL were announced in December 2023 which allowed the Local Authority Home Loan to be available for the first time to people buying & renovating derelict properties. Up until now, only new, second-hand, or self-build properties were eligible. The same geographical restrictions regarding the property's market value (360k for properties in Dublin) at the end of the renovation will apply.

Further information on the Local Authority Home Loan and the eligibility criteria can be found at [www.fingal.ie/localauthorityhomeloan](http://www.fingal.ie/localauthorityhomeloan) & [www.localauthorityhomeloan.ie](http://www.localauthorityhomeloan.ie)



### Private Rented Inspections

It is expected that the 2024 target for inspections will be similar to that of 2023. Preliminary statistics indicate that registered private tenancies at the end of December 2023 are down 1% on 2023 and AHB tenancies are up 4%. The inspections team will receive their target from the Department of Housing in the coming weeks.

However the inspections programme for 2024 has commenced, and the team will continue to work this year with the contractor improving and streamlining the process and utilising all avenues to ensure that compliance improves, and the target is reached.

### Housing Tenancy Services Report

#### Housing Support and Housing Position

Housing List positions have been issued to all applicants.

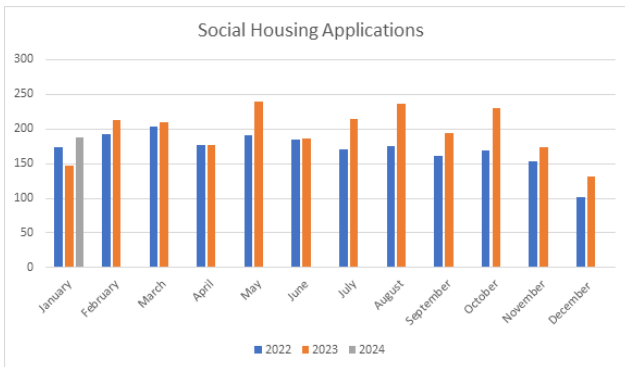
The list position is also available through the CBL portal on Fingal.ie. Applicants who do not have access to this portal should contact [Choicebasedlettings@fingal.ie](mailto:Choicebasedlettings@fingal.ie) to request their unique username and password.

#### Changes to Income Eligibility Thresholds

By Circular 48/2022 and changes being implemented via the Social Housing Assessment (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 2022, the Social Housing Eligibility Bands increased with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023.

#### Housing applications received year to date.

January 2024	188
January- December 2023	2,354
January - December 2022	2,051



**City to City Exchange**

Following a successful collaboration between the Housing Delivery team and the Economic, Enterprise, Tourism & Cultural Development Department, Fingal County Council were successful in an application for funding under the European Urban Initiative City-to-City exchange programme. The funding will facilitate a learning exchange between Fingal County Council and Helsinki City Council. Housing Europe recommended Helsinki as an exemplar for affordable housing initiatives in Europe. The city of Helsinki has a long track record of house building with the ability to influence housing supply as well as affordability. The City Council targets a balanced range of housing options for inhabitants while not being dependent on the market for delivery and also not excluding the private sector. It also prioritises new developments to be low carbon while actively retrofitting existing housing stock to become more energy efficient.

**Housing Support Appeals**

Applicants are reminded, that an appeal must be received within 28 days of a decision being communicated in writing to be eligible for review.

An email address has been established to facilitate the submission of appeals about housing support applications by applicants e.g., closure of social housing applications, transfer of tenancy, income limit queries, medical priority, and transfer applications. Applicants can email – [Housing.Appeals@fingal.ie](mailto:Housing.Appeals@fingal.ie).

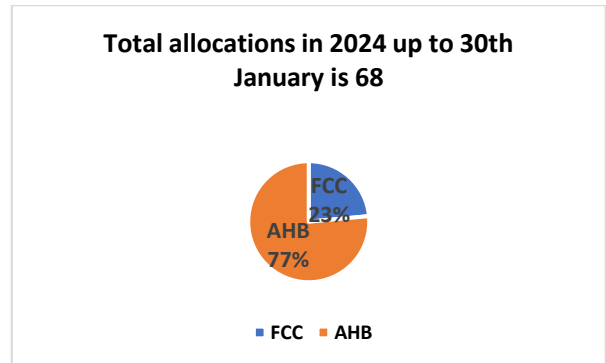
**Housing Needs Assessment**

Following Circular 26/2023 as released on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2023, the Summary of Social Housing Assessment (SSHA) is due for return to the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage by 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

Letters Issued to applicants on 15<sup>th</sup> September to all applicants required to complete the SSHA. Following the successful launch of the Online HNA System in 2022, applicants have been advised to complete the assessment where possible online. This system went live on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023 with initial uptake positive and was closed on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November.

The assessment was complete with the Summary Return submitted to the Department on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

**Lettings**

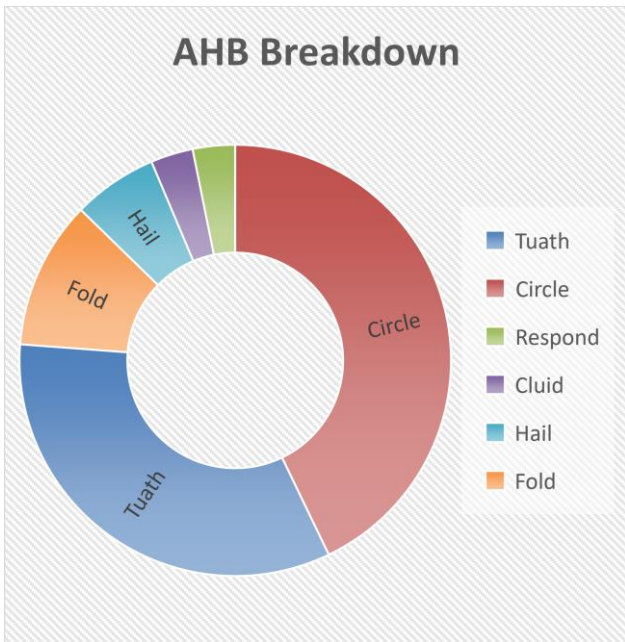


The above chart depicts the total number of properties allocated since the beginning of 2024. **52** of these allocations have been in collaboration with several Approved Housing bodies. The other **16** properties were allocated using Fingal County Councils own stock.

Of the **52** allocations made to date, **32** were made via Choice Based Lettings.

There are an additional **63** nominations made on behalf of FCC applicants and lettings are awaiting confirmation of their tenancies from the AHB's.





This chart shows the various AHB'S, reflecting the nominations sent to them during 2024 thus far. **Circle** have received the most nominations from Fingal County Council.

The collaboration between Local Authorities and Approved Housing Bodies is continuing to have a positive impact on the delivery of social housing.

**Choice Based Lettings January Advertised Properties**



Advertisement Period	Property	Bed	Type	Number of Views	Expressions of interest
10 <sup>th</sup> - 16 <sup>th</sup> January	Rivermeade Park, Swords, Co Dublin	3	House	924	139
10 <sup>th</sup> - 16 <sup>th</sup> January	Wellview Grove, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15	3	House	677	89
10 <sup>th</sup> - 16 <sup>th</sup> January	Bremore Pastures Crescent, Balbriggan, Co Dublin	3	House	842	112
17 <sup>th</sup> - 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	St Brigid's Court, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15	2	Apt	1345	200
24 <sup>th</sup> - 30 <sup>th</sup> January	Golden Ridge Mews, Rush, Co Dublin	2	Apt	1281	129
			<b>Total</b>	<b>5069</b>	<b>669</b>

Applicants who do not have access to this portal should contact [Choicebasedlettings@fingal.ie](mailto:Choicebasedlettings@fingal.ie) to request their unique username and password.

**Homeless Services.**

**Homeless Exits 2023**

During January 2024, 35 households exited homeless circumstances into various forms of social housing support - including privately rented tenancies under the Homeless HAP Scheme.

Please see the table below for a breakdown of the figures:

Type of Exit	HHAP Tenancy	Allocation of Tenancy	Total
EA	6	6	12
Homeless Prevention	12	11	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>35</b>

There was a total of 23 homeless prevention cases and 12 who exited emergency accommodation comprising:

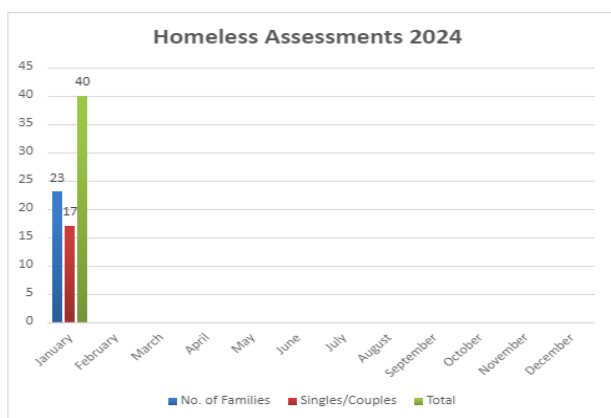
11 allocations of social housing support to homeless prevention cases and 6 who exited emergency accommodation.

18 Homeless HAP tenancies, comprising 12 homeless preventions and 6 who exited emergency accommodation.

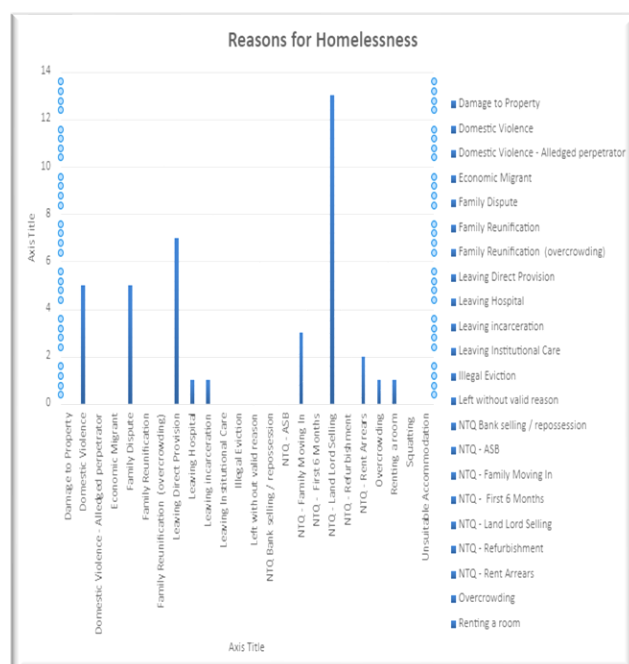
### Homeless Assessments

Fingal's Homeless Team continues to engage with those experiencing homelessness to offer advice and support. Homeless Assessments continued to be carried out.

In January 2024, there were a total of 40 full homeless assessments completed – comprising 21 families and 17 singles/couples.



During January 2024, of the 40 Homeless Assessments carried out, 49% cases resulted from a Notice to Quit (NTQ) having been served. Most of the other presentations to the Homeless Section are from family/relationship breakdown (14%), living in overcrowded conditions (3%) and state that they cannot/will not return to the property. The remaining 34% comprise various reasons outlined in the chart below



### Emergency Accommodation (including Fingal County Council Family Hubs)

There continues to be a high demand for Emergency Accommodation across the region for both families and individuals.

### Rough Sleepers

The Homeless Services Team continues to liaise with the DRHE Outreach Team regarding any reports of rough sleeping, to establish their names and circumstances and to offer support. Regrettably, some rough sleepers are reluctant to engage with service providers and may refuse offers to access emergency accommodation. Any rough sleeper who is willing to engage with the Outreach Team and/ or the Council will be assisted.

The Council will carry out homeless assessments and every effort is made to encourage them to avail of homeless services.

A weekly Rough Sleepers Coordination Group monitors the reports of rough sleepers. The reports come from various outlets, including the DRHE Outreach Team, Elected Representatives, the FCC Operations Department, and the general public.

There were no reported Rough Sleeping cases over the Christmas period and 8 reports in January 2024.

5 of these reported rough sleepers have been provided with suitable accommodation.

The progress of the remaining 3 cases are being monitored until the needs of the reported rough sleepers are met and the cases can be closed

### **Cold Weather Strategy 2023/24**

In the event of cold weather or any emergency event in Dublin, the Dublin Region Homeless Executive (DRHE) coordinates the response to homelessness on behalf of the four Dublin Local Authorities. To meet the increase in demand for homeless services and have the appropriate contingency plans in place for cold weather conditions, the DRHE is activating the Cold Weather Strategy 2023/24 in the Dublin Region.

The Cold Weather Strategy focuses on expanding the current capacity to meet the increasing demand for emergency accommodation whilst also providing a targeted response for people who are long-term rough sleeping.

### **Increase in emergency accommodation for singles/couples**

In partnership with DRHE service providers, capacity for singles and couples has been increased and these beds will be available on a phased basis. As these beds come on stream, they will be made available as needed, depending on the demand for homeless services on any given night. Equally, they will provide vital capacity if an extreme weather event occurs. For all households assessed by an LA as requiring access to temporary accommodation, all residential services now operate on a 24-hour basis, with meals provided on-site and/or cooking facilities. The total additional capacity is 330 permanent beds and 40 extreme weather beds. The permanent beds are operated on a 24-hour basis with meals provided onsite.

### **Enhanced services operational during cold weather conditions**

DRHE services operate throughout the year to support people who are sleeping rough. During the cold weather period, services are enhanced to mitigate the health risks that cold weather poses. The cold weather provides opportunities for more assertive engagement with long-term, entrenched rough sleepers and hard-to-reach groups, aimed at placing them in appropriate and long-term accommodation. Enhanced services operating for this cold weather period include:

- Dublin Street Outreach service provided by the Dublin Simon Community. The team provides a service 7 am – 1 am Mon- Fri and 9 am – 1 am Saturday and Sunday.
- The Outreach Mobile Health Clinic, operated by SafetyNet and funded by the HSE, delivers services two nights a week (Tuesday & Thursday) and every second Friday morning with the Dublin Outreach teams, to support rough sleepers with complex medical needs. This Outreach clinic offers a comprehensive primary health care service targeted at people who are experiencing homelessness in Dublin.
- The DRHE, Dublin Simon Outreach Team, Housing First, the HSE and An Garda Síochána will continue to work closely together during the winter period with the same goal of improving outcomes for people who may be sleeping rough.
- The DRHE has 40+ emergency beds that can be activated during extreme weather conditions or adverse events.

### **Dublin Street Outreach Service Tel: 01 872 0185 from 7 am to 1 am**

The DRHE in partnership with Dublin Simon Outreach and the PMVT Intake team are assertively working on the streets offering accommodation to all rough sleepers.

The teams are very familiar with the locations of people sleeping rough across the Dublin Region and persistently work with individuals to support them into emergency accommodation. This process can take time and multiple contacts, as some people do not want to engage but the teams persevere with every person working to achieve a successful outcome.

The service operates 365 days a year, until 1 am. The Outreach Teams also ensure that people sleeping rough are linked with other appropriate health services such as addiction and mental health services to prevent further rough sleeping. PMVT's Housing First Intake team links rough sleepers to permanent accommodation with long-term support.

All emergency accommodation is now 24-hour, with food and shower facilities provided.

### Homeless Action Plan 2022- 2024

The DRHE, with the approval of all 4 local authorities in the Dublin region, has finalised the Homeless Action Plan Framework for Dublin 2022-2024. This Plan is the first plan to be put into operation since Ireland signed the Lisbon Declaration on combatting homelessness in June 2021, which aims to end homelessness by 2030.

It will follow on from the previous Homeless Action Plan for 2019- 2021 and continue with the three key themes of **Prevention, Protection and Progression**.

The Plan was developed based on a detailed consultative process including submissions from various Stakeholders, interested organisations, Service Providers, Members of SPCs of the four Local Authorities, the Dublin Joint Homelessness Consultative Forum, and the Statutory Management Group.

### Preventing Homelessness, Notices to Quit and Tenant In-situ Acquisitions

Fingal County Council is aware that households in the Fingal area who may have received a notice to quit, which is also referred to as a notice of termination, from their landlord may be worried or unsure of what to do.

Fingal County Council and the Dublin Regional Homeless Executive (DRHE) would like to advise anyone affected of the services that are available to them in these circumstances.

**We strongly encourage tenants residing in the Fingal area, who have been issued with a notice of termination, to contact Fingal County Council as soon as they receive a notice from their landlord. The contact details for Fingal County Council are provided at the bottom of this page.**

When the tenants contact Fingal County Council, staff in the Housing Department will take note of the termination date.

The Council advises the tenant to refer the notice to Threshold, a service funded by the DRHE to provide a Tenancy Protection Service for private renters in the Dublin Region, including Fingal. Threshold can also be contacted directly on Freephone 1800 454 454 or via their website [www.threshold.ie](http://www.threshold.ie) which contains more information and advice on the validity of your notice.

The Council's first response will be to try to prevent homelessness. This includes assessing the person's position on the social housing list, providing advice on applying for Choice Based Lettings, advising the person on the level of Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) they may be eligible to receive, and, in some cases, assessing if the Council can acquire the dwelling where the tenants reside if it is being offered for sale.

Placement in emergency accommodation will be a last resort if no other alternative can be identified.

The Council has been engaging with tenants who have been issued with a notice of termination, as well as their landlords, and following assessment, 211 tenant in-situ properties are at the sale closed stage.

A total of 92 properties are at the sale agreed stage with a further 53 cases in the negotiation process. In addition, the Council is assessing a further 309 queries concerning notices of termination and tenant-in-situ acquisition.

The Council will continue to deal with notice of termination queries and cases as expeditiously as possible and progress tenant in-situ acquisitions while taking account of circulars and guidance issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Fingal County Council continues to liaise with other Dublin and neighboring local authorities to deal with tenancy issues that may require an inter-authority approach. In particular, we are working closely with our colleagues in the other Dublin Local Authorities on the implementation of the Government policy and guidance, with a focus on the needs of tenants.

Whilst the Council will, in the context of current circumstances, adopt flexibility in dealing with potential acquisitions of properties with tenants in situ, any acquisition is subject to appropriate due diligence and checks before any commitment is made to acquire, including, for example, determining that a valid notice of termination is in place, the tenant has a social housing need, and the condition and valuation of the property.

The Government has put forward options to allow tenants who are not eligible for social housing to remain in their homes, including schemes to support the purchase of homes and a Cost Rental in-situ Scheme. The Cost Rental Tenant-in-Situ Scheme is available for tenants who are not eligible for social housing and are at risk of homelessness. The DHLGH has advised that local authorities are to be the first point of contact for this scheme, but it is managed by the Housing Agency. Under the scheme, the Housing Agency can purchase a property and rent it to the tenant.

Fingal County Council will undertake an initial assessment of the tenant's circumstances and refer details to the Housing Agency for consideration, where the tenant is at risk of homelessness and the Cost Rental Tenant-in-Situ scheme applies.

The Housing Agency will then contact the landlord about the purchase of the property.

Where a tenant wishes to purchase their home from the landlord, local authorities can provide advice about the Local Authority Home Loan scheme. The Government is examining implementing a 'right of first refusal' for tenants to purchase their homes, as well as expanding the First Home shared equity scheme. The Council will be able to provide more information on these when available.

Works around preventing homelessness, assessing notices of termination, and responding to tenant and landlord in-situ queries are being led on by the Council's Homelessness section, taking a tenant-centred approach, supported by staff dedicated to dealing with tenant in-situ housing acquisitions.

The contact details below, including a dedicated email address [NTQEnquiries@fingal.ie](mailto:NTQEnquiries@fingal.ie), should be used by tenants who may have received a notice of termination or a landlord who has issued a notice of termination to their tenants and who may wish to sell their property to the Council.

The key contact details are:

**Fingal County Council Housing Department**

Monday to Thursday, 9 am to 5.00 pm,

Friday 9 am to 4.30 pm:

Tel. **01 890 5000** or [homeless@fingal.ie](mailto:homeless@fingal.ie)

Email: [NTQEnquiries@fingal.ie](mailto:NTQEnquiries@fingal.ie)

**Dublin Region Homeless Executive, Central Placement Services:**

**Freephone :** 1800 707 707

**TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION PROGRAMME**

**Traveller Accommodation**

Refurbishment works to the 5 Bay Halting Site at St Brigid’s Lawns, Porterstown, Dublin 15 is ongoing. Works include replacing the existing welfare units with new modern units and upgrades to the on-site utilities.

Work has begun preparing the Draft Traveller Accommodation Programme 2025 – 2029. Letters of intent have been issued to relevant stakeholders with further engagement anticipated to take place over the coming weeks, with public consultation anticipated to take place regarding the Draft Plan during Summer 2024.

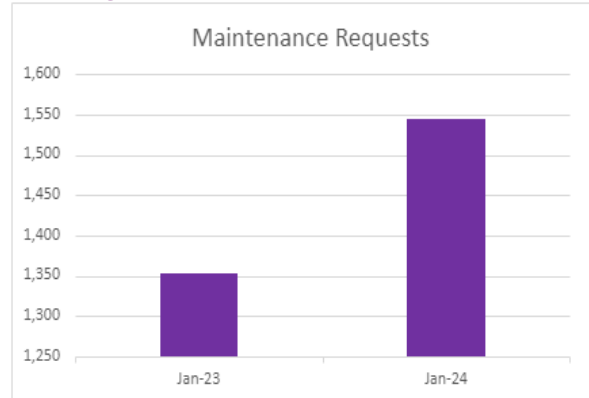
Regular site visits by Housing Inspectors continue all Fingal County Council Traveller specific sites while checking on vulnerable residents and advising on the continued support available.

Council officials continue to liaise and engage with the Traveller Community, Traveller Advocacy Groups, Welfare Services, Child Services, Mental Health Services and other services and agencies to resolve issues when and where possible.



**St Brigid’s Lawns, Porterstown, Dublin 15**

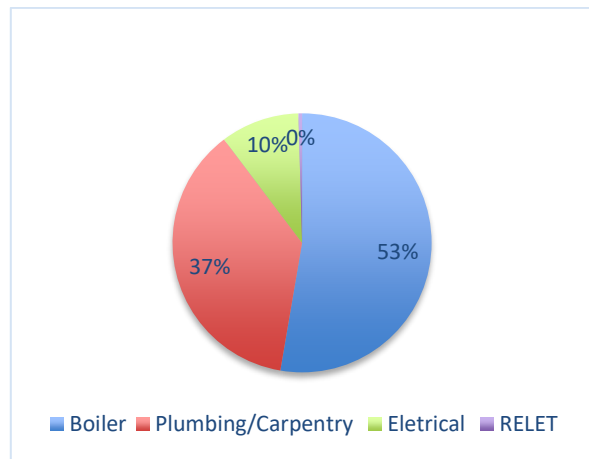
**Housing Maintenance**



Increase of 7.7% YTD

**Maintenance Figures By Category January 2024**

Boiler	814
Plumbing/Carpentry	572
Electrical	152
RELET	7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1545</b>



**Boiler Servicing Programme**

The 2023 Programme had a 91% completion rate across the County.

Preparation for the 2024 Works Programme is underway with servicing scheduled to start in the coming weeks.

## Anti-Social Behaviour/Inspectorate Unit

The Council is committed to investigating all reports of ASB and will take all preventative measures possible. All complaints are received in confidence by the ASB Unit

Fingal County Council delivered 9 tenant Induction Courses throughout 2023. Further courses are expected during 2024 as new developments are completed and are ready for allocation.

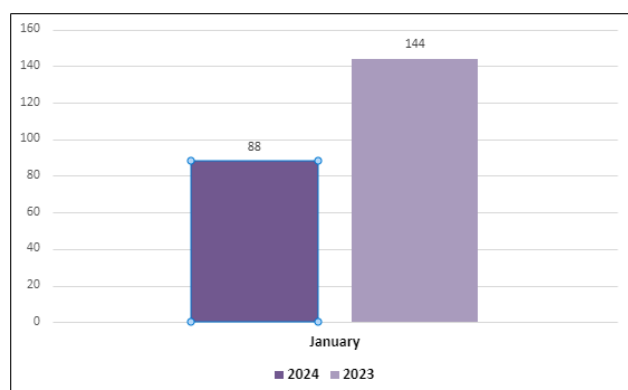
## ASB Caseload Management

Complaints January 2024	Total	Active	Monitoring	Closed
Balbriggan	12	6	0	6
Rush / Lusk	8	5	1	2
Swords	24	17	4	3
Howth / Malahide	10	9	1	0
Blanchardstown /Mulhuddart	27	16	6	5
Ongar	7	4	2	1
Castleknock	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>17</b>

## Surrenders on Estate Management Grounds 2024

January (1)

## Monthly Breakdown of ASB Complaints Received 2023-24



## Anti-Social Behaviour Interventions

<b>Interviews Held 2024</b>	<b>8</b>
Interviews Held 2023	95
<b>Tenancy Alerts 2024</b>	<b>1</b>
Tenancy Alerts 2023	23
<b>Tenancy Warnings 2024</b>	<b>0</b>
Tenancy Warnings 2023	6

## Inspectorate

<b>Traveller Specific Site Inspections 2024</b>	<b>149</b>
Traveller Specific Site Inspections 2023	1665
<b>Estate Inspections 2024</b>	<b>140</b>
Estate Inspections 2023	1305
<b>Estate Management Inspections 2024</b>	<b>93</b>
Estate Management Inspections 2023	1666

## Housing Ukraine Response *Those Fleeing the Conflict in Ukraine*

The Government is committed to delivering a humanitarian response to welcome people fleeing the conflict in Ukraine and seeking protection in Ireland.

Web resources with useful information on support and accommodation for Ukrainian Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection and the wider Fingal community are shown below:

[www.gov.ie/ukraine](http://www.gov.ie/ukraine)

[Ukraine україни Украина | Fingal County Council](#)

The Council's Fingal Ukraine Response Forum chaired by the Mayor continues to meet regularly to co-ordinate the response of the various statutory agencies and voluntary groups in the county to assist the Ukraine community with the next meeting to be held on the 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

## Liam Rodgers Rest Centre

The centre continues to provide accommodation and support to Ukrainian Beneficiaries of Temporary protection. In the main occupants are new arrivals to the country with various statutory agencies linked with the centre to provide support to the new arrivals.

Supported by the Council and the Peter McVerry Trust (PMVT) over **440 persons** have moved from the Liam Rodgers centre to OfferAhome\pledge accommodation across the county and country with arrangements finalising concerning further moves to OfferAhome\pledge accommodation. An additional **210 persons** have moved along to varying other forms of accommodation in the main to state contracted accommodation.

## OfferAhome\Pledge Accommodation

The monthly recognition payment is **€800** per month for vacant properties and **€800** to host a Ukraine person in your home. To pledge fully vacant accommodation, please visit the national portal at <https://offerahome.ie> or for enquiries, e-mail [offerahome@fingal.ie](mailto:offerahome@fingal.ie).

To pledge a room in your home, this can be done through the Irish Red Cross via [www.redcross.ie](http://www.redcross.ie)  
Note **Helping Irish Hosts** can offer support and advice to both hosts and guests in pledge accommodation.

See website <https://www.helpingirishhosts.com> for further information.

## Vacant Homes

Three dwellings advanced through the statutory CPO process in 2023, one of which has a large associated site. Possession was taken of 2 of these in 2023 and the properties are now moving through programmes to become part of the Council's housing stock. Possession of the third property was secured on the 8.2.24

The Croí Cónaithe Refurbishment Grant Scheme is also in utilisation to address vacancy and assist citizens in getting a home with increasing enquiries, applications, and grant approvals. The grant can also be used to bring a vacant property back into use for the private rented market.

## Croí Cónaithe Vacant Homes Refurbishment Grant

On the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023, the scheme was further extended with the eligibility criteria now allowing for properties built pre-2008 to qualify and grants increasing to €50k (vacant) and €70k (vacant and derelict).

The scheme now also allows for a grant for approved properties to be rented on the private market when refurbishment is complete. Before this change, the grant-approved property had to be the principal private residence of the grant. **94 applications** have been received under the scheme with a steady flow of new applications, **53 of which have been approved with further applications moving to the approval stage.** *In addition, staff are engaging with numerous other expressions of interest which have the potential to lead to further applications.*

Promotion of the scheme is ongoing by the Vacant Homes Team who have been present at various Housing Information Events most recently the event held in the Crown Plaza, Hotel, Santry on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023. For enquiries on the scheme and on vacant properties generally, please contact the Council's Vacant Homes Office via e-mail at [vacant.homes@fingal.ie](mailto:vacant.homes@fingal.ie)



**Croi Connaithe Vacant Property Grant Photos**



Before



After



Before



After



Before



After

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Contents
Community Development
Facilities Management
Interagency
Ukrainian Supports
Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT)
Age Friendly Fingal
Funding

### Community Development Office

Community development is a process where community members come together to take collective action and generate solutions to common problems. Community wellbeing, economic, social, environmental and cultural challenges are often solved through collective action being taken at a grassroots level. Community development ranges from small initiatives within a local group to large initiatives that involve the broader community. Building community capacity, strengthening community participation, and involving people in decisions that affect their lives is a complex process and can only be achieved by working with local communities and agencies who have responsibility to the people in those communities. In January/February the Community Development Office worked in partnership with a number of community groups and partners to support many projects/Initiatives including;

### **Black Raven Pipe Band launch free Adult Learning programme**



Photo: Christy Russell

Black Raven Pipe Band in Lusk launched a free Adult Learning Programme to encourage local community members to take up an instrument and get involved with the Pipe Band, who have an established legacy in Lusk Community dating back to 1910. The band held an induction night on 17<sup>th</sup> January and all 19 participants, male, female, young and old, who will learning either drumming or piping, were present. The course is a co-funded initiative by the Lusk Pipe band and the Community Development Office includes all tuition, instruments and books provided free of charge to students. The programme was announced by Secretary Seamus Russell as the first free tuition programme nationally to be hosted by a Pipe Band and will run fortnightly throughout 2024. It is hoped that the participants will continue as band members to hone their skills and progress from chanters and drum pads to bagpipes and drums and partake in the many competitions and community events that the band are involved in.

### **Skerries Chess Club Launch Chess For All Programme**



Skerries Chess Club, supported by the community development division launched a Chess For All Programme on 23<sup>rd</sup> January. The programme offers free tuition as an introduction to the game of chess. The opening night saw attendance of from people all ages and nationalities including members of the Ukrainian and African communities.

The Programme is running in the club parallel to the Fingal Open Championship also being hosted by the Chess Club which has participation from clubs all around Fingal and beyond. Participants in the free tuition programme are also welcome to join the tournament, which is the first of its kind in Fingal.

### Swords Spring Forward Programme



Holywell, Applewood and Rivervalley Community Centres, Swords supported by the Community Development Division have secured tutors from the DDLETB to deliver adult education classes in the centres. Classes which will include computers, arts & crafts, parenting, genealogy, and sustainable gardening, will take place over 10 weeks. Thanks to the support of the DDLETB, the cost of classes will be affordable for all.

### Failte Isteach English Class, Swords



The Community Department continue to support Failte Isteach English conversation classes in Holywell Community Centre.

The classes are very popular and continue to grow with additional tutors and new students from Brazil and Pakistan & Greece joining in very lively chats every Monday morning. With the help of Fingal Volunteer Centre, Holywell Community Centre recruited a volunteer coordinator for this initiative.

### Thrive Balbriggan LAMA Awards and Great Spaces and Places project



On 23<sup>rd</sup> January Thrive Balbriggan came together to celebrate the group being short-listed for the LAMA awards. Thrive Balbriggan Members were asked to provide feedback of their experiences in a 2024 Survey that will capture data to be used for a Thrive Blueprint and MHI Thrive report. The Blueprint will help to plan the further development of Thrive in Ireland. The 'Great Spaces and Places Project' currently being worked on by the group is set to be launched during summer fest in Balbriggan.



## Fingal Womens Online Information Evening



**She Leads, We Lead**  
Fingal Women  
Bringing Change

### Fingal Women's Online Information Evening

Are you part of a Women's Group in Fingal?

Looking for Funding Opportunities?

Interested in organising an event for International Women's Day?

Want information on the upcoming 8th March Referendum?

Join Fingal She Leads, an initiative of Fingal Community Development Office, online on Wednesday 31st January (8pm) 2024

To register click here or visit <https://consult.fingal.ie/en/content/womens-information-session>

Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall Fingal County Council

The Community Development Division is hosting an information evening for Fingal women groups on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January (8pm) on the upcoming 8<sup>th</sup> March referendum, other Women's Group funding opportunities and to promote Fingal International Women's Day. To register click here [Women's Information Session | Fingal County Council Online Consultation Portal](#)

## Facilities Management

### Accessible Reception at Parslickstown House

Parslickstown House was successful in securing 25k under the Department of Rural and Community Development's, Community Centre Investment Fund. This project was also supported by Fingal County Councils Architects Department. The project has now reached completion and provides an accessible reception space within Parslickstown House which will open up many opportunities for people with disabilities who wish to work in the house. The administration hub will relocate to the front of the house freeing up a large meeting space which the board of management plan to develop into an employability hub to provide employment training opportunities to members of the travelling community, young people and targeted individuals from the area in subjects such as nail technician and barbering. Parslickstown House management CLG and relevant key stakeholders are currently exploring how this can be developed.

## Interagency

The Community Development office adopts a very proactive approach to collaborating with agencies to maximise service delivery and resources to communities. In December/January the CDO supported the delivery of the following:

## Fingal Comhairle Na nÓg



Fingal Comhairle na nÓg had a meeting with all the 8 new members which brings the total membership to 33. The group discussed how to move the topic, Youth Spaces on from the AGM. The group elected a new member to the National Executive to represent Fingal for the next 2 years. They also elected a new committee. Participants are looking forward to their visit to then Council Chamber, County Hall, Swords to meet with Mayor of Fingal, Cllr. Adrian Henchy and Fingal Chief Executive, AnnMarie Farrelly in mid-February. Some of the group are pictured here on a recent team-building trip to Wild Lights at Dublin Zoo.

## Ukrainian Supports



**HELLO FROM FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL**

Please find some very helpful information for you & your family

YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY CENTRES:  
APPLEWOOD, HOLYWELL & RIVER VALLEY  
ENGLISH CLASSES: EMPOWER.IE OR DDLTB.IE  
GENERAL INFORMATION: CITIZENSINFORMATION.IE  
MEDICAL: HSE.IE  
CHILDCARE: FINGALCOUNTYCHILDCARE.IE  
REGISTER TO VOTE: GOV.IE

**FINGAL.IE**  
Or Scan HERE:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORKER FOR UKRAINIAN SUPPORTS:  
SUSAN.JORDAN@FINGAL.IE

This month saw a programme of renewed information sessions take place in rest centres and serviced accommodations throughout the county. The Community Development Division recognise the importance of continued close communications with our Ukrainian residents to ensure that those here since the beginning of the crisis, and those newly arriving, have equitable and supported opportunities to integrate with their local communities across Fingal.

### **Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT)**

**The role of the Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT) is to provide integration supports to Applicants for International Protection (IP Applicants), Programme Refugees, Those with Refugee, Subsidiary Protection, or Permission to Remain status and Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection (BOTP) to enable them to live independently in the community.**

Over the coming months, the role of Local Authorities nationally related to migrant support and integration will be expanded to include several additional cohorts. The target groups of the Local Authorities will comprise of; International Protection applicants, Programme Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection.

This development is grounded in Government Policy based on the White Paper (published in February 2021) to end direct provision and to establish a new International Protection Support Service.

The current model of integration that is in place for the Irish Refugee Protection Programme (IRPP) is being expanded nationally and supported by the establishment of a permanent integration system at local level. New Local Authority Integration Teams are currently being established across the country (LAIT) in all local authorities.

In Fingal County Council, the LAIT team will be based in the Community Development Office.

The team will comprise of four new roles and the interview process for these positions is nearing completion. The LAIT Coordinator and the LAIT Administrative Support took up duty in January 2024. It is anticipated that two Integration Support Officers will be in place by the end Q1 2024.

Meanwhile, the Council's senior staff are continuing to work closely with key partners, including the LGMA and DCEDIY, as part of the national implementation suite of working groups to ensure the introduction of the LAIT function is fully supported in its implementation phase, is firmly grounded in best practice and is developed in a cohesive manner which is appropriate for the sector.

A briefing for Elected Members will be held in March 2024 to provide more information on the role of the LAIT function within the Local Authority structure.

### **Age Friendly Fingal**

**Age Friendly Fingal is committed, through this strategy, to driving a collaborative, multi-sectoral approach which supports interventions that will significantly help to improve the quality of life of the current population of older people in Fingal and future generations.**

### **Vintage Picnic nominated for a LAMA Awards**



The Vintage Picnic, Arts, Creativity and Music festival for over 55's which was held in Swords Castle in July has been nominated in the Best Irish Festival category in the LAMA Awards.

### Information Event/Showcase for Over 55s



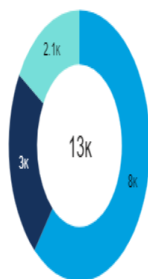
Following the success of the Information Events/Showcase for Over 55s in Swords and Sutton in 2023, the two information events for 2024 will take place in Dublin 15 and Balbriggan. The Dublin 15 showcase will take place in Blanchardstown Library on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March (2.00-4.00). Information stands will be provided by local organisations and groups providing services and activities for older people in Dublin 15, including the HSE, An Garda Síochána, Age Friendly Ireland, Fingal Older People’s Council, Age Action, Alone, Citizens Information, Dublin Fire Brigade, MABS and Community Centres.

Details on the showcase in Balbriggan later in the year, will be available once the date and venue are confirmed.

### Funding

Community Activities Funding (up to 31<sup>st</sup> Jan 2024)

Sum of Amount Recommended



Electoral Area of Organisation ● Balbriggan ● Castleknock ● Mulhuddart

Communities Activities Funding has been awarded to 6 projects to the amount of €13,1833 in 2023.

Castleknock/ Mulhuddart- €5,144 – across 33 projects

Balbriggan - €8,3039 - across 4 projects

### Summer Projects Expression of Interest



From 29<sup>th</sup> January, community and voluntary groups were invited to register their interest to host a Summer Project. Groups must express an interest in order to progress submitting an application for funding. Closing date for this expression of interest is 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024. The expression of interest form can be found at the following link;

<https://consult.fingal.ie/en/content/fingal-county-council-2024-summer-project-expression-interest-form>

### Fingal International Women’s Day Bursary



# ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE ACTION, ACTIVE TRAVEL AND SPORTS DEPARTMENT

## Contents

- Active Travel
- Climate Action
- Environmental Awareness
- Bring Centres
- Litter Management
- Landfill Aftercare
- Water Quality Protection
- Sports Office

### Active Travel

**NTA funding allocations for 2024 have not yet been finalised.**

### Protected Cycle Lanes:

#### BLRS Area:

#### **R132 Blakes Cross to Quickpenny Lane**

Construction works ramped up significantly in January since the contractor returned from Christmas break. The new red surface is progressing well along the existing hard shoulder from Corduff National School towards Blake's Cross. This new shared surface will provide a designated safe space.



The contractor is continuing to complete the road markings along the length of the scheme, but this is weather dependant and is being carried out under appropriate traffic management. Plans are being finalised in relation to the works along Kilhedge Lane and further details will be conveyed through our weekly updates and social media outlets.

FCC and the Active Travel Project Team is aware of recent protest along the R132 and have approached the organisers to invite them to a meeting to discuss their concerns with the Project Team and local Cllrs and Management.

#### **Seatown Road Swords:**

The Engineering Consultant is currently working with the Project Team to finalise the options report, detailed design drawings and screenings. The project team are working towards going to the market in the coming months for a Contractor to progress to the Construction stage in 2024, subject to NTA approvals. This project will provide segregated walking and cycling infrastructure from the R132 at Swords through to the estuary and connectivity to Malahide along the estuary.

#### **Donabate Portrane R126 cycle paths:**

The Project Team are working collaboratively with our property section to progress the potential acquisition of lands along a section of the route to facilitate the progression of the proposed walking and cycling infrastructure from the end of the distributor road in Donabate along the R126 through to the coast at Portrane. Details of the preferred option are being finalised and once completed will be presented to the members at local ACM.

### **Coney Hill Balbriggan R132 cycle paths:**

The Engineering Consultant is currently working with the Project Team to finalise concept designs and provision of an options report to assist with stakeholder engagement. This is a complex section of road as the road widths are narrow and confined. All options are being considered at present so that the preferred option can be established.

### **Pathfinder Pinnock Hill to Airport cycle paths:**

The Project Team have developed initial concept designs for review and agreement with relevant stakeholders before moving to the next steps. A traffic survey consultant has been appointed and is currently working with the project team to complete the traffic survey to inform the design process. Consultation is ongoing with the relevant stakeholders including the DAA, NTA and Bus Connects. Further updates will be provided over the coming months, through this report and at ACM level.

### **Howth-Malahide Area: Baldoyle-Howth Protected Cycle Lane Scheme Phase 2**

The Active Travel Unit is currently reviewing funding requests for the 2024-2025 programme, including for a review of the existing road network in Baldoyle. This will include Willie Nolan Road, Brookstone Road and Main Street. It will comprise an advancement of a previous study for the improvement of pedestrian and cycle facilities on the existing road network. A brief will be developed for consultants in the coming months, in line with the Fingal County Development Plan, the Climate Action Plan and an Active Travel Strategy for Fingal.

Once a further study and preferred option has emerged from the process, it is envisaged that the scheme will progress, subject to funding from the National Transport Authority (NTA).

### **Paddy's Hill to Broomfield via Naomh Mearnóg GAA**

The design brief for 'Concept Development and Options Selection' has been finalised for this connectivity project. Internal consultation with other FCC departments has taken place. The remaining tender documents are being finalised by the Active Travel Unit.

When these are finalised, the next step will be to run a tender competition to appoint a design consultant for the 'Concept Development and Options Selection' Selection.

Enabling works have been completed to provide connectivity from Paddy's Hill Car Park to St. Helen's Junior School and Limetree Avenue. This included tree surgeon works, footpath works, new access points to the school, ramps, table-top crossings, dropped kerbs and ramps on the carriageway on Paddy's Hill.







### **Seapark Hill to Old Golf Course Link Park**

A brief, and tender documents are currently being prepared by the Active Travel Unit to progress this project from the design phases through to completion as soon as possible.

The design will incorporate feedback from internal FCC stakeholders and the local Resident's Association.

A temporary footpath has been constructed in December 2023, to provide safe access to the Old Golf Links site and paths through the park, providing safe connectivity to Seamount Heights.

### **Feltrim Road Cycle Infrastructure**

A design brief has been completed to bring this project from the 'Concept Development and Options Stage' to completion.

The remaining tender documents are substantially complete and are under review.

It is expected that the works will go to tender for a design consultant early in Q1, 2024.

### **Scoil an Duinnigh to Waterside Footpath and Cycleway**

Planning permission has been granted for the school and the Department of Education is to engage with Fingal County Council in relation to pedestrian access as a condition of the granted Planning Permission. In the interim, a footpath, dropped kerbs with tactile paving have been provided on the route to/from the school and the Feltrim Road.

### **BMCO Area: Snugborough Road – NAC to Ongar**

The options report for the project has been completed after internal reviews by the Active Travel team and a workshop with the NTA. A Gateway 2 Report has been issued to the NTA and approval to proceed to the preliminary design phase of the project has been received. The consultant is now engaging road safety audits and environment screening on the emerging preferred option. Further updates will be provided over the coming months, through this report and at ACM level.

### **Clonee to Blanchardstown Shopping Centre**

All data collection has been collated and has informed the initial development of the options report. The design consultant has been issued with an updated review of the draft Options report and drawings following input from the Active Travel team. Once reviewed a workshop will be held with the NTA.

### **Castleknock to Dunsink Lane**

This project is now focusing on Auburn Avenue linking into the Royal Canal at the 12th Lock along the Old Navan Road. The Options Report and relevant drawings for Auburn Avenue have been reviewed and approved by the NTA in compliance with the Gateway 2 Hold Point requirements. The project is proceeding to preliminary design where a road safety audit will commence on the latest drawings. Photomontages of the emerging preferred option are being prepared in advance of a public consultation.

A presentation will be to the ACM in Q1 2024.

### **Hartstown/Huntstown/Mountview Road**

It is proposed to use a newly formed Single Party Framework to progress design from earlier work carried out by the Cycle Design Office. Fingal County Council will progress on finalising the detailed design for roundabout and junction upgrades. This is subject to revision of design standards to ensure compliance with the new National Cycle Manual.

### **Castleknock to Blanchardstown via Farmleigh**

Stage 2 of the tender competition for a design consultant and assessment has been completed. Contract documents have been signed and sealed and a commencement meeting has taken place. The feasibility study has started, and traffic and drone surveys have taken place which will help inform the study.

### **Towns & Villages**

Works are continuing in the development of an Active Travel Plan for a number of our Towns & Villages. Details are outlined below.

### **New Street**

The Chief Executives report for the Part VIII is has been presented to the area committee meeting and full Council in January 2024. The Part 8 Planning Permissions was passed by a vote of the full council. Development of the brief and tender documents for the detailed design are ongoing at present. It is expected to commence detailed design in Q1 2024.

### **Balrothery Active Travel Plan**

The design Consultant is in the process of information gathering and have presented their initial findings to the Active Travel team. The consultant will conduct data collection and initial surveys in Q1, 2024. A non statutory public consultation is due to commence on the week of the 19<sup>th</sup> February in Balrothery, to gain insights from the public of issues experienced and what they would like to see in their village.

### **Skerries Active Travel Plan**

Stage One of the tender competition for the appointment of an integrated Design Team is now completed with the tender assessment process completed and letter to successful and unsuccessful tenders issued. Stage 2 of the process has commenced and will take 7-8 weeks to complete. The project team recently published the Consultation Report for the project together with the ESRI report that was carried out on Active Travel best practice nationally and Internationally. This report will inform the overall design process when the integrated design team is appointed in the near future. The Skerries Active Travel Plan will provide an overall plan for Skerries going forward and is expected to identify several projects that we can take forward for development, through various works streams and funding bodies.

### **Skerries Harbour Road:**

The project team together with the integrated design team developed the preliminary drawings and options report to assist with stakeholder engagement. Internal workshops to discuss through the proposals occurred during the last few months and this feedback from these meetings was incorporated into the design proposal where suitable. The project team and the Integrated design team developed photo montages and video walk-through footage of the project to assist in the consultation phase of the project. The proposed project was lodged with the Planning Authority for pre-planning consultation. The outcome of this will establish the governance and planning route for the project. The decision on this is expected in February 2024. Further meetings will be arranged to update the members on the next steps and timelines involved.

### **Connectivity/Permeability**

We are continuing to receive various requests for Permeability and Connectivity improvements from various stakeholders across the county. These requests are being recorded in detail for evaluation through a multi criteria analysis. The projects are then reviewed across the departments to identify if an appropriate means of delivery can be established on the ground.

Several projects identified through this process are being developed through the design phases for execution on the ground.

One such project is currently at Tender stage for a works contractor, and this is for the provision of footpath to link up to existing footpath along Beaverstown Road in Donabate.

Other projects are being progressed in the areas at either design or construction stage. These Connectivity and Permeability improvements are being delivered in cooperation with our Operations Department. These projects will enhance local communities and provide improved walking and cycling infrastructure within the county.

Greenway connectivity support teams have been convened to review, design, and deliver active travel infrastructure that will enhance accessibility between the proposed strategic greenways and residential, educational, amenity and commercial zones. These support projects have been set up for Fingal Coastal Way, Broadmeadow Way/Sutton to Malahide Greenway and Royal Canal Greenway. This will help to optimise the use of the proposed greenway by both leisure and commuter users.

### **Newtown Bridge, Balheary Road:**

The Engineering Consultant is currently working with the Project Team to finalise the options report, detailed drawings and screenings with the aim of going to the market in Q1 of 2024 for a Contractor to progress to the Construction stage in 2024 subject to approvals.

### **Rush South Beach:**

The project team and the Engineering consultant have prepared concept design and options report for new universal access path. Discussions with landowners are ongoing, with further meetings in the coming weeks. We are working collaboratively with the property owners to find an optimal solution that caters for everyone's needs.

### **Balgriffin Park Shared Pedestrian and Cycle Path:**

This connectivity piece provides a shared pedestrian and cycle path from the county boundary with Dublin City on Balgriffin Park, to the junction with the R123. This will provide a pedestrian and cycling connection for many dwellings on/near Balgriffin Park to the newly constructed pedestrian and cycling facilities on the R123. Works are substantially complete and snagging is due to take place.





### Howth Summit Inn to Bus Stop 567:

Dropped kerbs with tactile paving have been provided on the route between the Summit Inn and Bus Stop 567. This work has been completed.

### Offington, Howth:

Junction tightening and provision of tactile paving is continuing at three junctions in Offington, Howth: The two junctions of Offington Drive with Offington Avenue and the junction of Offington Lawn with Offington Avenue are complete. This will slow turning movements by motorised vehicles while providing a shorter crossing distance for pedestrians and other vulnerable road users. Grassed areas are also being provided in the new pavement, which will provide additional greening and drainage.

### Secure Bicycle Parking Infrastructure

Contractor is currently progressing works to install a number of bicycle parking facilities across the Dublin 15 and Howth-Malahide Areas. Further works are planned in Swords, Skerries, and Balbriggan in the coming weeks.

### Safe Routes to School

#### Round 1 – Tranche 1

The works contractor for the Safe Routes to School Tranche 1 contract is finalising snags at each of the 5 schools. A brief update is provided below for each school site and associated construction works completed to date since the appointment of the works contractor.

### Rush and Lusk Educate Together

Works are now completed on this SRTS Project. The contractor has recently carried out some snagging and maintenance work to the rain gardens and addressed issues that were identified through the independent Road Safety Audit.

### Castaheany ETNS / St.Benedict's NS

Works are now completed at the school site. The contractor has carried out minor snagging and maintenance on rain gardens. The Stage 3 Road Safety Audit has been completed by an independent auditor.



### Bayside Junior & Senior School

Works are now completed at the school site. The contractor has carried out minor snagging and maintenance on rain gardens. The Stage 3 Road Safety Audit has been completed by an independent auditor. It is anticipated that the Belisha beacons at the zebra crossing will be connected in Q1, 2024.



### Scoil Choilm CNS

Installation of flexible bollards on Porterstown Rd outside the school entrance is complete. These initial works took place before the new school year starts to alleviate poor parking near the school gates. The main works are due to start during Q1 2024.



### Round 1 - Tranche 2

Detailed Design is complete for the Tranche 2 schools (4 no.) and a tender competition for the construction works has been published with a view to start on site in Q1 2024. This tender is now closed and is under assessment.

### Round 2

In mid-December, An Taisce announced Round 2 of the Safer Routes to School programme, with the following Fingal schools selected:

- Holy Family Junior National School, Forest Fields, Swords
- Scoil Bhríde Buachaillí, Church Avenue, Blanchardstown
- Scoil Bhríde Cailíní, Church Avenue, Blanchardstown
- St Helen's SNS, Limetree Avenue, Portmarnock
- St. Colmcille's Girls' National School, Chapel Lane, Swords

The Active Travel team are working closely with An Taisce in relation to data collection and engagement with the schools to develop delivery plans to enable the designers and contractors to carry out the works.

An Taisce are due to provide the delivery plans for each of the schools in the new year that will inform the design process. Fingal County Council has procured the services of a consultants' team that will be working on the designs for these schools.

### Mobility & Behaviour Change

#### Learn 2 Cycle with a Disability

Our latest Learn 2 Cycle with a Disability Courses are ongoing in Flemington Community Centre In Balbriggan on Saturdays and Rivervalley Community Centre on Mondays. Our next Dublin 15 Course starts on 2nd March in Corduff Sports Centre



### Staff eBike Trials

The Staff eBike Trials will continue into 2024, we now have 5 eBikes available to staff for a one-month trial period.

These are

2 x Trekking Commuter Style Bikes

2 x Folding Bikes

1 x Long Tail Cargo Bike

If any staff are still interested in signing up for the eBike Trials, you can fill in the Expression of Interest form

<https://forms.office.com/e/Gng6aR1LaH>



### Walking Buses

Our Pope John Paul NS Walking Bus started on Monday 22nd January and goes from Seabury every Monday and Friday morning. We started a Naul NS Walking Bus on Tuesdays from 23rd January and we have a new Walking Bus starting the last week of January for St Fintan's NS in Sutton. Walking Buses are a great way for children and parents to get to school



### eCargo for Business/Community Group Trials

Our first Community eCargo Bike was launched in December with Baldoyle Wildtown. The cargo bike has been given to the group for a 12-month period to help them with their activities around Baldoyle. The eCargo has already been put to good use by the group to transport shovels, compost and trees during their orchard planting event in Seagrang Park in December.



### Men's Walk & Talk Groups

Our Men's Walk & Talk Groups are all back up and moving post Christmas. We have Groups in Swords, Rush, Lusk and Castleknock but are always on the lookout for people who would like to start their own group. Just email [active.travel@fingal.ie](mailto:active.travel@fingal.ie) and we'll help you get going



## Fresh Air Friday

Every Friday in Fingal is Fresh Air Friday. This is where we encourage people who would normally drive to school or work to leave the car at home and choose active travel instead, Fresh Air Fridays can help to encourage a long-term behaviour change, improve the air quality around our towns and villages while also promoting a healthy start to the day. If your school or business are interested in signing up to Fresh Air Friday, simply contact [active.travel@fingal.ie](mailto:active.travel@fingal.ie) and we will help you get going.



## The Skerries Community Car

The Community Car in Skerries had 98 requested Trips for December and completed a total of 90, The Community Car completed 667 trips in 2023. 64% of Requested bookings were completed, 18% were cancelled by the hospital and 18% were cancelled due to no volunteer being available.

We are always in need of additional volunteers for the Community Car, if you are interested in learning more, please contact [active.travel@fingal.ie](mailto:active.travel@fingal.ie)

Month	Total Bookings	Total Trips	Appoint. Cancelled by Hospital	Missed Demand (no volunteer available)
Feb	106	90	12	4
Mar	108	58	34	16
Apr	114	80	16	18
May	65	34	11	14
Jun	50	26	8	16
Jul	50	33	7	10
Aug	130	52	28	50
Sep	128	66	30	32
Oct	102	68	22	14
Nov	90	70	18	2
Dec	98	90	4	4



## Bike Share Schemes



## Bleeper Bike

You can pick up a Bleeper bike easily. Just download the Bleeper app, scan the code on the bike to unlock it and you are on your way!

Bleeper Bike Update December 2023; key statistics

453 bike journeys started within Fingal operating zone in November
469 bike journeys ended within existing Fingal operating zone in November
Highest usage recorded Fridays (18.5%) and Saturdays (18.5%)
For the third month in a row, Hartstown and Blanchardstown were the most popular starting points, closely followed by Donabate
Estimated emissions avoided in – 172kg of CO2

## TIER eBike Update

You can pick up a TIER e-bike easily. Just download the TIER app, scan the code on the e-bike to unlock it and you are on your way! The e-bikes are suitable for anyone over the age of 16 and note that a credit or debit card is required to sign up for the service.

## TIER Mobility December 2023; Key Statistics

Metric	Details
Trips	1,542
No of Customers	645
Trips / Customer	2.4
Distance Covered (KM)	4,807
Average Trip Duration	14.3mins
Average Trip length (KM)	3.1km

During the Winter Period TIER have taken a commercial decision to alter their service provision in areas with limited or no usage. This will enable them to maximise efficiencies in areas of high demand.

Swords, Howth, Malahide and Skerries will see a reduction in eBikes from January to April  
Donabate, Rush, Lusk and Loughshinny will see a pausing of the service until the beginning of April 2024

Dublin 15 will see an increase in the number of eBikes in areas previously underserved.

We are currently preparing full tenders for both Pedal and eBikes and we would hope to have these in place by the start of Q2 2024.

## ENVIRONMENT

### Climate Action

The Chief Executives Report on the Submissions received on the Draft Climate Action Plan 2024 – 2029 has been prepared along with the associated SEA and AA Screening Determination Reports. In accordance with the requirements of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021, this Chief Executive's Report summarises and details the outcome of the Public Consultation process on the Draft Climate Action Plan.

A briefing on the draft Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 and the Chief Executives Report on the public consultation was held for elected members and members of the Climate Action, Biodiversity and Environment SPC on the 31<sup>st</sup> of January.

It was then brought to the February Council meeting for approval.

Ceannairde Contae  
Fhine Gall  
Fingal County  
Council



### Chief Executive's Report on Submissions Received to the Fingal County Council Draft Climate Action Plan 2024-2029

January 2024  
Environment, Climate Action, Active Travel and  
Sports Department, Fingal County Council

## Community Climate Action Fingal

A number of community groups, organisations and clubs are working hard to get all their quotes and information ready for the application for grant funding. The Application form link has been sent to 18 groups so far. Projects will come in under five main themes of Community Energy, Travel, Shopping & Recycling, Food & Waste and Environmental & Climate Action. The deadline is 28<sup>th</sup> February. Information is available on the website <https://www.fingal.ie/community-climate-action-fingal> and is being promoted through our social media channels. The Community Climate Action Officer is meeting with all the groups to progress and advise on aspects of all applications received.





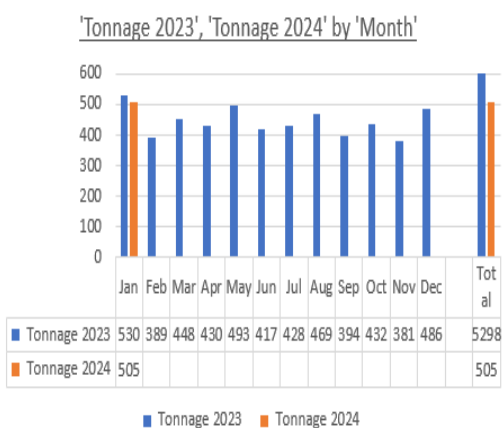
## Environmental Awareness

A calendar of Environmental Awareness Events for 2024 has been prepared. The calendar includes international and national dates of climate and environmental importance. These themed events aim to raise awareness of climate change and climate action, to highlight significant environmental issues and highlight what can be done in response to these challenges e.g. World Wetlands Day, Global Recycling Day, National Tree Week, Earth Day, National Food Waste Recycling Week and Circular Economy Month, to name a few.

In line with actions set out in Fingal's Draft Climate Action Plan 2024-2029, the Climate Awareness Section will promote the themed events on Fingal's social media and will raise awareness of climate and environmental issues through workshops for community groups and educational programmes for schools. In addition, the Climate Awareness Section will link in with Active Travel to host events during National Bike Week and European Mobility Week and work with Fingal's Community Section to increase climate awareness throughout the County.

## Bring Centres

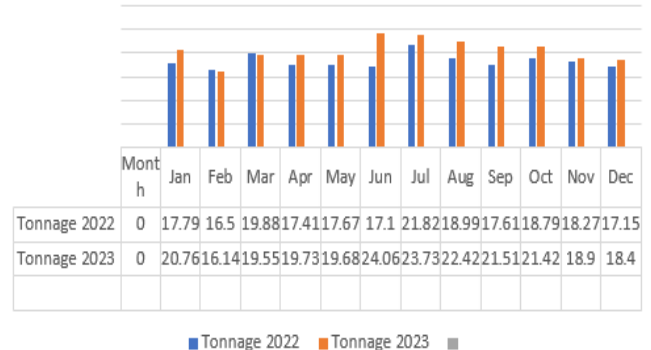
### Bottle Banks



Glass volumes collected in January 2024 were 505 Tonnes. The Glass volumes collected by comparison in 2023 were 530 Tonnes.

## Textile Banks

### Textile Tonnage 2022/2023



Textiles volumes collected in **December 2023**-the most recent data available-were **18 Tonnes**. This compared with 17 Tonnes of Textiles volumes collected in **December 2022**.

## Litter Management

The Litter Wardens carrying out inspection on large scale dumping in the Fingal area in January. They also continued with their daily patrols and carried out 276 inspections on all known litter black spots in Fingal.



The Litter warden received several complaints in January regarding muck on the roads from building sites. They carried out inspections and ensured that the roads were being kept clean of muck and that the building sites had a road sweeper in operation. They also followed up on reports to ensure farmers were ensuring the roads were kept clean of muck.

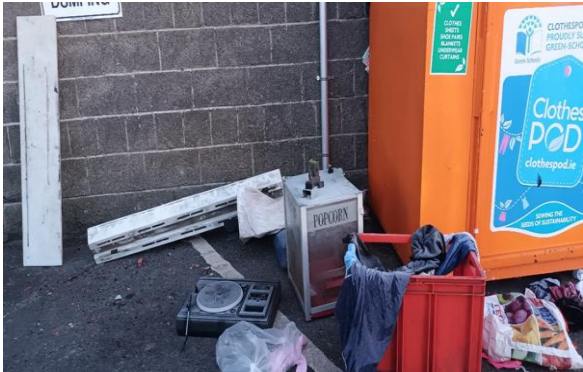


The Litter warden continued to raise awareness of the issue of dog fouling on beaches, paths, and green areas in Fingal. They engaged with dog owners and dispensing dog poo bags, making people aware of their responsibilities to clean up after their dogs. They also erected anti dog fouling signage in areas where complaints were received.



The Litter Warden conducted walking patrols, engaging with business regarding their responsibilities to keep outside their premises clean and free of litter. They also checked to see if any issues have arisen for the Operations crews, and they carried out inspections and followed up with fines/warning notice if evidence found.

All the bring banks in the Fingal area were inspected daily to ensure that there was no dumping. Any evidence found was dealt with under the Litter Pollution Acts.



The Litter Warden also investigated reports of abandoned cars, taking photographs and updating the litter app and the CRM system. There were 7 cases before the district court in January 2024.

Month	Fines	Warning Notices
January	29	4

The Litter Management section receiving numerous complaints regarding litter enforcement and **the following cases were assigned to the Litter Warden under the CRM system.**

CRMs January 2024	Quantity
Env - Dog Fouling	1
Env - Fly tipping 1-20 bags equivalent	27
Env - General Litter Issue	30
Env - Littering at Bottle Banks	11
Env - Muck on road	11
Env litter incident with witness	7
Env unauthorised signage	8
Env - Pollution - Dog Fouling Signage	4
Env - Abandoned cars	36

### Abandoned Vehicles

There have been 37 reports of alleged Abandoned Vehicles received between 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 – 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024. Burnt-out vehicles are also reported to the Environment Department.

The Litter Wardens carry out an initial inspection of all reported abandoned and burnt-out vehicles. To report a suspected abandoned vehicle the following information is required and should be emailed to [environment@fingal.ie](mailto:environment@fingal.ie)

- Vehicle Registration
- Colour / Make / Model
- Exact Location
- Period of time that vehicle has not been moved
- Name and Contact Number of person reporting the vehicle

Information on Abandoned Vehicles can be found on the Fingal County Council website: <https://www.fingal.ie/council/service/abandoned-vehicles>

Month	Abandoned Vehicles			Burnt Out Vehicles		
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
January	0	0	0	0	1	6
February	0	1		1	0	
March	3	1		0	1	
April	2	0		0	0	
May	1	0		0	0	
June	0	0		0	5	
July	0	1		0	0	
August	2	0		0	3	
September	0	3		0	0	
October	2	0		0	0	
November	2	4		1	0	
December	1	0		1	0	
	<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>

### Dog Warden Service

The dog wardens continue to carry out enforcement in relation to breaches of the Control of Dogs Act 1986, Control of Dog Regulations 1998, Parks and Open Spaces byelaws and Beach and Foreshore byelaws. They also educate dog owners on the responsibilities of keeping a dog and remind owners to pick up after their pets when in public places. The dog wardens also increase their patrols of the beaches during the summer months to optimise bathing water quality and retain the status of Fingal's Blue Flag beaches.

The dog wardens are continuing with door-to-door licence checks. Dog owners should ensure that they hold a valid licence for their dog and if issued with a 10-day notice by the dog wardens, should present their licence to [controlofdogs@fingal.ie](mailto:controlofdogs@fingal.ie) within the 10 days provided on the notice. Failure to do so may result in a fine being issued for failing to produce a dog licence when requested to do so by a dog warden and keeping a dog without a valid licence. The fine per offence is €100.

There were 217 x 10 Day Notices and 20 Fines issued by the dog wardens during January 2024.

Month	10 Day Notices		Fines Issued		Fines Paid	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
January	217	40	20	68	€1497	€7,800
February	0	0	0	32	€0	€2,600
March	0	97	0	29	€0	€2,100
April	0	152	0	42	€0	€1,500
May	0	232	0	98	€0	€2,956
June	0	135	0	53	€0	€2,700
July	0	109	0	35	€0	€2,644.20
August	0	140	0	21	€0	€1,500
September	0	125	0	40	€0	€3,549
October	0	241	0	40	€0	€1,500
November	0	91	0	7	€0	€1,100
December	0	222	0	12	€0	€1,422.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>1597</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>477</b>	<b>€1497</b>	<b>€31,372</b>

The Animal Welfare Section received 83 complaints in relation to dogs in January 2024. In 2023 there were a total of 572 complaints received for the full year.

Service	No of complaints per service during Jan 2024
Env - Dog Fine Appeal	1
Env - Dog on Dog Attack	0
Env - Dog on Person Attack	2
Env - Pollution - Issue with Dog	43
Env - Restricted Breed Dog	9
Env - Surrendered Dog	2
Env- Stray Dog	26
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>83</b>

### Dog Licences and Fines

The below table shows the number of annual and lifetime licences purchased during January 2024 in comparison with the same months in 2023. An annual dog licence fee is €20 and a lifetime dog licence fee is €140. We will continue to promote the requirement for a dog licence on social media platforms. It is a legal requirement to hold a valid licence for any dog you own or are responsible for under the Control of Dogs Act 1986. Failing to hold a valid licence for a dog that you are own or are responsible for can incur a €100 fine.

Month	Annual Licences Purchased		Lifetime Licences Purchased		Income from Licences	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
January	945	635	80	65	€30,200	€21,800
February		562		58	€	€19,360
March		561		55	€	€18,900
April		451		41	€	€14,760
May		918		64	€	€27,320
June		516		41	€	€16,060
July		766		47	€	€21,900
August		838		51	€	€23,900
September		759		48	€	€21,900
October		670		30	€	€17,600
November		662		41	€	€18,980
December		626		37	€	€17,700
<b>Total for year</b>	<b>945</b>	<b>7964</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>578</b>	<b>€30,200</b>	<b>€240,180</b>

We will continue to advertise the requirement for dog owners to hold a licence for their dogs on social media platforms.



### Dog Shelter Service

Dublin County Dog Shelter holds “Meet and Greet” visits for anyone looking to rehome a dog. Visits can be arranged by calling the shelter and arranging an appointment. These visits can be arranged from Monday – Friday from 11 am to 1 pm and from 2 pm to 3.30 pm. The shelter is also open on Saturday from 11 am – 1 pm. The shelter is closed to the public on Sundays. The dog shelter holds stray dogs picked up by the dog warden and dogs who have been surrendered by their owners either to the dog wardens or directly to the shelter. At the beginning of January there were 27 dogs in the shelter. During January 2024, 11 dogs were brought to the shelter by the dog wardens as stray or surrenders and 3 dogs were surrendered by members of the public. Of these 27 dogs, 1 has been reclaimed by their owner, 6 dogs have been rehomed to rescue, 5 have been rehomed to members of the public and one was PTS. At the end of January there are 28 dogs remaining in the shelter.

The shelter has a **Facebook page Dublin County Dog Shelter** and **Instagram Account @dublincountydogshelter** which they actively update with strays and dogs wishing to be rehomed.

Dogs in Shelter at the start of January 2023	12	Dogs in Shelter at start of January 2024	27
Stray/Seized dogs brought to Shelter	13	Stray/Seized dogs brought to Shelter	11
Surrendered by owners	4	Surrendered by owners	3
Reclaimed	3	Reclaimed	1
Rehomed to Rescue	8	Rehomed to Rescue	6
Rehomed to Public	7	Rehomed to Public	5
PTS	1	PTS	1
Dogs in Shelter at the end of January 2023	10	Dogs in shelter at the end of January 2024	28

The total number of dogs entered through the shelter from 1st January 2023 to 31st December 2023 was 279, compared to 222 entered to the shelter for the full year 2022.



Pepper above in her new home

Pepper was rescued from the shelter and found her forever home earlier this month and is very happy.



Contact the shelter on 0873914008, WhatsApp or Facebook to make an appointment to see the dogs available for rehoming.

### How to be a responsible dog owner

#### Responsible Sourcing

- Consider adopting from a local authority dog shelter or animal welfare charity.
- If you decide to buy a dog, consult your vet for advice.
- Never agree to collect a dog without seeing the dog in its home environment.
- Reputable breeders have waiting lists so, please be prepared to wait.
- If sourcing your dog from a Dog Breeding Establishment (DBE) check the premises is registered with the local City/County Council.
- A registered DBE will have a registration certificate on display in the premises.

#### Microchipping

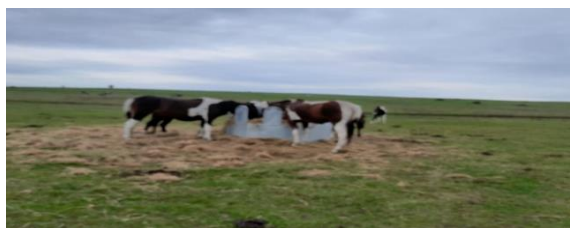
- In Ireland, if you keep, sell, purchase or rehome a dog, your dog must be microchipped and registered on a database approved by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.
- If your dog goes missing, there is a greater chance of being reunited if your dog is microchipped.
- Please contact your vet for information on microchipping.

The Control of Dogs Section has launched a campaign to circulate leaflets on Responsible Dog Ownership throughout the Fingal area. The leaflet has been shared on our website and has been circulated on social media and will also be distributed to all vets in the Fingal area. The leaflet will also be circulated by our dog wardens where they see a need to issue further information to dog owners. In addition, it has been issued to our Housing Department to give to new tenants with dogs. We will also provide a link in our emails to the public as it covers all aspects of responsible dog ownership.



### Horses

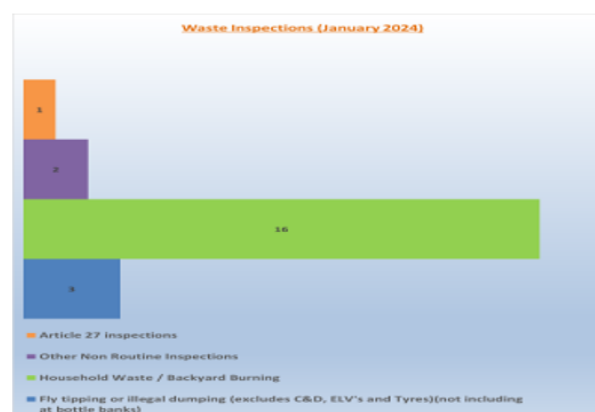
Weekly welfare inspections continue on Dunsink Landfill to monitor the numbers and welfare of the horses onsite. There are 15 hay feeders being filled by the Operations Department on a weekly basis to ensure adequate forage for the horses on the landfill.



### Waste Enforcement & Regulation Waste Complaints

A total of 22 waste complaints were recorded for the month of January. Waste complaints investigated primarily related to the illegal dumping of waste, backyard storage of waste and the backyard burning of waste.

Other waste complaints investigated related to Article 27 material and non-routine inspections. Awareness and education around the management of domestic waste in a sustainable and environmentally safe manner is crucial to ensure all households participate in a waste collection service as per the waste presentation bye-laws and use three bins (black, green and brown) to manage their waste. Any information in relation to unauthorised sites/collectors can be forwarded to [environment@fingal.ie](mailto:environment@fingal.ie)



### CCTV for Litter Management and Waste Enforcement

Draft Codes of Practice to facilitate the use of CCTV for waste enforcement purposes were developed by the LGMA in 2023.

The Codes were submitted to the Ossian Smyth TD, Minister of State with Special Responsibility for Public Procurement, eGovernment, Communications and the Circular Economy, on 13th December for review and approval as follows:

1. Draft Code of Practice on the operation of CCTV under the Waste Management Act 1996 (as amended)
2. Draft Code of Practice on the operation of CCTV under the Litter Pollution Act 1997 (as amended); and
3. Draft Code of Practice on the operation of Mobile Recording Devices under the Waste Management Act 1996 (as amended).



The Codes have now been approved by the Minister and that they have been laid before the Houses of the Oireachtas by Local Authority Waste Programme Coordinator, Seán Scott on behalf of the LGMA and in accordance with Sections 22 and 33 of the Circular Economy and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2022. We now await commencement of the legislation which has to be completed by the Attorney General's Office and the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications, and we expect same to take place in early January 2024.

The Codes of Practice for the use of CCTV for the prevention, detection and prosecution of offences under the Waste Management Act, 1996 (as amended) and the Litter Pollution Act 1997, as amended sets out the standards that each Council seeking to use CCTV for the stated statutory purpose must adhere to in order for the use of CCTV to be GDPR and LED compliant.

Each LA is now required, as part of the compliance with the Code of Practice, to establish a CCTV & MRD (Mobile Recording Device) Oversight Board. The Oversight Board which will act as the final adjudication on the necessity and proportionality for such devices or systems proposed by Departments within the LA prior to going before the Chief Executive for full and final approval.

### New Deposit Return Scheme

A new Deposit Return Scheme starts across the country later this week (Thursday 1 February). This initiative encourages us all to contribute to a cleaner environment through better recycling. When you buy a drink in a plastic bottle, aluminium or steel can that features the Re-turn logo, you pay a small deposit in addition to the price of the drink. When you return your empty and undamaged drink container to participating shops and supermarket, you get your deposit back in full.



The key points are:

**Deposit Scheme:** From February 1st, when you buy a drink in a plastic bottle, aluminium, or steel can that feature the 'Re-Turn' logo, you will pay a small deposit in addition to the price of the drink. This will be 15c to 25c depending on size.

**Eligible refund:** To get the deposit back you can return the empty plastic bottles and aluminium and steel cans if they display the Re-turn logo. If you don't claim the deposit back, Re-Turn will hang on to it.

**Return Locations:** You can return your empty, undamaged drinks container, featuring the Re-turn logo, to any retailers that sells drinks in plastic and steel/aluminium cans.

**Exclusions:** Glass containers and dairy products (milk, yogurt drinks) are not included.

For further information see <https://re-turn.ie/>

## WEE and Battery Producers Waste Packaging

### Landfill Aftercare:

Specified Engineering Works (SEWs) in Rogerstown Park are progressing well with the completion of WP 10 – Installation of New Fire Hydrant in January and WP 9 – Construction of the Maintenance building at snagging stage.

Works in relation to WP 8 – the Decommissioning of the on-site leachate tanks works also commenced in January 2024 with an estimated completion date of 3 months.



Rogerstown Park New Maintenance Building

### EU WaterFramework Directive (WFD):

The Water Pollution Team conducted four planned slurry spreading reconnaissance surveys in January in two river catchments; The Delvin River and The Matt or Bracken River Catchments.

The purpose of the first two inspections (9th and 10th January 2024) was to check that there was no slurry or organic fertiliser being applied to lands during the prohibited period, as defined by The Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) Regulations.

The purpose of the second two inspections (16th and 17th January 2024) was to check if slurry or organic fertiliser spreading practices after the end of the prohibited period (12th January 2024) complied with the GAP Regulations i.e. maintaining appropriate distances from watercourses, using appropriate machinery and avoidance of spreading during heavy rainfall events or when ground conditions are unsuitable etc.



During each survey catchment assessment field-sheets were completed on key monitoring points of the rivers recording water quality data.

Slurry spreading during the closed period was identified on the Delvin Catchment (Picture 1) and this has been reported to the Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine (DAFM) through a cross-reporting mechanism which may result in a financial penalty for the farmer concerned.



## Sports Office

### Active, Together, Local Sport and Activity Plan 2024 - 2029

On the 12th January Fingal Sports Office launched the new sport and physical activity strategy in Sport Ireland Campus. The far-reaching plan lays out a strategic framework focused on six key commitments: prioritising sports and physical activity; improving accessibility for everyone; raising the profile and visibility of sports activities; emphasising outdoor participation; enhancing quality facilities; and fostering stakeholder collaboration.

Download [Active Together Local Sports and Physical Activity Plan](#)

Fingal County Council has unveiled a new initiative that aims to transform the sports landscape in Fingal, enhancing participation and access for residents and using sport to help tackle social issues and build communities.

With a focus on sustainable and inclusive practices, the Council is committed to making Fingal an exemplary region for sports and physical activity in Ireland. Another aspect underpinning the plan is the focus on building on existing investments and assets, including current facilities and further development of recreation hubs.



## Parent & Toddler Programmes

Due to the popularity of the Toddler Yoga and Fitness programme in Balbriggan and D15 there has been a demand for the programme to be rolled out in other locations across the county.

The Sports Office has launched 3 new programmes in Lusk, Baldoyle and Swords for January to add to their existing centres in Balbriggan and D15.

The parent and toddler programme takes parents and their children through fundamental movements and child yoga which will promote toddler's developmental milestones while building connections in the community. Each of the programmes are getting between 20-30 participants held in local community centres and it has been a great way for new families to learn more and join activities in their local community.



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### **D15 Running Club Suicide Awareness 5k 2023**

On December 30th, the Sport Ireland Campus was bustling as D15 Running Club successfully organised and sold out a 5k run in support of Suicide Awareness D15. A remarkable turnout of 300 participants added vibrancy to this meaningful race. Established during the challenging times of COVID, D15 Running Club, a community initiative, has not only fostered physical activity but has also served as a beacon of inspiration.

Their journey took a significant turn in mid-2023 when Active Cities Dublin collaborated with them, facilitating their affiliation with Athletics Ireland as a registered Running Club. This affiliation paved the way for their inaugural chipped/timed race, sanctioned by Athletics Ireland. Active Cities Dublin played a crucial role in supporting the event, providing funding to elevate the race to a timed and chipped format.



### **Revive and Thrive**

Fingal County Council, in collaboration with Active Cities Dublin, proudly presents "Revive and Thrive," a transformative Health & Wellbeing initiative. This 8-week back-to-exercise programme, from January to March, has garnered overwhelming enthusiasm from Howth and its neighbouring areas, with all slots filled 90 people starting their journey to living a more active lifestyle.

Featuring 7 diverse classes weekly consisting of exercise classes, Yoga classes and a starting walk taking in the beautiful views Howth has to offer. The program has touched the lives of locals, with heartening stories like individuals in their 70s joining their first structured exercise class. Beann Eadair's generous support has made the club bar a vibrant venue for this initiative, as Howth faces a shortage of suitable spaces. Remarkably, participants are venturing into their local GAA club for the first time, showcasing inclusivity across age groups (30s to 80+) and diverse abilities.



## Mulhuddart on the Move / Balbriggan on the move

Mulhuddart and Balbriggan on the Move programmes kicked off at the start of January with over 30 participants joining each group. The "On the Move" programme is partially funded by HSE to encourage participants who reengage in fitness and exercise in a safe and welcoming environment. The programme has seen great success in new members joining.



## Multi- Sports Hubs

After the massive success of the Children's Multi Sport Hubs in Balbriggan and Corduff, a new Multi Sports Hub got under way in January in Holywell Community Centre. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Multi Sports Hub targets children from the Sports Office Primary School Initiatives and adds to the already popular Hubs in Corduff Sports Centre and Flemington CC in Balbriggan.

Many of the children engaging are not part of sports specific clubs but enjoy the multi skills approach and the drop-in nature of the hubs in their communities. It also allows them to try sports that they do not have much exposure to normally with the aim to increase their physical activity participation levels especially at weekends.



## Fingal Couch to Parkrun

The Couch to Parkrun (5km) programme is an 8-week virtual training programme that will help participants steadily progress to completing a Parkrun through a walking and jogging interval style training plan. This year's programme launched on 22nd January and has over 150 participants registered. Participants receive weekly training plans, as well as support, tips and advice. They are also welcome to join our private Facebook group for added community support.

Fingal Couch to Parkrun Programme

SCAN ME

We will guide you through an 8-week virtual Couch to Parkrun (5km) programme

Dunmurry Centre  
SPORT EIREANN

## Fingal HomeFit Yoga

The Fingal HomeFit Yoga commenced on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> January. The 6-week online yoga course is aimed at beginners, and we had over 1000 participants registered for the programme. Participants are guided through a 1-hour class each week aimed at introducing them to the benefits of yoga through breath work, yoga postures, and relaxation. The postures or movements are open level with modifications for those working with injuries and tightness to help get the best from the class.



## Badminton for Baleskin Direct Provision

An introduction to badminton for adults living in direct provision in partnership with Badminton Ireland started on Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> January. 25 adults from Baleskin Direct Provision Centre attended the first week of a 6-week programme in Mountview Community Centre. Badminton has been a sport that many have not played before but a great introduction to keeping fit.



## Exercise Energise

Seventeen secondary schools enrolled in the Sports Office Exercise: Energise programme for this school year. This is an increase with three new schools now onboard. The programme which targets inactive teenage girls, and has been running for over 10 years, aims to provide participants with opportunities to try out sports activities in a safe fun environment usually during school lunchtime or at an afterschool club. Each school when enrolling appoints a co-ordinator, who are provided with funding support towards purchase of equipment or tutor costs. Activities range from Taekwondo, Volleyball, Basketball, Zumba, Pilates and other various activities chosen by the girls themselves. This year we have included a video competition as an extra incentive. The schools have been invited to Fingal's Multi-Sports Day in the National Sports Campus in March as part of the HerMoves Campaign and Women in Sport Week.



## Inclusive Swimming

Inclusive swimming lessons for adults with a disability took are currently taking place Coolmine Leisure Centre and will continue for 4 more weeks. These small classes provided an opportunity for adults with a disability to learn to swim in a quiet environment with a small group allowing for individual instruction to meet each individuals needs. A block of six weeks of lessons is also provided for a local school ASD unit.

## Boccia Blitz

The first of our monthly Boccia Blitz's took place in January with over 60 adults taking part. There was a big mix of adults with disabilities as well as older adults with the oldest participant being 86 years of age. All participants enjoyed the blitz and have returned to their weekly groups to continue training for the next blitz.

# ARCHITECTS DEPARTMENT

## Contents

Architectural Conservation Funding 2023

Architectural Conservation Funding 2024

### Architectural Conservation Funding 2023

FCC have just completed the renovation of 6 more derelict and vacant properties on Portrane Avenue at St Ita's Campus. The houses, previously Health Service Executive owned and used to house St Ita's hospital workers, have been vacant for up to 20 years, and were in various states of dereliction.



Derelict Property, 89 Portrane Ave., St Ita's Campus



Renovated 89 Portrane Ave. St. Ita's

The houses were in extremely poor condition but being in an Architectural Conservation Area, the decision was made to renovate and conserve rather than demolish and rebuild.

The properties have been conserved very much in line with and in the spirit of how they were built.



Derelict Property 73 Portrane Ave. St Ita's



Renovated 73 Portrane Ave. St. Ita's

We have recreated the sash windows, preserved, and reinstated all the usable roof tiles where possible, sourcing matching tiles and slates where necessary. The houses were also brought up to modern standards in the course of the works.



Example - Room Before Renovation

Each house was replumbed, rewired and upgraded with modern heating systems and insulation, whilst being sympathetic to the architectural heritage of the properties.

These desirable properties will now be occupied using Fingal County Council lists.



**Example: Room After Renovation**

Phase 3 of this project comprises the remaining 5 properties, which were subject to extensive fire damage. This will commence in the first quarter of 2024.

### **Dublin Street, Baldoyle - Upgrade Project**

This housing scheme was built circa 1968 and comprises 12 own door one-bedroom flats on 2 levels. Retrofitting works were carried out in 2014 which included external wall insulation.



**Dublin St Flats, Baldoyle - Front Area**

The surrounding gardens and yard of the scheme were not upgraded at that time.



**1 Rear Area/Yard - Before Upgrade**

The Architects Department was recently asked to help with improving the area as part of the Housing Estate Management's tenant engagement initiative. This was to include an upgrade of areas to the front and rear of these properties, thus contributing to community engagement efforts to instil a sense of place for the residents themselves. A modest budget of €50k was allocated for the project.



**2 Rear Area/Yard - Before Upgrade**

The rear area was a tarmac hard surface yard in poor condition. Poles for washing lines were the only notable amenity in place.



**3 Rear Area - After Upgrade with Seating and Raised Beds**

Raised planting beds were added to provide for low maintenance planting. All planted shrubs were evergreen species providing year-round colour and scent. Seating areas have been installed to allow for tenants to have a place to sit in the sunshine. Areas for bin stores and a newly relocated washing line area were also provided.



**4 Rear Area - After Upgrade with Seating and Raised Beds**

The result of this upgrade is a private and pleasant leisure space for the residents of the block to use.

## FINANCE

Contents
<b>Rates</b>
<b>Development Level Income</b>
<b>Payroll</b>
<b>Procurement</b>
<b>Financial Reports – Appendix 1</b>
(a) Revenue Account Income & expenditure to 30 <sup>th</sup> December, 2023
(b) Capital Account Income & Expenditure to 30 <sup>th</sup> December, 2023
(c) Summary of Corporate Debtors to 30 <sup>th</sup> December 2023
<b>Financial Reports – Appendix 2</b>
Contracts Awarded year to date

The tables below outlines key financial statics at the end. Due to work on year end closing the Revenue account and Capital Account will be included in next months CE report

### Rates

2024 Rates bills were issued to customers in the last week of January. Overall Commercial Rates collection to the end of January 2024 is running at **3.06%**.

Commercial Rates Collection	
€ Rates Collected	€4.98m
% Rates Collected	3.06%

### Development Levy Income

Development levy income collected to the end of November is €32.7m this is c.**85%** of the overall collection for same period in 2022.

Development Levy Income	
Levies Receipted	32.7
Levies Collected as % of 2022	85%

### Payroll

Overall payroll spend to the end of November is €76.3m which is c. **97%** of budget year to date.

Payroll	
Salaries & Wages €M	76.3
Percentage of Budget YTD	97%

### Procurement

Outlined below is a summary of the overall procurement activity at end of January

No. of contracts awarded (details below) for year to date	14	
Value €m	1.04m	
<b>Procurements ongoing at end of January</b>		
No. of procurements awaiting tender responses	11	(i)
Value €m	110.4m	
No. of procurements under evaluation	34	(ii)
Value €m	114.3m	
No. of procurements at approved	5	(iii)
Value €m	1.5m	

#### Notes:

- (i) Procurements awaiting tender responses – tender responses awaited at end of January.
- (ii) Procurements under evaluation – tender responses submitted and being evaluated at end of the January.
- (iii) Procurements at approved – Tender responses have been evaluated and approved. Pre- contract award processes ongoing at end of January.



**Appendix 1**  
**Number of Contracts Awarded for year to date**

Dept	Description of Procurement	Supplier Name	Current Value of Contract (excl. VAT)	Contract Start Date (actual)	Contract End Date (actual)	Actual Duration (months)	Contract Award Date
Operations	Requirement for Road Lining Contract for the Fingal Swords, Balbriggan Areas Including PSCS	MacLochlainn (Roadmarkings) Limited	€ 58,796.60	24/01/2024	31/12/2024	12	31/01/2024
Operations	Disposal of Marine Wrecks located in Balbriggan Harbour	Shanowen Plant Hire Ltd	€ 154,450.00	01/03/2024	30/04/2024	2	29/01/2024
Operations	Supply & Delivery of Macadam to various locations in Fingal	Roadstone Ltd	€ 97,630.00	01/01/2024	31/12/2024	12	29/01/2024
Digital Services	Supply of Broadband to Malahide 9Avoca), Ardgillan House & Ballycoolin Training Centre	Viatel Ireland Ltd	€ 26,160.00	01/03/2024	28/02/2026	24	26/01/2024
EETCD	Tradfest	TASCQ CLG t/a The Temple Bar Company	€ 120,000.00	01/01/2024	31/12/2024	12	25/01/2024
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Supply of Pleached Lime Trees and Yew Hedging	Annaveigh Plants Ltd	€ 29,895.00	30/10/2023	29/10/2024	12	19/01/2024
Digital Services	Departmental access to Lawlink	Dye & Durham Ltd	€ 43,944.00	16/01/2024	31/12/2024	12	15/01/2024
Corporate Affairs	Post Collection Service	Print Post Ltd	€ 36,250.00	01/01/2024	31/03/2024	3	11/01/2024
Operations	Resurfacing of Section of Bath Avenue, Malahide	John McQuillan Contracts Ltd	€ 52,957.00	05/02/2024	01/03/2024	3 weeks	11/01/2024
People Services	Occupational Health Services	Dr. Ted Murphy	€ 111,600.00	01/01/2024	31/12/2025	24	02/01/2024
Operations	Provision of Maintenance of Earth Moving Equipment	Equipment Company of Ireland Ltd	€ 32,230.00	01/12/2023	30/11/2025	24	02/01/2024
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Provision of Services for Independent Agronomist for the Fingal Coastal Way	Hackett Agricultural Consultants	€ 39,700.00	02/01/2024	31/12/2024	12	02/01/2024
Housing	Inspections on Private Rented Dwellings located in the Admin Area of Fingal County Council	Arthurstown Construction Limited	€ 165,000.00	01/01/2024	31/03/2024	3	01/01/2024
Operations	Provision of Vehicle and Plant Inspection Services	Truck & Trailer works Ireland	€ 79,600.00	01/01/2024	31/12/2025	24	01/01/2024

## Appendix 2

Active Travel Investment Grants: Allocations		
Project Code:	Project Name & Funding Allocation 2023	Comments
FCC/19/0005	Schools Streets non SRTS €100,000	Small improvements at schools (not in SRTS programme) which can be delivered through numerous departments.
FCC/20/0004	Bicycle Parking (Covid) €150,000	Contractor is gearing up to complete bike parking stands in various locations across the county. Further work packages are being developed by the team for Swords and Dublin 15 areas. Ongoing liaison with Operations and Parks to agree suitable locations for bike parking.
FCC/21/0001	Snugborough Road – NAC to Ongar €220,000	Gateway 2 Report has been issued to the NTA to gain approval to proceed to preliminary design phase of the project.
FCC/21/0002	Baldoyle to Howth €300,000	Phase One of the project has reached substantial completion.
FCC/21/0006	Clonee to Blanchardstown Shopping Centre €235,000	Data collection for the options stage of the project has been completed i.e. topographical, traffic surveys, tree surveys. This data will feed into development of the options report for the project. A second Draft options report has been submitted by consultant and been reviewed by Active Travel.
FCC/22/0001	Castleknock to Dunsink Lane €185,000	The options report and relevant drawings for Auburn Ave and Dunsinea Lane have been submitted to the NTA in compliance to the Gateway 2-5 Hold Point requirements. A Draft options report has been submitted by consultant for Dunsink Lane and currently been reviewed by Active Travel.
FCC/22/0004	Hartstown/Huntstown/Mountview Rd D1 €100,000	The phase 2b junction designs have been completed by the cycle design office (CDO). These designs are being reviewed by FCC before tendering for construction.
FCC/22/0005	St. Cronan's Ave & Brackenstown Rd €1,387,711	The Project was officially opened in November. The Contractor has completed most of the snags at this stage. The Contractor is due back to site in early 2024 to carry out works on the Murrough Road / Rathbeale Road junction

FCC/22/0006	Rathingle/Rivervalley Rd. Swords €176,000	Design works for phase 2b the modification of the existing roundabout is currently being discussed with the NTA.
FCC/22/0007	Balbriggan Road Mill Street and Drogheda Street €100,000	Active Travel have been working closely with the Our Balbriggan Project Team. The Active Travel Team are working to Procure an Integrated Design Team for Towns & Village Projects. We have recently completed stage 1 of the process and will be commencing with stage 2 in early 2024, to secure an Integrated Design Team by mid 2024.
FCC/22/0009	Permeability Links North County €465,000	Several projects are still being identified and assessed via multi criteria analysis. We are also in ongoing discussions with Operations to incorporate other works in order to get best value for money when we go to delivery of these works. Active Travel are progressing with some of these projects and tenders are currently out to the market to secure a works contractor to complete some of these works on the ground.
FCC/22/0010	R132 Ministers Rd to Blakes Cross + Kilhedge Lane €300,000	The Contractor commenced on site during September 2023. The majority of the main civil works and junction upgrades are now complete including approximately 90% of the surfacing works.
FCC/22/0011	Skerries – Harbour Road (footpath build outs) €905,000	Engineering consultants have finalised concept designs and options report. The proposed project has been lodged with the Planning Authority for Pre-Planning consent. The outcome of this will establish the governance and planning route for the project. The decision on this is expected in early 2024.
FCC/22/0012	Seatown Roundabout to Estuary Rd (Swords to Malahide) €140,000	Engineering consulting are finalising the Non-Statutory Public Consultation Report is due to be released in early January. Works to complete the screening reports and detailed drawings are well underway and it is anticipated to go to the market for a works contractor in Q1 2024
FCC/22/0014	Balbriggan – Coney Hill from Devlin Bridge to Bremore Cottages €140,000	Consultant is finalising concept drawings and options report which is expected to be submitted to the project team.

FCC/22/0015	Rush South Beach (Bawn Rd across carpark and out to South Shore. €500,000	We are continuing engagement with Property Section about acquisition of lands in this area. Works are also ongoing to look at options in this area that will serve not only this project but that will benefit the Fingal Coastal way route options. further discussions with landowner in early January.
FCC/22/0016	New Street Public Realm Project €583,899	The Chief Executive's report is now being prepared and it is anticipated that this will be presented to the meeting of the County Council in January 2024.
FCC/22/0018	Data collection for Active Travel Projects €60,000	Traffic, air, noise etc
FCC/22/0019	Skerries Active Travel Plan €655,000	Tender competition is completed for Stage 1 of the process. Stage 2 to commence early 2024.
FCC/22/0020	Balrothery Active Travel Review €282,500	The design Consultant is in the process of information gathering and have presented their initial findings to the Active Travel team. The consultant will conduct data collection and initial surveys in Q1, 2024.
FCC/22/0021	Seamount Heights to Old Golf Links Park €300,000	A brief, and tender documents are currently being prepared by the Active Travel Unit to progress this project from the design phases through to completion as soon as possible.  The design will incorporate feedback from internal FCC stakeholders and the local Resident's Association.
FCC/22/0022	Broomfield to Paddy's Hill via Naomh Mearnog GAA €350,000	The design brief for 'Concept Development and Options Selection' has been finalised for this connectivity project. Internal consultation with other FCC departments has taken place. The remaining tender documents are being finalised by the Active Travel Unit.
FCC/22/0026	Fingal County Council Active Travel Office – Staff Costs €1,100,000	
FCC/22/0028	FCC Castleknock to Blanchardstown via Farnleigh €90,000	Stage 2 of the tendering process complete and tender assessment has taken place. Contract documents to be signed in coming weeks.

FCC/22/0030	Station Road Portmarnock Footpaths and Cycleway €150,000	Works have reached substantial completion.
FCC/ 23/XXX	Scoil an Duinnigh to Waterside footpath and cycleway €220,000	Planning permission has been granted for the school and the Department of Education is to engage with Fingal County Council in relation to pedestrian access as a condition of the granted Planning Permission. In the interim, a footpath, dropped kerbs with tactile paving have been provided on the route to/from the school and the Feltrim Road.
FCC/ 23/XXX	Feltrim Road cycle infrastructure €120,000	A design brief has been completed to bring this project from the 'Concept Development and Options Stage' to completion.  The remaining tender documents are substantially complete and are under review. It is expected that the works will go to tender for a design consultant early in Q1, 2024.
FCC/ 23/XXX	Active Travel Pathfinder – Swords to Airport quick build €200,000	Project team have engaged an Integrated Design Team to work on the project. Preferred Options report has been completed and is due for discussion and consultation with the Statutory stakeholder in early January.
FCC/23/XXX	Donabate to Portrane (R126) - Distributor Road to Portrane Avenue €40,000	Consultant is finalising concept drawings and options report. Discussion and negotiations ongoing with Property Section and landowners to acquire lands where required.
FCC/23/XXX	SRTS (R1) – Scoil Mhuire & Iosef, Sinsear – Bayside Senior National School €200,000	Works are now completed at the school site. The contractor has carried out minor snagging and maintenance on rain gardens. The Stage 3 Road Safety Audit has been completed by an independent auditor. It is anticipated that the Belisha beacons at the zebra crossing will be connected in Q1, 2024.
FCC/23/XXX	SRTS (R1) – Scoil Ghrainne CNS €200,000	Detailed design nearing completion to enable procurement of works contractor. Contract documents are being finalised to engage a contractor for the works.
FCC/23/XXX	SRTS (R1) – Bayside Junior School €200,000	Works are now completed at the school site. The contractor has carried out minor snagging and maintenance on rain gardens. The Stage 3 Road Safety Audit has been completed by an independent auditor. It is anticipated that the Belisha beacons at the zebra crossing will be connected in Q1, 2024.

FCC/23/XXX	SRTS (R1) – Scoil Choilm CNS €200,000	Installation of flexible bollards on Porterstown Rd. outside the school entrance is complete. Detailed design nearing completion to enable procurement of works contractor. Contract documents are being finalised to engage a contractor for the works.
FCC/23/XXX	SRTS (R1) – Rush & Lusk ETNS €200,000	Construction work is now complete and final snagging works has been completed.
FCC/23/XXX	SRTS (R1) – Pope John Paul II NS, Malahide €200,000	Detailed Design is nearing completion for the Tranche 2 schools (4 no.), including Pope John Paul II NS. It is envisaged that this work package will go to construction in Q1 2024, and Pope John Paul II NS is currently scheduled to be the final Safe Routes to School scheme implemented in this package. Contract documents are being finalised to engage a contractor for the works.
FCC/23/XXX	SRTS (R1) – Castaheany ETNS €200,000	Works have been substantially completed by contractor. Minor snag works ongoing.
FCC/23/XXX	SRTS (R1) – St. Benedict's NS €200,000	Works have been substantially completed by contractor. Minor snag works ongoing.
FCC/23/XXX	SRTS (R1) – Ladyswell National School €200,000	Detailed design nearing completion to enable procurement of works contractor. Contract documents are being finalised to engage a contractor for the works.

**Appendix 3**  
**Housing Delivery Construction Programme**  
**Schemes on Site**

Area Committee	Provider	Funding Stream	Site Name	No. Units	Status Detail	On-Site Date	Handover (estimated)
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Bowden Court (Outlands), Swords <a href="#">53°27'52.7"N 6°14'04.1"W - Google Maps</a>	<b>11</b> 4 x 1 Bed 4 x 2 Bed 3 x 3 Bed	On-Site	Q4 2022	Q3 2024
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	Tuath Housing	Social - Elderly	Kilhedge Lane, Lusk <a href="#">53°31'24.4"N 6°10'30.3"W - Google Maps</a>	<b>31</b> 13 x 1 Bed 18 x 2 Bed	On-Site	Q1 2023	Q1 2024
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Ballough Place (Former Leonards Garage), Lusk <a href="https://goo.gl/maps/8u6BiRWzuLSTmj8">https://goo.gl/maps/8u6BiRWzuLSTmj8</a>	<b>10</b> 9 x 2 Bed 1 x 1 Bed	On-Site	Q1 2023	Q3 2024
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Monastery Court (Katies Hunts), Church Road, Lusk <a href="https://goo.gl/maps/vqRAVUw8ZqhM75w66">https://goo.gl/maps/vqRAVUw8ZqhM75w66</a>	<b>5</b> 5 x 2 Bed	On-Site	Q1 2023	Q2 2024
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Hayestown, Rush <a href="#">53°31'24.1"N 6°06'42.1"W - Google Maps</a>	<b>62</b> 17 x 2 Bed 45 x 3 Bed	On-Site	Q2 2023	Q3 2024
Balbriggan/Rush - Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	St. Ita's, Portrane <a href="#">Portrane Ave - Google Maps</a>	<b>11</b> Restoration of existing cottages.	On-Site	Q4 2022	Q3 2024
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	Glenveagh Living Ltd	Mixed Tenure	Balmoston Ph1., Donabate 53°29'21.2"N 6°07'58.1"W	<b>172</b> 432 units, of which 20% are social and 20% affordable	On-Site	Q3 2023	Q2 2025
Blanchardstown/Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Church Fields 3A <a href="#">53°24'44.7"N 6°23'39.0"W - Google</a>	<b>300</b> 27 x 1 Bed 118 x 2 Bed 136 x 3 Bed 19 x 4 Bed	Sod-turning ceremony 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2024.	Q4 2023	Q3 2025

**Appendix 3- continued**  
**Schemes with Planning Approval and at Tender stage**

Area Committee	Provider	Funding Stream	Site Name	No. Units	Status Detail	On-Site Date	Handover (estimated)
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social - Elderly	North Street, Swords <a href="#">53°27'38.6"N 6°13'06.7"W - Google Maps</a>	<b>13</b> 6 x 1 Bed 7 x 2 Bed	Demolition contractor on site. Contractor to be appointed in Q2 2024.	Q4 2023	Q3 2025
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social -	Seatown Swords <a href="#">53°27'35.4"N 6°13'04.7"W Google Maps</a>	<b>36</b> 36 x 2 Bed	Design ongoing, Tender package to be completed.	Q1 2024	Q3 2025
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	North and East Housing Association	Social – Elderly	Garristown <a href="#">53°34'03.7"N 6°22'42.1"W - Google Maps</a>	<b>6</b> 3 x 2-bed 3 x 1-bed	Planning granted.	Q4 2023	Q4 2024
Blanchardstown/Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar	FCC	Social – Elderly TBC	Junction of Blakestown Road and Huntstown Way, Dublin 15 <a href="#">53.399869, -6.401776 Google Maps</a>	<b>30</b> 16 x 1 Bed 14 x 2 Bed	Conveyancing completed with planning permission.	Q2 2024	TBC
Howth/Malahide	FCC	TBC	Tuckets Lane <a href="#">53.385248, -6.066128 Google Maps</a>	<b>8</b> 4x 1 Bed 4x 2 Bed	Boundary issues being resolved.	TBC	TBC



Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Holywell, Swords  53°26'48.1"N 6°12'42.8"W	<b>57</b> 20 x 1- bed 29 x 2-bed 8 x 3-bed	S179a planning process complete.	Q2 2024	Q4 2025
Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/ Castleknock/ Ongar	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Church Fields 3B <a href="#">53°24'44.7"N 6°23'39.0"W - Google Maps</a>	<b>217</b>	ABP approved planning Q4 2023.	Q1 2025	Q2 2026
Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/ Ongar	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Mayeston, Dublin 11 <a href="#">53°24'28.4"N 6°17'02.1"W - Google Maps</a>	<b>119</b> 39 x 1 Bed 68 x 2 Bed 12 x 3 Bed	S179a planning process underway.	Q2 2024	Q4 2025
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Mourne View, Skerries. <a href="#">53.580404, -6.122225</a>	<b>14</b> 11x2Bed 3x3Bed 1x4Bed	S179a planning process underway.	TBC	Q4 2025

**Appendix 3- continued**  
**Schemes at the Pre-Planning Stage**

Area Committee	Provider	Funding Stream	Site Name	No. Units	Status Detail	On-Site Date	Handover (estimated)
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Remount, Lusk <a href="https://www.google.com/maps/place/53.521033026946974,-6.161600488074793">53.521033026946974, -6.161600488074793</a>	<b>18</b> 2 x 1 Bed 11 x 2 Bed 5 x 3 Bed	Will go through the S179a planning process.	TBC	Q3 2025
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Mixed Tenure	New Road, Donabate <a href="https://www.google.com/maps/place/53.29026,N,6.08275,W">53°29'02.6"N 6°08'27.5"W</a>	<b>160</b>  All Houses	At pre-planning stage.	TBC	TBC
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	TBC	O' Dwyers, Balbriggan. <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/inSEC4Qq3QSBHQHp8">https://maps.app.goo.gl/inSEC4Qq3QSBHQHp8</a>	<b>80-120</b>	Surveys progressing.	TBC	TBC
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Woodside, Swords. <a href="https://www.google.com/maps/place/53.453901,-6.210574">53.453901, -6.210574 Google Maps</a>	<b>34</b>	Design team have been appointed.	TBC	TBC
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	TBC	Mooretown Phase 1, Swords. <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/R8eAG1aolXh1nL2j9">https://maps.app.goo.gl/R8eAG1aolXh1nL2j9</a>	<b>200</b>	Design Masterplan to be completed.	Q1 2025	Q1 2026

Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Kenure, Rush. <a href="https://www.google.com/maps/place/53.532278,-6.102176">53.532278, -6.102176 Google Maps</a>	<b>32</b> 10x1Bed 10x2Bed 12x3Bed	Surveys progressing.	TBC	TBC
Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar	FCC	Social	Fortlawn, Dublin 15	<b>3</b>		TBC	TBC
Howth/Malahide	FCC	Social	Fingerpost, Malahide	<b>4</b>	Design stage.	TBC	Q4 2026
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Balmoston Ph2, Donabate  53°29'21.2"N 6°07'58.1"W	<b>172</b>	At pre-planning stage.	TBC	TBC

\*The above-estimated timelines are indicative and subject to a successful planning and procurement process.

### Appendix 3- continued

#### Long Term Leasing

Area Committee	Lessor	Funding Stream	Site Name	No. Units	Status Detail	Handover (estimated)
Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar	Glenveagh Homes	Enhanced Leasing	Balroy House	82	On-site	Q1 2024