



Chief Executive's Management Report

14th April 2025
Item No. 27



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Chief Executive's Foreword

Next month will see communities across Fingal come together as the Street Feast returns on May 24th and 25th. This fantastic global event, now in its 15th year, encourages residents to organise gatherings with neighbours and friends to share food and conversation and really fosters a sense of belonging, inclusivity and support within our communities. Last year in Fingal, there were over 50 Street Feasts bringing together thousands of people in their own localities for gatherings ranging from smaller groups to larger numbers. Organising a Street Feast in your area is very straightforward and gives people the opportunity to become involved in a community event while sharing delicious food and getting to know their neighbours. Hosts can avail of a free party pack that includes essentials such as bunting, invitations, and posters. The event is designed to be flexible: whether it's a small get-together on a residential street or a larger event in a community hall, the goal is to foster connections, celebrate local culture, and build a sense of belonging. Since its inception, Street Feast has been celebrated by 750,000 people across Ireland and the hope is to reach 1 million by 2030. Residents in Fingal can register to host a Street Feast via the official website [StreetFeast.ie](https://www.streetfeast.ie) whether you choose to host and event or indeed attend one in your locality, I hope you enjoy the experience.

Back in 2019, Balbriggan residents were surveyed on their key priorities for their town. The findings of the survey on a host of topics shaped the ongoing Our Balbriggan Rejuvenation Programme. One of the main themes which emerged from surveying the people of Balbriggan was the need for a public swimming pool. I am delighted that Fingal County Council has progressed to the next of a €10m public swimming pool in Castlelands, Balbriggan. An integrated design team led by UK-based company ReCreation has developed preliminary plans. It is expected the project will be ready to go to planning by the end of this year and, subject to funding, construction could commence by the end of 2026. The new facility will incorporate a changing village, reception area with café and a viewing gallery and will be a huge asset to Balbriggan and surrounding towns. Coupled with the ongoing work which will transform Balbriggan's streetscape and harbour area and the recent opening of the Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian & Cycle Route, the swimming pool will be of immense importance to the people of the

locality and I look forward to seeing construction begin onsite by the end of next year.

Swords Castle Town Park Concerts have become a much anticipated highlight of the social calendar. This year we welcome back the hugely popular country star Nathan Carter and support acts from the Dolly Parton Tribute and Jem and The BeezNeez on Friday, July 25. Fans of all ages have been treated to Nathan's sell out performances in Swords Castle in recent years and last year with the concerts staged in Swords Town Park, even more of his followers were able to see him in action. The following evening the legendary purveyors of punk and new wave anthems, The Boomtown Rats, will take to the stage with support from special guests The Undertones and Iann Brennan. Year after year this concert series grows in popularity and it is a testament to the flawless staging and fantastic venue that we are in a position to attract top local and international talent to Fingal. Tickets are available now and are sure to sell out so make sure you secure your place and have a very enjoyable evening!

Dublin Climate Action Week 2025 (#DCAW25) will take place from Monday 12th to Sunday 18th May 2025. Fingal County Council, Dublin City Council, South Dublin County Council, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, the Dublin Metropolitan Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) and Codema have again collaborated to organise the week's events which are guaranteed to engage and showcase our ongoing commitment to addressing climate action. National Bike Week will align with Dublin Climate Action Week, bringing together climate action and active travel to highlight the strong connection between sustainable transportation and climate solutions. In Fingal, Millennium Park Blanchardstown and Malahide Demesne will host fantastic family fun days and there will also be demonstrations, workshops and local festivals all focussing on how the small changes we make can positively impact the environment. The full programme of events will be released shortly but in the meantime, you can find out what is happening in your area at www.dublinclimateactionweek.ie

Best wishes,

AnnMarie Farrelly
Chief Executive

PEOPLE, CORPORATE AND DIGITAL SERVICES

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People Services

Recruitment

Recruitment Programme 2025	
Total Recruitment Campaigns	54
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New Starters	68
Promotions	56
Number of Current Job Offers	64

Learning & Development Update

Learning & Development	Year to date
Number of courses	79
Number of Attendees	814
Number of Training Days	727

Throughout April, courses will be delivered in the areas of Managing Safely in Construction, Fire Warden, Safe Disposal of Needlesticks/Sharps, First Aid, Safety Representative Training and many more.

Wellbeing Update

The Wellbeing Team continues to introduce new initiatives to support mental health for all staff members. These initiatives aim to create a supportive and positive environment where employees can thrive, reduce stress, improve resilience, and ensure staff have access to mental health support whenever needed.

HSU - Health & Safety Unit

The HSU during the month of March 2025 revised assessments and procedures pertaining to the various tasks involving manual handling, harbour management, e-bike sharing, Architects personnel site inspections, fall protection systems and chainsaw works. Site safety inspections and audits continued during the month along with VDU assessments including remote assessments. To date 30 incidents have been investigated, 102 site safety inspections and safety audits have taken place, and 65 VDU assessments have been completed

Customer Services

Customer Care Unit Statistics – March 2025

Total No. of Calls dealt with by CCU	Total No. of Emails dealt with by CCU	Presenting In Person
11,001	1,077	2,907

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.

"Representation figures are unavailable this month due to the recent migration to Dynamics 365. Reporting will resume in time for the next update."

Building Facilities

Period Dignity – Funding 2025

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 was estimated this helped close to 8,000 Fingal residents who required period products.

Funding for 2024 of €15,000 was provided to the Council from the Dept of Health, it was estimated this helped close to 13,000 Fingal residents who required period products.

Building Facilities submitted a comprehensive proposal for funding for 2025 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.

COMMUNICATIONS

Digital Statistics

The number of visitors to the finagl.ie website in March was 160,574 which was an increase of 40,000 on February. The increase was driven by interest in the St Patrick's Day parades and visitors coming to the site looking for information. Planning Lists, Affordable Housing, Recycling Centres and Jobs were, along with the home page, the other most visited pages. There were 320,268 page views during the month and the average time spent on the site was two minutes and four seconds

The number of Facebook followers rose by 786 to 39,348 and there were 1.9m impressions and 8,800 engagements.

Instagram now has 13,358 followers having added 513 new followers in the past month. It had 309,000 impressions and 3,600 engagements during March.

The number of LinkedIn followers is now 11,264 The engagement rate of February was 2.05% from 43,658 impressions.

The number of followers on X is now 23,468 which is a reduction of 32 on February.

The growth of WhatsApp continued with a 14% increase in followers over the month to 2,920 followers.

The numbers currently following the other corporate channels are Threads (1,295), TikTok (1,033) and Bluesky (391).

Six videos were added to the Council's You Tube Channel which saw the number of subscribers grow to 1,690. Videos posted included the opening of the Harry Reynolds Road, the Skerries Harbour Public Realm Improvements and a progress report on the new Baldoyle Community Centre.

Videos can be viewed at

<https://www.youtube.com/@FingalCountyCouncilVideo/videos>

The Communications Unit continues to look at adding other channels in order to maximise reach. The total number of followers across the nine social media channels is 93,077, a rise of 911 from February.

Press Releases

There were 27 press releases issued during March. Topics included the Hide FM project, the renewal of the Dublin Airport Local Area Plan, the appointment of Terry Prone as Fingal's Age Friendly Ambassador, Balbriggan Swimming Pool and Seachtain na Gaeilge.



Media Queries

Media queries received by the Communications Unit during March included questions about Hide FM, Social Housing, Signage, Dunsink, Dublin Airport and Local Community Safety Partnerships.

LAW DEPARTMENT

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Current Judicial reviews

Mayeston Hall Management Company Limited by Guarantee -v- Fingal County Council, Ireland and the Attorney General 2024/505JR
Kimpton Vale Limited -v- an Bord Pleanála and Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2022/390 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
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
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
Ailsa Sexton -v- An Bord Pleanála and Fingal County Council High Court Record Number 2024/690JR
Noel Murphy v An Board Pleanála, Fingal County Council and Kilshane Energy Limited. High court Record No. H;JR;2024/883
Jane Phelan Walsh v An Bord Pleanála and Fingal County Council High Court No. 2024/1038JR

Nicola Byrne v Fingal County Council, An Bord Pleanála, the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government, Ireland, and the Attorney General, High Court Record Number 2024/342 JR
Friends of the Irish Environment CLG v Fingal County Council, Simon Coyle & Tom O'Brien (Joint Statutory Receivers for The Shoreline Partnership) and The Shoreline Partnership High Court Record Number 2024.0001590 JR
AAI Baneshane Ltd v An Bord Pleanála; Notice Party:- Fingal County Council High Court Record Number 2025.0000042 JR
AAI Baneshane Ltd v An Bord Pleanála: Notice Party:- Fingal County Council High Court Record Number 2025/0000041 JR
Portmarnock Real Estate Development Limited and St. Marnock's II DAC v An Bord Pleanála and Fingal County Council The High Court Record No. H.JR.2024.1464
DP Crossroads Committee and Ann Hogan v An Bord Pleanála, Ireland and the Attorney General, Glenveagh Living Limited and Fingal County Council The High Court Record No. 2025/311 JR
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ECONOMIC, ENTERPRISE, TOURISM & CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

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Balbriggan Socio-Economic Strategy

Local Enterprise Office

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

Samhain Festival Funding

In conjunction with Tourism Ireland and Failte Ireland there is a new emphasis on the Halloween Festival in 2025 in the way Ireland is marketed overseas.

To support this five counties are to be chosen as "Samhain hubs", with additional funding to support the development of the festival. Fingal County Council is one of approximately 10 counties that have been shortlisted and who are now invited to competitively bid for hub status and funding.



Fingal is uniquely placed to make a strong bid, as there are already numerous ticketed events in the heritage properties, as well as public fireworks displays in the larger urban centres. A successful bid will involve pulling all of this together and adding the additional focus on authentic Samhain folk arts and experiences. A decision will be made on this by Failte Ireland in May.

Fingal Tourism Strategy

An inaugural meeting of the Tourism Advisory Group took place in the Carnegie Library, Swords on the 11th of March.



The Advisory Group is described in the Tourism Strategy as an oversight group, to steer the strategy initiatives and ensure they have greatest impact.

The advisory group heard about early progress on the Fingal Tourism Strategy and Fingal Food Policy 2024-2029 in relation to:

- The product audit brief for tourism
- The emerging marketing plan
- The Food Markets, especially Swords

Fingal Food Network

The Fingal Food Network Committee met on 24th March to discuss priorities for Q2 2025. It was reported that the formalisation of the network including establishing the network as a CLG and the setting up of a bank account were progressing well. The membership fee for 2025 was agreed.

The main priority for members was branding and marketing, especially in respect of social media presence and promoting the network at Flavours of Fingal. Members of the Committee had recently met with the Events team to discuss enhancing the Network's presence at Flavours of Fingal. The Council's agreement to facilitate a branding workshop in early April was welcomed.

EVENTS



Swords Concerts 2025

The Boomtown Rats & Nathan Carter Concerts are selling very well, with much higher sales than at the same point last year. Tickets and all details can be found on www.eventsinfingal.ie



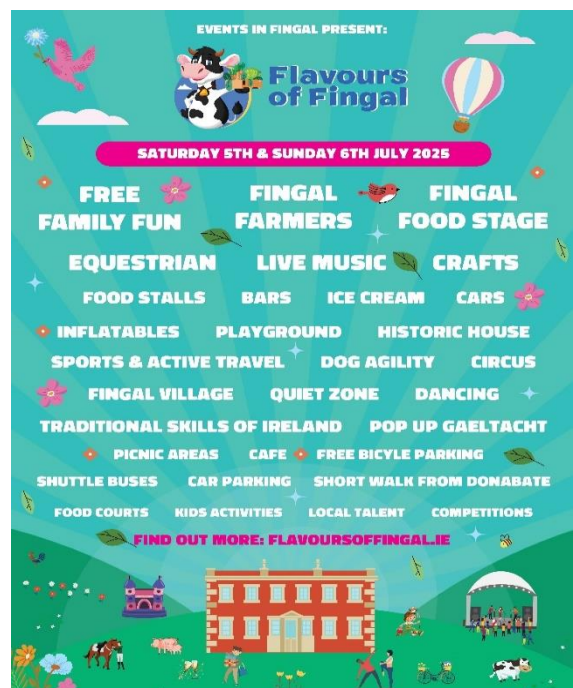
St Patrick's Day Parades Feedback

The feedback from the seven parades across the county was very positive. To ensure we continually improve and adjust events we have conducted a survey of over 370 participants from the last 3 years, so far we have received c. 40 responses. This feedback will help us make adjustments and improvements in future parades, subject to budgetary approval.



Fingal Proms 2025

We have just published details of this years Fingal Proms with the headline act being Ronan Collins Showband Hits Show, tickets are €10+ booking fee from www.eventsinfingal.ie Hosting this event in a parish hall and community centre has allowed us to cut back on high infrastructure costs from using heritage sites.



Flavours of Fingal

Planning is progressing well on Flavours of Fingal which is due to be held on the 5th & 6th of July in Newbridge House. The planning licence has been submitted and the newspaper ads published. The programming of the show is progressing well. Highlights will include the Fingal Food Show, Farmers, Traditional Skills of Ireland and the Sports & Active Travel Departments from Fingal.

HERITAGE PROPERTIES

Meitheal 2025

Meitheal is Fáilte Ireland's flagship trade event, a 2 day face to face workshop that gives the Irish tourism industry and overseas tourism buyers from over 20 different countries the opportunity to meet and do business. This year's event took place on 1st and 2nd April at the INEC, Killarney and Fingal's visitor attractions were well represented with representatives from Malahide Castle, Newbridge House, Casino Model Railway Museum and for the first time, Skerries Mills all in attendance.



Brambles at Ardgillan Castle

The redecoration of the tea rooms in the castle are due to take place in early May, giving the main café rooms a smarter and more appealing look. Discussions are taking place with the café operator in respect of upgrading the furniture to provide a more comfortable environment for visitors in keeping with the heritage environment.



Brambles Kiosk

In preparation for the busy season ahead, Brambles Café has recently re-opened the kiosk adjacent to the playground at Ardgillan Castle & Gardens in advance. This kiosk offers visitors a convenient spot to purchase a variety of refreshments, including teas, coffees, snacks, and ice creams, enhancing the overall experience for families and individuals enjoying the playground and its scenic surroundings. Several improvements have been made to the kiosk including the lowering of the hatch and new outdoor furniture. Further cosmetic improvements such as planting and painting will be completed in the coming weeks.

Newbridge House and Farm

The success of the recently launched Courtyard Kitchen at Newbridge House and Farm will host an exciting BBQ Masterclass demonstration by Man Street chefs. This interactive event will allow guests to learn essential tips and techniques as well as receive recipes and menu cards to recreate the magic at home in advance of the alfresco dining season. Places are limited so booking early is essential.



Mad Hatter's Tea Party at Malahide

This Easter a Mad Hatter's Tea Party, a family-friendly event will be staged on the West lawn. It is planned to be a fun-filled time, with laughter and amusement for all. Guests will enjoy a whimsical afternoon of games, comedy, and many surprises. Prizes will be awarded for the most imaginative and creative hats, which invites all attending to bring their finest headwear.



A discount available to staff and Councillors using the discount code: **MADHATTERS10** and book via

<https://bookings.malahidecastleandgardens.ie/Event/MADHATTER>

Swords Castle



A new wireless intruder alarm has been installed in Swords Castle, which is an upgrade on the established system that was no longer functioning properly. This will ensure the highest level of protection for the site with new hubs located in the Chapel, Constables Tower and tourist office pavilion.



Following several years of service to the Swords Recreation and Development Community Employment Scheme as a tour guide Theresa O'Shea has retired.

CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Arts

Public Art



Hide FM – 94.3 - Ireland's first community radio licence agreed between Coimisiun na Meán and a local authority went live from 24th March – 20th April. The radio artwork by Garrett Phelan brings focus to the birds observed at the Rogerstown Estuary and is part of the long-standing public art project – The Hide Project which includes a functional sculpture, website and set of prints – The Hide Suite. The Radio station was launched at the Lusk Cultural Centre and includes an exhibition of the full Hide Suite Prints, open daily to the public. The Radio Station broadcasts 24 hours a day.



Creative Places Balbriggan



Creative Places Balbriggan Coordinator Cormac McDonagh met with Balbriggan artists from the Scéal Collective at The Warehouse on Vauxhall Street to inform them of the 3-year programme that will work with artists and community groups through socially engaged Arts Practices. There will also be artists' support workshops to help develop the artist communities in the town as the needs are identified. Research and development for Creative Places Balbriggan continues and other meetings throughout March included Ardgillan Castle, Irish Institute of Music & Song, DDLETB Adult Education Services, Tidy Towns, Local Arts Curators, and Castlelands & Flemington Community Centres.

Youth & Education

Space Crafts, STEAM initiative



5th class pupils of Scoil Mhuire National School participated in our Space Crafts initiative delivered in partnership with DIAS Dunsink.

They are the second school to engage this month in the science and art workshops designed and facilitated by artists Aileen Murphy, Julia McConville and Mary Jo Galligan.

Music Generation Fingal at Crannóg Nua

Music Generation Fingal has initiated a pilot music project at Crannóg Nua, a residential care facility in Portrane for at-risk youth. Led by musician Eoghan McGale, this project aims to inspire young people in care to engage with music making and music performance.

Carnegie Library



The Arts Office recently invited expressions of interest from community groups based in Swords and the wider Fingal area for the regular use of the first-floor space at Carnegie Library for arts and cultural activities. Interested groups were required to submit details of their activities, preferred dates and duration of use, and proof of Employer Liability and Public Liability insurance. Successful groups will be required to sign an agreement and complete the necessary induction and training in order to use the space.

Swords Cultural Quarter

As part of the research for Swords Cultural Quarter, representatives from the Arts Office, Architects Department and O'Donnell & Tuomey recently attended a site visit to Meta's Dublin headquarters. The visit focused on exploring the design and functionality of the maker space, as well as the public art installations commissioned by Meta, providing valuable insights for the development of cultural and creative spaces.

Arts Services

Fingal Artists' Support Scheme Artists Awards & Residencies Programme

Awards and Residencies 2025		At-A-Glance Calendar	
 Irish Writers Centre National Mentoring Programme Deadline: Opens 1st February, Closes 1st March	 Performing Arts Forum Limerick Gathering Bursary Deadline: Opens 1st February, Closes 25th March	 RHA School Studio Award Deadline: Opens 1st April, Closes 6th May	 Ardgillan Castle Studio Award Deadline: Opens 25th April, Closes 15th June
For more information on how to apply and what is required, please see our website: www.FingalArts.ie To be added to our mailing list and kept up-to-date, please email: ArtsOffice@Fingal.ie			

An at a glance calendar was created to highlight a range of upcoming awards and residencies for 2025 with the aim of giving artists advanced notice of upcoming opportunities. The calendar also showcases the various arts organisations that Fingal annually partners with and provides a time stamp for the opening and closing dates for each award.

Awards and Residencies 2025		At-A-Glance Calendar	
 Age & Opportunity and Tyrone Guthrie Centre Age & Opportunity and Tyrone Guthrie Centre Residency Award Deadline: Opens 12th May, Closes 5th June	 Graphic Studio Dublin Graphic Studio Dublin Fine Art Print Residency Award Deadline: Opens 15th May, Closes 10th June	 Draíocht Draíocht Studio Award Deadline: Opens 2nd June, Closes 7th June	 MART Gallery & Studios MART Gallery & Studios Graduate Award Deadline: Opens 1st September, Closes 29th September
For more information on how to apply and what is required, please see our website: www.FingalArts.ie To be added to our mailing list and kept up-to-date, please email: ArtsOffice@Fingal.ie			

The eight awards announced were Irish Writers Centre National Mentoring Programme (now closed) Performing Arts Forum's Limerick Gathering Bursary (now closed), RHA school Studio Award, the Ardgillan Castle Studio Award, Tyrone Guthrie Centre and Age & Opportunity residency award, the Graphic Studio Dublin Fine Art Print Residency Award, Draíocht Studio Award, and MART Gallery and Studios Graduate Award.

The calendar is available to download on www.FingalArts.ie

Draíocht

Draíocht is delighted that our landmark project 'NEST', was shortlisted for a LAMA award. The Award ceremony took place in Cork on February 22nd. Draíocht attended and together with The Mayor and CE, accepted our framed plaque.



Our March/April programme is very full with the variety and range of events that we are known for, on offer to the public. Performances such as Sharon Shannon, Jason Byrne, Chris Kent, Grey Matter, Michael Harding all selling out. The Blanchardstown Resonance performance gives a platform to local emerging singers/songwriters and spoken word artists. March 2025 saw the third Blanchardstown Resonance performance take place. Draíocht working in partnership with D15 singer/songwriter, Aisling Moore. It is a celebration of the talent and diversity in Dublin 15 with Draíocht, as their local venue, providing financial, marketing and technical support enabling these artists have a platform for their work at a crucial time in their careers.

Our current exhibition is 'First Draft', by Blanchardstown native, Rich Gilligan. Presented in partnership with the Fingal Arts Office, it is the 13th Edition of the Amharc Fine Gall series which supports a Fingal artist. Additional events to amplify the work of the artist have been programmed over April.

The children/youth arts programme at Draíocht is continuing to both bring work outside the walls of Draíocht as well facilitating events in the building. Tours, workshops and family days are just some of the events taking place, as the Dance Artist in Residence programme continues to engage with our local primary schools.

Our full programme of performance, children/youth arts and visual art exhibitions as well as artists mentoring, and residency opportunities are available on www.draiocht.ie

Seamus Ennis Arts Centre

Music

Seisiún Palaistíneach - featuring Irish ensemble FARÓ alongside Palestinian trio (Abdullah Al Bayyari (oud), Leen Maarouf (vocals), and Latif Midoume (tabla)) in a celebration of music and unity. 41 booked. The Muddy River - Acoustic concert featuring music from Neil Young, Bob Dylan and Van Morrison hosted in our theatre. Attendance = 93 (Sold out)

Multi-instrumentalist & composer Dee Armstrong, with accompaniment. Attendance = 31



Traditional Slow Session for March with Paudie O'Connor had 30 tickets booked for in person attendance and 21 online

St Patricks Day Music Session with 55 attendees (Sold out)

Singing Session: Our regular singing sessions are a free event that welcomes participants either in person or via zoom to share songs in a relaxed and supportive singing circle. This month's special guest was Eva Caroll. Attendance = 29 (in person and online)

David Munnelly, Mick Conneely & Caitriona Ní Cheannabháin. Traditional Irish performance featuring singer Caitriona Ní Cheannabháin. Attendance = 30

Comedy

Gearoid Farrelly - sold out event with 94 attendees.

Cinema

King Frankie. 2025 Nominee for Best Film at the IFTA's. Attendance = 35. Memories of a Burning Body - Attendance = 8

Visual Arts

Ongoing Art Classes with Noel Manning
Crafternoon Tea featuring Wood Jewellery Making Workshop. Attendance = 10 (Sold Out)
Tiffani Love Art Exhibition, 'Footpaths.' Exhibition will run from February 23 to April 6, 2025

Workshops and Other Events

The Ultimate Bubble Show - Kids interactive theatre performance featuring Guinness world record holder Ray Bubbles who performed his bubble show for children in our theatre with 2 sell out shows. Attendance = 182

The Pop Up Gaeltacht is a free event we run every month. Bookings = 22 (free event)

March Céilí Beag with 9 parents and toddlers in attendance.

International Women's Day Dance & Movement Workshop - sold out. Attendance = 16

Libraries

Schools Programme

To celebrate Technology Week (Thursday, 17th - Wednesday, 23rd April) classes from local primary schools are invited to the library for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) workshops with Anyone4Science.

As part of Blanchardstown Library's Family Literacy Project, parents and children selected by Scoil Mhuire in Blakestown worked with literacy experts Stephen Brett and Colm O'Donovan throughout the month of March. The mobile library service and children's author and illustrator Alan Nolan also visited the school. Stephen Brett gave a series of talks in Blanchardstown Library for all parents of primary school children on effective strategies to support their child's reading development. The Literacy Project will run again later this year.

Secondary school students preparing for Leaving Certificate Irish oral examinations were invited to Blanchardstown, Balbriggan and Swords Libraries to practice their conversational Irish with comedian Áine Gallagher.



Spring Into Storytime

Spring into Storytime is part of the national Right to Read programme, which aims to promote literacy and reading for fun. Story sessions for children will take place in all Fingal libraries during the month of April.

Skills for Life

MABS, the Money Advice and Budgeting Service, will offer budgeting and money management sessions in a number of library branches in April. Marie Keegan will give a talk on Age Action's Care & Repair programme, which assists older people to remain in their homes, in Blanchardstown library in April.

As part of the Healthy Ireland at your Library program, Dr. Caoimhe Hartley will facilitate an informative session on menopause health in Balbriggan Library on 29th March.

Upcoming Local History Events for Adults

Upcoming library events for adults in April include Frank Whearthy's talk on the rise and fall of Kenure house and estate and the families who lived there in Rush Library. Dr. Bernard Kelly will give a presentation in Skerries Library for people who are considering or have researched some topic of local history.

Creative Fingal

Weaving the Threads of Heritage, a contemporary art exhibition celebrating Fingal's rich textile history and manufacturing legacy, opens at Ardgillan Gallery on Saturday, April 12th, at 2 pm. Funded through the Creative Fingal Creative Communities Open Call 2024, this project brings together artists, historians, and the local community in a vibrant exploration of Fingal's textile heritage. Featuring original works by a group of artists, the exhibition draws inspiration from the region's past—particularly a unique collection of artefacts from the former Smyth & Co hosiery factory in Balbriggan.

Through this exhibition, and a series of accompanying workshops, two centuries of community and craftsmanship are reimagined and woven into a contemporary artistic dialogue.

Inclusive Creativity

Inclusive Creativity – a collaboration between Fingal Libraries and Creative Fingal will commence in April. Adults who are supported by Prosper Fingal are invited to participate in a series of sustainable arts & crafts workshops in library branches across the county. Workshops include upcycled art, eco-friendly 3D art, textile arts, nature crafts and green gardening arts. Each session is designed to promote eco-consciousness while allowing participants to enjoy the creative process. This collaborative programme will also offer workshops to older age groups in Fingal Libraries and other community settings over the coming months.

World Book Day

To celebrate World Book Day (6th March) five children's authors visited libraries and schools across Fingal between 3rd - 7th March. This was the third year of the Fingal Libraries World Book Tour, which gives primary school children an opportunity to meet favourite authors. The children were gifted a copy the author's book. Fingal Mobile Library visited the new Tuath housing development in Lusk on World Book Day.

The residents of Kilhedge Gardens were delighted to make use of the Mobile Library and Fingal Libraries also donated some new books for the residents own 'Little Library'.

Seachtain na Gaeilge

Events took place across Fingal library branches to celebrate Seachtain na Gaeilge. These included a 'pop-up Gaeltacht' event in Blanchardstown Library with comedian Áine Gallagher, a performance of Irish music and songs by singer Antaine Ó Faracháin and piper Nollaig Mac Cárthaigh in Malahide Library, comic book drawing workshops for children as Gaeilge, and Irish language story time.



One Dublin One Book

This year, marks 20th anniversary of the One Dublin, One Book initiative. Dublin: Written in our Hearts, a new anthology of fiction, poetry, essays and memoir pieces collated in celebration of the city, is the book choice for 2025. Balbriggan Library is delighted to host two of the anthology's contributors for an event on 15th April. Authors Kevin Curran and Niamh Campbell, both from North County Dublin, will be in conversation with Katy Conneely, presenter of Dublin City FM's All about Books, to discuss the influences of suburban living on their writing.

Economic Development

Fingal Skills Strategy



In support of Logistics & Supply Chain Skills Week (31st March – 5th April) and as an initiative of Future Fingal: Fingal Skills Strategy, Fingal County Council hosted a Transport & Logistics Skills and Training information event in County Hall Atrium on 1st of April.

The event was organised in collaboration with the Transport & Logistics Sectoral sub-group to raise awareness of the career opportunities within the industry, to attract new talent and skills to the industry and to support the industry with skills and career development signposting. The event was very well received and supported by key industry and education/training stakeholders.



Exhibitors on the day included Dublin Regional Skills Forum, City of Dublin ETB, Dublin Dun Laoghaire ETB, TU Dublin, Fingal Chamber Skillnet, Freight Transport Association Ireland and the Local Enterprise Office.



The Deputy Mayor, Councillor John Kingsley Onwumereh opened the event acknowledging the contribution of all stakeholders in the Transport & Logistics Sectoral Sub-Group and the importance of the Transport & Logistics sector to the Fingal economy.



Guest speaker, David Macken from Hawthorn Logistics ("Young Freight Forwarder of the Year 2025") outlined his career progression within the industry and shared his experiences as a student of the Apprenticeship programme whilst working for Hawthorn Logistics. David's story was very insightful and sure to inspire the next generation of your Freight Forwarder's.



A panel discussion followed where industry and academic experts from the Skills Strategy Implementation Group and T&L Skills Subgroup shared insights, challenges and opportunities for the industry. Panellists included, Frank Kilbride (Aramex), Co-Chair SSIG, Terry Allen (Hawthorn Logistics), T&L Skills Sub Group Chair, Natasha Kinsella (Dublin Regional Skills Forum and Seamus Kavanagh (Irish International Freight Association).

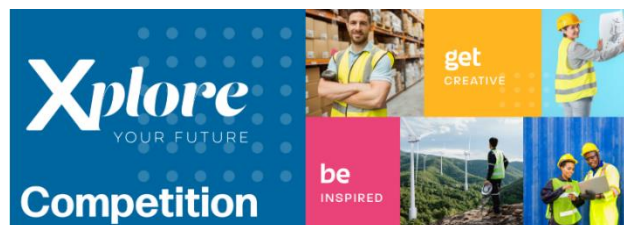
Xplore Your Future Fingal TY Skills Expo 2025

Plans are underway for the 2025 Xplore Your Future Skills Expo which is open to all TY students in Fingal secondary schools and is scheduled to take place in the Helix, DCU on the 14th of October 2025 building on the success of the last two TY Skills Expo Events.



Xplore The Sector – Student Skills Competition

The "Xplore the Sector" Skills Competition, part of the "Xplore Your Future" TY Students Skills Expo, invites secondary school teams in Fingal to research and market career opportunities in the Construction and Transport & Logistics sectors. Teams must identify at least five jobs in their chosen sector, document their research methodology, and create a marketing piece to promote these jobs to their peers. The competition aims to raise awareness of career opportunities and build a future talent pipeline for these vital industries.



Skyla Project



The SKYLA team are preparing for their fifth project transnational city visit held in Vilnius, Lithuania from 08th- 09th April. The event will focus on comparing and improving policy change alert mechanisms, visiting on the field experiences in Vilnius and focusing on solutions for the twin transition and planning partnerships needs and next steps.



The Agenda will includes: Interactive Peer Review Workshops, Study Visits to TECHIN the Vilnius Centre for Technology and Engineering Training and the Manufacturing Innovation Valley to examine and learn from their good practices and explore potential future working synergies.



The SKYLA mid-term review took place in February to review partner project progress with the Lead Partner announcing a funding call to Skills pilot action which issued in Q1 2025. The Council is preparing an application proposal for a pilot action which would enable the delivery of a key action under Theme 2: Increasing Awareness of Future Fingal: Fingal Skills Strategy due for submission by the 15th of April.

URBACT-EcoCore

The EcoCore Project

Green Transition in Small Cities along Transport Corridors

Following on from the success of Project EcoCore LAMA Award, Fingal County Council continues to lead 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.

The Council, as Lead Partner, has developed a plan to capture and share project insights and learnings through a series of Podcasts – “Green Transition in Small Cities” which will be available to city officials, urban planners, policymakers, sustainability professionals, local businesses and the general public towards year end.



Balbriggan Integrated Action Plan

Co-created by the
Balbriggan EcoCore
ULG



Co-funded by the European Union
The EcoCore Project
Green Transition in Small Cities along Transport Corridors

The Council's Project team are preparing for the next Transnational City Visit to Alba Iulia, Romania (19th – 22nd May), where the draft Integrated Action Plans (IAP's) of each city will undergo peer review for improvement.

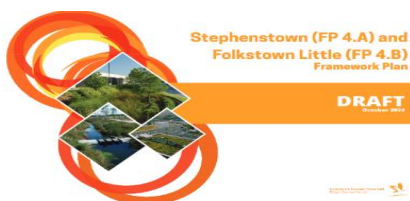
An URBACT networking event, organised by the EMRA National URBACT Contact Point, Dr Karl Murphy, was held in Sligo on the 5th of March. The EcoCore project team met with nine Irish URBACT Project partners and delivered an update on the EcoCore Project with all partners sharing insights and learnings on their URBACT projects.



Sligo's Business Improvement District (BID) provided insights to their collaborative working approach with Sligo County Council and showcased the public realm open space at Queen Maeve Square which now operates as a multi-functional public space, providing a community friendly area with transferability of usage from day to evening. The proposed installation of an awning cover will provide a future proofed European style outdoor space for all to enjoy.



Stephenstown and Folkstown Little Framework Plans

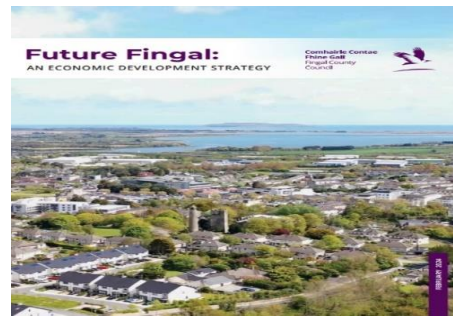


The Draft Stephenstown (FP 4.A) & Folkstown Little (FP 4.B) Framework Plan was on public display from 17th October to 15th November 2024.

Following public consultation, the public submissions received on the Framework Plan are under review for the preparation of the Chief Executive's report for the consideration of the Elected Members.

Future Fingal: Economic Development Strategy

The Economic Development team is progressing the implementation of actions, including the development of a Marketing Plan under the Future Fingal: Fingal Economic Development Strategy.



Sustainable Fingal



Planning is underway with Fingal Chamber on a series of Business Sustainability Briefings with a particular focus on food waste to coincide with national Climate Action Week in May 2025 (12th – 16th May)

Five one-hour information events are planned throughout the Fingal administrative area with invitations to issue to local food-based businesses. This is a great opportunity for business in the food sector to learn sustainable business practices from Amy Irwin, Conscious Kitchens and to hear from other Fingal food businesses who made substantial cost, energy and resource saving following the implementation of sustainable business measures.

Future Fingal: Fingal Sustainability Strategy

A tender has issued to appoint consultants to assist with the development of the Future Fingal: Fingal Sustainable Strategy. The Strategy will have an external focus on providing support to existing businesses in Fingal to encourage the incorporation of sustainability measures into operating business models and collaboration as the County transitions from a linear to a more circular economy model across all business sectors and operating in partnership with local communities.

The EETCD Department continue to liaise with representatives from DCU and DAA to explore a work programme for 2025 to progress potential collaborative sustainable projects. An application to a competitive funding call to Peaceplus to fund a project on district heating was unsuccessful stakeholders will examine other funding opportunities to advance the project and to explore funding opportunities for projects in the area of biodiversity and the circular economy.

Circular Cities

As Fingal County Council is a signatory of Circular Cities Declaration, we continue to engage with the Circular Cities & Regions Initiative. The Council has applied to participate in the CCRI Communities of practice working groups in the area of providing support to local circular businesses.

Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor (DBEC)



The Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor Summit 2025 was held on 27th February 2025, this highly successful event highlighted DBEC's ambition to shape and influence policy to enable a higher performing cross border economy. Attendees heard from the policy makers, leaders, including the Mayor of Fingal as co-chair of DBEC's Political Advisory Group, and key private sector partners from along the corridor.

The event had more than 500 attendees and brought DBEC to the market, creating a greater understanding of the importance of the corridor in respect of cross border trade, connectivity, net zero ambitions and leveraging the corridor to maximise its global reach.

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 implementation of the community element and review of economic elements of the Fingal Local Economic & Community Plan.

The March LCDC meeting focused on LECP Theme 4 – Healthy, Inclusive, Connected Communities and discussed approaches to advance delivery on objectives under this theme. The next meeting of the LCDC will take place on 7th May 2025.

SICAP

The annual SICAP budget for 2024 was €2,036,355.06 which included a separate funding provision for new arrivals.



The 2025 budget allocations are outlined below in respect of the delivery of the Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP):

- **SICAP Budget 2025** - €1,568,717.00
- **New Arrivals Budget 2025** - €375,372.00

Empower, the SICAP Programme Implementer, delivered the 2024 End-of-Year Review, confirming that both KPI 1 and KPI 2 targets were successfully achieved. They also presented the strategic objectives for SICAP in 2025 and outlined the KPI targets for the year ahead.

The formal approval of the 2025 Annual Plan and the 2024 Annual Performance Review took place at the LCDC meeting on March 4th.



LEADER Programme

Fingal LCDC and Fingal LEADER Partnership are responsible for 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 Dublin Rural LAG met on 12th December 2024 and approved 3 Projects for funding. The next Dublin Rural LAG meeting is scheduled for the 29th April 2025.

LEADER continues to seek applications from Individuals, Farm Families, Rural Businesses, Community & Voluntary Groups and Social Enterprises. Help is available to guide applicants through the process.

More details: www.dublinruralleader.ie or contact rdinfo@fingalleaderpartnership.ie

Local Enhancement Programme 2025

The Local Enhancement Programme 2025 launched on 3rd December 2024.

Community and Voluntary Groups in Fingal applied for funding under the Local Enhancement Programme (LEP) 2025. The Programme is designed to provide both capital and current funding support to a wide and diverse range of local groups. Funding is available to support small capital works/improvements, the purchase of equipment for community use; tables and chairs, tools and signage, laptops and printers, lawnmowers, canopies and training equipment etc., as well as capital costs; electricity costs, refuse charges, heating charges, rental/lease costs, insurance bills.



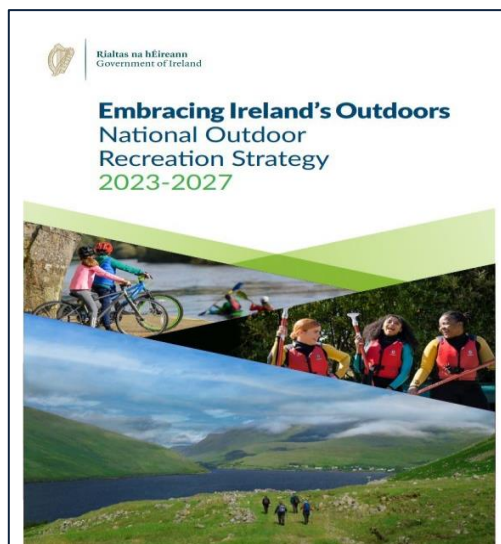
Fingal County Council had been allocated a total of €268,827 in funding for Groups across the county €230,423 in Capital Funding and €38,404 in Current Funding.

The Evaluation Committee Meeting for the Current Funding Scheme was held on 27th January 2025, followed by the Evaluation Committee Meeting for the Capital Funding Scheme on 28th January 2025.

All proposed funding has now been submitted to the Department of Rural & Community Development (DRCD) for final approval and notifications will be issued to all applicants when allocations are approved by DRCD.

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS)

The Council has prepared the County Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) under the guidance of the County Outdoor Recreation Committee which will be brought to the April Council Meeting.



Applications under the 2024/2025 Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) funded by the Department of Rural & Community Development were submitted in March - 2 applications were submitted under the Project Development Measure for feasibility studies for water based sports facilities on the Royal Canal and a greenway linking Balrothery to Ardgillan Castle, 4 applications were submitted under Measure 1 for swim shelters in Rush, Skerries & Donabate and for a play trail in Rush, 1 application for the Fingal Camino was submitted under Measure 2 and 1 application for works around Balbriggan Boathouse and Bathhouse was submitted under Measure 3.



Woodlands for Health

The Woodlands for Health Programme promotes mental well-being through guided walks in natural settings. Planning is underway for the programme in Newbridge Demesne, Donabate, which supports mental health service users with light exercise in a tranquil woodland setting. We are also looking at a new addition in Millennium Park, Dublin 15, which expands access to this impactful initiative. Delivered in partnership with Healthy Fingal, HSE Mental Health Services and Fingal County Council's Sports Office, it fosters recovery, connection, and wellness through nature-based activity.



Smoke Free Homes Challenge

The Smoke Free Homes Challenge has expanded to include both Ladyswell National School and Corduff Senior National School. Delivered by Healthy Fingal, the HSE, and Empower, the programme encourages families to make their homes and cars smoke-free. Quit Smoking Advisors will visit classrooms to educate students on the dangers of smoking and vaping, while parents receive support materials and information on signing up for the June challenge. A fun colouring/drawing competition also reinforces the smoke-free message for students.



Community Recognition Fund 2023

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 €1,813,912 for 26 projects across Fingal with €1.4 million claimed to date. Projects were required to be completed by 18th October 2024; however, a number of projects have been granted extensions by the DRCD. Several projects have been completed with some in the process of closing and the Council continues to submit drawdown claims as the projects reach completion.

Community Recognition Fund (CRF) 2024

The Council received an allocation of €1,538,573 in respect of the Community Recognition Fund (CRF) 2024. The funding will support capital projects which will be delivered over the time period 2025/2026. The fund is targeted to invest in those communities, villages and towns where the highest level of new arrivals is located and where a clear need for investment is identified. The funding is allocated across 3 application windows as outlined below:

Application Window 1:

8 community projects in Fingal received funding of c. €630,000 in August 2024:

- Castleknock Community Centre Association CLG for demolition and rebuilding of the old credit union building
- Accessible Transport Project CLG- Locallink Louth Meath Fingal for the purchase of a community bus
- O'Dwyers GAA Club for the provision of wheelchair access and development of facilities (
- Hartstown Community Centre for the installation of new windows
- Foroige - Coastal North Dublin for purchase of a mini-bus
- Trinity Gaels GAA Club for pitch enhancement including drainage and surfacing
- Phoenix Football Club for development of equipment storage facilities
- Skerries Harps GAA and Camogie Club for LED floodlighting installation

Application Window 2:

On February 24th, Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, Dara Calleary TD, announced over €14 million in funding for 185 community projects nationwide under the Community Recognition Fund 2024. In Window 2 7 projects in Fingal received funding of c. €596,000 in February 2025:

- Donabate Portrane Community Centre - Safety and Accessibility Works
- St Margaret's GAA Club Astro turf Installation
- Baldoyle Forum - Fire Safety Upgrades
- Corduff Resource Centre Fire Safety Upgrades
- Blanchardstown Centre for Independent Living Electric Wheelchair Accessible Van
- Phibblestown Community Centre Astro turf Resurfacing (€50,000)
- O'Dwyers GAA Club, Balbriggan - Supply and Installation of Perimeter Fencing



Application Window 3:

The third and final public call for applications under this funding stream was announced in November with a submission deadline in December 2024.

Project proposals have been evaluated and submitted to the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD), and we are now awaiting approval.

ENTERPRISE CENTRES



Following an agreement by the Boards of Directors of BASE, Beat and Drinan Enterprise Centres to consolidate the management of all three centres, the Council has now formed a new legal entity “Innovate Fingal” to drive innovation and focus on the strategic development of the 3 Enterprise Centres.

An online briefing session was held for elected members on the 31st of March.

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.

TOWN REGENERATION OFFICE

Our Balbriggan 2019 - 2030 Rejuvenation Plan – A Socio-Economic Strategy



The Our Balbriggan Programme Office continues to support the local Leadership Group, in the stewardship and oversight of the implementation of the Balbriggan Socio-Economic plan 2024 – 2030. Four multi-stakeholder groups meet periodically, to progress opportunities around Economic Development, Education, Skills & Employment, Community Development and Sustainability, Climate Action and Bio-diversity Pillar. The Public Realm Pillar is chaired by the County Architect and reports directly to the Chief Executive.

After a mid-point governance review in 2024 the Rejuvenation programme horizon was extended to 2030, to bring it in line with the Urban Regeneration Development Fund (URDF), supported by the Department of Housing, Heritage and Local Government.

The Balbriggan Leadership Group, independently chaired by Dr. David Begg, met on March 19th. The meeting formally adopted a set of new Pillar Action Workplans for the period 2025 – 2030 and will now move into implementation phase.

The Council have appointed contractor John Craddock Ltd and work is progressing on schedule, on the redevelopment of the Quay Street, Harbour & Environs area which is due to be substantially completed by December 2025. Work continues to progress well across key elements of the Quay Street & Harbour site.



Phase 1 Works have been completed to include the completion of improvements at the Town Car Park and works to the River Walls and Riverbed. The Town Car Park has now re-opened, with Electrical Vehicle Chargers due to be installed Q2 2025. Phase 2 has commenced with the heritage restoration of the RNLi Boathouse building for commercial use, the new public toilets are now constructed to roof level, with the new harbour building and kiosks being progressed. Phase 3 will incorporate the construction of 2 pedestrian bridges, with substantial completion of the Toilet Block & Kiosk and Harbour Buildings.

The planting of trees on the south-side of the new redeveloped plaza area has commenced, this follows the planting of 20 additional trees around the Quay Street Car Park area and along the adjoining River Bracken.

The Our Balbriggan Programme Office continues to provide regular updates on the project through social media Channels and includes detailed information on frequently asked questions. Up to date information on the project is available on Balbriggan.ie



Tender pack documents for 2 - 4 Dublin Street are currently under review. 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 Fingal Arts Office & SMART Balbriggan. Planning permission was granted at Council in October 2023.



An Integrated Design Team has been appointed for the DeBruns site and are progressing work on design options based on best possible uses and site constraints. Stakeholder engagement sessions with local community, civic and business groups, and neighbouring properties have been completed. Insights gained have been incorporated into the pre-design report which has been submitted to FCC for review.

The Programme Office is currently reviewing a Feasibility Study for a Swim Platform, prepared by Langan Consulting (Marine) Engineers, including options and costings.

An Internal Project Team has been established from the Town Regeneration Office, Our Balbriggan Programme Office and FCC Architects to progress the Boathouse and Bathhouse project. Enabling works have now been completed. Engineers have been appointed to the project, which is set to be substantially completed by end Q1 2026. An application was submitted to the Outdoor Recreation Scheme in March to support costs associated with the scheme and its environs.



The Our Balbriggan Office continues to generate regular and unique content across all social media channels, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn with over 13,000+ followers across its 5 social media channels.



Lár Bailte ar dTús
Town Centre First

Town Centre First – Lusk

Following the completion of the Lusk for Life Plan, two applications for Project Development Measure funding were submitted to the Department of Rural and Community Development for their consideration and both projects have now been approved for funding.

Both projects were identified in the Lusk Town Centre First Plan and include measures to develop appropriate facilities in Lusk's Central Parks and the feasibility of a farmers' market.

A consultant has been appointed to produce a feasibility study for the farmers market project, and preparatory work is ongoing regarding the Lusk Central Parks project.



A meeting of the Lusk town team was held on February 13th during which both projects were discussed, it was also agreed to amend the composition of the town team.

Town Centre First – Balrothery

A visit to Blessington, Co. Wicklow was held on February 6th with members of the Town Regeneration Office and the Balrothery town team as part of the capacity building measures. The visit was a huge success, with many key insights gained regarding successful projects undertaken by the Wicklow Town Team, and how elements of these projects could be replicated in Balrothery.

An output report has been completed and this will be discussed with the Town Centre First group at a meeting soon.



Town Centre First - Ballyboughal

A visit by the Town Centre First group in Ballyboughal to the town of Boyle, Co. Roscommon is now scheduled to take place in April which will allow the group to share insights.

An output report from the capacity building process which was undertaken by the Town Regeneration Office over the past number of months has also been finalised and will be presented to the Ballyboughal group at a separately scheduled meeting in the coming weeks.



Town Centre First - Donabate

The final capacity building meeting took place in Donabate on the 27th of March where a Draft Action Plan for the town was presented which had been identified by the Town Centre First group over the past number of months.



Town Centre First - Rush

Following a successful first Town Centre First meeting in Rush on the 21st of February, an open invitation was issued to all interested residents, members of community groups and members of the business community to attend the next meeting. A consultant was also appointed to oversee capacity building sessions with the group.

A second meeting subsequently took place on the 24th of March which included a presentation on the concept of placemaking, and a presentation on how the process will proceed. Further meetings are planned for the coming months.



Town & Village Renewal Schemes

The Town Regeneration Office is currently facilitating two approved projects under this scheme from 2023. A Phase 4 development of Floraville Park in Skerries (€55,800) and upgrades to the Rush Community Centre (€64,350) have been approved by the Department of Rural and Community Development. Both projects are on schedule to be completed by October 2025.

A fresh call for projects has been announced by the Department of Rural and Community Development for 2025. The Town Regeneration Office will be seeking Expressions of Interest for suitable projects to be submitted to the Department for the scheme in the coming weeks.



Streetscape Enhancement Scheme 2024

A second Streetscape Enhancement Scheme for 2024 was launched in November and a number of expressions of interest were received by the closing date for applications of 29 November. Under the new scheme, up to 75% of the cost of improvements, up to a maximum grant amount of €1,500 per eligible property, is available, subject to terms and conditions.

Nine applications have been approved for funding totalling €12,635.28 for a variety of works including painting, green enhancement, and signage enhancement. Letters of Offer have been issued to these successful applicants and improvement works will be carried out over the coming months.



Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme Project

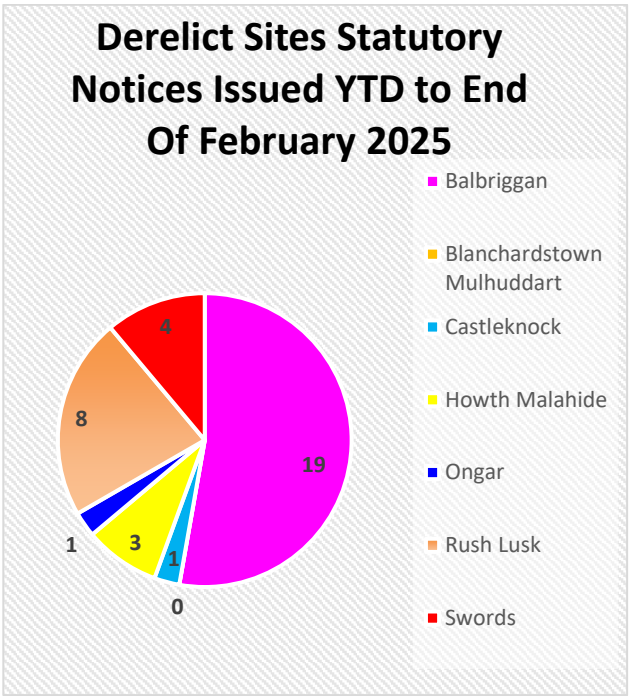
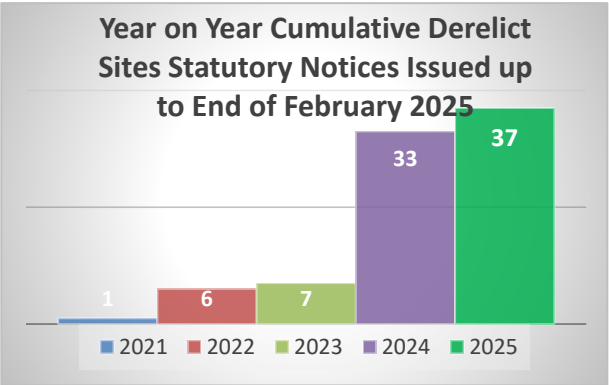
One project has been approved under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme for 2024, “Sea Swimming at Skerries Springers”.

A progress report has been received from the appointed consultant, which confirms that the study is due to be completed on schedule.

A meeting with the local Swimmers group took place on Friday 21st March in conjunction with the Operations department where an update was given regarding the status of the feasibility report.

Derelict Sites

36 statutory notices have issued to owners of Derelict properties to the end of February 2025. This compares to a total of 33 at this point in time in 2024.



The Derelict Sites team continues to focus on engagement with the owners of these derelict sites and will continue identifying further derelict sites across the county.

As a result of ongoing activity in 2024 and 2025, 49 properties were brought out of dereliction by availing of grants available through the local authority, compliance with Section 11 statutory notices (completing measures to take properties out of dereliction), while 19 were added to the derelict sites register.

The Town Regeneration Office actively encourages 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



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 2025 are as follows:

Local Enterprise Week 2025



Local Enterprise Week 2025, held from 3rd to 7th March, was a tremendous success, with strong participation from Fingal's business community. Over the course of the week, individuals had the opportunity to register for one or more of the 13 business events, which we actively promoted. The interest was substantial, with something for everyone - from those just starting out to those expanding their businesses, women in business, and food producers. Experienced trainers and professionals from relevant fields provided valuable insights, and networking opportunities were excellent. Feedback from participants was extremely positive, with many highlighting the value and relevance of the diverse range of workshops covering digital tools, productivity, food business, sustainability, and more.

Fingal Enterprise Awards 2025



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.

This year, six businesses were short-listed from the applications received, all of which were assessed by the Fingal LEO independent panel of judges. Following their visit to the Fingal dragon's den, the six applicants took centre-stage at the Fingal Enterprise Awards final on 4th March. The Fingal prize fund this year was €10,000. The overall winner **Cozmotec CG Consulting Ltd** scooped the top prize of €5,000 investment in their business. Cuty Gupta of Cozmotec will now progress to represent Fingal at the National Enterprise Awards final in the Mansion House in May 2025. The six finalists were:

- The Good Trading & Sourcing Co Ltd, T/A Jack Murphy Clothing - Sarah Murphy (Skerries)
- Cozmotec CG Consulting Ltd - Cuty Gupta (Swords)
- Gigi Supplements Ltd - Jennie Haire (Santry)
- Mizz Rio Bridal - Mags Morgan (Ballyboughal)
- Vistona Ltd - Dave Byrne (Rush)
- Anyscor Ltd - Colin Deering (Skerries)

Fingal Business Supports Briefing



The Fingal Business Supports Briefing, held during Local Enterprise Week in March, was a great success with 142 attendees.

The LEO team provided valuable guidance on training, events, mentorship, and grants, outlining next steps for further support.

The event included a lively Q&A session, with many business owners and managers staying for one-on-one consultations with LEO team. Following the briefing, numerous participants booked individual sessions for the Business Advice Clinic. Due to high demand, registrations for Business Advice Clinics, Start Your Own Business Courses, and Grant Application Workshops have surged.

Interest in the next briefing is strong, promoted through social media, Fingal Enterprise News, and the weekly e-newsletter. Feedback from attendees has been overwhelmingly positive, with many signing up after visiting our website or being encouraged by LEO staff. Recommendations from friends also contributed to the high turnout, along with the promotional leaflet for Local Enterprise Week.

Student Enterprise Programme



Wild Cards from Mount Sackville Secondary School will represent the county at this year's Student Enterprise Programme National Final on Thursday, 8th May at the Mullingar Park Hotel.

Following an exciting Fingal County Final on 13th March at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Blanchardstown, these students stood out among over 1,300 participants from 21 schools, showcasing exceptional creativity and entrepreneurial spirit. A total of 15 schools competed in the county final, with the best young entrepreneurs now advancing to the prestigious national stage.

The Student Enterprise Programme, delivered by the 31 Local Enterprise Offices nationwide, is Ireland's largest student entrepreneurship initiative, empowering over 26,000 students each year to create, develop, and market their own businesses.

In the Junior Category, the students representing Fingal at the National Final are Rachel Dore and Isla Tanner, and Loreto Secondary School, Balbriggan, with their project, Rachel's and Isla's Self Care, an enterprise focussing on self-care baskets

In the Intermediate Category, Maida-Fatima Riaz, Angelin Bijoye and Abi Solai from Hansfield Educate Together Secondary School, Dublin 15, will showcase their enterprise, Ecochew, which focuses on an innovative solution for chewing gum disposal, ensuring a cleaner environment.

In the Senior Category, Emily O'Donnell, Aaliyah Heeze and Sarah Forbes from Mount Sackville Secondary School, Castleknock, secured their place with Wild Cards, an innovative business centred on handmade, ecofriendly cards.

The Fingal County Final was hosted by TV personality Síomha Ní Ruairc, with entertainment by renowned DJ Marty Guilfoyle, adding to the lively atmosphere. This year's competition in Fingal, which engaged 1,300 students, is proudly supported by Blanchardstown Centre, One4All, and SimTech Aviation, whose contributions to the prize fund continue to encourage young entrepreneurs to strive for entrepreneurial success. Fingal's finalists now set their sights on the National Final in May, where they will compete to be named Ireland's next top young entrepreneurs.

Food Sectoral Supports



LEO Fingal hosted the Dublin Food Chain regional Food networking event for Local Enterprise Week in the Castleknock Hotel, attended by some 80 food producers eager to hear from Stephen Carr from Pizza Sorrento and Ciaran Fitzpatrick from Cookie Dó, two Dublin-based food producers who shared their stories of growth and the challenges along the way. Laura Harper Trading Director Marks & Spencer explained how the strategy of M&S Ireland is to have more locally based food producers in their supplier listings.

Evaluations and Approvals Committee

The Evaluation and Approvals Committee (EVAC) approved eight projects for funding at its March meeting, bringing to €257,097 the total approved year to date 2025, for 16 applicants across Business Feasibility, Priming and Expansion Grants. The next EVAC meeting will be held in County Hall Swords on the 30th of April 2025.

Management Development

LEADERSHIP FOR ACCELERATED GROWTH



The Leadership for Accelerated Growth programme kicked off on the 12th of March 2025 in the Carlton Hotel Dublin Airport. This programme is attended by 17 businesses from Dublin City and Fingal LEO's. The programme facilitates established businesses within the Dublin area to grow their businesses and expand. It allows owners time to plan and build a strategy which will carry them through the next 3 years while building their network and learning new skills in the areas of business management, finance and marketing. At the opening of the event on 12th March, certificates of completion were presented to the previous cohort.

Energy Efficiency Grant Scheme



The Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Energy Efficiency Grant was recently revamped and relaunched with several significant changes, the main one being its increase from €5,000 to €10,000 and a change from match funding to now covering up to 75% of eligible costs.

The Energy Efficiency Grant is an excellent opportunity for small businesses to continue their business more sustainably and efficiently, which will benefit them in the long run. To apply, businesses need to be solvent and operating within Fingal for at least six months. Seven companies in Fingal have so far qualified for this grant. So far this year there has been a very strong level of interest in this scheme with enquiries coming from restaurants, pubs and coffee shops. Three companies have been approved so far and many more are currently going through the approval process.

Trading Online Voucher Scheme



Trading Online Voucher (now expired) scheme supported 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 39 applications have been approved in the amount of €88,138. year to date. The Trading Online Voucher scheme has now closed and only applications received on or before 13th December 2024 are being considered for approval and payment in 2025. An enhanced "Grow Digital" initiative takes its place (featuring grant value €5k plus digital consultancy assignments).

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 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. In 2025 so far 182 clients availed of one-to-one appointments in Business Advice Clinics, with consistently high demand for this service among Fingal businesses. 76 clients have so far signed up for business mentoring.

A new Mentor panel has been procured and Mentors are currently on-boarding. A Mentor Induction meeting will be held on 4th April and LEO Staff will present an overview of the LEO portfolio, following this there will be regular meetings to keep mentors informed and provide a platform for knowledge sharing

Microfinance Ireland Loans

LEO Fingal provides a loan scheme through its partnership with Microfinance Ireland, with loans from €5,000 up to €50,000 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 1% reduced interest rate of 5.5% APR if submitted through the Local Enterprise Office.

Seven MFI loan applications have been processed in January 2025. LEO Fingal supports MFI applicants with a Mentor who assists with the application process to maximise their prospects of approval.

Training and Events

Training & events from LEO Fingal for small business owners has had a strong start to the year with 1206 participants year to date. There have been three Start Your Own Business courses with 36 participants.

LEO Fingal continues to see buoyant demand for courses in 2025.

Internationalisation and Export Development

The new “Market Explorer Grant” has replaced the TAME Grant from 1 January 2025. The grant is available to small enterprises in the manufacturing and international trading sectors (with up to 50 employees). The amount of the grant is to a maximum of €10,000 or 50% of eligible costs. The object of the financial offer is to support the development of export-oriented businesses by incentivising support to research and explore activities in new markets.

Support for the grant applies when eligible companies seek to explore either a new geographic market for an existing product/service or an existing geographic market for a new product/service. LEO Fingal has approved one application for this grant in the amount of €9,520.



The Export Development programme “Get Exporting” is continuing throughout all 31 LEOs, Get Exporting is designed to support companies at every stage of their journey to achieve new export sales. Through the Export Development Pathway, the aim is to simplify the export journey for businesses and help build the knowledge, confidence and strategies needed to succeed in global markets. Get Exporting is a collaborative effort between the Local Enterprise Offices, Enterprise Ireland, and delivery partner OCO Global.

Following recommendation based on an export readiness assessment 11 Fingal businesses were among the 120 nationally, progressing through the programme. Following stage 2 ‘Workshops’ 60 businesses will now progress to the ‘In Market Visit’ stage of the programme.

Those not progressing can still be considered at a future stage and in the meantime can avail of the support they need to develop their businesses from their Local Enterprise Office.

Fingal Enterprising Women Network



The first event of 2025 for the Fingal Enterprising Women Network: **"Accelerate Action: The Neuroscience of Making it Happen"** took place on Thursday, 6th March 2025 at the Crown Plaza Hotel, Santry. Over 130 female entrepreneurs gathered together along with guest speaker Dr. Sabina Brennan who inspired, motivated, and connected with this incredible network of businesswomen. As part of Local Enterprise Week 2025, it was an energizing and impactful way to celebrate International Women's Day.

Grow Digital Voucher & Digital for Business

Grow Digital

A Digital Tool for every Business

The new Grow Digital Voucher offers SMEs with up to 50 employees financial support to embrace digital technology. A digital for business project report must be completed within the previous two years.

LEO Fingal have approved the second eligible application and are working to increase awareness of this support with businesses throughout Fingal.

LEO Fingal have approved 20 Digital for Business Programmes year to date.

We have also launched a Digital Boost Webinar to educate prospective applicants about the Digital Supports available including Digital for Business and Grow Digital, the second of which will run on 10th April as a Dublin Region event.

OPERATIONS

Contents
Area Business
Works Programmes
Car Parking Services
Burial Grounds Services
Traffic Operations County-wide
Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit
Public Lighting
Recycling Centres Update
Licenses
Surface Water

Area Business Totals for February 2025

Area	Public CRM's	Rep CRM's	Area Questions	Area Motions	Headed Items
Balbriggan/Swords	427	76	33	12	1
Castleknock/Mulhuddart	225	151	14	4	2
Howth/Malahide	214	94	9	4	1
Total	866	321	56	20	4

Works Programme

Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords Area - Parks

Free Tree Giveaway for National Tree Week, Ward River Valley Park.



Free Tree Giveaway for National Tree Week, Newbridge Demesne.



Planting of 'Oak Orchard' research project in Balbriggan.



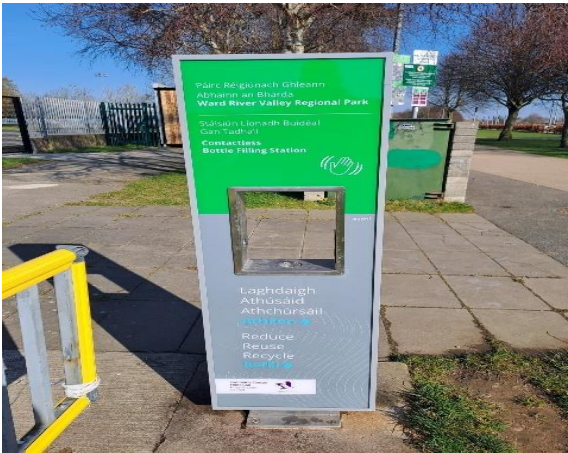
National Tree Week Event at Ardgillan Demesne.



The planting of 3 new Giant Redwood trees in in Santry Demesne within the Redwood Avenue.



Two new Water refill stations were installed in the Ward River Valley Park and Santry Demesne to replace the older models.



Area General Maintenance Programme

Drainage works at Knocknaggin Road, by Balbriggan Roads crew.





Footpath installation at Windmill Rise, Swords.



Maintenance works being carried out at Loughshinny Harbour.



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Howth/ Malahide Area
Roads / Footpaths - Kinsealy Lane



Installation of new footpath along Kinsealy Lane.

Road Patching



Road Patching works along Yellow Walls Road, Malahide.

Burial Grounds and Beaches



New water pipes for additional water taps around cemetery. Fingal Burial Grounds works carried out by outdoor staff.



Vandalism to West Pier public toilets (Beach hut style), Howth.



Following damage - removal of broken tiles Howth toilets in preparation for new replacements.



Damage to entrance gate at Burrow Beach awaiting repair/ replacement.



New water taps installed at Balgriffin burial grounds by Council staff.



Root grinding preparation at St Fintan's burial grounds to commence in the next week.



Ongoing fly tipping issue at Howth/Malahide clothes banks.



Preparations underway in advance of launching the lifeguard huts for the Howth Malahide area.

Howth/Malahide Parks **Tree Planting**



Avenue of Liquidambar 'Slender Silhouette' street trees planted along Hole in the Wall / Moyne Road junction.



Malahide Demesne



New Dura surface laid in front of Malahide Castle.



New surface Eastern side Malahide Castle.

Malahide Castle Sports Pavilion & Café



Following a successful procurement process, contracts have now been signed between Fingal County Council and the new Operator of the Malahide Castle Sports Pavilion and Café. We look forward to welcoming new members and customers to the refurbished facilities over the coming years.

Malahide Concerts Series 2025

The Planning Licence Application has been received for the 2025 Malahide Concert Series.

The Acts and dates listed in the application are as follows:

- 17th June - Charli xcx
- 25th June - Iron Maiden
- 26th June - Neil Young
- 28th June - Justin Timberlake
- 29th June - Alanis Morissette
- 30th June - Duran Duran plus Nile Rodgers & Chic
- Friday, 4th July - Mumford & Sons

Talbot Botanic Gardens



Newly planted Australian North Border



Well drilling West Lawn Malahide Demesne.



Bluebell walk West Lawn.



Acacia praviissima in flower in the Australian Garden.



Back field car park lining completed following resurfacing works.



Bed prepared / planted for Portmarnock tidy towns as part of programme of works.

Tree week give aways in the Demesne and Portmarnock.



Portmarnock Programme of Works



A new feature wall constructed to display refurbished pump.



Pump installed and paving completed.

Commemorative Grove tree planting



Howth Pathways



Upgrade of the path carried out along with boundary markers installed. Ready for another busy year of walkers.



Preparation work for markers.



Maintenance works continues on the Bog of Frogs loop, Howth. Raising the paths up away from pooling water and installing water bars where needed.



Graffiti on walls Howth Walkway.



Wall after graffiti was removed.



New signage for livestock Howth Pathway.

Castleknock/ Mulhuddart Area

St Catherine's Park Tree Giveaway



Tree giveaway in Millennium Park March 2025



St Margarets Flower beds



2 flower beds in St Margarets.

Castleknock Elms edging works open space.

Edging works carried out in Castleknock Elms open space.

Approx. 120M of footpath was edged and cleaned.



Footpath laid in Ongar Woodland

Footpath laid in Ongar Woodland, this footpath is approx. 1.50M long and 2M wide.



This footpath goes from Hansfield Lane opposite Scoil Grainne Playground. Footpath cleaning Snugborough Road.

Blanchardstown Village Perennial Flower Bed



Planting of Polyanthus plants in new Perennial Flower bed in Blanchardstown Village.

Castleknock Village and Mulhuddart Community Centre.



Planting winter/Spring bedding in Castleknock Village and Mulhuddart Community Centre.

Castlefield Park Clonsilla Hedgecutting

140m of hedging cut back along railings in Castlefield Park in Clonsilla.



Ground clearance at castellated gateway in St Catherine's Park Lucan.



New fencing in Ongar.

Car Parking Services

Review of Parking Control Bye-Laws

The Operations Department is in the process of reviewing the Fingal Parking Control Bye-Laws 2020.

A presentation on the proposed amendments and timeline for review was presented to the Public Realm, Transportation/Mobility Management Strategic Policy Committee Meeting on the 4th March 2025. A briefing and Q&A with Fingal Councillors on the proposed changes took place on Wednesday 12th March.

A meeting took place with the Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine on 25th March 2025 to discuss parking in Howth and to outline the proposals by the Council to introduce a pay parking scheme for Howth. A scheme is currently being designed for the Area, and there will be further consultation with DAFM and the Elected Members. A further briefing and Q&A will be held with the Fingal Councillors in April 2025 prior to the Bye-Laws going on public display.

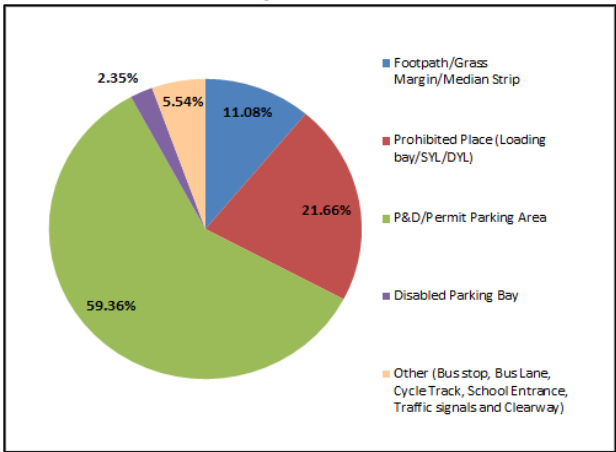
February 2025

There were a total of 1191 parking tickets issued during February 2025.

Main Ticketing Locations:

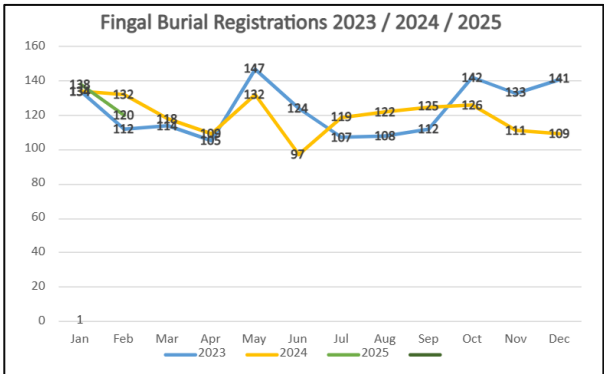
Location	Main Ticket Locations February 2025
North Street - Swords	106
Main Street - Swords	97
Bridgefield Car Park - Malahide	79
Strand Street - Skerries	46
South Strand Skerries	45
Harbour Road - Skerries	42
Dublin Street - Balbriggan	36
Church Street - Skerries	33
The Green - Malahide	32
Church Road - Malahide	32

Breakdown of Parking Offences:



Burial Ground Services

There were 120 Interments in Fingal Cemeteries during February 2025.



Kellystown Burial Ground

Following award of contract in Q4 2024, the works contractor has mobilised on site and commenced work in late February on the next phase of development. An access road and site infrastructure has already been completed under and earlier contract.

This current phase of development will provide approx. 650 grave plots, structures for the storage of ashes including columbarium walls and memorial plots, a small services building, a carpark and extensive site infrastructure and landscaping.

The current construction works are expected to be complete by end of year with the operation of the cemetery expected to follow in early 2026.

Traffic Operations County-Wide
Balbriggan/Swords Area
New Signage Swords Area



Swords – Thornleigh - Children Crossing
Warning signage on both approaches to playground area.

New Signage Portrane Area



Portrane – Quay Road - Pedestrian Warning signage on both approaches. Maximum Vehicle Width Warning sign.

Road Markings

R129 Roscall Crossroads – New road markings installation.



Junction R122 and L1070- road markings renewal.



Castleknock/Mulhuddart

Road Markings Castleknock/Mulhuddart



Yield road markings in Castlefield Woods repainted.

Programme of Works for New Signals

Below: Images of the recently completed pedestrian crossing added to existing signalised junction at Tower Road/Lower Road/Knockmaroon Road junction.



Howth Malahide Traffic POW 2025

Below: Shark's teeth refreshed on ramps on the Grange Road and R124 (works ongoing).



Below: Sharks Teeth refreshed on the Carrickbrack Road by St Sabinas school.



Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit

83 Plant Hires were put in place from 22/02/2025 to 28/03/2025, engaging 19 suppliers.

Recently, the department hired a VW ID4 Fully electric vehicle on a 36-month hire.



Also hired, on a 36-month contract, was a 7-seater fully electric VWID Buzz, for the Events Department. This was wrapped for the events team, as seen below at the St. Patricks Day Celebrations.



Public Lighting

Works on the 2025 Public Lighting Programme of Works is progressing.

2025 POW Works jobs Completed to date:

- Village Road / Raheny Roundabout, Lusk
- Dromheath Drive, Mulhuddart
- Warrenstown Green roundabout, Corduff
- Kenure Woods Park entrance, Rush
- Gartan Drive, Swords (two lights were installed here)
- The Nurseries, Swords

2025 POW Works in Progress/Ongoing:

- Latchford Close to Old Hansfield Lane walkway beside playing pitches at Phibblestown Community Centre, Ongar
- New Haggart Cottages, Balleally
- Porterstown Park Main Carpark, Porterstown

2025 POW Works Commenced:

- Lanesborough Park, Charlestown
- Parnell Green / Church Road Walkway, Mulhuddart
- Chapel Close Green / Bremore Green Pedestrian Walkway, Balbriggan



Installation of decorative light at entrance to Kenure Woods

Works on the public lighting column replacement programme have commenced.

Public Lighting Column Replacements Completed:

- Dromheath Green, Mulhuddart
- Wellview Estate, Mulhuddart

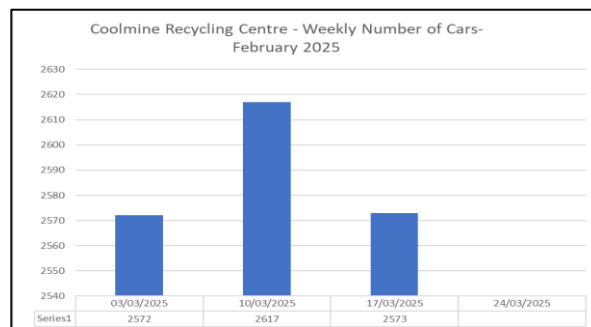
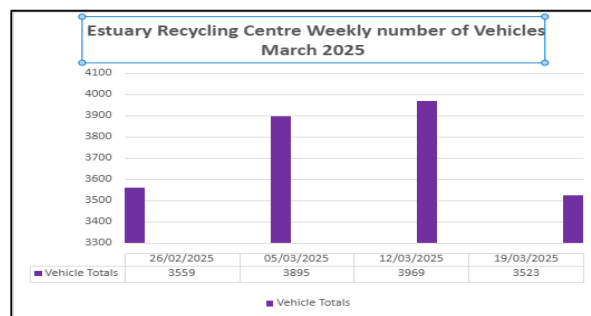
Other public lighting works completed:

- Installation of public lighting on pedestrian walkway from Riverside Court/Old Corduff Road to N3 underpass.

Recycling Centres Update

Provision was made in the 2025 Revenue Budget for Increases in charges which commenced on 1st January 2025.

The Council is currently in the process of recruitment of additional Recycling Centre Operators to commence the new opening hours at Coolmine.

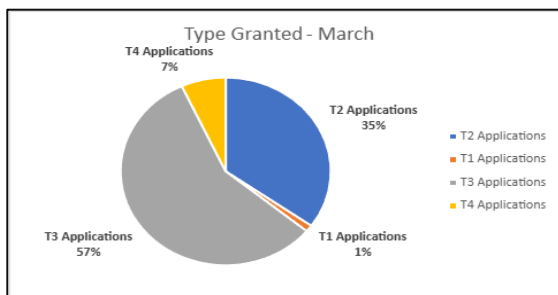
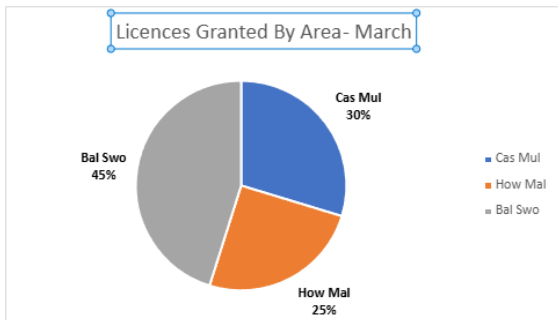
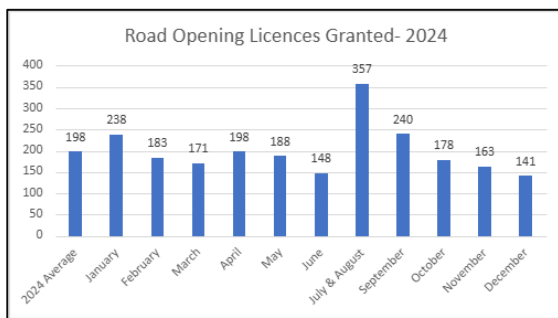


Licenses

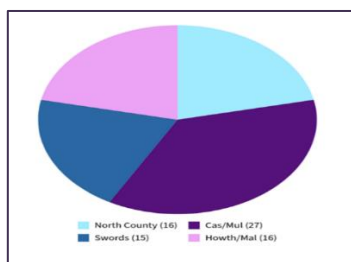
- Road Opening Licenses

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.

175 Licences were granted in the month of March, **64% 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.



Pitch Playability Applications 2024/25



See above Pie Chart outlining the number of Pitch Playability Applications received for the 2024/25 playing season, in total we have received 77 applications as outlined above including three from schools.

We have received a total of €64,160 as of the 27th of January in Grass Pitch Allocation Fees for the 2024/2025 playing season.

Casual Trading License

Fingal County Council have received a total of 32 renewal applications for the 2025/26 Trading period covering the trading of Hot Food, Tea & Coffee, Ice Cream and Flowers.

All 32 Applicants have paid & are licenced for the upcoming period.

We have also received a total of 15 new applications which we are currently processing.

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

Pilot Scheme Beach Mobile Saunas

The Council will be issuing an Expression of Interest on a pilot scheme for Mobile Saunas at the Council beaches during the summer months. 6 month seasonal licences will be issued under the Casual Trading Bye-Laws 2021.

- Street Furniture Licences & remaining Parklets

A total of 20 Street Furniture Licences have been issued in 2025.

All 20 business have paid their licence fee & have been issued with their Licence, which must be displayed prominently in the front window of their business premises.

We have also received an additional three applications which we are currently processing.

The removal of the remaining parklets by the Council's contractor has been completed.

Footpath buildouts will be progressed accordingly in each area taking into consideration drainage, adjoining trees, public lighting etc. for the businesses which expressed their interest in one and were deemed suitable following their recent parklet removal.



Surface Water

Stormwater Capital Programme 2025-2027

Fingal County Council are continuing to progress projects in the 2025-2027 Stormwater Capital Programme. The 3-year programme includes 16 projects estimated at €1.7 million. Below is a brief update in relation to the status of some of the projects.

Howth Stormwater Culvert

Detailed design has been approved for WPB. It is envisaged that works will commence on site in June for WPB. A road closure is required for this work and is currently being finalised. In parallel the detailed design is progressing for WPA which is the required works to the culvert on main street.

Burrow Beach SW Outfall Pipeline Repair

Works commenced on site in mid-March with the removal of the existing pipeline. Anchor block installation works are ongoing. These works are being executed by FCC Direct Labour under a design provided by consultants, Malachy Walsh and Partners.



Ballyboughal Main St Storm water Extension

All pipework is now complete, several additional road gullies were also installed. Footpath reinstatement works are ongoing and will be completed in early April with a final road reinstatement planned for Q2 2025.



Lusk Network Remedial Works

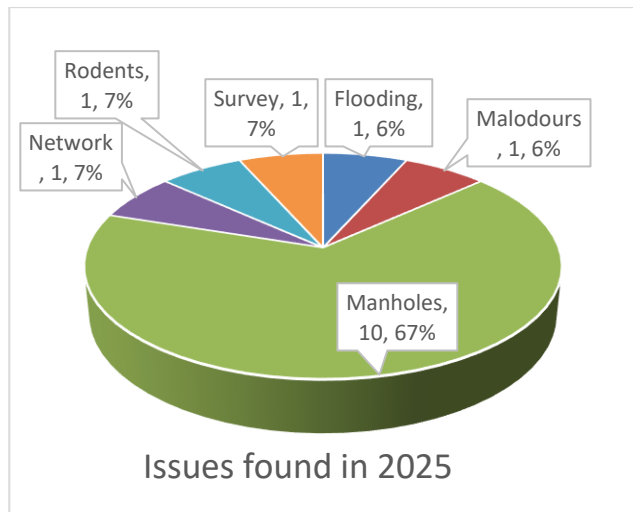
Site investigation works took place and a final design completed. The works included alterations to the existing network to remove localised restrictions. Footpath and road reinstatements are complete.

A tender has been drafted to appoint a Contractor to carry out a permanent road reinstatement. Tendering is underway to appoint a Contractor for permanent road reinstatement for a May commencement.



Storm Water Maintenance

The types and volumes of issues reported are shown in the chart.



Storm Water Connections:

To date 6 Stormwater Connection Applications have been processed in 2025.

Networks

Swords

Continued investigation of blockages and overground flooding in Rivervalley, Swords, Hilltown, Forrest Avenue, Rathingle Rd, Cherry Garth and Rivervalley Lawns estates. Following completion of investigations, the condition of the network will be assessed, and the feasibility of follow-on works will be discussed. Assisting Roads Department with network surveys in **Brackenstown Park** for an upcoming project.

Malahide/Portmarnock

Chalfont repair/maintenance work anticipated to commence in April. A tender is being drafted for specialized underground works and dig and repair by Direct labour will be commenced in April.

Dublin 15

Investigation surveys were carried out in Edgewood Lawn, Grove Road, Mulhuddart and & Damastown. Remedial works will follow.



A contractor has been procured for surveys in Grove Road, Mulhuddart and & Damastown to determine the condition of the networks in these areas and determine the cause of blockages and overground road flooding.

Assets

Ironworks Continue Stormwater manhole cover and frame replacement. Manhole and frame replacements were carried out at Pinnock Hill and Feltrim in Swords.

Underground Stormwater storage Assets

Continued Identification and recording of underground storm water management assets county wide.

Cappagh/N2/N3 Link Road SUDS

A contractor has surveyed and is cleaning of two tanks. To help determine future maintenance costs and challenges for SUDs devices of this type.



Water Quality

Lambourne Road

Investigations carried out in conjunction with Environment Dept.

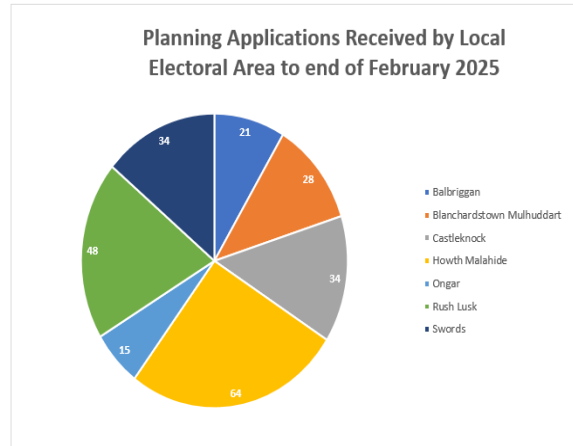
The Environment department are following up with owners of properties misconnected to the surface water network.

PLANNING AND STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE (PSI)

Contents
Planning Applications
Planning Decisions
Building Control Admin
Built Environment Division
Transportation Planning
Heritage Officer

Planning Applications

There have been 244 planning applications received from 1st January 2025 to 28th February 2025. This is including 165E applications via the LGMA portal. 58 applications were invalid leaving a total of 186 valid applications. The volume of applications received by Local Electoral Area (LEA) are detailed in the table below. There have been two Large-scale Residential Development (LRD) applications made to the Local Authority from 1st January 2025 to 28th February 2025, 1 decision has been made on Large Scale Residential Developments. An Bord Pleanála have not issued any decisions on SHD applications in the period from 1st January 2025 to 28th February 2025.

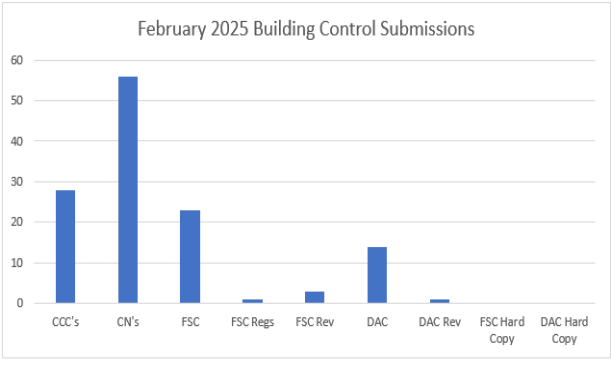


Planning Decisions

A total of 327 planning decisions have been issued from 1st January 2025 to 28th February 2025. There have been 195 decisions to grant permission and 51 refusals of permission.

Building Control Admin

In February 2025, there were 126 building control submissions made via BCMS. This was made up of 56 Commencement notices, 28 Compliance of Completion Certificates, 27 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 the Council accepts hard copy applications directly into the office. Most applications are now being submitted via the online system. The Building Control Admin team processed 157 decisions in February 2025 relating to Fire Safety and Disability Access Certificates. This was made up of 31 decisions to grant and 126 extensions of time.



Strategic Policy Unit

Fingal Development Plan - Two Year Progress Report.

The Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Department has published the Two-Year Progress Report on the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029. The Development Plan was adopted in February 2023 and the Report sets out the progress made in delivering the Objectives contained within the Plan across all Council Departments based on the themes/chapters set out in the Development Plan.

Local Area Plans, Masterplans and Framework Plans

The first round of Plans emanating from the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 continue to be progressed. The draft Clonsilla Framework Plan was published in January and a well-attended public consultation event was held on the 6th of February in Blanchardstown library. The public consultation stage has concluded, and the Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Department is reviewing the over 300 submissions received before finalising the Framework Plan.

Further preparatory background analysis is being undertaken in relation to a number of other plans/studies, including advancement through the procurement process.

Dublin Airport LAP

At a meeting of Fingal Co. Co. held on Monday 10th March 2025, the Elected Members agreed to extend the life of the Dublin Airport LAP 2020 for a period not greater than 5 years.

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 lands which are subject to RZLT.

On the 31st of January 2025, Fingal Co. Co. published the annual RZLT map for 2025 followed on the 1st of February 2025 by the publication of the draft annual map for 2026, identifying land currently in scope for the tax, land proposed to be removed from the current scope and land proposed to be included.

Consultation in relation to the annual 2025 RZLT map and draft 2026 RZLT map concluded on the 1st of April 2025 and the Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Department will now commence to review submissions received.

Built Environment Division



Building Control

- Seven building control inspections were carried out in February, covering 25 houses.
- Two Section 11 requests for further information were issued, with no Section 8 enforcement notices.

Taking in Charge

- Two housing estates are scheduled for taking in charge in April 2025: Hansfield Phase 1, Wilkinsons Brook.
- There are 39 developments with formal Taking in Charge requests, and an additional 328 developments recorded in our system, of which 62 are expected to remain private.
- Our appointed contractor has commenced Taking in Charge works in Cianlea, Swords.
- Taking in Charge works have been completed in Chloch Choirneal, Balrothery, and the contractor will soon begin works in Hoar Rock, The Sanctuary, and Rockabill.
- We have evaluated Stage 1 of the competition for a single-party framework to appoint consulting engineers to project-manage Taking in Charge works for estates where bonds have been sequestered. We will be advertising Stage 2 of the competition in April 2025 with the aim of having the consulting engineers appointed in June 2025.

Dangerous Structures

- 3 dangerous structures have been reported in March 2025 so far.
- A total of 106 dangerous structures remain active in our database.

Pictures



Checking drainage installation for a house in Garristown.

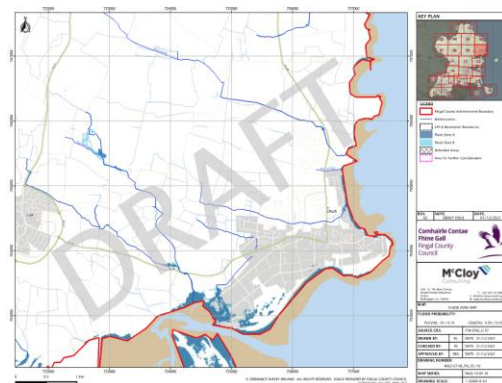


Checking level access and drainage detail to a threshold of a house in Oldtown.

Development Management

- 134 no. new planning files have been received.
- 16 no. Additional Information files have been received and 2 clarifications of Additional Information.
- 16 no. Compliance Submissions have been received; 18 no. have been processed.
- 7 no SHD/LRD applications have been received; 5 no. has been assessed.

- 1 no. Part 8/Part XI applications have been received; 1 no. has been processed.
- Pre-planning consultations – Staff from Planning (Water Services) have engaged in 2 no pre-planning discussions and with developers to discuss issues related to the provision of water services and to ensure the implementation of flood risk management and sustainable drainage systems on site.
- Flood Risk Assessments/ Drainage Strategies
- FCC WSFP staff completed liaising with the appointed consultants developing the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for the County Development Plan. The SFRA flood mapping & report has been completed.
- The Water Services Planning Dept responded to motions received from the councillors under the motion headings of green infrastructure, flooding, Irish Water & re-zoning.

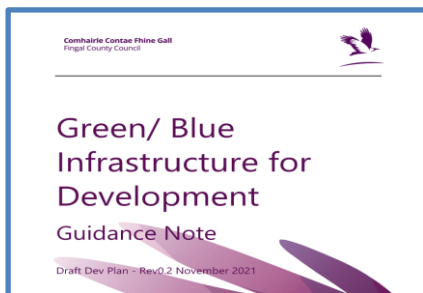


- A new document “Nature-based Solutions to the Management of Rainwater and Surface Water Runoff in Urban Areas - Water Sensitive Urban Design - Best Practice Interim Guidance Document” has been issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. It is intended as a high-level best practice 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.

This includes 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 an example of 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 rainfall`s being experienced.

Surface Water Management Plans (SWMP)

The procurement process has begun for the preparation of Surface Water Management Plans for *Northwood, Kilbarrack and Baldoyle*. Scoping and tender documents have been prepared and the project has been released for tender. Tenders were back at the end of June 2024. and recommendations for award have been made for McCloys Consultant Engineers. Completed SWMP`s for Northwood, Kilbarrack and Baldoyle were submitted to FCC and approved in January 2025.

McCloys Consulting Engineers are currently preparing the SFRA for Dubber.

JBA Consultant Engineers have been requested to submit a quotation for a SWMP for Barnhill.

Domestic SuDS Guide

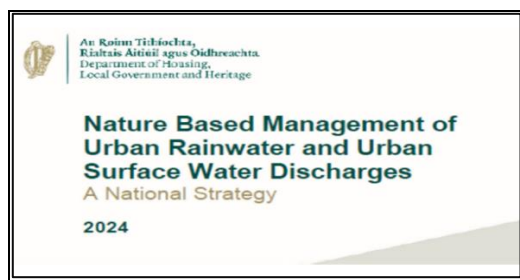
- McCloys Consulting Engineers have been appointed to produce a Domestic SuDS Guide for FCC. This was completed in Q3 2024.

Green Blue Roofs Guidance Document

- McCloys Consulting Engineers have been appointed to produce a Green Blue Roofs Guidance Document for FCC. This was awarded in Q3 2024.

National Guidance

- The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage has issued “Nature Based Management of Urban Rainwater and Urban Surface Water Discharges a National Strategy” in May 2024.



Transportation Planning

PSI 001 Snugborough Interchange upgrade

The contractor is continuing to carry out snagging at the interchange.

PSI 002 Ongar Barnhill Road

Bam Civil Ltd. constructed most of the new bridge over the railway line during 2024. Road surfacing will continue during Q2 along the length of the scheme. Installation of surfacing, subbase, ducting, watermains, kerbs and footpaths will also continue during Q2. It is intended that traffic will be diverted onto some of the new Barberstown Lane South in Q2 2025 following surfacing works. There will be temporary traffic management on the R149 in Q2 at the junction with Barberstown Lane South while the new junction is being formed. The overall scheme is expected to be completed in Q3 2025. Updates for the scheme will be posted on www.fingal.ie/ongar-barnhill



PSI-039 – R132 Connectivity Project

Project summary

Consultation with the National Transport Authority (NTA) and with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII), regarding the connection with Metro Link is ongoing with Monthly Coordination/Progress meetings. Detailed design stage is currently underway with information results received from all the surveys recently undertaken to make evidence based informed decisions on the design and this is progressing as programmed. Meetings continue to be held with the various departments of Fingal County Council together.



Meetings and Workshops

A workshop meeting was held in December at Malahide Castle to discuss all the Swords projects that are being planned and may be carried out on site over the next 5 years in Swords, as well as knowledge sharing on projects timelines and phasing plus also gathering feedback on them.

Planning & Strategic Infrastructure is undertaking analysis of how these projects and associated timelines may impact Swords, with a view to looking at what mitigation measures may be required. These analyses are being carried out by DBFL Engineers, including microsimulations and an accurate map showing the possible impacts on key locations. These maps will be available in April 2025.

Coordination/Progress meetings with NTA and TII/Metrolink which are being held monthly will continue in 2025. Monthly meetings with Uisce Éireann are being held to discuss and align the details of a State Body Agreement for the foul water sewer across the Estuary Roundabout to be incorporated into the project.

A first workshop meeting was held this month at the DBFL office to align the information to be included in the ITT documents for the stage 2 of construction. The second workshop meeting is scheduled for the 4th of April to finalise this process.

Peer Review

A tender was published in December 2024 for the Peer Review of the tender documents for the R132 Connectivity Project. The tender closing date was in Mid Jan 2025. The tender received was assessed and now the contract documents signing will be undertaken. The assessment of the tender documents will be carried out by RPS Consulting Engineers in April 2025 in parallel with the NTA, which will evaluate the tender documents independently.

SAQ Stage 1 for the construction stage

The documentation (Suitability Assessment Questionnaire) for the stage 1 of the procurement process for the construction phase was published on eTenders and stayed in the market until 10/10/2024. All the clarifications received were all responded by the project team. The closing date for submissions has now passed and a total of 8 submission tender were received. The project team has been assessing these 8 tender responses in November and held a final meeting on 27/11 to select the tenders for the second stage of the procurement process. Following this meeting the tender assessment report was drafted and approved in December. The CE Order was signed in January 2025 and successful and unsuccessful letters were issued. We are now moving to the stage 2 of the procurement process. Once the detailed design documents are completed the Stage 2 tender documentation will be undertaken.

ESB Application for new power connections:

New power connections were requested this week from the ESB for new Traffic Signals, Toucan Crossings and for Traffic Cameras along the R132 road and at the roundabouts to be converted into new junctions.

All submissions are now being processed by the ESB. A tracker has been created and fortnightly calls are being made requesting updates about the submissions. No deadlines have yet been provided by the ESB.

PSI-005 Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian and Cyclist Route

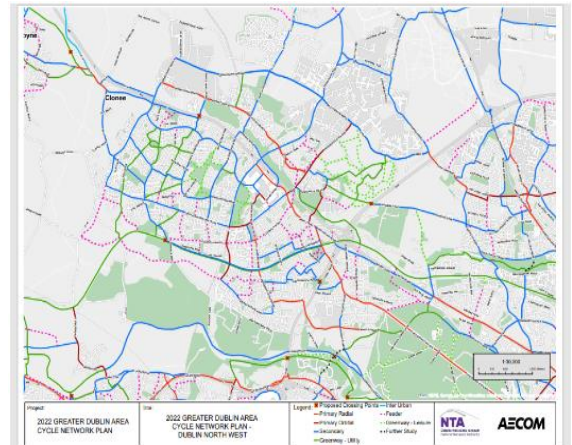
The Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian and Cyclist Route for this key infrastructure project for Balbriggan consisting of 3km fully segregated Pedestrian and Cyclist Route connecting 6 schools in Balbriggan. This Project is now at substantial completion. The official opening ceremony was held on the 28th of March 2025 with the Mayor of Fingal and the Minister for Climate, Environment and Energy and the Minister for Transport attending. The Contractor is currently finalising the snag list with the Design Team. It is anticipated that the handover of the project Safety File and sign off on the snag list will be completed by the end of April.





Consultancy Framework for Dublin 15 Walking and Cycling Projects

The Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department recently signed a Single Party Framework for Engineering Consultancy Services for Pedestrian and Cycling Route Projects in the Dublin 15 Area.



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

RPS Engineers Consulting Ltd was appointed Fingal County Council Consultants for the Framework for Dublin 15 Walking and Cycling Projects.

PSI 063 – Pedestrian and Cycling Bridge at Granard Bridge Castleknock

The first contract as part of this framework will be to undertake phases 2 to 4 for a new Pedestrian and Cycling Bridge at Granard Bridge Castleknock Road which will cross the Dublin Maynooth railway and Royal Canal, parallel to the existing road bridges over the canal and railway, with access for pedestrians and cyclists only. This 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. This will also improve pedestrian and cycle safety at Granard Bridge and further promote the use of more sustainable travel patterns, in line with Government Policy and the cycle network plan for the greater Dublin area.

Meetings and Project Programme

Monthly meetings between Fingal County Council and RPS are being held to progress the project and discuss key points, such as route options and possible constraints to be overcome. In addition, an ecological survey was carried out this month in the Castleknock area to gather valuable data and a better understanding of the local ecosystem ensuring that any future developments or environmental strategies are informed by the best available ecological information.

Meetings with Irish Rail / Dart+ West team are being held monthly to discuss both projects and align them. A preliminary draft feasibility report was developed this month by RPS and reviewed by the FCC project team. In addition, four route options were developed for further discussion in April.

The project programme has been commenced by the design team with the Concept Development and Options Selection phase 2 now underway. Next phase will be moving onto phase 3 “preliminary design”, before moving to phase 4 and the statutory processes to obtain planning for the project. Throughout these phases there will be the requirement for regular consultation with all stakeholders including public representatives.

This project design will allow for a much-needed Pedestrian and Cycling link from the new Bridge north to the Roselawn Road/Castleknock Road junction and south to the Laurel Lodge Road/Castleknock Road junction. No alternations are proposed to these existing junctions only to tie into the existing junction's infrastructure.



Site location



Street View

For more information and keep updated on the project, please see a recent set-up web page for the new Pedestrian and Cycling Bridge at Grange Bridge Castleknock Road.

[Pedestrian & Cycling Bridge at Grange Bridge, Castleknock Road, Dublin 15 | Fingal County Council](#)

PSI -036 Clonsilla-Damastown Cycle Route

Fingal County Council have been working on the Clonsilla-Damastown Cycle Route project brief and the tender documentation are now finalised for tender publication under the Single Party Framework for Engineering Consultancy Services for Pedestrian and Cycling Route Projects in the Dublin 15 Area.

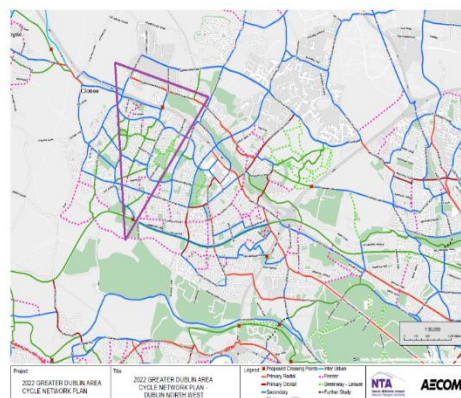


Figure 1 - Cycle Network Plan for The Greater Dublin Area - Clonsilla to Damastown area highlighted in purple

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 month to ensure a coordinated, high quality final design which compiles 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. Irish Rail have been contacted and the changes to the bridge crossings that form part of the permitted DART+ West project are being assessed with additional discussions to be held with Irish Rail consultants soon to determine their impact on the greenway and the design drawings which are being updated as required. Preparation of CPO is ongoing.

Landowner liaison is also ongoing. FCC have requested a letter of consent from Waterways Ireland and Irish Rail for FCC to make a Planning Application to ABP on their Lands so continuing to work through matters raised by Irish Rail & WI.

PSI – 065 Seamount Road Footpath Connectivity Project

Seamount Road Footpath Connectivity Project will provide for improved accessibility for all road users, in particular pedestrian users as there were no pedestrian footpaths along the eastern end of Seamount Road on the approach to the new development's entrance.

The route also forms one of the local health walks (Sli Na Slainte), the coastal walk between Malahide and Portmarnock. The route also connects to the park lands at Robswall and Paddy's Hill.

This forms a direct link to and from the only local secondary school, Malahide Community School (MCS) - reducing a 4km route by bike or car to a c. 1.5km walk/cycle and helping to reduce traffic volumes through the centre of the town.

Consultants from a newly formed framework will undertake this project. As part of the procurement process a project Brief and contract documentation was prepared and issued. An internal meeting has been held in relation to the preparation of landownership maps. The maps are now being reviewed, and the landowners have been identified.

The tender negotiations have been completed, and the contract documents will be signed as soon as the agreed price has been formalised.



S2M Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme –

The preliminary design drawings have been reviewed by the NTA and the stage 2 road safety audit has been completed. The Road Safety Audit report is currently being prepared. All recommendations will be considered and incorporated into the scheme where required.

Pavement design drawings and drawings to identify the locations of utilities within the scheme are being progressed and where required, the project will liaise with utilities to discuss any required diversion works. Drainage and Public Lighting preliminary design is progressing.

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. Following this review the preliminary design will be frozen. Ground Investigation Works have been complete with final reinstatements completed in January 2025. Design for structures along the route is progressing using the findings from the Ground Investigations. This includes design of the Malahide Tennis Boardwalk, promenade extension at Baldoyle, Sluice River Bridge, Station Road culvert and Burrow Court retaining wall.

Wintering bird surveys have been completed which are required to feed into the planning application. An updated scoping report has been updated and will be circulated to prescribed bodies. Following completion of the preliminary design, documents will be prepared for a planning application to An Bord Pleanála. This includes preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, Natura Impact Statement and Compulsory Purchase Order documentation.

Engagement with potentially impacted property owners, businesses and stakeholders is ongoing. Meetings have been held with Irish Water to ensure coordination of the scheme with planned and existing assets. A search of unregistered lands is ongoing for production of the deposit maps for the land acquisition. On completion of the preliminary design, the project team will contact landowners to discuss the compulsory purchase order process and the scheme and acquisition requirements. Draft documents are being prepared for the submission to An Bord Pleanála.



Above- Artist visual of possible layout for the Sutton to Malahide Pedestrian and Cycle Route at Portmarnock

Swords Cultural Quarter Public Realm

The new proposed Public Realm is a key feature of the overall Swords Cultural Project. The pedestrian priority public spaces framed between the Castle, the SCC Building and Fingal offices (County Hall) will serve as a civic amenity space providing a place for festivals, events, markets as well as an everyday meeting place for the local community.

Swords Cultural Quarter Public Realm Enhancements



Above- visualisation of the Part 8 proposals for the SCQ public realm layout at North Street

The Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department has procured a Multi-Disciplinary Consultancy team for the detailed design and construction supervision of the public realm at Swords Cultural Quarter. Consultants are now progressing with the detailed design phase for the Swords Cultural Quarter Public Realm.

Swords Main Street Transformation

Swords Main Street is a key recommendation from the Sustainable Swords Strategy. The project aims to enhance and transform Main Street, the heart of Swords into a destination, which encourages people to stay longer and enables a more attractive, people-friendly, diverse, and enjoyable town centre experience for local residents, businesses and visitors alike. At its core, this ambitious transformation seeks to reimagine Main Street as a hub of urban activity, with distinctive character and vitality while fostering a sense of community and connectivity through the provision of high-quality public realm to enhance the human experience of the place.



Above- Artist impression of possible intervention at Swords Main Street presented in Sustainable Swords Report 2022 which shows enhanced traffic calming, high quality street furniture and planting and enhanced pedestrian and cycle facilities.

The Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department has appointed a multi-Disciplinary Engineering Consultancy for the Option Selection, Preliminary Design and preparation of the application for Planning Consent for Swords Main Street Transformation Project. The commencement meeting occurred in January 2025. The tender process to procure a tree survey, traffic and parking surveys and topographical and GPR surveys is underway. The consultant is also progressing with ecological and environmental walk over assessments.

The project is beginning the option identification and selection phase. Data collection which feeds into the option selection is ongoing. The consultant has provided a Land use survey, geotechnical report, disability audit, collision analysis and problem identification report.

A communications workshop was carried out in March where the scheme objectives were identified, the initial project risks mapped and the scheme consultation and engagement plan for statutory and non-statutory consultation was considered.

The initial set up of the transport model to analyse any traffic management interventions proposed as part of Swords Main Street Transformation is ongoing.

Kinsealy Walking and Cycling Routes

The Kinsealy Walking and Cycling scheme aims to provide a high-quality walking and cycling routes between Kinsealy and Portmarnock train station, and between Kinsealy and Malahide Castle and gardens. These two walking and cycling routes will form a link from Kinsealy to sustainable transport at Portmarnock and Malahide train stations.

A successful non-statutory public consultation concluded in January 2025, and this yielded more than 100 meaningful and helpful submissions on the proposed walking & cycling scheme from Kinsealy to Portmarnock train station. These submissions are now being categorised and analysed and they will be used to inform the process to progress from the Emerging Preferred Route stage to the Preferred Route stage. Thereafter the preliminary design will commence with the accompanying environmental screening and closely followed by the statutory process required to deliver this part of the project.

The Malahide to Kinsealy part of the project will be brought forward as phase 2 of the project at a later date.



Artist visual of the greenway from Kinsealy to Portmarnock



Artist visual of the proposed upgrades to Station Road

Fingal Coastal Way

Preliminary design work is progressing along urban roads. Coordination continues with affected landowners to work towards finalising the position of the route in rural areas. A coastal erosion study along parts of the route in the proximity of high coastal cliffs have concluded. This will inform the preferred location of the greenway in this area. Liaison with Irish Rail, Gas Networks Ireland, Eirgrid, TFI and Dublin Bus continues to ensure coordination of the proposed scheme with existing infrastructure and utilities.

Broadmeadow Way Greenway

Various ecological surveys are ongoing. Progress on the detailed design phases of the other elements of this project continue. The tender period for the SAQ to establish a framework for works contractors for the various landward works contracts is complete and evaluation to take place in April 2025. It is expected that the landward elements of the Broadmeadow Way in Donabate i.e. from Newbridge Demesne, through Kilcrea lands to the east side of Corballis railway underpass will be open for use once that works package is complete.

Construction of this environmentally and technically challenging project has been divided into different works packages which will be delivered in stages:

- Construction of the Broadmeadow Estuary Bridge took place in 2024. Works are complete.
- Construction of the greenway along the Northern Causeway will commence during the summer months of 2025.
- Construction of the greenway along the Southern Causeways will commence during the summer months of 2026.
- Construction of the Donabate landward works and the Malahide landward works will take place during 2025 and 2026.
- It is anticipated that the opening of Broadmeadow Way will be in 2026. However, because of the seasonal constraints of working within the estuary, along with the technical challenges of building on the Northern Causeway, works may push in to 2027.



New estuary bridge and ramps looking northwards towards Donabate



Model Images of Viewing Platform on Southern Causeway

Portrane Road, Donabate

The Portrane Road Enhancement Project involves works to widen the existing narrow footpath on the northern side of the 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. Third-party lands are required to widen the path and, in this regard, An Bord Pleanála approved the Council's application for a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) for the project so that the Council can acquire the necessary lands. However, an affected landowner has commenced Judicial Review proceedings against An Bord Pleanála's decision to approve the CPO. Consultation with the landowner continues in this regard.

Donabate Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge

Work is nearing completion on site. Support structures to take the weight of the bridge were constructed on either side of the railway. Bridge beams, spanning over the railway, were lifted into place under night-time railway possession at the start of January. The concrete deck of the bridge was poured, and temporary working platforms and edge protection railings were installed to allow works to be carried out on the bridge with the minimum number of further railway possessions. The steel frames for the permanent edge protection railings are installed and following a short delay in shipping, the Kalwall Parapet Panels arrived on site last week and are currently being installed. Ancillary work such as bridge deck weatherproofing, drainage, public lighting and pathway access either side of the bridge etc. will follow on thereafter. Work on the bridge is expected to be completed at the end of April 2025.



Bridge showing some Kalwall parapet panels being installed

Donabate Transport Projects

Work is progressing on the early phase development of 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 Transport Infrastructure Ireland, to assess all technical and operational traffic issues associated with this strategic motorway junction;
- Active Travel Routes which encompass a number of related local projects which aim to increase local connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists.

Data-gathering and concept development stages of the Donabate Transport Projects continue and include topographical and ecological surveys of relevant areas of Donabate. Fingal County Council, working in collaboration with Transport Infrastructure Ireland, has completed a traffic study of the M1-Lissenhall Interchange. Separately, a number of potential options have been identified for both Phase 2 of the Donabate Distributor Road and the Blakes Cross Junction Upgrade. These options are currently being assessed using multi criteria analysis to determine the emerging preferred route alignment and the emerging preferred junction layout. Once the emerging preferred options are determined, public consultation exercises can be undertaken, most likely in Q2 2025. Further stages of work, relating to environmental assessment, planning consent, etc. will follow on later in 2025 and in subsequent years, as appropriate.

PSI-019 N3 M50 to Clonee

Aecom/ Roughan O'Donovan are appointed to assess bus priority measures on the N3 between the M50 and Clonee. This scheme is funded by Transport Infrastructure Ireland. They are also examining active travel links across the N3. The focus is between the Mulhuddart interchange and Clonee as the NTA bus connects project has already a scheme in development from Junction 3 into the city. Route options are being considered and when an emerging route option has been developed a public engagement will be carried out. This is likely to be in Q3 2025.

PSI-068 Portmarnock Railway Bridge Pedestrian & Cycle Improvement Works

Improvement works to existing overpass railway bridge OBB21 (which is currently grassed and formerly used as a cattle pass) will facilitate a safe and direct active travel route from Drumnigh Manor to Portmarnock Train Station and beyond via a new linear park which runs north-south, parallel to the railway track within the Saint Marnock's Bay/Sky Lark Development.

The bridge is located over the Dublin to Belfast Railway line c500m south of Portmarnock Train Station. It is in the ownership of Irish Rail and is currently fenced off and not in use.

The proposed improvement works involve re-surfacing the existing bridge deck with an SMA surface and this will become a shared two-way footpath/cycleway.

Detailed design is finalised and a set of documents required for the construction works are being prepared. Engagement with Irish Rail is progressing well in relation to the bridge works licence agreement. Landowner legal agreements are being progressed which are required for access and rights of way until such time as the developments are taken in charge. Once all licences/agreements are in place, construction is likely in May 2025.



Heritage Officer



Fingal Oral Heritage Training

The need for training in the gathering of oral history was identified as part of the Fingal Oral Heritage Audit. Arlene Crampsie and Daniel Carey, members of the Oral History Network of Ireland gave an intense and informative training session in Lusk Community Cultural Centre on the 04 March. Legal considerations, best practice and project planning were covered. It is envisaged a session on deposition will be undertaken with the County Archivist next.



Fingal Fieldnames 2025

The Fingal Fieldnames project seeks to record the unique field names found in Fingal that offer insight into the history of the area

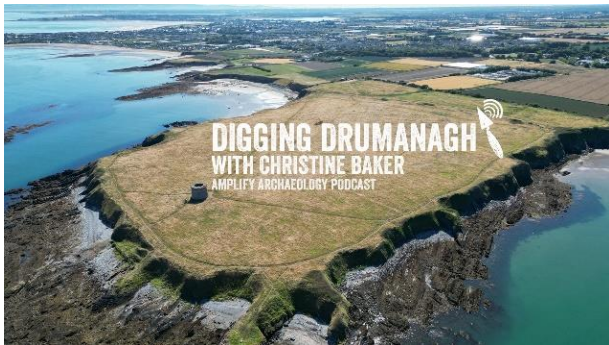
The project was first launched in 2018 and many names have been gathered since then-see

<https://meitheal.logainm.ie/fingal-fieldnames/>

A new phase of the project got underway with a free training workshop in Sword's Carnegie Library on the 26 March. To find out more about this exciting project or to become a volunteer, visit <https://www.fingal.ie/.../service/fingal-fieldnames-project>.

The next session will be in the Village Inn, Ballyboughal on Wednesday 16 April at 7pm.

Digging Drumanagh



Episode No.44 of the Amplify Archaeology Podcast series features Digging Drumanagh. This headland is home to one of the most important promontory forts in Ireland, where an innovative community archaeology programme is uncovering connections between Iron Age Ireland and the Roman World. You can find Amplify Archaeology on all major podcast platforms or on our website at the link below: <https://www.abartaheritage.ie/digging-drumanagh-amplify.../>

Grants:

A successful application by the Heritage Office was made to the Heritage Council for the County Heritage Plan Grant totalling €37,500. The grant will support the implementation of the Fingal Heritage Plan 2024-2030 and include the following projects;

- Fingal Coastal Zone Project
- Historic Street Elements Audit
- Digging Drumanagh 2025
- Fingal Traditional Skills 2025
- Fingal Oral Heritage Training & Pilot
- Fingal Fieldnames 2025

HOUSING

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

Affordable Home Purchase Scheme & Cost Rental:

Link to Affordable Housing landing page can be found [here](#).

For anyone interested in making an application for an affordable home it is important that they view the eligibility criteria on www.fingal.ie/affordablehousing and have all required all documents ready to upload in PDF **before** submitting an application on the portal to have the best change possible in being successful.

Affordable Housing Schemes Update

Scheme	Status	Affordable Homes
Balleally Rise	Closed	20 Homes Sold
Kilmartin Grove	Closed	36 Homes sold
North County Homes	Closed	16 Homes sold
Wilkinson's Brook	Now Sale Agreed	57 Homes sold
Aster Park, Rush	Assessment of applications ongoing	71 of 96 Homes sale agreed
Balmoston, Ballymastone, Donabate	Assessment of applications ongoing	80 of 86 Homes sale agreed
Churchfields 3A	Assessment of applications ongoing	126 of 180 Homes sale agreed

Ballisk Park, Donabate	Portal closed March 19 th – (Application assessments currently underway)	112 homes for sale
Baile na Mona, Mooretown, Swords	Portal Opening Q2	151 homes for sale
Church Fields 3B	Portal opening Q3	110 homes for sale
Church Fields -Cost Rental	Information coming soon	80 Apartments for long term lease

Update on Ballisk Park



The Application Portal for Ballisk Park, Donabate on closed on 19th March. 475 applications have been received and assessments are currently underway. It is expected that the first provisional offers of properties will be issued in the coming weeks.

Affordable Housing Team Site Visit - Balmoston



On Friday 21st March, the Fingal Affordable Housing team went on site to view the 2 & 3 Bed homes in Balmoston, Donabate for sale as part of the Affordable Housing Scheme. The team also had the opportunity to view the progression of the building of Ballisk Park. During the site visit the team met Claire who has recently moved into her new Affordable home, Claire spoke about her experience buying an Affordable home and said *“the Affordable Housing team at Fingal County Council were continuously supportive throughout my purchasing process”* and said *“I am confident in saying that without the opportunity to avail of the Affordable Housing scheme with Fingal County Council it would not have been possible to purchase the property that I can now call my home in the town I’ve always wanted”*.

Fingal Affordable Housing Team wish Claire and all our purchasers many years of happiness in their new homes and will continue to work hard to help more people achieve the purchase of a new homes through Fingal’s Affordable Housing Schemes

Cost Rental

The Housing, Architects and Finance Departments are working in collaboration to prepare the tender documents for Stage 2 of the Management company tender competition

It is anticipated that the cost rental scheme will be available for applications in Q3 2025.

For more details
www.fingal.ie/affordablehousing

Social Housing Delivery Acquisition Programme 2022 - 2026

LA Units Delivered				
Units Delivered	2022	2023	2024	Total
AHB CALF Acquisition		6	2	8
CAS Acquisitions	7	169	15	191
LA Acquisitions	74	58	125	257
Total	81	233	142	456

Please note the end of year figures for 2024 are still to be verified.

Construction Programme

Summary of delivery of social unit numbers in the pipeline	Units
Under Construction	536
Schemes with Planning Approval and Tender Stage	110
Planning and Design	310
Part V	847
TOTAL	1,803

Units Delivered				
Units Delivered	2022	2023	2024	Total
Build	361	386	360	1,107
Leasing	140	74	63	277
Total	501	460	423	1,384

Units Projected For Delivery				
Units Projected	2024	2025	2026	Total
Build	30	803	1,201	2,034
Total	30	803	1,201	2,034

Please note the end of year figures for 2024 are still to be verified.

Scheme Update since last month (Further detailed information available in Appendix 4)

Recently Completed

18 Homes delivered in Hollyfield, Dublin 15 in partnership with Cluid Housing.



Schemes on Site

Seatown Road, Swords

Works for the delivery of 36 social homes at Seatown Road, Swords is progressing well. This work is being delivered in tandem with the delivery of the civic and cultural building for the Swords Cultural Quarter.



Ballisk Park, Donabate

On behalf of Fingal County Council, Glenveagh have commenced the construction of 175 new homes at “Ballisk Park”, New Road, Donabate following the granting of planning permission under the S179A process. The development will be a mixed tenure scheme of 63 social and 112 affordable homes.



Church Fields 3A, Dublin 15

Works are continuing on the mixed tenure scheme of 300 new homes at Churchfields 3A. The development will deliver 40 social, 180 affordable and 80 cost rental new homes in this phase. The first **16** new social homes have been delivered.



Church Fields 3B, Dublin 15

Works are progressing on the mixed tenure scheme at Church Fields 3B, which will see the delivery of a further 217 homes in Church Fields, comprising of 121 houses and 96 apartments. As a mixed tenure arrangement, this phase will include 107 social and 110 affordable homes.



Holywell, Swords

Construction progressing on the delivery of 57 new social homes at Holywell, Swords. Planning for this development of 1, 2 and 3 new bedroomed homes was granted under the S179A process.



Balmoston Phase 1, Ballymastone, Donabate

Construction work is continuing on Phase 1 of Balmoston. This is a mixed tenure development, which will deliver 87 social and 86 affordable new homes. The first **19** new social homes have been delivered.



Mourne View, Skerries

Construction has commenced on the delivery of 14 new social homes at Mourne View, Skerries. Planning for this development of 2, 3 and 4 bedroomed homes was granted under the S179A process.



Mooretown, Swords

Construction has commenced on the delivery of 274 new homes at “Baile na Móna”, Mooretown, Swords. This will be a mixed tenure scheme of 123 social and 151 affordable homes. Planning for this development was granted under the S179A process.

Remount Court, Lusk

Construction has commenced on the delivery of 18 new social homes at Remount Court, Rathmore Road, Lusk. Planning for this development of 1, 2 and 3 bedroomed homes was granted under the S179A process.



Asset Management Section

Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Programme

The 2025 Energy Retrofit Programme is currently progressing, with Fingal County Council allocated €3,196,000 by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, targeting 94 housing units.

Energy Efficiency Retrofit 1 st April 2025	
Completed	Areas
9	D15
Onsite	Areas
11	D15
Upcoming	Areas
18	Fortlawn, D15
Tender Prep	Areas
14	Whitestown, D15
Planned	Seatown, Brega

Planned Maintenance Programme 2025

External painting, joinery repairs, boiler replacements, and smoke and heat detector upgrades.

Planned Maintenance Programme 1 st April 2025	
Painting completions	101
Boiler Replacements	To commence Q2
Heat / Smoke Detector Replacement	To commence Q2

Voids

Casual Voids 1st April 2025	
In lettings process	54
In relet works	77
Void Unavailable	14
Total	145

New to stock 1st April 2025	
New to stock properties	178

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 72 new tenancies in 2025 to date with approximately 4275 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.

Rents

All tenancies have now received a 6 month Rent statement by post.

Following the introduction of new debt management processes and procedures through 2024, **arrears have reduced by some €500,000** in just the first three months 2025. New processes initiated include bi-annual statements and letters to all tenants and quarterly statements and letters to tenants in arrears and the hard work of the dedicated housing team in this regard is acknowledged.

The Rents team will continue to encourage any tenant who is having trouble paying their rent to engage with the Council to examine possible solutions and offer support to ensure that arrears do not continue to escalate.

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

The Rent Arrears Team have issued 39 Tenancy warning so far in 2025, with 15 further cases listed for Court hearing in April and May to obtain Orders for Possession. 6 Orders for Possession have been obtained following court hearings in 2025.

Private Rented Inspections

The inspections team are working towards inspecting 25% of the registered tenancies which is approximately 21,000 tenancies. The target of 5,169 for 2025 have been received from the Department of Housing. Currently, 1,680 inspections have been conducted in 2025, with 554 of them being inspected in March. The team will continue to work this year with the contractor improving and streamlining the process and utilising all avenues to ensure that compliance improves, and the target is reached.

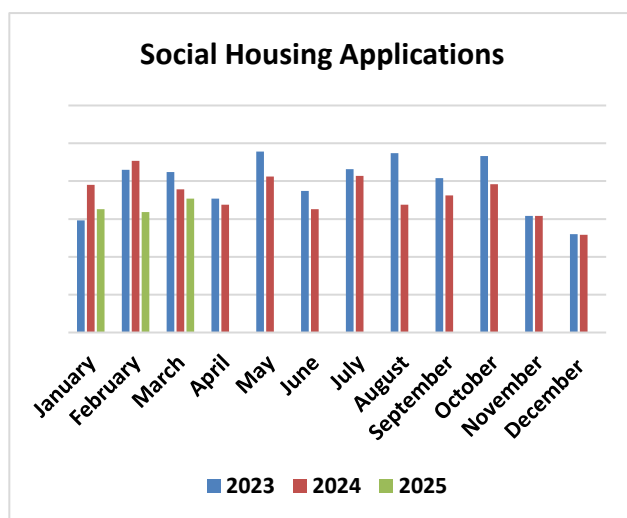
Housing Tenancy Services Report

Housing Support

Housing Support issue list positions to applicants on a yearly basis. Applicants will be updated accordingly. Annually a Social Housing Assessment Summary is completed in accordance with Section 21 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2009. The purpose of the Assessment is to capture the total number of households qualified for social housing support. The Summary of Social Housing Assessment (SSHA) was returned to the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage on 2nd December 2024.

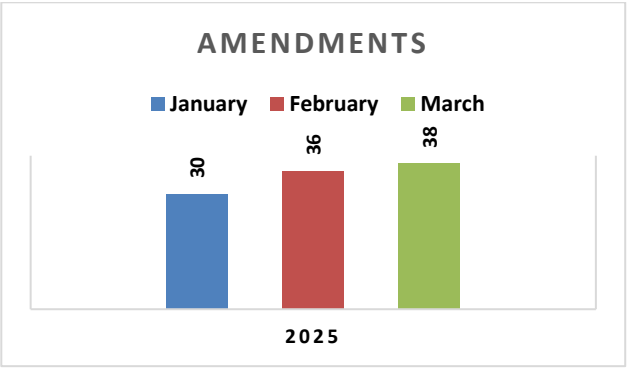
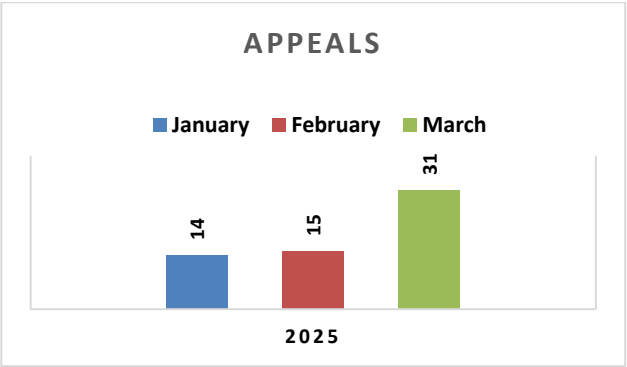
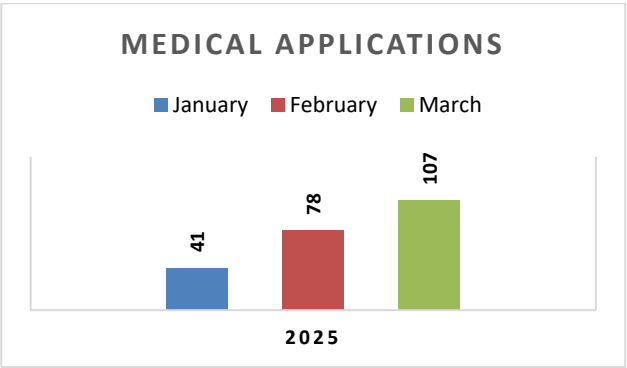
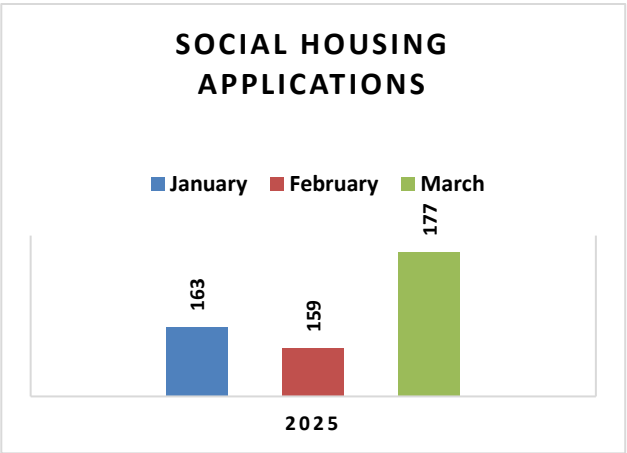
Housing Support receive a large volume of Housing Applications, Medical Applications, Amendment requests and appeals.

Year on year comparison by month.



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 1st January 2023. As a result, an increase of Social Housing Applications was received. Figures for 2024 depict a consistent growth in applications being received in comparison to 2022 figures.

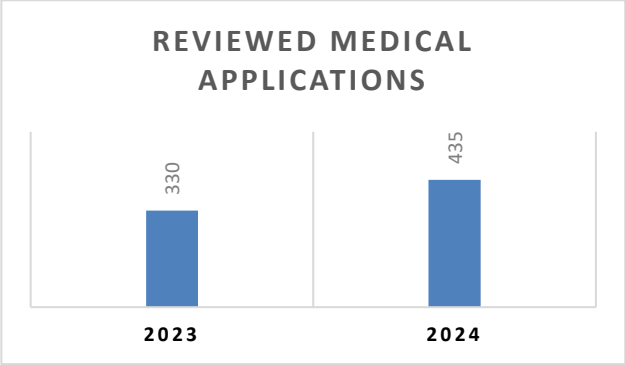
Applications received



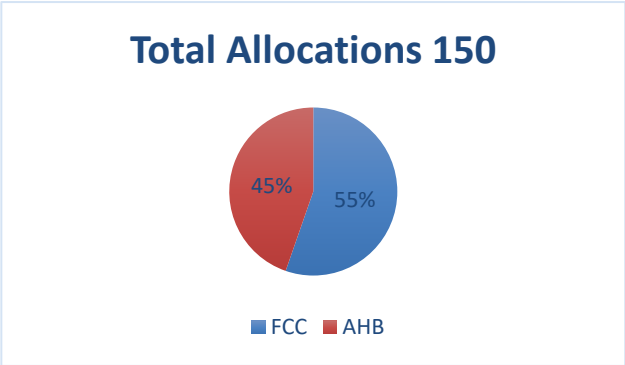
Housing Support Appeals

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

Medical applications reviewed

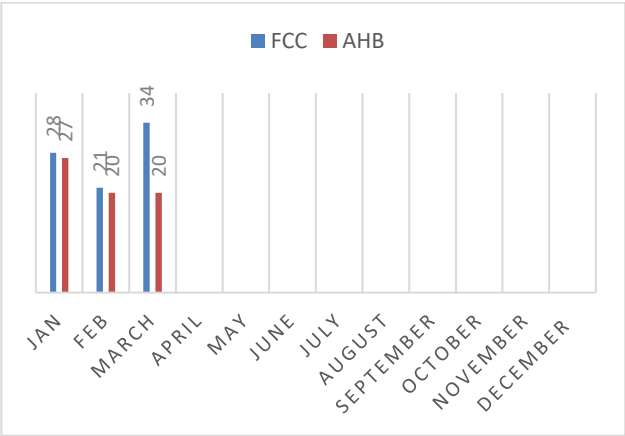


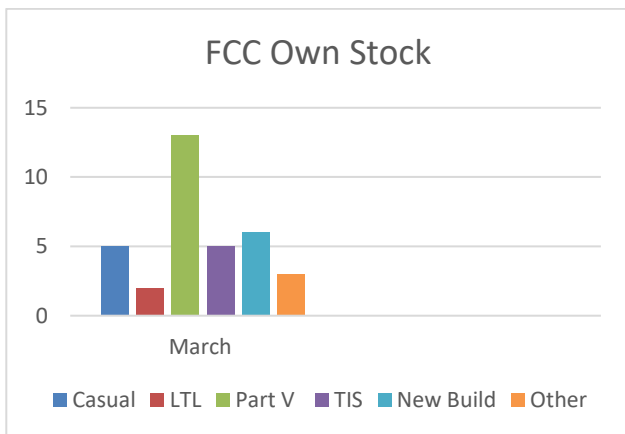
Lettings



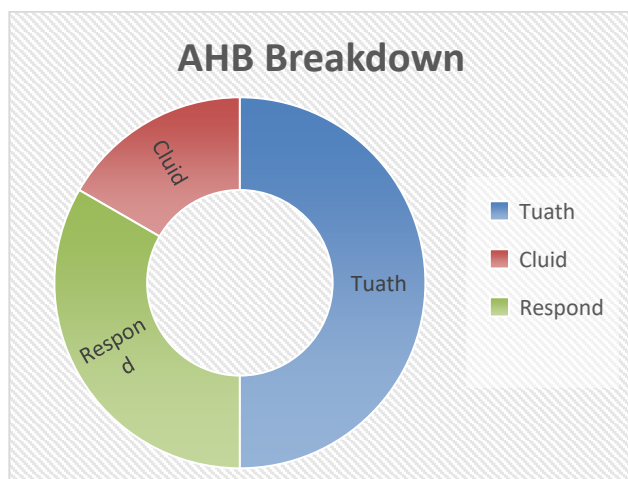
The above chart depicts the total number of properties allocated since the beginning of 2025.

The chart below shows the breakdown of allocations per month.





67 of the **150** allocations have been in collaboration with several Approved Housing bodies. The other **83** properties were allocated using Fingal County Councils own stock.



Tuath 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.

The Approved Housing Bodies inform Fingal County Council when an applicant has accepted and signed a tenancy following a nomination from Housing Lettings.

Choice Based Letting's Advertised Properties in March



Internal image of advertised property at Meadowbank Road, Miller's Glen, Swords, Co Dublin

Advertisement Period	Property	Bed	Type	Number of Views	Expressions of interest
26 th February – 4 th March	Dublin Street Flats, Baldoyle, Dublin 13	1	Apt	1180	150
5 th – 11 th March	Kilmartin Grove, Hollystown, Dublin 15	1	Apt	1385	240
5 th – 11 th March	Applewood Main Street, Swords, Co Dublin	1	Apt	1213	226
12 th – 18 th March	Meadowbank Road, Miller's Glen, Swords, Co Dublin	2	Apt	1521	334
12 th – 18 th March	Cedar Grove, Ridgewood, Swords, Co Dublin	2	Apt	1296	232
19 th – 25 th March	Kilmartin Grove, Hollystown, Dublin 15	1	Apt	1256	267
		Total		7851	1449

Applicants who do not have access to this portal should contact Choicebasedlettings@fingal.ie to request their unique username and password.

Homeless Services.

Homeless Exits 2025

During March 2025, 35 households exited homeless circumstances into various forms of social housing support - including privately rented tenancies under the Homeless HAP Scheme.

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

Type of Exit	HHAP Tenancy	Allocation of Tenancy	EA to HUBS	Total
EA	6	11	0	17
Homeless Prevention	11	7	0	18
Total	17	18	0	35

There was a total of 18 homeless prevention cases and 17 who exited emergency accommodation comprising:

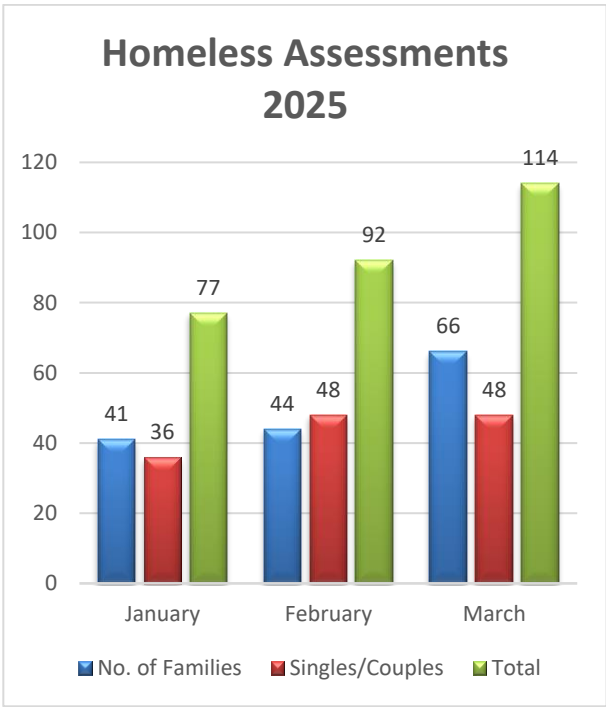
7 allocations of social housing support to homeless prevention cases, 11 exited emergency accommodation and 6 from Homeless HAP Tenancies.

17 Homeless HAP tenancies, comprising 11 homeless preventions and 6 who exited emergency accommodation and 0 from Direct Provision.

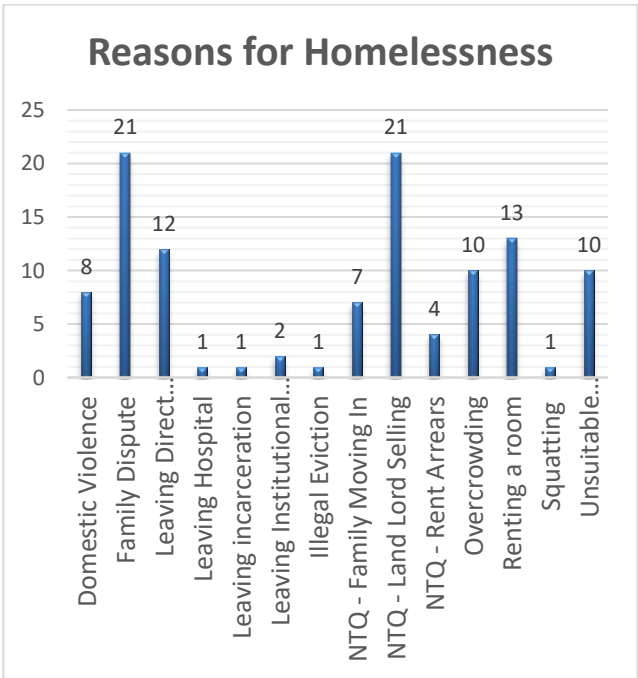
Homeless Assessments

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 2025, there were a total of 114 full homeless assessments completed – comprising 66 families and 48 singles/couples.



During March 2025, of the 114 Homeless Assessments carried out, 28% cases resulted from a Notice to Termination (NOT) having been served and 21% of cases result from family/relationship breakdown. Most of the other presentations to the Homeless Section are from Renting a room (11%), leaving Direct Provision (11%) and overcrowding (9%). The remaining 23% comprise various reasons outlined in the next chart;



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 January 2025. 9 of the clients have taken up Emergency Accommodation and we continue to work with 5 others in an effort to provide a suitable solution.

There are 5 registered long term entrenched rough sleepers (1 couple and 3 males) from the Fingal Area. We will continue to work with him to provide him with suitable supports.

Cold Weather Strategy 2024/2025

As part of the Cold Weather Strategy for 2024/2025 the DRHE has provided for a total new capacity of 192 permanent beds. There are an additional 104 beds that can be activated as part of the Extreme Weather Emergency Protocol for 2024/25 when a weather warning is triggered.

There is emergency accommodation available through the 4 Dublin Local Authorities and the DRHE along with our outreach providers will monitor the weather and likely changes to weather warnings over the coming days and activate extreme weather emergency accommodation as required.

The Dublin Region Outreach Service is working directly with rough sleepers from 7am to 1am daily and assists any individuals they meet to take up emergency accommodation.

We would also continue to ask the public for their assistance during this time to let us know if they come across someone sleeping rough on our website [here](#) or call 01 872 0185 or via our free app Dublin City Rough Sleeper Alerts available on both Apple & Android Platforms.

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 17 Fingal County Council clients have been identified, two have been housed in January 2025 and two more are ready for nomination.

A second sub-group has been created between Fingal County Council and an Interim Disability Case Manager. The HSE have identified 5 new clients, all of whom have Medical Priority and are currently being reviewed for long term allocations

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 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 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 funding limits, 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, 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

Email: NTQEnquiries@fingal.ie

Dublin Region Homeless Executive, Central Placement Services:

Freephone: 1800 707 707

Traveller Accommodation Programme

The Council is committed to meeting its responsibilities to address the needs of the Traveller Community as set out in the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2025 -2029 to provide sustainable Traveller specific accommodation and supports.

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.

Caravan Loan Scheme

The Council implements the National Caravan Loan Scheme in accordance with Department of Local Government and Heritage Guidelines.

Recent delivery of caravans to Halting Sites



Illegal Occupiers

A number of illegal occupiers parked caravans on Damastown Avenue in Dublin 15 in March & April. Statutory Notices have been issued and the illegal occupiers, the trailers and their occupants have been notified to vacate the area. Since the issuing of notices, additional trailers have arrived onsite, and notices have been also issued to these illegal occupiers.



Illegal Occupiers on Damastown Avenue

Dumping on site

Illegal dumping on halting sites continues to be an issue. Fingal County Council have engaged our contractor to remove the waste, and a letter will be issued to residents advising that waste collection is provided on site for the disposal of household waste and to refrain from engaging in such activities on site.



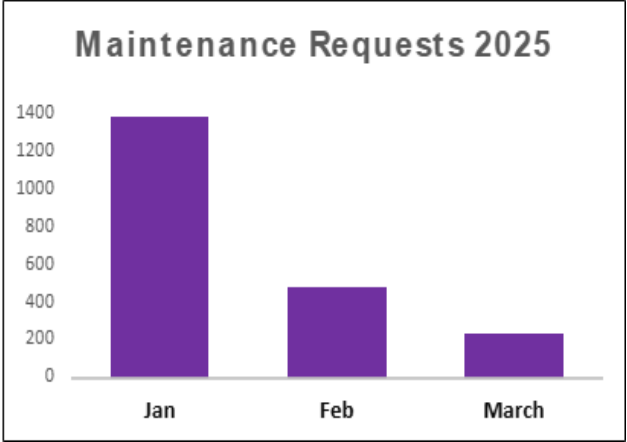
Waste dumped at St Philomena's Park Halting Site

Fire Safety

Fire Safety remains one of the top priorities for the safety of all of our tenants on our Halting Sites and Group Housing Schemes. The Annual Service and Maintenance of Portable Fire Equipment on Fingal County Council Traveller Accommodation Sites has been completed and additional fire safety equipment was installed across several of our Halting Sites. In addition to this, we have completed a Fire Safety Audit in Caravans and a leaflet drop to all of our Halting sites.



Housing Maintenance



To date, Estate Management have conducted 26 interviews with Fingal tenants and issued five Tenancy Alerts for breaches of the Tenancy Agreement.

Boiler Servicing Programme 2025

The 2024 Programme had a 84% completion rate across the County.

The 2025 Programme of work is now underway, with Contractors working across the County in areas such as Blackmills Grove, Strandmill Road, Strand Road, Cardy Rock Road/Ave/Walk/Sq, Lambreecher Estate and Russell's Terrace.



Copy of leaflet provided to occupants

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. There has been an increase in petrol bomb attacks in the Dublin 15 area which are currently under investigation. Fingal County Council are actively engaged with An Garda Síochána in relation to these issues.

Tenant Induction Courses will be scheduled in 2025 for all new developments.

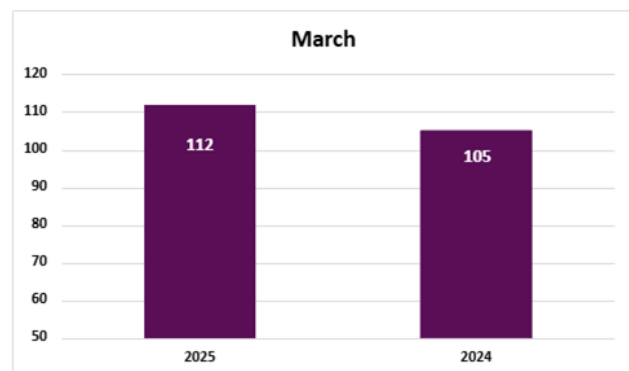
ASB Caseload Management

Complaints Mar 2025	Total	Active	Monitoring	Closed
Balbriggan	34	8	19	7
Rush / Lusk	2	1	1	0
Swords	16	7	7	2
Howth/Malahide	13	7	5	1
Blanchardstown / Mulhuddart	42	11	16	15
Ongar	2	0	0	2
Castleknock	3	0	0	3
Total	112	34	48	30

Surrenders on Estate Management Grounds 2025

January (5), February (6), March (3) surrenders.

Monthly Breakdown of February ASB Complaints Received 2025/2024



Anti-Social Behaviour Interventions

Interviews Held 2025	20
Interviews Held 2024	108
Tenancy Alerts 2025	5
Tenancy Alerts 2024	36
Tenancy Warnings 2025	1
Tenancy Warnings 2024	9

Inspectorate March 2025

Traveller Specific Site Inspections 2025	403
Traveller Specific Site Inspections 2024	2072
Housing Inspectors Report January 2025	575
February 2025	857
March 2025	1076

Housing Ukraine Response and Vacant Homes

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, accommodation and policy changes for Ukrainian Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection are available on the following links

www.gov.ie/ukraine

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/9957c-designated-accommodation-centres-current-availability/>

The Council's Community Integration Forum 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 and other new arrivals with the most recent meeting held on the 11th February 2025 with the next meeting on the 15th April 2025.

The Forum was originally tasked with assisting the Ukrainian Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection. However, considering Departmental guidance and the work of the Council's newly formed Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT) in assisting the target cohorts below the remit of the Forum has expanded to include

1. Applicants for International Protection (IP Applicants)
2. Those with Refugee, Subsidiary Protection, or Permission to Remain status
3. Programme Refugees
4. Beneficiaries of Temporary Accommodation (BOTPs).

The support provided by the Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT) is set out in this link

<https://www.fingal.ie/LocalAuthorityIntegrationTeam>

OfferAHome\ Pledge Accommodation

The monthly recognition payment (ARP) is presently **€800** per month for vacant properties and **€800** per month to host a Ukraine person in your home.

In accordance with the recent Government announcement this will be reduced to €600 per month. The relevant legislation requires the Houses of the Oireachtas to approve the proposal on the rate before the Ministerial order to effect a change is signed. As the payment is payable monthly in arrears, the first payment at the reduced rate will be received by hosts on 8th July 2025.

To pledge fully Vacant accommodation, please visit the national portal at <https://offerahome.ie> or for enquiries, e-mail offerahome@fingal.ie.

To pledge a room in your home, this can be done through the Irish Red Cross via 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 persons relevant to circa 300 potentially vacant properties(private) to encourage them 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 Council survey. Information on Vacant Council Stock is set out in the Asset Management section of this Housing Department Report.

The Vacant Homes Team commenced the statutory CPO process with respect to 3 vacant dwellings in 2024, one of which has come back into occupation and possession was taken of the property below in Wellview estate, Mulhuddart on 1st April 2025 to conclude the CPO process. This long-term vacant property will now form part of the Council's Social Housing stock and be allocated to a social housing applicant upon completion of repairs



CPO property Wellview, Dublin 15

This represents the third private owned long – term vacant property in Wellview estate that has been dealt with by the Vacant Homes Team. In addition to the above property, 2 other properties in the estate are back in use through the work of the Vacant Homes Team. One was purchased by FCC under the Buy and Renew scheme and is now occupied by a Council tenant and the other came back into use via the provision of Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant with new owners now in situ. 19 properties have come into occupation recently following either CPO proceedings, threat of CPO proceedings or general engagement with parties relevant to the properties. Refurbishment works are completing at a property in Hazelbury Park, Clonee where CPO was finalised in 2024, and the property will be allocated to a social housing applicant shortly.



Refurb works complete in CPO property Hazelbury Pk, Clonee

The Croí Cónaithe Vacant Homes Refurbishment Grant Scheme is also in utilisation to address vacancy and dereliction and provide homes with increasing enquiries, applications, and grant approvals regarding the scheme.

Croí Cónaithe Vacant Homes Refurbishment Grant

This scheme was launched in July 2022. On the 1st May 2023, the scheme was further extended with the eligibility criteria allowing for properties built pre-2008 to qualify and grants increasing to €50k (vacant) and €70k (vacant and derelict).

The expansion of the scheme allows for properties to be rented on the private rented market whereas previously the property had to be the applicant's principal private residence. 198 applications have been received since launch of the scheme. 21 new applications received in 2025 with additional applications expected shortly based on engagement with potential applicants. 129 applications are approved which equates to €6.6m in approved funding.

Promotion of the scheme is ongoing by the Vacant Homes Team. 6 information events were held to promote the scheme in 2024, and arrangements are advancing for information events in 2025. A very well attended event took place at the Bracken Court Hotel, Balbriggan on the 8th April 2025 with Council's Architectural Conservation Office also present.

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. Vacant properties can also be reported to this address for investigation.

Recently received VPRG application



**Works nearing completion – Before photos and
work nearing completion photos**



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Contents
Community Development
Facilities Management
Interagency
Age Friendly Fingal
Integration Office
Funding

Community Development Office

Community Development

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.

This month 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

Fingal International Women's Day 2025 is a significant initiative led by Fingal County Council's Community Development Department, designed to celebrate and raise awareness of this important global occasion.

This year, an extensive programme of over 62 events took place across the county from March 3rd to March 10th, highlighting the achievements, contributions, and roles of women in our communities. All events were supported with funding administered by the community development office.



Corduff Place Standards Tool

The Place Standard Tool is being used by the Community Department in Corduff as an innovative approach to community development. This tool promotes a comprehensive understanding of "place" by examining the crucial relationship between its physical and social elements. It employs 14 themes, each with guiding questions and prompts, to facilitate productive conversations and inform assessments for improvement of a local area.

This initiative is designed to be inclusive, encouraging active participation from community members and local services and agencies alike. The tool is fostering open conversations, gathering data, and driving a shared vision for Corduff. With strong participation from locals, schools, and various stakeholders; the project is now halfway through and has engaged over 45 people.



Street Feast Road Show, Balbriggan

A roadshow to encourage local communities who might want to run a Street Feast in Fingal this May was held in Balbriggan last month. Coordinated by the FCC Community Development Office, the roadshow provided information and practical advice to the many members of the local community who dropped by, with past hosts of successful street feasts across the county giving their advice and experience.

The Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Brian McDonagh was on hand to help, and the whole event was captured by Phoenix FM for a future broadcast.

Anyone who would like to run a Street feast on May 24th and 25th should register with StreetFeast.ie and for more information contact marketing@neighbourhoodnetwork.ie



Community Facilities Management Support

The Building Facilities Unit provides financial and management support to 35 community facilities across Fingal. The Unit also managed the Capital Works programme for the Community Development Office.

St Margarets Community Centre

The Community Development Office were delighted to welcome representatives of the newly formed management committee for the refurbished St Margaret's Parish Hall back to the centre on 14th March. The centre had received extensive electrical and maintenance upgrades. An official opening of this centre is planned for early May.

The Community Development Office is working with a local stakeholder group; St Margarets Amenities CLG, who have received the management licence to operate the centre on behalf of Fingal County Council.

The community facility is regarded as the central hub of the local community and will support a range of new and existing activities and services in St Margarets. The Community Centre can accommodate new and existing community groups, local school and parish initiatives.



Baldoye Community Centre

Construction of the new state of the art community facility at Baldoye Racecourse Park is progressing well. The campus will comprise of a community centre and large carpark that will service local recreational amenities. A site visit took place on the 21st of March with the Mayor of Fingal, local elected representatives and council officials in attendance. The new community centre will be open to the local community in the last quarter of 2025.

The Community Development Office is working with the local community on the operational model of the centre in anticipation of this date.



Interagency

The Community Development Office actively seek to work in collaboration with agencies to maximise service delivery and resources to communities across Fingal.

Fingal Comhairle na nÓg

The Fingal Comhairle members who are attending the National Comhairle showcase of projects are preparing their annual project to present at the event on the 15th of April. Three Comhairle members were nominated to attend a Network of Practice for Young People's Consultation. Two members recently attended the Data and Analytics Unit Consultation and Youth Advisory Group.



Fingal Public Participation Network



Fingal Public Participation Network (PPN) is an independent network of community, voluntary, social inclusion and environmental organisations, working to build a better county for the community of Fingal. The PPN is managed by voluntary Secretariat which reports to PPN members through the Plenary.

Fingal PPN's Strategy 2025 – 2026 has been drafted and will be presented to members at the upcoming Plenary meeting on 3rd April for their consideration. Membership of Fingal PPN currently stands at 890 groups, with 9 new groups joining last month.

The Staff of the PPN attended the annual PPN staff conference and meeting in Galway last week where there was a great exchange of information and ideas between all 31 PPNs. Planning is underway for the DCU PPN Summer School which takes place in May.

Age Friendly Fingal

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



Terry Prone has kindly agreed to serve as the Age Friendly Ambassador for Fingal. In this voluntary role, Terry will support the Age Friendly programme in Fingal and nationally and help raise awareness of age-friendly practices. With her extensive background in communications and recent advocacy on aging-related issues, Terry is well-positioned to leverage her PR expertise to promote the programme's efforts. Her involvement will undoubtedly help enhance the lives of older people in Fingal and beyond.

Fingal Age Friendly Strategy

Fingal's Age Friendly Alliance has increased the frequency of its meetings to support the development of the Age Friendly Strategy. The actions to be undertaken by the organisations and departments represented on the Alliance, including the HSE, An Garda Síochána, Local Link, DCU, DDLEB as well as FCC Libraries, Housing, and Community Departments, to address the challenges identified during the consultations, are nearing completion. It is expected that the Alliance will approve the draft Strategy by the end of May, for presentation to Councillors for consideration.

Fingal's OPC attend Age Friendly Training



In March 2025, the Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary of Fingal's Older People's Council (OPC) participated in a training session organised by Age Friendly Ireland at Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council. The session focused on Age Friendly Ireland's structure, values, and the role of the OPC. Key topics included the OPC's terms of reference, the relationship between the Age Friendly Programme Manager and OPC Chair, and best practices for preparing and managing meetings. The training also provided an opportunity for OPC representatives to network, exchange insights, and learn from one another.

Integration Office:

Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT)

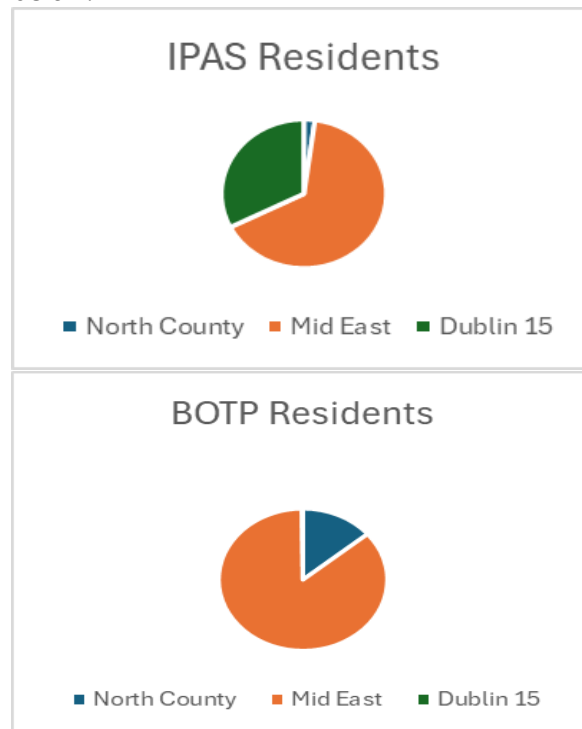
The role of the Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT) is to provide ongoing integration supports to International Protection (IP) applicants, Programme Refugees and Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection (BOTP) to enable them to live independently in the community.

The LAIT continue to host clinics across the three geographical areas of North County, Mid-East and Dublin 15 in IPAS Accommodation Centres and BOTP Designated Accommodation Centres (DAC).

The latest accommodation statistics have been provided by the LGMA (Local Government Management Agency) and UCTAT (Ukrainian Crisis Temporary Accommodation Team).

Geographical Area	BOTP Residents	IPAS Residents
North County	74	55
Mid-East	458	1673
Dublin 15	1	829
Total	533	2557

These figures are represented in the graphs below:



Connections Expo

The LAIT team are engaged in preparations for a targeted Connections Expo, an initiative developed by the LAIT to support Accommodation Centres hosting both IP and BOTP residents. This initiative will be held in the mid-east area, in partnership with an accommodation centre and in collaboration with community, voluntary and statutory stakeholders. In this instance it is in response to an identified need for a range of supports for IPAS Residents. The aim is to increase awareness of the resources available to residents in the local area and to foster stronger community ties.

Integration Team:

Building Bridges Exhibition

During March (Anti-Racism Month) and April, the Integration Office is raising awareness by showcasing our Building Bridges: Forging Pathways Beyond Prejudice Exhibition in Balbriggan Library. This unique exhibition services as a platform to foster dialogue that champions diversity, equality and inclusion.



Fingal Integration Office raises awareness by marking International Anti Racism Day to staff and residents of Fingal.

During the week of the 18th– 23rd March. Fingal County Council Integration Office invited staff to raise awareness by wearing red to work.



Fingal County Council Integration Office marks International Anti-Racism Day – Lighting Fingal Buildings in Red.

The 21st of March marked International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. This day highlighted the harmful impact of racism on individuals and communities. Fingal County Council highlighted its commitment to equality, inclusion and diversity by lighting our buildings in County Hall and Civic Offices in red.



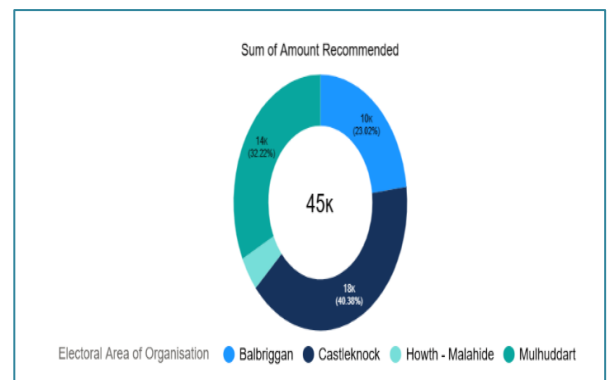
Funding

Community Activities funding is to support community and voluntary groups to develop initiatives that support, community group development, social inclusion initiatives, community events, climate action/environmental enhancement, integration or intercultural Initiatives.

A funding scheme has also been provided for in the Community Development Programme to support Health & Safety enhancement works in non-council owned community facilities.

Community Activities Funding

Community Activities Funding up to 20th March 2025.



To date, Communities Activities Funding has been awarded to 17 projects in the amount of €44,576.44.

Castleknock/Mulhuddart (12 projects)	€32,363.45
Balbriggan (4 projects)	€10,263.00
Howth/Malahide (1 projects)	€1,950

ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE ACTION, ACTIVE TRAVEL AND SPORTS DEPARTMENT

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Climate Action
Environmental Awareness
Bring Centres
Litter Management
Sports Office

Active Travel

Protected Cycle Lanes:

BLRS Area:

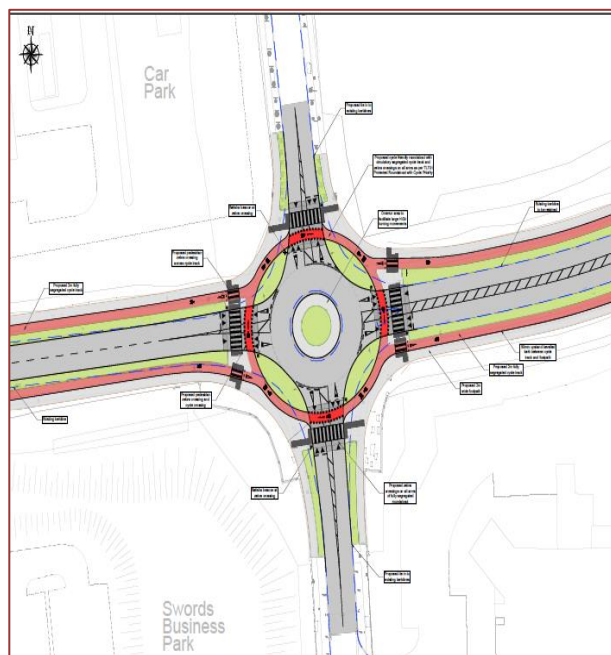
R132 Blakes Cross to Quickpenny Lane

Works on the R132 have been fully completed with the Contractor having completed the snagging items along the route. The Project has been handed over to our Operation Section for regular maintenance. The Final Road Safety Audit on the operational phase of the new project has been completed and all items addressed that were raised during the process. The full safety file and as constructed drawings are being finalised by the Contractor and Design Team for inclusion as part of the hand over.



Seatown Road Swords:

The Project Team is working with the design team to finalise the detailed design in advance of going to tender for the appointment of a contractor to progress to the Construction Stage in 2025, subject to approvals and funding.



Donabate Portrane R126 cycle paths:

The Design Team is currently preparing an options report for the proposed walking and cycling infrastructure with the preferred option identified in the report. Further details will be presented to Councillors at ACM in due course.

Coney Hill Balbriggan R132 cycle paths:

An options report is being finalised with the preferred option established in the report. The project Team is at an advanced stage in progressing works on the southern end of this project that may be delivered separately to the overall project. This is being progressed to tie in and provide connectivity to other projects that are at an advanced stage in this area on the northern end of Balbriggan. Further details will be presented to Councillors at ACM in the coming months.

St Cronan's Brackenstown Road Cycle lanes:

The project team is currently liaising with the contractor and design team to close out on snagging works for this project before final hand over to Fingal's Operations Department. The contractor has been on site recently to address the snagging works and agree final account. The Road Safety Audit has been completed and the items identified within the audit process are currently being addressed by the Design Team and the Contractor. We have commenced the handover procedure with FCC's Operations Department with a view to completing over the coming weeks.

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

The brief to appoint a multi-disciplinary design team has been prepared and is currently being reviewed. Once the brief is agreed, the tender documents will be published. An update will also be given at ACM level.

Paddy's Hill to Broomfield

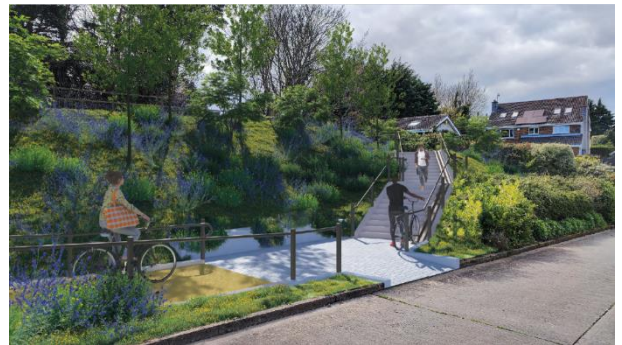
Brief and tender documents have been prepared to appoint a consultant from the NTA Multiparty Framework to carry out the 'Concept Development and Options Selection' stage.

The extent of the scheme and various other constraints are under consideration at present by Fingal County Council. Indicative study area for the Paddy's Hill to Broomfield scheme is outlined below.



Seapark Hill to Old Golf Course Link Park

The tender for the appointment of an Integrated Design Team from a Single Party Framework has been published. The tender return date is 4th April. Following receipt of the tender submission, the Active Travel Unit will assess the tender, appoint the design team and commence design phase of this project.



Feltrim Road Cycle Infrastructure

Topographical & Traffic Surveys are complete. Two non-statutory consultations have been carried out. The initial sections of the draft options selection report have been prepared by the Consultant and are currently being reviewed by FCC. The Design Team are continuing with the options assessment.

BMCO Area:

Snugborough Road – NAC to Ongar

The preliminary design phase is ongoing. The consultant has received the stage 1 road safety audit on the emerging preferred option. The latest drawings are being updated taking into account the various bus stops along the route which will be upgraded as part of the project. The latest draft preliminary design report is being updated taking this into account. Draft screening reports have been issued with feedback sent back to the ecologist. These are being updated accordingly. Further updates will be provided over the coming months, through this report and at ACM level.

Clonee to Blanchardstown Shopping Centre

The preliminary design phase is ongoing. Initial discussions have taken place with local landowners and site meetings have taken place. Further site investigations have taken place at pinch points along the R147 with drawings updated accordingly. A stage 1 road safety audit is about to commence, and environmental & appropriate screening is underway.

Castleknock to Dunsink Lane

Detailed design continues with meetings taking place with relevant internal and external stakeholders. Accommodation works and tree removal works have been carried out and associated new tree planting has been ordered. The suite of drawings required for the tender package are nearing completion and tender documentation is being finalised for review by the project team.



Hartstown/Huntstown/Mountview Road

Fingal County Council are progressing on finalising the design for roundabout and junction upgrades. Improvements to 2 signalised junctions at Hartstown Road/Hartstown Link Road and at Hartstown Road/Mountview Road with Blakestown Road/Shelerin Road are planned along with 2 roundabouts at the junction of Huntstown Way with Ashfield Way/Huntstown Park and at the junction of Huntstown Way with Castlewood. Traffic surveys have been completed for the 2 signalised junctions and a workshop is planned in the coming weeks with the NTA.



Castleknock to Blanchardstown via Farmleigh

The feasibility study has started, and traffic and drone surveys have taken place. A topographical survey has been completed and has been issued to the designers to inform the study. Feasibility and route options are currently being discussed between the design team and Active Travel.

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

An Integrated Design Team has been appointed and has commenced with the detailed design phase of this scheme. Judicial Review proceedings challenging the Part 8 approval for the Public Realm Improvements are ongoing.



Balrothery Active Travel Plan

Two public consultations have been completed, along with public consultation reports. Topographical and traffic surveys have been completed. The consultant is currently finalising the draft report for 'An Active Travel Plan for Balrothery' for FCC review. The Consultant is now also progressing Options Comparison and Assessment.

Skerries Active Travel Plan.

The Project Team together with the Consultant are working through the process and data collection and surveys.

A report outlining a Long List of Options was generated by the consultant and the Active Travel Department. FCC and the consultant have workshopped the contents of the draft report and the agreed modifications are underway.

Skerries Harbour Road & Red Island Loop:

The Part 8 Planning Process commenced in early March and the project consultation process remains open until April 17th. There is a lot of interest in this project and submissions from the public and community groups and others are coming in. These submissions will be reviewed after the closing date and will be assessed and presented to the members in the consultation and Managers report at the June Full Council Meeting.



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:

Jons Civil Engineering has been appointed to complete the construction of the project. Gullies have been installed north of the bridge and the contractor has been progressing works associated with the installation of ducting and chambers for the provision of services.



We have negotiated and managed to include the installation of the ducting for the 38KV supply as part of the works to avoid further disruption later this year in the area.

Wild Cat Lane:

Connectivity improvement works has been undertaken along Wild Cat Lane in Skerries over recent weeks and the scheme is now in operation. Active Travel have received positive feedback from users and other stakeholder groups. This lane was previously a space that was overgrown and used as a regular dumping ground. The laneway has now been transformed into an attractive space for children to walk and cycle to the nearby school and offers green spaces and planting areas that will be maintained by the school as part of the Green Schools initiative.



Donabate Permeability - Phase 1:

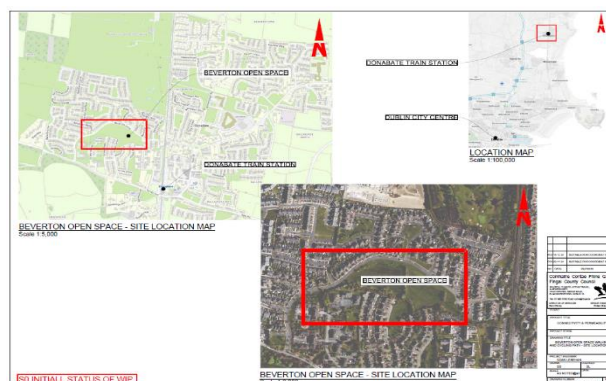
This project involves the provision of a walking and cycling path in Beverton open space. The footpaths from the end of the cul de sacs in Turvey Green, Turvey Drive and Turvey Woods will be extended into the Beverton open space to join the new pathway being provided in the green open space.

A Non-Statutory Consultation was conducted with the residents and locals in the Donabate area to provide observations on Phase 1 of this project. The consultation period ran from Friday 20 December 2024 until 23.59hrs Friday 31 January 2025.

Consultation period has now closed with 76 submissions received. The submissions are currently being categorised to generate a "Public Consultation Report" to be published on the Fingal County Councils consultation portal.

The submissions received are being considered as part of the detailed design process.

A consultant has been engaged to conduct the required environmental screenings in advance of proceeding through the Section 38 process and the exempted development process under the Planning & Development Regulations 2001-2013. Detailed design of the project is taking place in conjunction with the screening process.



<https://maps.app.goo.gl/MpYTPWvURvnoBCoP7>

[Donabate Permeability - Phase 1 | Fingal County Council Online Consultation Portal](#)

Access to Balscadden Bay Beach, Howth.

A consultant has been appointed to assess the access stairs to Balscadden Bay Beach, Howth, and to recommend improvements. A site visit has been undertaken by the Consultant and they have shared their initial findings with the Active Travel Team. The Consultant will now move to finalise their recommendation report.

Learn 2 Cycle Tracks;

Plans are in place for the construction of another **Learn 2 Cycle Track at Holywell Swords**. This will bring us to three in the county. The Active Travel Team are currently in the process of appointing a Contractor to carry out the works and works are expected to commence in April. This will provide another facility for our Walking & Cycling Officers to provide courses and supports for those of all abilities who are willing to take up and learn to cycle.

Secure Bicycle Parking Infrastructure

A number of locations across the county have been identified and are currently being reviewed for the provision of bicycle parking infrastructure.

Safe Routes to School

Round 1 – Tranche 1

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

All works are complete for this project.

Castaheany ETNS / St.Benedict's NS

All works are complete for this project.

Bayside Junior & Senior School

All works are complete for this project. Following representations, and subsequent assessment by the Active Travel Unit, the Belisha Beacons on the raised pedestrian crossing have been removed and replaced with Pedestrian Crossing signs (RUS066).

Round 1 – Tranche 2

The works contractor for the Safe Routes to School Tranche 2 contract has completed all works at each of the four school sites. A brief update is provided below for each school site and associated construction works completed to date since the appointment of the works contractor.

Ladyswell National School, Mulhuddart

Works are complete at Ladyswell NS. Junction tightening has taken place at a number of locations in Dromheath estate along with new tactile paving. Footpaths have been widened across green open space. New public lighting has now been installed on the open space. The road surface outside the school has been upgraded and a new coloured surface has been laid to further highlight the school zone.

Ladyswell NS, Dromheath Gardens



Scoil Ghráinne Community NS, Hansfield

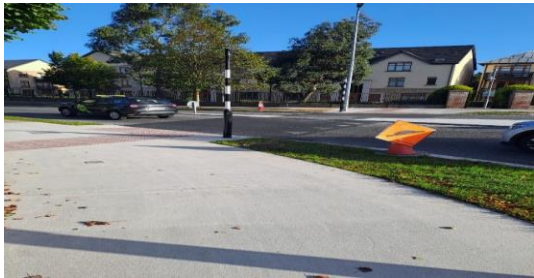
All footpath repairs, new bus parking area, bollard installation, new zebra crossing, road resurfacing works are now complete.



Scoil Ghráinne CNS

Scoil Choilm Community NS, Porterstown

Works are complete at Scoil Choilm where 3 new zebra crossings have been installed at various locations to make it safer for both pedestrians and cyclists. All bollards are now installed with protected kerbs included at the busy 4 arm junction.



Scoil Choilm CNS

Pope John Paul II NS, Malahide

Substantial Completion for the Safe Routes to School project at Pope John Paul II National School, Malahide, was achieved in December 2024. The proposed resurfacing works are scheduled to follow shortly, with anti-skid works planned in the coming weeks.

Safe Routes to School Round 2

- An Taisce has announced Round 2 of the Safe Routes to School Programme. Fingal County Council, as the client, has appointed Clifton Scannell Emerson Associates as the Project Supervisor for the Design Process (PSDP) in compliance with Regulation 6 of the Safety, Health, and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations 2013, for the following Fingal schools selected:
- St Helen's SNS, Limetree Avenue, Portmarnock, Co. Dublin
- Scoil Bhríde, Cailíní & Buachaillí, Church Avenue, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15
- St Colmcille's Girls NS, Chapel Lane, Swords, Co. Dublin
- Holy Family JNS, Forest Fields, Swords, Co. Dublin

Murphy Geospatial has successfully completed the on-site topographical surveys as part of the defined scope of works. The final report is scheduled for submission in the first week of March 2025.

The Drynam Heath Quiet Street

Project is focused on identifying and addressing potential road safety issues during the preliminary design phase. The primary objectives of the project include enhancing pedestrian and cyclist safety, reducing traffic speeds, and ensuring accessibility for all road users. To support these goals, consultants have been hired to conduct a comprehensive Road Safety Audit (RSA), as well as an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA). Traffico has successfully completed the on-site Road Safety Audit as part of the defined scope of works. The final report is scheduled for submission during the last week of February 2025.

Rush National School:

Works have been completed to facilitate the 'School Street' along Channel Road in Rush. The scheme is underway and monitoring of operation of the School Street is ongoing.

Sustainable Traffic Management Measures

Relocation of Taxi Rank Malahide

The taxi rank in Malahide is being relocated. The revised location has been informed by our meetings with the various internal and external stakeholders, including An Garda Síochána, Residents, Businesses and Taxi Drivers.

The queue for the taxi rank will now be located outside 'Seomra Tae' on Main Street, Malahide, facing west.

Information leaflets have been distributed to the public and taxi drivers. Work has commenced and the new arrangement is expected to be in operation by the weekend of the 4th of April, weather permitting.

New Learn 2 Cycle Track, Holywell Park, Swords

A tender competition has been conducted to appoint a contractor to undertake works on a new Learn 2 Cycle Track at Holywell Park, Swords.

It is intended that works will commence on site in the coming weeks.

Learn2Cycle with a Disability

Learn2Cycle with a Disability lessons are progressing very well, with continued demand for the lessons.

From April-May, lessons are running in three locations:

- Kinsealy, Liam Rodgers Community Centre
Starts Friday 25/04/2025 to 30/05/2025
- Portmarnock Sports & Leisure Centre April
Starts Monday 28/04/2025 to 16/06/2025
- Rivervalley Swords May
Starts Saturday 03/05/2025 to 07/06/2025

A full list of 2025 Courses is available on our website

<https://www.fingal.ie/activetravel/mobility/learn2cycle>

With over 40 courses planned for 2025, it promises to be a very busy year.

Learn 2 Cycle for Children Aged 6-12 years

We are delighted to continue our Learn 2 Cycle lessons, to teach children aged 6 – 12 how to cycle.

Current courses:

- March 2025: Saturdays 2.30-4pm, Millennium Park Learn2Cycle track, Blanchardstown
- May 2025: Saturdays 2.30pm-4pm, Brackenstown Learn2Cycle track, Swords
- July 2025: Saturdays 2.30-4pm, Millennium Park Learn2Cycle track, Blanchardstown

There has been great demand from the community for this course, and we are working with our cycle trainer to provide more lessons during 2025, to meet demand.



Balance Bike Buddies – Millennium Park

The Balance Bike Buddies Course in Millennium Park continues each Saturday morning in Millennium Park, due to demand, we have added a second course earlier in the morning. Our next courses start on Saturday 26th April in Brackenstown, Swords, times and booking details will be promoted across Fingal Social Media channels.

Picker Pals & Fingal Active Travel

The Active Travel Unit is excited to announce a collaboration with the environmental organization Picker Pals. Together, we are developing engaging communication materials to promote sustainable transport among schoolchildren in a fun and interactive way.

These materials will include games, posters, and photo boards, designed to capture children's interest and spread awareness.

We recently met with some of the Picker Pals reporters to discuss the benefits of active travel

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h34UdMx6GZI>

There are also plans to use these resources to further engage with schools and parents, reinforcing the message of sustainability and encouraging active travel habits in the community.

Bleeper Lease E-Bike for Staff

The Bleeper staff lease bike trial is continuing, and staff feedback so far in 2025 has been excellent, with several staff members using the bikes to commute.

The Bleeper lease bike trial is available for staff based in Blanchardstown. Staff can avail of a free trial of Bleeper LeaseBike with the trial lasting from four weeks (with potential to extend, depending on level of demand).

- Choose from a folding e-bike or trekking e-bike – see example images below.
- Staff must collect the bike from the Blanchardstown Civic Offices, and return the bike to the same location at the end of the trial.

For more information, please email

Emma.court@fingal.ie



Staff Pooled Bikes

The new staff pooled bike scheme was launched in Swords, County Hall in December with two eBikes available through the Bleeper Bike App. To sign up for shared eBikes

- Email Building Facilities for Bike Bunker access
- Download the Bleeper App
- Register with your FCC email
- Search 'My Private Scheme'
- Enter Scheme name: 'Fingal Staff Bikes'
- Await the confirmation from Bleeper The bikes are available from the middle Bike Bunker in Swords, and we plan to have the two bikes available in the Civic Offices, Blanchardstown in January 2025.

For more information, please email

active.travel@fingal.ie



HER Move TY Girls Cycling Course

The Active Travel Unit, in collaboration with Cycling Ireland, is excited to bring the HER Move cycling course, as a pilot course in Fingal. The program aims to equip Transition Year (TY) girls with essential cycling skills, while also providing an opportunity to develop videography and photography skills. Participants will learn how to safely navigate on bikes, while also capturing their journey through media, making for an engaging and educational experience.

The course will not only help students develop cycling proficiency but will also empower them to tell the story of their experience through creative media, fostering confidence, teamwork, and leadership. We are scheduling in the course and hope to run it in the next academic term.

Sofa to Saddle March 2025

Two new Sofa to Saddle courses are starting in March 2025, and will be held in Catherines Park and Newbridge House.

Sofa to Saddle is a 6-week course run by Age & Opportunity and The Active Travel Section of Fingal County Council. The goal of the course is to get people over 50 years of age back cycling. These courses have proven to be hugely popular.

The course will help participants to relearn the basics of cycling independently, focusing on balance, bike control, gearing and braking.

The course is free to take part in, but registering is vital as places are limited.

Course dates below:

- Tuesday 18th March in Newbridge House from 11am to 12:30pm.
- Wednesday 19th March in St Catherine's Park from 11am to 12:30pm

For more information, please email stephen.mcginn@fingal.ie

Balance Bike Buddies 2025

Our first Balance Bike Buddies Courses of the year begin on Saturday 8th March in Millennium Park. Due to the phenomenal demand, we have added a second course to the programme.

Course 1 – 9:45am – 10:30am

Course 2 – 10:30am – 11:15am

The courses offer toddlers aged between 2 and 5 a safe and structured introduction to cycling and provides parents with the tools to keep the learning up away from the courses.

8 Courses are planned across Millennium Park and Brackenstown for 2025. For more information, please email stephen.mcginn@fingal.ie

Park Pedal

The first ever Park Pedal meet up to place on Saturday 1st March at 9am in Millennium Park. This pilot initiative is an adaptation of Cycling Irelands Community Bike Rides, was supported by Blanch Wheelies CC and targeted families with young children who want to cycle in an off road and enclosed environment.

The Day went very well and it is hoped to run more over the summer months

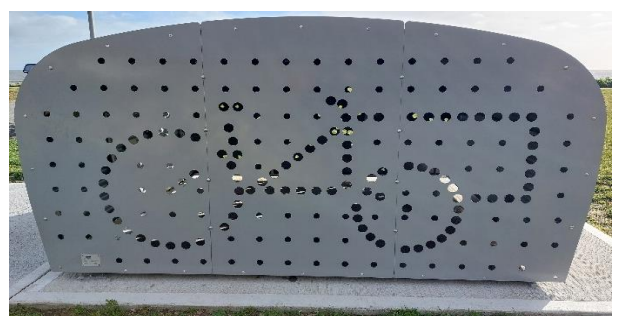
For more information email: active.travel@fingal.ie



Public Shared eCargo Bike

We have extended the Dublin 15 eCargo Bike Share scheme with Bleeper Bike for another 12 months. The bike has been relocated to Laurel Lodge where it is available to hire through Bleeper Bike.

Simply contact customercare@bleeperactive.com for details on how to access the bike



Wheelchair Tandem Bike Service

The Wheelchair Tandem Bike will be available free of charge to the public and training in how to use it and operate the Bike Bunker will be provided.

The Bike is a unique and innovative bicycle designed to be a tandem vehicle for individuals with mobility impairments. It combines a wheelchair with a tandem bike, allowing the person in the wheelchair to participate in cycling activities with another cyclist.

This type of bicycle offers an opportunity for individuals with disabilities to experience the outdoors, get exercise, and engage in cycling activities in a way that wouldn't be possible on a traditional bike.

If you'd like more information, email cyclingwithoutage@fingal.ie and we'll get back to you.

Cycling Without Age

The Cycling Without Age initiative will launch from Malahide Castle in January 2025. The Trishaw will be co-located with the Wheelchair Tandem Bike and be available to book by emailing Cyclingwithoutage@fingal.ie and requesting a trip.



We are on the lookout for new volunteers in the Malahide area. If you would be interested in signing up or getting more information, please email stephen.mcginn@fingal.ie

Cycling Without Age Malahide Castle Volunteers Needed

Comhairle Contae
Fhine Gall
Fingal County
Council



Skerries Community Car

The Skerries Community Car is available to book for local trips to the doctors, pharmacist, shops and for social occasions. This volunteer led scheme is vital for fighting social isolation and a valuable service to the people of the Skerries and the surrounding areas.

The car has completed 84 Trips in Q1, helping people get to everything from the shops, doctors appointments, social occasions and mass

To book the service or to sign up as a volunteer simply call Flexibus on 046 9074830 or email flexibus@locallinklmf.ie



Car Share Schemes

There are three car share providers operating in Fingal. Go Car, Yuko and Drive You. Between them, they are helping to reduce the number of private vehicles on our roads and contributing to lower emissions.

Month	Number of Trips	Number of Shared KMs
August	1802	166,577km
September	1713	142,466km
October	1724	145,767km
November	1479	105,383km
December	1321	104,845km
January	1669	116,516km
February	1532	113,798km

EVPZ

The Active Travel section in partnership with The ESB and the three Car Share Operators recently launched two new shared EV mobility hubs in Swords and Malahide. The hubs each have two electric vehicles on site with a dedicated charger in each location. The Pilot Project aims to increase the number of shared vehicle journeys completed by EV, making the already environmentally friendly form of transport even more sustainable. For more information on the EVPZ eHubs project, you can check out <https://esb.ie/what-we-do/esb-ehubs>



Community eCargo Bikes

The Active Travel unit have been promoting the Community eCargo Bike initiative and are receiving applications from interested community groups. We are looking forward to providing more community groups with cargo bikes in 2025.

Swords Tidy Towns have joined the trials and recently received their eCargo Bike and have been putting it to good use.



We have partnered with various Tidy Towns Groups, Picker Pals, Dunsink Observatory, The Old Irish Goat Herders as well as our own Operations Team in Newbridge House and The Mayor of Fingal. The bikes have been a valuable asset for the groups and have replaced countless journeys by motor vehicle. We are keen to expand the programme in 2025 and are interested in hearing from Community Groups and small businesses who wish to apply, interested groups can email active.travel@fingal.ie

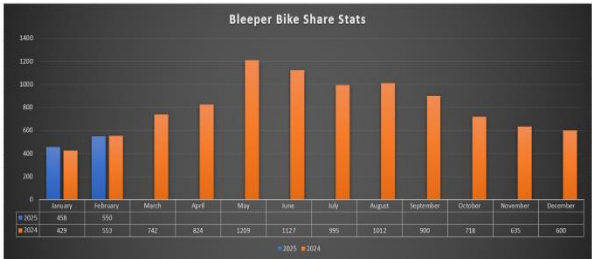
Comhairle Contae
Fine Gall
Fingal County
Council

ECARGO BIKES FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS

- Who is eligible?**
All Community Groups and small businesses who rely on motor vehicles to undertake their daily tasks and deliveries are eligible to apply
- What is the Scheme?**
The Active Travel Section in Fingal will provide your group with an eCargo bike for a 12 month period.
- How to Apply?**
Simply email active.travel@fingal.ie with your group name and we will contact you with more details.
- What are you responsible for?**
Your group will be responsible for storing your bike in a secure, weather proof location and will be required to send in monthly usage reports.
- What type of bikes are available?**
We have a range of eCargo Bikes. They include; open box front loaders, three wheelers, closed box front loaders and longtail eCargo bikes.

www.fingal.ie

Bike Share Schemes



Beeper Bike

The new Beeper Bike Operating Zone came into effect from Dec 1st 2024 and the introduction of the Fingal pass has seen a positive impact on trips to date. Despite the smaller operating zone, the trip numbers have increased year on year in December and January, this despite very challenging weather conditions in both months.



The new service saw the introduction of the Fingal Pass. This pass gives residents of Fingal their first 30 minutes of every Beeper trip for free.

Fingal Pass Applications: 168 (28/02/25)
Approved Applications: 120

Refusal Reasons
Non-Fingal Residents: 4
No Beeper Account yet: 44

Beeper Bike Monthly Report

450 Beeper bike journeys started within Fingal operating zone in February
There were an additional 100 Journeys that took place outside of Fingal using the Fingal Pass
455 bike journeys ended within existing Fingal operating zone in February
Saturdays & Sundays (17%) recorded the highest usage
Ongar, Carpenterstown and Castleknock were the most popular starting points.
Estimated emissions avoided: 97.5kg of CO2

ENVIRONMENT

Climate Action

Decarbonisation Zone Balbriggan

E2Cuties



The Engaged Energy-Communities in Urban Areas with Technology Integrated Energy Systems (E2 Cuties) is a four-year Interreg North-West Europe initiative that received funding in Q4 2024 and will officially begin in April 2025. Fingal's Climate Action Team and Codema have progressed the initial project phases in preparation for the kick off meeting in April.

The project's goal is to improve energy efficiency in urban areas by empowering local energy communities to adopt integrated, energy-efficient solutions and fostering stronger collaboration between these communities and local authorities. Codema and Fingal County Council will serve as the local Dublin partners, with the Balbriggan Sustainable Energy Community also playing a key role.

This initiative will contribute directly to Fingal's climate objectives by advancing efforts to reduce energy consumption within the Balbriggan Decarbonising Zone.

A site visit was undertaken with Codema, Climate Action team, Our Balbriggan and Balbriggan Sustainable Community.

Our Balbriggan- Sustainability, Climate Action and Biodiversity Pillar

The Climate Team continue to support the development of the Sustainability, Climate Action and Biodiversity Pillar Action Plan.

Dublin Climate Action Week 12th -19th May

FCC hosting event for four Dublin Local Authorities. FCC will partner with Active Travel to promote Climate Action during Bike Week.



Reporting on the Climate Action Plan

The Climate Action Team presented a progress report on the implementation of the Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 to the Climate Action, Biodiversity and the Environment SPC.



Climate Action Resources- Libraries

A review of Climate Action recourses was undertaken for the library Services with recommendations made for additional resources.

Local Authority Climate Action WEBINAR SERIES 2025

The Local Authority Services National Training Group (LASNTG) has organised a series of Webinars commencing in March, will cover a broad range of topics relevant to the work of climate action teams in their capacity to:

- Foster local authority climate leadership,
- Implement adaptation and mitigation measures,
- Promote behavioural change, and
- Optimise funding opportunities

The Webinar Series is being delivered as part of the Local Authority Climate Action Training Programme.

Malahide Community School

The Climate Action Team received a presentation from Politics and Society Class on climate action in Fingal.



CARO

The Climate Team continue to liaise with Dublin Metropolitan CARO and four Dublin Local Authorities to implement and monitor the actions contained in the Climate Action Plans.

Community Climate Action Fingal

A 2nd drawdown to the value of €285,796 has been submitted to DECC for completed and vouched projects.

Projects recently completed include installation of bike storage lockers at Donabate Portrane Community Centre and in Ballyboughal, biodiversity garden at the Arch Club Portmarnock and pipe insulation and boiler upgrade works at the Portmarnock Sports and Leisure Club. Brackenstown Scouts in Swords insulated the building and replaced the old windows and doors which has made a huge difference to the building creche tenants/ users.

Community Climate Action Projects update:

March-25	55 Projects Completed
	23 Projects In-Progress
	68 Projects Not Yet Started

An announcement from DECC on Phase 2 of the CCAF is expected in Quarter 2.

Photo: Portmarnock Sports and Leisure Club Pipe Insulation for Efficiency



Climate Action Awareness

Fingal Reusable Cup Project

- Reducing Waste, One Community, One Cup at a time
- Pilot in Malahide/Rush to launch on 17th May
- Aim to eliminate single use cups on a phased basis across Fingal
- Fingal working with VOICE Ireland, Vytal & Community Groups
- Cost Neutral for Businesses
- Free for Customers to borrow cup
- Charge of €9 if unreturned within 14days
- Can be returned to any participating business

Why?

- Ireland wastes 22,000 single use cups p/hr , 200,000,000 p/yr
- 7/10 people own a reusable cup, only 1/10 people use them

Environmental Awareness

Replay Instruments Project

The Environmental Awareness Officer had the privilege of meeting with representatives from both Crosscare Donabate and Music Generation, along with the participants in the guitar lessons as part of the Instruments Project. This initiative is a shining example of how the circular economy is making waves at the grassroots level, and it's exciting to see the positive ripple effect that it is creating. Rush Youthreach received a donation of instruments this month giving more young people the opportunity to explore their musical potential.



Workshops and Educational Outreach

In an engaging and informative workshop on Waste Management and the Circular Economy, there was the chance to spark fresh conversations and inspire action among Transition Year students at the Estuary Recycling Centre, which was followed by a tour of the site. This was organised in partnership with Network Forum Fingal, and gave students firsthand experience of sustainable practices in action—making a real impact on how they'll approach waste in the future as they all left having signed a circular living pledge.



Tenant Education

The Environmental Awareness Officer has been helping our community stay informed with a focus on domestic waste management practices, by participating in three Tenant Induction Courses. It's amazing to see so many people eager to take responsibility for the environment, and these courses continue to empower individuals to make sustainable choices.

Green-Schools Support

It was a busy month with Green-Schools renewal visits, assisting schools as they apply for their Green Flag. This year, 20 schools are applying for their Green Flags across a variety of themes, including Litter & Waste, Water, Travel, Biodiversity, Global Citizenship, Marine Environment and Primary Climate Ambassadors. The energy and enthusiasm from these schools is absolutely infectious, and it's fantastic to see so many of them embracing environmental stewardship. Here is Buí, member of Ghaelscoil Bhaile Brigín's Green-School's Committee helping with food waste management.



Community Engagement:

Supporting local efforts is always a highlight. With Spring Clean Up season underway Community Centres, Residential Groups, and Schools have been supplied with litter pickers, helping them continue their important local clean-up efforts. Every small action contributes to a cleaner, greener environment.

Tree Planting Events

What a joy it was to join Deputy Mayor John Kingsley Onwumereh at a tree planting event hosted by the Blakestown Drive Community Group at Rath Dara Community College. Additionally, the Environmental Awareness Officer also participated in Portmarnock Community School's Tree Planting Action Day in collaboration with Easy Treesie. The sense of togetherness and dedication to improving our environment was truly uplifting at both events.



Relove Fashion

Exciting news from the Relove Fashion initiative! Two of our Fingalian applicants have made it to the grand final on April 30th—one individual entry and one from Le Chéile Secondary School. We're cheering them on and wishing them the very best of luck as they continue to shine in this fantastic competition.

Information Dissemination

The Environmental Awareness Officer has also been sharing vital environmental information on social media, helping spread awareness and action across the community. From EPA's National Stop Food Waste Day (March 1st) to An Taisce's National Spring Clean (April) and ERP's Vape & E-Cigarette Waste Disposal Guidelines, to make sure that everyone has the tools to make informed, eco-friendly choices.

RTE Nationwide

Nationwide visited the Estuary Recycling Plant to cover the role of Fingal County Council in the Reuse Paint Project, in collaboration with the Rediscovery Centre.



Litter Management

The Litter Wardens continue to deal with large amounts of littering and dumping throughout the county.

- Investigate and report on all CRM queries raised by the litter management section
- Bring banks in the Fingal area are inspected daily to ensure that there is no dumping and any evidence found is dealt with under the Litter Pollution Act
- Link in with Operations to see if any issues have arisen for their crews regarding illegal dumping/littering in their areas, carry out inspections and follow up with fines/warning notices where evidence is found.
- Report any dumping and littering to Operations division for removal and follow up on witness statements submitted by Fingal citizens.
- Site inspections are carried out following reports of muck on the roads from building developments and farming activities. Site/Farm owners are advised of their responsibilities to ensure the roads are kept clean of muck and that the building sites have a road sweeper/wheel wash facility in operation.
- Continue to raise awareness on the issue of dog fouling on beaches, pathways, parks and roads and target hot spots for dog fouling. Anti dog fouling signs are erected at various locations on foot of requests made and where complaints are received.
- Investigate and report on reports of abandoned cars, photographing and updating the litter app and the CRM system.
- Conduct walking patrols and engage with business owners regarding their responsibilities in keeping outside their premises clean and free of litter.

There was one litter fine case before the courts in March, which resulted in a guilty verdict.



Litter Fines & Warning Notices – 2025

Month	Fines	Warning Notices
January	16	1
February	9	2
March	18	1

Litter Management Cases for March 2025

Cases March 2025	Amount
Muck on road	3
Abandoned cars	17
Inspection of bring banks	382
Inspection of dumping black spots	402
Report of dumping	68
Unauthorised signage	5
Request for Dog fouling signs	3
Walking patrols	4
Councillor rep inspection	5

Draft Litter Management Plan

- ♦ Public Consultation on the Draft Litter Management Plan commenced on Thursday 27th March and will close on Wednesday 7th May 2025.
- ♦ 3 x Stakeholder Engagement Workshops with EM's, Community Groups in February
- ♦ Recurring themes included requests for increase in the no. Of Litter Wardens, increased visibility, Campaigns on dog fouling
- ♦ Submissions can be made via <https://consult.fingal.ie/en/browse>



Abandoned Vehicles

There were 470 reports of alleged Abandoned Vehicles received in 2024.

From 1st January – 31st March 2025, 119 reports of alleged Abandoned Vehicles have been received. 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

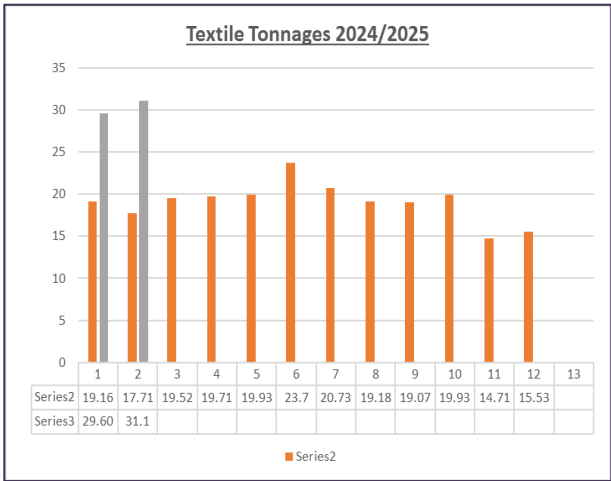
- Vehicle Registration
- Colour / Make / Model
- Exact Location
- Period of time that vehicle has not been moved
- Name and Contact Number of person reporting the vehicle

Information on Abandoned Vehicles can be found on the Fingal County Council website:

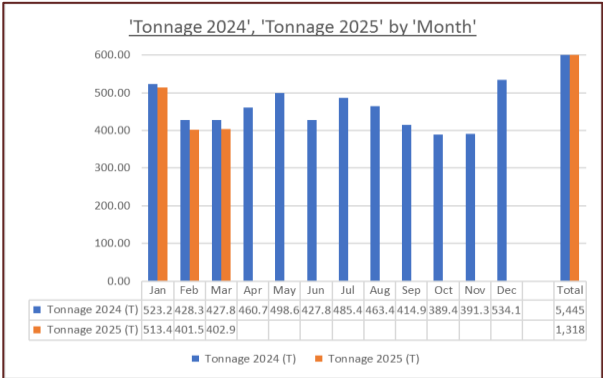
<https://www.fingal.ie/council/service/abandoned-vehicles>

	Abandoned Vehicles Lifted		Burnt out Vehicles Lifted	
MONTH	2024	2025	2024	2025
January	0	0	6	0
February	2	0	0	1
March	2	2	3	2
April	2		0	
May	0		0	
June	1		0	
July	0		0	
August	0		0	
September	0		0	
October	0		0	
November	0		0	
December	0		1	
	7	2	10	3

Bring Banks



The total volume of Textiles collected in **February 2025** was **31 tonnes**. This compares with a collection volume of 19 tonnes in February 2024.



The total volume of Glass collected to date in **March 2025** was **403 tonnes**. This compares with a collection volume of 428 tonnes in March 2024.

Control of Dogs

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. 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 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 87 x 10 Day Notices and 15 Fines issued by the dog wardens during March 2025.

Month	10 Day Notices		Fines Issued		Fines Paid	
	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025
January	217	10	20	3	€1997.50	€550
February	297	82	38	5	€2135	€2244
March	234	87	40	15	€2525	€1121
April	277		35		€2073	
May	408		38		€2420	
June	247		58		€2180	
July	29		88		€3550	
August	15		52		€4600	
September	29		23		€2919.70	
October	15		13		€2321	
November	104		19		€2185	
December	0		5		€1700	

The Animal Welfare Section received 30 complaints in relation to dogs from 1st of March 2025 to 31st of Mar 2025.

Service	No of complaints per service from 1 st of Mar 2025 to 31st of Mar 2025
Env - Dog Fine Appeal	1
Env - Dog on Dog Attack	0
Env - Dog on Person Attack	2
Env – Dog warden assistance, garda request	1
Env - Pollution - Issue with Dog	10
Env - Restricted Breed Dog	6
Env - Surrendered Dog	0
Env- Stray Dog	10
Grand Total	30

Dog Licences and Fines

The below table shows the number of annual and lifetime licences purchased during February 2025 in comparison with the same months in 2024. 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 fine.

Does your dog have a licence?



Purchase at any Post Office or online at licences.ie

Annual Licence Fee: €20.00. Lifetime Licence €140.00.

Failure to purchase a licence can result in on-the-spot fine of €100 or court prosecution and fine of €1,270



	Purchased		Purchased			
	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025
January	1078	843	87	54	€33,740	€24,420
February	1010	747	62	51	€28,880	€22,080
March	810	838	58	56	€24,320	€ 24,600
April	918		64		€27,320	€
May	1193		90		€36,460	€
June	1045		87		€33,080	€
July	843		49		€23,720	€
August	865		67		€26,680	€
September	762		47		€21,820	€
October	804		65		€25,180	€
November	654		46		€19,520	€
December	310		20		€9000	€
Total for	10, 292	1590	742	105	€309,720	€46,500

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 25 there were 16 dogs in the shelter. Up to 31st of March 2025, 14 dogs were brought to the shelter by the dog wardens as stray or surrenders and none were surrendered by members of the public. Of these 30 dogs, one was reclaimed by a member of the public, 6 were rehomed to Rescue, 3 were rehomed to members of the public and 1 was PTS. As of 31st of March there were 19 dogs remaining in the shelter.

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

Dogs in Shelter at the start of Mar 2024	25	Dogs in Shelter at start of Mar 2025	16
Stray/Seized dogs brought to Shelter	11	Stray/Seized dogs brought to Shelter	14
Surrendered by owners	0	Surrendered by owners	0
Reclaimed	4	Reclaimed	1
Rehomed to Rescue	4	Rehomed to Rescue	6
Rehomed to Public	5	Rehomed to Public	3
PTS	1	PTS	1
Dogs in Shelter at the end of March 2024	22	Dogs in shelter at end of March 25	19

HORSES

Welfare checks are continuing on the horses on Dunsink Landfill.

Ops continue to provide Hay to the horses (6 x Hayfeeders being filled but will increase if required)

No. Of horses seized in 2024: **35**



Landfill Aftercare

Site clearance works commenced in the Southeastern section of the Dunsink Landfill site where stockpiles of soil and debris are being screened out and reused for landfill improvement works. Works commenced in March are enabling works to allow for drainage improvements works to be carried out at the same location in the coming months.



Environmental Inspection Plan

The Environmental Inspection Plan (RMCEI Plan) has been finalised and submitted to the EPA for approval. The overall objective of the Plan is to identify and prioritise enforcement activities under key areas such as Litter Management, Water Pollution, Waste Enforcement & Regulation and Air & Noise Pollution to ensure that Fingal County Council effectively complies with its obligations under all environmental legislation. The Inspection Plan takes account of a range of National Enforcement Priorities as well as several Local Environmental Priorities for 2025. The National Priorities for 2025 are as follows:

Waste Priorities

- ✓ Tackling Significant Illegal Waste Activity
- ✓ Construction and Demolition Activity
- ✓ Waste Data & Waste Flows
- ✓ Household & Commercial Waste
- ✓ Producer Responsibility Initiatives and Additional Local Priorities



Water Priorities

- ✓ Pressures from agriculture (slurry soiled water collection and storage)
- ✓ Pressures from agriculture (slurry and fertiliser spreading)
- ✓ Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems (DWWTS) and Septic Tanks
- ✓ Discharge licences and Misconnections
- ✓ Local priorities and water quality monitoring

Air & Noise Priorities

- ✓ Solid Fuel
- ✓ Air Quality Monitoring and Data Use
- ✓ Environmental Noise Directive
- ✓ Local Air and Noise Investigations



A detailed summary of all inspections completed in 2024 (RMCEI Data Return) was submitted to the EPA in February 2025 in conjunction with a National Enforcement Priorities (NEP) Report to tell the story behind the inspection undertaken and how key assessment criteria were met. Further info on the NEP Report 2024 can be found at: <https://www.fingal.ie/national-enforcement-priorities-progress-reports>

For 2025 a total of 12,832 inspections are planned across 4 key areas involving 25 officers and part-time staff (3,700 workdays).

	Completed 2024	Planned 2025
Waste	1,464	1,541
Litter	6,398	9,781*
Water Pollution	1,066	1,090
Air & Noise	520	420

*Litter patrol figures changed in 2024 to a CRM callout basis

SPORTS OFFICE

Exercise : Energise HerMoves Day

Fingal Sports Office hosted the Exercise: Energise HerMoves Multi-Sports and Activity Day at the National Indoor Arena, Abbottstown, on March 5th. The Day, part of Women in Sport Week 2025, brought together over 300 teenage girls from ten secondary and community schools across Fingal. The schools are enrolled in this year's Exercise: Energise Programme with a total of fourteen schools participating. The Exercise: Energise programme is targeted at inactive girls to encourage them to try out new sports and physical activity. The girls are also included in choosing the activity following one of the principles of Sport Ireland's HerMoves campaign.

The Multi-Sports and Activity Day featured many activities, with Table Tennis, Volleyball, Pitch & Putt, and Rowing making their debut. In total, twelve National Governing Bodies provided expert coaching and "come-and-try" sessions in sports such as Rugby, Cricket, Hockey, Football, Ultimate Frisbee, Tennis, Basketball, and Athletics. The girls also got to show their creative side by designing their own "kicks" for a HerMoves competition.





Women in Sport Week (3rd March - 9th March)

Women in Sport Week takes place each year in March and is a national initiative coordinated by Sport Ireland. The aim of Women in Sport Week is to celebrate every woman and girl who plays, coaches, officiates, works and promotes Women in Sport. Fingal Sports Office supported and promoted several activities as part of week.

Over 170 participants registered to engage with the Online Workshop Promoting Strength, Health and Wellness Before, During, and After Menopause' with Dr Diane Cooper from Edufit. The Workshop encouraged women to undertake exercise to protect their health and the many activities during the week provided them with opportunities to take up a new sport.

Twenty Fingal clubs opened their doors for the week and encouraged new members to join. Activities ranged from Boules, Pickleball, Padel, Rugby, Social Soccer, Gaelic Football, Tennis, Golf, Lawn Bowling, running and self-defence were on offer. Clubs on average gained up to five to ten new members looking to join their club and highlighted the many activities available to women and girls in the County.



HER SPACE WITH ACTIVE CITIES MINDSET. SELF-DEFENCE. FITNESS

Her Space programme started on Monday the 3rd of March as Women in Sport Week commenced. The programme had 30 females' sign up for the 8-week programme. This holistic programme blends self-defence training, mindset empowerment, and fitness, creating a safe space for Her Mind & a safe space for Her Body.



Men's Walking Challenge 2025

Our first two walks have been very successful with a total of 117 men participating on our walks that took place in Howth in January and Rush in February. We created a 12-Month community engagement initiative to support men in (re)connecting with themselves in a safe, non-judgemental environment in which they can connect with their surroundings and other men. It includes 12 guiding walks/hikes with a new location on the last weekend of each month. Throughout the year we will engage with community organisations such as Men's Sheds and the HSE to target inactive men. By encouraging healthy habits such as walking to daily and weekly routines, can have a positive impact on wellbeing. The benefits for both body and mind are significant.



SportsCon Masters Research

Fingal Sports Office are delighted to collaborate with TU Dublin on a Masters Research Project investigating the effectiveness of the well-established Sports Conditioning programme. This project using funding from Sport Ireland's Evaluation Grant Scheme assesses the programmes focus on fundamental movement skills and its effects on increased participation in physical activity in both school and club environments. Two Dublin 15 schools will be involved in the initial part of the study as well as input from local sports clubs with results and recommendations expected by Q4 of this year.



Fingal Athletics League 2025

The Fingal Athletics League launched in March and this year's programme will include 60 primary schools and 2,700 students participating in 5 race meets. The first two race meets took place in Porterstown Park and Newbridge House in March, followed by a second round of race meets in April. The culmination of the programme will bring all schools to ALSAA Sports Complex in May.

Fingal County Council and Morton Games announced the continuation of their partnership, founded last year. The partnership continues its mission to promote the growth and development of athletics in Fingal.



Balbriggan Swimming Pool

The project has now moved to detailed design and planning stages. It is expected the project will be ready to go to planning by the end of this year and, subject to funding, construction could commence by the end of 2026.

An integrated design team led by UK-based company ReCreation has developed preliminary plans. The new facility will incorporate a changing village, reception area with café and a viewing gallery. It will be located south of the area's soon to be constructed Link Road at Castlelands, directly opposite the site of a proposed new school.



FINANCE

Contents

Rates
Development Levy Income
Payroll
Procurement
Appendix 1 - Financial Reports
Appendix 2 - Contracts Awarded

Rates

Overall Commercial Rates collection to the end of March 2025 is running at 45%.

Rates Collection	
Rates collected €m	€74.8m
Rates collected %	45%

Development Levy Income

Development levy income collected to the end of March is €14.5m.

Development Levy Income YTD Mar 2025	
Levies Receipted	€14.5 m
Levies Collected as a % of 2024	20%

Payroll

Overall payroll spend to the end of March was €22.2m which is c. **96.2%** of budget YTD.

Payroll	
Salaries & Wages €m	€22.2m
Percentage of Budget YTD.	96.2%

Procurement

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

No. of contracts awarded (details below) for year to date	49	
Value €m	7.58m	
Procurements ongoing at end of March		
No. of procurements awaiting tender responses	16	(i)
Value €m	23m	
No. of procurements under evaluation	29	(ii)
Value €m	30	
No. of procurements at approved	10	(iii)
Value €m	39m	

Notes:

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

Appendix 1
Revenue Account – Income & Expenditure

REVENUE ACCOUNT INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 31 MARCH 2025

	EXPENDITURE			INCOME			NET
	Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent to date	Income €	Adopted Full year Budget €	% Budget Raised	€
Housing & Building	28,928,529	123,749,800	23%	27,834,657	126,862,200	22%	1,093,873
Road Transport & Safety	7,601,192	36,814,800	21%	2,137,495	9,063,700	24%	5,463,697
Water Services	3,179,480	13,233,400	24%	3,754,913	15,070,000	25%	-575,433
Development Management	6,626,968	25,261,800	26%	2,774,349	10,206,000	27%	3,852,620
Environmental Services	12,158,309	48,948,700	25%	4,218,563	8,761,100	48%	7,939,746
Recreation & Amenity	14,568,459	59,101,400	25%	882,931	4,375,600	20%	13,685,527
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	439,040	1,575,200	28%	71,457	422,700	17%	367,584
Miscellaneous Services	5,200,957	21,053,000	25%	6,646,459	29,588,900	22%	-1,445,502
Central Management Charge	13,781,839	59,137,800	23%	1,079,422	4,073,900	26%	12,702,417
Local Property Tax / GPG				3,175,075	12,700,300	25%	-3,175,075
Rates				41,937,875	167,751,500	25%	-41,937,875
	92,484,773	388,875,900	24%	94,513,196	388,875,900	24%	-2,028,423

Appendix 1 - continued
Capital Account - Income & Expenditure

CAPITAL ACCOUNT INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION TO 31/03/2025						
		Balance at 0/01/2025 €		Expenditure YTD €		Income YTD €
						Balance at 31/03/2025 €
A	Housing & Building	-9,686,875		45,847,798	-14,789,803	21,371,120
B	Road Transport & Safety	9,980,266		11,429,420	-553,600	20,856,086
C	Water Services	-10,327,807		523,417	-212,940	-10,017,330
D	Development Management	-175,344,430		5,730,927	-18,846,552	-188,460,055
E	Environmental Services	-15,418,209		860,465	-262,500	-14,820,244
F	Recreation & Amenity	-11,766,355		6,817,491	-829,800	-5,778,664
H	Miscellaneous Services	-42,102,959		3,951,418	-3,636,056	-41,787,597
	Total	-254,666,369		75,160,936	-39,131,251	-218,636,684

Appendix 1 - continued
Summary of Corporate Debtors

SUMMARY OF CORPORATE DEBTORS TO 31/03/25				
	Balance at 01/01/2025	Balance at 31/03/25	Current debt	> 1 Year
	€	€	€	€
RATES	687,390	93,037,488	92,215,649	821,839
LOANS	2,130,037	1,906,609	173,066	1,733,543
RENTS	10,032,929	9,498,452	3,230,344	6,268,108
<p><i>Figures for rents and loans are unadjusted by credits/prepayments</i></p> <p>Value of debit at 31/12/2024 was €1,823,834.70 with a credit of €1,136,445.02</p>				

Appendix 2
Number of Contracts Awarded to the end of March

Description of Procurement	Supplier Name	Legal Address	Current Value of Contract (excl. VAT)	Contract Start Date	Contract End Date	Actual Duration	Contract Award Date	Arrangement Type
Sports Surface Consultancy Services Development	Alan Lewis Ltd	1A Crowmeole Lane, Shrewsbury , Shropshire, SY3 8AX	€ 36,748.80	14/04/2025	14/10/2026	18	19/03/2025	Contract
Bremore Castle Estate Balbriggan (phase 2) - Road Resurfacing inlay	Breedon Surfacing Solutions Ireland Ltd.,	Rosemount Business Park, Ballycoolin Road, Dublin	€ 70,540.00	19/05/2025	30/05/2025	2 weeks	25/03/2025	Call Off Contract
Restoration of 3 No. Glasshouses at Talbot Botanic Gardens, Malahide Demesne	Oldstone Consercation Ltd, Donard,	Donard, Co.Wicklow	€ 930,587.02	04/04/2025	03/03/2026	12	25/02/2025	Call Off Contract
Road Surfacing Inlay Quickpenny Road, Lusk	Breedon Surfacing Solutions Ireland Ltd.,	Rosemount Business Park, Ballycoolin Road, Dublin	€ 33,475.00	28/04/2025	09/05/2025	2 weeks	27/03/2025	Contract
Road surfacing inlay, St Maurs Est Rush	John McQuillan Contract Ltd	11 Ballinderry Road, Lisburn	€ 73,936.70	21/04/2025	02/05/2025	1	27/03/2025	Contract
Weekly Bin Collections & Ad hoc Skip Collections from Halting Sites in Fingal Area (2025)	Starrus Eco Holdings Ltd t/a Panda Waste Management Solutions Ltd	Ballymount Road Upper, Ballymount, Dublin 12	€ 85,000.00	01/01/2025	13/12/2025	12	01/01/2025	Contract
Portable Toilet Units for use at Traveller Accommodation Sites	Norspace Ltd	Unit 17, 1st Avenue, Cookstown Ind Estate, Tallaght, D24	€ 55,000.00	01/01/2025	13/12/2025	12	01/01/2025	Contract
Consultancy Services for Castleland Swimming Pool Design Team	ReCreation Group	60 Chorley, New Road, Bolton, BL1 4DA	€ 359,079.75	24/03/2025	24/10/2025	7	24/03/2025	Contract
Post and Rope Fencing Project Nose of Howth	Stirue Fencing	Priestown, Dunleer Co. Louth	€ 55,800.00	14/01/2025	28/02/2025	6	13/01/2025	Contract
Requirement for Road Inlay and Ancillary Works, Seatown Park, Housing Estate, Swords	D M Morris Ltd	8 Parklands Office Park, Southern Cross Road, Bray.	€ 110,780.00	01/04/2025	01/06/2025	2	25/03/2025	Call Off Contract
Provision of Services for Software Renewal for the Autodesk Software Suite.	NTI Diatec	Unit 17, The Seapoint Building, Clontarf Road, Dublin 3	€ 181,774.19	01/03/2025	29/02/2028	36	10/03/2025	Contract
Hire of excavator and operator at the former Dunsink Landfill and Environs	Anthony Patton Plant Hire Ltd	Cloghran, Co.Dublin	€ 85,800.00	18/03/2025	17/03/2026	12	26/03/2025	Contract

Supply and install of new calisthenic/outdoor equipment to Hartstown park	Outfit Outdoor Equipment Ltd	James Street, Kiltimagh, Co Mayo	€ 44,630.00	01/04/2025	01/10/2025	6	25/03/2025	Call-Off Contract
Requirement for Supply only of ready mix concrete	Keegan Quarries	Millenium Business Park, Cappagh Road, Finglas	€ 64,240.00	01/04/2025	31/12/2025	9	03/03/2025	Contract
Engineering Services for the upgrade of Skerries Town Park including GAA & soccer sports pitches, ancillary structures and path infrastructure	McCloy Consulting Ltd	Unit 12, Beat Centre, Stephenstown Industrial Estate, Balbriggan, Co Dublin	€ 34,486.20	27/03/2025	03/09/2026	18	25/03/2025	Contract
R132 Tree Removal works programme for Fingal County Council	King Tree Services Ltd	Coolbeg , Wicklow, Co Wicklow	€ 93,288.00	31/03/2025	01/05/2025	3	03/03/2025	Contract
Support in the development of an investment concept for an FCC EUCF Grant Funded Project	BABLE Smart Cities Gmbh	Seyfferstrasse, 34 Stuttgart 70197, Germany	€ 50,000.00	01/01/2025	31/12/2025	12	13/03/2025	Contract
Roof Maintenance, Repairs and Callouts at 17 Fingal Locations	Geoffrey T Kelly Roofing and Cladding	11 St Cronan's View, Swords, Co Dublin	€ 27,200.00	20/03/2025	19/03/2026	12	14/03/2025	Contract
Purchase of Tractor Towed Mowers	Baytown Machinery Ltd	Baytown, The Naul, Co Dublin	€ 37,656.00	27/01/2025	26/01/2026	12	27/01/2025	Contract
Property valuation and negotiation services	Streets Ahead Property Services	22 Mill Close, Stamullen, Co. Meath	€ 142,150.00	01/02/2025	31/08/2025	7	18/03/2025	Contract
Requirement for an Email Gateway (Sophos - Lot 1)	Softcat PLC	No 2 Harbour Square, Dun Laoghaire, Co Dublin	€ 82,232.40	14/04/2025	13/04/2030	60	11/03/2025	Contract
Road Inlay and Ancillary works, Longlands Swords	SIAC Bituminous Products Ltd	Monastery Road, Clondalkin, Dublin 22	€ 58,973.00	24/03/2025	07/04/2025	2 wks	21/02/2025	Call Off Contract
Supply & Installation of Paving at Balgriffin Cemetery and all ancillary works	John Browne Construction Ltd	Carragh, Granard, Co Longford	€ 34,250.00	06/03/2025	28/03/2025	1	06/03/2025	Contract
Interim Caretaker Agreement to manage and operate for Malahide Recreational Facility	Campbell Catering t/a Aramark	Newenham House, Malahide Road, Northern Cross Dublin, D17 AY61	€ 100,388.00	01/01/2025	28/02/2025	2	01/01/2025	Contract
Event Management Services for St Patrick's Day Parade in Swords and Malahide	Invictus Event Management Ltd	Enterprise House, New Market Street, Fermoy, Co. Cork	€ 145,587.00	21/02/2025	21/04/2025	2	21/02/2025	Call-Off Contract
Event Management Services for St Patrick's Day Parade in Blanchardstown and Balbriggan	Davis Events Agency	17 Rathfarnham Road, Terenure, Dublin 6	€ 107,352.00	21/02/2025	21/04/2025	2	21/02/2025	Call-Off Contract

Installation of New Traffic Signals for Fingal County Council	Traffic Solutions Ltd	Unit 5, Block K, Maynooth Business Park, Maynooth, Co Kildare	€ 667,508.58	10/03/2025	12/12/2025	10	03/03/2025	Call Off Contract
Provision of legal advice and services relating to the delivery of Part V and social turnkey housing units at Aster Park, Rush	Mason Hayes & Curran	South Bank House, Barrow Street, Dublin 4	€ 60,000.00	01/01/2025	30/06/2026	18	01/01/2025	Contract
Newtown Bridge - Balheary Road Active Travel Scheme	Jons Civil Engineering	Carranstown, Duleek, Co. Meath A92 K654	€ 995,868.89	30/01/2025	31/07/2026	18	30/01/2025	Contract
Removal of Vessel from Balbriggan Harbour - "Wynd Up"	Marine Specialists Ltd	Larkins Cross, Barntown, Co Wexford	€ 89,300.00	23/01/2025	31/03/2025	3	23/01/2025	Contract
Environmental Monitoring at Dunsink and Balleally Landfill sites 2025	McQuillan Environmental (John McQuillan Contracts Ltd)	6 Caulside Drive, Antrim, BT41 2DU	€ 223,985.50	17/02/2025	16/02/2026	12	17/02/2025	Call-Off Contract
Landscape Architect Led Integrated Design Team Consultancy Services for Public Realm Improvements for a Pedestrianised New Street, Stage 2b	Dermot Foley Landscape Architects (DFLA)	Argus House, Blackpitts, Dublin 8	€ 325,072.50	04/03/2025	04/04/2026	13	21/02/2025	Call-Off Contract
Hire of Volvo EW60E compact wheeled excavator	Larry Kiernan Plant Hire	Grougna, Ring Commons, Balbriggan, Co Dublin	€ 62,100.00	01/04/2025	30/03/2028	36	12/02/2025	Call-Off Contract
Dye & Durham Ltd Lawlink Subscription 2025	Dye & Durham Ltd	31-36 Ormond Quay Upper, Dublin 7	€ 68,484.00	01/01/2025	31/12/2025	12	11/02/2025	Contract
Requirement for Logix BI and NEC Housing drawdown services	Nathean Technologies	3 Lyncon Court, IDA Science & Technology Park, Snugborough Road, Blanchardstown, D15	€ 140,400.00	01/01/2025	31/12/2025	12	10/02/2025	Contract
Tree Removal Works at Comyn Manor and R132	Twin Tree Care Ltd	Sequoia House, 73 Torcaill, Portmarnock, Co Dublin	€ 36,350.00	17/02/2025	17/04/2025	2	07/02/2025	Contract
Road Lining for Swords/Balbriggan Area	MacLochlainn (Roadmarkings) Limited	Bishopswood Lane, The Ward, Co. Dublin	€ 51,205.10	14/01/2025	31/12/2025	11.5	04/02/2025	Call-Off Contract
Legal Conveyancing Services for the acquisition of social turnkey properties for Fingal County Council	Beauchamps LLP	Riverside Two, Sir John Rogerson's Quay, Dublin 2	€ 256,650.00	04/02/2025	03/02/2027	24	04/02/2025	Call-Off Contract
Ongoing Commissioning, operation & maintenance of existing EV charging points to include enabling works for change over from existing supplier.	Hall Power t/a ePower	1 Technology House, Rockgrove Ind Est, Little Island, Cork	€ 34,100.00	30/01/2025	29/01/2026	12	30/01/2025	Contract
25 HP Zbook High Spec Laptops	Datapac Ireland	Robinhood House, Robinhood Road, Dublin 22	€ 38,225.00	22/01/2025	21/01/2026	12	29/01/2025	Contract

Support for Cygnus Housing Loan Application	Gemini Consultants Ltd	AW House, 6-8 Stuart Street, Luton, LU1 2SI, UK	€ 45,386.33	01/04/2025	31/12/2025	9	29/01/2025	Contract
Property Management Services for Council Owned Unsold Affordable Properties at Parnell Estate, Ladyswell, Dublin 15	Paula Barrett Properties Ltd	22 Northumberland Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4	€ 240,000.00	01/01/2025	31/12/2025	12	21/01/2025	Call-Off Contract
Preparation of Dunsink Statutory Local Plan	RMLA Ltd	Unit 3B, Santry Industrial Estate, Santry Avenue, Dublin 9	€ 685,765.00	20/01/2025	19/01/2026	12	20/01/2025	Call-Off Contract
Macadam Material	Roadstone Ltd	Fortunestown, Tallaght, Dublin 24	€ 97,280.00	14/01/2025	31/12/2025	11.5	14/01/2025	Call-Off Contract
Tradfest - Irelands Premier Winter Music & Culture Festival	TASCQ CLG (t/a The Temple Bar Company)	Second Floor, 1-5 Crampton Court, Temple Bar, Dublin 2	€ 120,000.00	01/01/2025	31/12/2025	12	10/01/2025	Contract
Security Services for Coolmine Recycling Centre	Secure Management Solutions	2055 Castle Drive, D24 X2XT	€ 34,784.50	02/01/2025	31/12/2025	12	08/01/2025	Contract
Purchase of three sports equipment storage units to be installed in local parks & controlled by an app	BoxUp SA	Avenue des Baumettes 9, 1020 Renens, Switzerland	€ 70,000.00	06/01/2025	31/12/2025	12	06/01/2025	Contract
Maintenance of GPS Vehicle Tracking System	Transpoco (E-Pire Ltd)	Innovation House, DCU Alpha Innovation Campus, Old Finglas Rd, Glasnevin, Dublin 11	€ 80,000.00	31/12/2024	30/12/2025	12	03/01/2025	Contract
Photography Services for Fingal County Council	Coalesce Ltd	78 Landscape Park, Churchtown, Dublin 14.	€ 62,080.00	15/01/2025	14/01/2027	24	15/01/2025	Contract

Appendix 3 – NTA Active Travel Allocations 2025

Active Travel Investment Grants: 2025 Allocations		
Project Code	Project Name	2025 Allocation
<u>Fingal County Council</u>		
FCC/12/0001	Broadmeadow Estuary Cycle & Pedestrian Bridge	€ 6,500,000
FCC/13/0001	S2M Extension Sutton to Malahide	€ 460,000
FCC/14/0001	Royal Canal Cycle Route (12th Lock-KCC) (CN2) inc. Deep Sinking Coolmine	€ 400,000
FCC/18/0001	Harry Reynolds Road Cycleway in Balbriggan	€ 3,000,000
FCC/20/0001	Donabate Ped and Cycle Bridge	€ 1,000,000
FCC/21/0001	National Aquatic Centre (NAC) to Ongar Village	€ 130,000
FCC/21/0002	Baldoyle to Howth Phase 2 (Dublin Road to Dublin Street)	€ 120,000
FCC/21/0004	Donabate Hearse Rd/Main St/Portrane Rd (Link 1 & Link 2)	€ 185,000
FCC/21/0005	Damastown to Clonsilla Cycle Route	€ 150,000
FCC/21/0006	Clonee to Blanchardstown Shopping Centre	€ 185,000
FCC/22/0001	Castleknock, Auburn Ave.	€ 1,820,000
FCC/22/0004	Hartstown/Huntstown/Mountview Rd D15	€ 135,000
FCC/22/0005	St Cronins Road	€ 25,000
FCC/22/0006	Rathingle/Rivervalley Rd Swords	€ 50,000
FCC/22/0007	Balbriggan road mill street and Drogheda st	€ 60,000
FCC/22/0009	Permeability Links North County	€ 250,000
FCC/22/0010	R132 Ministers Road to Blakes Cross and Kilhedge Lane	€ 300,000
FCC/22/0011	Skerries - Harbour Road	€ 140,000

Appendix 3 - Continued

Project Code	Project Name	2025 Allocation
<u>Fingal County Council</u>		
FCC/22/0012	Seatown Roundabout to Estuary Road (Swords to Malahide)	€ 725,000
FCC/22/0014	Balbriggan - Coney Hill From Devlin Bridge to Brempre Cottages	€ 40,000
FCC/22/0016	New Street Malahide Improvement Scheme	€ 500,000
FCC/22/0018	Data collection for Active Travel Projects (traffic, air, noise)	€ 50,000
FCC/22/0019	Skerries Active Travel Plan	€ 140,000
FCC/22/0020	Balrothery Active Travel Review	€ 165,000
FCC/22/0021	Seamount Heights to Old Golf Links Park Active Travel Route	€ 75,000
FCC/22/0022	Broomfield to Paddys's Hill via Naomh Marnog GAA Active Travel Route	€ 100,000
FCC/22/0026	Staff Costs Active Travel Team	€ 1,100,000
FCC/22/0027	Swords Cycle Network - Sustainable Swords	€ 100,000
FCC/22/0028	Castleknock to Blanchardstown via Farmleigh	€ 175,000
FCC/23/0003	SRTS (R1) - Ladyswell National School	€ 75,000
FCC/23/0004	SRTS (R1) - Scoil Ghraíne CNS	€ 25,000
FCC/23/0005	SRTS (R1) - Scoil Choilm CNS	€ 115,000
FCC/23/0019	SRTS (R1) - Pope John Paul II NS, Malahide	€ 350,000
FCC/24/0001	Feltrim Road cycle infrastructure	€ 160,000
FCC/24/0006	Donabate to Portrane (R126) - Distributor Rd to Portrane Avenue Active Travel Routes	€ 65,000
FCC/25/XXXX	SRTS (R2) - Scoil Bhride Buachaillí	€ 200,000
FCC/25/XXXX	SRTS (R2) - Scoil Bhride Cailíní	€ 200,000

Appendix 3 - Continued

Project Code	Project Name	2025 Allocation
Fingal County Council		
FCC/25/XXXX	SRTS (R2) - St Colmcille's Girls National School	€ 200,000
FCC/25/XXXX	SRTS (R2) - Holy Family Junior National School	€ 200,000
FCC/25/XXXX	SRTS (R2) - St Helen's Senior National School	€ 200,000
FCC/25/XXXX	Castleknoek Rd - Auburn Ave to gates of Pheonix Park	€ 60,000
FCC/25/XXXX	SRTS (R3) - St Nichola's of Myra National School	€ 10,000
FCC/25/XXXX	SRTS (R3) - Scoil Mhuire Junior National School	€ 10,000
FCC/25/XXXX	SRTS (R3) - Scoil Thomáis	€ 10,000
FCC/25/XXXX	SRTS (R3) - Donabate Portrane Educate Together National School	€ 10,000
FCC/25/XXXX	SRTS (R3) - Holywell Educate Together National School	€ 10,000
FCC/25/XXXX	SRTS (R3) - Malahide/Portmarnock Educate Together National School	€ 10,000
FCC/25/XXXX	SRTS (R3) - Broadmeadow Community National School	€ 10,000
Total:		€ 20,000,000
Allocations Through Other NTA Funding Streams		
FCC/24/xxxx	Bus Stop Enhancement Programme	€ 500,000
FCC/22/0029	R132 Junction Upgrade Design	€ 5,800,000
FCC/24/0005	Waterville Junction upgrade	€ 385,000
FCC/25/00XX	Sustainable Traffic Management Measures	€ 1,000,000
Subtotal:		€7,685,000

Appendix 4
Summary of Environmental Complaints, Inspections and Enforcement Actions

		2023	2024
Complaints investigated	Litter	389	1556
	Waste (non C&D)	638	724
	C&D Waste	9	7
	Water and Wastewater	101	75
	Air & Odour	37	54
	Noise	99	146
	TOTAL COMPLAINTS	1,273	2,562
Inspections	Routine Waste Inspections	1124	572
	Non-Routine Waste Inspections	416	463
	Litter Patrols & investigations	3232	6398
	Routine Water & Wastewater Inspections	720	930
	Non-Routine Water & Wastewater Inspections	133	136
	Routine Air & Noise Inspections	61	122
	Non-Routine Air & Noise Inspections	134	200
	Planning Inspections	416	630
	TOTAL INSPECTIONS	6,236	9,451
Enforcement Actions	Litter Fines	463	295
	Waste Warning Letters	96	109
	Directions under S14 of WMA	101	74
	Other waste enforcement	52	31
	Water & Wastewater	29	9
	Air Enforcement Action	0	21
	Noise Enforcement Action	10	11
	TOTAL ENFORCEMENT	751	550
Prosecutions initiated	Litter	62	36
	Waste	16	5
	TOTAL PROSECUTIONS	78	41

Appendix 5
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	Mixed Tenure	Hayestown, Rush 53°31'24.1"N 6°06'42.1"W - Google Maps	10 Social 51 Affordable	On-Site	Q2 2023	Phased delivery
Balbriggan/Rush -Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	St. Ita's, Portrane Portrane Ave - Google Maps	5 Restoration of existing cottages.	On-Site	Q4 2022	Q2 2025
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	Glenveagh Living Ltd	Mixed Tenure	Balmoston Ph1., Donabate 53°29'21.2"N 6°07'58.1"W	87 Social 86 Cost Rental 86 Affordable	On-Site	Q3 2023	Phased delivery
Blanchardstown/Mulhuddart/Castleknock/ Ongar	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Church Fields 3A 53°24'44.7"N 6°23'39.0"W - Google	40 Social 80 Cost Rental 180 Affordable	On-Site	Q4 2023	Phased delivery
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk /Swords	FCC	Social	Seatown Road, Swords 53°27'35.4"N 6°13'04.7"W Google Maps	36 36 x 2 Bed	On-Site	Q1 2024	Q4 2026
Blanchardstown/Mulhuddart/ Castleknock/ Ongar	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Church Fields 3B 53°24'44.7"N 6°23'39.0"W - Google Maps	107 Social 110 Affordable	On-Site	Q4 2024	Q4 2026
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Ballisk Park, New Road, Donabate 53°29'02.6"N 6°08'27.5"W	63 Social 112 Affordable	On-Site	Q4 2024	Q4 2026
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social - Elderly	North Street, Swords 53°27'38.6"N 6°13'06.7"W - Google Maps	13 Social 6 x 1 Bed 7 x 2 Bed	Enabling works complete.	Q1 2025	Q2 2026
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Holywell, Swords 53°26'48.1"N 6°12'42.8"W	57 Social 20 x 1- bed 29 x 2-bed 8 x 3-bed	On-Site	On-Site	Q4 2026

Schemes on Site (Continued)

Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Mourne View, Skerries. 53.580404, -6.122225	14 Social 11x 2-Bed 3 x 3-Bed 1 x 4-Bed	On-Site	On-Site	Q4 2025
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Rathmore, Remount, Lusk 53.521142, -6.161451	18 Social 2 x 1 bed 12 x 2 bed 4 x 3 bed	On-Site	On-Site	Q4 2025
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	TBC	Mooretown Phase 1, Swords. https://maps.app.goo.gl/R8eAG1aolXh1nL2j9	123 Social 151 Affordable	On-Site	On-Site	Q4 2026

Appendix 5 - 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	North and East Housing Association	Social – Elderly	Garristown 53°34'03.7"N 6°22'42.1"W - Google Maps	6 Social 3 x 2-bed 3 x 1-bed	Planning granted.	TBC	TBC
Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart/ Castleknock/Ongar	FCC	Social – Elderly TBC	Blakestown Cross, Mulhuddart 53.399869, -6.401776 Google Maps	30 Social 16 x 1 Bed 14 x 2 Bed	Consultants to be appointed.	Q1 2026	Q4 2026
Howth/Malahide	FCC	TBC	Tuckets Lane 53.385248, -6.066128 Google Maps	8 Social 4 x 1 Bed 4 x 2 Bed	On-hold	TBC	TBC
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Woodside, Swords. 53.453901, -6.210574 Google Maps	34	Planning granted.	Q1 2026	Q1 2027
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Park Road, Kenure, Rush. 53.532278, -6.102176 Google Maps	32	Planning granted.	Q1 2026	Q1 2027

Appendix 5- Continued Schemes at the Pre-Planning Stage

Area Committee	Provider	Funding Stream	Site Name	No. Units	Status Detail	On-Site Date	Handover (estimated date)
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	TBC	O' Dwyers, Balbriggan. https://maps.app.goo.gl/inSEC4Qg3QSBHQHp8	80	Pre-Planning.	TBC	TBC
Howth/Malahide	FCC	Social	Fingerpost, Malahide	4	Pre-planning.	Q4 2025	Q1 2027
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Balmoston Ph2, Donabate 53°29'21.2"N 6°07'58.1"W	86 Social 86 Affordable	Planning granted (in appeal period).	TBC	TBC
Blanchardstown	FCC	Social	Fortlawn, Blanchardstown	21	Pre-Planning.	TBC	TBC
Blanchardstown/Mulhuddart/ Castleknock/ Ongar	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Mayeston, Dublin 11 <a -="" 6°17'02.1"w="" google="" href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/53°24'28.4" maps"="" n="">53°24'28.4"N 6°17'02.1"W - Google Maps	119 39 x 1 Bed 68 x 2 Bed 12 x 3 Bed	Pre-Planning.	TBC	TBC

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

Appendix 5- Continued
CALF Delivery in partnership with Fingal County Council

Area Committee	AHB	Funding Stream	Scheme Name	No. of Units	Projected Substantial Completion*
Balbriggan/ Rush-Lusk/ Swords	Tuath	CALF	Semple Woods	3	Q2 2025
Balbriggan/ Rush-Lusk Swords	Respond	CALF	Meadow Banks, Oldtown, Swords	84	Q2 2025
Balbriggan/ Rush- Lusk Swords	Tuath	CALF	The Paddocks, Golf Links Road, Skerries	97	Q3 2025
Balbriggan/ Rush- Lusk Swords	Tuath	CALF	Folkstown Park, Balbriggan	22	Q2 2025
Balbriggan/ Rush- Lusk Swords	Oaklee	CALF	Harmans Rest, Donabate	44	Q3 2026
Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart, Castleknock/Ongar	Cluid	CALF	Hollyfield, Hollystown, Dublin 15	22	Q2 2025
Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart, Castleknock/Ongar	Tuath	CALF	Kilmartin Grove, Dublin 15	32	Q3 2025
Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart, Castleknock/Ongar	Tuath	CALF	Whitehaven, Northwood, Santry D9	94	2026
Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart, Castleknock/Ongar	Tuath	CALF	Niven Oaks, Santry D9	170	2026
Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart, Castleknock/Ongar	Respond	CALF	Pipers Square, Charlestown, St. Margarets Road, Finglas, D11	211	Q4 2025
Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart, Castleknock/Ongar	Respond	CALF	Pipers Square, Charlestown, St. Margarets Road, Finglas, D11	95	2026

*The above-estimated timelines are indicative and subject to change