



# **Chief Executive's Management Report**

**8<sup>th</sup> April 2024**  
**Item 23**



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## **Chief Executive's Foreword**

I hope everyone had the opportunity to enjoy the recent Easter bank holiday break.

Last month I was pleased to join the Mayor of Fingal Cllr Adrian Henchy at the official opening of a wonderful new facility in Millennium Park, Dublin 15, specifically aimed at providing a quality safe space for teenagers and young adults visiting the park. Ensuring teens and young adults have access to attractive and functional outdoor space in which to socialise was a key objective in delivering the project and it has been very successfully realised in this new area. The space contains the first purpose built competitive parkour facility in the country, a custom-made seating structure, chess tables, a music post and climbing poles. I have no doubt that this will be a much used and vibrant space for young adults to convene and one which be replicated in suitable locations in the county in time. I was very pleased to see yet another improvement to the park with the redevelopment of the historic Arboretum including its new outdoor classroom, seating and events area. Millennium Park is a much loved amenity for the people of Dublin 15 and beyond with its wooded walkways, playground and lush green spaces and these improvements will certainly encourage more people to visit this fantastic space.

On March 21<sup>st</sup>, Minister for Community Development Joe O'Brien TD joined Deputy Mayor Cllr Gráinne Maguire at County Hall as she launched a new step-by-step guide to help community, voluntary and workplace settings across the county to become Anti-Racist Organisations. Developed by the Fingal Integration team in collaboration with the Immigrant Council of Ireland and supported by the Irish Network Against Racism and the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission, the guide seeks to educate organisations on how to dismantle racist practices. It is appropriate that Fingal County Council is leading with the introduction of the guide as we have one of the youngest and most diverse populations in the country with almost one fifth of our population identifying as non-Irish nationals. We all have a responsibility to foster inclusivity and celebrate diversity in our communities, educational settings and workplaces and this guide focusses on 4 key steps that organisations can employ to ensure best practice. The steps are; Introduce the idea, carry out a survey, survey response and planning and anti-racism policy and statement. I wish to acknowledge the work of the council's Community Development Department whose research and collaboration with stakeholders led to the production of this very important document which will be of great benefit to many organisations across the county.

The second series of the popular programme *TradFest – The Fingal Sessions* was launched last month at a joint event hosted by Fingal County Council, The WNET Group's arts and culture streaming platform ALL ARTS and TradFest in Fraunces Tavern, Manhattan. Mayor of Fingal Cllr Adrian Henchy launched the series which was filmed at the magnificent Ardgillan Castle. Presented by Fiachna Ó Braonáin of Hothouse Flowers, the second series features internationally renowned artists such as Eileen Ivers, Allison Russell, Eric and Ulrika Bibb, Caoi De Barra, Joy Clark, Muireann Bradley, Kaia Carter, Aoife Scott, Aine McGeeney, Aoife O'Donovan, Ultan O'Brien and Ultan Conlon, Thomas McCarthy, Sharyn Ward, Steo Wall, Thomas McCarthy, Paddy Keenan and Wallis Bird. Following the launch, the programme premiered on New York's WLIW21 television station and will eventually be rolled out to over 100 stations across the USA. This was an exceptional opportunity not only to showcase Fingal as an ideal tourist destination to a considerable audience but to introduce a new generation to the rich sounds of traditional Irish music as interpreted by talented performers. I sincerely hope that viewers in the States will be intrigued and engaged by the series and that visitors to Ireland will include an extended stay in Fingal in their itinerary where they will receive a warm welcome.

We have an abundance of bright, talented and ambitious secondary school students in Fingal and I was fortunate to have met many of them on March 14<sup>th</sup> at the Student Enterprise Programme Fingal final at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Blanchardstown. Young entrepreneurs from Loreto Secondary School, Balbriggan and Mount Sackville will represent Fingal at this year's Student Enterprise Programme National Final on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May. This is a hugely popular annual programme as some 1500 students from 26 schools took part locally this year. The programme supports students to create, design and market their own business and ultimately prepare them for a future as young entrepreneurs. The level of vision, planning and ambition on display was very impressive and I would like to wish these students the very best of luck in their endeavours as they represent their schools and Fingal in May. The future certainly looks very bright with these young people forging ahead in business!

Best wishes,

**AnnMarie Farrelly CE**

## PEOPLE, CORPORATE AND DIGITAL SERVICES

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People Services
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### People Services

#### Recruitment

People Services' recruitment of staff will continue in 2024, with a total of 34 recruitment campaigns underway year to date (January & February).

Recruitment Programme 2024	
Total Recruitment Campaigns	46
Campaigns Completed	14
Current Campaigns	32
Interviews Held to date	201
New Starters	51
Number of Current Job Offers	43

### Learning & Development Update

The Learning and Development team continue to deliver high quality training opportunities for staff.

Learning and Development Quarter 1 2024	
Number of Courses Delivered	96
Number of Attendees	875
Number of Training Days	969.5
Further Education Applications Approved	5

There are several new courses this month including Procurement, Finance and Budget Management in the public sector. Throughout April courses under the following headings will be delivered:

Personal Development  
Health and Safety  
Business Skills  
Specialised Departmental Training  
Mandatory



### Wellbeing Update

In April we are running Organisational Mental Health Workshops for our middle management teams grades 5, 6 and 7. This vital training will equip managers with tools to assist staff and help promote a healthy and open organisational culture with mental health and wellbeing supports.

Our 'Creativity for Wellbeing' programme begins in April with sessions in high demand. For this innovative project we provide a guided art session for staff. Artistic activities such as painting have been proven to Enhance mental health, Reduce Stress, Foster Resilience, Fuel Joy.

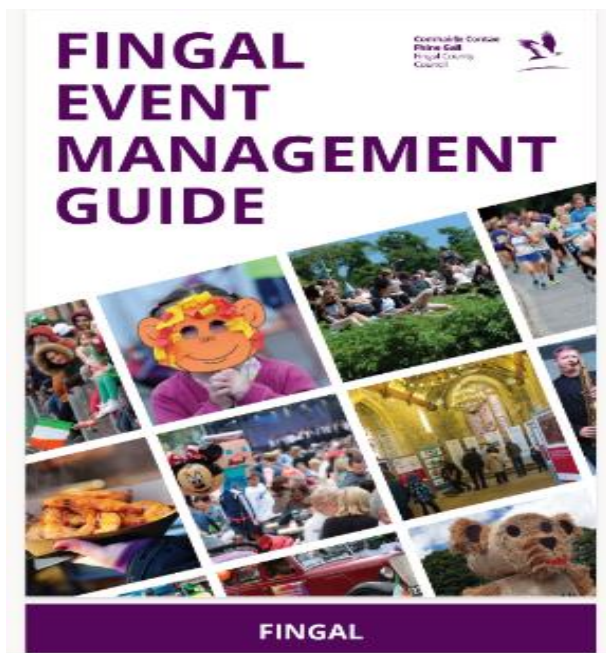
We continue to promote our Employee Assistance Service and our Staff Digital Gym with regular staff messages.



### HSU – Health & Safety Unit

The HSU during the month of March 2024 revised assessments and procedures across the various tasks involved in road maintenance works; landscape works encompassing use of chainsaws, shredders and grinders; and tasks involving staff working indoors specifically in relation to lighting, working with display screens, fire, slips / trips / falls and general office hazards. Site safety inspections and audits continued during the month along with VDU assessments including remote assessments. The HSU continued to field staff requests in relation to a variety of safety issues including safe management of events.





Contributed to Content Fingal Call Fingal County Council		Ref No: <b>RA83</b>
<b>Risk Assessment for:</b>		Revision 2
<b>Job/Activity:</b> Slips, trips, falls		
Training: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Manual Handling <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Use of SSWP <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> First Aid		
Additional Comment:		
Image:		
 <p><b>Safety footwear</b> "Oil resistant soles may not be slip-resistant"</p> <p>Maintain three points of contact when exiting from your vehicle</p> <p>"34 year old driver and father of two jumped from the lowest step of his HGV cab, landed on a small rock and completely blew out his knee. He wore a cast from thigh to ankle for six months, and had a chronic limp after that – all from a 3 foot jump from his cab that landed wrong." * EU OSHA</p>		

## Customer Services

Month	Total No. of Calls	Total No. of Emails	Presenting in Person
March	8,490	1,285	1,365

## Digital Services

### VR for Libraries Events

The VR Champions were delighted to host three Seachtain na Geailge events in Donabate Portrane Library, Malahide Library and Blanchardstown Library showcasing the Irish language, culture, music, and dance short film Ar ais Aris. Ar ais Aris was directed by James Riordan from the Bru Theatre in Galway and has been rented by the VR for Libraries project for the month of March, through the CE Innovation Fund.



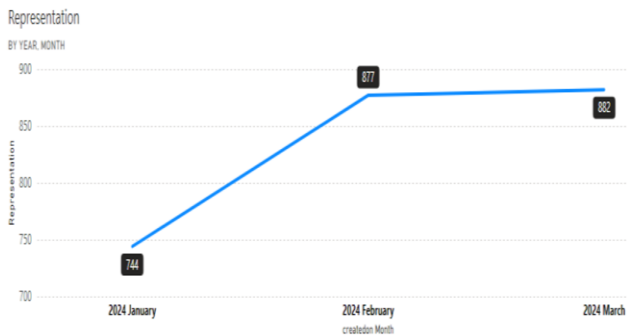
The eleven-minute-long film was enjoyed by many in the participating libraries, with some describing it as "haunting" and "extraordinary". With many of the older generation enjoying viewing the film through a different medium. "I thought it was going to be 3D glasses and viewed on a screen, that was extraordinary, so immersive" said one Malahide user.

VR for libraries is available in Blanchardstown Library, Balbriggan Library, Malahide Library, Donabate Portrane Library and Swords Library.

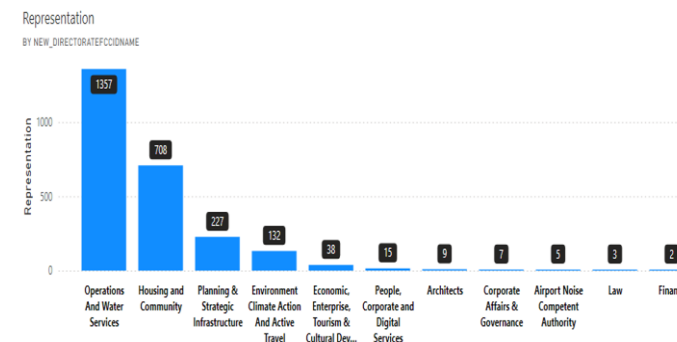


## CRM

Staff continue to work on the Customer Relationship Management System (CRM) and issue responses to representations from Elected Members (Councillors, TDs and Senators) and complaints submitted by the public. The total number of Elected Members' representations were as follows for March – 882.



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



## Communications

### St. Patrick's Day Activities

On Sunday, March 17, the streets of Balbriggan, Blanchardstown, Lusk, Malahide, Rush, Skerries and Swords were filled with excited spectators who cheered and waved their flags at the different parades and performance from the various community groups.

The Communication team was on the ground to capture the very essence of that colourful and beautiful day in Fingal.



### Website

The fingal.ie website attracted 142,617 visitors from March 1 to March 27 which was 11,702 more compared to the figure for February. The number of page views, at 320,429, was already up by was up by 3% from February and by 26% from the same month last year. The most visited pages during March were the Events page, Planning Applications, News, Affordable Housing and Playability of Pitches.

### Social Media

Different post promoting the St. Patricks Day display of activities across the county on March 17 from all participating community groups got good impressions on all our various platforms. It had a reach of over 35,000 on Facebook while on X there was a 32.76% engagement rate with one particular post. On Instagram the posts had a cumulative reach of over 5,000 and a 9.03% engagement rate. The number of followers on Facebook has risen to 34,417 while Instagram has 9,153 followers and LinkedIn has 8,834. The X platform added 41 new followers and now stands at 23,355.

The five corporate social media channels now have a cumulative following of 77,039, having risen by 1,723 from last month.





## Irish Language

The 2023 return to the Irish Language Commissioner in relation to compliance with the Irish Language Requirements around Advertising was submitted in March. Fingal County Council fulfilled the requirements with regard to 25% placement of Irish Language adverts and 5% spend on Irish Language adverts in Irish Language Media. Seachtain na Gaeilge was celebrated with a Ceol, Craic agus Gaeilge event in County Hall where a large attendance enjoyed a wonderful evening and some of the recipients of the Gaeltacht Scholarship were also in attendance with their families.

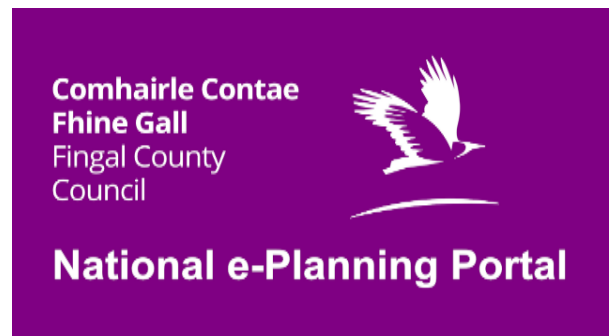


## Videos

Nineteen videos were produced during March and uploaded onto the Council's YouTube channel. They included a video about the transition to electronic process of accepting planning applications via the National E-planning portal. This video was subsequently heavily promoted by the Local Government Ireland and LGMA social media platforms.

Other videos that were produced are about the Learn to Cycle with a Disability courses; the Housing Development on Station Road, Portmarnock; St. Patrick's Day Parades and Women in Sport Week to celebrate International Women's Day.

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



## Press Releases

Seventeen press releases were issued during March. These included the approval of the new community facility for Baldoye and the ribbon cutting on dynamic new facilities for young people and the redeveloped Arboretum at Millennium Park as well as the launch of a new step-by-step guide to help workplaces across the county to become an Anti-Racist Organisation.

## Media Queries

The Communications Unit received 21 media queries during March. Among the topics covered were Affordable Housing and Dublin Airport.

## Building Facilities / Energy Improvements

### Period Dignity – Funding 2023 and 2024

This is a collaborative project between Building Facilities, Libraries and Community which commenced in 2022 following a small trial in 2021. The Period Dignity pilot project is across 16 of FCC Community Centres, Fingal Libraries, Draiocht and available to the public in both Corporate Council Buildings.

In 2023 funding of €10,000 was received from the Department of Health, it is estimated this helped close to 8,000 Fingal residents who required period products.

Building Facilities submitted a comprehensive proposal for funding for 2024 and have received confirmation that €15,000 will be provided to the Council from the Dept of Health following the recent success of the scheme and for an increased service relating to period dignity.

### Energy Management System

The latest surveillance audit for the Council's ISO 50001:2018 took place on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024. The certification body NSAI focused on the SEU (Significant Energy Users) Public Lighting and the SEU Large Buildings (Civic Offices, Grove Road)

The Auditor also looked for updates in regards to Climate Action, Communication, Training, Internal Audits and the Energy Review.

The Audit met all aspects that were required and in the summary report there are 6 Opportunities for Improvements across various parts of the Energy Management System.

One Non-Conformity was noted - the Data Collection Plan is not fully up to date at present. This will be updated and recorded with corrective action. The Energy Team have 1 month to respond and implement an updated data collection plan.

Erigo Limited and Joseph Flood -v- Fingal County Council and others High Court Record No 2023/1233 JR
Timothy Fitzgerald and James Fitzgerald -v- Fingal County Council Record No 2023/1236 JR
Kinwest Limited -v- An Bord Pleanála, Minister for Housing Local Government and Heritage, Ireland and the Attorney General and Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2023/1206 JR
Kinwest Limited -v- An Bord Pleanála, Minister for Housing Local Government and Heritage, Ireland and the Attorney General and Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2023/1207 JR
Kinwest Limited -v- an Bord Pleanála, Minister for Housing Local Government and Heritage, Ireland and the Attorney General and Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2023.1208 JR
Martin Ryan and Mary Ryan -v- Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2023/1245 JR

### Current Judicial Review Cases - March

Jimmy Guerin -v- Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2022/116 JR
Kimpton Vale Limited -v- an Bord Pleanála and Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2022/390 JR
Christian Morris v. An Bord Pleanála, Fingal County Council and Trafalgar Capital Limited High Court Record No. 2022 1074 JR
Graymount House Action Group, Darragh Richardson, and Aoife Grimes v An Bord Pleanála, Fingal County Council, the Minister for Housing, Ireland, and the AG High Court Record Number 2022/1107 JR
Joan Reynolds and Edel McDonough -v- Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2023/372 JR
MKN Properties Limited and another -v- Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2023/373 JR
daa plc -v- Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2023/383 JR
Fiacre Ó Cairbre -v- An Bord Pleanála, Garlandbrook Limited, Alcove Ireland Four Limited, and Uisce Éireann High Court No 2023/570 JR
Ciaran O'Kelly and Dorone Paris -v- an Board Pleanála and Jacko Investments Limited and Fingal County Council High Court Record Number 2023/581 JR
daa plc -v- Fingal County Council and the Irish Aviation Authority High Court Record No. 2023/916 JR
Friends of the Irish Environment CLG and SMTW Environmental DAC-v- the Minister for Housing Local Government and Heritage, Ireland and the Attorney General and the Office of Planning Regulator and Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2023/1047 JR
Niall O'Connor and Geraldine Kiernan -v- An Bord Pleanála and Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2023/1122JR

## ECONOMIC, ENTERPRISE, TOURISM & CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

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## TOURISM DEVELOPMENT



Oifig um Sholáthar Rialtais  
Office of Government Procurement

A tender for the provision of tourism, food and drink consultancy services was published on e-tenders on 15<sup>th</sup> March with a response deadline of 17<sup>th</sup> April. Once appointed, the consultants will work closely with the Tourism Development team on the implementation of the new Tourism Strategy and Fingal Food and Drink Policy.

## Fingal Food & Drink Network



The Fingal Food and Drink Network hosted a visit to Fingal from the TU Dublin Masters in Culinary Arts Programme on 13<sup>th</sup> March. Máirtín Mac Con Iomaire, Chair of the Master's programme with a group of 25 students and teachers had a very interesting and engaging day visiting Newbridge House and Farm, McNally Family Farm, Llewellyn's Orchard and Howth Cookery School.

The network held a committee meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> March to discuss the future direction of the network, growth of the membership and upcoming events such as the input of the network at the launch of the Fingal Food & Drink Policy at Flavours of Fingal.

## Digital Heritage Trail for Malahide



A new digital heritage trail for Malahide highlighting the many points of interest of historical significance around the town is now available on the Dublin Discovery Trails app.

## Tourism Officers Network

The first in-person Local Authority Tourism Officers Network meeting for the entire country will take place on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April in the Killashee Hotel, Kildare. The network is convened formally under the aegis of the CCMA. Representatives from Tourism Development section in Fingal will attend.

## EVENTS

### St Patricks Day 2024

Over 100,000 people viewed and 15,000 participants in the seven parades across the county including the four ran directly by the Events Unit: Swords, Blanchardstown, Balbriggan & Malahide. A fine day of weather added to the enjoyment for all. Very successful additional needs areas were utilised by a large number of local residents and visitors alike. Additional artists were used to animate the parades this year and a creative director will be in place for the 2025 parades.

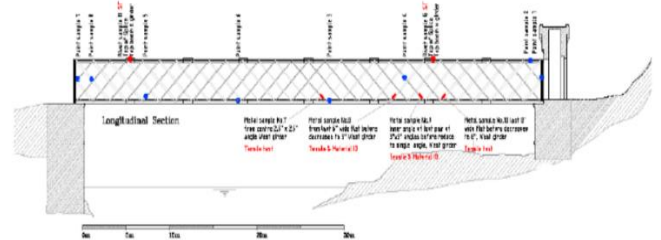




## HERITAGE PROPERTIES

## Guinness Bridge – Structural Stabilisation Project

The works at the bridge are now complete, and the bridge was lifted back into place last month. The structure is now preserved against the elements and has a much better appearance for visitors along the Liffey Valley. The last steps to secure the site are now underway, with the reinstatement of the fence and boundary at the site where it abuts the public realm on the lower Lucan Road.



## Skerries Mills – Red Barn Project

The existing Red Barn is being demolished, and the site is being enabled for the required services to support the new multi-purpose Red Barn building. In the interim the site will be secured with a construction hoarding, which will be decorated with as much public information as possible about what the Council is developing on-site in conjunction with the local operator.



### **Malahide Drawing Room Restoration**

A localised restoration of the small drawing room of Malahide Castle is now nearing completion. The works involved replacement of the floors, upgrading of the heating and repainting of the rooms. To preserve the authenticity of the experience the colours and materials were painstakingly researched and sourced by the collections and curation Manager in Aramark. The objective is to return the room to the condition it was in circa 1900, and to consolidate and regularise various running repairs over the years. This includes assembling the collections and artwork and arranging them in a way that was previously photographed and documented.



## **CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT** **ARTS**

### **Youth and Education**

#### **Music Generation Fingal**

Music Generation celebrated its tenth anniversary this month with stakeholders and young people gathered to mark the occasion at Dublin Castle over a two-day period. We proudly presented Fingal's Balbriggan Rhapsody Project with live performances on the main stage during the Youth Celebration Day and discussed the importance of quality music education provision with national policy makers and the Director of the Arts Council of Ireland. Next up and in partnership with the Seamus Ennis Arts Centre, Music Generation Fingal is delighted to offer young people aged 14 – 18 years a two-day music camp during the Easter break.

Full details available [www.musicgenerationfingal.ie](http://www.musicgenerationfingal.ie)



*Above: Balbriggan Rhapsody, a new Youth Music Group formed in Balbriggan within the Music Generation Fingal programme.*

#### **Youth Dance Research**

Fingal Arts Office and Dublin Youth Dance Company are working in partnership to develop contemporary dance opportunities with, for and by young people aged 10 – 23 years from diverse and new communities in Fingal. This collaboration reflects the shared needs and interests of both partners to broaden the range of dance opportunities rooted in youth and diversity which provide equal access regardless of social, economic, or geographic factors. A countywide mapping of dance across all genres has been developed, and a deeper investigation into youth and dance in Fingal's three most populated and diverse towns (Swords, Balbriggan and D.15) is underway following the completion of a countywide Youth Survey with action research taking place in St. Luke's National School, Tyrrelstown and Swords Community College to date.

#### **Orchestral Odyssey**

Orchestral Odyssey is a special presentation in development for Cruinniú na nÓg 2024 and The Carnegie Library Swords. Commissioned by Fingal Arts Office and devised by musician Niall O'Sullivan in association with the Irish School Orchestra, this initiative promises to be a harmonious blend of education, music, and community engagement. It is tailored for primary school students and underscores the pivotal importance of music in a child's development.



## Public Art

A busy month working with Fingal based companies to fulfill their requirements to commission public artworks as part of their planning condition. Astra Zeneca have awarded Liing Heaney to create a new work with staff at their site and Glenveigh Homes has recently shortlisted a stellar lineup of artists from Fingal's Public Art Panel who will be commissioned to make sculptural work for housing developments in Semple Woods, Donabate & Taylors Hill, Balbriggan.



## Fingal County Council, Children's Books Ireland, Tyrone Guthrie Centre Bursary Award Recipient 2024



Niamh Sharkey was recently announced as the Fingal recipient of the 2024 Fingal County Council, Children's Books Ireland and Tyrone Guthrie Centre Bursary Award. Niamh Sharkey is an award-winning author and illustrator of children's books and a former Laureate na nÓg. This award provides a funded studio space for one week at the Tyrone Guthrie Centre at Annaghmakerrig and offers the author time and space to focus on her craft, complemented by an opportunity for creative exchange and collaboration.

## Fingal County Council, Tyrone Guthrie Centre and Age & Opportunity Residency Award 2024



An open call was recently announced for the Fingal County Council, Tyrone Guthrie Centre and Age and Opportunity Residency Award. These residencies aim to celebrate and support older artists at all stages of their careers working in literature and visual arts. The residencies will offer a professional visual artist and a professional writer the opportunity to research or develop new work in a funded studio at the Tyrone Guthrie Centre over two separate 2-week long residencies between July 2024 and May 2025.

## County Art Collection

Fingal Arts Office has managed the Fingal County Council Municipal Art Collection since its establishment in 1984. Now in its thirtieth year, the Arts Office is developing a written art collection policy for the management, development, use, care and protection of the collection. The policy's purpose is to provide a clear framework outlining relevant processes, guidelines and procedures to ensure the accurate management of the collection.



An artwork from the Fingal County Council Municipal Art Collection was recently loaned to the Highlanes Gallery, Drogheda. *Singles Archive*, 2019 by Fingal artist Colin Martin currently features in an exhibition *Empathy Lab* by Colin Martin which runs from 02 March – 13 April 2024.



**'The Banks'**, a landscape painting by Fingal artist Sean Molloy is due to be loaned to Balbriggan Library in early April and will be situated in the Turret room. This artwork, part of the Fingal County Council Municipal Art Collection, was produced for a public art commission for 'Infrastructure'. The original artwork was replicated for an outdoor mural at the Banks, Balbriggan, unveiled in 2022.

### **Draíocht**

Draíocht's major project, NEST, formally launched on February 17th. This was the first time we gathered everyone involved in the project. Our 48 hosts (a host being a person who lives in Dublin 15), their families, our 5 visual artists, curator, 41 theatre/dance/music artists and our production team were all present. Our hosts are between the ages of 7 weeks old to 22 years old. Our 48 hosts included one class group from PobalScoil Setanta (22 children).

On March 1st, our 23 shows were performed 3 times, 69 performances in total. These performances took place in schools and homes all over Dublin 15. It is estimated that they were seen by 1,500 people.

Our Festival 'Spreacha Soar', where all of the 23 shows were performed as part of the festival with the closing evening officiated by Director of the Arts Council Maureen Kennelly where she congratulated the team on the initiative as an exemplary & groundbreaking project.

April 13th will be the final event of the NEST project. This is the day we formally handover the NEST Portrait project works to Fingal County Council's collection.



### **Seamus Ennis Arts Centre**

As we approach the end of quarter one, TSEAC is thrilled to announce an increase in sales of 20% on the same period last year. We are also due to launch The Garden Party series for the Summer on March 29<sup>th</sup>, 6 weeks earlier than last year.

### **Comedy**

Martin Angolo played to a 80% capacity audience on March 8<sup>th</sup>

### **Theatre**

Seamus O'Rourke's The Empty Nest played one night only, with full capacity and a waitlist.

### **Cinema**

Lies we Tell, filmed in Ardgillan Castle will be screened on March 28<sup>th</sup> – ticket sales currently at 55% capacity with half of them opting for the meal deal with the café. Peter Rabbit will also be screened on March 27<sup>th</sup> at 100% capacity and a waitlist, as part of TSEAC's Easter programme.

### **Seachtain na Gaeilge**

Seachtain na Gaeilge featured a short film as gaeilge, "An Tine Bheo" and TSEAC's first Pop Up Gaeltacht, which had 20 people attend and was very well received. On St Patrick's Day itself we held a very successful open session which packed the hall and even had people waiting outside the doors to try squeeze in!

### **Slow Sessions and Singing Sessions**

Our slow sessions and singing sessions have been well attended in person, while people from all over the world have joined us on Zoom and via live stream.

## Music

Ronan O'Snodaigh and Myles O'Reilly sold out with a waitlist on March 1st, More than Music with Ronan Browne and harpist Siobhan Armstrong was live in person and live streamed on youtube, with Réalta finishing up our music acts for March.

## Children's Events

Céili Beag continues to sell out weekly, while our Easter Workshops in Cyanotype and Photography Storytelling, Easter Tree Creation and Bunny making all sold out with waitlists.

## Heritage

On March 2<sup>nd</sup> we held an exhibition in collaboration with The National Museum, in which we displayed wooden sieves made by local Naul man Jonathan Hamilton in the 1940s. We also screened the film recorded by Kevin Danaher of the Irish Folklore Commission when he visited the Naul in 1948. We were honoured to have many of John Hamilton's family visit the exhibition.

## Libraries

### Launch of new 5-year Fingal Library Service Development Plan

The Fingal Library Service Development Plan 2024-2029 was launched in Malahide Library on 1st March by the Mayor of Fingal Cllr. Adrian Henchy. Joining the Mayor for the launch, were Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage Darragh O'Brien, Chief Executive of Fingal County Council AnnMarie Farrelly, and County Librarian Betty Boardman. The Plan sets out a clear vision for the strategic direction of library services in the County over the next five years and was drafted following an extensive consultation process.



## Seachtain na Gaeilge

Fingal Libraries presented events for all ages to celebrate Seachtain an Gaeilge, including Irish traditional music & singing from Antaine Ó Faracháin & Nollaig MacCarthaigh, and bodhrán playing with Niall Preston. Gaeilge i mBaile Brigín hosted a bilingual poetry evening in Balbriggan Library. The programme also featured a 3D Irish language film, Ar Ais Arís, screened on Oculus Virtual Reality headsets, and storytelling from Seosamh Ó Maolalaí and Róisín Murphy. There were several workshops for schools, including yoga sessions, comic strip drawing and drama workshops.

### Fingal Libraries World Book Tour 2024

Acclaimed children's authors Alan Nolan, Sadhbh Devlin, Nicola Pierce, Ellen Ryan and Sarah Webb visited libraries and schools across Fingal to celebrate World Book Day Ireland. This was the second year of the popular Fingal Libraries World Book Tour, which gives primary school children the opportunity of meeting favourite authors. The children were gifted a copy of the author's book.



### Children's programming and sensory-friendly events

Creative workshops for children in April include a graphic novel drawing course with author and illustrator Alan Nolan, spring crafts workshops with artist Kim Jenkinson, and journalling for mental health workshops with author Megan Wynne. 'Spring into Storytime' story sessions with library staff will take place as part of the national Right to Read programme, which promotes literacy and reading development. Every library will offer sensory-friendly workshops, including Sensory Slime workshops, Musical Tots and Sensory STEM workshops.



### Literary Events for Adults in April

Novelist Anne Griffin will join author Dermot Bolger for a discussion of her writing life in Malahide Library. One Dublin One Book aims to encourage everyone in Dublin to read a designated book connected with the city during the month of April every year. *Snowflake* by Louise Nealon is the choice for 2024 and Louise will discuss her novel in the company of author Kerri Ní Dochartaigh in Blanchardstown Library.

### Tyrrelstown Literacy Project

Fingal Libraries organised a Literacy Project for some students and their parents in St. Luke's N.S. in Tyrrelstown, Dublin 15. There is a large population in Tyrrelstown, many of whom do not speak English as their first language. For a four-week period, literacy expert Stephen Brett worked with a group of parents, and Colm O'Donovan with a group of children. Stephen focused on encouraging parents to read with their children for fun. The mobile library service also visited at St. Luke's each Monday afternoon, so parents and their children could join the library and select books. Alan Nolan facilitated a fun session with the children on their last week. Each child got a free bag of specially selected books from Fingal Libraries. The feedback has been very positive and there have been requests to run this project again.



### Book Presentation

A commemorative poetry edition to mark the centenaries of the War of Independence and Civil War was presented to Fingal Libraries by UCD on 5th March. The presentation of edition number 53 of *Grief's Broken Brow* was made in Fingal Local Studies and Archives by Catherine Wilsdon, Creative Producer, Poetry as Commemoration, and Evelyn Flanagan, Head of UCD Special Collections to the Deputy Mayor of Fingal, Cllr. Gráinne Maguire and County Librarian, Betty Boardman.



### Creative Ireland

Ongoing Creative Ireland projects in April include sustainable arts & crafts workshops with the residents of the Moorehall Lodge Nursing Home in Balbriggan, and the Silver Lining Virtual Music Appreciation Sessions with the Forget-Me-Nots Choir. The Lifebio in Words and Pictures project with Dublin City University is designed to assist older people document memories through autobiography templates, memoir writing, photography, scrapbooking, and art. Creative Fingal is also supporting a shared island cross-border initiative with the Forget-Me-Nots choir. The call for Creative Communities funding remains open until 29th March. Submissions will be accessed by an evaluation panel.

Cruinniú na nÓg will take place on 15th of June. The Creative Fingal team have launched a Youth Voice survey in library branches and online to collect the views of children and young people on Cruinniú na nÓg. Creative Ireland announced additional Nighttime Economy funding to reach an older age group of 14 – 18-year-olds. Creative Fingal will collaborate with Garageland Galaxy on an event that includes live music performances from young artists and special guests, which will stream online alongside music videos and workshops.

### Story Stage at Millennium Park

On the 14th March, Mayor of Fingal Cllr Adrian Henchy opened the wonderful new story stage at Millennium Park in Blanchardstown. Junior and senior infants from nearby Scoil Oilibhéir were the first to use the facility as storyteller Roisín Murphy recounted Irish tales and legends as Gaeilge. All attendees were given goody bags from Fingal Libraries.



## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

### **Fingal Skills Strategy**

Preliminary planning is underway for the 2024 “Xplore Your Future TY Expo” which will be held in The Helix, DCU on the 15<sup>th</sup> of October 2024 with procurement underway for the provision of event management support services for the event.



Tenders for the engagement of consultants to prepare the next iteration of the Fingal Skills Strategy 2024 – 2029 have been evaluated and work on the new Strategy will commence in April.



**Interreg  
Europe**

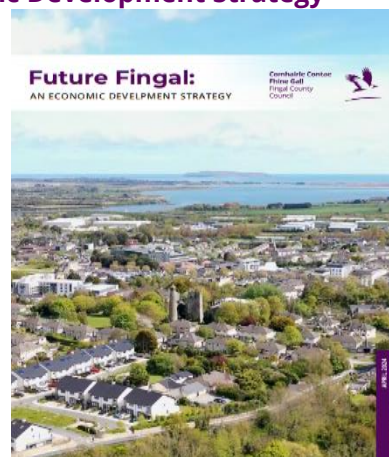


Co-funded by  
the European Union



The SKYLA Project “Smart Specialisation Skills Ecosystems for the Twin Transition” is a 4-year project which focuses on enhancing the role of VET in smart specialisation sectors. Projects partners include Italy, Poland, Sweden, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Greece and Belgium. Reporting for Period 1 of the Project has been completed and the identification of good practices in Fingal is in progress with key stakeholders – DRSF and Baldoyle Training Centre – which will be shared with the Project Partners and presented at the next transnational meeting scheduled to take place in Florence in April 2024.

## **Economic Development Strategy**



Grant Thornton Consultants have completed work on the Fingal Economic Development Strategy ‘Future Fingal’ which was agreed at the February Council Meeting. The Future Fingal: Economic Development Strategy builds on the socio-economic profile prepared as part of the Fingal LECP process and sets out a vision, key opportunities and actions to support the local economy to 2040. Work has commenced as part of the Economic Development Strategy, on a Marketing Plan for the county, with consultations with key stakeholders taking place in January and February 2024. Preparations are underway for the official launch of the Economic Development Strategy in April 2024.

### **URBACT – EcoCore**



**URBACT**  
Driving change for  
better cities

Fingal County Council is leading the URBACT EcoCore Project which comprises a network of 9 small cities/towns in Europe focussing on challenges and opportunities for green growth and sustainable economic development along transport corridors. Balbriggan is the lead town and the other partners committed to the network are Albu Iulia, Romania; Dubrovnik, Croatia; Kekava, Latvia; Ormoz, Slovenia; Parnu, Estonia; Santo Tirso, Portugal; Tuusula, Finland; Villena, Spain.

The  
**EcoCore**  
Project

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

Representatives of Fingal County Council visited the partner city of Santo Tirso in Portugal to learn about the city's approach to sustainable economic development. Members of the Project Team were accompanied by Deputy Mayor Councillor Gráinne Maguire and Mr Anthony Cooney, Chief Executive Officer, Fingal Dublin Chamber, who are key stakeholders in the EcoCore Project which is focussed on the sustainable development of the Stephenstown Industrial Park in Balbriggan.



Santo Tirso has developed an international reputation as a business-friendly city and a highly attractive destination for business investment. During the visit delegates were welcomed by the Mayor of Santo Tirso, Alberto Costa, and over the course of the meeting representatives of Invest Santo Tirso shared their expertise in investment attraction and marketing, along with a number of the city's good practices in achieving sustainable economic development with the network. The City of Santo Tirso had a lot to share about investment attraction and working with business to create jobs in the local economy.



The Balbriggan Project Team is examining an application to the Urbact European Urban Initiative (EUI) to inform the development of plans for Balbriggan under the EcoCore Project which would involve an exchange of best practice in sustainable industrial development with an identified partner city.

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

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





## Green It Your Work

Fingal Economic Development Department hosted the 5th 'Green IT Your Work' International meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> March in Balbriggan with a focus on "It's Time For Green Start" which coincided with Local Enterprise Week. Partner representatives from 7 European Countries who attended from Romania, Spain Greece, Cyprus, Slovenia, Croatia and Italy attended the "Don't Wait for Opportunity" as part of the Local Enterprise Week scheduled events.

The main objective of the Green IT Your Work is to highlight the role of young people in the green transition, as well as to promote green jobs with the aim of contributing to greener European cities. This event focused on businesses making their professional career greener.



The delegation had an engaging site visit to Techcrete, who aim to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2030. Foróige Balbriggan gave an insightful presentation to the group on the first Foróige Technology Hub which is located in Balbriggan. Sinead Fox presented on sustainable measures in Fingal and the Green Schools Programme, followed by presentations by budding entrepreneurs from Ardgillan Community College who impressed the delegation with their sustainable business ideas.

Eamonn Donlyn presented on Smart Balbriggan, followed by a creative workshop in the Warehouse, Balbriggan.

The delegation also visited Cliff Farm in Howth which was facilitated by Hans Visser and Melissa Jeuken to observe the Conservation Grazing Project which effectively uses digital technology to optimise the use of livestock for landscape management.



## InclusEU

The InclusEU project aims to encourage volunteer action as a social response for an inclusive Europe. Work continues on the project with partners from Italy, Poland, Hungary, Spain, Portugal, the Netherlands and Romania. Representatives from Fingal's Sports Office and Foróige attended Lasi, Romania, in February with the Portugal event taking place in April 2024.





## Sustainable Fingal



The Council met with representatives from DCU and DAA in March to discuss a work programme for 2024 to progress sustainable projects. A follow-up meeting is scheduled to prioritise projects for funding applications.



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

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

## Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor



Fingal County Council's Feasibility Study for the development of regional innovation/enterprise hubs along the Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor has been completed. The Council is liaising with DBEC to consider potential funding streams to progress the implementation of the Study's recommendations and has submitted a concept proposal to the Enterprise Ireland Smart Regions Fund for a priming grant for a pilot implementation of the recommendations. Fingal County Council continues to liaise with DBEC on a series of potential projects for DBEC.

## Enterprise Ireland – Smart Regions Funding

The Council has submitted 5 no. concept proposals to the Enterprise Ireland Smart Regions Fund. Concept proposals include applications under Stream 1 for Capital Infrastructure Investments in the Council's Enterprise Centres and Under Stream 4 for Feasibility Studies/Priming Grants.

## LOCAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT



### Fingal Local Community Development Committee

The Fingal LCDC continues to oversee and administer the key areas of LEADER and SICAP and the various Local Development and Community Development funding programmes under its remit. The LCDC also manages the Healthy Ireland Initiative and the Social Enterprise Grants Scheme. The LCDC met on the 7<sup>th</sup> of February 2024 and reviewed progress on various programmes under its remit, approved the SICAP end of year 2023 review and discussed the annual plan for 2024 which has been forwarded to Pobal for review.



Healthy  
Fingal



An Roinn Forbartha  
Tuaithe agus Pobail  
Department of Rural and  
Community Development

## Fingal Local Economic Community Plan 2023 – 2028

The LECP was adopted by the Council in January 2024 and includes a two-year LECP Implementation Plan with actions to implement the Goals and Objectives set out in the LECP.

The LECP was launched on the 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024 by the Mayor Councillor Adrian Henchy and Minister Joe O'Brien with internal and external stakeholders attending the launch at County Hall along with Minister Darragh O'Brien.



### Local Enhancement Programme 2024

The Local Enhancement Programme 2024 which is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development allocated a total of €220,842.98 in funding to community groups/organisations within the Fingal administrative area. The closing date for completed applications was the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024 and the evaluation of applications has been completed and will be submitted to the Department of Rural & Community Development by the deadline of 28<sup>th</sup> March for approval. An announcement of the successful projects will be made in due course by the Department of Rural and Community Development.



### We Can Quit

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



### Community Recognition Fund

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

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

All projects are required to be complete by 18<sup>th</sup> October 2024 and work is progressing on the implementation of the project with the Council submitting an initial drawdown in 2023 of €243,000 with a further drawdown of €176,000 submitted in respect of works completed to date in 2024.

In March the Council received an allocation of €1,538,573 in respect of the Community Recognition Fund 2024. The funding will support capital projects which will be delivered over the time period 2025/2026. The fund aims to recognise the contribution made by communities welcoming and hosting arrivals from Ukraine and other countries. A public funding call will issue in April 2024 and further information will be circulated on the call to the Elected Members, members of the LCDC and the Local Community Response Fora.

### SICAP



The new SICAP contract for the provision of the SICAP programme over the period 2024-2028 has been awarded to Empower CLG and contracts have been signed. The annual SICAP budget for 2024 is €1,520,811 and there is a separate funding provision for new arrivals to the value of €375,372. The SICAP Annual Plan for 2024 has been approved by the LCDC and reviewed by Pobal.



## Leader Programme

Following the outcome of the Local Development Strategy (LDS) selection process Fingal LCDC and Fingal LEADER Partnership were selected to run the LEADER Programme 2023 – 2027 in the Dublin rural area. The Dublin Rural LEADER (LAG) includes rural areas in the administrative areas of Fingal, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown and South Dublin.

The new LEADER programme launched at the end of February, following the signing of the LEADER Funding Agreement by the Minister for Rural & Community Development, Heather Humphreys, TD. The new Dublin Rural LAG met for the first time on the 27<sup>th</sup> February 2024 and were briefed on the new LEADER Programme by Fingal LEADER Partnership.



## Enterprise Centres

Fingal's Enterprise Centres continue to participate in ConnectedHubs.ie and ran an advertising and marketing campaign during Q1 2024 to promote the availability of remote working hubs within the three Enterprise Centres.

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



All three Enterprise Centres have space available to start-up businesses and businesses/individuals who wish to avail of remote working options and facilities. Bespoke options or generic office fitouts can be considered. Occupancy rates at the Council's three enterprise centres are all over 90%. The three Enterprise Centres currently support 65 businesses and over 320 direct jobs.

Fingal County Council was approved for €50,000 in new funding to promote Remote Working Hubs in the County under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme Marketing Measure. A cross-departmental team within the Council have implemented initiatives to promote Fingal as a Remote Working Hub base for remote workers with an active marketing campaign during Q1. across various media platforms and includes an article in the Business Post, radio advertisement and significant coverage across a range of social media platforms.



Drinan Enterprise Centre is also actively promoting the availability of a bespoke creative media studio facility available for immediate booking to all individuals, groups and business interests which has been promoted by “How to Gael” bilingual podcasters who used the Creative Studio in March to record a number of their bi-lingual podcasts which coincided with Seachtain na Gaeilge.



## **Town Regeneration Office** **Our Balbriggan 2019 – 2025 Rejuvenation Plan –** **A Socio-Economic Strategy**



The Our Balbriggan Programme Office continues to support the Leadership Group and its five pillars - Growing the Local Economy, Public Realm & Infrastructure, Education, Skills & Employment, Community Integration, Health & Well Being and Community Safety. The Balbriggan Leadership Group, provides oversight and stewardship for the plan's implementation. A 'Review and Renew' meeting of the Leadership Group was held in March where the new Chair, Dr. David Begg was introduced to the group following the departure of Brian MacCraith.

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



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



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



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

The programme office is progressing the phase 2 element of the Balbriggan Tidal Pool and Swimming Platform Feasibility Study. Potential funding options and funding models will also be investigated and identified and necessary environmental studies, site investigations will form part of the phase 2 stage.

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



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







Lár Bailte ar dTús  
Town Centre First

### **Town Centre First – Lusk**

The structure, membership and Terms of Reference for the new Lusk Town Team were agreed in the third quarter 2023. Together with the Town Team there are three Pillar Groups representing the Community, Business and Economy and Public Realm / Climate Action & Sustainability (to include Vacant & Derelict Buildings). Consultants to support the preparation of a new Town Plan were appointed to work with the Community, Businesses and Public Realm Pillars in Lusk to get their views for inclusion in the new town plan. Work on this has progressed well, with a draft of the new Town Centre First Plan for Lusk currently being reviewed, with final sign-off on the plan expected shortly. The plan will then be published.

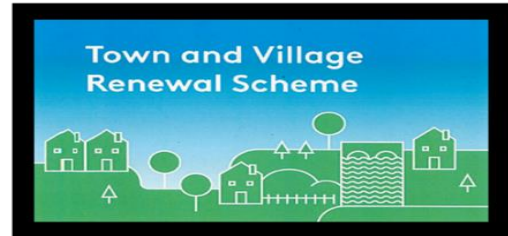
### **Town Centre First – Rush**

At the National Town Centre First Day held 28<sup>th</sup> February in Limerick, the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphries T.D. announced that Rush had been selected as Fingal's second Town Centre First Town. The Town Regeneration Office welcomes the selection of Rush as a Town Centre First Town and engagement with the Local Elected Members, the Community and the Business Sector in Rush has begun with a view to establishing a new Rush Town Team. This new Town Team will prepare a new Town Centre First Plan for Rush. During March, there was a walk-about in Rush by the Town Regeneration Office team, local elected members, Rush Tourism and Rush Community Council.



### **Town & Village Renewal Schemes**

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



In 2023, the Town Regeneration Office completed the implementation of projects in Rush, Donabate, Oldtown, Naul, St. Margaret's and Balrothery. With respect to these 6 schemes, the local authority has invested €282,276.00 in total funding drawn down from the Department of Rural and Community Development to support the revitalisation of our Rural towns.

### **Streetscape Enhancement Scheme 2024**

Streetscape Enhancement Scheme 2024 was launched on the 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2024 and is seeking expressions of interest from qualifying commercial and community premises located within areas designated as "Major Town Centre", "Town and District Centre", "Local Centre" or "Rural Village" within the Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029. Under the scheme, up to 50% of the cost of improvements, up to a maximum grant amount of €1,500 per eligible property, is available, subject to terms and conditions. Applications to be considered for this scheme must be submitted by the 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2024.

### **Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme**

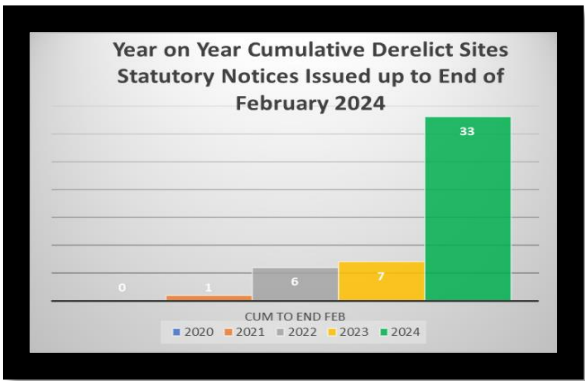
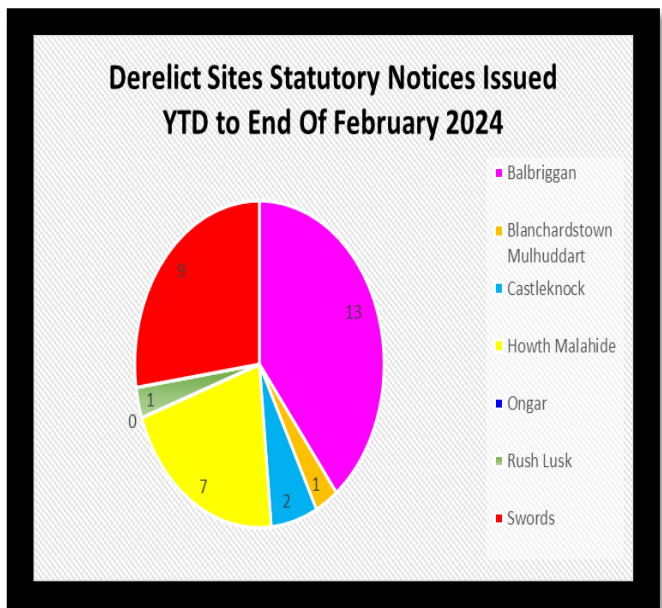
An application under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme for a feasibility study for facilities for sea swimmers in Skerries was successful in November. As of February 2024, the Town Regeneration Office has commenced the study process by engaging with local stakeholders, gathering and collating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

### Urban Regeneration Development Fund Call 3

In 2023, the Town Regeneration Office was successful in securing €7 million for a new revolving fund that will acquire vacant or derelict properties to renovate, bring back into use and sell back into the market for housing purposes. An initial 19 properties under this fund have been approved for inclusion by the URDF Call 3 Fund administered by the Department of Housing Heritage and Local Government. A further 5 properties were approved by the Department of Housing, Heritage and Local Government in February. These are being assessed and progressed where appropriate. A further 20 properties are under consideration to be added to the list of properties going forward.

### Derelict Sites

33 statutory notices have issued to owners of Derelict properties to the end of February 2024. This equates to 71% of the total notices issued in 2023 and the team are gaining momentum as they work through referrals throughout the County. 25 new sites have been identified to the end of February 2024 which are actively being progressed in line with the Derelict Sites Act 1990.



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

### LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE



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

### Local Enterprise Week 2024



Local Enterprise Week 2024 took place on the week of March 4th to 8th. The week kicked off in the Riasc Centre, Kinsealy with the Fingal Startup Bootcamp. On Tuesday the LEO in partnership with the Balbriggan Chamber hosted a networking event in the Lark, Balbriggan called "Don't Wait for Opportunity, Create it" with 3 Fingal entrepreneurs sharing their journey at the event. On Wednesday, Fingal Chamber ran a "Behind the Business" event in the Portmarnock Hotel featuring local entrepreneurs.



Thursday saw Fingal LEO present a Dublin regional event in the Crowne Plaza, Blanchardstown, with Richard Curran as MC and covering the topic of Raising Finance. Friday celebrated International Women's Day with the Fingal Enterprising Women Network in the Roganstown Hotel, as well as the LEO sponsored Pitch Perfect event in TU Dublin, Grangegorman.



### Fingal Local Enterprise Awards 2024



The Fingal Enterprise Awards competition is organised annually by the Local Enterprise Office to acknowledge the achievements of small businesses. This is part of a national competition in which one overall winner from each of the 31 Local Enterprise Office areas will compete for the National awards. The Fingal winner is Conor Halpin from PRM Assist. PRM Assist based in Dublin Airport is a global leader in innovative Passenger with Reduced Mobility (PRM) services within airport environments. Their solutions include PRM Connect, a groundbreaking API for seamless accessibility bookings; PRM Assist Portal, offering comprehensive data analytics for efficient operations; and a user-friendly mobile app empowering passengers to request assistance and engage with airports.

While focusing primarily on the UK and Ireland, they have expanded into the Middle East and plan to reach the US, Canada, and beyond – PRM Assist won the overall prize of €5,000. Each of the other finalists took away €1,000 to invest in their business:

Silvertop Ltd, T/A QBM (Baldoye), PRM Assist Ltd (Swords); Thorn Environmental Ltd (Dublin 15); MSC Retail T/A Carol Kinsella Chocolates (Kinsealy); Lumineire Ltd, T/A Elite Woodworking Machinery (Dublin 15).

### Student Enterprise Programme



Twenty-six second level schools across Fingal competed in this year's Student Enterprise Programme. Over 1300 Fingal students developed their own real-life businesses, researching, resourcing and trading services and products, with the guidance of business mentors. Judging took place over a number of months, culminating in each team displaying their ideas at individual stands at the County Final which took place on Thursday March 14<sup>th</sup> 2024 in the Crowne Plaza Blanchardstown. Hosted by well-known tv presenter Síomha Ní Ruairc, this day long event was a huge success and a super opportunity for participating teams to show case their ideas and meet the judges in person.

Loreto Secondary School, Balbriggan and Mount Sackville will represent Fingal at this year's Student Enterprise Programme National Final in Mullingar on May 9th.

The Fingal Student Enterprise County Final 2023/2024 was sponsored by Dublin and Dún Laoghaire ETB (DDLETB), Blanchardstown Centre, SimTech Aviation and One4All.

## Fingal Enterprising Women Network



As part of Local Enterprise Week 2024 and in honour of International Womens Day, the LEO's Fingal Enterprising Women Network hosted an engaging networking lunch on Friday, March 8th at the elegant Roganstown House Hotel. Renowned TV personality and accomplished Businesswoman, Anna Daly featured as guest speaker where she discussed all things media, motivation and making it happen! It was a lively day with multiple questions and insights from those in attendance and lots of time for valuable networking over lunch.

## Upcoming Fingal Business Briefing Sessions



A Business Supports Briefing was held on 8th March in the Carlton Dublin Airport Hotel as part of Local Enterprise Week. Over 100 businesses attended with a high amount of interaction with the audience making it a very informal but informative session. The small business owners and entrepreneurs heard about supports and services available to them from the LEO and other State bodies as they embark on or expand their businesses. The next business briefing is scheduled for Wednesday 10th April at the Riasc Centre, Kinsealy.

## Food Supports



LEO Fingal is running the next Dublin region Food Starter programme on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024, working with small food producers who are starting out on their food business journey. The Food Starter programme is the industry specific Start Your Own Business training for the food sector. As part of the programme, businesses are given a thorough grounding in what is required to set up their business, the health and safety implications and how to capitalise on market opportunity. Participants also benefit from the network of other food businesses on the course and leave with a new set of mentors and business advisors to help them on their journey.

## Evaluations and Approvals Committee

The Evaluation and Approvals Committee (EVAC) approved €102,900 in funding across 3 Business Feasibility, Priming and Expansion Grants in March 2024. Seven Technical Assistance for Micro Exporters grants to the value of €17,500 and two Digital for Business grants amounting to €9,000 have been approved year to date. The next EVAC meeting will be on 24th April 2024.

## Management Development

### LEADERSHIP FOR BUSINESS ACCELERATION



The Leadership for Business Acceleration Programme provides an exceptional opportunity for SME Owners and Managers to build on the necessary leadership skills and knowledge needed to successfully compete in existing, new and international markets. This highly successful "International Best Practice" training programme which commenced on March 26<sup>th</sup> is delivered to small groups by way of onsite skills development workshops and online workshops.

As part of the programme, the owner manager participants each produce Work Based Assessments which document their strategic plan and acts as a living document as well as a point in time reference for where their business is now and the actions they need to take to grow.

### Energy Efficiency Grant Scheme



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

### Trading Online Voucher Scheme



An initiative under the Government's National Digital Strategy, the Trading Online Voucher (TOV) scheme supports small businesses by allowing them to enhance their online offering by providing a grant of up to €2,500 for ecommerce and digital marketing activities, as well as giving businesses a better understanding of how they can exploit E-Commerce opportunities for their business.

A total of 24 applications have been approved in the amount of €53,504 in 2024. The next Trading Online Voucher seminar will be held on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May in Riase, Kinsealy

### Business Advice Clinics and Mentoring



LEO Fingal provides one to one business support services through Business Advice Clinics and a Mentoring programme, both online and in person. These services are heavily subsidised by LEO and provided free of charge to small businesses. The Fingal mentor panel consists of a variety of skilled and experienced mentors from a range of business backgrounds. So far this year, 188 clients have availed of one-to-one advice in our Business Advice Clinics. The Mentoring Programme has already got off to a busy start, with 97 clients receiving expert mentoring so far this year.

### Microfinance Ireland Loans

LEO Fingal provides a loan scheme through its partnership with Microfinance Ireland, with loans of up to €25,000 per approved applicant. LEO Fingal is actively promoting the availability of loans from businesses that have difficulty raising finance from their bank. Applications are processed and assessed by LEO Fingal and submitted to MFI (Microfinance Ireland). Applications submitted through LEO Fingal are eligible for a reduced interest rate. LEO Fingal has processed and submitted 7 MFI loan applications to date in 2024.

### Training and Events

2024 training is continuing apace with over 1,350 participants in events year to date. The third Start Your Own Business course started on March 19th bringing to 36 the number of participants at the multi-day event YTD.

The second Social Media and Digital Marketing QQI course kicked off during Local Enterprise Week and is still ongoing with a class size of 12. Fingal LEO ran a Startup Bootcamp in Local Enterprise Week which is an intensive one-day course for those who wish to invest in their training for starting their business.

### **Internationalisation and Export Development**

Export Development Programme. The purpose of this new programme is to provide clients with the skills and the confidence to identify, target and exploit new business opportunities in the Benelux Region. In addition, the TAME (Exporter) grant enables small businesses to explore and develop new market opportunities by providing up to €2,500 to businesses investigating and researching export markets. Seven Fingal businesses have been approved for Export Grants (TAME) in 2024 to date.





# OPERATIONS

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Works Programmes
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Burial Grounds Services
Traffic Operations County-wide
Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit
Public Lighting
Beaches
Recycling Centres Update
Licenses
Surface Water
Meetings/Briefings

## Works Programme Balbriggan / Swords Area

### Balbriggan Area Parks



As part of the 'Free Tree Giveaway' for National Tree Week, approximately 2000 young trees were given away at the Ardgillan Demesne Collections Area. This year the focus was on the right tree for the right place, so the Parks staff had information available for the public to understand which varieties were best for their space.



As part of the Annual Programme of Works a recently completed new stone wall planter was constructed at the entrance to Balbriggan beach at Convent Lane Balbriggan. In line with the FCC Biodiversity Plan, a pollinator perennial planting scheme was planted in consultation with Balbriggan Tidy Towns.



As part of the 'Our Balbriggan' initiative and following recent discussions with the local elected representatives and the swimming group using Balbriggan Beach, construction has commenced to create an enhanced outdoor changing and shower area.



Recently installed modifications to the doors at public toilets in Ardgillan Demesne, to include a lighter door that is easier for children to use with a bespoke design, slide- across security door covers.





Recently planted trees in St Catherines Estate, Portico Open Space, Rush



Recently planted trees in Chapel Farm Estate, Lusk.



Recently built block and stone wall at 'The Square' Ballyboughal. This is the backdrop to a new community space currently being designed and which will form part of a future Programme of Works project.



Community Orchard Project in Balbriggan as part of the FCC Biodiversity Plan. Trees provided by Fingal and planted by Balbriggan Tidy Towns with Fingal Operations Area Team.



New Boundary wall at The Hastings Estate Balbriggan. Programme of Works 2023/24.



## Swords Area Parks



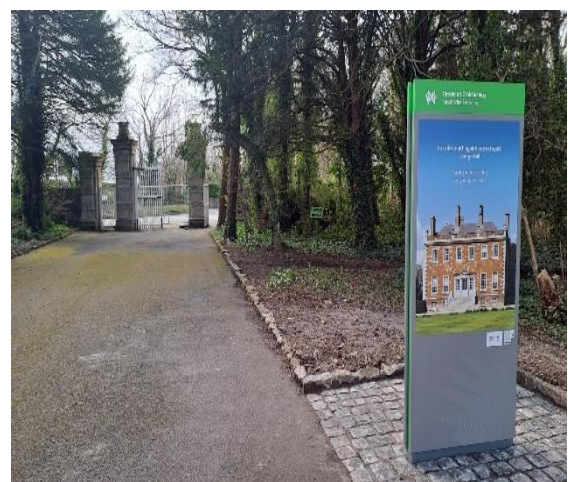
As part of the 'Free Tree Giveaway' for National Tree Week, approximately 2000 young trees were given away at the Newbridge Demesne and Ward River Valley Park Collections Areas. This year the focus was on the right tree for the right place, so the Parks staff had information available for the public to understand which varieties were best for their space. Huge thanks to Swords Woodland Association, who coordinated the Ward River Valley Collection event.



Recently planted trees in the open space to the rear of JCs in Swords.

The open space connects, Mooretown Rd, Pinegrove Park, Broadmeadow Rd and Castlefarm residential estates. The tree planting compliments the recently installed new footpaths and public lighting to this space. Additional seating and perennial bulb planting are also planned.

The Swords Area Operations Team also carried out tree planting in Newbridge Demesne, Beverton open space and Ridgewood Green.



Recently installed Heritage and Wayfinding signage in and around Newbridge Demesne.



## Harbours

Removal of two boat wrecks from Balbriggan Harbour.



Improved views across to East Pier, Balbriggan

## Area Roads Programme Lusk

Night time road resurfacing works at Post Office Road, Lusk as part of the Roads Programme of Works 2024.





## Swords

Cleaning and straightening of signs in the greater Swords area.



Footpath Repairs along Main Street, Swords





Resurfacing works at Elmwood Road, Swords.

## Kilsallaghan

Drainage works completed at Surgalstown North.





## Balbriggan

Footpath works Chapel Avenue and Chapel Gate as part of the Depot Maintenance programme.



Footpath works at New Market Green as part of Depot Maintenance programme.

## Portrane

Crews adjusted pathway access points at Tower Bay, leading to below happy customer.



## Garristown

Lower Road Garristown (Chapel Lane) resurfaced as part of 2024 Programme of Works.





## **Traffic Management Schemes**

Traffic management schemes in the Balbriggan / Rush / Lusk / Swords have been out for public consultation which will conclude on 28<sup>th</sup> March. A presentation will be made at the April ACM for BRLS outlining the outcomes from the public consultation.

## **Public Convenience Building Programme Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords Area**

A report on the Part VIII process for Rush South Beach public conveniences will be brought to the April meeting of the Council. Subject to approval of proposal, it is envisaged that works to install the new toilet block will commence prior to the end of Q2.

Work is continuing finalising the Final Drawings, Appropriate Assessment Screening Reports and Environmental Impact Assessment Screening in respect of Donabate and Portrane locations. Part VIII process to commence as soon as the EIAS reports are complete. Site surveys are underway in relation to Rush North (Harbour Park), Loughshinny and Skerries Harbour (2 locations)

## **Howth Malahide Area**

### **Programme of Works**

The 2024 POW is currently being tendered. Road Closures have been booked for Road Inlays in April and footpath works have been tendered and will commence when suitable weather conditions allow.

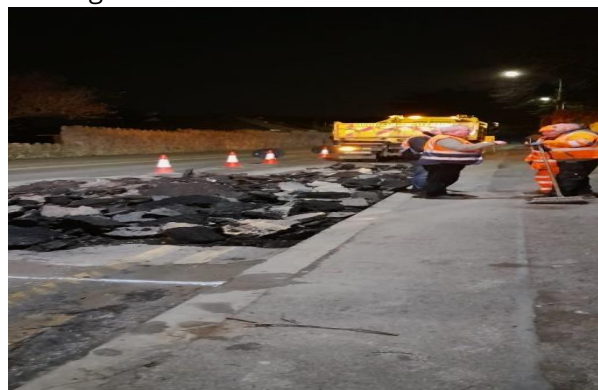
### **Kinsealy Lane Drainage**

Drainage works carried out by the FCC operations crew as part of the Kinsealy lane road upgrade.



### **Kinsealy Lane Nightworks:**

Night works in Kinsealy lane deep patching and drainage installation.





### Station Road Portmarnock

Station Road Portmarnock the installation of a new Kerb line and associated works.



Section of the road relayed as part of the works.

### Malahide Demesne

Tourism Ireland promoting Malahide castle with an American film crew for the St Patrick's Day festival.



### Spring has Sprung:

A Beautiful Clematis blooming over the arch at the entrance of the courtyard for the visitor centre in Malahide Demesne.



### Refurbishment works to the existing Sports Pavilion and Cafe in Malahide

Series of photos showing the completion of the works at the Sports Pavilion and Café in Malahide. The public conveniences are available to the public with works completed to the accessible toilet.

New guardrails have been installed at the accesible toilet, which is now open to members of the public. New directional fingerpost signage will be installed in the coming weeks.





## Malahide Sports Pavilion

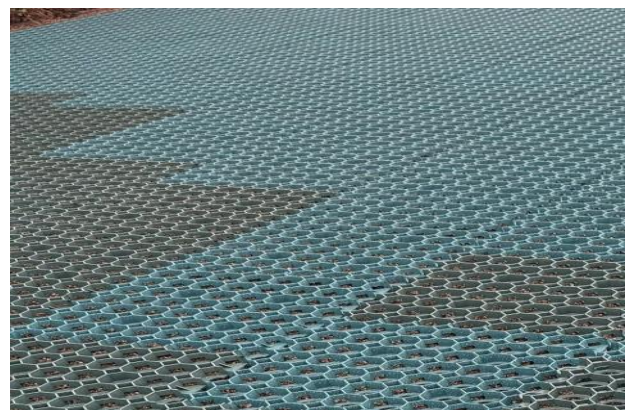


New overlay carried out outside the pavillion road.

## New grass crete parking are installed at Malahide sports pavilion.

Grass reinforcement mesh or grid installation is simple and no different to the installation of any other paving system. When installed as recommended, they will also have the same functionality as other paving systems. When filled with a compost sand mix, the paver enables reinforced areas to be trafficked by pedestrians and vehicles while allowing grass growth. The plastic paving or mesh reinforces the ground and supports the loading enabling it to take additional traffic without turning into muck.

Paved areas are fully porous and permeable and will contribute towards flood prevention by allowing rain water to percolate naturally into the ground. Images below outline the install process.





Grass Cutting has resumed in the Demesne.



**Aeration Works on Par 3 and Pitch and Putt**  
Image below is of aeration of golf green.



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**Trim trail in Howth Community garden**



**Burial Ground Works**



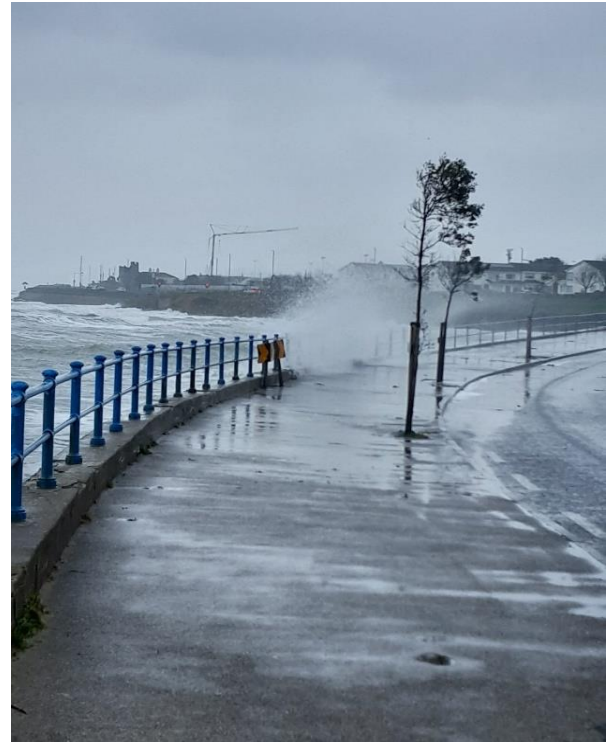
Completion of concrete aprons and macadam works at Saint Fintan's burial grounds as part of the ongoing ground works.





Preparation for seeding at Balgriffin burial grounds this location will be sowed with wildflower application over 3 years for full growth.

### **Beaches & Cleansing**



Deployment of sandbags and flood defence due to storm and high tide overtopping Howth Malahide beach fronts.





Delivery of new bins for deployment in Howth Malahide

## **Public Convenience Building Programme Howth Malahide Area**

A Meeting with the Howth Malahide Councillors was held regarding the new Toilets proposed for both the existing Malahide Beach and East Pier Public Toilets.

Final Drawings, Appropriate Assessment Screening Reports and Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Reports were sent to the Planning Department for Preliminary Planning Report and Determination.

These have been received and the Public Consultation Process for both Projects commenced with the advertising of the schemes on the 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024. The Public Consultation closes at 5.00pm on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

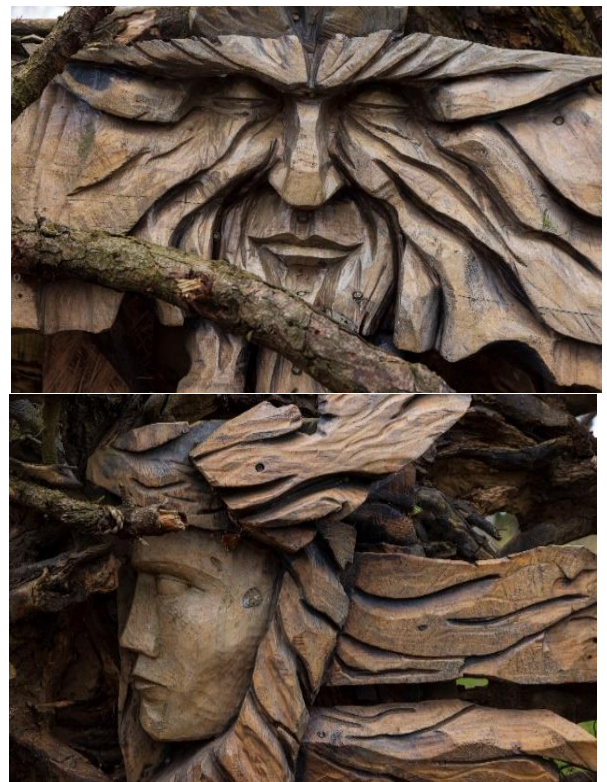
Subject to approval of the proposals, the aim is to aim to commence site works at both locations by the end of Q2 2024.

## **Castleknock Mulhuddart Area**

### **TREE CARVINGS – MILLENNIUM PARK**



Repointing of stone wall and pathway cleaning Baldoye road





### ARBORETUM, MILLENNIUM PARK

New raised platforms at the Arboretum Millennium Park have been installed in the Millennium Park to facilitate children's events.



### OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF THE PARKOUR FACILITY



### WORKS AT AUBURN AVENUE



120 Lime trees been pruned along this stretch of road on Auburn Avenue.



The parkour facility was officially launched by the Mayor and Chief Executive in Millennium Park on 14<sup>th</sup> March.



## NEW PLAYGROUND SIGNAGE



New Interactive signage has been installed in St Catherine's Park and Beech Park.

## BROOKHAVEN/CORDUFF



Footpath improvement works, edging and weed removal was undertaken in the Brookhaven and Corduff Areas.

## TREE PLANTING

Tree planting was undertaken in Millennium Park this month.



## NEW EQUIPMENT - MILLENNIUM PARK







Various new pieces of equipment have been installed in Millennium Park at the playground area.

## SHACKLETON GARDENS



New Limestone wall been built in Shackleton Gardens

## HARTSTOWN PARK



Tree planting in Hartstown Park opposite dog run area was undertaken in March.

## Car Parking Services February 2024

There was a total of 1112 parking tickets issued during February 2024.

### Breakdown of Parking Offences

#### Top 10 Offences

Offence	Main Ticketing Offences - February 2024
9A - A VEHICLE COMMITTING AN OFFENCE CONTRARY TO PAY AND DISPLY/PERMIT PARKING	577
08A - PARKING A VEHICLE ON A FOOTPATH	147
04G - PARKING A PRIVATE VEHICLE IN A LOADING BAY	134
9A - A VEHICLE OUT OF TIME TICKET	99
9D - PARKING A VEHICLE ON A DOUBLE YELLOW LINE	51
04C - PARKING A VEHICLE IN A TAXI BAY	16
9F - PARKING/STOPPING A VEHICLE IN A DISABLED PERSONS PARKING BAY	15
07A - OBSTRUCTION TO OTHER ROAD USERS/PEDESTRIANS	15
04F - EXCEEDING THE TIME LIMIT IN A LOADING BAY ( GOODS VEHICLE)	10
9C - VEHICLE OUTSIDE BAY	10

#### Top 10 Locations

Location	Main Ticket Locations February 2024
North Street - Swords	117
Bridgefield Car Park - Malahide	78
Main Street - Swords	66
Church Road - Malahide	60
South Strand Skerries	53
The Green - Malahide	53
Harbour Road - Skerries	46
Coast Road - Malahide	44
Strand Street - Skerries	42
Dublin Street - Balbriggan	35

## Burial Ground Services

The Operations Department are continuing to administer and monitor delivery to ensure business continuity for Fingal's Burial Ground Service. There were 132 Interments in February 2024.



New Burial Ground signage in St. Fintan's Cemetery with revised opening times and QR code with link to Burial Ground Bye-Laws.

## Kellystown Burial Ground

Tenders for the proposed works at Kellystown Cemetery are currently being evaluated.

Once the tender evaluation is complete, it is anticipated that work will commence on site, by end of May/June, subject to the successful tenderers work schedule.

In the meantime, members of the public who are waiting to place family members ashes in the planned Columbarium Wall can now register with [HowMalOpArea@fingal.ie](mailto:HowMalOpArea@fingal.ie).

In advance of the completion of the Cemetery, however, burial plots, cannot be purchased in accordance with the Burial Ground Bye-Laws 2023.

## Traffic Operations County-Wide

### Castleknock/Mulhuddart Area

#### ➤ Road Markings – Lining



Double Yellow Lines have been installed on Waterville Road at the back entrance to Connolly hospital.

#### ➤ Traffic Calming



Newly installed ramp on the R121 in Hollystown

#### ➤ Signage

A sign on the N3 located before Navan Parkway was replaced in March.



Old sign





**New Sign**

### **Balbriggan/Swords Area**

- **Traffic Calming Ramps and Junction Build Outs**



Skerries- Junction with Barnageeragh Rd and Harrisons Bay Road- Flat Top Ramp and new pedestrian crossing

### **Road Markings- Lining**



Garristown- Main Street-New Road markings layout



Rush- Channel Road- Traffic calming ramps and centre lining road markings renewal



Lusk - Ballealy Lane - Traffic calming ramps road lining renewal

**Howth/Malahide Traffic POW 2024**

➤ **New Traffic Calming 2024 POW**



New Zebra crossing by Saint Fintan's NS Carrickbrack Road, Sutton, - Civil Works ongoing



Pedestrian crossing upgrade at Junction of Binn Eadair and Dublin Road crossing.

**Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit**

86 vehicle and plant hires were put in place from 01/03/2024 to 22/03/2024, engaging 20 suppliers.

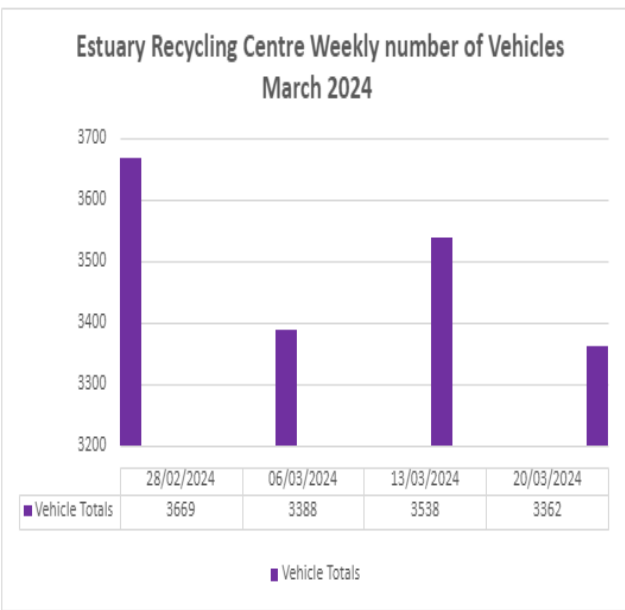
**Street Lighting LED Programme**

The Public Lighting Section will continue with the LED Programme with 99.8% of all lights now switched to LEDs. The Programme of Works 2024 has now commenced.

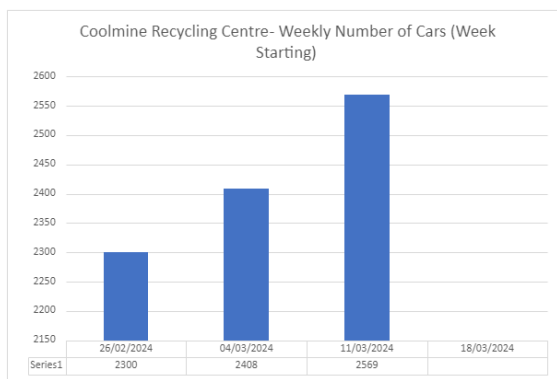
**Beaches and Lifeguard Service**  
**Lifeguard Service 2024**

Lifeguards are recruited annually to work during the official bathing season. It is proposed to recruit 40-45 lifeguards for the 2024 season in order to maintain a full lifeguard service on Fingal beaches throughout the season. The recruitment process is ongoing with interviews taking place in the Civic Office, Blanchardstown, from Monday 25th to Wednesday 27th March 2024 (inclusive). The beach lifeguard fitness test is due to take place on Velvet Strand, Portmarnock on Saturday 27th April 2024. An offer of a position of employment is contingent on the candidate being deemed suitable at interview, successfully passing the beach lifeguard test, holding a valid beach lifeguard certificate and Garda Vetting.

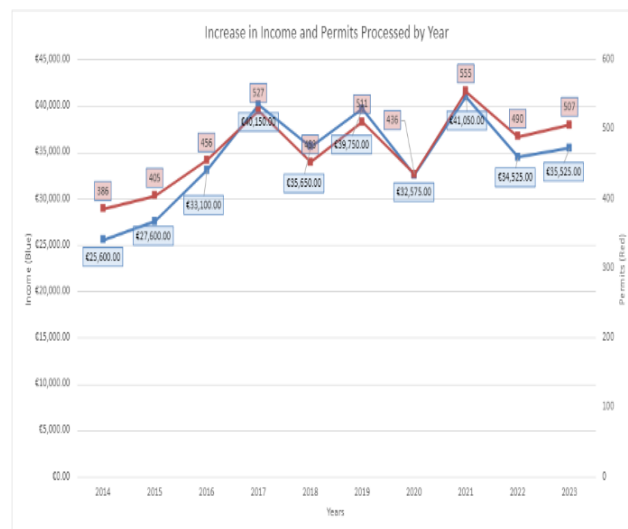
**Recycling Centres Update**







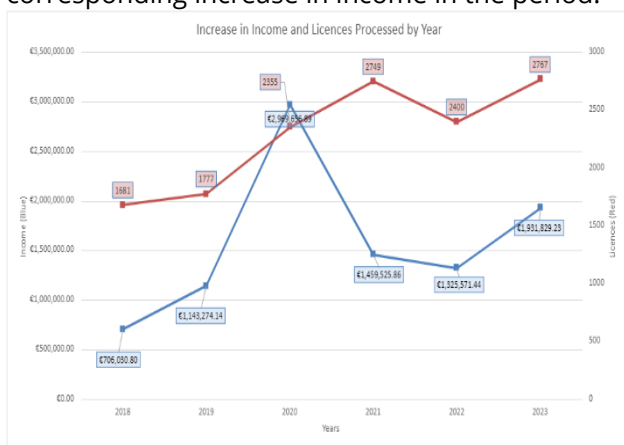
\*statistics collected prior to data being available for week starting 18<sup>th</sup> March.



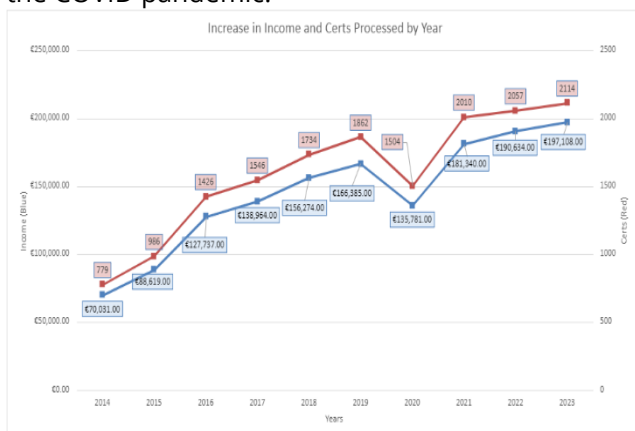
## Licences

### - Annual Changes in Licencing Numbers

The below charts show the increasing volume of workload of the licencing department as well as corresponding increase in income in the period.



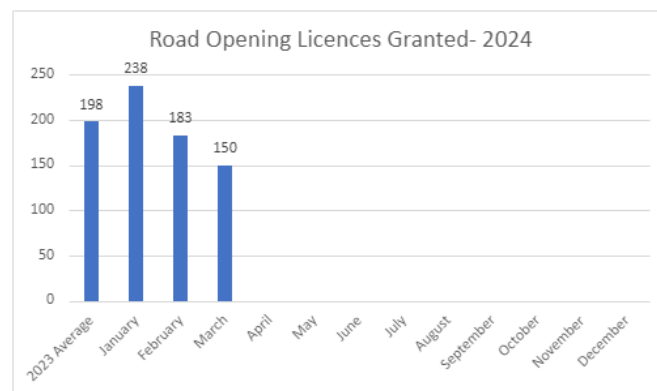
\*sharp increase in 2020 is due to major projects being completed while roads were quieter during the COVID pandemic.

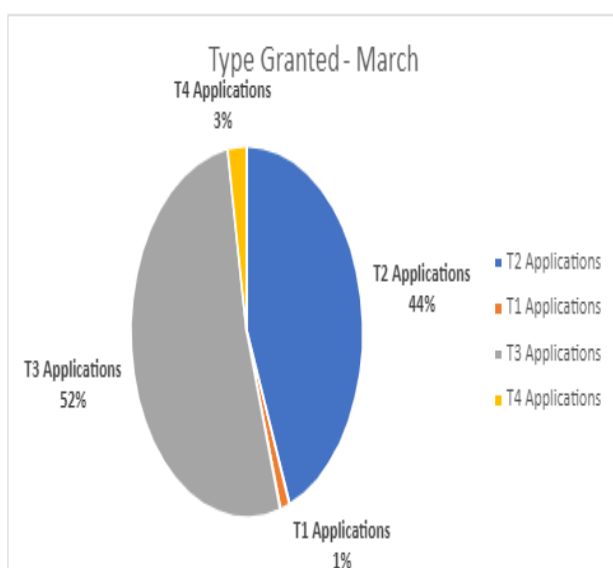
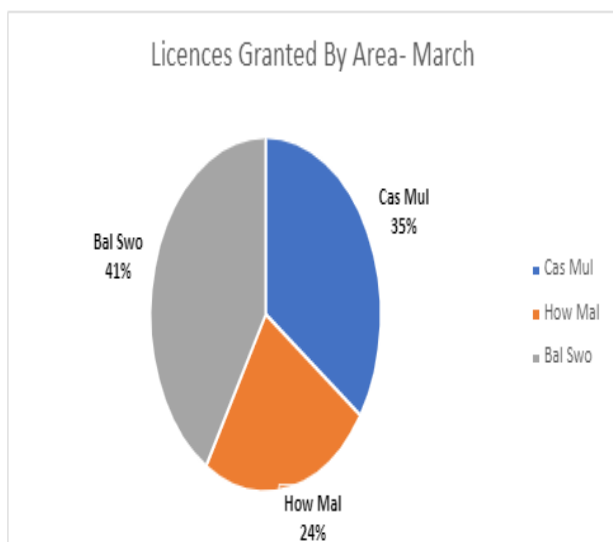


### - Road Opening Licences

The Licensing unit continues to process and manage the licensing system for the County. Applications are allocated by area for examination and conditioning which includes reviews of the existing carriageway, footpaths, cycleways, and grass verges. Applicants submit temporary traffic management plans for review to ensure all works are carried out safely within the public domain. Road Opening Licences are a cross functional process for the department and are essential for the asset management of Fingal County Council Road network.

**150 Licences** were granted in the month of **between 1<sup>st</sup> March and 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 55%** of which were granted by way of **automation**. Clerk of Works in each area continue to carry out regular inspections following road opening works by Utilities.





### Casual Trading License

Fingal County Council have received a total of 27 renewal applications for 2024/2025 trading year with a total of 11 new Casual Trading applications for available pitches throughout Fingal administrative Area covering the trading of Hot Food Tea & Coffee/Ice Cream and Flowers. Any remaining applications will be taken on an Ad Hoc basis.

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

### Street Furniture Licences



32 street furniture licences have been issued in 2024.

Any new street furniture applications will be dealt with on an ad hoc basis.

The Operations department will continue to carry out site inspections to ensure compliance from Street Furniture Licence holders.

### Storm Water

#### Stormwater Capital Programme 2023-2025

Fingal County Council are continuing to progress projects recently adopted in the 2024-2026 Stormwater Capital Programme. The 3-year programme includes 17 projects estimated at approximately €2.5 million with this figure under review as the projects are developed. Below is a brief update in relation to the status of some of the projects that have commenced and planned upcoming projects.

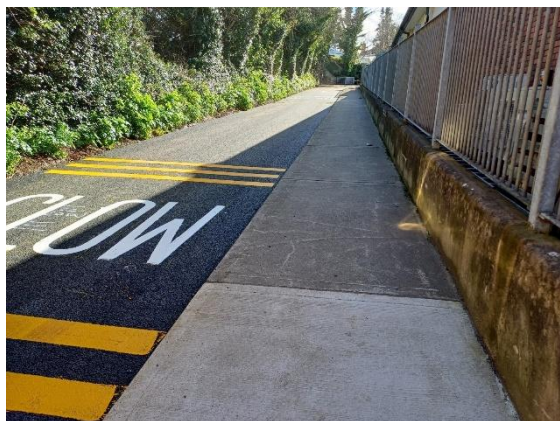


### ➤ **Howth Stormwater Culvert**

Preliminary design reports are being updated with received survey information and updates of associated drawings. An Investigation and Optioneering report for Work Package B has just been submitted and is under review by FCC. Once agreed a GPR survey will be required to finalise design and have contract documents progressed. Investigation and optioneering, followed by design and tender documentation for Work Package A (the main works) will follow. An updated programme is due.

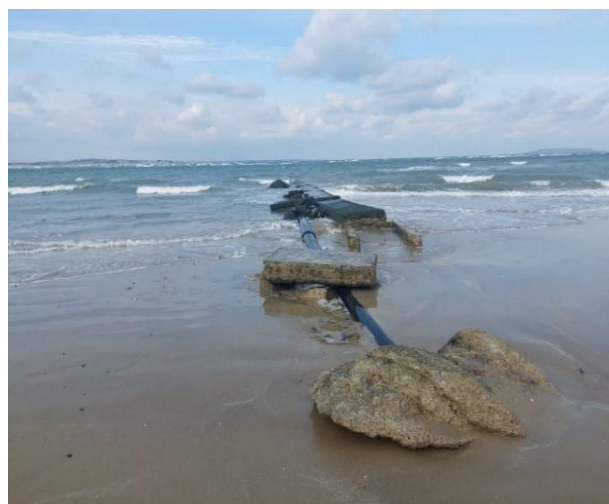
### ➤ **Bath Avenue Storm Water Pipe**

This project involved the laying of 235 m of new Stormwater pipeline along Bath Ave in Malahide to alleviate localised flooding and allow for future capacity. The new SW pipe connects to an existing outfall on the Coast Rd. Following completion of additional mobility and drainage works a full road reinstatement including thermoplastic lining was completed in March.



### ➤ **Burrow Beach**

The proposed remediation of the surface water outfall pipe has gone through all stages of design and various consents. A tender procedure for the supply of anchor blocks was terminated due to submission of non-conforming submissions and procurement is thus continuing. This means that the works window for Spring 2024 was missed, and construction has been rescheduled for Spring 2025. Works will be executed by FCC Direct Labour with technical assistance to be provided by design consultants.



### ➤ **Wendell Avenue/Heather Walk**

Stormwater sewer rehabilitation works in Portmarnock are now complete. In total 200m of collapsed sections of network have been replaced in the Dewberry Park, Wendell Avenue and Heather Walk estates. Final trench reinstatement works were completed in March.



## - Lusk Network Remedial Works

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

To date Direct Labour crews have completed the first tranche of repairs on localised damaged pipelines. Sections of the network along **Station Rd & Dublin Rd** are currently undergoing camera survey works to examine its condition and confirm capacity with some additional dye testing to plot the water course and discharge point. Most of the repair/replacement will be undertaken By Direct Labour with some input by contractors. The overall project is likely to take 24 months to complete.



## ➤ Clonsilla/Mulhuddart Network Improvements

Following historical reports of flooding CCTV surveys were carried out to determine the condition of the Stormwater infrastructure in the **Rusheeney and Manorfield estates in D15**. So far, several large restrictions have been found and a manhole was completely blocked with household waste. Works are ongoing to remove this blockage. Additional collapsed sections have also been identified in other locations along the same network. Quotations have been sought to carry out multiple trenchless repair works using a robotic cutting machine.



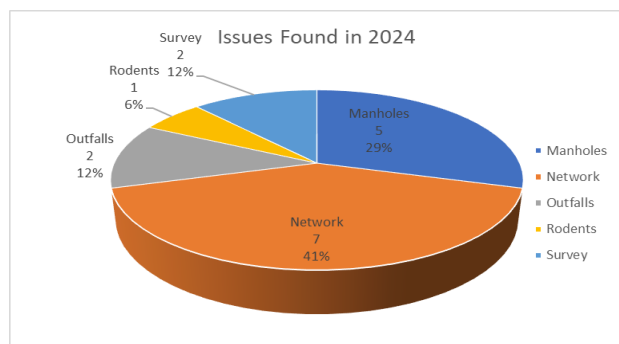
## Carpenterstown Road SW Pipe Refurbishment

The procurement process has begun to appoint a Contractor to carry various remedial works including part liner repairs on damaged sections of the network along Carpenterstown Road. A tender was posted on E-tenders in March. Following tender deadline, submissions will be evaluated, and a Contractor will be appointed to carry out works on site.



## - Storm Water Maintenance

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



## - Storm Water Connections:

8 new connection applications including one diversion application have been processed to date in 2024.

### Lusk - Barrack Lane

Following historical reports of ongoing road flooding along Treen Hill & Minister's Road. CCTV surveys were carried out and restrictions were identified along **Barrack Lane**. A new section of 300mm pipe has now been installed along the footway to replace the existing collapsed line. In total 60m of damaged and collapsed pipeline has been replaced and the roadway has been permanently reinstated. Currently a contractor is being procured to carry out an 8m trenchless liner to repair the last section of damaged pipeline.



## - Donabate

Maintenance work was undertaken on the **Beaverstown stream** to remove restrictions and clear and overgrown ditch to create storage and to remove flow restrictions, thereby alleviating risk of road flooding. This will also enable further examination of the catchment to improve surface water management.



## Assets

### Ironworks

The Stormwater manhole cover and frame replacement programme for replacing assets at the end of life is ongoing. 15 Nr manhole cover and frames (C&F) have been identified that require replacement along the Swords Rd in Malahide. A Contractor has been procured with works commencing in March. Offline replacements were carried out in the Castle Drive estate in Swords. The Stormwater unit also supplied 12 Nr manhole C&F to replace existing older poor condition assets for the recent road resurfacing on Strand Street in Skerries.

## - Water Quality

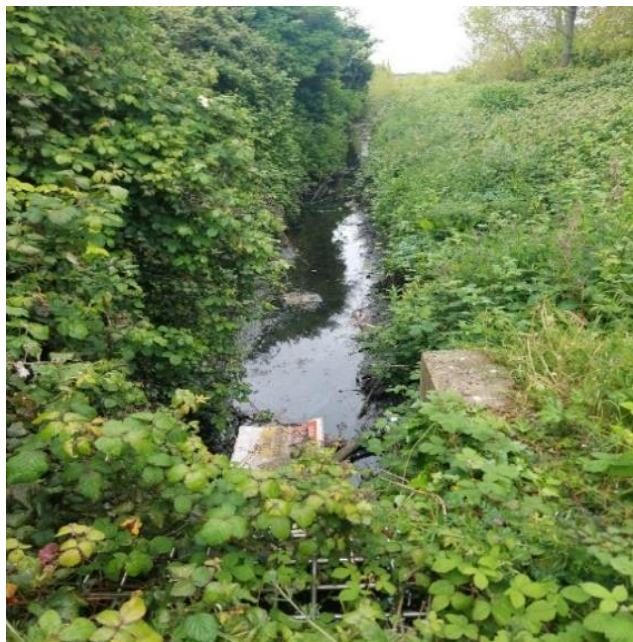
### Balbriggan – Water Quality Improvement

Final reinstatement is planned to follow the removal of previously misconnected properties to the Surface Water network in **Flemington** estate.

#### ➤ Seagrange park

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

Drainage Inspectors are still assisting with this matter. Further sampling has been requested to narrow down the area of focus or to eliminate potential sources of contamination.



## Meetings/Briefings

Meeting held with Balbriggan Elected Representatives and “Save Our Sand” group on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February with regards to Balbriggan beach

Briefing given to Howth/Malahide Councillors on the new public conveniences in Howth and Malahide Muldowney.



# PLANNING AND STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE (PSI)

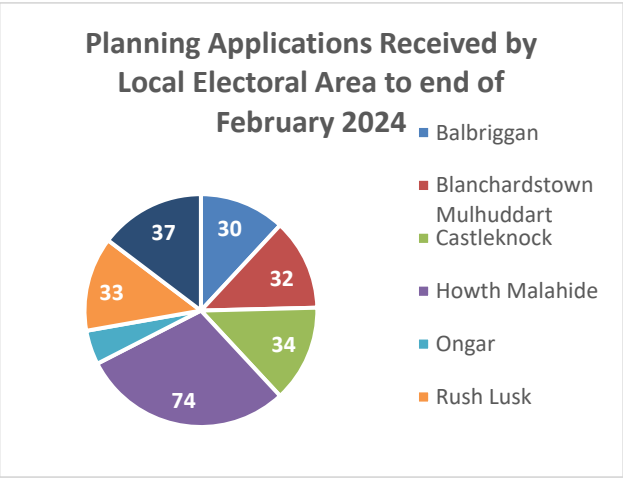
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Planning Applications
Planning Decisions
Building Control Admin
Strategic Policy Unit
Built Environment Division
Transportation Planning
Parks & Green Infrastructure Division

## Planning Applications

received from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 to 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024, 70 applications were invalid leaving a total of 182 valid applications. The volume of applications received by Local Electoral Area (LEA) is detailed in the table below.

From 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 to 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024. There have been no Large-scale Residential Development (LRD) full applications made to the Local Authority in February 2024. From 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 to 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024 five decisions have been made on Large Scale Residential Developments. Of these five decisions made, three have been to grant Permission (1,020 Units). Two decisions have been made to refuse permission.

An Bord Pleanála have issued no decisions on SHD applications in the period from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 to 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024. There are five SHDs (4,577 units) remaining with An Bord Pleanála for decision.



## Planning Decisions

A total of 219 planning decisions have been issued from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 to 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024. There have been 176 decisions to grant permission (80%) and 43 refusals of permission (20%). Included in the 176 grants there have been 15 grants of permissions in respect of single house construction, 96 grants of permission for domestic extensions/works, 20 commercial grants of permission, 5 retail grants of permission and 6 grants of permission in respect of housing developments of which 4 relate to developments of 2 – 20 units, 1 grant of permission in respect of housing developments of 20-50 units, 1 grant of permission in respect of housing developments of 100+ units.

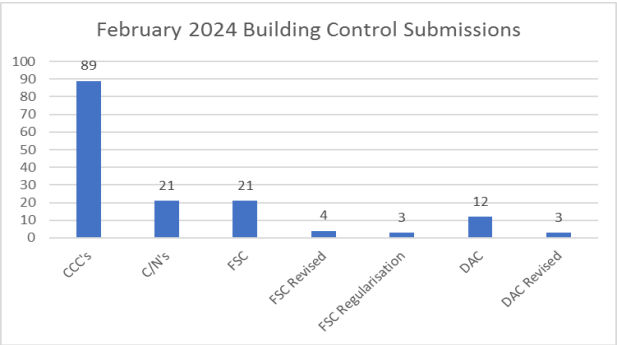
## Building Control Admin

In February 2024, there were 153 building control submission made via BCMS.

This was made up of 89 Commencement Notices, 21 Compliance of Completion Certificates, 28 Fire Safety related Certificates and 15 Disability Access related Certificates.

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

The Building Control Admin team processed 147 decisions in February 2024 relating to Fire Safety and Disability Access Certificates. This was made up of 51 decisions to grant, 1 refusal (relaxation) and 95 extensions of time.



## Strategic Policy Unit

### Local Area Plans, Masterplans and Framework Plans

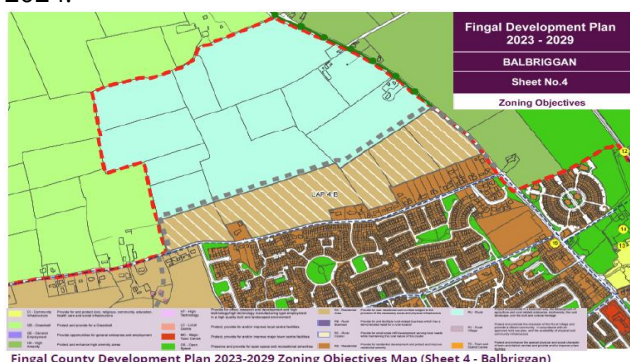
In July, the first round of Plans falling out of the development plan was agreed. This comprises Swords and Flemington LAPs, the Dunsink Plan, Kilbarrack and the Old School House Masterplans and the Stephenstown, Folkstown and Clonsilla Framework Plans.

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

### Flemington Local Area Plan

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

Work has now begun on the drafting of the Local Area Plan and it is hoped to publish this in summer 2024.



## Clonsilla Framework Plan

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

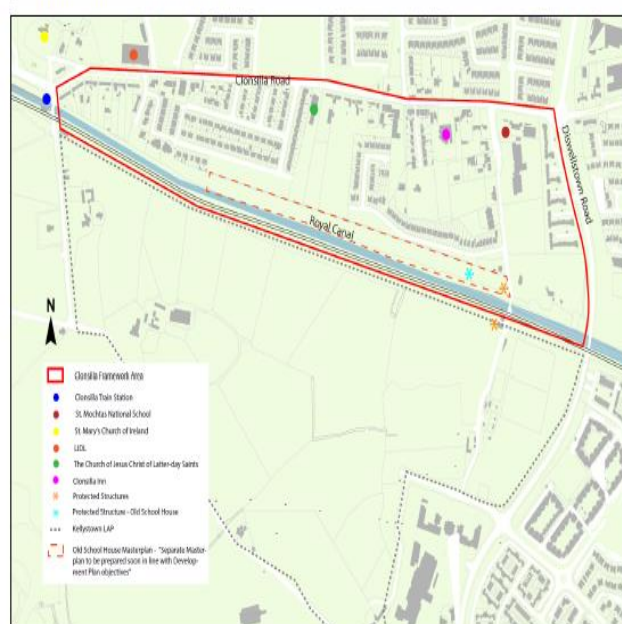
The proposed FP boundary has been designated in the Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029 and includes an area of land south of Clonsilla Road/Larch Grove, bounded by Diswellstown Road to the east, Callaghan Bridge to the west and extends just south of the railway tracks.

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

Public consultation is a key element in the preparation of the Clonsilla Framework Plan and the pre-draft consultation period ran from Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February to Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March. A targeted workshop for local members and community groups took place on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February and a separate information drop in session for member of the public was held on 19<sup>th</sup> February, 4pm – 7pm.

Work has now begun on the drafting of the Framework Plan and it will be published in summer 2024.

Clonsilla Framework Plan Study Area





### Donabate Framework Plan

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

The Draft Donabate Framework Plan, including SEA Statement and Screening Report for Appropriate Assessment was on public consultation until Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February and was agreed at the March full council meeting.

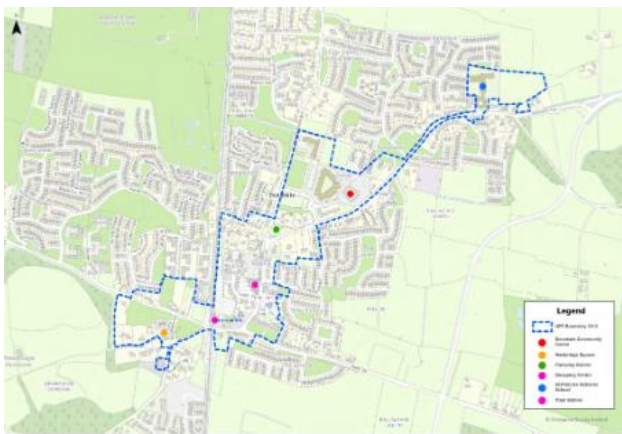


Fig. 6-6 St. Patrick's Sq. Indicative and Existing Views



### Residential Zoned Land Tax

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

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

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

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

### Built Environment Division

Building Control/Taking in Charge Section –  
26/03/2024

#### INSPECTIONS CONDUCTED

This graph displays inspections that were conducted over a period of time



- There were 18 building Control Inspections in March 2024 with 25 buildings inspected.
- There were 2 Section 11 requests for further information following building control inspections, issued in March and there have been no Enforcement Notices issued.
- There were no developments Taken in charge in March, however There are 4 developments scheduled for Taking in Charge in April 2024 (Riverwood Gardens Carpenterstown, Emsworth Kinsealy Lane in Malahide, Golden Ridge phase 2 in Rush and Coopers Wood in Kinsealy.
- We have 7 developments scheduled for Taking in Charge in May 2024 – Barnageeragh Cove Phase 3 in Skerries, The Park in Skerries, Hyde Court in Rush, Lusk Village in Lusk, Thornleigh in Swords, Blackwood Estate in Ongar and Fairhaven in Castleknock.

## Pictures

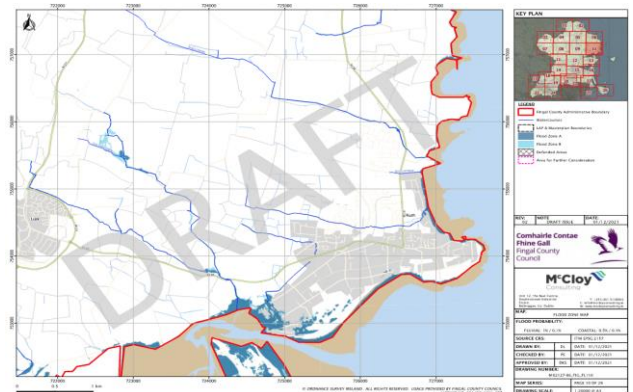


Inspecting ICF (Insulated Concrete Formwork) on a site in Rowlestown.

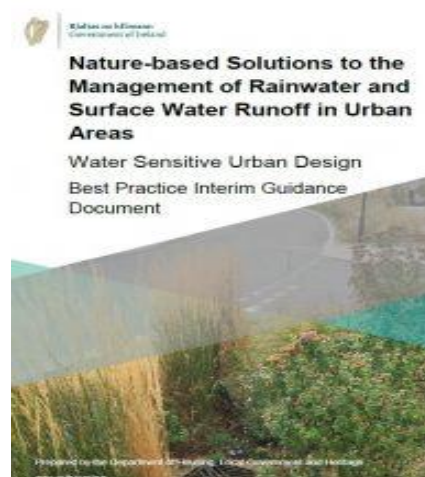


Inspecting fire stopping above a doorway in a compartment corridor in Santry.

## Development Management/Forward Planning (Water Services) Section



A new document “Nature-based Solutions to the Management of Rainwater and Surface Water Runoff in Urban Areas - Water Sensitive Urban Design - Best Practice Interim Guidance Document” has been issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. It is intended as a high-level best practice interim guidance document for all those whose work impacts on the urban environment, for urban planners and all built environment professionals involved in the planning process such as engineers, architects and landscape architects and shows how to move towards a more systematic and sustainable approach to urban planning and design that seeks to mimic the natural water balance of rural areas through “water sensitive urban design”.



Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS) – The Fingal SuDS guidance document (Green/Blue Infrastructure for Development) has been reviewed to include changes in technical standards.



This document along with the SFRA documents have been incorporated into the new development plan.



### Incorporating Sustainable Drainage Systems in Residential Developments



The GDSDS has outlined SuDS as a sustainable way to manage surface water as we prepare to meet the challenges of climate change. This example of Millers Glen in Swords, shows the surface water being held onsite, providing treatment via appropriate planting, and then discharging at greenfield runoff rate. This is a move away from the traditional method of collecting all surface water via piped systems which can often no longer manage the intense rainfalls being experienced.

### Transportation Planning

#### PSI 001 Snugborough Interchange upgrade

The Snugborough Interchange is currently programmed to be completed at road level in late May 2024. The last element of the scheme to be completed will be the shared active travel route through the underpasses and works at a lower level will continue during June.

The scheme has been delayed mainly due to the complexity of the scheme and the number of utility diversions involved. During April the traffic signals at the junction with Waterville Road will be switched on. This will allow the temporary roundabout to be removed and replaced with a new junction at the on ramp for the N3. Currently the junction at Main St is being formed into its final layout. Some of the current works which include surfacing, duct installation and road marking are being carried out at night to limit impact on traffic flow. A further update will be given in mid-April to the local Councillors. Updates will be posted on the scheme web site [www.snugboroughinterchange.ie](http://www.snugboroughinterchange.ie)



#### PSI 002 Ongar Barnhill Road

Bam Civil Ltd. have installed some of the reinforced earth at the South Abutment of the proposed bridge over the railway and construction of the North abutment base is underway. Many of the culvert units for the stream under the proposed Ongar Barnhill road have been installed. A consultation for the extinguishment of public right of way on Barberstown Lane North is continuing until late April. [Consultations | Fingal County Council Online Consultation Portal](http://www.fingal.ie/ongar-barnhill). Improvement works have been carried out to Barberstown Lane North and South during March in conjunction with the scheme. An update site briefing for local Councillors was given in mid-March.

A further update will be given in mid-April to the local Councillors. Updates for the scheme will be posted on [www.fingal.ie/ongar-barnhill](http://www.fingal.ie/ongar-barnhill)



### PSI-039 R132 Connectivity Project

Consultation with the National Transport Authority and with Transport Infrastructure Ireland regarding the connection with Metro Link is ongoing with monthly meetings. Detailed design stage is underway and progressing as programmed. Meetings continue to be held with the various department of Fingal County Council to gather information for detailed design. The tender documentations are currently being prepared for CCTV drainage contractor and another tender documentation is currently being prepared for the Ground Investigations to inform the detailed design process and de-risk the project.



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

Construction works are progressing on the Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian and Cyclist Route for this key infrastructure project for Balbriggan. The Project is now approx 50% completed. The work is ongoing and progressing well at three locations on the project on Hamilton Road, Harry Reynolds Road just south of the R122 and at Moylaragh Road.

Additional meetings again this month were held with the ESB onsite for the new connection points at 13 controlled crossing points along the project. Also, relocation of existing ESB cables has been agreed on Harry Reynolds Road.

An update project briefing for the Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian and Cyclist Route was held in early March with the local Councillors for the Balbriggan Electoral Area.

Another update project briefing has been arranged for early April with the local Councillors for the Balbriggan Electoral Area, members of the Residents Associations and TidyTowns Committee on the progress and remaining programme of works for the Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian and Cyclist Route.

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



Works progressing on Harry Reynolds Road just South of Fingal Bay Business Park with Footpath/Shared Area installed recently and the Cycleway ready for surfacing.





Works progressing on Harry Reynolds Road just South of Fingal Bay Business Park with Tree Pits installed.



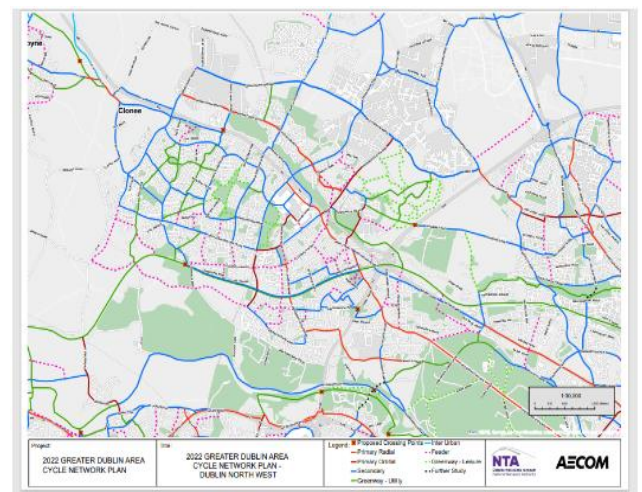
Works progressing on Harry Reynolds Road just north of Fingal Bay Business Park with Footpath and Cycle Track installed recently.



Works completed on the south side of the Hamilton Road

## Consultancy Framework for Dublin 15 Walking and Cycling Projects

The Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Dept has commenced the procurement process for a Single Party Framework for Engineering Consultancy Services for Pedestrian and Cycling Route Projects in the Dublin 15 Area. The procurement process has now moved to Stage 2 with the tender recently published on eTenders with the closing date for submissions in mid-April. Proposed projects will include the Clonsilla-Damastown Cycle Route and Pedestrian & Cycling Bridge at Granard Bridge Castleknock.



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

## PSI 063 Pedestrian and Cycling Bridge at Granard Bridge Castleknock

A tender was published recently for Engineering Consultancy Services for a Pedestrian and Cycling bridge over the Maynooth Rail line and Royal Canal at Granard Bridge on the Castleknock Road and will form an integral part of the walking and cycling route for Blanchardstown to Phoenix Park which is a proposed route in the NTA's Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan. The tender forms part of the initial project for the Engineering Consultancy Services Framework for Dublin 15 Pedestrian and Cycling Route Projects which is currently at Stage 2 of the procurement process. The current closing date for submissions of tender is now mid-April as an extension was granted following tenders request.



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



Figure 2 - Site Location

#### PSI – 004 Royal Canal Urban Greenway

Dialogue continues to be held with key stakeholders the National Transport Authority and Waterways Ireland along the route of the greenway to ensure a coordinated, high quality final design is achieved at interfaces between existing facilities and the proposed scheme.

The project is currently at preliminary design stage and requires the need to hold additional meetings with all the relevant key stakeholders to agree a revised design in line with the new National Cycling Manual. These meetings will continue over the coming months to ensure a coordinated, high quality final design, which complies with the new cycling manual, is achieved at interfaces between existing facilities and the proposed scheme. Landowner searches and land referencing are ongoing also.

Following completion of the preliminary design, all the required documents including the Environmental Impact Assessment Report will be prepared for a planning application to An Bord Pleanála.

#### Sutton to Malahide Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme

The preliminary design drawings are being finalised. The recently published Cycle Design Manual has led to some improvements being incorporated into the overall scheme design including revised layouts for crossings and bus stops to comply with the new standards. A surveyor has recently completed topographical surveys of public and private lands within the proposed scheme. Ground Investigation Works will be required along the route at all locations where new structures are being proposed. These works have been procured and are scheduled to begin in April 2024. A tree surveyor will be procured in the coming months and a survey of all trees along the proposed route will be carried out. Following this process, the preliminary design can be finalised, and documents will be prepared for a planning application to An Bord Pleanála. Engagement with potentially impacted property owners, businesses and stakeholders is ongoing. A search of unregistered lands is ongoing for production of the deposit maps for the land acquisition.



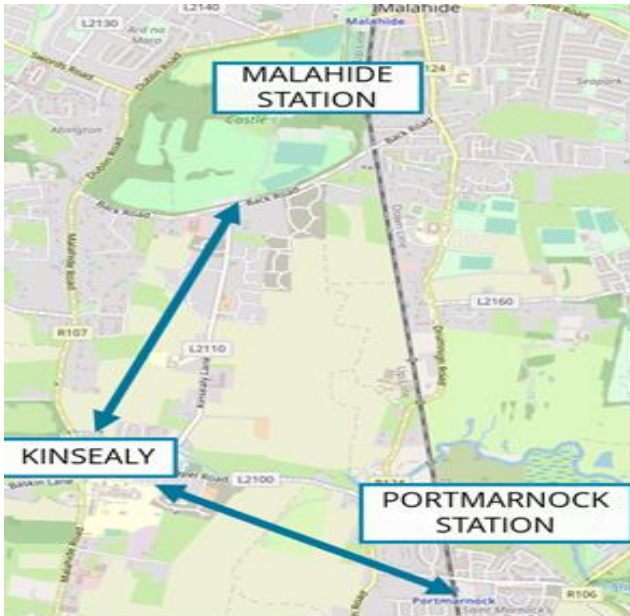
Artist's impression for section of Sutton to Malahide Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme

#### Kinsealy Walking and Cycling Routes

The consultancy framework for various Swords & Kinsealy projects with the initial project being the Kinsealy Walking and Cycling Routes was recently awarded to Barry Transportation. The appointed consultants are currently progressing the Kinsealy Walking and Cycling Routes Projects. The Options Selection phase is progressing on two routes, Kinsealy Lane and Chapel Road/Station Road to determine the draft preferred routes. Traffic surveys have been completed. Topographical surveys have been completed.

Non-statutory stakeholder consultation which will include road users will be targeted for 2024 whilst targeted stakeholder consultation, for example with potentially affected landowners, will be undertaken as needed.





### Fingal Coastal Way

Meetings have commenced between the Independent Agronomist and affected landowners with farming and horticultural businesses. Searches continue for potentially affected landowners who have not been identified yet.

A local consultation remains open in the Quay Street Area of Skerries and will run to the end of March. The consultation is asking residents for their preferences on traffic management options to facilitate the Fingal Coastal Way. The responses will assist in the selection of designs to be developed further.

The topographical survey of public lands is now complete and the survey data will allow designs in the town and village centres to progress. Further local consultations will be held as details are developed.



17.01.2024 - 10:00am  
28.03.2024 - 5:00pm

[OPEN](#)

**Fingal Coastal Way – Traffic Management Survey for Residents of Quay Street Area, Skerries.**



13 SUBMISSIONS

### Broadmeadow Way Greenway

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

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

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

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

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

Works to strengthen the foundations of the OHLE masts have commenced at Bisset's Strand, Malahide and are progressing. This work is to be completed in advance of the construction of the main estuary bridge. In accordance with the conditions of planning, monthly bird surveys are currently being carried out and will continue until April.

### Church Fields Link Road

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

### Turvey Avenue & Portrane Road, Donabate

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

Separately, Priority Construction Ltd, working on behalf of Fingal County Council, has commenced work on the Turvey Avenue Footpath Enhancement. As part of this project, a new footpath is currently being built on the northern side of the road where no footpath previously existed. The new footpath will provide a continuous and safe walking route along Turvey Avenue for pedestrians travelling to and from Donabate Village and the train station.

The project also includes drainage improvements, widening of an existing footpath nearby, resurfacing of the road and provision of new line markings, speed ramps and signage. Stop-Go traffic management is in place on Turvey Avenue with marshals on hand to bring vehicles and pedestrians safely around the works area. Work is progressing on site and the project is due to be completed this summer.





### Donabate Pedestrian Bridge

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

### Donabate Transport Projects

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

The projects include:

- Phase 2 of the Donabate Distributor Road project, to improve access to Donabate and Portrane from the M1-Lissenhall Interchange for all road users, particularly vulnerable road users such as pedestrians and cyclists;
- Blakes Cross Junction Upgrade, to provide a safer junction layout that caters for both motorised traffic and active travel modes of transport such as walking and cycling;
- A study of the M1-Lissenhall Interchange, in collaboration with TII, to assess all technical and operational traffic issues associated with this strategic motorway junction;
- 7no. Active Travel Routes which encompass a number of related local projects which aim to increase local connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists.

Work on the initial data-gathering, concept development and option assessment stages of the Donabate Transport Projects is underway including topographical surveys of relevant areas of Donabate. Fingal County Council and Roughan and O'Donovan are currently analysing traffic data and carrying out traffic modelling on the M1-Lissenhall Interchange.

Separately, a number of potential route options have been identified for Phase 2 of the Donabate Distributor Road. These options are shown below and will be subject to multi-criteria assessment to determine the preferred route.



Further stages of work, relating to environmental assessment, planning consent, etc. will follow on in subsequent years as appropriate.

## HOUSING

### Contents

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

### Affordable Home Purchase Scheme



Fingal County Council are making homes available for sale under affordable dwelling purchase arrangements across the County. There is a strong pipeline for affordable housing over 2024:

Scheme	Partner	No. of Homes	Portal Opening Date
Balleally Rise, Lusk	Lagan Homes	21	12/03/2024
Kilmartin Grove, Dublin 15	Glenveagh	36	19/03/2024
Church Fields, Dublin 15	GEM	180	09/04/2024
Balmoston, Donabate	Glenveagh	86	16/04/2024
North County Homes – various locations	FCC	16	22/04/2024
Wilkinsons Brook, Dublin 15	LDA	57	26/04/2024
Aster Park, Rush	Ballymore	96	13/05/2024

### Housing Information Event - Donabate

**A Housing Information Event** for our upcoming private affordable sales was held on **March 7th at Donabate Golf Club**.

This event allowed potential purchasers to learn about affordable housing schemes, vacant homes grants and local authority home loans offered by the Council. There was a fantastic turnout on the night, and we have received a lot of interest.



### Balleally Rise, Lusk

On February 27th, Fingal County Council announced a new affordable home purchase scheme in Balleally Rise, Lusk. Fingal County Council has agreed with Lagan Homes to deliver 21 affordable homes in Balleally Rise, Hands Lane, Lusk, Co Dublin. The scheme will comprise of the following:

- 15 - 2 bed properties
- 6 - 3 bed properties

**The application portal for this development opened on March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024.**

**To date – 126 applications have been received.**



### Kilmartin Grove, Dublin 15

On March 3rd, Fingal County Council announced a new affordable home purchase scheme in Kilmartin Grove, Dublin 15. Fingal County Council has partnered with Glenveagh Homes to deliver 36 affordable homes at Kilmartin Grove, Dublin 15. The scheme will comprise of the following:

- 22 - 2 bed properties
- 14 - 3 bed properties

**The application portal for this development opened on March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024.**

**To date – 111 applications have been received.**



### Church Fields, Dublin 15

Fingal County Council has agreed with GEM Construction to deliver 180 affordable properties at Church Fields, Dublin 15. The scheme will comprise of the following:

- 59 – 2 bed properties
- 121 – 3 bed properties

**The scheme was advertised on the Fingal website and on Social Media on March 26<sup>th</sup> 2024. The application portal will open on April 9<sup>th</sup> 2024.**



### Sale Agreed/In conveyancing - Hampton Gardens Close, Balbriggan and Hayestown, Rush

**Hampton Gardens Close:** 14 homes are now sale agreed under an Affordable Housing Purchase Arrangement with Orchid Homes in Balbriggan, Co. Dublin.



**Hayestown:** 51 homes are now sale agreed in Hayestown, Rush with Phase 1 due for handover in the coming weeks.



**Turnkey Acquisitions**

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

**Construction Programme**

Summary of unit numbers in the pipeline	Units
Under Construction	416
Schemes with Planning Approval and Tender Stage	500
Planning and Design	694
Part V	504
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,114</b>

**Progress of Projects on Site**

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

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

**Fingal County Council - Restoration of St Ita's Portrane - 14 units**

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



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

Works are progressing at Bowden Court, Swords.





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

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



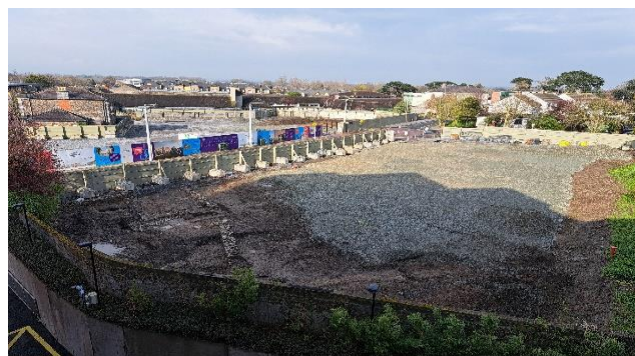
### **Fingal County Council - construction scheme at Seatown Road, Swords – 16 dwellings**

Works at Seatown Road, Swords have begun with 6 houses being demolished.



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

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



### **City to City Exchange**

Following a successful collaboration between the Housing Delivery team and the Economic, Enterprise, Tourism & Cultural Development Department, Fingal County Council were successful in an application for funding under the European Urban Initiative City-to-City exchange programme. The funding is facilitating a learning exchange between Fingal County Council and Helsinki City Council in March and May 2024. A team of five from Fingal County Council visited Helsinki in March and all members of the team gained significant learning and insight from the hosts. Housing Europe recommended Helsinki as an exemplar for affordable housing initiatives in Europe.

The city of Helsinki has a long track record of house building with the ability to influence housing supply as well as affordability. The City Council targets a balanced range of housing options for inhabitants while not being dependent on the market for delivery and also not excluding the private sector. It also prioritises new developments to be low carbon while actively retrofitting existing housing stock to become more energy efficient. A return trip to Dublin by Finnish representatives will take place in May

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

Fingal County Council's Energy Efficiency Retrofit programme is progressing well. The 2024 Programme has commenced with Strandmill Phase 3.

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



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

**Returning Dwellings to Productive Use**

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

Voids for Re-letting	25 <sup>th</sup> March 2024
In the letting process	49
Undergoing re-let repairs	20
With County Architect for procurement of pre-let repairs	11
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>80</b>

**Planned Maintenance Programmes**

**Cyclical Maintenance - Scheme Painting**

The Scheme Painting Programme provides for external painting and joinery repairs to Council housing stock and currently operates on a 6/7-year cycle.

Works are currently reaching completion in Whitechapel Estate and Craoibhin Close/Park, works are ongoing in North County Dublin, in the following areas: Derham Park, Glover Court, The Lodge, Goldenridge and Chapel Street Flats.



*Before (L) & after (R) Whitechapel Crescent*

**Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)**

HAP continues to be the primary source of rent support for those in private rented accommodation. Fingal County Council has set up over 81 new tenancies in 2024 to date with approximately 4008 tenancies set up since HAP began in 2017.



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

**Rents**

The new rent review process continues, and tenants are required to return their Rent Assessment Form with the relevant documents so that an assessment can be carried out and the correct rent charge applied to the account. The Rent Arrears team is working methodically through accounts in substantial arrears to encourage tenants to engage with the Council in reducing their arrears. In cases where there is no engagement, despite repeated efforts, proceedings will progress through the legal arena, and to date, the Rents Section has secured two Possession orders with 5 others currently before the courts. We have recently resolved one case to a satisfactory conclusion for both the tenant and the council. Regarding the two possession orders secured, both tenants are engaging with the team to address their areas.

The Rents team encourages any tenant who is having trouble paying their rent to engage with the Council to examine possible solutions. However, there are instances where tenants do not engage or make alternative payment arrangements, and, in those situations, the Council needs to take further action.

**Housing Loans**

The Local Authority Home Loan (LAHL) is a government-backed mortgage for first-time buyers and certain other applicants who are unable to obtain home loan financing from a commercial lender. Interest rates are fixed for the term of the loan and loan terms are available for up to 30 years. The LAHL can be used to purchase new-build homes (including affordable homes); second-hand homes & self-build.

**Eligibility Criteria:**

- **Income Limit** – Single Applicant = 70,000 / Joint Applicants = 85,000
- **Employment** – 2 years continuous employment / if joint application with a second earner, second earner to be 1-year continuous employment
- **Residency** - legal right to live & work in Ireland & be habitually resident in Ireland
- Insufficient Offers of finance from 2 commercial lenders
- 10% Deposit – 3% to come from own resource savings
- Satisfactory savings record
- Fresh Start Principle

Year on Year comparison (01/01/202* - 26/03/202*)	2024	2023
LAHL Applications Received	40	51
Applications Reviewed by the Credit Committee	42	30
Approval in Principle (AIP) issued	19	13
AIP Value	4.3m	2.7m
Number of Loans Drawdown	8	4
Loan Drawdown Value	1.9m	874k

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



### **Private Rented Inspections**

The inspections programme for 2024 is well underway. The inspections team are working towards inspecting 25% of the registered tenancies which is approximately 17,000 tenancies. We anticipate specific targets for 2024 and we hope to receive these from the Department shortly. Currently, 1340 inspections have been conducted in 2024, with over 340 of them inspected in March.

Arthurstown Construction (ACL) were recently awarded the contract for the provision of services for the inspection of private rented dwellings. The team will continue to engage with the contractor improving and streamlining the process and utilising all avenues to ensure that compliance improves, and the target is reached.

### **Housing Tenancy Services Report**

#### **Housing Support and Housing Position**

Housing List positions have been issued to all applicants.

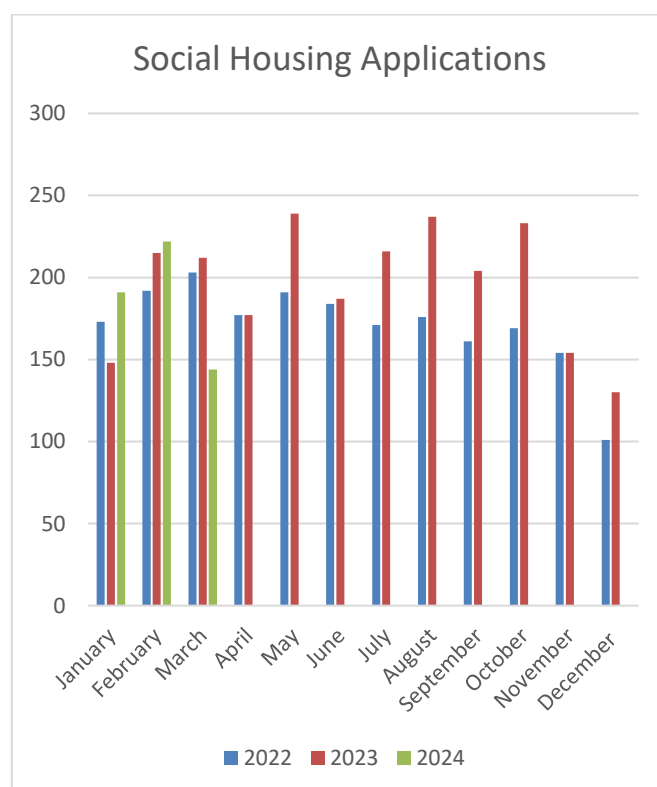
The list position is also available through the CBL portal on Fingal.ie. Applicants who do not have access to this portal should contact [Choicebasedlettings@fingal.ie](mailto:Choicebasedlettings@fingal.ie) to request their unique username and password. Up to date List Position will be issued in the coming weeks. Councillors and applicants will be advised.

#### **Changes to Income Eligibility Thresholds**

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

#### **Housing applications received year to date.**

January – March 2024	540
January- December 2023	2,354
January - December 2022	2,051



Applications received until March 25<sup>th</sup> 2024.

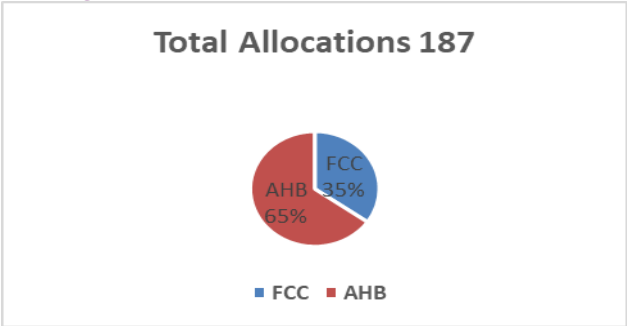
#### **Housing Support Appeals**

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

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

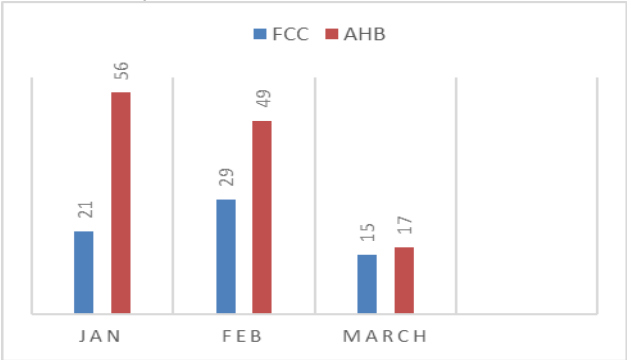


Lettings

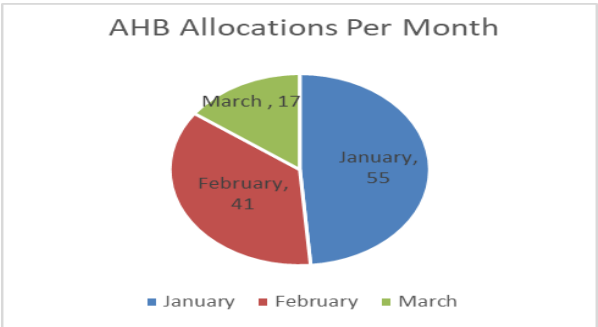


The above chart depicts the total number of properties allocated since the beginning of 2024.

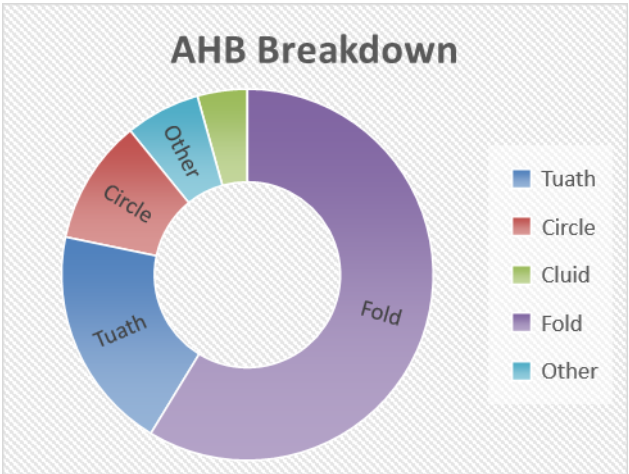
The chart below shows the breakdown of allocations per month.



**122** of the **187** allocations have been in collaboration with several Approved Housing bodies. The other **65** properties were allocated using Fingal County Councils own stock.



There were an additional **46** nominations made in March on behalf of FCC applicants. Lettings are awaiting confirmation of their tenancies from the AHB's.



**Fold** have received the most nominations from Fingal County Council during the month of March.

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

Choice Based Lettings February Advertised

Of the 186 allocations made to date, 71 were made via Choice Based Lettings. Applicants who do not have access to this portal should contact [Choicebasedlettings@fingal.ie](mailto:Choicebasedlettings@fingal.ie) to request their unique username and password.



## Homeless Services.

### Homeless Exits 2024

During March 2024, 22 households exited homeless circumstances into various forms of social housing support - including privately rented tenancies under the Homeless HAP Scheme.

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

Type of Exit	HHAP Tenancy	Allocation of Tenancy	Total
EA	1	2	3
Homeless Prevention	15	4	19
Total	16	6	22

There was a total of 19 homeless prevention cases and 3 who exited emergency accommodation comprising:

6 allocations of social housing support to homeless prevention cases and 2 who exited emergency accommodation.

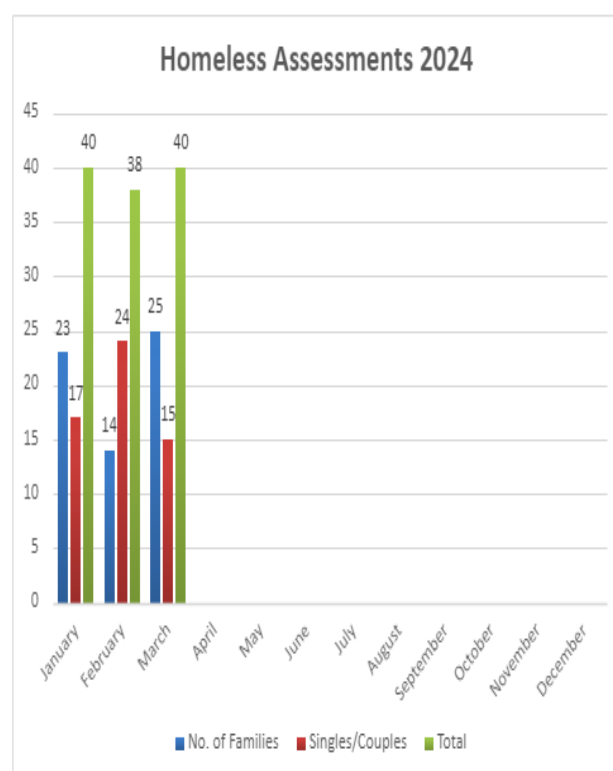
16 Homeless HAP tenancies, comprising 15 homeless preventions and 1 who exited emergency accommodation.

### Homeless Assessments

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

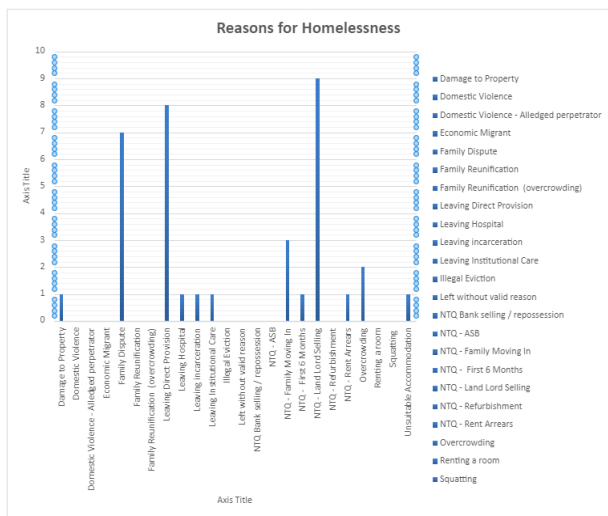
In March 2024, there were a total of 40 full homeless assessments completed – comprising 25 families and 15 singles/couples.

Advertisement Period	Property	Bed	Type	Number of Views	Expressions of interest
6 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Windmill, Porterstown, Dublin 15	2	Apt	1155	272
13 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Avondale Park, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15	2	House	1448	194
			<b>Total</b>	2603	466



During March 2024, of the 40 Homeless Assessments carried out, 39% cases resulted from a Notice to Quit (NTQ) having been served. Most of the other presentations to the Homeless Section are from family/relationship breakdown (19%), living in overcrowded conditions (6%) and state that they cannot/will not return to the property. The remaining 36% comprise various reasons outlined in the chart below





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

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

## Rough Sleepers

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

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

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

There have been 21 reported rough sleeping cases in 2024, 3 of these cases are yet to be confirmed.

6 of the clients have taken up Emergency Accommodation and we continue to work with 2 others in an effort to provide a suitable solution.

There are currently 4 registered long term entrenched rough sleepers (1 couple and 2 males). The couple and 1 male have been nominated to Housing First tenancies in March 2024. We continue to work with the last client in an effort to secure him long term accommodation.

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

The DRHE in partnership with Dublin Simon Outreach and the PMVT Intake team are assertively working on the streets offering accommodation to all rough sleepers. The teams are very familiar with the locations of people sleeping rough across the Dublin Region and persistently work with individuals to support them into emergency accommodation. This process can take time and multiple contacts, as some people do not want to engage but the teams persevere with every person working to achieve a successful outcome.

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

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

## National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022-2027 Implementation Plan

Action 1.2.2 of the National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022-2027 Implementation Plan states that Local authorities and the HSE must work together to plan and deliver on housing targets for disabled people in the community (including de-congregation) in line with the forthcoming Disability Services Action Plan.

The HSE Mental Health Housing Coordinator from Parkgate Hall liaises with the Homeless Services Team on a monthly basis.

Currently 11 Fingal County Council clients have been identified, one was housed in January, a second is going through the nomination process after a property has been identified and the teams continue to liaise in relation to the other clients.

### Homeless Action Plan 2022- 2024

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Council has been engaging with tenants who have been issued with a notice of termination, as well as their landlords, and following assessment, 242 tenant in-situ properties are at the sale closed stage.

A total of 77 properties are at the sale agreed stage with a further 71 cases in the negotiation process. In addition, the Council is assessing a further 306 queries concerning notices of termination and tenant-in-situ acquisition.

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



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

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

The Government has put forward options to allow tenants who are not eligible for social housing to remain in their homes, including schemes to support the purchase of homes and a Cost Rental in-situ Scheme. The Cost Rental Tenant-in-Situ Scheme is available for tenants who are not eligible for social housing and are at risk of homelessness. The DHLGH has advised that local authorities are to be the first point of contact for this scheme, but it is managed by the Housing Agency. Under the scheme, the Housing Agency can purchase a property and rent it to the tenant. Fingal County Council will undertake an initial assessment of the tenant's circumstances and refer details to the Housing Agency for consideration, where the tenant is at risk of homelessness and the Cost Rental Tenant-in-Situ scheme applies. The Housing Agency will then contact the landlord about the purchase of the property.

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

The Council will be able to provide more information on these when available.

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

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

The key contact details are:

**Fingal County Council Housing Department**

Monday to Thursday, 9 am to 5.00 pm,

Friday 9 am to 4.30 pm:

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

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

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

**Freephone :** 1800 707 707

**TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION PROGRAMME**

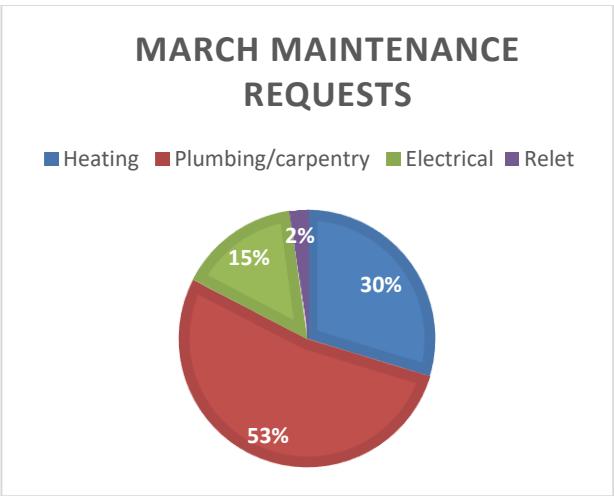
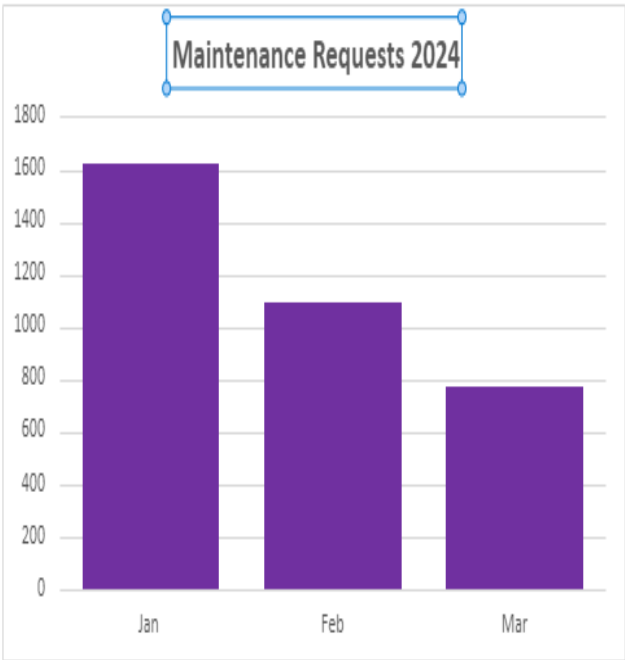
Refurbishment works to the 5 Bay Halting Site at St Brigid's Lawns, Porterstown, Dublin 15 is ongoing. Works include replacing the existing welfare units with new modern units and upgrades to the on-site utilities.

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

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

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

**Housing Maintenance**



**Repairs to property in Dublin 15**



**Bill Shelly Park illegal dumping**





## Boiler Servicing Programme

The 2024 Programme of work continues, with Contractors working across the County in areas such as Corduff, Parslickstown, Strandmill, Blackmills, Earnan's Wood, Loughshinny Drive, Lambeecher Estate and Mourne View/Close.

## Anti-Social Behaviour/Inspectorate Unit

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

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

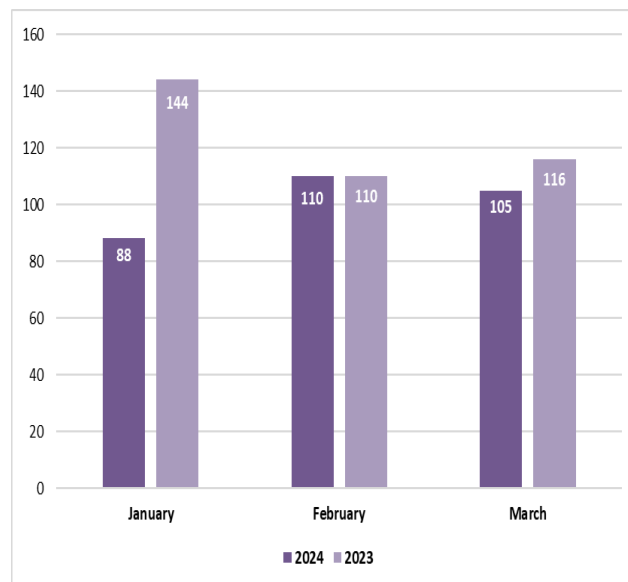
## ASB Caseload Management

Complaints March 2024	Total	Active	Monitoring	Closed
Balbriggan	20	15	3	2
Rush / Lusk	21	18	1	2
Swords	23	9	3	11
Howth / Malahide	15	12	2	1
Blanchardstown / Mulhuddart	15	8	3	4
Ongar	9	5	0	4
Castleknock	2	2	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>24</b>

## Surrenders on Estate Management Grounds 2024

January (1) , February (4), March (6)

## Monthly Breakdown of ASB Complaints Received 2023-24



## Anti-Social Behaviour Interventions

<b>Interviews Held 2024</b>	<b>36</b>
Interviews Held 2023	95
<b>Tenancy Alerts 2024</b>	<b>9</b>
Tenancy Alerts 2023	23
<b>Tenancy Warnings 2024</b>	<b>4</b>
Tenancy Warnings 2023	6

## Inspectorate

<b>Traveller Specific Site Inspections 2024</b>	<b>418</b>
Traveller Specific Site Inspections 2023	1665
<b>Estate Inspections 2024</b>	<b>321</b>
Estate Inspections 2023	1305
<b>Estate Management Inspections 2024</b>	<b>489</b>
Estate Management Inspections 2023	1666

## **Housing Ukraine Response**

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

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

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

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

[Ukraine українська Україна | Fingal County Council](#)

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

### **Liam Rodgers Rest Centre**

The centre has been stood down as a rest centre for Ukraine Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection and the building is returning to use for community activity. The centre has provided shelter and support for circa 700 Ukrainians since the war began in the main new arrivals to the country. Community Development will now carry out repair works in advance of the centre returning to community use.

### **OfferAhome\ Pledge Accommodation**

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

To pledge a room in your home, this can be done through the Irish Red Cross via [www.redcross.ie](http://www.redcross.ie)

*Note: **Helping Irish Hosts** can offer support and advice to both hosts and guests in pledge accommodation.*

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

## **Vacant Homes**

The Vacant Homes Team continues to engage with owners of vacant properties to encourage owners to bring them back into use and advise of schemes that are available to assist this with on-going follow up of properties reported as vacant to the Council and those identified by way of survey.

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

### **Croí Cónaithe Vacant Homes Refurbishment Grant**

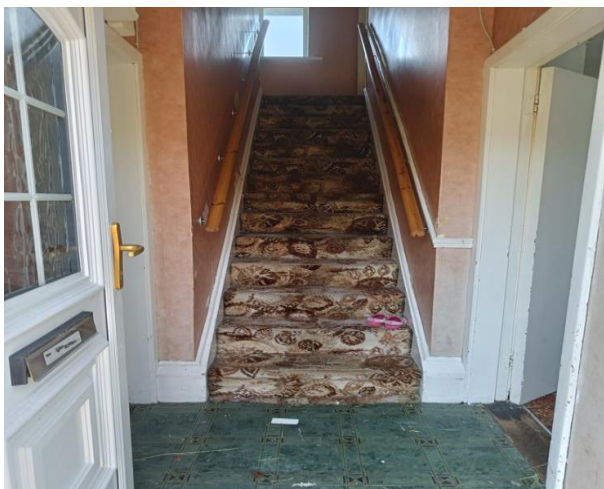
On the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023, the scheme was further extended with the eligibility criteria now allowing for properties built pre-2008 to qualify and grants increasing to €50k (vacant) and €70k (vacant and derelict).

The scheme now also allows for a grant for approved properties to be rented on the private market when refurbishment is complete. Before this change, the grant-approved property had to be the principal private residence of the grant. **113** applications have been received under the scheme with a steady flow of new applications, **55 of** which have been approved with further applications moving to the approval stage. In addition, staff are engaging with numerous other expressions of interest which have the potential to lead to further applications.

Promotion of the scheme is ongoing by the Vacant Homes Team who have been present at various Housing Information Events most recently the event held in the Crown Plaza, Hotel, Santry on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023 and at Donabate Golf Club on the 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024. For enquiries on the scheme and other schemes to bring properties back into use please contact the Council's Vacant Homes Office via e-mail at [vacant.homes@fingal.ie](mailto:vacant.homes@fingal.ie) Vacant properties can also be reported to this address for investigation.



**Croi Connaithe Vacant Property Grant before and after Photos below:**



Before



After



Before



After



Before



After

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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

## Community Development Office

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

### International Women’s Day: Shine A Light



Over 100 women celebrated International Women’s Day at the ‘Shine a Light’ event in Swords Castle and Park on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March. The theme was ‘Inspiring Inclusion’ and the event shone a light on the positive impact engagement and inclusion has on women in Fingal through their groups, networks and friendships.

The event, which was launched by the Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Adrian Henchy, comprised of presentations from women, including Fingal County Council Chief Executive, AnnMarie Farrelly. This was followed by a warmup exercise, and a walk in the adjoining park, which was lit up for the occasion, to shine a light on women’s safety.

### Prioritising Mulhuddart Meeting

The Community Development Office facilitated a meeting of the former stakeholders of the Mulhuddart Priority Task Group recently. This meeting presented the Census information from 2022 with information on the development of Church Fields development. It was well attended by services and agencies to discuss potential areas of collaboration in relation to community development and ensuring that Mulhuddart remains a priority for all. The next meeting is scheduled for 13th June where stakeholders wish to continue as an information sharing network.





## Voter Participation Workshops for People with Disabilities

The Community Development Office, in collaboration with Disability Federation of Ireland, is facilitating two free workshops, to support voter participation for people with disabilities. These workshops aim to equip participants with the knowledge and skills required to effectively communicate their issues and concerns to Local Election candidates ahead of the Local Elections due to take place this summer. The workshops will be followed by briefing sessions with Local Election candidates in May ahead of the election date in June.

**EVERY VOTE COUNTS!**

Learn how to engage with Local Election candidates about issues that matter to you. Two **free workshops** will cater to a diverse range of needs & will be delivered by Disability Federation of Ireland in preparation for a final briefing session with Local Election Candidates.

**17th April @ 2pm: Swords**  
**18th April @ 11am: Blanchardstown Library**

Contact: [community@fingal.ie](mailto:community@fingal.ie) for further information





## Failete Isteach Lusk



Lusk Cultural Centre has launched the latest Failete Isteach conversational English project in the north county. With support from the Community Development Office, there are now five Failete Isteach projects providing free conversational English sessions to those new to the community from a migrant background and in need of such supports in a relaxed, conversational setting. The north county Failete Isteach projects operate in Skerries, Holywell, Donabate, Howth and now Lusk.

## Fingal International Women's Day



Over 1000 women and some men joined Fingal County Council to celebrate Fingal International Women's Day 2024. All 35 community events were led by local groups and ranged from information and leadership talks to workshops on self-care, fitness, mindfulness and many more. This programme provided a fantastic opportunity for women to meet, mark the occasion and extend the reach of the Community Development Office across the county.

### Community Climate Action Hero Challenge



After a successful 2023 Community Climate Action Hero campaign, the Community Development Office and Global Action Plan are again encouraging community groups to get involved this year. Last year, 21 Fingal Community Groups competed and came out on top by placing 1st, 2nd, 3rd an outstanding achievement in the All Ireland Awards and together saved a combined 14,744.12 total kgCO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

The competition which takes place from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 26<sup>th</sup> April, is fun, free, and great to do as a group.

To register visit <https://www.climateheroes.ie/en-ie/challenge>.

For more information visit <https://www.fingal.ie/climateactionheros>

### Fingal Street Feast



The Community Development Office in conjunction with Street Feast is encouraging local community groups to get together with neighbours to share food and enjoy some conversation and camaraderie this summer.

Street Feast is a nationwide day of street parties, community celebrations and neighbourhood lunches. In 2023, over 60 events took place in Fingal with over 5000 neighbours and friends attending. Street Feast 2024 takes place on the weekend of 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> May.

To registrar and receive a free Street Feast party pack visit <https://www.changex.org/ie/streetfeast>

### Meakstown Community Centre



Expressions of Interest for the Board of Management of the new community centre for Meakstown have now closed. The Community Development Office is currently reviewing applications and once that process is complete, an information session will be held with the new Board of Management.

### Facilities Management: Orchard Project



During Tree Week 2024, several FCC-supported Community Centres took part in the *Orchard Project*. With over 50% of the centres being those



that are signed up to *Fingal's Keen to Be Green Charter*, the initiative developed by the facilities team in the Community Development Office resulted in community centres across Fingal receiving a selection of fruit trees to develop an orchard and promote biodiversity.

The task of delivering, planting, and staking the young trees throughout *Tree Week 2024* was achieved with support provided by our Operations Department. Staff members from both departments and the community centres involved, worked together to set the varieties that included; Apple, Pear, Plum and Cherry Trees. This collaborative approach ensured the project was delivered on time and is a positive example of utilising departmental resources effectively.



### Interagency

The Community Development office actively seek to work in collaboration with agencies to maximise service delivery and resources to communities. In February/March the CDO supported the delivery of the following:

### Fingal Comhairle Na nÓg



Fingal Comhairle Na nÓg are busy working on their project about Youth Spaces in Fingal which will include a survey.

The young people attended Dail na nÓg in 27<sup>th</sup> March and also attended online preparation sessions before the event. Seven of the young members volunteered to be guest delegates at the National Assembly on Climate, which will take place in April. One participant has been chosen to represent Fingal.

### Anti-Racism Month: March 2024

To mark Anti-Racism, several exhibitions were displayed in libraries across the county for the month of March.

### Art Across Cultures Exhibition



The Art Across Culture exhibition was displayed in Blanchardstown and Balbriggan libraries in March. The exhibition is a collaboration with the Irish Traveller Movement who have developed a programme on Anti-Racism awareness. Young people ranging in age from 12-18 years express in visual form what anti-racism means to them.

### Library of Migrant Women Exhibition



The Community Development Office Integration Team and the Immigrant Council of Ireland have worked together for several years on the Library of Migrant Women project. This is a participatory art project created by migrant women to tell stories of their journey from their homeland to Ireland. It features 11 stories written by migrant women about the social issues that affect them daily, their work to transform their lives, and the lives of those around them.

An exhibition of boards is on display in Baldoyle library, depicting a photo of the author, a quote and a QR code to connect to their story.

### **Yellow Flag Awards for Fingal Schools**



The Yellow Flag programme in Fingal is supported by the Community Development Office and provides a practical series of 8 steps that brings issues of interculturalism, equality and diversity and allows schools to apply them to the day to day running of the school.

The programme works with students, staff, management, parents and wider community groups to create a school environment that celebrates diversity, promotes inclusion and challenges racism.

This year, three Fingal schools were awarded a Yellow Flag at a ceremony on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March in the Button Factory, Dublin 2. Pobalscoil Neasáin, Baldoyle, Breimre Educate Together Secondary School, Balbriggan and Coláiste Pobail Setanta, Clonsilla enthusiastically completed the eight-step programme over two years, providing a positive and lasting impact on the school community.

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

A new Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT) is now operational in Fingal County Council. Its role is to provide ongoing integration supports to International Protection (IP) applicants, Programme Refugees and Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection (BOTP) to enable them to live independently in the community. The LAIT is led by Valerie McAllorum.

The team, alongside other FCC staff as needed, has begun planning and putting in place systems to support the work of the service. We are working with national and regional implementation and working groups have completed a series of training sessions relevant to the work of the service alongside colleagues in the Leinster region from the following agencies:

- 1) International Protection Support Services (IPSS)
- 2) International Protection Accommodation Services (IPAS)
- 3) Irish Refugee Protection Programme (IRPP)
- 4) Social Inclusion and Community Unit (SICU, DRCD)
- 5) Community Engagement Team (CET)
- 6) International Protection Office (IPO)

### **Launch of the Step-by-Step Guide to an Anti-Racist Organisation**



The Integration Team launched the Step-by-Step Guide for an Anti-Racist Organisation which was developed in collaboration with the Immigrant Council of Ireland and with support from IHREC and Irish Network Against Racism (INAR). The guide is available on our website in English, Irish and the four top languages in Fingal.



The Integration team also launched a signposting process for the reporting of racist incidences. The development of this process is part of the teams work on the SALAAM Project (Sustainable Alliances Against Anti-Muslim Hatred) EU Commissioned Project in partnership with Limerick University, DORAS, the Irish Network Against Racism and the Immigrant Council of Ireland, information including links are now in place on our website.



### Ukrainian Supports



Outreach work continued in serviced accommodations throughout Fingal this month, with the Community Development Officer signposting vital services for our Ukrainian guests. Particular attention is being given to registration for voting, and direction to our Register of Electors ahead of upcoming Local Elections in June. This practice ensures true integration of our guests into Fingal county.

### Age Friendly Fingal

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

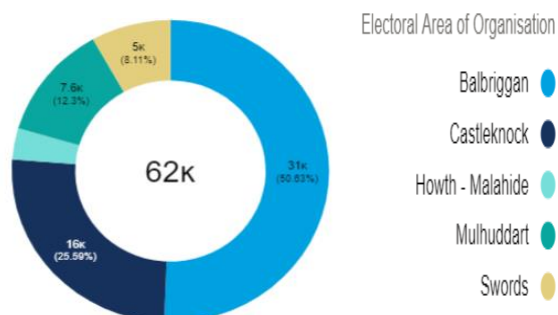
### Information Event for Over 55s: Dublin 15



Approximately 160 people from across Dublin 15 attended an Information Event for over 55's on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March. The event which was organised by Fingal Age Friendly took place in Blanchardstown Library. The team were delighted with the high turnout for this event and were particularly pleased to see a high proportion of males (circa 25%) attending which can sometimes be challenging to achieve. The event took place following two successful similar events in Swords and Baldoyle/Sutton in 2023, with a further event planned for later in the year in Balbriggan.

Information and advice were provided on the day by over 20 service providers. The event was advertised through a variety of mediums including social media, flyers, and direct contact with groups in the area. It is very significant that arising from a survey of 135 participants at this event, only two participants indicated that they found out about the event via social media. Once again, indicating that the best form of communication for older people is by flyers, notices and word of mouth.

## Funding Community Activities Funding



Communities Activities Funding has been awarded to 30 projects to the amount of **€61,901.22 so far in 2024**

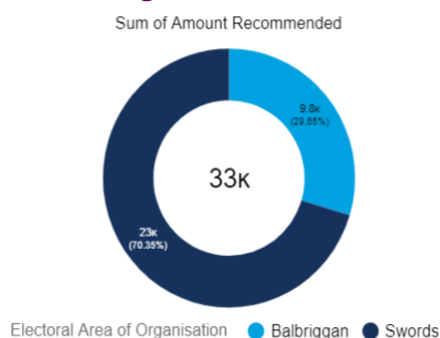
**Castleknock/Mulhuddart**-€23,454.75(9 projects)

**Balbriggan** - €31,341.50 (14 projects)

**Swords** - €5,021 (4 projects)

**Howth Malahide**- €2,084 (3 projects)

## Remedial Funding



Remedial Funding has been awarded to 2 projects to the amount **of €33,054 so far 2024.**

**Balbriggan** - €9,800 (1 project)

**Swords** – €23,254 (1 project)

## External Funding

In March 2024, the Community Development Office secured €7,500 from the Department of Foreign Affairs towards Africa Day initiatives in Fingal.



ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE  
ACTION, ACTIVE TRAVEL AND  
SPORTS DEPARTMENT

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

Active Travel

Protected Cycle Lanes:

BLRS Area:

R132 Blakes Cross to Quickpenny Lane

Over March the contractor was busy carrying out drainage works on Kilhedge Lane. A number of new gully pots were added along the road to the existing drainage network to help alleviate surface water ponding.

Junction works were carried out to Ballough and Quickpenny Lane. This work included extending the left-hand turning radii to facilitate the large volume of heavy goods vehicles using these junctions daily.

Installation of bollards, lane separators, line markings and road signage are continuing as works progress. Engagement is ongoing with the local community and designers are reviewing issues raised and possible solutions. Weekly updates are provided to local councillors and through social media outlets.



Seatown Road Swords:

The Project Team is currently working with the Engineering Consultant to finalise the Non-Statutory Public Consultation Report. Once the report has been finalised, it will be published on the Consultation Portal. Works are ongoing to finalise the options report, detailed drawings and screenings on the final option. The project team are working towards going to the market in the coming months for a Contractor to progress to the Construction stage in 2024, subject to NTA approvals. This project will provide segregated walking and cycling infrastructure from the R132 at Swords through to the estuary and connectivity to Malahide along the estuary.

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

The Project Team is currently working with our property section to progress the potential acquisition of lands along a section of the route to facilitate the progression of the proposed walking and cycling infrastructure from the end of the distributor road in Donabate along the R126 through to the coast at Portrane.

Additional surveys are being carried out to establish further details to inform the design process. Once details of the preferred option have been finalised and completed, the preferred option will be presented to the members at local ACM later this year.

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

The Engineering Consultant is currently working with the Project Team to finalise concept designs and options report to assist with stakeholder engagement. Further Topographical Surveys are underway to assist with the decision-making process on the preferred option.

This is a complex section of road as the road widths are narrow and confined. All options are being considered at present so that the preferred option can be established. Further details will be presented to Cllr's later in the year.

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

The Engineering Consultant has provided an options report and initial concept designs have been developed for review and agreement with relevant stakeholders before moving to the next steps. Consultation is ongoing with the relevant stakeholders including the DAA, NTA and Bus Connects project team. Further updates will be provided over the coming months, through this report and at ACM level.

### **Howth-Malahide Area:**

#### **Baldoyle-Howth Protected Cycle Lane Scheme Phase 2**

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

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

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

It is intended to run a tender competition in Q2, 2024 for 'Concept Development and Options Selection'.

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







### Seapark Hill to Old Golf Course Link Park

The brief, and tender documents are currently being updated by the Active Travel Unit to reflect an update to the project approval guidelines issued by the National Transport Authority. As soon as this is complete, it is intended to run a tender competition in Q2, 2024 to progress this project from the design phases through to completion as soon as possible.

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

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

The Developer on the Seamount Road side as recently reopened the access, which is now through the new development, closing the temporary footpath.

### Feltrim Road Cycle Infrastructure

It is intended to go to tender for the works in early Q2, 2024.

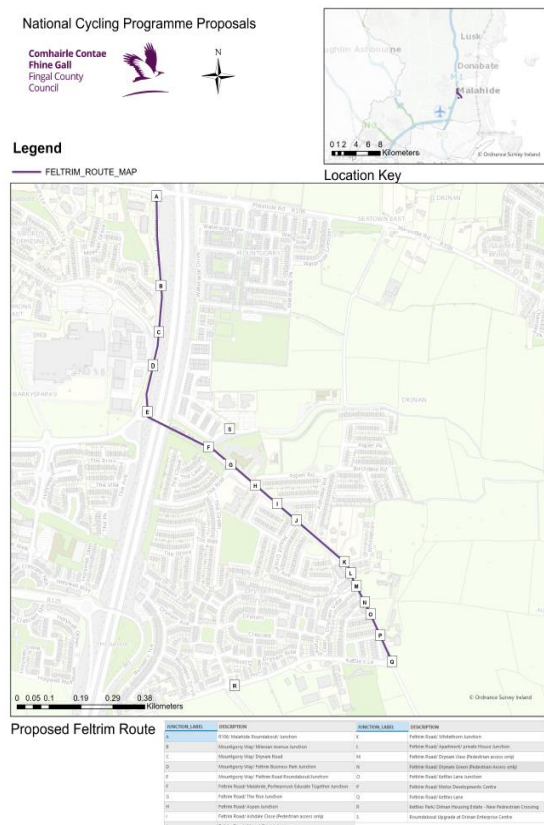
The route of the Feltrim cycle scheme is shown on the map below, commencing at Kettles Lane, along the Feltrim Road to Mountgorry Way and on up to the Swords Road Roundabout.

The Active Travel Unit of Fingal County Council proposes to engage a consultant to provide multi-disciplinary consultancy services for the provision and improvement of infrastructure for pedestrians, people on cycles and other vulnerable road users.

The study area is from the Mountgorry Way/Swords Road roundabout via Mountgorry Way and Feltrim Road, tying into the Feltrim Road/Kettle's Lane junction. An indicative route for illustrative purposes is provided below.

This map outlines the route of the proposed improved active travel infrastructure with the addition of a pedestrian crossing facility to be provided at/near the entrance to Kettles Park on Kettles Lane, and treatment of the three roundabouts at Swords Road/Mountgorry Way, Mountgorry Way/Feltrim Road, and Drinan Enterprise Centre/Liam Rogers Centre/MPETSS.

It is anticipated that a concept design will be completed by Q4 2024, with Preliminary Design commencing in Q1, 2025.



## Scoil an Duinnigh to Waterside Footpath and Cycleway

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

## BMCO Area: Snugborough Road – NAC to Ongar

The options report for the project has been completed after internal reviews by the Project Team and a workshop with the NTA. A Gateway 2 Report has been issued to the NTA and approval to proceed to the preliminary design phase of the project has been received.

The consultant has received the stage 1 road safety audit on the emerging preferred option.

The drawings are now being updated taking this audit into account. Stakeholder engagement continues with the Bus Connects project team for a proposed new signalised junction at Waterville. A draft preliminary design report has been issued to the Active Travel Unit with comments sent back. Further updates will be provided over the coming months, through this report and at ACM level.

## Clonee to Blanchardstown Shopping Centre

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

## Castleknock to Dunsink Lane

This project is now focusing on Auburn Avenue linking into the Royal Canal at the 12th Lock along the Old Navan Road. The Options Report and relevant drawings for Auburn Avenue have been reviewed and approved by the NTA in compliance with the Gateway 2 Hold Point requirements.

A stage 1 road safety audit has been carried out and comments taken into consideration with drawings updated accordingly. Photomontages of the emerging preferred option have been prepared in advance of a public consultation with information leaflets being drafted for a letter drop to the wider area.

## Hartstown/Huntstown/Mountview Road

It is proposed to use a newly formed Single Party Framework to progress design from earlier work carried out by the Cycle Design Office. A tender competition has been published to engage the design consultant for phase 2b in this regard. Fingal County Council will progress on finalising the detailed design for roundabout and junction upgrades. This is subject to revision of design standards to ensure compliance with the new National Cycle Manual.



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

Stage 2 of the tender competition for a design consultant and assessment has been completed. Contract documents have been signed and sealed and a commencement meeting has taken place. The feasibility study has started, and traffic and drone surveys have taken place which will help inform the study. A tender competition to carry out a topographical survey has just closed with an award imminent.

### **Towns & Villages**

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

#### **New Street**

Fingal County Council has received notification of a Judicial Review proceedings challenging the Part 8 approval for the Public Realm Improvements. Fingal County Council's legal team is currently taking instructions in relation to this.

The Active Travel Unit intends to tender the detailed design phase of this project in Q2, 2024.

#### **Balrothery Active Travel Plan**

Following a well-attended non-statutory consultation event, which was held in Balrothery Heritage Centre on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2024. Insight was gained from the public in relation to issues experienced and what they would like to see in their village.

The Consultant has issued a draft report on the back of this event and the Active Travel Unit are in the process of reviewing this report.

The next steps are to identify a list of interventions to address the issues raised during the consultation. We will look at both smaller interventions, as well as bigger moves. The resulting list will be put through a feasibility assessment.

### **Skerries Active Travel Plan**

The project team are currently developing tender documents and a consultant's brief for Stage 2 of the tender process to appoint an Integrated Design Team to deliver active travel town plans across the county. The first project to be developed from this consultancy framework will be Skerries Town. It is anticipated to publish Stage 2 tender documents by the early April. The three shortlisted tenderers from Stage 1 will have approximately 4-weeks to submit a tender response for assessment. The evaluation board will evaluate the tenders received and aim to appoint a consultant to commence services in May 2024 for this framework.

#### **Skerries Harbour Road:**

The Preliminary Design documentation and environmental reports for this project are with the Planning Authority for pre-planning consultation and assessment. The outcome of this will establish the governance and planning route for the project with a decision expected in late March 2024. Further meetings will be arranged to update the elected members on the next steps and timelines involved. While this is an exciting project for the area, the project team are working towards bringing this project through the governance process and then to public consultation.

### **Connectivity/Permeability**

We are continuing to receive various requests for Permeability and Connectivity improvements from various stakeholders across the county. These requests are being recorded in detail for evaluation through a multi criteria analysis.

The projects are then reviewed across the departments to identify if an appropriate means of delivery can be established on the ground. Several projects identified through this process are being developed through the design phases for execution on the ground.

Other projects are being progressed in the areas at either design or construction stage. These Connectivity and Permeability improvements are being delivered in cooperation with our Operations Department.

These projects will enhance local communities and provide improved walking and cycling infrastructure within the county.

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

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

The Project Team is currently working with the Engineering Consultant to finalise the Non-Statutory Public Consultation Report. Once the Consultation report has been finalised, it will be published on the Consultation Portal. Works are ongoing to finalise the options report, detailed drawings and screenings on the final option. The project team are working towards going to the market in the coming months for a Contractor to progress to the Construction stage in 2024, subject to funding and NTA approvals.

### **Rush South Beach:**

The project team and the Engineering consultant have prepared concept design and options report for new universal access path. Discussions with landowners are ongoing, with meetings held recently and further meetings with the landowners in the coming weeks.

We are working collaboratively with the property owners to find an optimal solution that caters for everyone's needs.

### **Beaverstown Road, Donabate:**

Active Travel is currently at Construction stage for the provision of footpath to link up to existing footpath along Beaverstown Road in Donabate. These works will be substantially completed by the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March,

Landscaping and planting have been completed and the new fence has been erected.



New footpath has been poured and is curing. Some minor works to be completed over the next 2 weeks when the concrete has fully cured.

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

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







#### **Howth Summit Inn to Bus Stop 567:**

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

#### **Offington, Howth:**

Junction tightening and provision of tactile paving is complete at three junctions in Offington, Howth:

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

#### **Secure Bicycle Parking Infrastructure**

The contractor has commenced works associated with the provision of Secure Bicycle Parking Infrastructure on Rathingle Road, Swords, Co. Dublin.

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

Expressions of interest has been sent to schools, sports club and community centres in relation to the supply of bike parking facilities. These expressions of interest will be assessed over the coming weeks so that orders can be placed for delivery to these facilities in the coming months.

#### **Safe Routes to School**

##### **Round 1 – Tranche 1**

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

##### **Rush and Lusk Educate Together**

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

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

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



### Bayside Junior & Senior School

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



### Scoil Choilm CNS

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



### Round 1 - Tranche 2

Detailed Design is complete for the Tranche 2 schools and a tender competition for the construction works has closed. The winning contractor is due to start on site in April at the following schools:

Ladyswell National School, Mulhuddart  
Scoil Choil Community NS, Porterstown  
Scoil Ghráinne Community NS, Hansfield

### Round 2

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

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

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

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

### Rush National School:

Active Travel together with Operations have recently launched two public consultations connected to road safety measures in Rush. A School Street initiative for Rush National School and a junction upgrade adjacent to the school are now open for public feedback.

The public has been invited to review plans for changes at Rush National School on the Fingal consultation portal. A proposal has been brought forward by the council's Active Travel unit to provide a School Street in the area. This initiative is being paired with a proposal from the council's Operations unit who have proposed junction upgrade measures at the nearby 5-arm junction at Millbank Road, Chapel Road and Whitestown Road



which forms part of the 2024 Programme of Works. Together these upgrades will reduce traffic speeds in the area and provide children walking or wheeling to school with a much safer environment, at and on the approach to the school gate.

The consultation process is now completed and the consultation report is being prepared. It is intended to update the local representatives at the next ACM meeting.

## Mobility & Behaviour Change

### Sofa to Saddle Course

We have partnered with Age & Opportunity to roll out a six week cycling course for older adults, the course began on March 20<sup>th</sup> in Donabate Portrane Community Centre, with an indoor assessment and we had our first outdoor session on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March, between the group, it had been a combined total of 124 years since any of them had cycled a bike, with the longest period participant not having cycled for 37 years, so it has been a massive success already! The course continues every Wednesday for the next 4 weeks.



### Learn 2 Cycle with a Disability

Our Learn 2 Cycle with a Disability lessons continue to be extremely popular. We are continuing to roll these lessons out across County Fingal, we had two courses planned for March; one in Corduff Sports Centre starting on Saturday 2 March. and another in Luttrellstown community centre starting on Monday 11 March, but due to demand we have added a third, on a Friday in Flemington.

From May, courses will be held in Tyrrelstown, Balbriggan and Swords.

We recently shot a promotional video for this course. This is available to view on our Youtube channel [Learn 2 Cycle with a Disability](#)



### Adult Cycling Lessons Castleknock April - May

The active travel unit are assisting Castleknock Tidy Towns in running cycling lessons for adults who want to get back in the saddle after taking a break, or for people who want to feel more confident on their bikes. The course will run over 6 weeks on Tuesday nights at 6.30pm, starting from Tues 09 April. The booking link can be found here <https://forms.office.com/e/RYPENYYKTS>



### Staff eBike Trials

The Staff eBike Trials are continuing in 2024, we now have 5 eBikes available to staff for a one-month trial period.

These are

2 x Trekking Commuter Style Bikes

2 x Folding Bikes

1 x Long Tail Cargo Bike

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

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



### Cycling Without Age

With the Seasons starting to change, our 4 Cycling Without Age Trishaws are available to book again. We have made some changes to the booking system, now, all people need to do is email [cyclingwithoutage@fingal.ie](mailto:cyclingwithoutage@fingal.ie) with their preferred time, date and location and we'll do the rest.

Trishaws are free to book and are available in Skerries, Baldoyle, Santry and St Catherine's Park.



### eCargo for Business/Community Group Trials

Our ecargo for community group scheme continues, we are working on providing a bike to Castleknock Tidy Towns and Malahide Meals on Wheels and hope to have these bikes with the groups soon. Our first Community eCargo Bike was launched in December with Baldoyle Wildtown. The cargo bike has been given to the group for a 12-month period to help them with their activities around Baldoyle. The eCargo has already been put to good use by the group to transport shovels, compost and trees during their orchard planting event in Seagrang Park in December.



### Men's Walk & Talk Groups

At the end of February we launched our 5<sup>th</sup> Men's Walk & Talk Group in Baldoyle. Since its launch the group has gone from strength to strength. In March, members of our Swords Group completed



the Harbour to Harbour walk in aid of Aware. Our Groups are always on the lookout for new members, so if you'd like to join a group, or start your own just email [active.travel@fingal.ie](mailto:active.travel@fingal.ie) and we'll help you get going

All details of our Mens Walk & Talk groups can be found on our website

<https://www.fingal.ie/activetravel/menswalk>





### Fresh Air Friday

We have launched our Fresh Air Friday Challenge, with several new Fingal schools joining the initiative. Participating schools will be entered into a fun prize draw for a trip to Flynn Park / PE Supply Pack, and some active travel goodies. Participating schools just have to register online and then walk, cycle or scoot to school each Friday! Fresh Air Fridays can help to encourage a long-term behaviour change, improve the air quality around our towns and villages while also promoting a healthy start to the day. If your school or business are interested in signing up to Fresh Air Friday, simply contact [active.travel@fingal.ie](mailto:active.travel@fingal.ie) and we will help you get going.



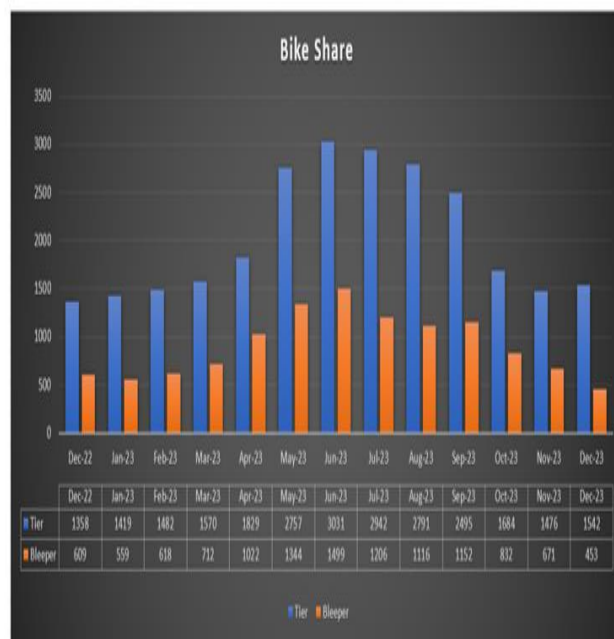
### Skerries Community Car

Between Jan 14<sup>th</sup> and Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> the Community car completed 100 of 104 requested trips, with none of these missed due to a lack of volunteers/local link driver. While this is brilliant, we still feel that there is scope to increase the usage, with this in mind we have a Stakeholders meeting planned for the start of April. If you are interested in learning more, please contact [active.travel@fingal.ie](mailto:active.travel@fingal.ie)

Month	Total Bookings	Total Trips	Appoint. Cancelled by Hospital	Missed Demand (no volunteer available)
Feb	106	90	12	4
Mar	108	58	34	16
Apr	114	80	16	18
May	65	34	11	14
Jun	50	26	8	16
Jul	50	33	7	10
Aug	130	52	28	50
Sep	128	66	30	32
Oct	102	68	22	14
Nov	90	70	18	2
Dec	98	90	4	4
Jan	104	100	4	0



### Bike Share Schemes



**Bleeper Bike**

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

**Bleeper Bike Update February 2024; key statistics**

429 Bleeper bike journeys started within Fingal operating zone in January
453 bike journeys ended within existing Fingal operating zone
Highest usage recorded on Fridays (18.4%) and Mondays (17%)
Hartstown and Donabate were the most popular starting points.
Estimated emissions avoided: 196.3kg of CO2

**TIER eBike Update**

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

**TIER Mobility February 2024; Key Statistics**

Metric	Details
Trips	1,142
No of Customers	474
Trips / Customer	2.4
Distance Covered (KM)	3,440
Average Trip Duration	13.9mins
Average Trip length (KM)	3km

**ENVIRONMENT**

**Climate Action**

The new Climate Action Plan for Fingal has been launched that outlines innovative climate adaptation and mitigation actions which the Council intends to take over the next five-years as it strives to make the county a more climate resilient region.

The 2024-2029 plan, which demonstrates Fingal's continued commitment to climate action, includes six key theme areas, namely: Energy & Buildings; Transport; Flood Resilience; Nature Based Solutions; Circular Economy & Resource Management; and Community Engagement.

Fingal's five-year plan is aligned to the Government's overall National Climate Objective as set out in the national Climate Action Plan, which seeks to pursue and achieve, by no later than the end of 2050, the transition to a climate resilient, biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable and climate neutral economy.

A copy of the plan and associated environmental reports are available for public viewing until Friday 12th April 2024 at the following locations:

- Online via the Council's website: <https://www.fingal.ie/>
- County Hall, Main St, Swords, Co. Dublin (K67 X8Y2) Monday to Thursday (excluding Bank Holidays) between the hours of 9am to 5pm and Friday 9am to 4:30pm.
- Civic Offices, Grove Road, Blanchardstown, D15, (D15 W638) Monday to Thursday (excluding Bank Holidays) between the hours of 9am to 5pm and Friday 9am to 4:30pm.





## Community Climate Action Fingal

The Community Climate Action Fingal Grant application process closed on 28th February. A total of 25 applications were received through the online portal. These applications represent inputs from community groups all over Fingal, many in partnership arrangements, representing climate action initiatives to the value of 1.6m Euro. All 25 eligible applications are being assessed this month and a portfolio is being prepared to submit to the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications before the end of April. The Fingal allocation for grant aid is



## Environmental Awareness

### Green Schools

Four Green Flag school assessment visits were completed on the themes of Litter and Waste Global Citizenship, Water (x2) and Biodiversity. Deadline for Green School applications for flag applications was March 15<sup>th</sup> and the Environmental Awareness Officer has been supporting local schools in how to apply, answering queries, and helping lapsed schools invigorate the Green Schools Programme in their school.

St George's School Balbriggan Green School Committee are working towards their Litter and Waste Flag and made a creative display to encourage waste management at lunch time.



St Bracken's ETNS in Balbriggan are working towards their Biodiversity flag and created an engaging presentation highlighting how their Green Committee have created a bug hotel and have planted multiple trees in their school garden. Best of luck to all schools waiting on their assessment results!



### Garden Club St Patrick's NS

Members of the garden club at St. Patrick's N.S. in Diswellstown, Carpenterstown, are thrilled with their new garden shed, which will certainly make looking after the school garden easier and more enjoyable. The school community sends their thanks to Fingal County Council who generously supplied funding for this shed.



## Newsletter for Community Groups

A newsletter has been created and sent to community groups across Fingal County, promoting environmental initiatives and projects. 15 groups have been in touch as a result of this communication and are availing recycled paint with the Resdiscovery Centre.

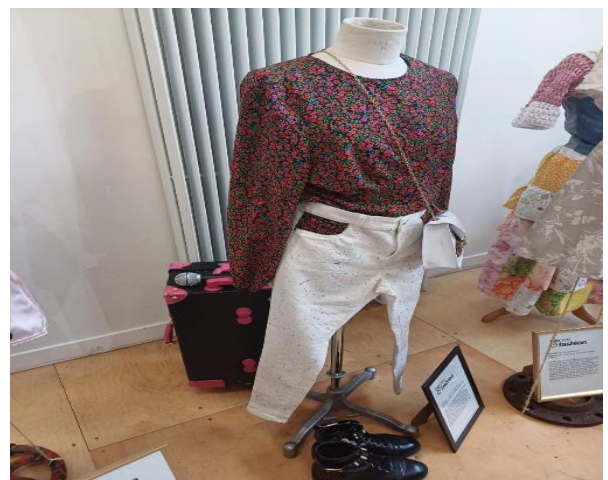
## ReLove Fashion Final

The ReLove Fashion Final took place on March 21<sup>st</sup>. St Joseph's Rush and Ardgillan CC were chosen as National finalists. The Environmental Awareness Officer provided support and funding to this school programme.

Alannah O'Reilly and Lucy Learmonth from St Joseph's Rush created a creative denim outfit:



Clara Flynn and Gemma Ennis created this creative look using old clothing donated by their teacher:





## TU Dublin

The Environmental Awareness Officer attended TU Dublin's Green Flag ceremony and met with members of the Green Team committee to discuss supports in promotion of good environmental practices and in particular waste initiatives within student services areas.

The Environmental Awareness Officer facilitated a stand at TU Dublin's Green Week in which 50+ students engaged in conversations about food waste and litter management (signage for bins, battery recycling). Students were encouraged to write messages of how to live sustainably to get a free reusable coffee cup. Messages below:



TU Dublin Students at Green Week

## The following community groups and schools were awarded funding for environmental projects:

- Castleknock Tidy Towns- Polytunnel
- Clonee Women's Shed- Reusable Coffee Cups and Training
- Castleknock Educate Together- Biodiversity signs for school garden
- Egg Headz Tree Mural- Donabate Community College
- Donabate Portrane Educate Together National School- Shed and composter
- Loreto College Swords- materials for school community garden
- Ballyboughal Community Council- Signs for litter and dog fouling

## Green It Your Work



Sinéad Fox Community Climate Action Officer and Claire Marshall Environmental Awareness Officer joined with Toni Hogan and Áine Donlon of the Economic, Enterprise, Tourism and Cultural Development Department to present to a group visiting from 7 EU countries for knowledge sharing about the role of young people in sustainability- at the Lark, Balbriggan

### Community Centres and Keen to be Green

The below community centres received supplies of litter pickers, doggie dispensers and food waste caddies to support the Keen to be Green programme and to facilitate requests from community groups for clean up supplies.

1. **Mulhuddart Community Centre**
2. **Mountview Youth and Community Centre**
3. **Ongar Community Centre**
4. **Flemington Community Centre**
5. **Our Balbriggan Main Office**
6. **Holywell Community Centre**
7. **Rivervalley Community Centre**

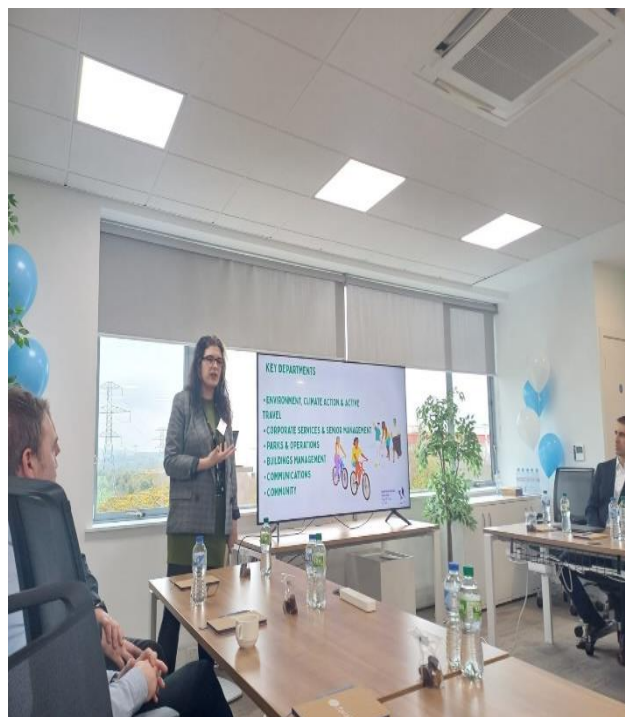
### Balbriggan Chamber

The Environmental Awareness Officer presented at the Balbriggan Chamber of Commerce's Coffee and Chats session, taking place in A.Forral Beta Active Balbriggan. Presentation highlighted the green initiatives happening across Fingal Council and best practices around litter and waste management. The Environmental Awareness Officer also highlighted supports for businesses through the MODAS training programme.

### Replay Instruments Project

Ten Fingal County schools are receiving refurbished instruments (guitars, amps and drums) as part of the Replay Instruments Project.

- **Edmund Rice Dublin**
- **Eriu Community College**
- **Lusk CC**
- **Le Chéile Secondary School**
- **Colaiste Pobail Setanta**
- **Ardgillan CC**
- **Portmarnock Community School**
- **Bremore Educate Together Secondary School**
- **Malahide Portmarnock Educate Together Secondary School**



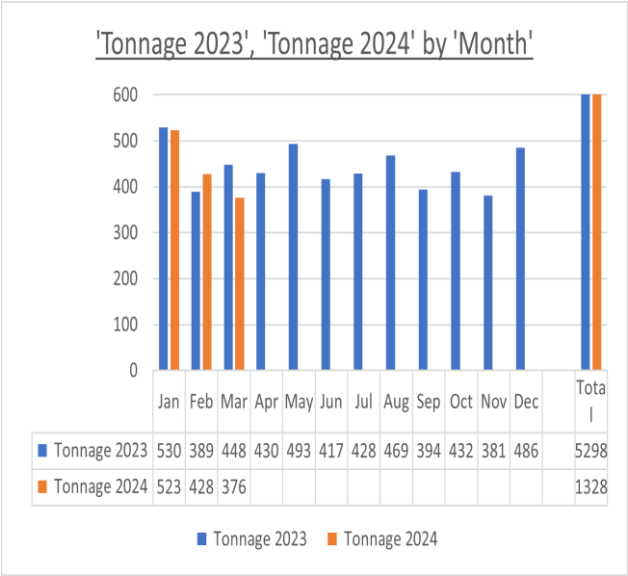
### European Recycling Platform

Working in partnership with the European Recycling Platform to promote the Batteries for Barretstown School Challenge programme with schools. 15 primary schools in Fingal County have now signed up to this initiative and will receive educational materials to support teachers, biodegradable recycling bags and a battery tubes.



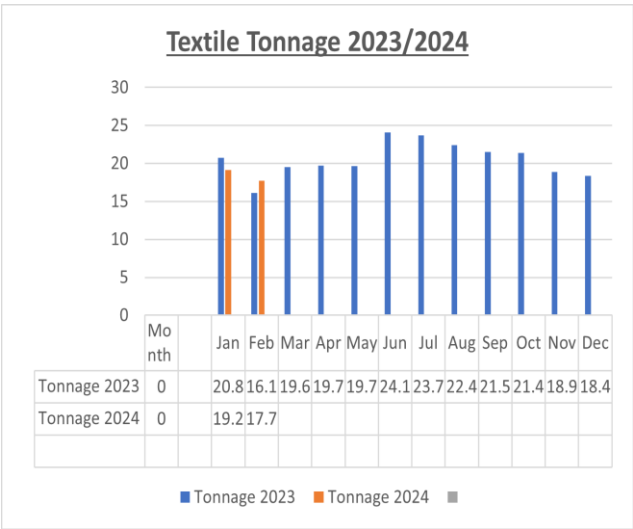
Bring Centres

Bottle Banks



Glass volumes collected in **March 2024** were **376 Tonnes**. The Glass volumes collected by comparison in March 2023 were 448 Tonnes.

Textile Banks



Textiles volumes collected in **February 2024**-the most recent data available-were **18 Tonnes**. This compared with 16 Tonnes of Textiles volumes collected in February 2023.

Litter Management

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



The Litter warden continued to receive several complaints regarding muck on the roads from construction sites. They carried out inspections and ensured that the roads were being keep clean of muck and that the building sites had a road sweeper in operation.

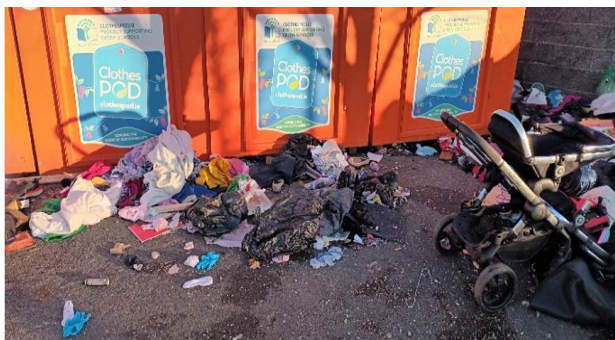
They also followed up on reports to ensure farmers were ensuring the roads were keep clean of muck.

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



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

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



The Litter Warden also investigated reports of abandoned cars, taking photographs and updating the litter app and the CRM system.

There were 5 cases before the district court in March 2024.

Month	Fines	Warning Notices
January	29	4
February	56	2
March	18	3

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

CRMs March 2024	Amount
Env - Dog Fouling	3
Env - Fly tipping 1-20 bags equivalent	19
Env - General Litter Issue	5
Env – Littering at Bottle Banks	3
Env – Muck on road	4
Env litter incident with witness	2
Env - Pollution - Dog Fouling Signage - Unauthorised signage	7
Env – Abandoned cars	30

### Abandoned Vehicles

There have been 81 reports of alleged Abandoned Vehicles received between 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 – 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024. Burnt-out vehicles are also reported to the Environment Department.

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

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

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



Month	Abandoned Vehicles			Burnt Out Vehicles		
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
January	0	0	0	0	1	6
February	0	1	2	1	0	0
March	3	1	2	0	1	3
April	2	0		0	0	
May	1	0		0	0	
June	0	0		0	5	
July	0	1		0	0	
August	2	0		0	3	
September	0	3		0	0	
October	2	0		0	0	
November	2	4		1	0	
December	1	0		1	0	
	13	10	4	3	10	9



### Dog Warden Service

The dog wardens continue to carry out enforcement in relation to breaches of the Control of Dogs Act 1986, Control of Dog Regulations 1998, Parks and Open Spaces byelaws and Beach and Foreshore byelaws. They also educate dog owners on the responsibilities of keeping a dog and remind owners to pick up after their pets when in public places.

The dog wardens also increase their patrols of the beaches during the summer months to optimise bathing water quality and retain the status of Fingal's Blue Flag beaches.

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

There were 234 x 10 Day Notices and 40 Fines issued by the dog wardens during March 2024.

Month	10 Day Notices		Fines Issued		Fines Paid	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
January	217	40	20	68	€1497	€7,800
February	297	13	38	32	€1735	€2,600
March	234	97	40	29	€2425	€2,100
April	0	152		42	€0	€1,500
May	0	232		98	€0	€2,956
June	0	135		53	€0	€2,700
July	0	109		35	€0	€2,644.20
August	0	140		21	€0	€1,500
September	0	125		40	€0	€3,549
October	0	241		40	€0	€1,500
November	0	91		7	€0	€1,100
December	0	222		12	€0	€1,422.50
TOTAL	217	1597	98	477	€5657	€31,372

The Animal Welfare Section received 40 complaints in relation to dogs in March 2024.

Service	No of complaints per service during March 2024
Env - Dog Fine Appeal	0
Env - Dog on Dog Attack	1
Env - Dog on Person Attack	4
Env - Pollution - Issue with Dog	12
Env - Restricted Breed Dog	9
Env - Surrendered Dog	0
Env - Stray Dog	15
Grand Total	41

Dog Licences and Fines

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

Month	Annual Licences Purchased		Lifetime Licences Purchased		Income from Licences	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
January	945	635	80	65	€30,200	€21,800
February	915	562	54	58	€25,860	€19,360
March	662	561	48	55	€19,960	€18,900
April		451		41	€	€14,760
May		918		64	€	€27,320
June		516		41	€	€16,060
July		766		47	€	€21,900
August		838		51	€	€23,900
September		759		48	€	€21,900
October		670		30	€	€17,600
November		662		41	€	€18,980
December		626		37	€	€17,700
Total for year	1860	7964	182	578	€30,200	€240,180

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



Dog Shelter Service

Dublin County Dog Shelter holds “Meet and Greet” visits for anyone looking to rehome a dog. Visits can be arranged by calling the shelter and arranging an appointment. These visits can be arranged from Monday – Friday from 11am to 1pm and from 2pm to 3.30pm. The shelter is also open on Saturday from 11am – 1pm. The shelter is closed to the public on Sundays. The dog shelter holds stray dogs picked up by the dog warden and dogs who have been surrendered by their owners either to the dog wardens or directly to the shelter. At the beginning of March there were 25 dogs in the shelter. During March 2024, 11 dogs were brought to the shelter by the dog wardens as stray or surrenders and 0 dogs were surrendered by members of the public. Of these 11 dogs, 4 have been reclaimed by their owner, 4 dogs have been rehomed to rescue, 5 have been rehomed to members of the public and 1 was PTS. At the end of March there are 22 dogs remaining in the shelter.

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

<b>Dogs in Shelter at the start of March 2023</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Dogs in Shelter at the start of March 2024</b>	<b>25</b>
Stray/Seized dogs brought to Shelter	20	Stray/Seized dogs brought to Shelter	11
Surrendered by owners	2	Surrendered by owners	0
Reclaimed	15	Reclaimed	4
Rehomed to Rescue	5	Rehomed to Rescue	4
Rehomed to Public	3	Rehomed to Public	5
PTS	2	PTS	1
Dogs in Shelter end of March 2023	9	Dogs in shelter end of March 2024	22





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



Chris is a very friendly boy he loves meeting new people He likes his walks and is mostly good on lead he is an eight-month-old lurcher and is available for rehoming .



**Sonny above waiting on his new home.** He would be suitable for a home with children over 12 or a home with no children. Sonny loves his food and could be easily trained! He loves his treats.

If you are interested in adopting Chris or Sonny and feel you have a suitable home contact the shelter on 0873914008, WhatsApp or Facebook!

## How to be a responsible dog owner

### Responsible Sourcing



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

### Microchipping



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

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

Riailtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland

## Responsible Dog Ownership



## Horses

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

In March there were 12 horses seized from the public realm, 3 of which were roaming on the Ashbourne Road and 9 which were out on the R108. These horses have not been reclaimed and will be rehomed.



## Environmental Inspections (RMCEI)

The 2023 end of year report on National Enforcement Priorities Progress Reports has been submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency and is available here [National Enforcement Priorities Progress Reports | Fingal County Council](#)

The Environmental Inspection and Compliance Plan for 2024 has also been submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency. The plan details tasks and resources available to tackle national and local environmental enforcement priorities and an annual evaluation of the plan and the execution of the plan is undertaken and published by the agency on their website.

## Water Quality

The EPA and government want to increase farm inspections and have approved funding for additional staff for this purpose, Fingal have been approved for one additional staff member.

## Water Framework Directive (WFD):

The Water Pollution Unit completed the first of its four annual EU Water Framework Directive river sampling rounds over two days in March. The national sampling programme is coordinated with the Environmental Protection Agency. In Fingal County Council, nineteen samples were taken from; The Balcunnin, Palmerstown, Ballough, Broadmeadow, Powerstown, Tolka, Mayne, Sluice, Ward, Ballyboghil and Delvin Rivers.

In terms of Catchment Management, the Water Pollution Unit has been assessing site suitability within the River Ward catchment with the aim to roll out and evolve the slurry / organic fertiliser spreading reconnaissance surveys which were carried out last January in the Delvin River and the Matt or Bracken River. The purpose of these surveys is to develop and implement a farm inspection programme to gauge compliance with The Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) for the protection of waters Regulations.

Investigative sampling has been undertaken on a suspected localised contamination of the Mill Stream and Turvey River while on going investigative monitoring of the Bracken/Matt continues. The source of a recent siltation issue in the River Bracken was investigated and traced back to drainage works in a field in Rowans Little.

## Bathing Water:

Preparation for the 2024 Bathing Water season continues. Fingal County Council reviewed and submitted 7 new bathing water profiles for the following designated bathing area's; Balbriggan, Loughshinny, Skerries, Rush North Beach, Rush South Beach, Claremount and Portrane. The purpose of each bathing water profile is to carry out an environmental analyses of each designated areas contributing catchment and risk analyses of pollution sources within each catchment. All new profiles have been uploaded to the EPA's EDEN Portal.

## Flood Protection Schemes

The OPW have issued three Scheme Viability Reports for the following schemes.



- Rush Channel Road ( A new larger pipe down channel road)
- Portmarnock Bridge (Strand Road) replacement flood defence wall, embankment and replacement sluice gates)
- Malahide (automatic flood gate to be installed at the Railway bridge)

The reports conclude that there are cost beneficial schemes for Rush and Malahide but the scheme for Portmarnock is not cost beneficial. The reports will be examined in detail and further information given to members in due course.

### Air & Noise Section

A new section has been setup within environment to deal with Air and Noise activities (complaints, development management, action plans) three staff have been recruited to the section in the past two months and are establishing the new section. Previous work in this area was carried out by Environmental Health Officers on secondment from the Health Services Executive however the HSE were not in a position to continue this arrangement.

### Noise Action Plan (Road and Rail)

The Noise Action Plan for the Dublin Agglomeration (Road and Rail Noise) is due to go on display for public consultation in mid-April. Dublin City Council is managing the consultation process, and their consultation portal will be used to receive submissions. Following consultation, the report on the consultation will be brought to the July council meeting. A presentation was brought to Climate Action Biodiversity and Environment SPC on March 26<sup>th</sup>. As it is unlikely that an SPC meeting prior to the July Council meeting the SPC requested a briefing session for all members prior to the July Council meeting on the consultation report, this will be arranged

There will be a separate process for the Dublin Airport Noise Action Plan, which will go to consultation later in the year.

## Sports Office

### Monthly Newsletter

Fingal Sports Office provide a monthly newsletter to Councillors and stakeholders to communicate what is going on in each area programme and event wise. Please find newsletter here - <https://bit.ly/FingalSportUpdate>

### Women in Sport Week

Fingal's Sport Ireland Women in Sport Week for 2024 celebrates and promotes female participation in sports and physical activity across the region. Throughout the Women in Sport week, Fingal organised a series of events, workshops, and initiatives tailored to inspire women and girls to engage in sports. These activities included over 25 sports taster sessions, club panel discussions featuring successful female athletes and coaches, educational workshops for Sport Ireland's course coaching teenage girls, and community outreach programmes aimed at promoting inclusivity and diversity in sports. Fingal highlighted five local Fingal residing Women in Sport athletes/programme participants who take part in physical activity and sports at all levels within the community, highlighting the importance of staying in sport from a playing, officiating and volunteering capacity.



**#WOMENINSPORTIRE**

During Women in Sport Week, Fingal Sports Office will have ran/supported programmes for:

**3414**

young girls, teens and women to try out new sports and activities

Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall Fingal County Council  
ACTIVE TRAVEL AND SPORT

SPORT ÉIREANN  
SPORT IRELAND

### Dyspraxia Launch

On March 4<sup>th</sup> the Acting Mayor and local Councillors were in attendance at the Launch of Thrive Arch Club D15, the first DCD/Dyspraxia Group in the County. This group caters for children with motor skill and cognitive challenges and uses the medium of sports and other activities for children to thrive in a supportive environment.

The club was launched with the support of Fingal Sports staff over the last year and caters for around 20 young children. This initiative fits into the Sports Office recent strategy commitment pillar of 'improving opportunities and choices for everyone to be active'.



### Coaching Girls

During Women in Sport Week, Fingal Sport Office hosted a 'Coaching Teenage Girls' Workshop. The workshop targeted four principal areas relating to drop out of sport by teenage girls

- Drop-out And Engagement in Girls' Sport and Physical Activity
- Meeting the Psycho-Social Needs of Girls in Sport
- Key Considerations for Coaching Girls 12-17 years - Body image & Maturation
- Preparing for the Challenges of Adolescence in Girls



### Revive and Thrive Wrap Up

Fingal County Council, in collaboration with Active Cities Dublin, wrapped up a new Health & Wellbeing initiative called "Revive and Thrive,.". The 8-week back-to-exercise programme, from January to March, gained overwhelming enthusiasm from Howth and its neighbouring areas, with all 90 slots filled with people starting their journey to living a more active lifestyle. Featuring 7 diverse classes weekly consisting of Exercise classes, Yoga classes and Saturday morning guided walks throughout Howth taking in the beautiful views it has to offer. The program has brought the community together, with heartening stories like individuals in their 70s joining their first structured exercise class. Beann Eadair's generous support has made the club bar a vibrant venue for this initiative, as Howth faces a shortage of suitable spaces. Remarkably, participants are venturing into their local GAA club for the first time, highlighting inclusivity across age groups (30s to 80+) and diverse abilities.

The programme wrapped up on March 9th with 77% of participants who started the programme seeing through to the end. The programme has since been taken on by the community with support and encouragement and there is now a community based, self-led walking group in the area as well as two weekly exercise sessions, organised and funded by locals.





### **Inclusive Dance for Schools**

Fingal Sport Office have completed a block of inclusive dance classes for children with additional needs to attend two primary schools with the assistance of Cllr. Hopkins. The sessions are in Baldoyle community hall and fully funded by Fingal Sport. Approximately 15 children between the age of 7 and 10 years are taking part, each supported by their teachers and SNA's.



### **Exercise:Energise Multi-Sports Day**

Fingal Sports Office was delighted to host the Exercise: Energise Multi-Sports Day in the National Indoor Arena, Abbottstown, on March 5th. The multi-Sports Day was one of the main highlights of the many activities provided and supported by the Fingal Sports Office for Women in Sport Week 2024. Close to three hundred teenage girls participated from ten secondary and community schools across Fingal. They are all participants in the Sports Office's Exercise: Energise Programme.

The aim of the Exercise: Energise Multi-Sport Day was to celebrate, inspire and support these teenage girls to be active by introducing them to a variety of sports and physical activities in a welcoming environment. Fingal Sports Office's co-funded National Governing Body Development Officers from the FAI (Football Association of Ireland), Tennis Ireland, Cricket Leinster, Leinster Rugby, and Hockey Ireland provided fun training sessions alongside activities such as Karate, Long Jump, Ultimate Frisbee, Tug O'War, Cheerleading and the day was completed with a mass Zumba session.



### **Exercise: Energise Video Competition**

At the start of the school year Fingal Sports Office introduced a new element to the Exercise :Energise Programme a short video competition. The winner of the competition was announced at the Exercise: Energise Multi-Sports Day. The requirements for the video were that the girls produced it themselves, gave their views on why girls drop out of sport, what they enjoyed about sport and what would keep them active. The competition entries, both in Irish & English, were of a high standard with sharp editing and insight with students putting a lot of energy into their production. After long deliberation by the judging panel the winner was chosen. The winners of the competition Blakestown Community School were congratulated on their award by Councillor Tom Kitt, Chair of Fingal Sports Partnership Committee.

## Women's Wellness

On International Women's Day, Fingal Sport Organised a Women's Wellbeing Day in Bayside Community Centre. The day was attended by over 50 women who got information from Active Travel, Irish Cancer Society, HSE and Dementia Ireland. These Information stands were followed by a 90min talk on women's health in relation to exercise, diet, sleep, and menopause. The talk was informative and the feedback from all participants was fantastic.



## Orienteering

Fingal Sports Office supported a group from Avista Services to learn how to use a free app that allows you to orienteer yourself around the local parks in Fingal. We used Millenium Park in Coolmine Dublin 15. They practiced on a small grid first and then they were shown how to download the app and how to use it on 200m practice map and then they started the 1200m map. The group really enjoyed the session and plan to do walks in other areas over the next few months



## Inter Services Soccer Blitzes

The first Football for all inter-services Blitzes for 2024 took place in FAI headquarters in Abbottstown Dublin 15. Six local disability service providers entered 10 teams to take part in this first game day of 5 across the year. FAI Football for All RDO Heather Jameson was on hand with the other Fingal based Football development officers to oversee the blitz and make sure the day was an enjoyable success.

And to make the day extra special Ireland interim manager John O'Shea of Manchester United fame came out to watch and was really delighted with what he saw. There are 4 more blitz planned in Balbriggan 23rd May, Swords September 12th, and two indoors in ALSAA October 24th and 5th December.



## Fingal Athletics League

The second round of the Fingal Athletics League took place in March with a record number of schools in attendance. 26 schools and 1,200 students from the Dublin 15 area came to Porterstown Park on 19<sup>th</sup> March to participate in the annual primary schools' cross-country events. On 21st March, a further 34 schools and 1,500 students from North County travelled to Newbridge House, Donabate.

The league prioritises inclusivity and sportsmanship, providing a welcoming environment for participants to challenge themselves and connect with fellow athletes.



This year's Finals Day will take place on 24<sup>th</sup> April in ALSAA Sports Complex. We are excited to announce, that for the first time ever, we will be live streaming the entire event.



### **Memorise and Move**

The Sports Office collaborated with Fingal's Libraries Dept to deliver the Memorise and Move programme in Blanchardstown library. This programme was aimed to raise awareness of the importance of an exercise routine for students whilst they are studying for important exams. It gives them practical ideas for implementing active break sessions to improve cognitive function which has been shown to help with their studies.

Although the uptake was low for the programme possibly due to the programme coinciding with Mock Exams a cultural of exercise during study may be developed among younger students i.e. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> years so that when they reach exam years they realise the importance and benefits of been physical active whilst studying. Therefore, going forward, the programme will focus on these groups in partnership with local secondary schools and Blanchardstown library and also a focus on establishing Youth Sports Forums.

### **Youth Sports and Physical Activity Forums**

The Sport Office held its first Youth Sports Forum in Balbriggan in March. The aim of the Forum is to give young people 15-18 years a voice in their community when it comes to topics that affect Youth Sport and Physical Activity Participation.

This feedback can be brought forward then to the local clubs, community centre and partnership meetings.

The forum will also provide the students with opportunities to use their coaching qualifications as assistant coaches in Fingal Sports Office community programmes.



## ARCHITECTS DEPARTMENT

### Contents

#### The Housing Adaptation Grant for Older People & People with a Disability

### The Housing Adaptation Grant for Older People & People with a Disability

This grant scheme is operated in conjunction with the Housing Department.

There are three grants available for older people and people with disabilities to help make their home safer and easier to get around. Fingal residents may apply to the Housing Grants section for grant aid under the following headings:

1. Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability
2. Mobility Aids Grant
3. Housing Aid for Older People Grant

The person for whom the grant is intended must meet some basic requirements for the application to be considered. That person must:

- have the grant application approved before the work starts on the home;
- live in the home when the work is completed;
- have their tax affairs in order;
- have tax clearance from Revenue if the grant is for more than €10,000;
- show that the Local Property Tax for the home is in order.

### Architects Department Inspections

Once the initial application has been accepted by the Housing Grants Section, the Architects Department conducts onsite inspections at different stages of the process. These include initial inspections to assess the suitability of the home/building for the upgrade being sought, interim visits where required and then final inspections to confirm the quality of the finished job.

Our team of Inspectors carried out **621 inspections in 2022** and a total of **773 inspections in 2023**.



*2023 Housing Adaptation Grant Related Inspections*

### Works Eligible For Grant Funding Under the Scheme

The types of works include:

- Stairlift & Hoist Installations,
- Level Access Bathroom Adaptations,
- Bathroom Extensions,
- Ramp Installations,
- Steps & Handrails,
- Grabrails & Stair rails,
- Replacement Window & Doors,
- Boiler Replacements
- Electrical Re-wiring.



## FINANCE

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#### Rates

#### Development Level Income

#### Payroll

#### Procurement

#### Financial Reports – Appendix 1

(a) Revenue Account Income & expenditure to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2024

(b) Capital Account Income & Expenditure to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2024

(c) Summary of Corporate Debtors to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2024

#### Financial Reports – Appendix 2

Contracts Awarded to end of February

The tables below outlines key financial statics at the end.

#### Rates

Overall Commercial Rates collection to the end of March 2024 is running at 43%.

Rates Collection	
Rates collected €m	€ 69.4m
Rates collected %	43%

#### Development Levy Income

Development levy income collected to the end of March is €4.3m this is c.58% of the overall collection for same period in 2023.

Development Levy Income	
Levies Receipted	€4.3m
Levies Collected as a % of 2023	58%

## Payroll

Overall payroll spend to the end of February is €14.2m which is c. **97.3%** of the budget year to date.

Payroll	
Salaries & Wages €M	14.2
Percentage of budget YTD	97%

## Procurement

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

No. of contracts awarded (details below) for year to date	43	
Value €m	10.25m	
<b>Procurements ongoing at end of February</b>		
No. of procurements awaiting tender responses	16	(i)
Value €m	99.84m	
No. of procurements under evaluation	43	(ii)
Value €m	127.52m	
No. of procurements at approved	10	(iii)
Value €m	3.76m	

#### Notes:

(i) Procurements awaiting tender responses – tender responses awaited at end of February.

(ii) Procurements under evaluation – tender responses submitted and being evaluated at end of the February.

(iii) Procurements at approved – Tender responses have been evaluated and approved. Pre- contract award processes ongoing at end of February.

## Appendix 1 (a)

### REVENUE ACCOUNT INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 31 MAR 2024

	EXPENDITURE			INCOME			NET
	Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent to date	Income €	Adopted Full year Budget €	% Budget Raised	€
Housing & Building	23,074,602	105,932,600	22%	24,202,731	108,268,800	22%	-1,128,130
Road Transport & Safety	8,954,854	36,130,600	25%	2,258,256	9,056,100	25%	6,696,599
Water Services	4,083,981	14,369,700	28%	4,408,915	17,039,600	26%	-324,934
Development Management	5,189,566	20,845,600	25%	1,439,267	6,574,000	22%	3,750,299
Environmental Services	12,253,837	48,453,500	25%	2,704,969	10,947,500	25%	9,548,868
Recreation & Amenity	12,949,100	56,603,300	23%	1,424,862	4,841,800	29%	11,524,239
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	356,323	1,513,800	24%	79,638	409,700	19%	276,685
Miscellaneous Services	4,798,498	21,972,500	22%	6,305,952	29,279,600	22%	-1,507,454
Central Management Charge	12,638,859	56,075,600	23%	1,002,047	3,969,700	25%	11,636,812
Local Property Tax / GPG				3,091,575	12,366,300	25%	-3,091,575
Rates				39,786,025	159,144,100	25%	-39,786,025
	<b>84,299,619</b>	<b>361,897,200</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>86,704,235</b>	<b>361,897,200</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>-2,404,616</b>



## Appendix 1 (b)

CAPITAL ACCOUNT				
INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION TO 31/03/2024				
	Balance at 0/01/2024 €	Expenditure YTD €	Income YTD €	Balance at 31/03/2024 €
A Housing & Building	-25,708,012	57,421,953	-11,282,417	20,431,524
B Road Transport & Safety	11,742,410	10,418,142	-712,055	21,448,497
C Water Services Development	-11,305,335	634,894	-232,221	-10,902,662
D Management	-142,996,695	14,474,846	-8,583,715	-137,105,564
E Environmental Services	-14,590,477	1,388,742	0	-13,201,735
F Recreation & Amenity	-18,558,433	2,078,558	-77,970	-16,557,845
H Miscellaneous Services	-48,898,202	2,782,131	-3,195,686	-49,311,757
<b>Total</b>	<b>-250,314,744</b>	<b>89,199,266</b>	<b>-24,084,064</b>	<b>-185,199,542</b>

## Appendix 1 (c)

SUMMARY OF CORPORATE DEBTORS TO 31/03/2024				
	Balance at 01/01/2024*	Balance at 31/03/2024	Current debt	> 1 Year
	€	€	€	€
RATES*	€2,579,384	€93,513,680	€91,206,074	€2,307,606
LOANS	€2,130,036.51	€2,141,466.71	€232,338.14	€1,909,128.57
RENTS	€10,216,580	€10,048,299	€4,744,186	€5,304,113

*Figures for rents and loans are unadjusted by credits/prepayments*

\* value of debit at 31/12/2023 was €3.2m with a credit of €653,644.



## Appendix 2

### Number of Contracts Awarded for year to date

Dept	Description of Procurement	Supplier Name	Current Value of Contract (excl. VAT)	Contract Start Date (actual)	Contract End Date (actual)	Contract Award Date	Original Duration (months)
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Engineering Consultancy Services for the Bremeare Recreational Hub Access Upgrade Works	Design ID Consulting Ltd	€ 56,334.00	26/02/2024	28/06/2024	26/02/2024	4
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Undertake a Strategic Environmental Assessment, Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening and Appropriate Assessment, if required for LAP at Flemington	Brady, Shipman Martin	€ 28,120.00	17/11/2023	17/11/2024	26/02/2024	12
Housing	Civil & Structural Engineering Services for proposed housing developments at North Street, Swords and Rathmore Road, Lusk, Co. Dublin	Tobin Consulting Engineers	€ 73,000.00	01/12/2023	31/12/2026	23/02/2024	37
Digital Services	Provision of Web Based Applications for Housing Application	Interform Limited	€ 90,000.00	17/02/2024	31/12/2024	16/02/2024	12
Digital Services	Renewal of Licencing of AutoDESK Suites of Software	Diatec Group	€ 60,113.00	01/03/2024	28/02/2025	16/02/2024	12
Digital Services	Managed Print Services	Datapac Ireland	€ 70,000.00	27/08/2024	26/08/2025	15/02/2024	12
EETCD	Upgrade of fire alarm system at Ardgillen Castle	Securitas Technology	€ 30,830.00	01/03/2024	31/03/2024	12/02/2024	1
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Woodland Management Services	Redwood Tree Services Ltd	€ 45,500.00	10/02/2024	10/05/2024	09/02/2024	3
Operations	Hire of Excavator & Operator at the Former Dunsink Landfill & Environs	Anthony Patton Plant Hire Ltd	€ 82,000.00	16/01/2024	15/01/2025	08/02/2024	12
Operations	Fingal Bridge Repair and Rehabilitation	Triur Construction	€ 268,762.00	01/02/2024	01/05/2024	08/02/2024	3
Libraries	Demolition and Enabling Works at Former St. Michaels House Bungalow, Seatown Road	Hegarty Demolition Ltd.	€ 120,243.00	12/02/2024	29/03/2025	08/02/2024	14
Operations	Installation of Traffic Signals 2024	Traffic Solutions Ltd	€ 731,606.00	12/02/2024	31/12/2024	08/02/2024	11
Corporate Affairs	Mobile Voice & Data Communications and Associated Products & Services	Vodafone	€ 1,008,052	01/11/2023	31/10/2027	07/02/2024	48
Operations	Tree Works in the Dublin 15 Area	Redwood Tree Services Ltd	€ 64,880.00	04/02/2024	29/02/2024	06/02/2024	1
Housing	Integrated Design Team Services to provide design, planning Consultancy Services to establish a design framework plan and achieve planning approval for c.300 Units at Moorestown, Swords, Co. Dublin	Brady, Shipman Martin	€ 510,963.00	01/11/2023	31/12/2024	01/02/2024	56
Operations	Requirement for Road Lining Contract for the Fingal Swords, Balbriggan Areas Including PSCS	MacLochlainn (Roadmarkings) Limited	€ 58,796.60	24/01/2024	31/12/2024	31/01/2024	12
Operations	Disposal of Marine Wrecks located in Balbriggan Harbour	Shanowen Plant Hire Ltd	€ 154,450.00	01/03/2024	30/04/2024	29/01/2024	2
Operations	Supply & Delivery of Macadam to various locations in Fingal	Roadstone Ltd	€ 97,630.00	01/01/2024	31/12/2024	29/01/2024	12
Digital Services	Supply of Broadband to Malahide 9Avoca), Ardgillan House & Ballycoolin Training Centre	Viatal Ireland Ltd	€ 26,160.00	01/03/2024	28/02/2026	26/01/2024	24

Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Landscape Architect Led Integrated Design Team Services Consultancy Services at Naul Village Park, the Naul	Dermot Foley Landscape Architects	€ 316,577.00	06/11/2023	05/09/2027	25/01/2024	46
EETCD	Tradfest	TASCQ CLG t/a The Temple Bar Company	€ 120,000.00	01/01/2024	31/12/2024	25/01/2024	12
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Supply of Pleached Lime Trees and Yew Hedging	Annaveigh Plants Ltd	€ 29,895.00	30/10/2023	29/10/2024	19/01/2024	12
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Topographical and Underwater Survey at Ward River Park, Swords	Murphy Geospatial Ltd	€ 25,980.00	30/01/2024	30/03/2024	18/01/2024	2
Digital Services	Supply an ICT Managed Service for Fingal County Council	ATOS IT Solutions & Services Ltd	€ 594,114.00	28/02/2024	27/08/2024	17/01/2024	6
EETCD	Programme Development Manager for Carnegie Library Swords	Linda Shevlin	€ 56,000.00	15/01/2024	14/01/2025	15/01/2024	12
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Works for Naul Village Park Site Investigation	IGSL Ltd	€ 40,125.00	15/01/2024	20/02/2024	15/01/2024	1
Digital Services	Departmental access to Lawlink	Dye & Durham Ltd	€ 43,944.00	16/01/2024	31/12/2024	15/01/2024	12
Corporate Affairs	Integrated Design Team Services for Workplace Strategy Project	MCO Projects Limited	€ 325,663.00	15/01/2024	14/12/2025	15/01/2024	23
Corporate Affairs	Post Collection Service	Print Post Ltd	€ 36,250.00	01/01/2024	31/03/2024	11/01/2024	3
Operations	Resurfacing of Section of Bath Avenue, Malahide	John McQuillan Contracts Ltd	€ 52,957.00	05/02/2024	01/03/2024	11/01/2024	3 weeks
People Services	Occupational Health Services	Dr. Ted Murphy	€ 111,600.00	01/01/2024	31/12/2025	02/01/2024	24
Operations	Provision of Maintenance of Earth Moving Equipment	Equipment Company of Ireland Ltd	€ 32,230.00	01/12/2023	30/11/2025	02/01/2024	24
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Provision of Services for Independent Agronomist for the Fingal Coastal Way	Hackett Agricultural Consultants	€ 39,700.00	02/01/2024	31/12/2024	02/01/2024	14
Digital Services	Requirement for Support in the Development of an Investment Concept for FC EUFC Grant Funded Project	BABLE Smart Cities GmbH	€ 50,000.00	01/01/2024	31/12/2024	01/01/2024	12
Housing	Inspections on Private Rented Dwellings located in the Admin Area of Fingal County Council	Arthurstown Construction Limited	€ 165,000.00	01/01/2024	31/03/2024	01/01/2024	3
Operations	Provision of Vehicle and Plant Inspection Services	Truck & Trailer works Ireland	€ 79,600.00	01/01/2024	31/12/2025	01/01/2024	24



### Appendix 3

#### 2023 Summary of Environmental Complaints, Inspections and Enforcement Actions

		<b>2023</b>
<b>Complaints investigated</b>	Litter	389
	Waste (non C&D)	638
	C&D Waste	9
	Water and Wastewater	101
	Air & Odour	37
	Noise	99
	<b>TOTAL COMPLAINTS</b>	<b>1,273</b>
<b>Inspections</b>	Routine Waste Inspections	1124
	Non-Routine Waste Inspections	416
	Litter Patrols & investigations	3232
	Routine Water & Wastewater Inspections	720
	Non-Routine Water & Wastewater Inspections	133
	Routine Air & Noise Inspections	61
	Non-Routine Air & Noise Inspections	134
	Planning Inspections	416
	<b>TOTAL INSPECTIONS</b>	<b>6,236</b>
<b>Enforcement Actions</b>	Litter Fines	463
	Waste Warning Letters	96
	Directions under S14 of WMA	101
	Other waste enforcement	52
	Water & Wastewater	29
	Air Enforcement Action	0
	Noise Enforcement Action	10
	<b>TOTAL ENFORCEMENT</b>	<b>751</b>
<b>Prosecutions initiated</b>	Litter	62
	Waste	16
	<b>TOTAL PROSECUTIONS</b>	<b>78</b>

**Appendix 4**  
**Housing Delivery Construction Programme**  
**Schemes on Site**

Area Committee	Provider	Funding Stream	Site Name	No. Units	Status Detail	On-Site Date	Handover (estimated)
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Bowden Court, Swords <a href="#">53°27'52.7"N 6°14'04.1"W - Google Maps</a>	<b>11</b> 4 x 1 Bed 4 x 2 Bed 3 x 3 Bed	On-Site	Q4 2022	Q3 2024
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	Tuath Housing	Social - Elderly	Kilhedge Lane, Lusk <a href="#">53°31'24.4"N 6°10'30.3"W - Google Maps</a>	<b>31</b> 13 x 1 Bed 18 x 2 Bed	On-Site	Q1 2023	Q2 2024
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Ballough Place, Lusk <a href="https://goo.gl/maps/8u6BiRWzuLSTmjK8">https://goo.gl/maps/8u6BiRWzuLSTmjK8</a>	<b>10</b> 9 x 2 Bed 1 x 1 Bed	On-Site	Q1 2023	Q3 2024
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Monastery Court, Church Road, Lusk <a href="https://goo.gl/maps/vqRAVUw8ZqhM75w66">https://goo.gl/maps/vqRAVUw8ZqhM75w66</a>	<b>5</b> 5 x 2 Bed	On-Site	Q1 2023	Q2 2024
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Hayestown, Rush <a href="#">53°31'24.1"N 6°06'42.1"W - Google Maps</a>	<b>62</b> 17 x 2 Bed 45 x 3 Bed	On-Site	Q2 2023	Q3 2024
Balbriggan/Rush - Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	St. Ita's, Portrane <a href="#">Portrane Ave - Google Maps</a>	<b>5</b> Restoration of existing cottages.	On-Site	Q4 2022	Q4 2024
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	Glenveagh Living Ltd	Mixed Tenure	Balmoston Ph1., Donabate 53°29'21.2"N 6°07'58.1"W	<b>172</b> (86 social, 86 cost rental).	On-Site	Q3 2023	Q2 2025
Blanchardstown/Mulhuddart/Castleknock/ Ongar	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Church Fields 3A <a href="#">53°24'44.7"N 6°23'39.0"W - Google</a>	<b>120</b> (40 social and 80 cost rental).	On-Site	Q4 2023	Q3 2025



**Appendix 4- continued**  
**Schemes with Planning Approval and at Tender Stage**

Area Committee	Provider	Funding Stream	Site Name	No. Units	Status Detail	On-Site Date	Handover (Est.)
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social - Elderly	North Street, Swords <a href="#">53°27'38.6"N 6°13'06.7"W - Google Maps</a>	<b>13</b> 6 x 1 Bed 7 x 2 Bed	Enabling works complete.	Q4 2023	Q1 2026
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social -	Seatown Swords <a href="#">53°27'35.4"N 6°13'04.7"W Google Maps</a>	<b>36</b> 36 x 2 Bed	Tender package to be completed.	Q1 2024	Q4 2026
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	North and East Housing Association	Social – Elderly	Garristown <a href="#">53°34'03.7"N 6°22'42.1"W - Google Maps</a>	<b>6</b> 3 x 2-bed 3 x 1-bed	Planning granted.	TBC	TBC
Blanchardstown/Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar	FCC	Social – Elderly TBC	Blakestown Cross, Mulhuddart <a href="#">53.399869, -6.401776 Google Maps</a>	<b>30</b> 16 x 1 Bed 14 x 2 Bed	Consultants to be appointed	Q4 2024	TBC
Howth/Malahide	FCC	TBC	Tuckets Lane <a href="#">53.385248, -6.066128 Google Maps</a>	<b>8</b> 4x 1 Bed 4x 2 Bed	Boundary issues being resolved.	TBC	TBC
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Holywell, Swords  53°26'48.1"N 6°12'42.8"W	<b>57</b> 20 x 1-bed 29 x 2-bed 8 x 3-bed	Tender package to be completed.	Q3 2024	Q4 2025
Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Church Fields 3B <a href="#">53°24'44.7"N 6°23'39.0"W - Google Maps</a>	<b>217</b>	ABP approved planning Q4 2023.	Q1 2025	Q2 2026

Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock / Ongar	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Mayeston, Dublin 11 <a href="#">53°24'28.4"N 6°17'02.1"W - Google Maps</a>	<b>119</b> 39 x 1 Bed 68 x 2 Bed 12 x 3 Bed	Enabling works to commence Q2 2024.	Q2 2024	Q4 2025
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Mourne View, Skerries. <a href="#">53.580404, -6.122225</a>	<b>14</b> 11x2Bed 3x3Bed 1x4Bed	S179a planning process complete	Q4 2024	Q4 2025



**Appendix 4 - continued**  
**Schemes at the Pre-Planning Stage**

Area Committee	Provider	Funding Stream	Site Name	No. Units	Status Detail	On-Site Date	Handover (estimated)
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Rathmore, Remount, Lusk <a href="https://www.google.com/maps/place/53.521033026946974,-6.161600488074793/@53.521033026946974,-6.161600488074793,15z">53.521033026946974, -6.161600488074793</a>	<b>18</b> 2 x 1 Bed 11 x 2 Bed 5 x 3 Bed	S179a Planning process underway.	TBC	Q3 2025
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Mixed Tenure	New Road, Donabate <a href="https://www.google.com/maps/place/53.29026,N,6.08275,W/@53.29026,6.08275,15z">53°29'02.6"N 6°08'27.5"W</a>	<b>175</b>	S179a Planning process to commence.	TBC	TBC
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	TBC	O' Dwyers, Balbriggan. <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/inSEC4Qq3QSBHQH8p8">https://maps.app.goo.gl/inSEC4Qq3QSBHQH8p8</a>	<b>80-120</b>	Surveys progressing.	TBC	TBC
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Woodside, Swords. <a href="https://www.google.com/maps/place/53.453901,-6.210574/@53.453901,-6.210574,15z">53.453901, -6.210574 Google Maps</a>	<b>34</b>	Design team have been appointed.	TBC	TBC
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	TBC	Mooretown Phase 1, Swords. <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/R8eAG1aoLXh1nL2J9">https://maps.app.goo.gl/R8eAG1aoLXh1nL2J9</a>	<b>200</b>	Design Masterplan to be completed.	Q1 2025	TBC

Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Kenure, Rush. <a href="#">53.532278, -6.102176 Google Maps</a>	<b>32</b>	Design ongoing. Surveys to commence.	TBC	TBC
Howth/Malahide	FCC	Social	Fingerpost, Malahide	<b>4</b>	Design ongoing.	TBC	Q4 2026
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Balmoston Ph2, Donabate 53°29'21.2"N 6°07'58.1"W	<b>151 TBC</b>	At pre-planning stage.	TBC	TBC

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



**Appendix 4 - continued**  
**Long Term Leasing**

Area Committee	Lessor	Funding Stream	Site Name	No. Units	Status Detail	Handover (estimated)
Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar	Glenveagh Homes	Enhanced Leasing	Balroy House	82	On-site	Q2 2024