

Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council



Chief Executive's Management Report

11th of January, 2021

Item 22

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S MANAGEMENT REPORT – JANUARY 2021

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Chief Executive's Foreword

I would like to wish you all a safe and healthy New Year as we begin 2021. We have a difficult number of weeks ahead but I am confident that we have robust measures in place which will allow us continue providing essential services whilst safeguarding the health and safety of staff and the citizen. Nevertheless, I do expect a higher level of absenteeism associated with confirmed cases of COVID-19 and close contacts. In addition, the current restrictions deem some more Council services as non-essential, this will likely cause delay in the delivery of some work programmes, and of most onsite construction projects. I would ask members to be mindful of this in the coming weeks.

At level 5 of the Framework in the Government's Plan for Living with Covid-19 the clear message is to stay home unless for essential purposes. In supporting the Governments message staff have been advised to work from home unless the essential work cannot be done from there. Business continuity plans are reviewed regularly to ensure they reflect the most current information and guidance available.

As we demonstrated in 2020 we can adapt and implement change successfully through hard work, innovation and collaboration. Together staff and the Elected Members are committed to the county of Fingal and the citizens we serve and we have a budget and ambitious Capital Programme which will deliver wonderful services and amenities which will benefit all.

Our strategic themes of quality of life, quality and climate resilient environment, quality business environment and quality in our work remain central to the organization and are evident in services and projects being delivered.

I look forward to the continued support of the Elected Members and staff of Fingal County Council for the year ahead.

AnnMarie Farrelly
Chief Executive

HR, CORPORATE AND GOVERNANCE

Contents	
Major Emergency Management	CRM
Human Resources	Information Technology
Health & Safety Unit	Communications
Customer Services	

Major Emergency Management

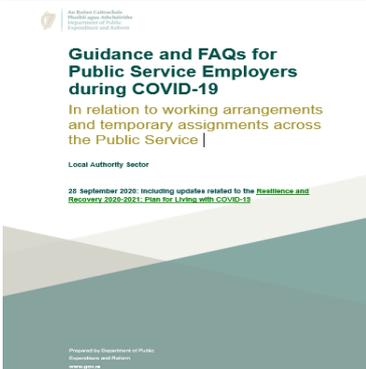
The **Major Emergency Planning** structures in place within the Council continue to provide the framework within which the Council's Departments adapt and update business continuity plans.



The **Major Emergency Eastern Region Steering Group**, chaired by the Chief Executive, held regular meetings throughout December and will meet weekly in January in light of the Level 5 restrictions which are now in place. The group continues to co-ordinate services on a regional basis and ensure that activities are in line with the national measures.

Locally, Fingal County Council's **Management Team** continues to meet regularly to ensure continuity of services whilst adhering to the Governments National Framework for Living with Covid-19.

HUMAN RESOURCES



The Human Resource Department continues to plan for and respond to the challenges brought by Covid19. In line with Government guidelines for level 5 restrictions, staff who can work from home are required to do so. Staff continue to be kept up to date on relevant Government directives and are provided with useful information through text alerts and a dedicated staff information webpage.

Training and development of our staff, including statutory Health & Safety training, has continued throughout the pandemic ensuring that critical services are not adversely affected. Many of the Council's structured training programmes have now moved to online platforms and are continuing remotely.

The Council's Recruitment processes continued with virtual interviews in December and remote virtual interviews will continue for the foreseeable future.

Health & Safety Unit (HSU)

The HSU continued to monitor Covid-19 compliance throughout the workplace for staff attending works that cannot be done at home while providing risk assessment and procedures for staff working remotely. A number of ancillary safety statements for directorates were finalized for publication on Grapevine while workplace incident reports filed for December were investigated with recommendations sent to the relevant departments. Occupational safety and health supports were proffered to staff to place via phone, email, MS Teams and site visit where necessary.

Customer Services

From 1st December until 24th December our Customer Care Agents dealt with a total of

- 12,155 telephone calls
- 817 emails.

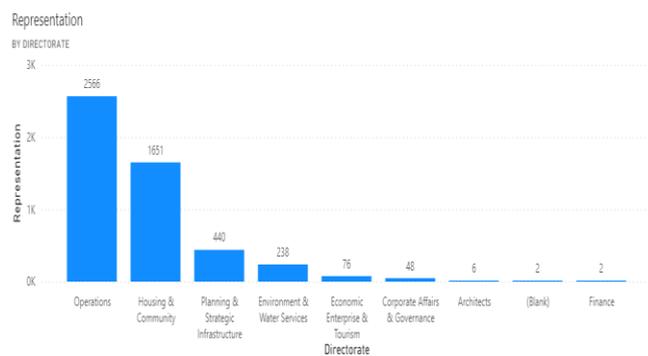
CRM

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

The month of December had a total of 340 Councillor’s representations.



The table below shows the number of Councillor’s representations assigned to each Department in 2020.

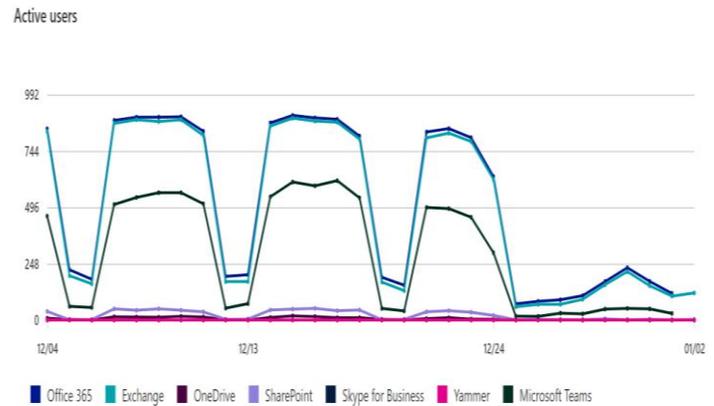


Information Technology

Remote Working

Remote working continued during the month of December, enabled by Office365 and Teams, with 1,319 Teams meetings held in December. As would be expected, usage dropped off towards the

end of the month during the Christmas break. Breakout Rooms were introduced to Teams, further enhancing its usefulness.



New Telephone System

The replacement of the Council’s telephone system with Microsoft Teams Telephony was successfully concluded in December. The new cloud-based telephone system has eliminated the dependency on physical phones in fixed locations. It has provided all office-based Council staff with the capability to take and make telephone calls from their Council extension number regardless of whether they are working in the office, or remotely at home or in the field.

New Email Quarantine Service



Review These Messages

A new Microsoft Email Quarantine Service was commissioned in December. Council Staff now have a facility to review emails that are classified as ‘Spam’ and to block or unblock the email as required. In addition, the Council have introduced extra security features to protect the reputation of the @fingal.ie emails on the internet. These measures will help to ensure that emails sent by Council staff are correctly classified by the recipients email servers and delivered to the intended recipient.

Chief Executive Innovation Fund



The Chief Executive Innovation Fund has been set up to drive and support a culture of collaboration and innovation in the workplace. Fingal County Council staff can apply for funding to support and trial their innovative project or idea. A total of €50,000 has been allocated to the fund for 2020.

The fund is strategically aligned to the Public Service Innovation Strategy and the Fingal County Council Corporate Plan 2019 - 2024. The fund will support innovative initiatives and projects that can bring greater value to the Council, support new ways of working and create positive impact for public services.

The fund criteria, application form and staff information webinars will be officially launched in January 2021. Projects that are awarded funding will be announced in March 2021.

COMMUNICATIONS

Podcasts

The third episode of our Inside Fingal [podcast](#) channel was launched and features County Librarian Betty Boardman, a report on the development of Village Green in Malahide and a round-up of the latest Council News. You can listen to the new episode at fingal.ie/podcast.



Christmas in Fingal radio programme

Fingal County Council and Age Friendly Fingal partnered with three radio stations LMFm, Phoenix FM and Near FM to produce a special two-hour programme which was broadcast over the Christmas period. The programme reflected on 2020 from the point of view of the older citizen. A podcast of the programme can be accessed at <https://media.acast.com/late-lunch-best-bits/christmasinfingal/media.mp3>



Website

Our website fingal.ie continued to draw large numbers during December. Figures show there were 68,800 unique visitors and 198,400 page views.

Among the most popular pages during the month were View/Search Planning Applications, Job Opportunities and Results, Civic Amenities, Find a Book, Fit for Fun Competition and our dedicated In It Together for Christmas page.

Social Media

Figures remained strong on our social media accounts during December with followers on both Twitter and Facebook continuing to grow.

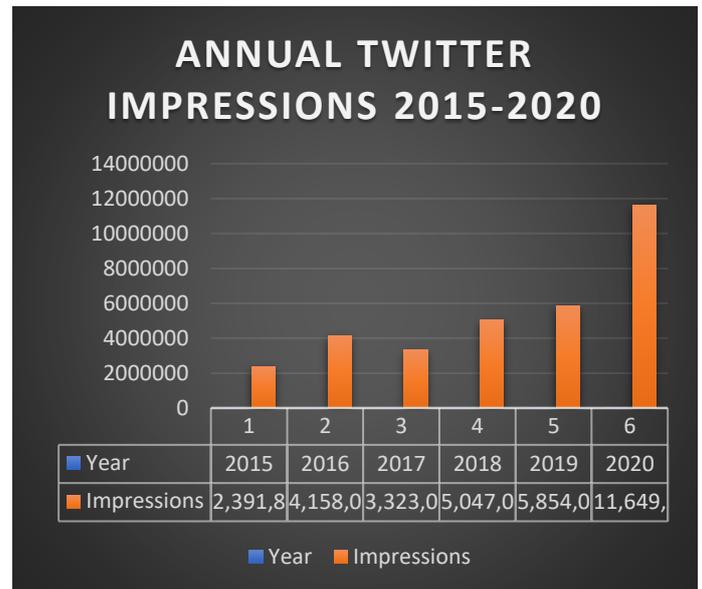
On Twitter, we now have 19,136 followers. Our 323 posts received 860,900 impressions, an average of 27,770 per day, with a 1% engagement rate.

Our most popular post was a tweet about the completion of the first phase of a wetland development project in the Turvey Nature Park in Donabate, receiving 27,800 impressions.



Our level of impressions on Twitter reached record-levels in 2020 as we recorded a 99% increase from 2019. Since 2015 the annual number of impressions has risen from 2,391,800 to 11,649,800. The impressions are a total tally of all

the times tweets on our @fingalcoco account have been seen.



There was also a massive increase to our reach on Facebook during 2020 as we recorded a 142% increase in the number of unique users our posts reached. The number rose from 5,150,687 in 2019 to 12,468,341 last year.

We now have 21,862 followers on Facebook and during the month of December our 271 posts had a reach of 763,000.

Our most popular post was a video about the stunning views from Howth Head.



Our Instagram account continues to grow and now has 3,204 followers. Our most popular post was this stunning photo of Newbridge Demesne in Donabate.



A video on the redevelopment of the Village Green in Malahide, which is now open to the public, was also produced.

Videos

The Communications Unit produced a number of videos during December including the annual Christmas message by Mayor of Fingal Cllr David Healy and the annual New Year message by Chief Executive AnnMarie Farrelly.



The Communications Unit also worked with the Aircraft Noise Competent Authority to produce a video outlining its role and functions.



A specially created Christmas video highlighting the wonderful festive atmosphere around the county was also produced.

Press Releases

A total of 21 press releases and media invitations were issued by the Communications Unit during December.

ECONOMIC, ENTERPRISE, TOURISM & CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

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Tourism Development	Economic Development
Events	Balbriggan Socio-Economic Strategy
Tourism	LEADER Programme
Heritage Properties	Local Community Development Committee
	Enterprise Centres
Cultural Development	
Arts	Local Enterprise Development
Libraries	

EVENTS

IN IT TOGETHER SANTA LIVE

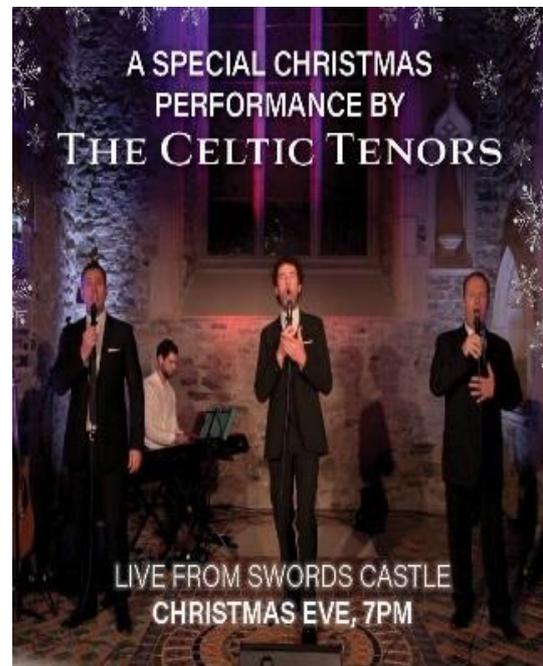


Our In-It-together Santa Live proved very popular on social media, producing the following stats:

- 2,800 Views
- 22,000 People Reach
- 400 Comments
- 750 ThruPlays
- 2,200 Engagements
- 160+ Shares
- 100k + Impressions

65 resident associations also participated in the Decorate your home for Christmas campaign which ran in December.

CELTIC TENORS CHRISTMAS EVE LIVE



This event was recorded at Swords Castle and broadcast on the Events in Fingal Facebook page, having a domestic and International reach.

We also had a performance from Mundy recorded in Newbridge House earlier in the year broadcast on RTE 1 as part of TradFest's Ireland in Music Series on the 29th of December and it is available to view on the RTE Player.

CHRISTMAS IN FINGAL

Christmas On-line Market 160 Businesses availed of this opportunity with over 8,000 Visits. We are investigating offering a permanent On-Line Market going forward.



In addition to Blanchardstown, Balbriggan, Malahide and Swords having Christmas music piped on to the streets, 6 Buildings also received a festive lighting touch in Balbriggan, Ballyboughal, Swords, Rush, Lusk, Blanchardstown.



EVENTS AND FESTIVALS 2021

Comhairle Contae
Fhine Gall
Fingal County
Council



EVENTS & Festivals 2021

Fingal County Council's Events Unit is pleased to announce that it is accepting applications for financial assistance for Festivals and Events taking place in 2021.

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.

All applications should include a Covid compliance plan in adherence with current government guidelines.

For more information and an application form, please email events@fingal.ie or visit

www.fingal.ie/festivalandevents2021

The deadline for completed applications is

EXTENDED UNTIL 2ND OF FEBRUARY 2021

The closing date for financial assistance for Events and Festivals has been extended until 2nd February 2021.

HERITAGE PROPERTIES



UPDATES ACROSS THE HERITAGE PROPERTIES:

From 24th December 2020, the entire country moved to Level 5 of the Government's Resilience and Recovery 2020-2021 Plan resulting in the following restrictions across our heritage properties:

- No tours of the heritage properties permitted
- Closure of Casino Model Railway Museum
- Closure of Swords Castle to the public but weddings will be facilitated during this period subject to the necessary restrictions.
- Cafés across the properties open for takeaway only.
- Demesnes including playgrounds remain open but the farm at Newbridge House and botanic gardens at Malahide Castle are both closed.

UPDATES ACROSS THE HERITAGE PROPERTIES INCLUDE:



- Improvement works to the perimeter of Swords Castle to include improved lighting and street furniture is continuing and is due for completion in February 2021.
- Brambles Café Ltd are now operating a new catering facility at the upper car park, Ardgillan Castle offering hot drinks and light refreshments.
- A contract has been awarded for the interpretation exhibition and design on the history of the Martello Towers for the Skerries Martello Tower. Work will commence in January 2021.
- A contract has been awarded in relation to the Conservation Plan for Shackleton's Mills. Work on the new plan will commence in January 2021.



TOURISM

Food Tourism

A number of workshops have been held with the original Network steering group and a constitution for the Network has now been developed and agreed.

Following the AGM of the steering group, which was held in December, a survey of potential members was launched. Survey available here <https://marie508352.typeform.com/to/zvONHFDX>

Fáilte Ireland Coastal Development Plan

Draft Plan has been distributed to the various tourism development groups for discussion. Work is now commencing with groups on considering ideas for the upcoming series of workshops to define actions and create saleable experiences around the themes of water-based activities, heritage and culture, the Biosphere, a garden trail, golf and food tourism.

Tourism Promotion

In line with the current restrictions in Ireland which continue to change frequently, a fortnightly content plan is agreed and rolled out on social media.

As we prepare for what we hope will be a recovery in 2021, printed materials have been updated and restocked.

RE-START GRANT

The Restart Grant scheme is now closed and finalised. Fingal County Council paid out a total of €30.09m to 2,142 businesses in the Fingal area for the Restart Grant and Restart Grant Plus schemes which gave direct grant aid to micro and small businesses to help them with the costs associated with either staying open or reopening and reemploying workers following COVID-19 closures. The grants were fully funded from the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment via Enterprise Ireland.

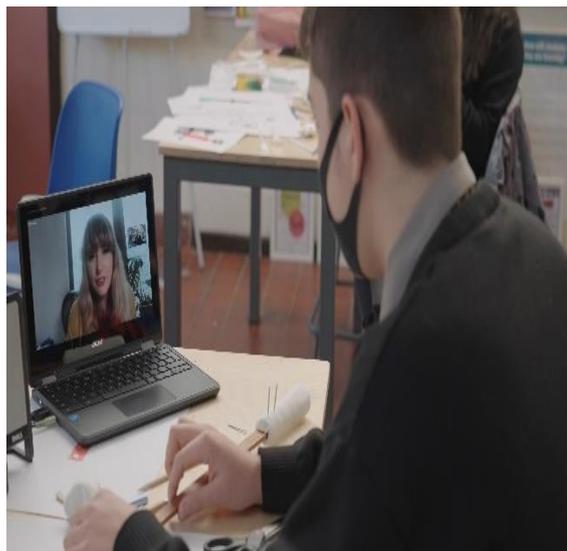
The Restart Plus Scheme has been replaced the Covid Restrictions Support Scheme (CRSS) which is administered by the Revenue Commissioners.

ARTS

Youth & Education Programme

Flourish with artist Fiona Hallinan.

Artist Fiona Hallinan worked with Transition Year students at Blakestown Community School during December through a series of virtual visits to the classroom. In partnership with Superprojects, this arts-in-education project explored table manners and food rituals in different families and cultures. Fiona introduced her artistic practice and described how many artists are working with food as a material and subject matter, giving insightful examples such as Korean artist Jiwon Woo's artwork titled '*Mother's Hand Taste*'. She invited the students to consider food and contamination, and how Covid-19 has impacted on how we think about food and its preparation. Guided by Fiona and their art teacher the students crafted their own designs of objects that could fulfil a desire or respond to a human need. Documentary video available Fingal Arts Vimeo.



Poetry Ireland Writers in Schools Scheme.

This month we announced that Fingal Arts Office has teamed up with Poetry Ireland to ensure access to the Writers in Schools Scheme at a reduced rate for an estimated 40 Fingal schools during the 2020/2021 academic year. The *Writers in Schools Scheme* facilitates visits by writers and storytellers to primary and post-primary schools. For the duration of the Covid-19 crisis and its restrictions, schools can apply for a **virtual visit** by a writer or storyteller. Poetry Ireland will continue to support **in-person visits** upon formal agreement between the school and the writer in adherence with public health guidelines.



Exploring & Thinking Early Childhood Arts Bursary Award.

Fingal Arts Office is working in partnership with Dublin City, South Dublin and Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Arts Offices to present this significant Bursary opportunity to artists that wish to develop a practice in early childhood arts. Titled 'Exploring & Thinking', this collaboration came about in 2016 when the four Dublin Local Authorities partnered for the first time to collectively consider early childhood arts provision in the Dublin region. Early childhood arts include a wide range of arts practices and creative experiences with and for children aged 0 –5 years in different contexts. The first Exploring & Thinking Partnership Bursary Awards were allocated in 2019, funding a range of supports for artists such as postgraduate studies, development of an educational resource, travel to a renowned early years programme and practice-based research. Twenty-two applications were received in December 2020 and will be assessed by a professional panel week of January 18th 2021. For more information please visit: <http://fingalarts.ie/education/exploring-thinking-early-childhood-arts-bursary-award-2020>

Professional Arts Programme



Fingal County Council's Arts Office & the Association of Local Authority Arts Offices (LAAOs), in collaboration with the Arts Council, present PLATFORM 31 – a national opportunity for artists to develop their practice and test new ideas of collaboration, research, audience development, place-making and sharing their work.

Designed to support and offer career development for 31 mid-career artists (one artist in each of the 31 local authorities around Ireland), there are two elements of support for participating artists in the scheme: financial and developmental. Participating artists will receive an €8,000 bursary to invest in themselves and their practice, combined with participation in an advisory and developmental framework and a peer network.

Following a formal application process Fingal County Council received 14 applications, second highest in the state. Three of the 14 applications have been chosen to go forward to the national committee and one Artist from every county will be chosen for an award. It is expected that the final awards will be announced at the end of January.





Migrants Resting, James English 2020

Loughshinny Artist James English awarded the 2020 Fingal County Council Graphic Studio Award

As part of an on-going commitment to professional artists, Fingal County Council offers a fine art print residency at Graphic Studio Dublin. This residency provides an emerging or established artist with the opportunity to make a fine art print with the master printer Robert Russell at Graphic Studio Dublin.

James English RHA, an artist from Loughshinny was the recipient of the 2020 award. He is renowned for still life and landscape paintings which respond to his interest in nature and ornithology, often capturing shadow patterns, abstract forms and reflections in water.

James is a member of The Royal Hibernian Academy (RHA) and his work regularly features in the RHA annual exhibition as well as numerous galleries in Ireland. During his residency at Graphic Studio Dublin in October, James created a limited edition of prints, the artists proof will enter the Fingal County Council Municipal Art Collection.

Speaking about the residency, James said "the residency at Graphic Studio Dublin has been an exciting and uplifting experience for me. I have no doubt that it will enrich my own practice of painting. I am also looking forward to the time when I can return to make another print with them." James also added his "thanks to Fingal County Council Arts Office and Graphic Studio Dublin for the privilege of the residency."

Public Art Programme Infrastructure 2017- 2021



Anthony Haughey and the Global Migration Collection have launched a series of short films titled Assemble – A Film Trilogy. The films were devised and created through collaboration with Lusk Community College and multi ethnic youth from Balbriggan and explore the themes of integration, historical narratives on diversity from civil rights movements of the 1960's right up to the present day Black Lives Matter movement. The films are available to view on <http://globalmigrationcollective.com/projects/a-film-trilogy-by-anthony-haughey-the-global-migration-collective/> and are accompanied by a series of site specific billboards featuring the young actors and writers and located on main street Balbriggan. This film poster is for the film *Can you hear us Now?* and was created in collaboration with the art team in Lusk Community College.

The Hide Sculpture- Once Upon a Sound



The Arts Office released a performance by folk singer/songwriter Anna Mieke Bishop who was recorded at the Hide Sculpture as part of our Once Upon a Sound series at the Hide Sculpture featuring broadcaster Donal Dineen. The series is available through our Fingal Arts Vimeo.

LIBRARIES

Fingal Library Services during Level 5

In line with Level 5 of the Government's Plan for Living with COVID-19, Fingal Libraries will no longer operate a contact and collect service. As always our online services are available to all members of the library and include eBooks, online learning courses, eMagazines, language learning, music streaming, newspapers and reference databases.

These are readily available at <https://www.fingal.ie/council/service/fingal-library-eservices-and-eresources-online>

Follow Fingal Libraries on our social media platforms - Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and enjoy online events on our YouTube channel at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_6CWbO_Nlz0-YxDP1aTnGiA/videos including the Fingal Festival of History talks, online story times, wellbeing workshops and creative writing for kids.

We will continue to operate our book delivery service to cocooners, the housebound, residential services and anyone with health issues. The cocooning library service can be contacted at 8906719/ 8604290 or email at cocooning.library@fingal.ie

Christmas in Fingal radio programme

The Libraries Department was delighted to take part in the Christmas in Fingal radio programme broadcast simultaneously on 30th December on Near FM, Phoenix FM and LMFM in association with Age Friendly Fingal. The programme celebrated Fingal as an Age Friendly County, which offers many services, supports and opportunities for older people. The Libraries segment featured the cocooning library service, eservices and the awarding of age friendly charters in 2019 to Malahide and Rush Libraries. A podcast of the programme is available at <https://bit.ly/2L9QXO8>

Focus on the BorrowBox service

BorrowBox offers Fingal Library members free access to an extensive range of adult and junior eBooks and eAudiobooks. Library members can

borrow or reserve up to 5 eBooks and 5 eAudiobooks at a time, and enjoy them on the go, anytime, anywhere. Look for the No Queue titles – they are always available – so no waiting.

On your browser - simply follow the link <http://bit.ly/BorrowBoxFingal> and register with your library card number and PIN.

On your mobile device - First, register with your library card and PIN by following the link <http://bit.ly/BorrowBoxFingal> then download the BorrowBox app from your App Store ([Google Play](#)) (iTunes) (Kindle Fire).

Listen Now - No Waiting!



It has never been easier to join Fingal Libraries - just follow the link to join at <https://www.fingal.ie/fingallibraries> and you will have immediate access to electronic services and databases.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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

The Our Balbriggan programme office continue to support the Chair of the Leadership Group and its four pillars to progress work across a range of economic and social measures including: Local Economy, Public Realm, Education, Skills & Employment & Community Affairs & Integration. The Leadership group is scheduled to meet next in February.

New responses are being developed to meet emerging needs, challenges and opportunities brought about by changing priorities, expectations and behaviours in light of public health restrictions across the four pillars. The programme office continues to support chairs and the multiple range of public, private and community partners involved to respond to these and implement plan priorities. Pillar groups will meet on average 4 -5 times each throughout the year.

The establishment of a fifth pillar on matters to address community policing and safety is progressing with the parameters of a work programme currently being scoped and wider membership identified.

The re-development of key areas of Balbriggan has begun following recent acquisitions, Project Management Consultants have been appointed, the process of procurement, consultations and design will begin shortly on three of the several projects – re- imaging the Harbour, re-development of Quay Street and 2 – 4 Dublin Street. In addition to these works and contractor is due to be appointed shortly to commence the refurbishment of the old RNLI boathouse. A parallel process will be initiated alongside these works to tender for commercial operator to lease these premises.



Following the programme offices successful application along with nine other European town partners to participate in the EUs URBACT programme in 2020 an URBACT Local Group (ULG) has been meeting on a bi-monthly basis to produce a draft Integrated Action Plan (IAP), titled 'STARTUP Balbriggan' it will concentrate on strengthening:

- Networks of support designed to increase entrepreneurial activity and develop new local economic development opportunities.
- Transform existing and newly acquired land and property to attract more entrepreneurial talent, skills, start-up and co-working opportunities.
- Development of an investment attraction strategy.

The ULG will meet bimonthly in 2021 and participate in quarterly transnational two-day exchanges.



The Our Balbriggan Programme office were recently granted approval (December 18th) to participate in its second EU Programme “Europe for Citizens – It’s our time, it’s time for Europe”. The Our Balbriggan Project is one of 19 successful applicants from the 173 eligible applications submitted for the programme. Balbriggan will partner with eight other European large towns, starting Q2 2021, particularly aimed at youth & diversity, with groups:

- Debating the future of Europe and challenging Euroscepticism
- Promoting solidarity in times of crisis
- Fostering intercultural dialogue and mutual understanding and combatting the stigmatisation of migrants and minority groups

During the next 4 – 6 week period workplans will be published for the SMART Balbriggan Initiative and launches planned for a Balbriggan Loves Learning & Grasshoppers Early Years Festivals and an Our Balbriggan - Placemaking Initiative.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

FINGAL IN IT TOGETHER

The Fingal In It Together initiative continues to support businesses with an online business directory. The initiative was expanded with a special website for Fingal In It Together for Christmas www.fingal.ie/christmas which supported more than 120 artisan and craft producers and small businesses who would normally trade at the Council’s Christmas Markets.



The Council promoted local businesses and the Shop Local concept in the run up to Christmas through digital advertising, local media and radio advertising, bus shelter advertising, signage, social media and the Council's website.

The Council also produced a digital Christmas themed Shop Local Brochure promoting local businesses in towns and villages across the county.



The Council provided free car-parking in pay & display areas across Fingal to encourage citizens to park & stride, encourage active travel and drive foot-fall on main shopping streets.

Parklet Partners

The "Parklet Partners" initiative completed installation of outdoor seating areas across the county following an assessment of applications received.

It is anticipated that a further call for Parklet Partners will be made late Q1/early Q2.

Fingal Main Street Shopfronts & Residences Improvement Grant

The Council has completed the evaluation of the applications received under this Scheme. Notifications regarding funding are in the process of issuing to applicants.

Sustainable Business

The Council has commenced work on a campaign to promote sustainable business practices and engaging with the business community on sustainable business initiatives.



Christmas themed social distancing and public health notices were placed on the main shopping streets of towns and villages and Christmas mood music provided on selected streets, Christmas themed projections on selected public buildings and the installation of 36 Christmas trees, 14 of which were lit by the Council.

RURAL AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The LCDC continues to oversee and administer the key areas of LEADER and SICAP and the various Local Development and Community Development funding programmes under its remit. The LCDC is also represented on the Fingal Community Call Forum and is supporting many of the LCDC member agencies that are also members of the Community Call in the delivery of their programmes. The LCDC is also supporting the work of the Community Call through the Healthy Ireland Initiative, the Community Resilience Fund and Keepwell Campaign, and the many projects up and running under those funding streams.



During 2020 the LCDC approved funding of €68,375 in funding to Community Groups across the county under the 2020 Community Enhancement Programme. The LCDC also approved funding of €192,805 under the Community Enhancement Programme 2020 Fund for Community Centres and Community Buildings. Both these funds assisted with stimulating the local economy by providing capital grants towards the maintenance, improvement and upkeep of community centres and community buildings, adaptations and equipment needed as a result of COVID-19, as well as for smaller capital items such as IT resources, signage, health and safety equipment etc.

The Fingal LCDC has been allocated €59,000 under the latest Community Enhancement Programme which will be open for online applications in mid-January. The new scheme will be extensively promoted to community groups at that time. This

new fund will help community groups in funding small capital items and equipment. This new 2021 funding scheme is also supporting small capital and revenue items associated with adapting to COVID-19.

SICAP

As a result of COVID-19, the LCDC supported and endorsed a new SICAP Response Plan in early 2020 to deal with COVID-19, which has been implemented by Empower and has been central in responding to emerging challenges in the community. There was a strong performance by the Fingal SICAP Programme during 2020 and its role in the Fingal Community Call has been recognised and highlighted by Pobal and the Department of Rural and Community Development. The Fingal LCDC SICAP Programme going forward is also strategically aware of an increasing unemployment rate locally and the implications this will have on service provision through the programme into the future. The LCDC worked with Empower and Pobal during December in devising the Fingal SICAP Annual Plan for 2021. The KPIs for 2021 have been approved by Pobal and by the LCDC, with the €1.24m draft 2021 SICAP Plan due to be approved by the LCDC in February.



LEADER PROGRAMME

The Dublin Rural LEADER LAG and the Fingal LEADER Programme continues to deliver funding and support to eligible projects in the administrative areas of Fingal, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown and South Dublin.



Two meetings of the Dublin Rural LEADER LAG were held during December 2020 where the final projects in the current LEADER Programme (Dublin Rural LEADER Local Development Strategy 2014-2020) were approved. The LEADER Programme's entire projects budget of €4.77 million has now been approved supporting 86 Projects. Of these projects, 63 are in Fingal, 6 in DLR and 17 in South Dublin. In total €3.1m in Project Funding was approved for Fingal in this programme.

Completed project claims continue to be paid out to promoters and priority has been given to getting this funding out to provide stimulus in rural areas. €1.55m in project claims have been paid out to completed/part-completed projects to date.

Going forward there is currently €3 million in the new LEADER projects pipeline of which over €1 million is for Rural Enterprise.

The LEADER Programme reverts to EU Transitional Rules for the period 2021-22 with a new Dublin Rural LEADER Local Development Strategy to be put in place in 2023. Under the Transitional Arrangements the Dublin Rural LEADER LAG and the LEADER Programme will continue to be funded in line with the completed LDS and under the same eligibility and LEADER implementation rules.

LEADER will continue to approve and fund new projects as normal.

Fingal County Council continues to deliver the financial and administrative oversight responsibilities for the approval and drawdown of LEADER funded projects following the national transfer of the LEADER Article 48 Administrative Checks from Pobal to the Local Authority Sector. There has been no interruption to the delivery of the LEADER Programme or the Article 48 Checks as a result of Covid-19.



TOWN AND VILLAGE RENEWAL SCHEME

Fingal County Council has submitted 6 applications for the Standard Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2020 for the following villages and still awaits a decision on funding:

- Rush
- St. Margaret's
- Donabate
- Rolestown & Lusk
- Balrothery
- Naul

Shoplocal.irish

The Shoplocal.irish website resource, which was supported by Fingal Council as a COVID19 Response Measure won a Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Award in the Supporting Sustainable Communities category. EETD continues to support this initiative.

ENTERPRISE CENTRES

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

Centres currently support 62 businesses and 320 direct jobs. A number of businesses in the Centres had been accommodated with rent moratoriums to help them through lockdown cashflow difficulties but all businesses have now returned to normal rental arrangements. All tenant businesses are being assisted in accessing financial and non-financial supports currently available through COVID-19 support measures. There has been a net loss of two businesses across the centres since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis but enquiry levels continue to be strong and a number of new start-up businesses are currently being evaluated for provisional approval for units in the centres.



The Drinan Enterprise Centre held its Annual General Meeting in December via MS Teams. The renovation works in the Beat Centre are continuing. €250,000 of the total budget for these renovations are funded by the Dublin Rural Leader Programme. The renovations will allow Beat to expand its offering in the areas of remote working and flexible start-up workspace.

The BASE Centre in Mullhuddart has received confirmation of over €80,000 in facilities upgrades from Enterprise Ireland. These works will begin shortly and will include new remote working options and I.T. infrastructure upgrades among others.



Local Enterprise Office Fingal



LEO Fingal continues to help small businesses and start-ups through the impact of COVID-19 and Brexit, with a broad suite of practical support services. The LEO continues to adapt its services to the rapidly changing needs of Fingal businesses and start-ups rolling out a substantial programme of new and revised activities and initiatives to a vastly increased volume of individuals and businesses that are geared at ensuring the survival of local businesses and start-ups. Some of the current highlights for December are as follows:

BREXIT – Change is Here



The Local Enterprise Offices are actively helping small businesses to prepare for the impact of Brexit by providing information, customs training, advice and mentoring. Weekly Prepare Your Business for Customs workshops took place during Quarter four with 165 clients attending the Customs Training during this period. Four workshops took place in December with further workshops scheduled to take place during January 2021.

A Local Enterprise Office **Brexit Support Line** was set up and operated from Tuesday, 29th December until Sunday, 3rd January to provide support to business in need of immediate assistance related to Brexit. As hubs of expert advice, information and practical supports, dedicated Local Enterprise Office teams can help manage the Brexit response.

“Look for Local - Shop Fingal”



The 'Look for Local' campaign which showcases and celebrates local enterprise continued to be promoted by LEOs across the country along with Enterprise Ireland and the local authorities. The campaign was supported by national and local advertising and marketing campaigns.

The "Shop Fingal" initiative continued, which helped Fingal local businesses in the run up to Christmas during the difficult Christmas trading period and provided a boost to Fingal businesses by helping them to promote themselves across print, radio and digital Media.

Evaluation and Approvals Committee

The fourth quarter Evaluation and Approvals Committee (EVAC) took place on Wednesday 16th December. 16 companies were approved for €292,025 worth of funding. This brings the total number of companies approved in 2020 to 44, with a combined value of €833,877.

Micro-Enterprise Assistance Fund



The “COVID-19 Micro-Enterprise Assistance” Scheme was launched on 25th September and closed on 18th December 2020. The scheme offered a once-off grant of up to €1,000 towards the costs of reopening or keeping a business operational and re-connecting with employees and

customers. This grant was valid only to clients who are ineligible for other financial supports such as the Restart Grant Plus. 28 Fingal Applications for the Micro-Enterprise Assistance Funding have been approved to date, totalling €24,303.

Business Continuity Voucher (BCV)



The BCV scheme (valued at €2,500) was introduced to enable companies and sole traders to develop short- and long-term strategies to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

LEO Fingal received 622 applications, with 477 businesses approved for assistance with a combined value of €1,098,500. Drawdown continues for beneficiaries up to end of December

Fingal Business Connect



Over 500 Fingal participants attended the six Fingal Business Connect episodes which featured excellent speakers including Declan Coyle (author of the Green Platform), Gavin Duffy of Dragon's Den, and Noel Davidson of Entrepreneurs Academy. The final instalment took place on Friday 11th December; the Chief Executive of Fingal County Council, Ms AnnMarie Farrelly opened the event which featured a very special guest Bernard Brogan, who gave us some insights into his success in both sports and business.

Client Stimulus Fund

31 Fingal eligible business were awarded the Client Stimulus initiative funding with a combined value of €283,863 through the provision of a cash stimulus to support operational costs and enhanced engagement with LEO Fingal. The purpose of the Stimulus scheme funded through the July Stimulus is to help sustain eligible businesses.

Student Enterprise Programme



The Fingal Student Enterprise Programme (SEP) is Ireland's biggest student competition. The new programme features new enterprise requirements for the COVID-19 era. 25 Second level Fingal schools have registered for the 2020/21 programme.

Preparations have commenced for the Fingal student enterprise 2020/2021 programme Virtual County Final which will take place in March 2021.

Trading Online Voucher (TOV) scheme



Funded by DCCAE as part of the National Digital Strategy, the TOV scheme supports small businesses to enhance their online offering by

providing a grant of up to €2,500 for ecommerce and digital marketing activities.

The 90% match-funding element of the TOV scheme was extended until 31st December 2020. A TOV information webinar was held on December 4th with a further TOV information webinar scheduled to take place in February. From 1st January 2021 the match funding will be 50%.

To date in 2020, LEO Fingal has approved 891 TOV applications; compared to 64 in the whole of 2019. The total value of TOV applications approved year to date is €1,784,770

Business Advice Clinics and Mentoring

Clinics and mentoring continue to be offered over the phone and online to help business owner/managers respond to the disruptive impact of COVID-19.

In December 2020, 6 business clinic days were held, offering advice to 65 Fingal businesses. This brings the cumulative figures for 2020 to 136 days clinics and 1076 attendees.

Fingal Enterprising Women Network



The Fingal Enterprising Women Network (FEWN) continues to provide online learning and networking opportunities for women in business and enterprise hosting a monthly online networking event. The FEWN hosted an event on Tuesday 8th December with 125 female entrepreneurs in attendance. The event was opened by the Mayor of Fingal, Cllr David Healy with Special Guest Katherine Lynch, Actress TV personality and Entertainer. 14 Fingal Enterprising Women Network working events took place in 2020.

Start Your Own Business (SYOB)



The 10-module SYOB programme is delivered online. 16 SYOB courses took place in 2020 with 243 participants attending the programme.

LEO Fingal COVID-19 Training Update

LEO Fingal continues its delivery of Training programmes to support SME and Micro Enterprise clients through the current challenges. In 2020, 5,716 clients availed of COVID-19 training and networking supports. Training Programmes currently on offer include:

- Management Development workshops in themes such as cashflow, IP and copyright; and remote team management.
- Prepare Your Business for Customs
- Digital and Social Media Training.

The demand for all courses has been substantial with all scheduled courses booking out rapidly.

The 2021 Training programme has been developed and includes additional programmes organised to meet client demand.

Local Enterprise Week 2021

LOCAL
ENTERPRISE
WEEK

Work is currently underway for Local Enterprise Week 2021. This year, LEW will occur from the 1st to the 5th March, and will feature a packed series of events to help businesses and start-ups to access supports, training and networking. These events will take place right virtually across the county.

Dublin Breakthrough Innovation Programme



Five Fingal Businesses are currently participating on the Breakthrough Business Innovation Programme which brings established businesses through a disciplined framework to discover where the innovation potential lies in their enterprise and how they can capitalise on those opportunities.

LEAN Dublin Programme

The Lean Business Programme is designed to encourage clients to adopt LEAN business principles in their organisations to increase competitiveness. Ten Fingal businesses participated in the LEAN programme in 2020.

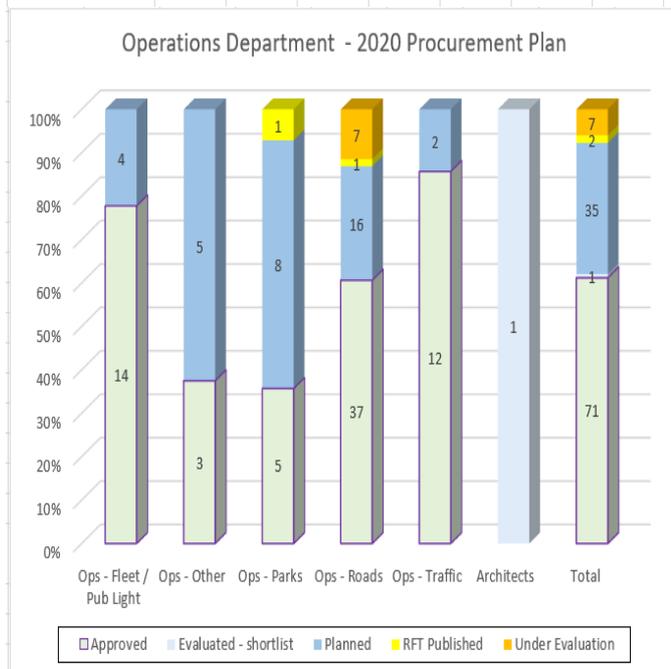
OPERATIONS & WATER SERVICES

Contents	
1.	Works Programme
2.	Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit
3.	Street Lighting LED Programme
4.	Recycling Centre Weekly No's
5.	Traffic Operations County-wide
6.	Road Opening Licences
7.	Bridge Rehabilitation
8.	Water Services

1. Works Programmes

Procurement

Status	Ops - Fleet /	Ops - Other	Ops - Parks	Ops - Roads	Ops - Traffic	Architects	Total
Approved	14	3	5	37	12		71
Evaluated - shortlist						1	1
Under Evaluation				7			7
RFT Published			1	1			2
Planned	4	5	8	16	2		35
Total	18	8	14	61	14	1	116



Swords/Balbriggan Area

Programme of Road Works

Fingal County Council successfully completed the following road restoration improvement programme in the Swords/Balbriggan Area in 2020;

- 1 River Valley, Swords
- 2 Seatown Villas, Swords
- 3 Hayestown, Rush
- 4 Old Coach Road, Balrothery
- 5 Featherbed Lane & Balduggan Junction, Loughshinny
- 6 South Shore Road / Sundrive rd, Rush
- 7 Turvey Avenue, Donabate
- 8 Turnapin Lane, Santry
- 9 Seatown Industrial Estate, Swords
- 10 Quay Street, Rush

In relation to road maintenance the Swords/Balbriggan Area completed the following road maintenance programme of works in 2020;

- 1 Rapoli Road, Oldtown
- 2 Killougher, Naul
- 3 Forte de Fyne, Naul
- 4 Batter Lane, Swords
- 5 Commons Upper, Doles Road, Garristown
- 6 Hollywood Great/Streamstown Road, Garristown
- 7 Knightstown Hollywood, Naul
- 8 Raheny Lane, Lusk
- 9 Wyestown, Oldtown
- 10 Stephenstown/White Hart Road, Balbriggan
- 11 Hynestown, Naul
- 12 Balleally Lane, Lusk
- 13 Clonard/Bridgefoot, Balbriggan

In relation to roads Fingal County Council also carried out substantial additional works at Lissenhall and a second similar project at Sillogue under the auspice of the July Stimulus Programme.

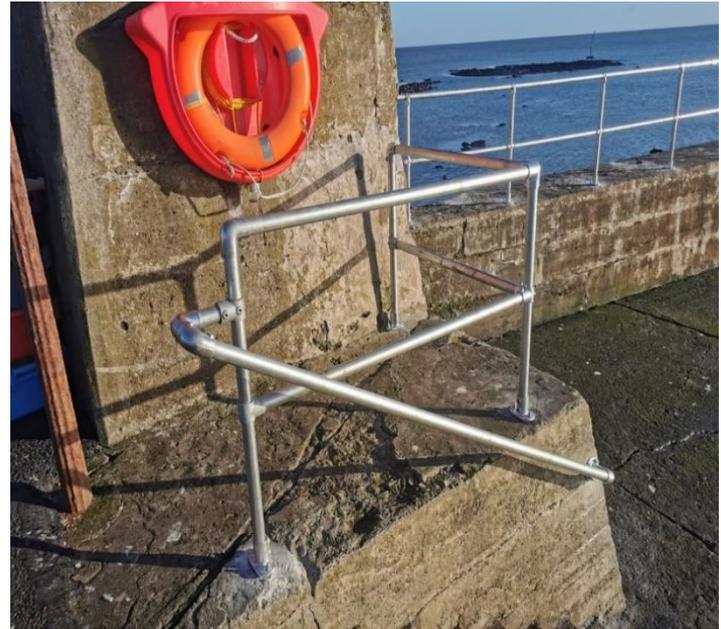
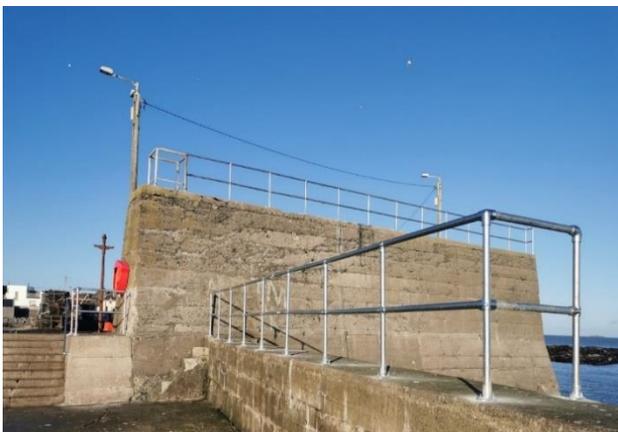
Naul Village Renewal Works

A new raised bed was installed at the entrance to Naul Village as part of the 2020 Parks Programme of Works. This raised bed is constructed from recycled plastic boards and replaces an old timber structure which had rotted and fallen apart.



2020 Harbour Works Programme Complete

The 2020 Fingal Harbour Works Programme was recently completed with new handrails and guardrails installed at Loughshinny Harbour. The new railings are in place in good time for the Loughshinny Annual Christmas swim.



Harbour Health & Safety Audits

Malachy Walsh and Partners have submitted their preliminary report in relation to the site-specific health and safety audits carried out at Fingal County Council's four harbours namely, Loughshinny, Balbriggan, Rush and Skerries. The findings of the site-specific audits will be used in determining what works will be included in the 2021 Harbour Works Programme.

Castleknock/Mulhuddart Area

Programme of Road Works

Castleknock/Mulhuddart Operations successfully completed the following Road Restoration Improvement Programme for the Dublin 15 area in 2020.

- R121 Hollywood Rath Road
- R122 Luttrellstown Road
- Castlecurragh Road
- Rathoath Road, Hollystown
- Riverwood Road
- Bramley Walk & View
- Lohunda Phase 2
- Sycamore Avenue
- Westway Phase 3
- Grove Road
- Somerton Lane

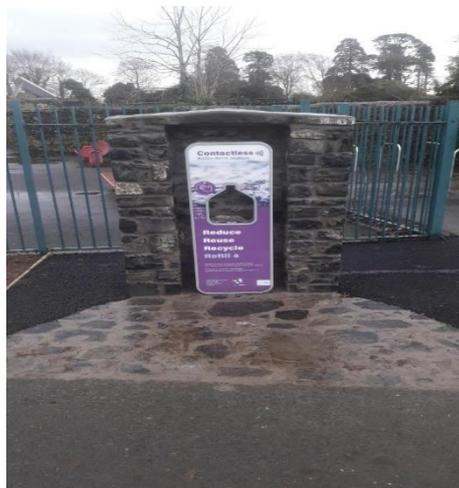
In relation to road maintenance the Castleknock/Mulhuddart Area completed the following road maintenance programme of works in 2020

- Castleknock Village
- Blanchardstown Village
- Hartstown Area – Cherryfield Estate
- Huntstown Area – Whitestown Estate
- Laurel Lodge – Castleknock Drive
- R121 Blanchardstown Road South
- Delwood Road
- Roselawn Estate/Coolmine Park
- Dromheath & Wellview
- Corduff Grove
- Chesterfield
- Auburn Avenue
- Coolmine Boulevard
- Glenville Estate

Christmas planters in place in Blanchardstown village and Castleknock



New installation in Hartstown Park and Millennium Park



Drainage Works carried in Delwood, Dublin 15 carried out by the Operations Crews



The Operations Department recently carried out extensive works to the playground in Waterville Park, Dublin 15.

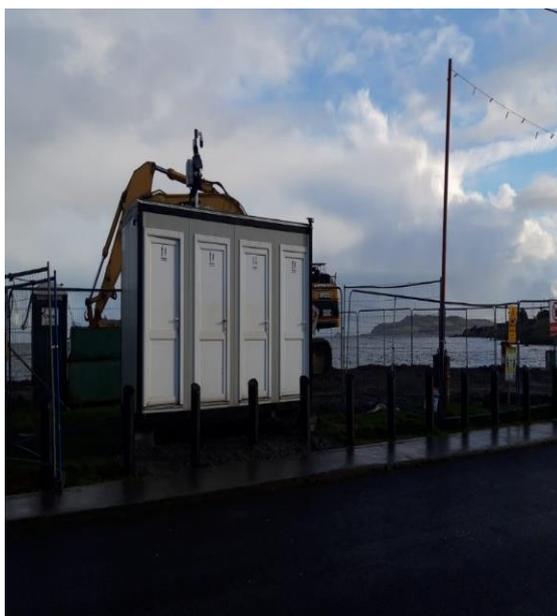


Portrane Sea Defence Works

The Operations Department working on behalf of the Planning and Strategic Dept. has completed the construction of the rock armoury sea defence wall at Portrane which is outside the SAC and will protect the public sewer and road at Burrow Road and Quay Road.



The Operations Department also successfully demolished and removed the existing toilets at Portrane which had become a dangerous structure and about to collapse onto the shoreline due to Coastal Erosion. Temporary toilets are currently been connected as a temporary replacement with the plan to construct new public toilets for this area in 2021.



Howth Malahide Area

Programme of Road Works

Fingal County Council successfully completed the following road resurfacing improvement programme in the Howth / Malahide Area in 2020;

- 1 The Rise, Malahide
- 2 R124 The Grange / Broomfield
- 3 Seaview Terrace
- 4 Carrickbrack Road
- 5 R106 Strand Road Portmarnock (anti – skid)
- 6 R106 Malahide Road Robswall – Portmarnock (anti – skid)
- 7 Estuary Road Malahide – Seatown East

In relation to footpath improvements, the Howth / Malahide Operational area completed the following programme of works in 2020;

- 1 Dublin Road, Sutton
- 2 Laneway St Peters Terrace to St Nessans Terrace
- 3 Abbey Street Howth
- 4 Rosbeg Court Sutton
- 5 Shielmartin Park
- 6 Brookstone Road, Baldoyle
- 7 Dublin Street, Baldoyle
- 8 Balgriffin Cottages to Malahide Road
- 9 Carrickhill Road, Portmarnock
- 10 Ard Na Mara, Malahide
- 11 The Rise, Malahide
- 12 Yellow Walls Road, Malahide
- 13 Millview Lawns, Malahide
- 14 McCarrons Lane, Malahide
- 15 Broomfield, Malahide

Malahide Castle Drive-In Big Screen Pantomime

Fingal County Councils Malahide Castle is currently successfully hosting Irelands first big screen Drive in Pantomime, Peter Pan, this Christmas period. Shows commenced on the 11th December and ran until 31st December 2020. Families have been enjoying their traditional annual pantomime experience whilst adhering to all Governments Covid 19 guidelines. 200 cars per show were accommodated.



Cars enjoying the drive in pantomime experience in Malahide Castle Demesne



Photographs from the performance

Redrock Woods, Howth, Access Improvement Work

Steps into the woodland area of Redrock Park, Howth, which were previously damaged, have been restored and a second set of steps installed to improve access and reduce damage to areas of newly planted trees.



Restored steps and installation of 2nd set of steps

3 new benches were installed in Redrock Park Howth to take full advantage of the views across Dublin Bay. The benches were installed by the Operations Department and funded by the SAAO.





The new benches installed at locations take full advantage of the amazing views.



New Bench installed and in use, Howth

Foam Weed Killing Trials along the Dublin Road R105 cycle way (Howth to City Centre)

A trial demonstration was recently carried out of foam weed killing methods on the R105 cycleway. The intention is to carry out a more comprehensive trial in 2021 at more locations currently being identified.



Foam weed killing on R105 Cycleway

Seagrang Park, Baldoye Wild Flower Meadow

200msq of a perennial wild flower mix was added along the public pathway in Seagrang Park as part of Irish Water reinstatement of their way leave after recent works were completed. Despite the late and poor start due to inclement weather earlier in the year they produced a great show in late autumn.



Seagrang Park new perennial wildflowers

Repointing mortar joints of the Masonry wall Strand Road Baldoye

Sections of the Masonry wall along Strand Road Baldoye have been suffering from mortar loss and deterioration causing sections of the wall to partially collapse. Operations have been repairing sections of the wall throughout 2020, particularly in the vicinity of the Library.



Installation of soft sand warning signs Baldoye Estuary

Soft sand warning signs are presently being installed on foot of representations from local councillors, due to reported attempts of pedestrians crossing Baldoye estuary during low tides that led to coastal rescue earlier this year. The signs being installed are temporary until a contractor can be appointed to place permanent signs in early 2021.



2. Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit

There were 82 hires put in place from 1st December – 24th December, engaging 20 suppliers.

Hires include:

- Large Articulated Tanker (30m3) for Emptying Tanks over the Christmas Period.

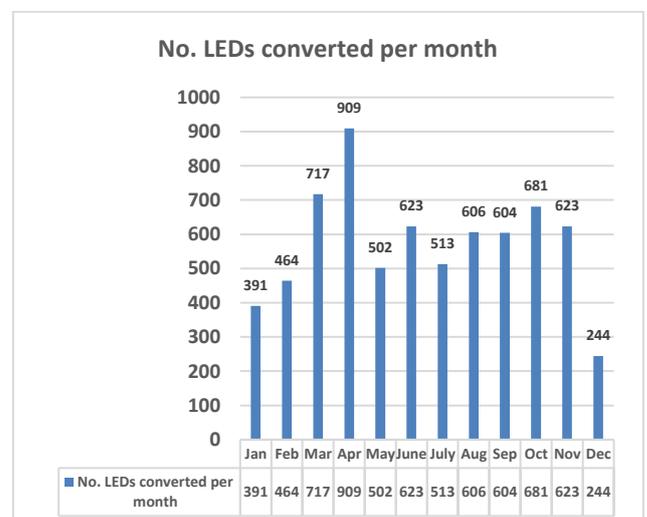
3 No tractors purchased for the Operations Department



3. Street Lighting LED Programme:

In December the LED Upgrade Program saw 244 LED Upgrade works carried out in the following locations:-

- Market Green...Balbriggan
- College Park...Castleknock
- Littlepace Dist Road...Littlepace
- Kilshane Way, R135 Kilshane Cross...Finglas
- Old Yellow Walls Road...Malahide
- Torcaill estate...Portmarnock
- Kenure Park walkway...Rush
- Holywell Dist Road, Seatown Terrace...Swords



Street Lighting Works Programme:

The street lighting section supply and erect Christmas lights for a number of trees throughout the county.



Lusk Village



Portrane



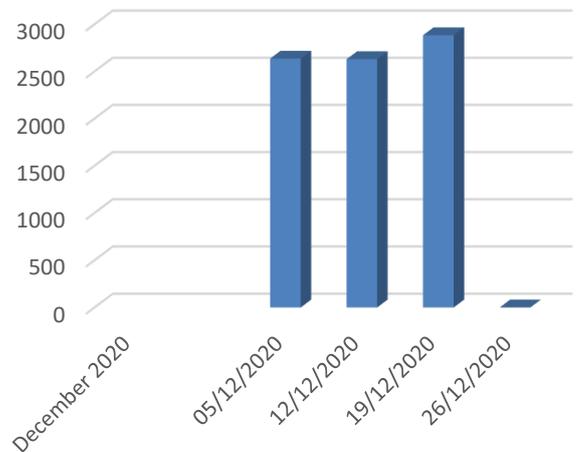
Main Street Swords

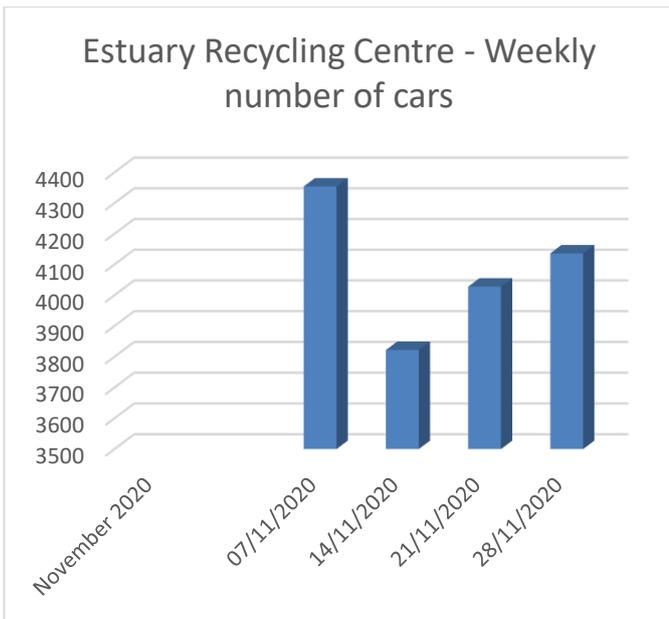


Balbriggan Town Square

4. Recycling Centre – Weekly No's

Coolmine Recycling Centre - Weekly number of cars





5. Traffic Operations (County-wide)

Speed Limits Project

It is intended to bring the Speed Limit Bye-Laws before the full Council for approval in 2021.

Expansion of Fingal County Councils Duct infrastructure

Work is ongoing, both internally and through 3rd parties, throughout the county, to progress strategic locations where ducting can be installed to add to FCC's Fibre Optic network allowing interconnectivity of Fingal's assets.

Traffic Control Centre Project

Works have commenced to relocate drawings cabinets and the cleaning room to facilitate the construction of the traffic control room on the 2nd Floor Blanchardstown Grove Road Offices. Files storage units are being assessed for retention/removal to provide space for the traffic control room.

Blanchardstown Shopping Centre Christmas Traffic Management

Ongoing traffic management monitoring was carried out in December at the Blanchardstown Shopping Centre and its environs by the Traffic

Section. The Variable Message Signs batteries were replaced on 21/12/2020 to ensure continuity of traffic management in the final days before Christmas Day and during the following sales period. VMS signs are periodically deployed to ensure efficient traffic movements in and around the shopping centre during busy shopping times.

Ramps Contract (County Wide)

The 2020 Ramps Contract (FCC/279/20) is complete except for one ramp and build out on the Back Road/Castlefield junction, Malahide which has been postponed until February 2021 when Irish Water works are complete onsite.

Traffic Calming Ramps completed are listed as follows:

Ramps Scheme 2020	No.	Progress
Baldoyle/Sutton/Malahide		
New Ramps		
Strand Road, Howth - Bus friendly flat top ramps x 1	1	Installed 2020
Strand Road, Howth at St Fintans Road - Asphalt Speed cushions x 2 (1 set)	1	Installed
Strand Road, Portmarnock - Asphalt Speed cushions x 4 (2 sets)	2	Installed 2020
Back Road/Castlefield junction, Malahide, Table ramp, buildout and new drainage	1	Postponed to 2021 to allow completion of Irish Water
Castleknock/Mulhuddart		
New Ramps		
Castleknock Drive - Standard round top ramp x 2	2	Cancelled
Allendale to Ravenwood estate - Asphalt Speed cushions x 4 (2 sets)	2	Installed
Glenville Road - Standard round top ramp x 3	3	Installed
Repair Ramps		
Hollystown & Tyrellstown - Asphalt Speed cushions x 14 (7 sets)	7	Installed
Swords/Balbriggan		
New Ramps		
Donabate - Carrs Mill/ Rahillion - Standard round top ramp x 3	3	Installed
Swords - Brackenstown Road - Standard round top ramp x 2	2	Installed
Donabate - Junction of Portrane Rd, Beaverstown Rd & Ballisk Lane - Raised Table Junction Ramp	1	Installed
The Avenue, Rush, at St Catherine's National School - Standard round top ramp x 2	2	Installed
Total Number of Ramps	30	



Newly installed Raised Table Ramp – Junction of Beaverstown Rd, Ballisk Ln & Main St, Donabate



Newly installed Ramp - The Avenue, Rush, at St Catherine's National School with permanent Line marking and Studs in place.

New Signals Installation (County-wide)

The 2020 New Signals Installation Contract commenced on the 7th September. The contract consisted of the supply and installation of 4 No. Signalised Pedestrian Crossings, 2 No. Signalised Toucan Crossings and 2 No. Zebra Crossings in Fingal. The Contract included both civil and the electronic/electrical works. 6 of the 8 sites are completed and now switched on. The schemes include the provision of traffic lights, traffic calming ramps, appropriate road signage and road markings. Pedestrian Crossings are at the following locations:

Traffic Signals for 2020		
Description and Locations		
Baldoye/Sutton/Malahide	Type of Crossing	Progress
Near St Sabina, Sutton, Dublin 13	Signalised Pedestrian Crossing	Civils work commenced. Awaiting Cantilever installation & ESB Connection
Castleknock/Mulhuddart	Type of Crossing	
Barnwell Road, Hansfield, Dublin 15	Zebra Crossing	Commissioned
St. Margaret's Road, Ballymun, Dublin 11	Signalised Toucan Crossing	Commissioned
Diswellstown Road, Castleknock, Dublin 15	Zebra Crossing	Commissioned
Swords/Balbriggan	Type of Crossing	
R127, Link at Racecourse Common, Lusk	Signalised Pedestrian Crossing	Commissioned
Fancourt Road, Balbriggan	Signalised Pedestrian Crossing	Commissioned
Balbriggan Road, Skerries	Signalised Pedestrian Crossing	Commissioned
St Cronan's Avenue, Swords	Signalised Toucan Crossing	Completed - Awaiting ESB supply



New Controlled Pedestrian Crossing – Commissioned in December, Balbriggan Road, Skerries



Upgrade of footpath near the new Crossing, Balbriggan Road, Skerries



Diswellstown, Dublin 15 New Signalised Zebra Crossing which was Commissioned in December



Zebra Crossing put into full operation in Mid-December on Red Arches Road Baldoyle

Vehicle Activated Signs Contract

The 2020 Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) Contract works commenced in mid-September with sign installation beginning on site in mid-October. The works are currently 98% complete and the remaining works will be completed by the end of December. Additional works were also identified and these additional installations took place in December 2020 and some are planned for January 2021.

Vehicle Activated Sign 2020 Locations
Description and Locations
Baldoyle/Sutton/Malahide
Feltrim Rd, Streamstown Wood, Co. Dublin - Left turn warning sign
7-9 Malahide Rd, Streamstown Wood, Malahide, Co. Dublin - Speed sign
72-76 Balglass Rd, Howth, Dublin - Flashing right bend ahead sign
Railway Cottage, Back Rd, Broomfield, Malahide, Co. Dublin - Flashing pedestrians ahead sign
Rob's wall heading to Malahide - Cycle sign
Thormanby Road from Howth - Cycle sign
Malahide road heading to Malahide - Cycle sign
Castleknock/Mulhuddart
Clonsilla Road (Between Coolmine & Roselawn) - Speed sign
Lower Road, Lucan - Speed sign
Carpenterstown Road/Burnell Park - Cycle sign
Lucan - Clonee Road (outside St. Catherine's Park) - Cycle sign
Castlecragh Road - Mulhuddart - Cycle sign
Swords/Balbriggan
Garristown - Speed sign
Man O War - Speed sign
Old Road, Rush - Speed sign
R122 at intersection L5085 - Speed sign
Fieldstown R125/R122 Junction approach - Speed sign
Donabate, Portrane Road - Speed Sign
Hearse Road - Donabate bound - Cycle sign
Balheary Road - Cycle sign
R122 - Balbriggan to Naul Westbound - Cycle sign
R108 - Ballyboughal to Naul Northbound - Cycle sign



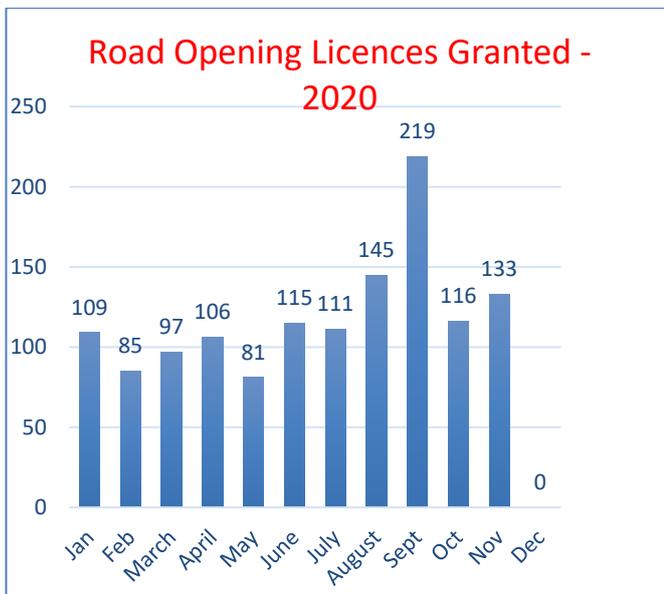
Newly installed Speed Reader sign - Old Road, Rush



Newly installed Cycle sign – Balheary Road, Swords.

6. Road Opening Licences

Licensing unit continues to process and manage the licensing system for the County, licences are allocated to areas for conditioning including review of temporary traffic management plans. Road Opening licences are a cross functional process for the department and is essential for the asset management of Fingal County Council Road network.



- Drumnigh Road/Chapel Road Irish Water – BSG Contractors - Road Closures
Irish Water, working in partnership with BSG Contractors are undertaking the Kinsealy Local Network Reinforcement Project, a major wastewater project in the Kinsealy area. To facilitate installation of a new sewer rising main on the Drumnigh Road, BSG Civil Engineering Ltd was granted a road closure from Monday 26th October to Tuesday 17th November. The closed section of Drumnigh Road allowed the installation of a new sewer rising main beneath the Road. The 1.35 km section of pipe, from the junction of Chapel Road to the junction of Moyne Road is now complete. Normal vehicular access to Station Road was maintained over the works duration. The second phase of works is continuing with the closure of Chapel Road from Wednesday 18th of November to Monday 30th of November.

- Swords Pipeline – Irish Water/John Craddock – Road Closures
Major infrastructure works remain scheduled for January 11th through April 2021 affecting Swords Main Street junction with the R106 and the R106/Malahide Road up to Mountgorry roundabout (Applegreen). Road Closures will be in effect for 3 months in sections along this route. Following this finishing works (i.e Swabbing, Testing, Chlorination,

Commissioning) are scheduled for April 2021 and will include lane closures with traffic management in place.

- Stamullen to Balbriggan (on the R132) Foul Sewer Rising Main Pipeline
Fingal County Council road engineers are in ongoing discussions with Irish Water on programme of works for the 2.1Km Installation of Twin Rising Mains on the R132 from Delvin Bridge to Cardy Rock, Balbriggan. Works are due to commence in Q1 of 2021.
- Loughshinny Foul Sewer Rising Mains.
Irish Water 1.5Km Installation of a Rising Mains on Harbour road and Mine Road is ongoing. Road closure required on Harbour Road which was Submitted in September for November and December. Works has begun on Phase 1 in Loughshinny Car park. Road closure required on Mine Road for January 2021 as part of Phase 2 was received in November and TMP's was agreed with Irish Water. The 150mm Ductile Iron Foul Sewer rising main installation on Harbour Road is now Completed.



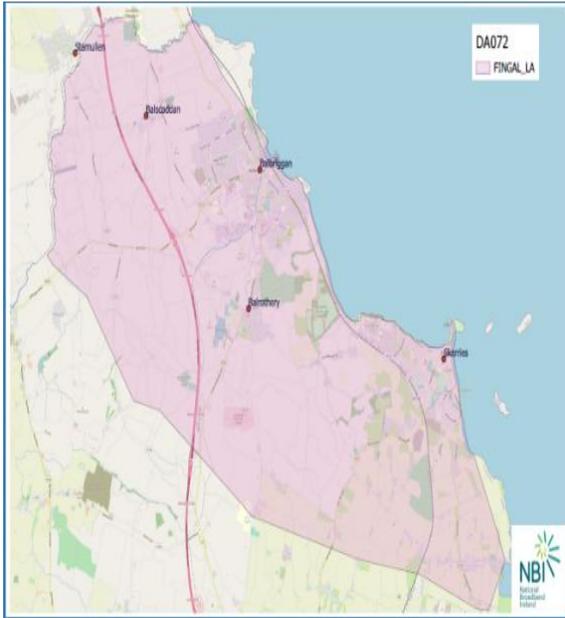
Loughshinny Foul Sewer Rising Mains progressing well.

- Skerries Water Mains – Irish water has now completed the water rehab works on the Dublin Road and Millers Lane with resurfacing works completed in Mid-December.



Millers Lane Road Re-surfacing works completed in Early December.

- National Broadband Ireland – Non-intrusive survey works which began in September in the Skerries and Balbriggan area (as per map below) as part of the Governments National Broadband Project is proceeding well with Map Road Licences currently been issued for the survey works. This will inform the civil works which will be required to roll out the Broadband Project. National Broadband Ireland envisages that a T1 for the Civil Works in the Skerries and Balbriggan Area will be submitted in Early 2021 with civil works starting soon after.



National Broadband Ireland Survey Area

7. Bridge Rehabilitation

Provision of Consultancy Services for Fingal Bridges Section 2021-2023

Work is ongoing on the preparation of tender documents for the procurement of consultants for the 2021 – 2023 FCC bridge stock repair programme.

Provision of Consultancy Services to carry out Principle Inspections for 60 number of Fingal Bridges

Work was on going for the procurement of Consulting Engineers to provide technical, engineering and supervisory services to carry out 60 no. Principal Inspections on Fingal Bridges. Following the advertising on eTenders, tenders submitted on 11th December were evaluated on 17th December 2020.

Rehabilitation of Curragh, Curragh West & Clonshaugh, Church Road Bridge, Blanchardstown, Wyanstown Bridge & Wimbletown Bridge

Works were completed for the non-instream works and snagging is underway

Emergency bridge repairs (4 bridges- One contract) at Rallekaystown, Old Yellow Walls bridge Malahide, Ratharten, Rowlestown

Advertised in QQ Etenders on 6th November 2020. Closing date was 16th November 2020 The Contract was awarded to the successful contractor at the end of November with works expected to be complete by end of February 2021.

Royal Oak Santry Footbridge, Effelstown and Ratharten Bridges Rehabilitation

The contractor is due to complete the works including snagging by end of February 2021.

8. WATER SERVICES

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

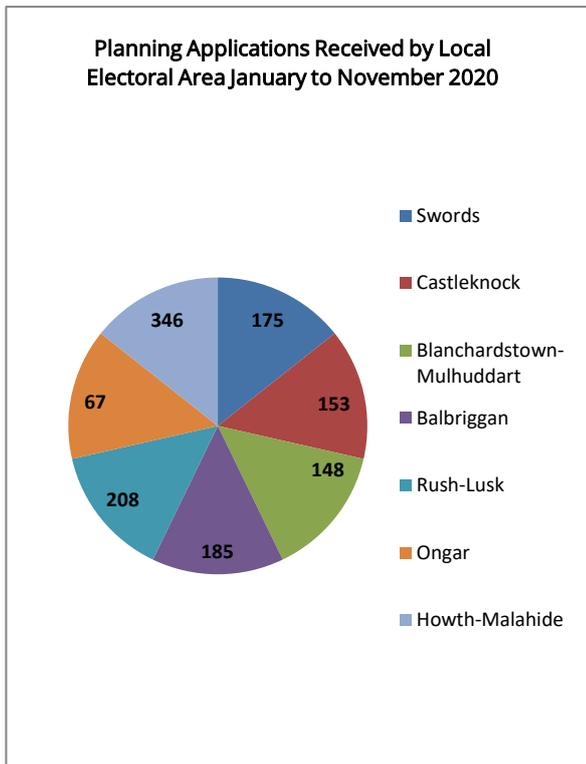
PLANNING AND STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE (PSI)

Contents
Planning Applications
Building Control Admin
Strategic Policy Unit
Heritage Office
Transportation Planning
Development Management/Forward Planning (Water Services)
Building Control/Taking in Charge
Parks and Green Infrastructure Division

Planning Applications

There have been 1,282 planning applications received to the end of November 2020, 194 of these applications were invalid leaving a total of 1,088 valid applications. The volume of applications received by Local Electoral Area (LEA) is detailed in the table below.

To date in 2020, 6 Strategic Housing Development (SHD) application (for 1,266 units) were made to An Bord Pleanála. The Board granted permission for 12 SHD's (2469) units); 3 in January, 5 in March, 2 in April and 2 in August. The Board refused permission for 2 SHD (531 units) in February and July. There are a total of 3 SHDs (848 units) currently in the formal application process.



Planning Decisions

A total of 990 planning decisions have been made to the end of November 2020. There have been 793 decisions to grant permission (80%) and 197 refusals of permission (20%). There have been 67 grants of permissions in respect of single house construction, 441 grants of permission for domestic extensions, 216 commercial/retail grants of permission and 48 grants of permission in respect of housing developments - 26 of which related to development 2 - 20 housing units, 5 of which related to development 20 - 50 housing units, 5 of which related to development 50 - 100 housing units and 12 of which related to developments of 100 + housing units.

Building Control Admin

Up to the end of November 2020 there were 148 Disability Access Certificates applications submitted, of these 129 have been granted and 3 have extensions of time applied. There were 6 Revised Disability Access Certificates applications submitted, all 6 have been granted. There were 14 Dispensation Relaxation Certificate applications submitted, 4 have been granted.

There were 194 Fire Safety Certificates applications submitted, of these 135 have been granted, 5 were invalidated and 42 have extensions of time applied. There were 30 Revised Fire Safety Certificates applications submitted, 24 were granted, 1 was invalidated and 5 have extensions of time applied. There were 14 Regularisation Certificates applications submitted, of these 1 was granted and 13 have extensions of time applied.

A total of 964 building control decisions were made up to the end of November 2020, this includes decisions that were made on applications submitted pre 2020 in addition to the decisions that were made on applications submitted this year. This is made up of 364 decisions to grant, 1 refusal, 6 invalids and 594 extensions of time.

Building Control Fire Safety, Disability Access, Regularisation and Dispensation/Relaxation Certificate applications can be submitted online via the new BCMS applications module. We are also still accepting hard copy applications directly into the office until such time as the legislation is signed into effect.

Strategic Policy Unit

Donabate UFP

Work continues to progress on the preparation of a Draft Urban Framework Plan. Sheridan Woods Architects and Urban Planners, who are the consultants appointed to prepare the Public Realm and Traffic Management Strategy (PRTMS) which forms an integral part of the UFP, gave a presentation to the Donabate-Portrane Liaison Committee Members on 9th Dec 2020, which was well received by all.

R132 Connectivity Project

This project is being developed in conjunction with the National Transport Authority. Its aim is to support the ongoing development of Swords, including the development of the various Swords MasterPlans and other developments around the town. It will also support the delivery of MetroLink, in terms of providing a more appropriate receiving environment for the thousands of passengers that will be travelling to and from the various proposed stations along the R132 corridor when the MetroLink begins operations. The non-statutory consultation process ran from 17th November to the 18th December and included a well-attended webinar for members of the public on 15th December. It is intended to capture any amendments that are raised by the consultation process and proceed to a planning application to An Bord Pleanála in Q1 2021.

Heritage Office

A significant challenge has been to engage with the public in a time of Covid. To counter that a series of digital heritage projects have been undertaken, which are available to view on the Heritage & Conservation section of the Fingal website <https://www.fingal.ie/digital-heritage-projects>. These include the Heritage from Above videos developed by the Heritage Officer and Digital Officer, which to date feature Skerries islands, Drumanagh Promontory Fort, Newbridge Demesne, and will continue to highlight heritage sites across the County.



In order to reach those who do not connect digitally, the award-winning Snapshots of Fingal's Past project is in the process of being produced in booklet format, which will be launched in early 2021.



An identified priority for 2020 was the reconstitution of the Fingal Heritage Forum. A non-statutory advisory group established to assist in the formulation and implementation of the Fingal Heritage Plan, the Fingal Heritage Forum consists of five councillors, eight departmental staff and fifteen members that reflect the broad reach of heritage, from State agencies to the business, tourism, community and volunteer sectors. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 26 January 2021.

The Fingal Cultural Heritage & Climate Change Risk Assessment project is scheduled for completion at the end of Q1 2021. Partnering with Dublin Climate Regional Office, Geological Survey of Ireland and the CHERISH project, the baseline information provided by the project will inform Fingal's Structures at Risk programme, identify priorities for condition surveys and facilitate the development of a citizen-based monitoring programme.

The Draft Heritage Signage & Heritage Trail Guidance has been developed in order to provide clear direction and advice to the public and stakeholders on the best practice, procedures and requirements for the development of heritage signage and heritage trails in Fingal. The document goes through a non-statutory Consultation process. Submissions and observations can be made online at <https://consult.fingal.ie> in respect of the **Draft Heritage Signage and Heritage Trail Guidance** from Friday 11th December 2020 to Friday 29th January 2021.



Transportation Planning

Snugborough Interchange Upgrade

The Snugborough Interchange Upgrade was tendered in August of this year and a preferred bidder has recently been identified. Pending the finalisation of other consents such as Irish Water infrastructure agreements and land conveyances, a letter of acceptance will issue in late January with construction commencing thereafter in Spring 2021 and with an overall construction duration of two years. This scheme will bring significant benefits to the local transportation network in terms of cars, buses, cyclists and pedestrians and will form an important part of the NTA's Blanchardstown Core Bus Corridor scheme.

Broadmeadow Way

The CPO for this scheme was officially activated in November with serving of notice to enter and notice to treat on the various affected property owners. This will facilitate various advance works being undertaken in Q1 including ground investigation works, surveying, fencing and hedge clearance. The design process is continuing with FCC's consultants and Irish Rail's design team. Another key milestone was reached in December with the submission of the Foreshore Licence pre-application documentation to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. The foreshore process is likely to take a number of months and various advance and enabling works, as well as non-foreshore works will continue in the meantime through 2021.

Fingal Coastal Way

Following a series of public consultations in late 2019 around the opportunities and constraints facing the proposed Fingal Coastal Way, the development of the route options has progressed well. A non-statutory public consultation setting out a small number of routes (c.3-5 route options) over the entire route corridor, with associated descriptions of each option, will take place in Spring 2021. Given the ambition and scale of this scheme, the significant number of properties that could potentially be affected by the various route options over the 32km route, and the current

public health restrictions that limit the potential for face-to-face interactions, the project team will develop a number of options to facilitate in depth engagement with stakeholders and other interested parties.

R132 Connectivity Project

This project is being developed in conjunction with the National Transport Authority. Its aim is to support the ongoing development of Swords, including the development of the various Swords MasterPlans and other developments around the town. It will play a key role in facilitating the delivery of MetroLink, in terms of providing a more appropriate receiving environment for the thousands of passengers that will be travelling to and from the various proposed stations along the R132 corridor when MetroLink begins operations. A non-statutory consultation process took place in November and December which included a number of online documents and drawings, detailed briefings to the area members, some 4,500 leaflets delivered in the Swords area, discussions with local residents and elected members and an evening information and discussion session with members of the public, elected representatives and the project team. It is intended to capture any amendments that are raised by the consultation process and proceed to a planning application to An Bord Pleanala in Q1 2021.

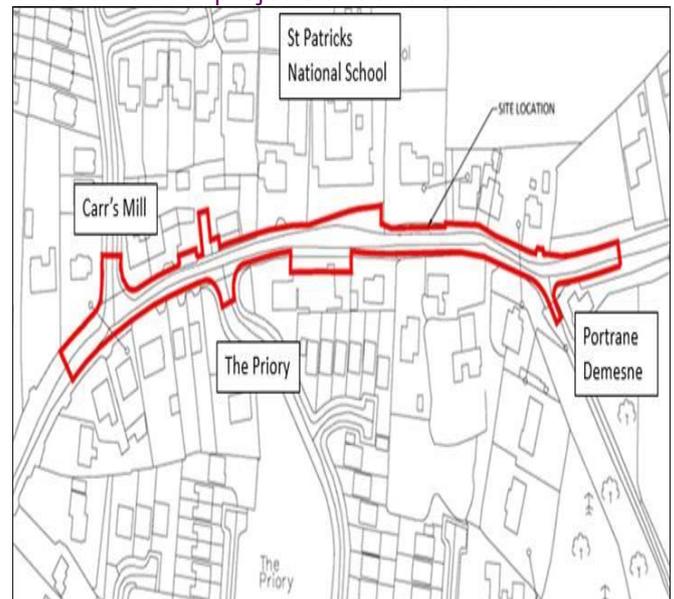


Church Fields Link Road and Cycle Network

Since the granting of Part 8 planning for this project that will facilitate the delivery of critical housing in Dublin 15, design work and ground investigations have been ongoing. The prequalification process for the appointment of a contractor to complete the project has recently commenced. This will result in up to six contractors being shortlisted by Feb 2021, who will move forward to the more detailed tender pricing stage with a view to works commencing on site during the summer of 2021.

Portrane Road Enhancement Project

The Chief Executive Report for the Part 8 was presented at December's full council meeting where it was accepted by resolution. Certain amendments were made to the scheme as a result of the submissions received from members of the public and elected members during the statutory consultation period. This project will greatly improve the safety of pedestrians in the area. It will provide a 2.5m wide footpath on the north side of the road, a new signalised pedestrian crossing at the school and widen the road carriageway and existing bus layby. Detailed design and land acquisition will be undertaken in Q1 2021, with an objective to appoint a contractor for the works by Q3 2021. It is intended that this project will be undertaken in tandem with the Turvey Avenue project, with one contractor appointed to undertake both projects under one contract.



Development Management/Forward Planning (Water Services)

- COVID19 crisis – During the whole crisis this team has worked mostly remotely and maintained business as usual. The work this team does and the available infrastructures has facilitated this. Team meetings, staff engagement is all conducted electronically. Staff attend the office only if absolutely necessary and on a pre-appointed schedule.
- Flood Risk Assessments and Drainage Strategies to inform Local Area Plans and County Development Plan - FCC staff are currently managing the preparation of the surface water management plan to inform Belcamp LAP and Balbriggan. Reviewing draft SFRA for Lissenhall LAP. Briefs have been prepared for the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment to inform both Dunsink LAP and the next County Development Plan. Both will be put out to tender in the coming days.
- Development Management – our work as internal consultee on planning applications continues remotely and has resulted in 100 reports being prepared in November.
- Pre-planning consultations – During November staff from Planning (Water Services) have engaged in discussions with developers at pre-planning stage to discuss issues related to the provision of water services and to ensure the implementation of flood risk management and sustainable drainage systems on site. These meetings have also included discussions on drainage and flood risk management relating to economic development, including pharma and logistics development and also to strategic infrastructure project, such as Metrolink, R132 upgrade, Dart+. All these meetings are being conducted online using Microsoft Teams.
- SHDs – staff are engaged as internal consultees in discussion on approx. 14no. SHD applications
- CDS – staff continue to provide planning review of water/wastewater connection

applications on behalf of Irish Water with 46no. applications processed during November. Staff have remote access to IW's network and as such this process continues as normal.

- Blue/Green Infrastructure Guidance Document (aka SUDS policy) finalised following significant engagement with internal and external stakeholders. This document brings together the works of a number of departments and pulls together in a coherent our promotion of SUDS through the planning process in FCC. This document is now available on our website and will be implemented from 01/01/2021.
- CPD – we continue to promote a culture of learning in this division, albeit in an online forum. Knowledge sharing with our neighbours on green roofs:
 - Engaging site visit to Charlestown, Finglas to witness the speedy construction of a green roof on top of on the apartment blocks. Gaining further knowledge and expertise on the design, construction and maintenance of green roofs.

Building Control/Taking in Charge

- COVID19 crisis - During the whole crisis this team has worked mostly remotely and maintained business as usual. The work this team does and the available infrastructures has facilitated this. Team meetings, staff engagement is all conducted electronically. Staff attend the office only if absolutely necessary and on a pre-appointed schedule. Inspectors continue to visit construction site as this is considered an essential service.
- Building Control Inspections are currently being carried out on a business-as-usual basis within the guidelines from the HSE, CIF and FCC's Corporate safety systems. Inspectors and engineers continue to engage with developers by other means to deal with building control.
- BCMS expansion – FCC staff continue to engage collaboratively with the National

Building Control Office following the implementation of the final module of the BCMS (Building Control Management System – an online forum for Building Control documentation).

- Construction Products Regulations – FCC have been preparing for Brexit in the context of our role as Market Surveillance Authority for construction products in the county. Training has been conducted for FCC staff and a member of staff is on a senior working group on the establishment of the NBCO as the national market surveillance authority. FCC are collaborating with NBCO in this regard.
- Dangerous Structure/Places inspections – each complaint continues to be assessed on a case by case basis. During November we have received 3 notifications and we have conducted 3 site visits.
- Dangerous Structure/Places Policy & Procedure – This document is under review and staff will operate the revised version from 01/01/2021.
- Taking in Charge of Legacy Developments – All bonds claims made to IBRC have been resolved, with approx €2M secured to date. FCC have commenced a works programme with these funds, the first contracts have just been put out to tender. This work will lead to the Taking in Charge Statutory process.
- Taking in Charge Procedure & Policy finalised following significant engagement with internal and external stakeholders. This document brings together the works of a number of departments and streamlines the TIC process from planning all the way through to the statutory TIC process. This document is now available on our website and will be implemented from 01/01/2021.

Parks & Green Infrastructure Division

- **Completion of Redevelopment Works on the Village Green Malahide**
On Friday the 18th of December, the redevelopment works on The Village Green reached practical completion and the park is now fully opened to the public. The

genesis of the project was the Malahide Public Realm study which the Council undertook a few years ago. The park emerged as a priority project and the public realm study directly influenced the brief for the redesign of The Green.



New Playground in Skerries Town Park
Works on the development of a new playground in Skerries Town Park are nearing completion and it is planned to open the playground to the public in early 2021.



HOUSING

Housing

Supply
Asset Management
Support
Tenancy Services

Housing Supply Report

Fingal County Council continues to deliver social housing units and continues to provide housing solutions in accordance with the Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan through a range of delivery mechanisms including construction, Part V, acquisitions, leasing and Housing Assistance Payment Scheme (HAP).

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage have set the 2021 social housing delivery targets for Fingal via build and leasing as follows;

Delivery Mechanism	Target 2021
Build	431
Leasing	130

Construction Programme

The Council has an ambitious construction programme underway with 29 sites across the county and 318 homes already delivered.

The following table outlines the various stages that construction projects are currently at;

Project	Units	Status
St Cronan's x 2 schemes	15	Completed
Cappaghfinn I	14	Completed
Balrothery - North + East	9	Completed
Wellview, Dublin 15	20	Completed
Racecourse Common	74	Completed
Ballyboughal	8	Completed
Pinewood, Balbriggan	20	Completed
Estuary Road - V de Paul	8	Completed
Castlelands, Balbriggan	24	Completed

Ravenswood, Coldwinters, Peter McVerry Trust	8	Completed
Rivermeade	2	Completed
Pinewood CC, Balbriggan	2	Completed
Avondale, Dublin 15	42	Completed
Church Road, Dublin 15 - FCC	22	Completed
Rolestown Phase 1	26	Completed
Rathbeale Road, Swords	24	Completed
Church Road, Dublin 15 - Cluid Housing	65	On Site
College St. Baldoyle - Cluid Housing	4	On Site
Wellview Cul de Sacs, Wellview, D15	20	On Site
Tucketts Lane, Howth	8	Tendering Stage
Cappagh, Dublin 11	69	Tendering Stage
Outlands, Swords, Co Dublin	11	Tendering Stage
Church Fields Phase 2B, Mulhuddart, D15	70	Tendering Stage
Church Road, Lusk	5	Tendering Stage
Kilhedge Lane - Tuath Housing Association	TBC	Planning Stage
Former Leonards Garage, Lusk	10	Tendering Stage
Garristown - North and East Housing Association	6	Planning Stage
Hayestown, Rush	62	Planning Stage
Infill Site adjacent to 169 Clonsilla Road, D15	1	Tendering Stage
Rivermeade CC, Rivermeade	2	Planning Stage
	651	

Church Fields, Dublin 15

On the 3rd December, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage approved an increase in the Serviced Sites Funding for the provision of enabling infrastructure to facilitate the delivery of affordable homes at Church Fields. Approval in principle has now been granted for the revised amount of €24,654,578 (11% of which is to be funded by the Council from its own resources).

Detailed design and the pre-planning process is underway in relation to over 500 affordable purchase, cost rental and social properties. Progress on delivering the housing potential of the site continues;

- An initial phase of the housing development of Church Fields has been approved and a contractor is on site.
- The next phase of development consisting of 70 social houses has been approved and a contractor will be on site Q1 2021.
- Part XI for the road link between Damastown Road and Wellview Avenue including the upgrade of the existing Wellview Avenue and a cycle way adjacent to Church Road was approved and construction is scheduled to commence in Q2 2021.
- The green infrastructure design is also underway as outlined in the Land Management Plan.

The Area Committee will be briefed in relation to the housing design layout of the overall site shortly.

Land Development Agency

The Council is working closely with the Land Development Agency (LDA) to bring forward land banks located in Fingal to unlock their potential to deliver mixed tenure housing.

Hackettstown Lands:

- The LDA has lodged a planning application for the road infrastructure upgrade which is funded through the Serviced Sites Fund.

- Design of the housing is currently underway by the LDA and a planning application will be lodged shortly. They propose to deliver 346 housing units of mainly affordable/cost rental and dwellings available for affordable purchase. Housing will also be provided for families in need of social housing.
- Further information will be brought to the Area Committee when available.

Part V Delivery

The Housing Department continues to work closely with developers to secure a steady delivery of social housing units through the Part V process. The Part V delivery remained strong during 2020 with over 100 Part V dwellings delivered with a further 70 dwellings nearing completion.

Other Development Opportunities

The Housing Department continue 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. All opportunities and proposals to provide much needed additional turnkey housing are considered.

Pilot Dun Emer Home Purchase Scheme

The Pilot Dun Emer Home Purchase Scheme was recently approved by Council and the Development Agreement is now with the contractor for signing. Once this is in place full details of the Dun Emer Development of 39 affordable dwellings will be available on the Council's website, including the eligibility criteria and all relevant supporting documents required in order to lodge a completed application. This will allow those wishing to apply for an affordable home the time to compile the necessary documents.

Details of the application process will be brought to Councillors in advance of the application process commencing. The date for receipt of

completed applications will then be advertised in the press, the Council’s website, social media, etc.

Leasing Schemes

The Housing Department continues to operate the various leasing schemes to provide much needed properties for social housing. There has been a noticeable increase in the number of properties and leasing proposals being offered to the Council over the past few months. There have been 102 properties delivered to date with a further 45 properties being processed. This is to be welcomed and every effort is made to secure long term leases with interested property owners and developers.

Covid19 Employment Loss

Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan

Number of applications received to date	1134
Number of applications approved	499
Value of the loans approved	€108,500,481
Number of loans drawn down	255
Value of loans drawn down	€54,847,749

Throughout 2020 Fingal County Council continued to lend to Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan applicants within the parameters of the credit policy, and following Government directions issued at junctures during the year. In 2020 loans were approved to a total value of €15,863,550.

Also during the Covid-19 crisis in 2020 existing mortgage holders who had a change in their economic circumstances rendering repayments difficult to meet, were offered pauses on their repayment schedules known as “Covid-19 Arrangements”. For some borrowers these arrangements will continue this year as provided for in Circular 29/2020. In all cases the Mortgage Protection Insurance Mortgage portion of the mortgage payment must continue, so as not to break the continuity of cover. Mortgage holders

experiencing difficulties making repayments should contact the Council immediately on loans@fingal.ie and the Council will endeavour to find an individual solution with each borrower. Failure to make mortgage repayments without an agreement with Fingal County Council may affect credit ratings and have a bearing on their credit record in the future.

Rent Payments – Council Tenants

The Rent Assessment Team are available to Council tenants who have temporarily lost employment due to Covid19 crisis. Tenants may have their rent temporarily re-assessed based on Social Welfare payments until their employment situation becomes clearer. Tenants should contact the Council immediately at email; rent.assessment@fingal.ie Further details are available on the Council’s website www.fingal.ie.

Private Rented Inspections

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 RTB, which within the Fingal County Council administrative area was 21,034 at end of 2018.

The annual targets are as follows:

2018 (10%)	2019 (15%)	2020 (20%)	2021 (25%)
2,072	3,155	4,207	5,259

Despite Covid-19 restrictions, there have been over 3,700 inspections of private rented properties carried out during 2020 of which over 2,400 were 1st inspections.

Housing Asset Management Report

Returning Dwellings to Productive Use

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

Voids for Re-letting	At 31 st December 2020
In letting process	50
Undergoing re-let repairs	24
With County Architect for procurement of pre-let repairs	28
TOTAL	102

Planned Maintenance Programmes

Boiler Servicing

The Council provides an annual boiler servicing facility, including all maintenance and upgrade works, for a nominal fee of €3 per week to participating tenant. The 2021 servicing programme will commence as soon as circumstances allow. Any essential repairs will be carried out.

Cyclical Maintenance

This programme provides for external painting and joinery repairs to council housing stock and this currently operates on a 6/7 year cycle. The contractors are finishing the last few remaining properties in Castlecurragh and Dromheath Estate. Painting works have now started in Parslickstown Estate and they will soon commence external painting in Church Road. The remaining estates to be completed as part of the current programme will be carried out between now and early summer of 2021. (listed below: Batch F & G)

Estate	
Dromheath	Dublin 15
Castlecurragh Heath/Vale	Dublin 15
St Patricks Park	Donabate
Shamrock Park	Oldtown
Windmill Estate	Skerries
Toberburr Avenue	St Margarets
The Bawn Grove/ The Hill	Malahide
Kirkfield Cottages	Clonsilla
Lambeeher Estate	Balbriggan

Estate	
Ladyswell Road	Dublin 15
Parslickstown Estate	Dublin 15
Castlegrange Estate	Swords
Wellview Estate	Dublin 15
Cardy Rock Estate	Balbriggan
Barnewall Avenue/Crescent	Donabate
Church Road	Dublin 15
Rockabill	Skerries
Bealing Avenue/Grove	Dubin 15

Housing Tenancy Services Report

Housing Support

Yearly List Position

The Housing Support Team is currently preparing applicants yearly list position with a view to providing same this year by on-line mechanism.

The Housing Support Team in conjunction with IT and the Data Officer are continuing to examine mechanisms to facilitate applicants access housing services and information by on-line means.

Appeals Mechanism

The Housing Support Team is actively engaging with applicants whose file records may have been closed following completion of the 2020 Housing Needs Assessment.

The Team is cognisant of those applicants circumstances, and is actively engaging to assist them at this time.

Should an applicant wish to submit an Appeal with respect to their file closure, they can do so in writing to the Housing Support Team, and the Appeals Officer will examine and arrange engagement to assist.

Set out below are the Housing Support Team Contact details, and also those of the Tenancy Services Division:-

The Housing Support Team Contact Details	
Phone	01 890 5902 /01 890 5000
Email	Housing.allocations@fingal.ie
Website	www.fingal.ie

THE HOUSING UNIT CONTACT DETAILS

Homeless Services	01 890 5090 homeless@fingal.ie
HAP	01 870 4515 HAP@fingal.ie
Estate Management (Maintenance, ASB & Special Projects)	01 890 5588 Estatemanagement@fingal.ie
Lettings	01 890 5380 Housing.allocations@fingal.ie
Housing Support	01 890 5902 Housing.allocations@fingal.ie
Customer Care Team	01 890 5000 CustomerCareUnit@fingal.ie

Offers of Housing Support

The Lettings Team has continued to provide offers of social housing support right throughout the recent **COVID -19** Lockdown period and this is demonstrated in the table below. The supply of housing is continuing through a number of mechanisms, allowing Fingal County Council to continue to make offers of housing support across Approved Housing Bodies, Standard Social Housing as well as the provision of a number of transitional housing options.

Month	Offers of Housing Support 2020
January	117
February	103
March	137
April	114
May	97
June	90
July	72
August	144
September	91
October	87
November	137
December	46
TOTAL	1,235

Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)

The HAP Team in Fingal County Council continues to operate as normal with the public making

contact through email and phone during **COVID-19** restrictions. Additional resources have been deployed to assist with the volume of calls/emails from those who have been affected by the current crisis (in relation to a change in income).

Since its inception in Fingal County Council in 2017, the HAP team have set up over 2,400 tenancies.

Homeless Services

The Council's Homeless Team continue to engage with those experiencing homelessness to offer advice and support. Homeless Assessments were conducted over the phone during the Level 3 public health restrictions which were re-introduced on 1st December 2020. In December there were 30 new homeless presentations, 20 of which were families.

37 families exited homeless circumstances during December into various forms of social housing support including into private rented tenancies under Homeless HAP.

Since 1st January 2020, a total of 596 households have exited homelessness through the various means of housing support. Homeless HAP accounts for 414 of these tenancies.

Cold Weather Strategy 2020/2021

The Dublin Region Homeless Executive (DRHE) has activated its Cold Weather Strategy 2020/2021 which runs from November 2020 to end of March 2021. This is in order to meet a likely increase in demand for homeless services and to have the appropriate contingency plan in place for cold weather conditions.

In the event of cold weather or any emergency event, the DRHE co-ordinates the response to homelessness on behalf of the four Dublin Local Authorities. Whilst services operate throughout the year to support people experiencing homelessness, during the winter period, services are increased and enhanced to mitigate against the health risks that the bad weather poses.

Traveller Specific Supports

Covid-19 Continued Support

Measures have continued within Fingal to ensure that Traveller families receive as much assistance as possible during these unprecedented times, and particularly having regard to relevant and current public health guidelines and restrictions levels.

Daily site visits by Housing Inspectorate and Senior Council Officials are continuing with due care to maintaining public health guidelines while checking on vulnerable tenants and advising on the continued supports available. In addition, the Council's designated Social Worker Service for Travellers continues to make regular contact with the most vulnerable, in order to assist with additional needs arising from the current circumstances.

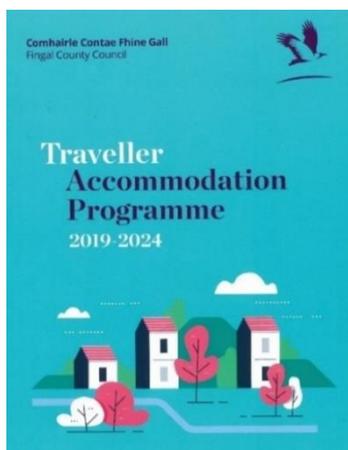


Caretaker works at Lissenhall Green

Traveller Accommodation

A programme of works in relation to the refurbishment and upgrading of existing accommodation on specific sites, is currently in development with the County Architect. Works are

ongoing at St Mary's Halting Site, Cappagh and prepared for other locations. The provision of additional accommodation in accordance with the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024 is ongoing.

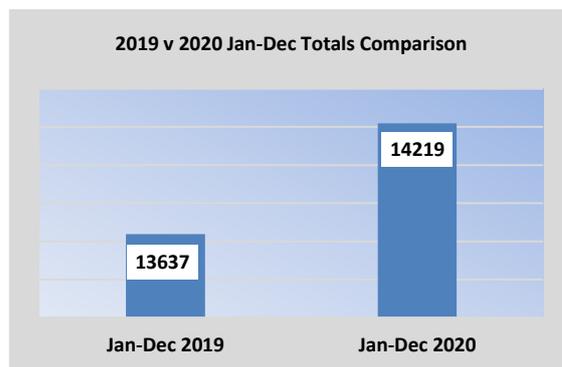
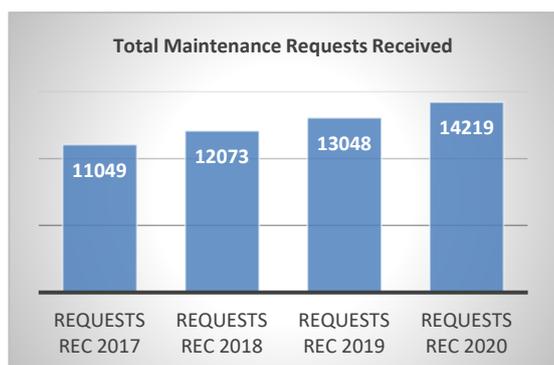


Housing Welfare Service

The Social Workers attached to the Housing Department are available to support vulnerable tenancies and to work with housing applicants who have medical/welfare needs.

In response to **Covid-19**, the Housing Social Workers have been actively engaged with their most vulnerable cases at this time providing support, information and inter-agency linkages when and where required. Tenants were identified by the Social Workers and Housing Inspectors who may be considered particularly vulnerable during **Covid-19** and follow- on action has been initiated through a number of mechanisms including the Fingal Community Response Forum.

Maintenance Requests



4% increase in maintenance requests received for Jan-Dec period in 2020 in comparison to 2019.

Over the Christmas period 30 out of hour calls were received by our Clerk of Works. While the majority were minor heating related issues, there was also a variety of minor electrical, drainage, and plumbing issues.

Anti-Social Behaviour/Inspectorate Unit

The ongoing management and sustainment with regard to social tenancies and good estate management falls within the remit of the ASB/Inspectorate Unit. Alleged breaches pertaining to tenancy agreements are investigated and pursued in accordance with housing legislative guidelines.

There are occasions when the vulnerabilities, complexities and health related issues associated with a tenancy require tenancy sustainment intervention and supports. Ongoing case management and review with a variety of external agencies, including Approved Housing Bodies, An Garda Síochána, Tusla and the HSE is a necessity to ensure all agencies work collaboratively with a view to achieving best outcomes.

Stock Management

64 cases under review – 19 Downsizing, 10 Regularisation of Tenancy, 19 Breaches of Tenancy, 16 Miscellaneous (including cases of Family Breakdown/Illegal Occupants)

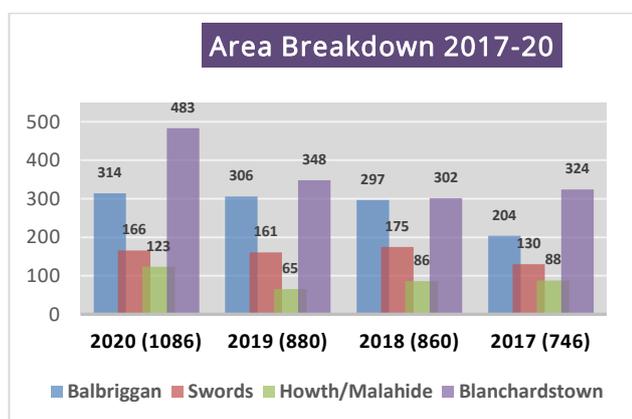
Surrenders on EM Grounds – 1 (Jan), 3 (Feb), 3 (March), 3 (April), 1 (May), 1 (June), 1 (Aug), 1 (Sep), 1 (Oct), 2 (Nov), 1 (Dec)

ASB Caseload Management

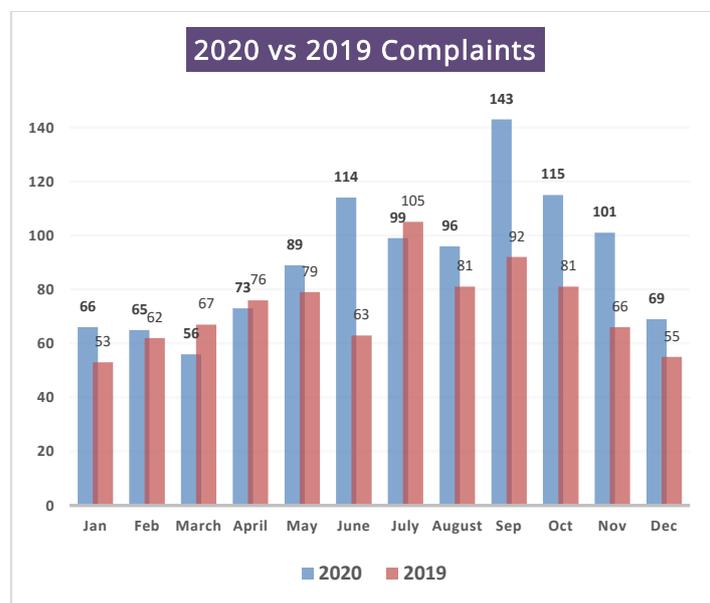
December 2020	Active Investigation	Active Monitoring	Closed
Dublin 15 (Cumulative)	57	80	40
North County (Monthly)	21	11	4
TOTALS	78	91	44

ASB complaints received are followed up and investigated and taking into consideration the current public health guidelines all efforts are made in this regard to achieve best outcomes. The number of ASB complaints end of year has exceeded the 2019 end of year figures which is reflective of current Covid-19 restrictions where citizens are at home more and possible more observant and less tolerant.

Breakdown of Complaints



Monthly Breakdown of Complaints



Anti-Social Interventions

Interviews Held 2019	123
Interviews Held 2020	108
Tenancy Alerts 2019	30
Tenancy Alerts 2020	35
Tenancy Warnings 2019	4
Tenancy Warnings 2020	4

Inspectorate

Traveller Specific Inspections 2019	1818
Traveller Specific Inspections 2020	1735
Estate Inspections 2019	944
Estate Inspections 2020	636
EM/ASB Inspections 2019	3858
EM/ASB Inspections 2020	3610

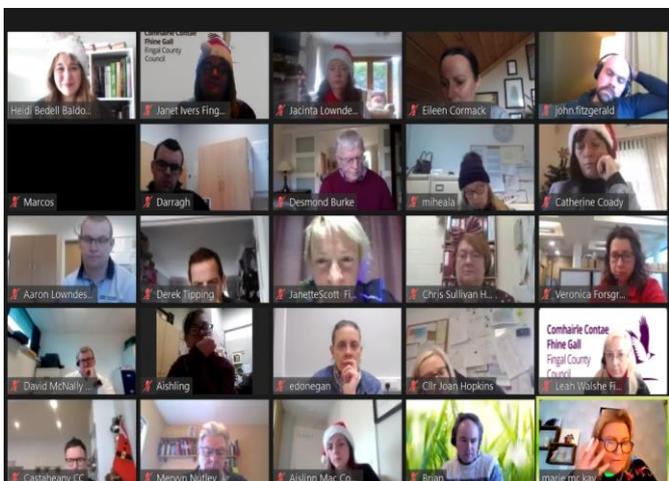
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

<p>COMMUNITY FACILITIES UNIT Fingal Coummunity Facilities Network Digital Strategy Environmental Awareness & Climate Action Donabate Portrane Community Centre Huntstown Community Centre Castleknock Community Centre Other Initiatives</p> <p>COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE Christmas Cards of Kindness Fingal Managing Volunteer Awards Virtual Ceremony Voyage Around My Brain Special Memory Makers Radio Programme Tips and Tools for Lockdown</p>	<p>FINGAL COMHAIRLE NA nOG National Showcase Event Christmas Celebration</p> <p>PROGRAMME WORK Fingal Community Education Network Broadmeadow Community Garden</p> <p>AGE FRIENDLY FINGAL Update</p> <p>SPORTS SECTION Operation Transformation Club Development Toolkit Active Club Challenge Junior Parkrun</p>
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Community Facilities Management Support Unit:

Covid-19 has changed the way we do things. Community Facilities supported by FCC examined their ways of working and looked at reaching out to communities during the pandemic. Below are a range of initiatives that have been developed to ensure communities needs are in met as far as is practicable and within current guidelines.

Fingal Community Facilities Network – end of year meeting



The Fingal Community Facilities Network project has grown from strength to strength during Covid. The collaboration among community centres has demonstrated that strength in numbers and sharing has developed a support network for all of our FCC supported community centres. Sharing ideas, providing training supports, information sharing, providing a structured approach to the safe remobilisation of community centres has ensured that no centre has been left behind. The funding opportunities presented during covid have been maximised to ensure that community centres will be ready to open their doors to the community when it is safe to do so. Meanwhile they will continue to facilitate, and support childcare, one to one child centred therapy clinics and one to one counselling, designated youth service supports and provide a space for vulnerable individuals to gain support when they need it.

Below are several initiatives that have taken place in FCC supported Community Facilities during covid.

Digital Strategy:

CFMSU are working with IT section to look at including community centres in on the public wi fi project as part of the digital strategy for the county. Each facility will be surveyed in 2021 so assess their needs. Centres that have received funding during covid to enhance their public and closed wi fi will use this funding towards the implementation of the overall project.

Environmental awareness and climate action:

The Fingal Community Facilities Network received a presentation from the Environmental Awareness and Climate Action department at their December meeting. It was agreed that there are several collaborations that could take place to promote environmental awareness in community facilities across the county. A working group has been set up to start looking at developing some new projects in 2021.

Donabate Portrane Community Centre have installed an additional space to create additional space so the community centre can create more safe spaces for childcare provision and meet the needs of user groups.



The Covid Christmas Tree was created by Donabate Portrane Active Age for All, Mens Shed, Quilters, Chinkwell Writers, ICA, local school children & Donabate Community Centre. It brought many hands together to create a shared vision. Due to funding secured from Sports Capital funding a range of dual access gym equipment has been installed in the gym - which is suitable for everyone and will facilitate greater use by people with restricted mobility.

Huntstown Community Centre





Huntstown Community centre was the only facility to be successful in securing a parklet. This initiative will provide many opportunities for the community coffee shop to facilitate the needs of the local community in an outdoor space and will also provide an external space to facilitate workshops / art classes, storytelling for children, space for small meetings and a range of other initiatives. They also received funding from DDLETB to install a new sports hall floor.



Castleknock Community Centre decided to build on their social enterprise theme. In an effort to reach out and support their older community they created a space for local crafters to display their goods so seniors from the local community can come in and to their Christmas shopping in safety, and they can also get a take away coffee from the coffee shop. This initiative is also building on the shop local ethos and has brought some joy to many.

Other initiatives included: Children's virtual Christmas Magic Show- successful in all Centres with up to 100 families on each show. Mens Health Programme – Free online weekly sessions in Yoga, Meditation and Nutrition started in November 2020. The project has 65 participants and will continue to run until the end of February (Balbriggan).

Community Development Office:

The Community office in collaboration with the Community Facilities Network and Fingal Age Friendly organised a Christmas Cards of Kindness Campaign to connect children with the residents of nursing homes across the county. Kids were asked to create a Christmas card and to write a message to an older person and cards were collected across the community centres network. Over 1700 cards were received and delivered to 14 nursing homes in Fingal.



Fingal Managing Volunteer Awards Virtual Ceremony 17th December

Fingal County Council Community Development Office and the Fingal Volunteer Centre are delighted to announce the Fingal Managing Volunteer to Awardees:

The Kebam and PACE - Circles of Support and Accountability.

The Awards which focus on promoting good volunteer management practice in community and voluntary organisations across Fingal were launched back in 2011 by the Fingal Volunteer Centre's and funded by the Community Development Office. This year's awards ceremony was launched by Mayor of Fingal Cllr. David Healy and was recorded, highlights can be viewed on the Fingal County Council website.



Voyage Around My Brain Special Memory Makers Radio Programme:

by Karen Meenan Near FM 90.3 with the support of the Community Development Office on the 14 December 2020.

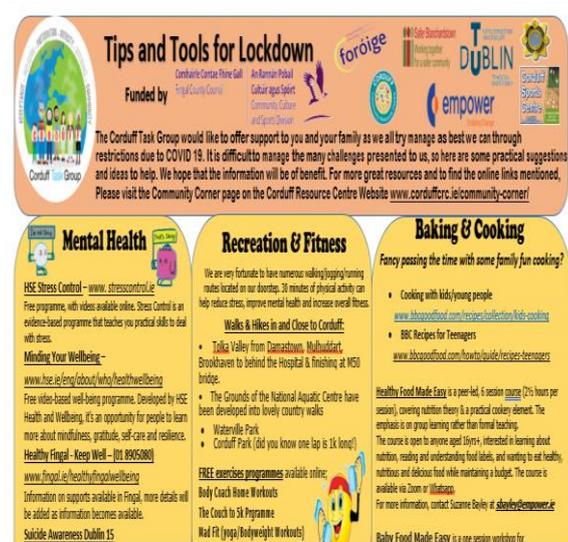
A very special programme featuring three contributors to the Fingal Memory Makers Publication Cocooners Special Edition that was funded by the Community Development Office. Poet Peter Owens from Malahide, Trinity Drama

student Maureen Penrose from Blanchardstown and artist Nancy Dempsey from Portrane talked about their life experiences, creative pursuits and shared poems and favourite songs with listeners. Fingal County Council Community Officer Veronica Forsgren who coordinated and managed the Memory Makers project also appears. Janis Joplin, Jonie Mitchell, Edith Piaf and Elizabeth Schwartzkopf provide the soundtrack to this trip down memory lane. Listen to the podcast: <http://nearfm.ie/podcast/?p=38327>



Tips and Tools for Lockdown

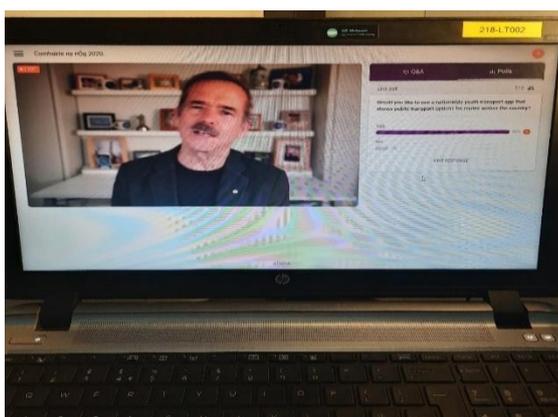
Funded by the Community Development Office the Mountview Blakestown Task Group have developed an informative communication on the range of services and supports available to the community during the pandemic. The communications will include information from FCC, Empower, HSE, Foroige, Mountview Fortlawn Community Campus, Blakestown Resource Centre, Mountview Family Resource Centre and any other information deemed relevant to the residents. This will be delivered W/C 14th December 2020.



Fingal Comhairle na nOg:

National Showcase Event:

Fingal Comhairle na nÓg had 14 members attend the Virtual National Comhairle na nOg Showcase on Saturday the 5th of December, the event presented the work carried out by each Comhairle throughout the year, with guest speakers including Minister O'Gorman and Taoiseach Michael Martin. The event was well received by the Fingal Comhairle members who attended, citing the appearance of Niall Horan and Commander Chris Hadfield as the highlights of the day.



Christmas Celebration:

On December 14th, Fingal Comhairle members had a Virtual Christmas Celebration to mark the tremendous work carried out on behalf of young people in Fingal. The event included Christmas Bingo, a quiz and a movie challenge, with prizes

being won throughout the night. The event ended with the exciting announcement of Fingal Comhairle na nÓg taking the next step into the virtual world, pioneering this new approach to youth work in 2021. This news was met with great excitement. Fingal Comhairle na nOg wishes you a happy Christmas and a happy healthy New Year and are looking forward to continuing their work in the new year. We will have more on the VR Project in early 2021.



Fingal Community Education Network

The Fingal Community Education Network is an interagency group that provides support and coordination for specific adult education courses in areas across Fingal. The group includes representatives from Adult & Community Education in DDLETB, Fingal County Council, Empower and Balbriggan Chambers of Commerce. The Network is currently running a level 4 Community Development Course in Balbriggan which commenced in January 2020 but stalled due to the COVID emergency. The course recommenced in October 2020, with social distancing measures, and currently has eight participants. The course is instrumental in developing leadership in the Balbriggan community and in providing skills for local community members to undertake community development work.



Age Friendly Fingal

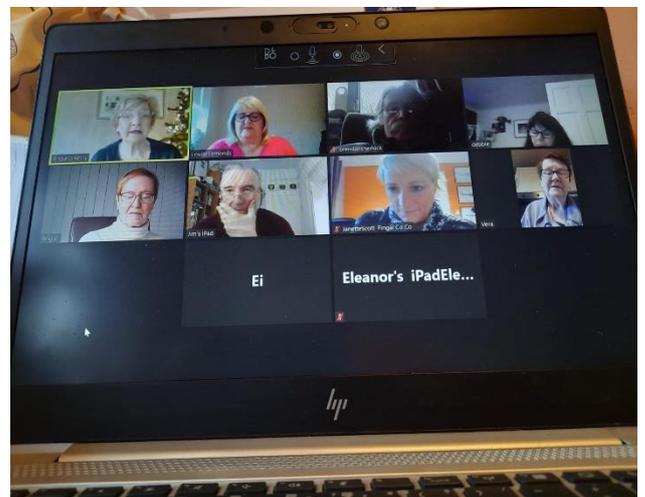
Age Friendly Fingal has had a very busy 2020, between working closely with our Older People's Council and arranging virtual meetings and working closely with Nursing homes across the county. Our last meeting of the year took place with Jim Glennon, Chairperson of the Fingal Age Friendly Alliance in attendance ensuring that our plans for 2021 will be on target, as now more than ever we must address the needs of our ageing population across Fingal.

Broadmeadow Community Garden

Congratulation to the Broadmeadow Community Garden Group in Applewood, Swords for another very successful year, despite the challenges of the pandemic. The group was recently awarded Community Office Activities Funding towards the running of the garden in 2021, and had a new tarmac path installed, thanks to the Operations Department. This will allow for safer access to the community garden for all members of the community. The group is involved in a recruitment drive, with support from the Community Office and has recently reached out to the Phibblestown schools community in Dublin 15, to provide expert community horticulture advice to budding young gardeners in Colaiste Pobail Setanta in Ongar.

The United Nations General Assembly declared 2021-2030 the Decade of Healthy Ageing, this resolution also calls upon the World Health Organisation to lead the implementation of the decade of Healthy Ageing. Working together in Fingal County Council we will be in a stronger position to ensure we are working within this remit. Therefore as Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said, "that we will not only add years to life, but life to years". Keeping well, staying connected, and listening to the voices of our older population.

Photos include meeting this morning of the Fingal Older Peoples Council with Jim Glennon, Fingal Older Peoples Council Christmas recycling project and sing-along, and delivery of Christmas Cards of Kindness to Nursing homes in Fingal.





Sports Office:

Operation Transformation

There will be no nationwide walks to kickstart Operation Transformation this year nor will the OT 5K finale take place in the Phoenix Park, which usually attracts 5,000 entries. As an alternative, the Sports Office (and all Sports Partnerships) will be hosting 5K Runs with Fingal hosting one in Ardgillan Demesne and one in Tyrrelstown Park on Friday, February 19th during the midterm break. The event will see the total number of individuals per venue limited to 120, spread across 8 hours with a max of 15 attendees per hour.



Club Development Toolkit

The Sports Office have designed a Club Development Toolkit that aims to help sports clubs grow and develop in a sustainable and structured way. The online workshop will be delivered by the Sports Office to clubs/groups of clubs and looks at supporting clubs through the provision of information on: committee skills, volunteer

recruitment, grant applications and governance. An expression was developed and promoted on social media during December with 9 clubs signed up to the programme so far which we plan to roll out across 2021.

Active Club Challenge

The Sports Office have launched the Active Club Challenge, which is calling on the sports clubs and the local community to come together in January, to help people get active, and prepare for post-COVID 2021.

The Active Club Challenge has seen the Council join forces with Cricket Leinster, FAI, Leinster Rugby and Tennis Ireland, to create an enjoyable way for anyone but in particular, those who have struggled to get active during the pandemic, to make that step towards a more active 2021.

The six-week programme is free of charge for any Fingal club and is open to any club in any sport and is specially designed to provide a safe, enjoyable, and encouraging environment to build up fitness and stamina.



Junior Parkrun

We are starting a consultation process to investigate the viability of setting up a junior parkrun in Millennium Park, D15. While parkrun is currently not taking place due to COVID-19 restrictions the athletics community are planning for a return to events in 2021; we would like to have everything in place should the opportunity to set-up a new parkrun arise. Currently, Dublin 15 does not have a junior parkrun and we feel Millennium Park is an ideal venue to host such an event as it has a 2k loop, adequate parking, and fantastic sports and play facilities for young people.



JOIN THE JUNIOR PARKRUN FAMILY
WALK, JOG, RUN, VOLUNTEER
or simply come and watch - It's up to you!

FAMILY-FRIENDLY 2K EVENTS Every Sunday morning	FOR 4-14 YEAR OLDS Adults can join in with the kids too!
EVERYONE WELCOME Walk, jog, run, hop, skip or jump - It's up to you!	FREE & EASY TO TAKE PART No special kit needed - wear whatever you like
HAVE FUN BEING ACTIVE Share high fives and big smiles!	MAKE FRIENDS Meet lots of new people
LEARN NEW SKILLS Kids can volunteer in lots of roles	FEEL HAPPY AND PROUD Try your best and celebrate your achievements

"We all do it together as a family. The volunteers are really nice, it's fun and you can walk if you want to!"

Register at parkrun.com
and head down to your local junior parkrun event!

ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE ACTION & ACTIVE TRAVEL

Contents	
Climate Action	Landfill Aftercare
Environmental Awareness	Litter Management
Circular Economy	Waste Enforcement
Bring Centres	Flood Schemes
Water Quality Protection	Active Travel
Bathing Water Quality	

Climate Action

The Fingal Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) was launched in Sept 2019, and actions are ongoing. The Climate Action, Biodiversity & Environment Strategic Policy Committee was presented with a One Year Progress Report on the CCAP in December 2020. The CCAP and the One Year Progress Report can be viewed at <https://www.fingal.ie/climate-change-action-plan-2019-2024>

The Climate Action Regional Offices are developing Climate Action Training Programmes for local authority staff at all levels, and for elected representatives. The training will be delivered across 6 pillars. A Championing Leadership pillar will be delivered online to senior staff and councillors in Q1 2021 (dates will be circulated once set).

Environmental Awareness

The Eco-Christmas competition received numerous creative posts from across Fingal including from schools, community and active age groups.

The instruments project rehomed 10 instruments in advance of Christmas. These included guitars and keyboards and recipients included children, adolescents, middle aged and older people.

An online Biodiversity course was delivered to Tidy Towns, Community and Residents Groups.

Community Environmental Action Fund (CEAF) and Anti-Litter & Anti-Graffiti projects are being completed.

Ongoing promotion of seasonal sustainability ideas on social media platforms.

Circular Economy

The Eastern-Midlands Regional Waste Management Plan Office, together with the Dublin City Council Economic Development Office invite interested bodies and individuals to the MODOS Circular Economy Webinar Series: *Pathways to the Circular Economy* - four weekly webinars due to begin on January 20th 2021.

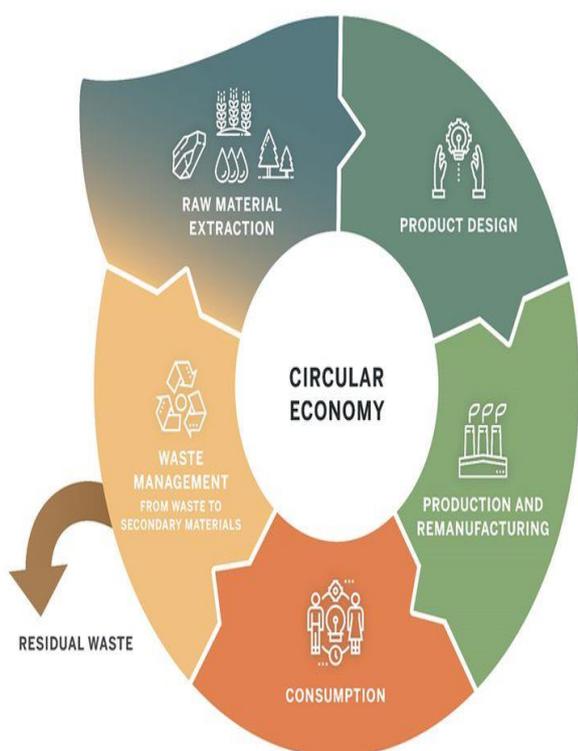
A Circular Economy offers potential benefits for our economy, environment and communities. However, moving business models and operations towards circularity can be challenging. The MODOS *Pathways to the Circular Economy* webinar series provides expert knowledge and real-world insights about the practicalities of creating circular economy businesses and circular economy hubs in a post-COVID, post-BREXIT Ireland.

The webinars will feature speakers from business, finance, policy and research and will address a range of topics including innovation, scaling businesses, leveraging finance, the role of technology and the potential of the bioeconomy.

The MODOS *Pathways to the Circular Economy* webinar series is designed to inspire and create awareness for a range of stakeholders about the circular economy (CE) principles, concepts and

practice. This series is aimed at **SME's, investors, public service actors, policy makers, public representatives, academics, students, social enterprises, change makers and citizens.** A **certificate of attendance** will be awarded to all those attending 2 or more of the webinars in the series.

The *Pathways to the Circular Economy* webinar series is **FREE** to attend, but **registration is essential.** Please register your place [here](#).



For more information on the Circular Economy see :

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/4221c-waste-action-plan-for-a-circular-economy/>

Bring Centres

Fingal County Council currently have 56 Bring Centres throughout the Fingal area which provides facilities for recycling Glass, Cans and Clothes. In addition to this there are also facilities at our two Recycling Centres Estuary and Coolmine for further recycling of these items. We are

endeavouring to expand our network of Bring Centres and are investigating the possibility of placing them in all our Council owed parks facilities. The total tonnage figure for Glass collection and recycling for 2020 was 6640.78 Tonnes. This is considerably larger than the total figure for 2019 which was 5002.54 tonnes. It is believed this was due to the increased amount of glass recycling during the Covid lockdown periods.

Landfill Aftercare

Brooks End Legacy Landfill Seawall Remedial Works



Following the completion of an Environmental Risk Assessment of the old landfill at Brooks End, consultants have been engaged to undertake preliminary and detailed design of a repair to the existing but deteriorating barrier structure.

The project will entail an application for a Foreshore licence and appropriate consents with construction scheduled for September 2021 and completion eight weeks after.

Litter Management

The Litter Wardens continue their twice daily route patrols in an effort to detect illegal dumping. The entire network of bring centres and clothes banks are also inspected on a daily basis to ensure that any unsightly facilities are emptied and cleaned by the contractor as soon as possible.

Waste Enforcement

Following the removal of end-of-life vehicles on Dunsink Lane 75 Fixed Penalty Notices have been issued (100 euro) to the registered owners of the vehicles. The notices were issued by registered post. Many of them were returned by An Post saying the recipient had gone away or not known at the address. Some of the addresses were not on the Eircode register or were incorrectly described. The exercise shows loopholes in the vehicle licensing system and the ability of owners being linked to an abandoned vehicle. The exercise also highlighted the vulnerability of persons whose vehicles have broken down on the road of being a victim of an unscrupulous towing company

Active Travel

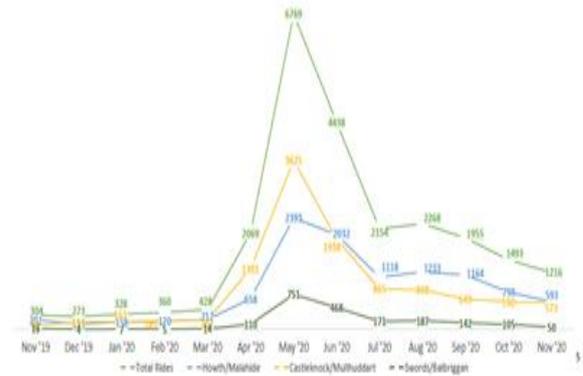
Road Safety Section

Bleper Bike Share Scheme –

Bleperbike rides have decreased from 1493 in October to 1216 in November. Usage has reduced by 277 rides in the last month. However, this month's figures are 300% higher than usage of the same time last year which highlights the popularity of the bike share scheme. Sunday's were the most popular day for Bleper's bikes with 19.07% of the total week's usage, followed by Saturday and Friday which accounted for 18.17% and 15.54% respectively. Bleper had 71 bikes operating in Fingal during October, 9 more than October.

We will continue to promote usage of Bleper through our social media platforms.

The hire of Bleper's bikes continue to be free for all Fingal staff.



Congratulations!

BLEPERbikers in Fingal

you travelled **2,995,915 metres**

IN THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

you saved **719,331 (g) carbon emissions**

you burned **599,445 calories**

- In November Bleper accumulated:**
- **2,995,915 metres**
 - **719,331 (g) of carbon emissions saved**
 - **599,445 calories burned**

Bike Racks

Bike racks continue to be installed throughout the County. Locations in Balbriggan and Swords include a POW for installation at Ardgillan Castle, Ballyboughal, Loughshinny Beach, the Skate Park in Swords, Martello Tower, Balbriggan, Donabate Beach, Quay Street Car Park, Balbriggan,

Newbridge House, Harbour Road, Skerries and Strand Street in Skerries.

Sports Clubs and Community Centres have been invited to apply for free bike racks to encourage active travel.

Bike Racks for Schools initiative

Schools have been invited to apply for bike racks by completing the online application form and submitting it to Road.Safety@Fingal.ie. All of the schools who have applied for bike racks so far should receive their delivery of bike racks from in the coming weeks.



These racks that will be gifted to schools who apply for "Bike Racks for Schools"

Cycle Bus

A guide to setting up a 'Cycle Bus' within schools has been drawn up and will be distributed to schools throughout the County in January.



It is envisaged that the newly constructed protected cycle lanes will facilitate at least 5 schools in the Huntstown/Hartstown area where the new protected cycle lanes have been completed recently.

The Road Safety Section will provide support and high viz vests to all of those who take part in the Cycle Bus and use active travel methods to travel to school.

Cycle training was provided to schools by the Cycle Right approved Irish Centre for Cycling during December to the following

- 83 pupils at St. Helens NS, Portmarnock
- 85 pupils at St. Marnocks NS, Portmarnock



FINANCE

Contents
Financial Reports

Financial Reports

Making of Rate

Following determination of the rate by Members at the Annual Budget meeting, the intention is that the rate will be made by the Chief Executive in the week commencing 25th January following the statutory publication process. Rate bills for 2021 will issue as soon as is practicable after the rate has been made.