



Chief Executive's Management Report

Fingal County Council Meeting
Monday, December 10, 2018

Item No. 29

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S MANAGEMENT REPORT – DECEMBER 2018

Contents

Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development

Tourism Development (p. 2)

Events
Heritage Properties

Local Enterprise Office (p. 3)

Economic Development (p. 5)

Balbriggan Strategy
LEADER Programme
Local Community Development Committee
SICAP
Enterprise Centres
Enterprise Towns Awards

Operations (OPS) (p. 7)

Millennium Park
Special Works Programme
Howth/Malahide Operational Area
Fleet Management and Plant Hire Unit
Street Lighting
Bridge Rehabilitation
Traffic Management Schemes
Balbriggan/Swords Operational Area

Planning and Strategic Infrastructure (PSI) (p. 13)

Planning Applications
Planning Decisions
Building Control
Planning Enforcement
Aircraft Noise (Dublin Airport) Regulation Bill 2018
Preparation of Park Development Masterplan for Bremore Park
Playground and MUGA in Glebe Park, Balrothery
Balbriggan and Skerries Skateparks
Coastal Protection Measures, Portrane
Transboundary Environmental Public Consultation

Housing and Community (H+C)

Housing (p. 16)

Pillars I-V

Community (p. 20)

Arts (p. 21)
Sports (p. 21)
Libraries (p. 23)

Environment and Water Services (EWS)

Environment (p. 25)

Environmental Awareness
Waste Management
Litter Management
River Basin Management
Draft Climate Action Plan
Dog and Horses on Fingal's SAC/SPA beaches

Water Services (p. 26)

Operations

Corporate Affairs and Governance (CAG)

Corporate Affairs (p.27)

Bliain na Gaeilge
Policy Programme 2019
FCC Energy Policy

Finance (p.29)

Financial Reports

Appendices

ECONOMIC, ENTERPRISE AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT (EETD)

Contents	
Tourism Development Events Heritage Properties	Economic Development Balbriggan Socio-Economic Strategy LEADER Programme Local Community Development Committee Enterprise Centres Enterprise Towns Awards
Local Enterprise Office	

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

Advertising and Promotion

The following advertising has been put in place for 2019:

- Spirit of Ireland (American market)
- Fáilte Ireland Markets books (7 markets as identified by Visitor Survey 2018)
- Huan Ying Ireland – China and Hong Kong
- Ireland at Your Leisure (all car hire) 2019

New promotional material, including pull ups and banners, are now being prepared in line with the new Dublin brand "*Surprising by Nature*".

Food Projects

Following on the launch of the Fingal Agri-Food Strategy, the Fingal Tourism Development Office is developing a 'Local Food' Provenance Programme.

The first step in this programme is to compile a Fingal Food and Drink Producers' Directory (soft and hard copy) which will serve as an information guide & reference source of products and services for the food & drink producers and retailers in Fingal area.

To that end the Fingal Tourism Development Office is working with Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Fingal and James Burke (Dublin Food Chain) in preparing the directory.

FLAG

A number of FLAG funding applications are being prepared for submission in January.

EVENTS

Christmas Lights/Swords Christmas Market



The switching on of the Christmas lights took place in Balbriggan, Blanchardstown and Swords in November.

The Swords Castle Christmas Market also took place on 30th November & 1st December and was heavily attended.

Events Financial Scheme of Assistance

Fingal County Council's (FCC) Events Unit is pleased to announce that it is accepting applications for financial assistance for festivals and events taking place in 2019.

Applications will be accepted for existing and/or new events, or festivals, which animate public spaces in creative and innovative ways, and which are focused on developing measurable tourism impacts in the County.

For more information and an application form, please email events@fingal.ie or <http://www.fingal.ie/news-and-events/events/>

FCC also supported the following events in November:

- Marathonkids – which took place in Morton Stadium, Santry

- Baldoyle Christmas Craft Fair

HERITAGE PROPERTIES

Malahide Casino

Work on the rethatching has commenced and is expected to take 8 – 10 weeks.

The preparation of the tender documents for the appointment of an operator to the Museum will issue in early December.

Swords Castle

Works on the Phase II enabling works in Swords Castle are on-going and progressing well. It is expected that work will be completed by end of March 2019.

Skerries Martello Tower

A contractor has been appointed to carry out enabling works in Skerries Martello Tower. FCC is also commissioning a feasibility study for the Tower which will be out to tender before the end of the year.



Howth Court House

The tender documents received for the refurbishment of Howth Court House are currently being assessed by the Architects Department.

A recommendation to appoint the successful contractor will be issued in November with works expected to commence in early 2019.

LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE



Some of the Local Enterprise Office (LEO) highlights from November 2018 are as follows:

Recruitment and Retention Seminar

LEO Fingal hosted "Hire and Hold onto the Best Staff for Your Business", a breakfast seminar on best practice recruitment and retention policies for small businesses. The event took place in the Carlton Hotel, Dublin Airport on Wednesday 14th November with 80 companies in attendance.



Speakers at the LEO Fingal major breakfast seminar in the Carlton Hotel, Dublin Airport on Wednesday 14th November

Grant Evaluation and Approvals

The next Evaluation and Approvals Committee meeting will take place on December 5th. Seven applications, with a total value of €137,548, will be presented to the Committee for assessment. Total approved year to date is €710,550, of which €262,425 is repayable.

Fingal Enterprising Women Network (FEWN)

The FEWN provides learning and networking opportunities for women in business in the Fingal area. The annual Christmas Lunch will be held in Roganstown Hotel and Country Club on the 6th December 2018.



“Making it Happen”

A national advertising campaign is underway for the LEO network, themed “Making it Happen”. LEO Fingal client “WeBringg” features as part of this National campaign.



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 €74,670, to 36 Fingal companies, has been approved under this scheme in 2018. The last workshop of the year was held in the Riasc Centre, Swords on Friday 23rd November with 52 businesses in attendance. The next application deadline is December 7th.



Start Your Own Business Programme

A five week SYOB programme commenced in November bringing the total number of participants to 151 across 13 programmes this year.

Business Development Workshops

In November, ten business development workshops were delivered to 96 participants. In total, 526 clients have attended 53 workshops in 2018.

Business Clinics

Clinics are offered to individuals that wish to start up a new enterprise or expand their existing business. During November, ten clinics were provided, delivering expertise to 64 businesses in Fingal. This brings the cumulative figures for 2018 to date to 90 clinics and 616 attendees.

Mentoring

Individual mentoring assignments were approved for 15 new clients during November 2018. The total number of mentoring assignments approved in 2018 is 103.

Fingal Chamber Awards 2018

Local Enterprise Office Fingal was delighted to see both current and Former LEO clients receiving Fingal Chamber Business Excellence Awards.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Balbriggan Socio-Economic Strategy

'Our Balbriggan - Get Involved', the public engagement and consultation phase of the development of a Socio-Economic Strategy, launched on the evening of Monday 26th November. There was a great turnout for the event, including speaker Professor Brian MacCraith who is Chair of the Balbriggan Leadership Group and President of Dublin City University. The launch of 'Our Balbriggan' generated extensive national press, television and radio coverage throughout the day, with interviews across media right up to the launch of 'Our Balbriggan'.



The 'Our Balbriggan' website, Twitter, Instagram and Facebook platforms went live on the morning of the launch, and as of 30th November, the 'Our Balbriggan' video reached 23,000 views.

In the first 24hrs or so of the campaign 1,012 'Our Balbriggan' surveys were completed and this figure exceeded 3,000 by the 2nd December. In the same week 14 separate events took place leading to at least 2,000+ face to face engagements and hundreds of conversations locally.



An earlier announcement by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government

(DHPLG) selected Balbriggan as one of 88 successful bids from an initial 189 applications. Balbriggan was one of seven locations in the Easter & Midland Regional Assembly area who will divide a sum of €6,357,000.00 for Category B capacity building support for regeneration of the town.



For further details see www.balbriggan.ie including video and links to consultation survey

LEADER Programme



The Fingal LEADER Programme continues to fund eligible projects in the administrative areas of Fingal, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown (DLR) and South Dublin.

Year to date:

Five projects were approved at the last LAG meeting on the 21st November, giving a total 27 approvals in 2018. The geographical breakdown of projects approved is as follows:

Fingal	16 approvals
DLR	3 approvals
South Dublin	8 approvals

The total value of approved projects during 2018 amounted to €924,340.

In the LEADER Programme to date the LAG has approved 44 Projects, with 30 in Fingal, three in Dun Laoghaire Rathdown and eleven in South Dublin.

Total value of overall approved projects to date is € 1,354,727.05

Local Community Development Committee

At the Fingal Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) meeting on 21st November, 123 community based capital projects were approved for total funding of €477,189 under the Community Enhancement Programme (CEP). A total of 174 applications were received for the CEP, which is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development. The approved funding will contribute towards enhancing facilities available to communities in disadvantaged areas.



SICAP

The draft Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme Annual Plan 2019 was submitted to Pobal by Empower on 16th November 2018. The LCDC met on 21st November and agreed the Key Performance Indicators and budgets for the Draft Plan. The emerging need action for 2019 will be 'Children in Homelessness' and the LCDC will be engaging with Pobal and Empower in the weeks ahead. The plan is to be approved formally by the LCDC in February.

Enterprise Centres

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

Drinan	97%
BASE	91%
Beat	88%

The three Enterprise Centres currently support 69 businesses and 342 jobs.

Enterprising Towns Awards

On 28th November the Bank of Ireland National Enterprise Town Awards were held in Kilkenny. Mulhuddart won the Bank of Ireland Enterprising Town Rising Star Award for the Dublin Region. The BASE Enterprise Centre supported their application and was one of the projects visited during the judging process.



The competition aims to promote enterprise by bringing business and community groups together in each town, and to showcase the spirit of enterprise in their local area. The competition is held in collaboration with local authorities.



Balbriggan Chamber of Commerce received the Bank of Ireland Regional Runner-Up Award for the Dublin Region

OPERATIONS

Contents

Millennium Park
Special Works Programme
Howth/Malahide Operational Area
Fleet Management and Plant Hire Unit

Street Lighting
Bridge Rehabilitation
Traffic Management Schemes
Balbriggan/Swords Operational Area

Millennium Park

Castleknock-Mulhuddart Operations staff worked with a local artist on a project in Millennium Park, Blanchardstown. The project involved the creation of a three dimensional representation of a tree spirit which was sculpted on a 100 year old beech stump in the park. The feedback from park users has been very positive and might lead to more depictions of mythical creatures along the woodland footpath in conjunction with the Arts Office.



The team also developed a calisthenics area in Millennium Park in response to the demand of park users. The new area was launched on 22nd November 2018. Calisthenics is a form of exercise that is growing in popularity, especially among young adults and this new area complements the current outdoor equipment available in the park.



Special Works Programme 2018

The Operations Department continue to work through the 2018 Special Works Programme. Footpaths repairs have been completed in Glenville, Coolmine and Clonsilla.



HOWTH MALAHIDE OPERATIONAL AREA

Sustainable Drinking Water Fountain

The second water foundation has been installed in Malahide Demesne by the Operations Department. This will allow all park users



and visitors to refill their water bottles.

Improvement Works to Kinsealy

Graffiti on the wall at Kinsealy Downs was removed and Operations Department enhanced the area with tree planting designed along the wall. The result is a softened visual development to the landscape and open space environment.



World Scout 'Moot' for Malahide

Ireland has been awarded the hosting of the The World Scout 'Moot' in 2021. This is a an international Scout jamboree for young people 18-25 years of age it will include a base camp experience, centred in Malahide Demesne.

Road Safety Roadshow

The annual Fingal / AXA Road Safety Event was held this year on 27th November in the Crowne Plaza, Blanchardstown. This event targets TY, 5th and 6th year students, and early school leavers, who may be currently intending to sit their Driving Test.

The show uses hard-hitting images, descriptions and live speakers from An Garda Síochána, the National Ambulance Service, Dublin Fire Brigade, surgeons, and families directly affected by fatal road traffic accidents. It leaves a lasting impression on the young people present, with a strong message relating to road safety.

There were over 700 students in attendance from across the county.



Pupils of Coláiste Ghlór na Mara, Balbriggan, with Mayor of Fingal Cllr. Anthony Lavin, Willie Sparks, AXA, and Niamh Russell, Fingal Co Council.

FLEET MANAGEMENT AND PLANT HIRE UNIT

Hires put in Place

There were 87 hires put in place from 1st November 2018 to 30th November 2018, engaging 24 suppliers.

Included in these were:

- The transport of three council vehicles from North County Depots to Saint Catherine's Park, Lucan.
- The hire of generators, festoon lighting, crowd control barriers, tower lights and a portaloos for the Christmas Food Fayre in Swords Castle.
- The hire of tower lights and crowd control barriers for the Balbriggan Christmas lights Switch-on.

Plant Hire Tenders Published on Supplygov.ie

There were 87 Tenders published for the drawdown of machinery in 2019 during October.

These tenders are in the process of evaluation and award.



Transport of Vehicles for "Winter Ready" Launch at Saint Catherine's Park, Lucan

Purchase of New Vehicles

Three new Fiat Ducato 3.5 ton litter collection trucks have been purchased by the FCC Operations Department.



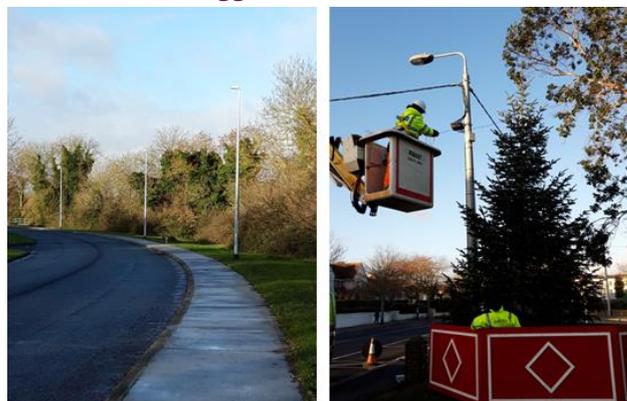
STREET LIGHTING

Works Programme

As part of the 2018 Works Programme, FCC have committed to the provision of street lighting on Damastown Walk in Dublin 15 and on to Ashleigh

House Therapeutic Centre. The final section was commissioned in November.

The street lighting section supply and erect Christmas lights for a number of trees throughout the county and take part in the switch-on events in Swords, Balbriggan and Blanchardstown.



Damastown Walk, Dublin 15 and the Malahide Christmas Tree

Column Replacement

In excess of 40 column and LED lantern replacement works were carried out in November in Shenick estate in Skerries.

LED Upgrade Programme

The LED Upgrade Program continued in November with 250 LED Upgrade works carried out in the following locations:-

- Auburn Avenue, Castleknock - 27 LED upgrades
- Laurel Lodge Distributor Road, Carpenterstown - 48 LED upgrades
- Hartstown Road/Huntstown Way, Clonsilla, 91 LED upgrades
- Chapel Street, Balbriggan - 5 LED upgrades
- Hazelwood, Donabate - 5 LED upgrades
- Somerton, Donabate - 7 LED upgrades
- Park Road, Rush - 22 LED upgrades
- Feltrim Road, Kinsealy - 8 LED upgrades
- Rathbeale Road, Swords - 37 LED upgrades

BRIDGE REHABILITATION

The consultants appointed to undertake the design for the rehabilitation of three bridges at Knightstown Road and Colecot in the north of the county, and at Calliaghwee in the south west,

have nearly completed the draft documents for the procurement of contractors. The FCC Procurement Unit is to advertise the competition in mid-January 2019.

Work is progressing on the following:

- Procurement of consultants to carry out Bridge Principal Inspections
- The identification of bridges for inclusion in 2019 Bridge Rehabilitation works.

Other bridge works

Ballyboughal Bridge: A new parapet wall was completed on 8th of November 2018.



Brook Bridge, Rush: A new wall was built by Operations but vandalised again (this is the third time it has been vandalised).



Naul Bridge: The Fingal side of the bridge has been repaired & made safe. Meath County Council will complete repairs on their side of Border.



TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEMES

Speed Limit Review

The 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.

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 are currently ongoing throughout the County.

Materials are currently on order for Carrickhill Road and Holywell/Airside.

2018 Signals Contract

Clonmel Enterprises are working on the 2018 Signals Contract, with considerable progress achieved to date. All civil works are complete on the eight sites with only line-marking outstanding (due to current weather conditions) and three sites awaiting ESB connection. Anti-skid works on Portrane Road will not be complete until January.

2018 Traffic Lining Contract

MacLochainn was awarded the contract and works commenced in September in the Castleknock/Mudhuddart Area. Work is ongoing in the Howth/Malahide and Swords/Balbriggan

areas and will continue in the coming weeks, weather permitting.



A new Yellow Box installed on the Porterstown Road

30kph signage

Delivery of 30kph signage has been made to the depots and will be installed by the depot crews.

2018 VAS Signage Contract

PWS was awarded the contract for the installation of 37 VAS signs in early September, and the locations of the signs have been marked out on the ground. 32 signs have been installed and are operational, with five remaining signs to be installed. These will be installed before Christmas.



2018 Footpath Contract

The 2018 Footpath Contract is being carried out by the Water Services direct labour crew. This contract includes the improvement of school warden crossings, the dishing of footpaths and minor realignment of some footpaths. The works in the Howth/Malahide area are now complete

and work is now ongoing in the Castleknock/Mulhuddart Area, with Swords/Balbriggan to follow.

2018 Ramps Contract

Submissions on the ramps were presented to the Area Committee Meeting in September, following public display over the summer. The tender process is underway and the contract is on SupplyGov. The tender has been awarded to MCM Sufacings and they are currently submitting their traffic management plans and other necessary documentation.

BALBRIGGAN/ SWORDS OPERATIONAL AREA



Westbrook/Naul Road landscape

improvement works These were completed following consultation with Balbriggan Tidy Towns Committee.

Commemorative Oak Walk in Ardgillan

Ten trees were planted by Transition year students on placement in Ardgillan Demesne to commemorate, in a public place, loved ones that have passed away.



Footpath improvement works were recently completed in Santry Demesne.



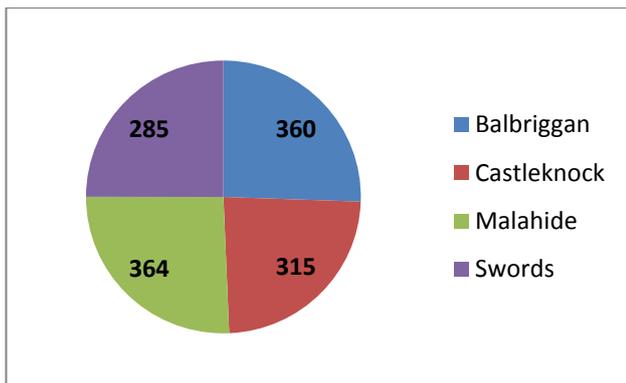
PLANNING AND STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE (PSI)

Contents	
Planning Applications	Playground and MUGA in Glebe Park, Balrothery
Planning Decisions	Balbriggan and Skerries Skateparks
Building Control	Coastal Protection Measures, Portrane
Planning Enforcement	Transboundary Environmental Public Consultation
Aircraft Noise (Dublin Airport) Regulation Bill 2018	
Preparation of Park Development Masterplan for Bremoore Park	

PLANNING ACTIVITY

Planning Applications

There have been 1,324 planning applications received to the end of November 2018, 121 of which were invalid, leaving a total of 1,203 valid applications. The volume of applications received by area is illustrated below:



Planning Decisions

A total of 1,101 planning decisions have been made to the end of November 2018. There have been 995 decisions to grant permission (90.3%) and 106 refusals of permission (9.7%). 122 grants have been for single house construction, 516 for domestic extensions, 274 commercial/retail developments and 42 grants of permission in respect of housing developments - 4 of development in excess of 100 or more housing units and 24 developments of 2-20 housing units.

Building Control

There have been 155 Disability Access Certificates submitted to the end of November 2018. Of these, 118 were granted, one was invalidated and nine are currently on time extension. 216 Fire Safety Certificates have been submitted to the end of November 2018 and of these, 152 were granted, 4 were invalidated and 33 are currently on time extension.

Planning Enforcement:

To the end of October 2018, 257 warning letters and 38 Enforcement Notices were issued with the majority of cases resolved by dialogue. In the main, matters can be resolved by way of dialogue, warning letter and enforcement notice. It was necessary to advance further legal proceedings in 14 cases in this period, seven of which have reached decision in court, or agreed outcome in advance of the court date, with 7 with more cases at varying stages in the system.

Aircraft Noise (Dublin Airport) Regulation Bill 2018

The Aircraft Noise (Dublin Airport) Regulation Bill 2018 was published on 29th November 2018. A copy of the Bill can be found on the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport website www.dttas.ie. The Bill provides for an Act for the purposes of giving further effect to the Aircraft Noise Regulation in so far as it relates to Dublin Airport and to make additional provision for the regulation of aircraft noise at Dublin Airport; for those purposes, to amend the Planning and Development Act 2000 to cater for the situation

where development at Dublin Airport may give rise to an aircraft noise problem; and to provide for related matters.

The Bill will now proceed to the stages of passage through the Houses of the Oireachtas.

Preparation of Park Development Masterplan for Bremore Park

The Parks & Green Infrastructure Division have published a tender for design team consultants to develop a Park Development Masterplan for Bremore Park, Balbriggan. The primary objective of the project is to develop a 20 year Park Development Masterplan and to use positive community engagement to deliver a sustainable vision for Bremore Park, in the face of population growth and increasing levels of community participation in active leisure.

Playground and Multi Use Games Arena in Glebe Park, Balrothery

Construction Works are well underway on this Parks & Green Infrastructure Division led project. The playground has been designed as a destination facility for families with a strong emphasis on natural play opportunities. A key element of the project brief was that the design of the playground reflected the rich local heritage of the area. The striking, central knight themed sculpture draws on the tradition that Balrothery derives its name from Baile na Ridire, 'Town of the Knight'. Further, the multi-use games arena has been designed as a modern, fit for purpose facility to cater for 5-side football, basketball and general training activity.



Balbriggan and Skerries Skateparks

Construction Works have commenced, starting with Skerries, as soil analysis revealed it to be the wetter of the two sites

Both facilities are designed for families and spectators to appreciate, in addition to users, and will cater for a wide age-range and level of experience. Community engagement has been a hallmark of the project. Before tendering for the project, the council undertook a series of design workshops with stakeholders in order to determine their requirements. It is anticipated that the skateparks will be completed and available for use within the first half of 2019.



Coastal Protection Measures, Portrane

In mid-November, works were completed on temporary emergency coastal protection measures at The Burrow Beach, Portrane. The measures were designed by specialist consultants and procured by FCC. The measures include the installation of 370 "SeaBees", reinforced concrete units, along the beach in Portrane above the Mean High Water Level. The "SeaBees" are designed to reduce the force of waves impacting the coastline during stormy conditions. Three lines of "SeaBee" units were placed along a 270-metre stretch of beach and in front of the most vulnerable sections of sand dunes. The five-tonne reinforced concrete blocks, which are approximately 1.4 metres high and 1.7 metres wide, were filled with stone to prevent movement and for public safety reasons. Members of the Fingal Coastal Liaison Group, comprising local Councillors and members of communities affected by coastal erosion, have been briefed on

an on-going basis by FCC about the project and they are fully supportive of these interim measures.

The preparation of the consultants brief for long term proposals for the Burrow is now progressing and this consultancy work will be commissioned in the near future. FCC has had extensive engagement with, and assistance from, the Office of Public Works (OPW) and the National Parks & Wildlife Service in relation to the Emergency Measures. Funding for these measures is being provided by the OPW under the Minor Works Grant Scheme.

The installation of the SeaBees at the Burrow Beach Portrane is now complete, and effectiveness of these temporary emergency measures will be kept under review. The Coastal Liaison Group will be briefed in relation to the programme to develop a longer term approach to erosion on the peninsula.”



Transboundary Environmental Public Consultation

In accordance with the provisions of the 1991 United Nations Convention on environmental impact in a transboundary context (the Espoo Convention) and the EU Directive 2011/92/EU on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment (the EIA Directive), the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government has received notice from the UK’s Planning Inspectorate (PINS) in relation to the development consent application (planning application) by Horizon Nuclear Power for the

proposed Wylfa Newydd Nuclear Power Plant, in Anglesey, North Wales, United Kingdom. The proposed development principally comprises a proposed new nuclear electricity generating station on the north coast of Anglesey, North Wales with a projected electrical output of approximately 3.1 gigawatts.

The proposed development is subject to an environmental impact assessment procedure and the UK’s PINS has identified that the proposed development has potential transboundary effects on the environment in Ireland. Accordingly, the UK’s PINS has invited Ireland to undertake a transboundary consultation in respect of environmental information relating to the proposed development. The UK’s PINS is currently examining the development consent application for the proposed development and will submit a report on the application, including a recommendation to grant or refuse development consent, to the UK’s Secretary of State for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy, who will make the decision on whether to grant or refuse development consent.

Members of the public may make a written submission or observation to the Council in relation to the potential transboundary environmental effects of the project. Information on the consultation and contact details are displayed on the Council website and a notice has been published in a local newspaper.

Submissions or observations should be submitted by close of business on Friday 25th January 2019.

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY (H&C)

Housing Pillars I-V	Community Arts Sports Libraries
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HOUSING STRATEGY 2020/REBUILDING IRELAND

The Council delivered 3,823 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

FCC is currently in contact with circa 588 families who are in homeless circumstances or at risk of homelessness.

360 families have had their homeless circumstances alleviated in 2018 to the end of November (including 250 Homeless HAP tenancies), with further tenancy arrangements to conclude shortly through the various forms of social housing support.

Tenancy support is provided through supports such as SLI (Support to Live Independently) and varying other supports to ensure new tenancies are sustained. 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

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

In addition, 789 mainstream HAP tenancies have been put in place in 2018 to the end of November.

A total of 1,272 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 progress of the construction programme is set out below.

	No. Schemes	No. Units
Delivered to Date	6	143
Contractor on Site/Appointed	10	169
Tender Stage	3	97
Pre-Planning Approval	12	479
Total Construction	25	745

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

Acquisitions Programme

Delivered to Date: 408 (115 properties closed in 2018)

Pending Sales Closing: 59

Enhanced Long Term Social Housing Leasing Scheme

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

- It targets newly built or yet to be built houses and apartments for leasing;
- Property developers and investors, who are in a position to deliver housing at a reasonable scale, are targeted; and
- It provides 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 Fingal, the developers chose not to proceed. On 3rd August, the Housing Agency issued a second call for proposals which closed 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* 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 and early on-site delivery of units is the approach taken by FCC in Part V negotiations with developers.

Reports on Part V agreements are provided quarterly to the Area Committees. A total of 150 Part V housing units have been delivered over the period of the strategy to date.

Approved Housing Bodies

FCC continues to work closely with Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs) who 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

Preparatory work is ongoing in relation to the Traveller Accommodation Plan and the Annual count of Traveller families will be completed shortly.

Collinstown Park:

FCC agreed in the High Court on Wednesday 10th October to an Order quashing the decision on 9th July to grant planning permission for traveller accommodation at Coolquay.

The proposed site at Coolquay was identified as the new home for the residents of a Halting Site at Collinstown, which is being vacated because of the Dublin Airport Authority's plans to build the new North runway. Following this Order, the Council will reconsider all options and remains committed to relocating the Collinstown residents. This process is ongoing.

Pillar 3: Build More Homes

Ballymastone, Donabate

The development of the strategic land bank at Ballymastone, Donabate is focused on delivering a successful and sustainable community through the provision of a mixed tenure residential development and physical and social infrastructure, as well as improving connections between the new and existing communities. The tender process commenced in October 2018 with a contract award anticipated before year end 2019. The development must meet the requirements of urban design and phasing as set out in the Donabate LAP 2016 – 2022, and supporting infrastructure must be delivered. Information sessions for Councillors are ongoing as the project progresses.

Church Fields, Dublin 15

The Land Management Plan for the Church Field lands has been developed. It provides the optimal layout for future sustainable development of the

lands. It provides for a mixed tenure residential development with associated community facilities. Approaches to housing delivery on the strategic land bank are being examined, with the Project Talamh Programme Office conducting economic and financial modelling and analysis. In the meantime, an initial phase of the housing development of Church Fields was presented to the local Councillors on 4th October and is now proceeding to a Part 8 process. A submission has been made for funding under the Serviced Sites Fund and this will enable the delivery of key road and green infrastructure to facilitate the development of the site.

Serviced Sites Fund

The Serviced Sites Fund provides for enabling infrastructure to facilitate the delivery of affordable homes on local authority and Housing Agency sites. FCC submitted proposals totalling €18.25m under the fund and these will enable the delivery of social, affordable purchase and affordable rental homes at scale on four strategically located sites in the county;

- Church Fields
- Dun Emer, Lusk
- Hackettstown, Skerries
- Cappagh, Dublin 11

Land Development Agency

The recently established Land Development Agency (LDA) has identified two land banks in Fingal which it proposes to focus on immediately in order to unlock their potential combined yield of over 1,000 homes.

The sites are:

- Castlelands, Balbriggan
- Hackettstown, Skerries

These sites are in the Land Aggregation Scheme and currently in the ownership of the Housing Agency. FCC has been working with the LDA and the Housing Agency to bring these two

sites forward for development. Both these sites require infrastructure investment to deliver the potential housing envisaged.

Members of 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 837, broken down as:

RAS:	665
LTL:	172

Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan

RIHL was launched on February 1st 2018, and for eligible applicants offers a choice between three different loan products. At this stage 50 persons/families have taken up residence in their home. The RIHL availability has stimulated a significant upturn in lending activity for Fingal County Council, with over five times the volume of loan applications compared to 2017.

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

Statistics on loan applications

Number of applications (ytd)	455
Number approved	201
Number declined	159
The value of the loans approved so far	44.65
Fingal applications in context of region (4 Dublins)	40%
Number of loans drawn down	57
Value of loans drawn down	€11.6m

Vacant Homes Strategy

A vacant homes seminar, hosted by DHPLG, was held during the month of October, where information and experience of vacant house re-activation was shared across all Local Authorities. The vacant homes office has also been supplied with a Vacant Homes Officer's Toolkit, which includes guidance on best practice when negotiating with property owners. The Vacant Homes Officer is working with the IT department, and has commenced work on developing an App for collection and management of information on long-term vacant homes. It is envisaged that the App will provide for more effective data management and reporting and will also assist in targeting resources in terms of reactivating vacant units through the *Buy and Renew Scheme* and potential Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPO).

Work is continuing on the Vacant Homes publicity campaign which will encourage reporting of vacant homes and raise awareness of the options available to homeowners.

To date FCC has purchased 29 units under the *Buy and Renew Scheme*. Of these, 14 have been refurbished and allocated to families. We have successfully negotiated two further sales under the scheme and conveyancing has commenced on these properties. Under the *Repair to Lease Scheme*, eight lease agreements have been entered into and a further five applications are in train. Five units have been identified as suitable for a CPO process. The necessary documentation has been prepared and is currently under review in the council's law department.

Private Rented Inspections

In February 2018, all local authorities were issued with targets for the Inspection of Private Rented Properties by the DHPLG in conjunction with its Strategy for the Private Rental Sector – a key component of Rebuilding Ireland. The aim is to increase the national average inspection rate

from 6% to 25% of registered rental properties by 2021. The targets are based on the percentage of tenancies registered with the Residential Tenancies Board, which within the FCC administrative area amounts to 20,635.

The annual targets are as follows:

2018 (10%)	2019 (15%)	2020 (20%)	2021 (25%)
2,072	3,108	4,144	5,180

This year over 2,000 first and 888 second inspections have been completed.

We are currently involved in a joint tender process with Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council. This will close on 12th November 2018 and a contractor will be in place by January 2019.

Pillar 5: Utilise Existing Housing

Voids

There were 47 casual voids within social housing stock at the end of November 2018. Of these dwellings, 15 are complete and are being offered for letting. Work is underway to 16 dwellings and the balance is with the County Architect for the procurement of pre-let repairs

Windows and Doors / Cyclical Maintenance

The *Windows and Doors Replacement Programme* is nearing completion in the Ladyswell and Parslicktown estates in Dublin 15. The *Cyclical Maintenance Programme 2018* is almost complete in Sheephill Estate, Dublin 15. Following this, works will commence in some smaller developments in the North and East of the county before year end. To date in 2018, painting and joinery works under the Programme, have been completed in 680 dwellings.

COMMUNITY, CULTURE & SPORTS

COMMUNITY

Community Development Office

Award for Fingal Kaleidoscope Intergenerational Project

The Fingal Kaleidoscope Intergenerational Project (Seniors & Four Year Olds) won the *Supporting Active Communities* category at the 'Chambers Ireland *Excellence in Local Government Awards*' on 21st of November.

The aim of the project was to support older people by tackling loneliness, grief and depression while also providing preschool children with an opportunity to learn about the ageing population.

FCC's research, conducted through focus groups, showed that benefits included increased opportunities to improve mental health, development of a more positive attitude to life, opportunities to get out of the house and a feeling of greater personal contentment.

The success of this project has seen it extended across the country.



Fingal Comhairle na nÓg

Fingal Comhairle na nÓg was represented at the Comhairle National Showcase event in Croke Park on 22nd November where their short film 'Perfect Imperfections' was on display for the 30 Comhairlí. Invited guests from around the country included Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Dr Katherine Zappone T.D., who addressed the 400 participants, and the Secretary General of the Department, Dr Fergal Lynch presented

Certificates of Achievement to each Comhairle na nÓg.



Pride Of Place 2018



The Community Development Office had two successes at the 2018 Pride of Place Awards final, which was held in Cork City Hall last month. Baldoyle was runner up in the Coastal Communities category and Corduff was the winner in the Urban Neighbourhoods category. *Pride of Place* is a North-South competition, organised by Co-operation Ireland, which honours best practice in community development on the island of Ireland. The judges commended Corduff for their "great story of endeavour, initiative, determination, partnership and achievement to be justly proud of". An event to celebrate this major achievement will take place in Corduff Sport Centre on December 13th. Baldoyle has already marked their success with a local event held last month.



Arts Office

Photo Exhibition

The Arts Office, in association with Fingal Libraries, launched an exhibition of photographs of members of the Mulhuddart Men's shed. The photographs were the work of Amos Agogo Usibe.



Music in Schools

Fingal schools continue to express significant interest in providing quality music education for their students but cost and expertise have been identified as key barriers. We are now improving our reach to these schools in the county wishing to develop or establish music education projects in two ways:

1. This December music consultant Dorothy Conaghan will engage with ten Fingal schools to inform the implementation of The Primary Strings Project initiated by her and the

National Concert Hall to assist schools with instrumental tuition within the Primary school curriculum framework.

2. The application process for the arts office Musician-in-Residence programme has been reviewed and new guidelines and criteria will be issued to all primary schools shortly, alongside a national call out for musicians interested in working with Fingal schools and Fingal Arts Office over a two year period.

Sports Office

MarathonKids Programme

Wednesday 14th November saw the fourth MarathonKids Final Mile event, which took place in Morton Stadium.

The MarathonKids Programme involves students running a complete marathon over eight weeks. Runners train four times a week, under the guidance of their teachers, to run 25.2 miles over an eight week period and completing the distance at the final mile event. Every student receives a workbook with a training plan and information/tips and guidance on the benefits of physical activity and healthy lifestyles, presented in a child friendly manner.

Over 5,000 students from 56 primary schools completed this year's final mile. Mayor of Fingal Cllr. Anthony Lavin, Paul Reid and Margaret Geraghty were in attendance to award the medals to the participants.

MarathonKids Ambassador, former Olympian and 400m European Champion, David Gillick, was also on hand to encourage the children and present the medals.

David also visited schools to talk about the programme and the importance of students being aware of the benefits of physical activity.

The programme is inclusive as children who do not have an interest in sport are encouraged to participate. This year a wheelchair section, where

participants completed a short section of the track, was included and participants were awarded their medals by David Gillick.



Proud Moment for the Sports Team

FAI/FCC Football Development Officer, Sharon Boyle, who has been part of our team for over ten years, was awarded the prestigious UEFA “Elite A Licence” recently. Sharon is the only female in Ireland to have attained the qualification. Well done Sharon!



“Are Ya Dancin’?” Dance Workshop for Older People – Balbriggan

Over 15 seniors from Lusk, Balbriggan, Rush and Skerries participated in two hour dance workshops, which took place in the Balbriggan Combined Clubs on Friday 9th & 23rd November 2018. The workshops ran in partnership with Age

& Opportunity, Fingal Sports Office and the Balbriggan Community Sports Hub. They were run as a pilot and were given by a choreographer from Dance Theatre of Ireland who guided participants through a series of simple, modern and creative movements.



Euro 2020 - Dublin

As a co-host of the Euro 2020 finals, the qualifying draw was held in Dublin in the 2nd December 2018 and provided Ireland with the following route to the finals:

23 March	Gibraltar (A)
26 March	Georgia (H)
7 June	Denmark (A)
10 June	Gibraltar (H)
5 September	Switzerland (H)
12 October	Georgia (A)
15 October	Switzerland (A)
18 November	Denmark (H)

As one of the co-host cities for Euro 2020, FCC will work to market the assets of Fingal to the many visitors who will be travelling to Ireland

Date for you diary

This year’s Operation Transformation walk will take place in Fingal, in the company of programme leader Siobhan O’Brien, on Saturday 12th January at 11am in Porterstown Park.

LIBRARIES

STEM Saturday atrium events

The atrium space at Grove Road, Blanchardstown and at County Hall, Swords came alive to the sound of robots, coding and Lego on 24th November and 1st December respectively, as part of Fingal Libraries STEM Saturday events. Both events were organised by the staff of Blanchardstown Library, as part of the Creative Fingal programme.

Mechatrons, Ireland's leading creators in entertainment and educational robots, showcased robots from TV, film and computer gaming at the events. Participants took photos with their favourite robots and interacted with those that could talk and respond! The events also featured drop-in coding for all ages and a young engineers Lego workshop. These two events are a culmination of a year-long STEAM programme in Fingal libraries, which aims to enable everyone to have access to Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths in a fun way.



STEM Saturday at the atrium in Grove Road, Blanchardstown

STEM Saturdays at Malahide and Balbriggan Libraries

Both Malahide and Balbriggan Libraries also hosted STEM Saturdays during the month of

November. Dave's Jungle gave attendees the opportunity to meet and interact with snakes, spiders, scorpions and iguanas, while the Academy of Code offered practical insights into the world of coding. The Big Bear Planetarium event at Balbriggan Library brought the universe to life with its state of the art dome and 360 degree computer simulations.



Dave's Jungle at Malahide Library

Tech Create at Donabate Library

On the 6th November at Donabate Library, Tech Create provided two Digital Fabrication and STEAM Taster workshops for invited school classes. Tech Create introduced the concepts of digital fabrication including prototyping and product design, and also looked at coding and software development and how they fit together.

Blas Baile Bhlainséir

To mark 2018 as Bliain na Gaeilge, the second annual Blas Baile Bhlainséir took place in Blanchardstown Library on 13th November. This was a day-long celebration of the Irish language and included story-telling, a table quiz, participation in Gaeilge 24 and Lón as Gaeilge, a coding session and a circus act by the Fanzini Brothers. Throughout the day, over 400 people



visited the Library to take part in the events.

Christmas Market and Carol Concert at Blanchardstown Library

The Young Entrepreneurs Club Christmas Market will be held in the foyer of Blanchardstown Library on the 6th December. Young Entrepreneurs Club participants have spent nine weeks learning business and marketing skills and the market day is their opportunity to put these new skills into practice.

The annual Europe Direct Christmas Carol Concert will take place at Blanchardstown Library on the 4th December. The Coolmine Musical Society will provide the entertainment on the night.

Recent exhibitions at Baldoyle Library

Baldoyle Library hosted two exhibitions in November: 'Chaos of Thought' by James Cullen and 'Kaleidoscope' by Keith Reilly. James Cullen is a local artist and his exhibition was a collection of abstract Impressionist oil paintings on canvas. Keith Reilly is a young self-taught artist from Kinsealy. His collection of portraits highlights a unique style that brings fresh perspective to a world of colour and shade.



Keith Reilly's exhibition at Baldoyle Library

Healthy Ireland at Your Library

Fingal Libraries continues to deliver the national Healthy Ireland at Your Library Programme, which

promotes local libraries as a valuable source of health information. During November, Deirdre Doyle from Cool Food School held two fun, interactive workshops about healthy eating at Garristown Library for local school children. Counsellor and Psychotherapist Michael Ryan, spoke about 'Wellness – Achieving a Healthy Balance in Daily Living' at Howth Library. Rush Library hosted a talk by Fiona Hall on 'The power of positivity in everyday living - at any stage in life.'



Children at Garristown Library enjoying a Cool Food School workshop

Snapshot of some other December events in libraries:

- Howth Library: Christmas Story-time with Clíodhna - 5th December.
- Baldoyle Library: Design your own Book Cover Workshop for children, organised by staff as part of Right to Read initiative - 3rd December.
- Swords Library: Christmas story time session with Mairead - 12th December.
- Rush Library: Make your own advent calendar - 4th December.
- Skerries Library: Christmas Story-time - 1st, 7th & 15th December.

ENVIRONMENT & WATER SERVICES (EWS)

Contents	
Environment	Draft Climate Action Plan
Environmental Awareness	Dog and Horses on Fingal's SAC/SPA beaches
Waste Management	
Litter Management	Water Services
River Basin Management	Operations

ENVIRONMENT

Environmental Awareness

Engagement with the Green Schools programme is ongoing, particularly in arranging appointments for assessments in Spring 2019. There was a presentation and tour of Swords Recycling Centre to the Transition Year Students on 26/11/2018. In addition, the recently appointed Environmental Education Officer, Sinead Fox, delivered a presentation on 'environment & waste prevention and climate change' at the Tenant Induction Program on 29/11/2018.

In terms of Community engagement, the Environmental Education Officer created a Competition for Fingal GAA Clubs. This is targeted at 29 clubs and is a call for project proposals that they can run on sustainable waste prevention, water and energy use. The winning six clubs will win prize money of €2,500 each, with mentoring and advice being made available to each of the winning clubs for the 7 month projects. If successful, it is envisaged that this competition may be extended to other sporting and community organisations.

Waste Management

My Waste is a new information service being developed by Ireland's three Regional Waste Management Offices (RWMOs), on behalf of the Irish Government. A primary objective of the project is the development a new web based information portal –MyWaste.ie – designed to offer advice to all citizens on waste management

in the Republic of Ireland. The portal will become the official guide for Irish waste management and the campaign will help citizens to become part of the solution by managing waste more effectively across Ireland.



Litter Management

A total of 77 fines were issued in November. Of these, 30 were issued in the Balbriggan/Swords Electoral Area, 7 were issued in Howth/Malahide 40 in Castleknock/Mulhuddart. There were also 22 prosecutions taken in November.

22 Warning Notices were issued in September.

River Basin Management

In November 2018, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a report entitled '*Water Quality in 2017 - An Indicators Report*' describing the state of Ireland's aquatic environment from remote upland areas, through lakes and ground waters, to estuaries and coastal water bodies. The report summarizes the outcome of an assessment over the period 2015-2017 of 16 parameters including river quality, nitrate and phosphates, trophic status and bathing water quality, the report finds that river and lake water

quality continued to decline biologically in general. The worst polluted rivers have improved and fish kills were down on previous assessments.

The report underlines the need for action to halt the decline and to improve water quality. This will be done mainly by focussing on the 190 Areas for Action contained in the 2018-2021 River Basin Management Plan, involving the Local Authority Water Programme together with a new Agricultural Sustainability and Advisory Programme (ASSAP) operated by Teagasc, and the dairy cooperatives.

The report can be found on the EPA website at:

Draft Climate Action Plan

The Draft Climate Action Plan was presented to the Environment & Water Services SPC on Monday the 3rd December. It will be presented to the full Council in January, with public consultation to follow.

Dog and Horses on Fingal's SAC/SPA beaches

JBA Consulting has recently been awarded the contract for the Review of Management of Dogs and Horses on Fingal SAC/SPA Beaches.



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

Bliain na Gaeilge
Policy Programme 2019
FCC Energy Policy

CORPORATE AFFAIRS

Bliain na Gaeilge

Bliain na Gaeilge in Fingal was celebrated at a wonderful evening of Craic agus Ceol in County Hall Swords on Tuesday November 13th. The tunes were provided by Antaine Ó Faracháin and Nollaig Mac Cárthaigh and among the enthusiastic crowd in attendance was Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Anthony Lavin, Cllr Daire Ní Laoi and other members of the Coiste Gaeilge and the Fingal Irish Language community. The event formed part of a day of celebration including the hugely successful Blas Baile Bhlainséir day in Blanchardstown Library.



Policy Programme 2019

The Corporate Policy Group will consider the draft FCC Policy Programme for 2019 at its meeting on December 3, with the intention of it being adopted at the January Council Meeting. The Policy Programme has been drafted following a

consultation process with all Strategic Policy Committees.

FCC Energy Policy

The Executive Management Team has adopted an Energy Policy for Fingal County Council and all members of staff are asked to be familiar with its commitments. The Energy Policy commits Fingal County Council to responsible energy management and strives to efficiently manage and reduce the consumption of energy whilst providing services to the citizens of Fingal. It also commits the Council to continuing to meet or exceed best practice in energy efficiency and to minimise the environmental impact as far as is practicable.

The Energy Policy will be regularly reviewed and updated to ensure it is relevant, well documented and communicated fully throughout the organisation.

Fingal County Council has already reached 30% on its way to our 33% energy reduction target and the implementation of this policy will set the direction for achieving the final target.

25th Anniversary

25
BLIANA
YEARS

Comhairle Contae
Fhine Gall
Fingal County
Council



FCC will celebrate its 25th Anniversary next year and we will be marking the anniversary with a number of initiatives.

A new logo, which will be used during 2019, has been designed. It is also proposed to hold a formal event in County Hall next March to mark the anniversary.

Various departments are also planning events for 2019 which will mark the 25th anniversary.

Council wins InBusiness Award



FCC has been named Best Council at the *InBusiness Recognition Awards 2018*. InBusiness is the official publication of Chambers Ireland and Fingal received the award for the work we are doing for business in Fingal through many initiatives such as LEO Fingal, our industrial zones, our three enterprise centres and our proactive Economic Enterprise and Tourism Development Department.

FINANCE

Contents

Financial Reports

Financial Reports

Refer to Appendix 1 for the following reports:-

- Revenue Account Income & expenditure to 30th November , 2018
- Capital Account Income & Expenditure to 30th November, 2018
- Summary of Corporate Debtors to 30th November, 2018

Appendix 1

		Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent to date	Income €	Adopted Full year Budget €	% Budget Raised	€
A	Housing & Building	47,019,668	52,747,799	89%	46,791,120	52,526,599	89%	228,548
B	Road Transport & Safety	20,334,599	21,661,799	94%	6,519,362	6,694,100	97%	13,815,238
C	Water Services	17,321,158	14,894,200	116%	14,919,881	18,586,300	80%	2,401,277
D	Development Management	11,341,054	12,878,600	88%	4,943,501	3,860,900	128%	6,397,552
E	Environmental Services	34,945,048	38,283,600	91%	3,824,749	4,129,600	93%	31,120,299
F	Recreation & Amenity	29,775,306	31,267,902	95%	1,604,760	1,247,100	129%	28,170,546
G	Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	629,971	880,400	72%	235,894	254,600	93%	394,077
H	Miscellaneous Services	9,220,088	10,207,300	90%	10,035,758	9,335,100	108%	-815,670
J	Central Management Charge	34,363,494	44,447,999	77%	2,693,802	2,759,800	98%	31,669,691
LG	Local Property Tax / GPG				6,894,617	7,521,400	92%	-6,894,617
RA	Rates				110,324,867	120,354,400	92%	-110,324,867
		204,950,387	227,269,599	90%	208,788,311	227,269,899	92%	-3,837,924

CAPITAL ACCOUNT
INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION TO 30/11/2018

	Balance at 01/01/2018	Expenditure YTD €	Income YTD €	Balance at 30/11/2018 €
A Housing & Building	-45,136,633	142,428,211	-83,232,079	14,059,499
B Road Transport & Safety	9,240,778	27,644,289	-3,491,250	33,393,817
C Water Services	-11,626,869	2,014,773	-1,322,730	-10,934,826
D Development Management	-52,144,982	19,858,477	-37,785,225	-70,071,730
E Environmental Services	-14,037,274	7,126,425	-3,700,100	-10,610,949
F Recreation & Amenity	-9,850,846	8,440,717	-2,464,720	-3,874,849
H Miscellaneous Services	-34,409,446	1,543,814	-3,494,532	-36,360,164
	-		-	
Total	157,965,272	209,056,706	135,490,636	-84,399,202

SUMMARY OF CORPORATE DEBTORS TO 30/11/2018				
	Balance at 01/01/2018	Balance at 30/11/2018	Current debt	> 1 Year
	€	€	€	€
RATES	6,562,335	12,059,971	8,606,169	3,453,802
LOANS	1,229,092	1,282,613	366,077	916,536
RENTS	3,407,366	4,106,397	2,390,338	1,716,059

Figures for rents and loans are unadjusted by credits/prepayments