



Chief Executive's Management Report

Fingal County Council Meeting
Monday, September 10, 2018

Item No. 25

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S MANAGEMENT REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2018

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TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

Fingal Food Projects

Fingal County Council (FCC) are working with a consultant, Anthony O'Toole, an oversight committee consisting of representatives from each town and village and local food champions to identify all food producers in the area and also the food events being held throughout 2019.

DIT Students in Action will assist in the project and will host a Food Seminar during Q1 2019 in Grangegorman.

Local Tourism Groups

Collaboration with local tourism groups continues, particularly focused on the Coastal and Rural Villages brands. It is intended to make a Fisheries Local Action Group application to further brand the coastal villages.

Waterways Ireland

Work has been ongoing by Waterways Ireland, in partnership with the 6 relevant local authorities, to upgrade the existing towpath along the route of the Royal Canal. This work is due to be complete by the end of 2018, after which the Royal Canal will be the longest off-road walking and cycling route in Ireland. FCC is working with Waterways Ireland to develop a visitor experience along the Royal Canal, from Spencer Dock in Dublin City to Richmond Harbour, Cloondara, Co Longford. The aim of this project is to examine how the Royal Canal can be developed to support the wider economic development of towns and villages along its route. This project will benefit Dublin 15 through increased footfall in the area.

In conjunction with Waterways Ireland, FCC is working on a service gap analysis and the development of visitor experience collateral. FCC is also working with Dublin City Council (DCC) and Fáilte Ireland on a Royal Canal Loop from the city to Dublin 15.

EVENTS

Fingal County Council supported the following events in July and August 2018:

- Morton Games
- Swords Summer Festival
- Malahide Has It Festival
- Rush Harbour Festival & Air Show
- Donabate - Portrane Summer Festival
- World Para Swimming Championships

Upcoming Events in September

Fingal Fleadh

Fingal County Council events team, working with local traditional groups, has put together a four day programme of free events which will bring Swords Castle to life with music, dancing, lectures and an Artisan Food and Craft Fayre. Dublin Comhaltas will perform as well as the Mulcahy Family and the Dance Hall Academy Irish dancing school. In addition, there will be a Street Seisiún competition. This year is Bliain na Gaeilge and the Irish language will also be to the fore at the Fleadh. John Spillane will be treating people to *Irish Songs we Learned at School* in the Atrium County Hall on Saturday at 1pm and a 'Pop-up Gaeltacht' is taking place in the Forty Four on Thursday night.

FINGAL FLEADH

SWORDS 6TH - 9TH SEPT 2018



HERITAGE PROPERTIES

Howth Courthouse

The tender for the Howth Court House refurbishment works has been issued, closing on the 14th September. The refurbishment works are expected to commence in October with completion in Q1 2019.

Malahide Castle & Gardens/ Newbridge House & Farm and Ardgillan castle

Following the establishment of a consultancy framework, roof, mechanical and electrical works at Newbridge House, Ardgillan Castle and Malahide Castle will commence in Q4 2018.

Plans for the development of the retail space in the Newbridge House visitor centre are on-going.

Malahide Casino

A prior information notice has been issued on E-tenders to inform interested parties that Fingal County Council will be issuing a tender for the operation of Malahide Casino/Fry model railway museum.



Swords Castle

A tender request was issued to seven framework members in respect of the Swords Castle enabling and conservation works (phase 2). Tenders have been evaluated and a contract will be issued to the successful contractor shortly. This phase of the works will allow for public access to the wall walk, consolidation of the East tower and electrical and site improvement works. It is expected that the works will take approximately 22 weeks to complete.



Skerries Mills

A full design team is to be appointed by Q4 2018 to develop the concept design, and initiate the planning process, for the redevelopment of the Red Barn, Skerries Mills.



Awards

The Heritage Properties division has been shortlisted for the Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Award 2018 under the category of Conservations, Management and Promotion of Heritage Properties.

LOCAL ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

The Local Enterprise Office (LEO) continues to roll-out a substantial programme of work. Some highlights from the summer include:



Grant Approvals

LEO Fingal hosted a networking event and photo-call for clients who were successful in receiving funding during the first half of 2018. At the event in Swords Castle on the 5th of July, clients were presented with letters of offer by the Mayor and the Chief Executive.

The third quarterly call for Measure One funding yielded 10 applications, totalling €296,500. Total approved at the end of Q2 was €433,000, to 15 businesses. In total over €503,000 has been approved to date in 2018.



Businesses approved by the LEO Fingal EVAC receiving their grant offer from the Fingal Mayor and Chief Executive

Food Programmes:

A new Food Academy programme commenced on 31st August with 15 food producers from the Dublin region, of which five are from Fingal. Food Academy is a training programme run by the Local Enterprise Offices, with the support of Bord Bia and SuperValu, and it prepares and enables small food producers to become suppliers to SuperValu.

The Launch of the new 'Digital School of Food' (DSof) took place in DIT Aungier Street on the 21st

of August. Led by LEO Fingal the programme is an online platform to give food entrepreneurs access to expert advice from their home or office. The DSof was created with funding from Enterprise Ireland in partnership with Bord Bia and DIT.



LEO Fingal is hosting a networking event and photoshoot for the launch of the *Fingal Food Strategy 2018 - 2021*. The event, will take place in Newbridge House, Donabate on the 3rd of October. A business networking event will be hosted by Dublin Food Chain following the launch.

Start Your Own Business Programme

36 people completed a LEO Fingal Start Your Own Business (SYOB) course in July/August. Two additional SYOB courses commenced during this period, bringing the total number of participants on the course to date this year to 117 on ten courses.

Trading Online Vouchers

This programme is funded by the Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources, as part of the National Digital Strategy, to support local and established small businesses in enhancing their online offering. Funding of €54,670, to 26 Fingal companies has been approved through the scheme in 2018. A further pre-application workshop will be held in the Riasc Centre, Swords on September 7th.

Business Development Workshops

In July/August, three Business Development Workshops were delivered to 31 participants. In total, 326 clients have attended 30 workshops to date in 2018.

Plato

Plato is an advanced 18 month management development programme run by the four LEOs in the Dublin region. There are currently two programmes underway, with 40 participants.

LEAN

The LEAN programme is designed to enable small businesses to develop substantial improvements in productivity and profitability through the application of proven LEAN principles. A new LEAN programme is commencing on 5th September with 12 participants (5 Fingal).

Business Clinics

Clinics are offered to individuals that wish to start up a new enterprise or expand their existing business. During July and August, 18 clinics were undertaken, delivering expertise to 146 businesses in Fingal. This brings the cumulative figures for 2018 to date to 62 clinics and 472 attendees.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Eastern Economic Corridor – C8

Fingal County Council is currently working closely with the following local authorities to develop an integrated economic strategy for the M1 Corridor:

- Dublin City Council
- Meath County Council
- Louth County Council
- Newry, Mourne & Down Council
- Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Council
- Lisburn & Castlereagh Council
- Belfast City Council

Several meetings have taken place between senior officials in these local authorities and a workshop will now take place for all staff working in the Economic Development area of these local authorities on the 19th September. The key initial output will be the terms of reference, outlining how the 8 local authorities intend to work

together. This will be followed in early 2019 by a research document providing a detailed economic profile of the corridor and a conference on the topic of integrated economic corridors and cross regional economic development.

Balbriggan Socio-Economic Strategy

Since the inaugural meeting of the Balbriggan Leadership Group on the 28th May, chaired by Professor Brian MacCraith, the President of Dublin City University, 12 workshops, involving 42 stakeholder bodies have taken place capturing the main priorities, challenges and opportunities across:

1. Local Economy and Enterprise;
2. Public Realm & Placemaking;
3. Employment, Education and Training;
4. Community Affairs and Integration.

The Leadership Group's meeting on the 29th August agreed the following immediate priorities

(a) Development and submission of an application to the Urban Regeneration & Development Fund for the main public realm propositions linked to the Balbriggan Socio-Economic process

(b) Development and implementation of a comprehensive communications package, public engagement and testing of draft vision and goals. This will include targeted consultations on proposed draft actions.



LEADER Programme

The Fingal LEADER Programme continues to fund eligible projects in the administrative areas of Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, South Dublin County Council and FCC. A LAG meeting took place on the 22nd August with 8 projects totalling €394,000 approved.

For more information on the LEADER Programme please visit:
www.dublirruraleader.ie

Local Community Development Committee

174 applications were received for the Community Enhancement Programme (CEP), which is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development. The CEP will provide €150,521 of grant funding to Fingal in 2018, going towards enhancing the facilities available to communities in disadvantaged areas. The closing date for applications was July 30, 2018.

- The total request for funding was 1.1M
 - 67 applications have qualified as eligible
- The funding group met on Tuesday 4th September to approve the funding.

Separately, funding of €15,942 is also available for Men's Sheds. There is a total of eleven Men's Sheds in the Fingal area affiliated to the Irish Men's Sheds Association. A total of nine applications were received. The closing date for applications was August 31st 2018.



SICAP

The annual mid-year review of the implementation of the current Fingal SICAP Programme is completed and formally approved by the LCDC.

Local Economic & Community Plan

The implementation of the Fingal LECP continues to be monitored.

Enterprise Centres

Occupancy rates at the Council's three enterprise centres at the end of August were:

Drinan	94%,
BASE	91%
Beat	88%

The three Enterprise Centres currently support 68 businesses and 340 jobs.

Groove School

As part of the Balbriggan Socio-Economic Regeneration Strategy, Fingal County Council and Dublin City University partnered to bring the Boston-based Berklee Music School's Groove School programme to Ireland in August.

39 of the 100 places on the three-day programme were given to students from Balbriggan's Loreto Secondary School and Ardgillan Community College. The Groove School program offers participants access to the Berklee method of music education, encompassing theory, ear training, improvisation, ensemble performance, and instrumental instruction.

€20,000 was awarded to the students in bursaries and scholarships on the evening.



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Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit

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Tropical Butterfly House Malahide Castle

Bike Parking Facilities

New bike parking facilities have been installed at three locations in Dublin 15 – Blanchardstown Village, Mulhuddart Village, and outside the FCC Civic Offices on Grove Road.

These bike racks are an addition to the current bike parking infrastructure in Dublin 15, and will allow expansion of the pilot bike sharing scheme.



Road Improvement Works

The road improvement programme of works remains ongoing.

The resurfacing works on Rush Harbour were completed during August. Additional phases will be considered for 2019.



Crown Lifting of trees on the Waterville Road

Following a recent tree inspection of the trees along Waterville Road, it was evident that a significant number of trees required crown lifting to provide improved visibility for pedestrians and cyclists using the walkway and cycle lane.

A total of 200 trees were crown lifted from the main Waterville Road to the roundabout near the National Aquatic Centre.

These works have improved the lighting and visibility while also maintaining the tree lined avenue.



Pavement and Road Surfacing Works at Castleknock Glade / Dale

The Road Resurfacing Works at Castleknock Glade and Castleknock Dale, as provided for in the 2018 Programme of Works, have been completed.



Street Lighting

Works consisting of the replacement of 26 end-of-life columns, complete with LED lanterns and supply circuit improvement, was completed at Lambourn Estate.

As part of the 2018 Works Program a number of existing wooden poles were replaced on the pathway from St Marnocks Avenue to Strand Road in Portmarnock. All overhead cabling is removed and lights upgraded to LED.

Decorative lamp standards are installed in the newly unveiled Rock Garden Park in Swords to enhance the night time scene.



St Marnocks Avenue,
Portmarnock

Rock Garden Park,
Swords

Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit

Hires put in Place

There were 60 hires put in place from 1st August 2018 to 31st August 2018, engaging 22 suppliers. Included in these hires were:

- The hire of a surface dressing roller for the Balbriggan/Swords Area.
- The hire of a 180° backhoe excavator for works at various burial grounds in the Howth/Malahide Area.
- The hire of tractor and flail for the Swords/Balbriggan and Castleknock/Mulhuddart Areas.
- The hire of a teleporter for the loading of salt into the Coolmine and Swords salt barns.
- The hire of ¾ tonne mini-excavator for the levelling and spreading bark mulch in Malahide Demesne playground and landscaping works in Westlawn and Talbot gardens.
- The hire of an 18 Tonne grab truck with a clam shell bucket by Coolmine Roads and Parks Department for various works throughout Castleknock/ Mulhuddart.

Purchase of New Vehicles

Getting winter ready!

One new gritting truck has been purchased as part of the fleet's scheduled replacement programme. It is being readied for delivery to FCC.

Seven new snow ploughs have been ordered for the large tractors in preparation for winter 2018/2019.



New gritting truck

Traffic Management

2018 Traffic Works Programme

The 2018 signals contract has been awarded to Clonmel Enterprises and work has commenced on the first site on Harbour Road, Howth.

The 2018 VAS signs contract was awarded to PWS on the 27 August 2018 and work is due to commence following a 14 day standstill period. Additionally, 30km/h signs have been ordered and delivered to the depots and the 2018 lining contract was advertised in July. The tender responses have been received.

Speed Limit Review

The 2018 Speed Limit Review for Fingal County is ongoing at present. As part of this review, further 30 km/h 'Slow Zones' will be provided throughout the county to help make our housing estates safer for all. The proposed 30 km/h 'Slow Zones' have been identified and were brought to the respective Area Committee Meetings in June.

Modular Speed Cushions

Complete Highway Maintenance has been awarded the contract for the supply and installation of modular speed cushions and associated road markings/lining for road safety within the FCC area. These works commenced in July and will be ongoing where the need for additional works is identified in the coming months

Traffic Management Schemes

The anti-skid surfacing works and road lining has re-commenced and is continuing at various locations around the County.



Knockmaroon Gate

Ashtown Gate

The Traffic Signals 2017 Contract Work by TSL is nearing completion. Of the 14 sites, eleven are now commissioned, with sites at Gannon Park, Holywell and Rottapharm awaiting power from the ESB connection. The anti-skid surfacing works as part of these sites is also complete.

Shown below are some of the pedestrian crossing sites commissioned which are now fully operational with the anti-skid surface installed.



Naul Village

Melville Road
Finglas

New Signalised Arm Approaching from Santry



Cappagh / Heathfield traffic signals junction – Construction works commenced in June 2018 and are progressing well. All of the civil works are complete and only an ESB connection to the junction, anti-skid surfacing on the road, and slot cutting remain to be completed.



Cappagh / Heathfield traffic signals junction

Papal Event 2018

The Castleknock/Mulhuddart Operations Department staff carried out works in the vicinity of the Phoenix Park and provided support in the preparation for the Pope's visit on 26th August 2018.

An extensive programme of tree works was carried out along vehicle routes to assist traffic management. All pedestrian routes in the Castleknock/Mulhuddart area were checked for trip hazards and the cleansing crew carried out a deep clean of the area before and after the event. This proved very successful as no complaints were received regarding litter around the event.

The Operations Department also processed a substantial number of road closures relating to the event and carried out a clean-up on roads and estates post event.

Operations Department staff were present and advised the Gardai in the Dublin Castle Traffic Control Centre. FCC crews dealt with a number of flooding issues due to the heavy rainfall. Staff liaised with the Event Controller to clear the way for the papal escort.



Traffic Control Centre, Dublin Castle during Pope Francis's Visit

Tropical Butterfly House Malahide Castle

Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Anthony Lavin launched a new Tropical Butterfly House which showcases many species of butterflies and their life cycle in Malahide Castle on Saturday 21 July.

This innovative project commenced over 3 years ago and is the first Butterfly House in the Republic of Ireland. The Butterfly House is located in the Cambridge Glasshouse which was built to house Lord Milo Talbot's tropical flower collection. The Operations staff maintain the tropical plants which had to be acquired gradually as some plants cannot be bought and have been sourced through specialist growers or from the seed of wild plants. The glasshouse allows visitors to watch caterpillars feed on the plants and grow from larva to fully grown butterflies.

The new Butterfly House complements the Medieval Castle, its courtyard, shopping centre, café and parkland making it a location which can be enjoyed by people of all ages to visit and experience at Malahide Demesne.



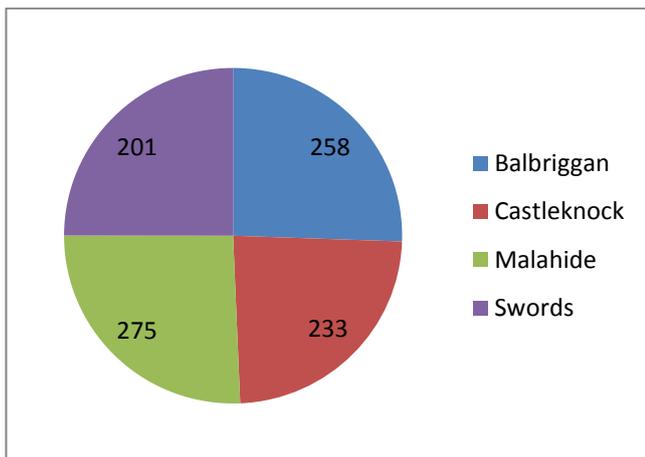
PLANNING AND STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE (PSI)

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Planning Decisions	Lanesborough Park, Meakstown
Building Control	Drumanagh Community Archaeology Dig
Preparation of the Swords Masterplan	National Heritage Week 2018
Balbriggan and Skerries skateparks	

Planning Activity

Planning Applications

There have been 967 planning applications received to the end of August 2018, 98 of which were invalid, leaving a total of 869 valid applications. The volume of applications received by area is illustrated below:



Planning Decisions

A total of 804 planning decisions have been made to the end of August 2018. There have been 736 decisions to grant permission (92%) and 68 refusals of permission (8%). 82 approvals have been in respect of single house construction, 382 for domestic extensions, 207 commercial/retail approvals and 34 grants of permission in respect of housing developments (3 related to developments in excess of 100 or more housing units and 19 of which related to developments of 2-20 housing units).

Building Control

There have been 103 Disability Access Certificates submitted to the end of August 2018. Of these, 82 were granted, 1 was invalidated and 4 are currently on a time extension. There have been 162 Fire Safety Certificates submitted to the end of August 2018, of which 90 were granted, 3 were invalidated and 28 are currently on a time extension.

Preparation of Swords Masterplans

Consultants have been appointed for the preparation of four Masterplans for strategic landbanks in Swords, namely, Barrysparks, Crowcastle, Estuary West and Fosterstown. Swords, in the context of MetroLink and other planned infrastructure and its proximity to Dublin Airport, has been identified in Project Ireland 2040 as an area where growth can be accommodated. The proposed masterplans will seek to provide the optimum future development framework for these lands, reflecting the essential social and physical infrastructure and also addressing the needs of Fingal's county town in relation to the sustainable delivery of housing and employment. These masterplans will set out a clear conceptual framework for the development of the zoned lands. Furthermore the masterplan process will ensure engagement with all relevant stakeholders and include a dedicated public consultation process. This will involve the invitation and consideration of public submissions.

A Drop-in session will be held on Thursday 13th September in the Atrium, County Hall, Swords

from 3.00pm to 8.00pm. Staff from the project team will be available to answer queries about the future preparation of the masterplans and to advise the public in their participation in the plan-making process.

For those wishing to contribute to the shaping of the masterplans at Barrysparks & Crowcastle, Fosterstown and Estuary West, written submissions are invited between 28th August and 25th September to the Planning Authority.

Contractor appointed for Balbriggan and Skerries skate parks

The Parks and Green Infrastructure Division has appointed a contractor to construct destination style skateparks in Balbriggan and Skerries. Following conclusion of a competitive tender process, UK based firm Freestyle Skateparks has been selected to design and construct both parks. The firm has a strong track record in the area, having designed and built over 600 skateparks in the last 30 years.

Both facilities are designed for both users and spectators, and will cater for a wide variety of ages and experience. Before tendering for the project the Parks and Green Infrastructure Division undertook a series of design workshops with stakeholders to determine their requirements.

The detail design process for the skatepark is already underway with construction works to commence later this year. It is anticipated that the skateparks will be completed and available for use within the first half of 2019. The news has been warmly welcomed by skatepark committees in both Skerries and Balbriggan.

Rathbeale Road Upgrade Scheme

Fingal County Council recently issued a tender for the procurement of a works contractor for the reconstruction and upgrade of the Rathbeale Road, Swords, between the Murrough Road and the proposed Swords Western Distributor Road. The scheme, which is 1000m in length, will involve

carriageway realignment, the provision of new, high quality off-road pedestrian and cyclist facilities, junction upgrades and associated drainage and underground utilities improvements. Alongside the recent appointment of a civil engineering consultant to supervise the works contract, the appointment of a contractor in 2018 will ensure that the project is well placed to proceed to construction in early 2019. These works, funded under the Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund, will facilitate the continued delivery of new residential development within the Oldtown-Mooretown LAP area and provide a safe and direct connection for new residents to travel into Swords town centre.

New Boundary and Park Entrance at Lanesborough Park, Meakstown

The Parks and Green Infrastructure Division appointed Irish Fencing to construct a new wall, railing and park entrance at Lanesborough Park. The project was complicated by the presence of a high pressure gas network pipe and high voltage underground cabling within the works zone, both of which had to be managed in accordance with best practice. The completion of these works enhances local visual amenity and now means the park is fully enclosed with an additional accessible entrance that restricts access for scrambler bikes.

Drumanagh Community Archaeology Dig

Digging Drumanagh, FCC's community archaeology project, is underway. A very successful two week excavation, an objective of the Drumanagh Conservation & Management Plan, took place in May and research objectives were surpassed with enthusiastic local involvement. The post-excavation process, involving collaboration with the National Museum of Scotland and a range of specialists, is ongoing. There will be a presentation of results to the public later in the year and outreach with local schools. Drumanagh is a nationally important

archaeological site and is of international significance in terms of Ireland's relationship with the Roman world.



National Heritage Week 2018

National Heritage Week took place from 18th – 26th August 2018, with this year's theme being 'Sharing Stories-Making Connections'. There were a total of thirty-three events in Fingal, twenty of which were supported or organised by FCC. Events were wide-ranging, and included *Stair agus Gaeilge Caisleán Shoirde*; Bremore Archaeological Survey with CHERISH; *What Lies Beneath*-Fingal Geophysical Survey project and Sharing Stories with Fingal Heritage Network. These well-received events reflect the deeply held interest in the heritage of Fingal.



Sharing Stories Event

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY (H&C)

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Housing Support

Community

Arts

Sports

Libraries

HOUSING STRATEGY 2020/REBUILDING IRELAND

The Council delivered 3,010 homes since the start of the Housing Strategy 2020/Rebuilding Ireland. The units were delivered over the various delivery mechanisms and do not include units approved for delivery.

Pillar 1: Address Homelessness

Fingal County Council is currently in contact with approximately 577 families who are in homeless circumstances or at risk of homelessness.

257 families have had their homeless circumstances alleviated so far in 2018 [including 174 Homeless Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) tenancies], with further tenancy arrangements to conclude shortly through the various forms of social housing support.

Tenancy Support is provided through measures such as 'Support to Live Independently' and other initiatives that ensure the sustainability of new tenancies. Homeless prevention advice continues to be offered through the Council's Homeless Team in partnership with Threshold Clinics and the Threshold Freephone service.

Housing Assistance Payment

643 Homeless HAP tenancies put in place since the Dublin Region HAP Pilot scheme came into effect in 2015.

In addition, 546 mainstream HAP tenancies have been put in place during the year to date.

A total of 1030 tenancies are now in place under mainstream HAP with further tenancy arrangements in the process of being finalised.

Pillar 2: Accelerate Social Housing

Construction Programme

The current position with the construction programme is set out below.

	No. Schemes	No. Units
Delivered to Date	6	133
Contractor on Site/Appointed	7	151
Tender Stage	6	124
Pre-Planning Approval	8	220
Total Construction	26	630

Masterplan/Land Management Plan sites are not included in the above figures.

Acquisitions Programme

Delivered to Date: 378 (83 properties closed in 2018)

Pending Sales Closing: 57

Enhanced Long Term Social Housing Leasing Scheme

The main features of the scheme, which launched in January, are the:

- Targeting of newly built or yet to be built houses and apartments for leasing;
- Targeting of property developers and investors who are in a position to deliver housing at reasonable scale; and
- Provision for 25 year lease terms that require the property owner to provide day-to-day maintenance of the properties under a schedule of management services.

The Housing Agency is leading the scheme on behalf of the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG). Following a first call for proposals, a small number of submissions were received. Despite interest in some of the proposals by FCC, the developers chose not to proceed. On 3rd August, the Housing Agency issued a second call for proposals which will close on 25th October 2018.

Further details of the scheme are available at: <https://www.housingagency.ie/News/Current-News/Enhanced-Long-Term-Social-Housing-Leasing-Scheme.aspx>

Repair and Leasing Scheme & Buy and Renew

The Repair and Leasing Scheme and the Buy and Renew schemes target vacant private properties in the County. Both schemes provide initiatives for the owners that encourage their use for social housing by the Council. FCC is interested in discussing leasing and purchasing options with owners of these long-term vacant or derelict properties.

Part V

Activity in this area has increased with the upturn in construction. FCC is seeking the early on-site delivery of Part V units in negotiations with developers. A total of 147 Part V housing units have been delivered over the life of the strategy to date.

Reports on Part V agreements are provided quarterly to the respective Area Committees.

Approved Housing Bodies

FCC continues to work closely with Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs) who are continuing to play an important role in the delivery of social housing in the County. The Council facilitates AHBs in the management of funding applications to the Capital Assistance Scheme and Capital Advance Leasing Facility Scheme.

Traveller Accommodation Programme

Collinstown Park:

Proposals for the development of a 7 Bay site at Coolquay, The Ward were approved by the Council at the July Meeting. The Council has been served with Notice of Intention to seek a Judicial Review of this decision.

Pillar 3: Build More Homes

A masterplan for the strategic land bank at Ballymastone, Donabate has been prepared.

The Land Management Plan for the Church Field site has been developed and will ensure the optimal layout, future sustainable development of the lands and a mixed tenure residential development with associated community facilities. A final briefing session was held with local Councillors on Thursday 5th July and the Council is now proceeding to design the first phase of the development, the road infrastructure and the green open space. It is envisaged that the Part 8 process for these projects will commence during Q4 2018. FCC meets regularly with DHPLG in relation to the development and funding of the Construction Programme including the development of this land bank.

Furthermore:

- It is anticipated that a national affordable housing scheme will be introduced by the DHPLG shortly.
- The Housing Director is participating in a project board to bring forward proposals for Major Urban Housing Delivery Sites.
- The Housing Department are available to meet with developers who are building across the county with a view to exploring opportunities to bring forward proposals to increase the supply of social housing.

Pillar 4: Improve the Rental Sector

The total number of Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) and Long-Term Lease (LTL) tenancies is 823, broken down as:

RAS:	674
LTL:	149

Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan

The new loan was launched on February 1st and offers three different loan products for people meeting the eligibility criteria. Several applicants have completed the process and four families are now residing in their own property, with another eleven to become owners in the next two weeks. Applications are continuing to be received (twelve per week), and there are continued telephone inquiries daily.

Borrowers are constantly informed that they need to meet the lending eligibility criteria, as well as pass the underwriting tests performed for Local Authorities by the Housing Agency. The final decision to advance the loan is made by the Credit Committee, which is set up under ministerial regulations.

Further details and application forms available on www.rebuildingirelandhomeloan.ie

Statistics on loan applications

Number of applications received to date	339
Number of applications approved to date	153
Number of applications declined	131
The value of the loans approved so far	€34 million
Sales completed to home ownership	4
% of Fingal applications in context of region	40%

Vacant Homes Strategy

FCC has submitted the Vacant Homes Action Plan to the DHPLG. The Vacant Homes Publicity Plan is ongoing and continues to be a reliable source of information for follow up by the vacant homes team. Information gathering and verification is ongoing in relation to properties located in Dublin 15, Balbriggan and Swords. Initial verification

work has also started on properties located in Rush and Lusk. Engagement and negotiation is continuing with a number of identified property owners, however progress in some cases is slow. To date we have signed contracts on three 20 year long term lease agreements for long term vacant properties. Repairs to the properties are underway prior to allocation. Agreement has been reached with the owners of two further property owners for a long term lease and FCC expect to sign contracts on these in the near future.

Pillar 5: Utilise Existing Housing

Voids

There were 42 casual voids within social housing stock as of the end of August 2018. Of these dwellings, twelve are complete and are being offered for letting. Work is underway on 17 dwellings and the balance are with the County Architect for the procurement of pre-let repairs.

Windows and Doors / Cyclical Maintenance

The Windows and Doors Programme continues in the Dromheath and Sheepmore estates in Dublin 15.

The Cyclical Maintenance Programme 2018 is progressing in the Whitestown Estate with Contractors to move into the Sheephill Estate in the coming weeks.

Housing Support

Housing List Positions

Applicants can expect to receive details of their list positions within the coming weeks.

COMMUNITY, CULTURE & SPORTS

COMMUNITY

Balbriggan features on RTE 1 television

John Creedon's 'Road Less Travelled programme' aired on RTE 1 television on Sunday, 5th August 2018 and featured the Balbriggan Taste of Nations Event which was run as part of the Balbriggan Summerfest. The Taste of Nations initiative was developed and funded by the Fingal Community Development Office and saw a host of nationalities in Balbriggan showcase their national dishes to the wider community in the town. The enthusiasm of the participants, coupled with the good weather, made a very memorable event that showed integration in Balbriggan in a very positive light.



Meakstown Community Council Family Fun Day

Meakstown Community Council held their 4th Family Fun Day on the 11th of August 2018. The Deputy Mayor Cllr. Grainne McGuire attended the event in Lanesborough Park and expressed FCC's commitment to supporting Meakstown Community Council by funding the event again. She was delighted to be representing the Mayor and stated that it was a wonderful opportunity to see such a large range of activities for both adults and children to take part in.

One of the highlights of the day was the Tug-of-War between members of FCC, An Garda Síochána, First Responders and the Fire Brigade against the local volunteers. After a number of

attempts, the contest was deemed a draw. Great fun was had by all!



Selected images from the Meakstown Community Council 4th Family Fun Day

Community Integration Advisory Council

FCC, with support from the Public Participation Network and Fingal Ethnic Network, has established a Community Integration Advisory Council (CIAC) to assist the Council in the development of the Integration and Social Cohesion Strategy.

Four public meetings, publicised through the PPN, took place in Tyrrelstown Community Centre, Flemington Community Centre in Balbriggan, Blanchardstown Library and County Hall, Swords. The first meeting of the CIAC took place on Tuesday 21st August 2018. The second meeting will be a facilitated session and will take place on the week commencing 24th September 2018. It is hoped to expand the membership in the coming months. Twenty eight expressions of interest were received.

ARTS OFFICE

Autumn Sounds Concert 2018

The Autumn Sounds Concert 2018 takes place at the Ballroom in Farmleigh, Phoenix Park on 14th & 21st September, bringing together a team of international performers led by well-known Fingal-based classical music group Duo Chagall. This is the eighth year that the group have directed Autumn Sounds in Farmleigh which has been sponsored and developed with support from Fingal County Council. The organisers are dedicating this year's edition to early-20th century composer Claude Debussy to mark the centenary of his death. Violinist Gillian Williams, the series' co-Director, said: *'We have invited some superb musicians this year. As a native of Fingal, I think it is really something that we are now in a position to bring someone like Sivan Magen (21/09) to be our partner at the Ballroom. Obviously our long-term relationship with Fingal Arts and The Office of Public Works has been critical to the events successes.'*



Resort Revelations

A public art residency and event programme will begin this month. Sculpture, writing, painting and photography will all be showcased at Lynders Mobile Home Park and in the Cabinet of Curiosities room at Newbridge House & Farm. A limited edition deck of playing cards featuring work by artist Bennie Reilly will be available free of charge to all visitors to the exhibition which will

take place from the 7th – 15th September 2018. Writing, painting and drawing workshop with this years featured artists are available to the public also.

Loughshinny Boathouse: Artists studio

FCC has announced the Loughshinny Boathouse Artists' Studio Open Call. The recently restored former boathouse offers a unique and fully subsidized workspace for professional artists. The objective of the studio is to provide a working space for professional artists across all art disciplines to develop their artistic practice within the rural context of Fingal.

The studio which is non-residential, fully subsidized, and equipped with a sink and storage units, is available for three months to one year from October 2018. A deposit of €100 is required, which is refundable. **Application deadline is 4pm Friday 28th September.**



Fingal County Council Studio Award 2018

The Royal Hibernian Academy (RHA), in partnership with Fingal Arts, is offering a funded studio space for a professional artist for the period of one year, commencing in December 2018. The award offers an artist the opportunity to develop their practice within the institutional framework of the RHA and covers the cost of studio rental and administration. The award is open to professionals at all stages, practising in visual art. However to be eligible, applicants must have been born, have studied, or currently reside in the Fingal administrative area.



The selection panel is Colin Martin, RHA School Principal; Val Connor, Lecturer and Curator; and Sarah O'Neill, Deputy Arts Officer. **The deadline for applications is 5pm on 28th September 2018.** Applications are only available online via the RHA website: www.rhagallery.ie.

Room 13 Inquiry

This summer saw the first iteration of 'Room 13 Summer Art School' for young people wishing to pursue their interest in art outside school time. The programme provides young people with access to a diverse range of art experiences, inside and outside of formal education settings, during the important years of self-development. The project brought artists and young people aged 10-12 years together to explore materials and techniques employed by artists to explore themes and processes of making.

The group reconnected with the *More than Bricks & Mortar* exhibition at Draíocht, which was curated by them during their last term of school. They also visited the RHA to see the 188th Annual Exhibition - Ireland's largest exhibition of visual art, which includes artwork in paint, print, drawing, sculpture, photography and architecture. The project ended with a celebration in Draíocht with parents and siblings coming along to view the rich creative outcomes, and hear stories of the explorations and friendships made.



Participants of Room 13 Summer Art School immersed in art at the RHA, August 2018.

Fingal Creative Ireland Programme

The national launch of the Local Authority Culture and Creativity Strategies 2018-2022 will take place on Wednesday 12th September 2018 in the Irish Architectural Archive, Dublin 2. It is planned to launch the Fingal strategy in October/November.

SPORTS OFFICE

Fingal Festival of Football

Approximately 500 girls participated in the Fingal Festival of Football on August 18th, which took place in the AUL Complex, Clonshaugh, organised by the Sports Office in partnership with the FAI. This is the 18th year of the tournament, which has become a female only event in recent years to promote girls' football. Cllr. Jimmy Guerin deputised for the Mayor and presented medals to the participants.



MarathonKids Programme

The MarathonKids programme, which sees 6th class students run a marathon over 8 weeks, recommences on September 10th. Run as a partnership between the Sports Office, the FCC Events Office and MarathonKids, the programme will see 2,508 children from 33 Fingal Schools take part.



Older Adult Programmes

As part of our commitment to providing physical activity opportunities to older adults, the Sports Office have held a Nordic Walking Programme in Rush and the annual Fingal & East Meath Pitch & Putt League over the last three months. Our older adult aqua aerobics programmes in Sportslink, PSLC and the National Aquatic Centre will be starting soon and are always fully booked.



Update on proposed Multi-Purpose Recreational Facility for the North of the County:

The needs assessment for a multi-purpose sports facility, possibly including a swimming pool for the north of the County, has commenced and is being carried out by the Community, Culture & Sports Division in two phases.

The objective of Phase 1 is to establish base-line data, by carrying out a mapping exercise including an audit of existing facilities (sports, community etc., public and private) and a gap analysis in the Swords/Balbriggan Electoral Area, which will be robust, evidence based and future proofed.

Phase 2 will entail a feasibility study that will assess funding opportunities, profitability, future business growth, operational models and all other aspects of a facility feasibility study.

A market soundings exercise has been carried out with two companies. This process has been beneficial in determining matters to be covered in the tender process such as future proofing any

strategic decisions based on population demographics, the need to examine the quality and condition of existing premises (facility health check), as well as usage profile, business and operating models, the range of sports/leisure activities to be provided and the impact of displacement from existing facilities.

This is a significant piece of work and the next step is to prepare the tender documentation for Phase 1. It is anticipated that work on the gap analysis will commence in 2019 and will include a public consultation process.

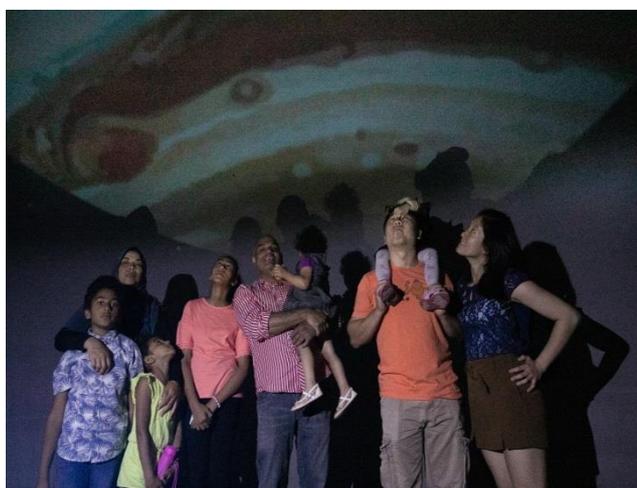
LIBRARIES

STEM events attract 1,800 to Blanchardstown Library

More than 1,800 people passed through the doors of Blanchardstown Library on Saturday 21st July as the highly anticipated STEMfest got underway. Highlighting science, technology, engineering, and maths, the day-long celebration encompassed eight different events on a variety of topics.

Events kicked off at 11am but there was a buzz about the Library from the moment the doors opened as facilitators arrived to set-up. In particular, the Big Bear Planetarium drew interest as the giant tent was inflated just inside the library door. The Academy of Code led four sessions of 'Break the Code' workshops, as well as a 'Taste of Code' drop in session. Participants in the E2 Young Engineers' Lego Workshop got a hands-on lesson on Centrifugal Force, when they built their very own miniature washing machine drums. The Sarah May Rogers Band provided a soundtrack of bluegrass and traditional music for the event in the afternoon, and following the arrival of the Mobile Library, Reuben the Entertainer drew a large crowd out into the sunshine for his magic show.

One of the highlights of the day was Fingal's *First Flight Competition*, an exciting venture between Fingal Libraries and the Irish Air Corps. More than thirty excited would-be pilots lined up along the makeshift runway in the reference section, as members of the Irish Air Corps spoke about flying, and aerodynamics, before demonstrating the best techniques for making paper aircraft. A short test-flight and some adjustments later, and the competition was on! There was great excitement as the flight paths were measured and the ecstatic winners of the event were notified of their prize – a VIP tour of Casement Aerodrome.



Enjoying the Big Bear Planetarium at Blanchardstown Library

E-Services pass the 10,000 monthly use milestone!

E-Services in libraries passed the 10,000 monthly use milestone in July of this year. Usage of the services which includes e-books, magazines, newspapers and comics, all available free of charge, has grown steadily over the last few months. This has been aided by hands-on information sessions delivered by the dedicated e-services team.

E- Services Statistics July 2018	
E-newspapers	4728
Proquest (newspaper article database)	359
E-books	2094
Audio books	1686
Comics Plus	27
E-magazines	2381
E-learning courses	167
TOTAL	11442

The Write Time Writing Festival: Sep 2018

A photocall with the Mayor of Fingal Cllr. Anthony Lavin took place at Baldoyle Library on Monday 27th August to launch the third annual Write Time Festival, organised by Fingal Libraries. The festival celebrates the written and spoken word in the County and will see library branches host free workshops and talks throughout the month of September. Some of the names taking part include: author, facilitator and mentor Fiona O'Rourke; travel writer and documentary-maker Manchán Magan; actor, writer and director Diarmuid de Faoite; screenwriter Lindsay Jane Sedgwick and crime writer Catherine Ryan Howard. Admission is free to all events, but booking is essential. See fingal.ie/libraries/ or Facebook page: @FingalLibraries.



Fingal Festival of History: 22nd – 29th September

The Mayor of Fingal, Cllr. Anthony Lavin, also launched the second annual Fingal Festival of History at Swords Castle on Monday 3rd September. The week of talks and events, organised by Fingal libraries, takes place from Saturday 22nd – Saturday 29th September.

This year's programme features *History at the Castle: Ireland 100 years ago* – a day of talks on Saturday 29th September in Swords Castle. Talks and events will also take place in library branches.

Festival talks include Dónal Fallon's *1918: The Year Everything Changed* – an exploration of a decisive point in the Irish revolutionary period.

This year, Fingal commemorates the centenary of the death of Richard Coleman. Cathal Boland will look at his life and legacy in his talk *Richard Coleman, Family, Neighbours and Comrades*.

2018 is also the centenary of the Representation of the People Act when (some) women obtained the right to vote. In her talk, *The Hammer and the Pen: the first wave Irish feminism*, Catriona Crowe explores the development of first wave Irish feminism.

Conor Kostick looks at *The Conscription Crisis of 1918*, and in her talk, *Ireland and India: the Infection of Example*, Dr. Kate O'Malley explores the comparisons and connections that influenced revolutionary activists in Ireland and India.

Cathal Dowd Smith's talk, *Frances, Fingal and Female Enfranchisement*, looks at the life of Frances Power-Cobbe of Newbridge House, Donabate. Philip Lecane, speaks about The Sinking of the RMS Leinster in October 1918.

FCC's Architectural Conservation Officer, Helena Bergin, examines the work of renowned Irish stained glass artist Harry Clarke which can be seen in churches throughout Fingal.

For the full festival programme, please contact your local library branch or see Fingal Libraries website: fingal.ie/libraries/ or Facebook page: @FingalLibraries

Admission is free to all talks. Please book your place by e-mailing Library.Events@fingal.ie

'Libraries Lead with Digital' project in association with Google

As digital technology becomes a ubiquitous part of our everyday life, it is essential to prepare Europeans to understand how to navigate the digital world, as well as how to be successful in the 21st century job market. The 'Libraries Lead with Digital' project aims to partner Google and public libraries across the UK and Ireland to create usable toolkits in the areas of online safety, digital skills and computer science and to allow for the roll out of these skills to the general public. The project kicked off with an on-boarding meeting in the Google Academy in London on the 23rd July, when the UK and Irish public library partners, including Fingal Libraries, met to discuss the project. The initial phase of this project in Fingal will focus on staff capacity building using coding toolkits, provided by Google, with assistance from professional coders. The output will be a "how-to" guides for other library professionals across Europe.

Culture Night at Blanchardstown and Swords Libraries: 21st September 2018

Culture Night at Blanchardstown Library will start with a presentation of medals for the Summer Stars reading programme, followed by Reuben the Entertainer's comedy magic. The *Blanchardstown Brass Band* and traditional band *Strings and Things* will perform from 8pm.

Swords Library will also have a 'Summer Stars' presentation, a 'Wicklow Willow' workshop and from 7.30pm, a performance by the Fingal Youth Choir.

Malahide Library makes the cut!

There was great excitement around Malahide on the evening of Tuesday August 7th as the Library became a police station for the filming of the movie "4kids and it" based on a book by well-known children's writer Jacqueline Wilson.



Europe Direct meeting and events

In July 2018, Blanchardstown Library was represented at a cross-border Europe Direct Information Centre meeting in Lithuania. Highlights included a visit to the European Commission Representation in Lithuania's offices in Vilnius and a presentation by Arnoldas Pranckevičius, Head of the European Commission Representation. Mr V. Kviklys, Team Leader of Communication, Partnerships and Networks presented on how the Commission engages with the public and provided, as an inspiring example, their participation in annual Democracy Festivals in the Nordic-Baltic Region: <http://democracyfestivals.org/>.

Storyteller, actor and broadcaster, Nuala Hayes will facilitate a trans-generational project for European Year of Cultural Heritage in September. The aim of the project will be to share the heritage of the past and present between generations through stories, songs, rhymes, and games.

On the 25th September, to celebrate the European Day of Languages, two French language introductory workshops with facilitator Sabine Maher will be held in Blanchardstown Library with local primary school pupils.

Summer Stars Reading Programme

Lots of children's events took place in Fingal Libraries during the summer months, as part of the Summer Stars Reading Programme.



Alan Nolan, writer and illustrator, engaging with children at Donabate Library

Harry Potter day at Blanchardstown Library

The Library held its second annual Harry Potter celebration, 'Bewitching Blanchardstown', on 13th August. The day started with Arts and Crafts for 4 – 7 year olds. In the afternoon 40 7 – 12 year olds descended on the library for the main event, which included a table quiz and some Quidditch! This was followed by a performance by Martin the Magician and a *Daily Prophet*-inspired journalism workshop. The day ended with a fascinating visit from Dave's Jungle, featuring snakes, a tarantula, a snapping turtle, and many more animals besides.

And Finally.....

- The annual Teddy Bear Sleep Over at Balbriggan Library on 7th August as part of the Summer Stars Reading Programme saw lots of teddies spend a night away from their owners!
- A six week computer class for beginners with a local tutor will commence on Sat 1st September at Baldoyle Library.
- A painting class for adults takes place at Rush Library on Thursday 20th September from 10.30am to 12.30 pm.
- The 'Summer Stars' Reading Programme at Skerries Library was a huge success this year with 150 participants, increasing from an average of 45 in previous years.

- The Garristown Library adult book club will start their meetings again in September and will meet on the second Monday of each month.
- 'The Longline Fishermen of Howth': a talk by Kevin Rickard about traditional fishing in Howth, and the general maritime history of the area, will take place on Wednesday 12th of September at 6.30pm at Howth Library.

ENVIRONMENT & WATER SERVICES (EWS)

Contents

Environment

Climate Change Awareness
Refurbishment of Bottle Banks
Cleaner Communities
Reusable Cup Campaign
River Basin Management Plans

Balleally Landfill Projects
Litter Management

Water Services
Operations

ENVIRONMENT

Climate Change Awareness:

The Tenant Induction Programme has been revised to include information on climate change. A climate change category has been added to the annual Cleaner Communities competition.

Refurbishment of Bottle Banks

The refurbishment of 97 bottle banks, all within the Fingal area, was completed in July.



Before and after photos of Rivervalley Bottle Bank

Cleaner Communities

79 applications were received for the 2018 Cleaner Communities competition, of which 35 were submitted online. Judging of these applications took place in July and the awards ceremony will take place on September 19th in the Grand Hotel, Malahide.



Pictured from left: George Mongey, Noel Cosgrave, Saida Khmera, CE of Fingal Paul Reid, Sandra Sweetman, Eric Duffy, Mayor of Fingal, Mary McCamley, Matt Cullen, Teresa Cosgrave, Ken Duffy, Dymphna Cassidy, Georgy Hughes and James Walls.

Reusable Cup Campaign running in Cinemas

FCC, DCC and South Dublin County Council have launched a campaign to encourage people to 'choose to reuse', with an advert in all Fingal cinemas from Friday, June 29th. The campaign, entitled, "Don't be Dick", highlights the severe problems caused by disposable coffee cups. Globally, it is estimated that 500 billion disposable tea and coffee cups are discarded to landfill or incineration every year. These cups are almost impossible to recycle due to the combination of plastic and paper in their design. It is estimated that, in Ireland, we dispose of over 200 million of these non-recyclable cups annually.



River Basin Management Plans

A specialist team, the Local Authority Waters Science and Advice Team, is now in place and an introductory meeting took place with Fingal's water protection team on 19th July. This team of scientists/specialist advisors have commenced an analysis of water quality data and will recommend specific measures within the three recommended areas of action agreed under the River Basin Management Plan.

The Local Authority Water Communities Office is currently considering applications for funding for catchment improvement projects. Applications have been received from community groups and LEADER funding will also be available for agri-training programmes/workshops.

Balleally Landfill - Surface Water Project

Dancor Civil Engineering Ltd. has won the construction tender competition to complete a surface water project at the former Balleally Landfill site in Lusk, soon to be opened as Rogerstown Park. The project, which will commence on 10th September with a planned duration of 5.5 months, will also provide around 90 car parking spaces for the proposed public park. The project will solve a severe and recurring flooding issue at the entrance to the site and is a precursor to a "soft" opening of Rogerstown Park, due to occur in the early spring of 2019.

Litter Management

A total of 125 fines were issued in August. Of these, 77 were issued in the Balbriggan/Swords Electoral Area with two in Howth/Malahide and 46 in Castleknock/Mulhuddart. In the year to date, a total of 619 fines have been issued, 122 for general littering offences, 415 for CCTV related offences, 55 for advertising offences and six for dog fouling offences. The remainder were for various offences set out in the Litter Pollution Acts. 58 Warning Notices were issued in August.

WATER SERVICES

Operations

Water and Drainage Services continue to be provided as agreed in the Service Level Agreement with Irish Water.

CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNANCE (CAG)

Contents

Presidential Candidates visit
Chambers Ireland Awards
Benefacts.ie launch

NOAC Survey
Smart Dublin SBIR Update

CORPORATE AFFAIRS

Presidential hopefuls to address Council

A number of potential Presidential candidates will address the elected members on the 10th September in the hope of receiving a nomination to participate in the Presidential election on November 26th. Candidates must receive a nomination from four local authorities or else 20 members of the Oireachtas.

Seven Fingal projects shortlisted for Chambers Ireland Awards

Seven FCC projects have been shortlisted in the 15th annual Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards. The awards, which are sponsored by DHPLG, are held to recognise and celebrate the outstanding work carried out by local authorities all over Ireland.

The shortlisted entries were in the following categories:

- *Supporting Active Communities:* Fingal Kaleidoscope Intergenerational Project (seniors and four year olds).
- *Heritage and Built Environment:* The Conservations, Management and Promotion of Fingal County Council's Heritage Properties.
- *Health and Wellbeing:* Fingal Athletics League.
- *Supporting Tourism:* Fingal Tourism Development Office.
- *Enhancing the Urban Environment:* Rock Garden Park, Swords.
- *Disability Services Provision:* Rush Community Playground.

- *Festival of the Year:* Flavours of Fingal County Show.

The winners will be announced on November 22nd in the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Santry Demesne.

Benefacts.ie website launched in Council Chamber

The Minister of State for Agriculture and Rural Development, Sean Kyne, TD, visited the Council Chamber at County Hall, on July 25 to launch the new Benefacts.ie website at an event that was also attended by the Mayor.

Benefacts.ie is a free public website that provides the public with the most comprehensive and up-to-date information about Ireland's non-profit sector. It also provides information about non-profit organisations sources of income, including government funding.

With assistance from Fingal's Public Participation Network, Benefacts has been able to assimilate data from the County Register to provide more information about smaller, local non-profit organisations.

The Chief Executive of Benefacts, Patricia Quinn, explained that the decision to choose County Hall as the location for their launch was because Fingal County Council has been a leader in Open Data adoption and was a role model for Benefacts when they started building their own database from open data sources in 2015.

Fingal featured in NOAC Survey

FCC was one of ten local authorities featured in an Ipsos MRBI survey, commissioned by The National Oversight & Audit Commission (NOAC), to establish levels of satisfaction with experience of engaging with local authorities.

The survey involved a total of 1,030 interviews nationally with just over 100 interviews being conducted in Fingal with results being broken down county by county.

There was positive news for Fingal in the NOAC report which was published today, scoring in the top three in relation to overall satisfaction with a rating of 58%, well above the national average. The report is based on the Ipsos MRBI survey of the general public which was Fingal was one of ten local authorities included in the survey, which involved a total of 1030 interviews completed across the 10 areas - just over 100 were completed in Fingal.

FCC scored higher than the national average in a number of areas including:

- Overall Satisfaction (Fingal 58%, NA 53%)
- Makes a positive contribution to the quality of life (Fingal 72%, NA 59%)
- Playgrounds/Parks (Fingal 71%, NA 62%)
- Road Safety (Fingal 58%, NA 54%)

In other areas, particularly those where there are issues of national scale like the availability of affordable housing, Fingal's score was below the national average.

Similar to the Residential Satisfaction Survey carried out last year, the NOAC survey highlights the relationship between awareness and satisfaction with both surveys showing that in areas where there are low awareness scores, low satisfaction scores are also found.

The full report can be found on the NOAC website.

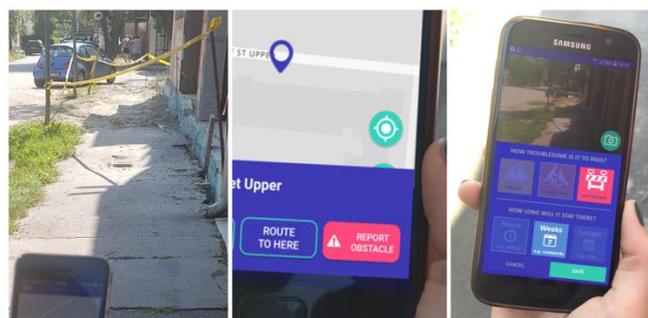
Smart Dublin SBIR Challenge Reports

FCC is currently taking part in three Smart Dublin Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) challenges: Wayfinding, Illegal Dumping and Unheard Voices.

Wayfinding –

Route4U are currently in phase two (prototype/development phase) of the SBIR Wayfinding Challenge, which was initiated by FCC and DCC - under the Smart Dublin initiative and in partnership with Enterprise Ireland - to find a way to improve accessibility for disabled people.

After a successful pilot programme in Swords and Dublin's Docklands, Route4U have launched their navigation app nationwide during the month of September. To coincide with the launch they have a one-month long obstacle-reporting campaign in partnership with the Disability Federation of Ireland and as part of the Make Way Day campaign. They are calling on citizens and communities to get involved, download the app (available on android and IOS devices) and report obstacles for wheelchair and pram users.



Reporting an obstacle on the Route4U app

Illegal Dumping –

Skytango are currently in phase two (prototype/development phase) of the SBIR 'Illegal Dumping' challenge. They have built a prototype litter detection system that uses artificial intelligence and drone imagery to identify rubbish and litter black spots. In the future the system may also support the following areas:

- Litter and Fly-Tipping
- Road Surface monitoring and inspection
- Hedgerow Monitoring and health
- River and coastal erosion
- Pollution and air monitoring

Their drone booking system supports compliance trials, ensuring that pilots are legally operating drones and that the images are legally acquired.

Unheard Voices

Fingal County Council's 'Unheard Voices' challenge is progressing into phase one. The aim of the challenge is to seek smart solutions to encourage engagement of the 'unheard voices' in decision-making about the future of their neighbourhood. The challenge is being led by the Council's Information Technology and PSI Departments in partnership with Smart Dublin, Cork City Council and Enterprise Ireland.

The banner features the title 'UNHEARD VOICES' in large blue letters, with the tagline 'SEEKING SMART, LOW COST SOLUTIONS...' below it. To the right is the 'SMART DUBLIN' logo. The central part of the banner is a collage of images showing people at an event. Text overlays on the collage include: 'CHALLENGE: ENCOURAGE ENGAGEMENT OF ALL COMMUNITIES IN DECISION MAKING', 'GET VIEWS OF UNDERREPRESENTED GROUPS', and 'TACKLE INEQUALITY'. At the bottom left, it says '€100,000 IN FUNDING AVAILABLE'. At the bottom right, it says 'APPLY HERE: WWW.SMARTDUBLIN.IE'. Logos for Enterprise Ireland, Fingal County Council, and DLR are also visible.

Unheard Voices Challenge

Companies awarded phase one funding will be announced on October 11th at the Smart Dublin SBIR Regional Launch which is being held in the Atrium of County Hall. There are five challenges that will be officially launched into phase one at this event:

- Last Mile Delivery (DCC, Belfast)
- Bathing Water Quality (DLR, Waterford)
- Unheard Voices (Fingal, Cork City Council)
- Internet of Things (DLR)
- Smart Mobility Hub (DCC)

The Chief Executive will open the event.

FINANCE

Contents

Financial Reports

Financial Reports

Refer to Appendix 1 for the following reports:-

- Revenue Account Income & expenditure to 31st August, 2018
- Capital Account Income & Expenditure to 31st August, 2018
- Summary of Corporate Debtors to 31st August, 2018

Appendix 1

Revenue Account Income & expenditure to 31st August 2018

REVENUE ACCOUNT INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION at 31st August 2018								
		EXPENDITURE			INCOME			NET
		Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent to date	Income €	Adopted Full year Budget €	% Budget Raised	€
A	Housing & Building	34,478,932	52,747,799	65%	35,403,676	52,526,599	67%	-924,744
B	Road Transport & Safety	15,179,833	21,661,799	70%	4,431,526	6,694,100	66%	10,748,307
C	Water Services	12,461,393	14,894,200	84%	9,792,114	18,586,300	53%	2,669,279
D	Development Management	8,228,055	12,878,600	64%	3,591,640	3,860,900	93%	4,636,415
E	Environmental Services	24,987,482	38,283,600	65%	2,827,306	4,129,600	68%	22,160,176
F	Recreation & Amenity	20,768,193	31,267,902	66%	1,230,465	1,247,100	99%	19,537,728
G	Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	491,507	880,400	56%	164,732	254,600	65%	326,776
H	Miscellaneous Services	6,827,372	10,207,300	67%	6,344,408	9,335,100	68%	482,964
J	Central Management Charge	24,631,959	44,447,999	55%	1,955,592	2,759,800	71%	22,676,367
LG	Local Property Tax / GPG				5,014,267	7,521,400	67%	-5,014,267
RA	Rates				80,236,267	120,354,400	67%	-80,236,267
		148,054,727	227,269,599	65%	150,991,992	227,269,899	66%	-2,937,265

Capital Account Income & Expenditure to 31st August, 2018

**CAPITAL ACCOUNT
INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION TO 31/08/2018**

	Balance at 01/01/2018	Expenditure YTD €	Income YTD €	Balance at 31/08/2018 €
A Housing & Building	-45,136,633	73,893,897	-44,812,757	-16,055,493
B Road Transport & Safety	9,240,778	24,202,359	-472,352	32,970,785
C Water Services	-11,626,869	1,702,489	-892,167	-10,816,547
Development				
D Management	-52,144,982	14,510,790	-21,006,216	-58,640,408
E Environmental Services	-14,037,274	3,856,652	-3,161,565	-13,342,187
F Recreation & Amenity	-9,850,846	3,786,433	-1,774,397	-7,838,810
H Miscellaneous Services	-34,409,446	791,614	1,415,178	-32,202,654
	-			
Total	157,965,272	122,744,233	-70,704,276	-105,925,315

Summary of Corporate Debtors to 31st August, 2018

SUMMARY OF CORPORATE DEBTORS TO 31/08/2018				
	Balance at 01/01/2018	Balance at 31/08/18	Current debt	> 1 Year
	€	€	€	€
RATES	6,562,335	34,045,868	29,510,114	4,535,754
LOANS	1,229,092	1,276,185	370,983	905,202
RENTS	3,407,366	4,004,705	2,386,965	1,617,740

Figures for rents and loans are unadjusted by credits/prepayments

