



## **Municipal District of Glenties**

Office of Meetings  
Administrator  
P.S.C  
Dungloe  
4<sup>th</sup> November 2020

### **NOTICE OF MEETING**

The November Municipal District of Glenties Meeting will be held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 **at 11.00 am in the Dungloe Public Services Centre.**

**TO EACH MEMBER OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF GLENTIES**

**Dear Councillor**

You are summoned to attend this meeting of the Municipal District of Glenties.  
Please ensure that you bring the agenda previously distributed to the meeting.

**Yours sincerely**

**Eamonn Brown  
Meetings Administrator**



## **Ceantar Bardais Na Gleanntaí**

Oifig Riarthóir na  
gCruinnithe  
P.S.C  
Clochán Liath  
4ú Samhain 2020

### **FOGRA CRUINNITHE**

Beidh Cruinniú de Ceantar Bardais Na Gleanntaí **in Ionad Seirbhísí Clochán Liath** ar an 10ú Samhain 2020, ag 11.00 r.n.

### **DO GACH BHALL DEN CEANTAR BARDAS NA GLEANNTAÍ**

**A Chara**

Iarrtar ort bheith i lathair ag an gcruinniú seo Ceantar Bardais Na Gleanntaí.

Déan cinnte go mbeidh an clár oibre a dáileadh roimh an cruinniú deireannach libh.

**Mise, le meas**

Éamonn de Brún  
**Riarthóir Cruinnithe**

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**Yours sincerely**

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**Eamonn Brown**  
**Meetings Administrator**

## AGENDA

1. Consideration of the Minutes of Glenties Municipal District Committee Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2020. 11am
  
2. Consideration of the Minutes of Glenties Municipal District Statutory Budget Meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2020.
  
3. Report from Workshop held on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2020.
  
4. Reports from Council Services
  - 4.1 Environment. 11.05
  - 4.2 Economic Development I.S & Emergency Services 11.20
  - 4.3 Community Development 11.35
  - 4.4 Planning. 11.50
  - 4.5 Roads. 12.05
  - 4.6 Housing & Corporate Services. 12.20
  
- Motions:** 12.35

### **Community & Planning**

#### **5. Cllr John Seamaís O'Fearraigh**

"Further to the Motion passed by this Council in April 2016 in relation to the provision of adequate funding for the erection of monuments in the County, the Glenties Municipal District –

Recognises the historical and cultural significance of the structure known as Bád Eddie on Machaire Clochair strand, Bunbeg, Co. Donegal; -

Notes that the boat has become an iconic structure in the local landscape and is renowned nationally and internationally having featured in the U2 and Clannad music video and on the cover of Vogue magazine in Italy; -

Recognises that Bád Eddie plays an important part in attracting tourists to the area, adds to their experience and that tourists and locals alike have an affinity with the boat; -

Commends the work of the newly formed local committee, "Coiste Bád Eddie", who have come together with the aim of preserving the structure; -

Pledges to preserve the structure through the placing of a new permanent replica of the structure at the location; -

Commits to contributing to the funding the replica structure and further commits to work with other potential stakeholders to work towards securing additional funding streams; -

Partners with Coiste Bád Eddie to assist in their efforts to preserve the boat; -

Commits to initiating a stakeholder group with a meeting to take place between Council officials, the stakeholders and Coiste Bád Eddie prior to the end of year 2020."

## **Roads & Transportation**

### **6. Cllr. Maire Therese Gallagher**

"That this MD draw up plans to provide safe pedestrian access in the town of Dungloe, to include safe access for residents in the fairhill/sheskinarone area, connecting footpaths at Radox to Pole road cross road, Quay road and Carnmore Road, and pedestrian access to Public carpark."

**Questions:**

12.50

## **Community & Planning**

### **7. Cllr. Maire Therese Gallagher**

"Will this MD invite Failte Ireland to meet with members and relevant staff and agencies to start a plan on tourism development within the Donegal Gaeltacht."

### **8. Cllr. Maire Therese Gallagher**

"Considering that the post of CDO for this MD is to be appointed before year end, would this MD consider having a workshop/meeting in the new year to consider work programs for the MD area and discuss how consultation with local community groups can take place remotely considering covid restrictions."

## **Housing, Corporate & Culture**

### **9. Cllr. Anthony Molloy**

"I would just like an update as to where we are at regarding the buy out of Council Houses .This has been brought up a few times at our Plenary meetings."

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF GLENTIES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE**

**HELD ON 13<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2020 IN**

**DUNGLOE PUBLIC SERVICES CENTRE**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cllr. Noreen McGarvey (Cathaoirleach)  
Cllr. Marie Therese Gallagher (Leas Cathaoirleach)  
Cllr. Anthony Molloy  
Cllr. Michéal Choilm Mac Giolla Easbuig  
Cllr. Michael McClafferty  
Cllr. John Sheamais Ó Fearraigh

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Michael McGarvey, A/Director Water & Environment  
Eamonn Brown - Area Manager, Housing & Corporate  
Michael Rowsome, S.S.O. Housing/Corporate

**Note:** **(Service Managers attended the meeting at designated times to comply with HSE Guidelines)**  
Brendan McFadden - SEE, Area Manager, Roads & Transportation  
Sinéad McClafferty - Area Planner  
David Friel - Coastal Officer  
Joy Harron - Economic Development  
Daragh McDonough - IS Project Leader  
Charles Sweeney - Community Development Manager

**GMD 58/20** **Confirmation of Minutes of Glenties Municipal District Committee meeting**

On the proposal of Cllr. Gallagher, seconded by Cllr. McClafferty, the minutes of the Glenties Municipal District meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> of September 2020, were confirmed.

**GMD 59/20**

**Report from Workshop**

The Committee noted the report from the Housing Workshop held on the 11<sup>th</sup> of September 2020 circulated previously.

**GMD 60/20**

**Economic Development, I.S. and Emergency Services**

60.1

Joy Harron from the Strategic Funding Unit made a presentation to Members outlining the vision of this unit, to maximise external funding opportunities to allow the Council to deliver projects that would not be otherwise funded within the annual budget allocation. The Committee were updated in relation to the project lifecycle process from the commencement of a funding needs analysis to the evaluation to measure results during and after specific projects.

Cllr. Gallagher requested the Unit to liaise with Udarás na Gaeltachta to strengthen state body collaboration in terms of the provision of funding to tackle depopulation, establishment of a Gaeltacht task force, sustainable tourism promotion and involvement/consultation with the second level educational sector.

Cllr. Ó Fearraigh stressed the necessity for employment creation in the Gaeltacht and requested further details on the availability on the new stimulus package to cover 50% of eligible costs to a maximum of €80,000.

Cllr. McClafferty requested the Tourism Marketing Unit to take cognisance of the issues surrounding access to beaches, caravan parks and unauthorised motor home parking during the Summer season, to avoid a repetition of negative events during future tourism seasons.

Cllr. Molloy requested the Council to pursue the provision of adequate broadband infrastructure particularly in



rural areas to facilitate students completing their online courses.

Cllr. McGarvey welcomed (i) the proposal to install 13 outdoor wi-fi access points throughout the Municipal District to create centres of public connectivity & (ii) the inaugural meeting of the Fisheries Committee held on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2020 and informed Members of their intention to hold an online meeting with the Marine Minister.

The Director welcomed the presentation and highlighted the potential advantages for the Islands Committee in broadening the range of potential sources of funding and also welcomed the funding opportunities presented by the climate change agenda.

Joy Harron informed Members of ongoing collaboration with Udarás and that the strategic funding unit is investigating a number of funding opportunities in relation to themes around digital transformation including digital hubs. The Committee were advised that a Webinar themed around funding opportunities for Innovation and Digitisation in the Public Sector will take place online on Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

## 60.2

Daragh McDonough, IS Project Leader discussed the report issued with the agenda and updated the Committee in relation to:

- Local Enterprise Office activity
- Emergency Services
- Information Systems

Cllr. McGarvey welcomed the commencement of the rollout of the National Broadband Plan in Donegal and highlighted difficulties experienced by students attempting to carry out course work during the recent 'lockdown'.

Cllr. Molloy also expressed the frustration of many citizens in Donegal who are unable to connect to the fibre optic network.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig expressed dissatisfaction at the dependence by the state on commercial enterprise to provide vital broadband infrastructure and stated that certain sectors of society will be deprived of this vital necessity until neo liberalism is challenged.

The I.S. Project Leader confirmed that Broadband Connection Points have been rolled out to the Amharclann in Gaoth Dobhair and to Comharchumann Oileáin Thoraí to ensure high speed broadband is available in community settings until the NBP fibre is implemented.

## **GMD 61/20**

### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

#### **61.1**

#### **Walks and Trails**

The Committee welcomed the reports issued with the agenda and presented by the Community Development Manager in relation to the maintenance, development and promotion of walks and trails including cycleways and greenways.

The Community Development Manager responded to queries from (1) Cllr. Molloy regarding the status of the Glenties Alter trail project, (2) Cllr. Ó Fearraigh regarding parking congestion issues at Ards Forest Loop and clarified that Coillte have responsibility in this regard and (3) Cllr. Gallagher regarding the process

involved in having Part 8 planning permission approved for shovel ready projects to expedite progress. Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig requested the Council to develop trails to the lighthouses on Arranmore & Tory due to the condition of the roads.

61.2

### **Youth Council**

The Community Development Manager updated the Committee on the status of the Youth Council and the completion of their 2 year term.

Cllr. Gallagher and Cllr. McGarvey congratulated Éadaoin Nic Con Uladh on her appointment as the first young adult representative on the Donegal CYSPC.

61.3

### **Community Enhancement Programme 2020**

Members discussed the report issued with the agenda in relation to the Community Enhancement Programme and Cllr. McGarvey welcomed the provision of funding to 11 no. local projects in the Municipal District.

61.4

### **Village Renewal 2020**

The Community Development Manager informed Members of the recent allocation of €25,000 to improve accessibility and appearance of Ardara village.

61.5

### **One Donegal - Social Inclusion Week**

Members welcomed the report presented by the Community Development Manager in relation to the promotion of social inclusion activities during the week from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> of October.

Cllr. McGarvey commended the presentation by the Community Development Manager on Highland Radio in respect of the launch of Social Inclusion week.

61.6

**Adventure Tourism**

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig requested the Council to pursue the promotion of adventure tourism Blueways, Greenways and to revisit the Poll an tSnámh, Ranafast outdoor pool development. In response to a query from Cllr. McClafferty, the Community Development Manager advised that a feasibility study had been prepared in respect of the potential of developing this facility, a number of years ago.

61.7

**YOURS Project**

Members noted the report issued with the agenda.

61.8

**Rural Development Programme / Leader**

The Committee noted the status of this programme as detailed on the report previously circulated with the Agenda.

GMD 62/20

**PLANNING SERVICES**

Members discussed the report circulated previously and presented by the Area Planner in relation to the status of development applications during the period ended July 2020.

In response to queries from (i) Cllr. Gallagher regarding the need for additional resources to cope with the increasing workload, the Area Planner advised that management are seeking to address this issue. (ii) Cllr. Molloy regarding applications for development within the

SPA/SAC, the Planner confirmed that a higher level of assessment is required including an ecological report to determine if there will be an impact on local habitats. (iii) Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig regarding the refusal of applications for development on the N56, the Planner confirmed that the Council are obliged to adhere to the County Development Plan which mirrors national plans and policies. Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig requested the Council to meet with the TII to represent the views of local communities.

Cllr. Gallagher stated that repeated efforts have been made in this regard and that Senior Government Ministers will have to make representations to the TII and Cllr. McGarvey concurred with this recommendation.

62.2

### **Enforcement**

The Committee discussed the report circulated with the Agenda in relation to the status of enforcement cases in the County. In response to a query from Cllr. Ó Fearraigh, the Area Planner agreed to liaise with Carol Margey regarding the status of 190 historical cases on record since 2012.

62.3

### **Pre-Planning clinics**

Members discussed the report circulated with the Agenda and the Area Planner clarified that these clinics will be facilitated via telephone calls during Covid19 restrictions between 9.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. on 21<sup>st</sup> October, 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> November and 2<sup>nd</sup> December.

62.4

### **Rural Regeneration & Development Fund (RRDF)**

The Committee welcomed the report circulated with the Agenda and Cllr. Mc Garvey welcomed progress on the Burtonport/Arranmore project.

Cllr. Gallagher requested the Council to be mindful of the necessity for public consultation notwithstanding Covid19 restrictions, prior to publication of the Dungloe regeneration strategy.

The Area Planner undertook to liaise with Paul Kelly of the Regeneration Development Team in this regard.

**62.5**

**Central Planning Unit**

Members noted the report circulated with the Agenda.

**GMD 63/20**

**ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION**

**63.1**

**Follow Up Issues**

The Roads Manager confirmed that responses have issued to all Councillors regarding their queries raised at the September meeting.

**63.2**

**Road Work Programme**

The Roads Manager updated the Committee on the extensive work programme in progress throughout the Municipal District and the expectation that the Programme will be completed by the end of November.

Members commended all staff involved in the programme.

**63.3**

**Clady Bridge**

In response to a query from Cllr. Ó Fearraigh, the Roads Manager advised that the feasibility report recommended installation of a footpath at a cost of €400k and that a consultant will be appointed to progress this project.

63.4

### **Road Maintenance**

In response to a complaint from Cllr. Ó Fearraigh regarding works at An Chrannóg, the Roads Manager informed Members that he has liaised with the Manager of An Chrannóg and the contractor regarding completion of relevant works.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig requested the Roads Service to address ongoing issues in relation to dumping at Meenacross Crossroads, Meenaweel light, manhole survey, road from Acres School to the Chapel in Burtonport, lighthouse roads on Tory and Arranmore and planting of wildflowers at Crolly Junction and in Lettermacaward. The Roads Manager undertook to liaise with the TII in relation to the planting of Wildflowers prior to the Spring.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig proposed and Cllr. Molloy seconded a recommendation that the Council tar and chip the car park adjacent to the football field in Rann na Feirsde.

63.5

### **Dore Footpath**

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig commended ongoing work at this location, however he expressed opposition to the outsourcing of works to private contractors.

The Roads Manager expressed appreciation to the local community in respect of necessary land acquisition to facilitate these works.

63.6

### **Strategic Roads Funding**

Cllr. Gallagher recommended that the Cathaoirleach of each Municipal District, the Chief Executive Officer and Senior Roads Management meet online with the Minister

to expedite the allocation of necessary strategic roads funding and the Roads Manager agreed to liaise with the Director of Roads in this regard.

**63.7**

### **National Roads Office Report**

The Committee noted the report circulated previously and presented by the Roads Manager regarding the status of N56 Works at the following locations:

- Kilkenny to Letterilly
- Dungloe to Cloughbolie
- Letterilly to Glenties(Kilraine)
- Dungloe to Glenties - Land Acquisition
- Dungloe to Glenties - Art Scheme. The Roads Manager informed the Committee that a shortlist of 5 projects have been identified to develop their proposals further.

**63.8**

### **Dungloe**

In response to submissions from Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig, the Roads Manager advised that there is no funding available for a footpath on Carnmore Road, and that consideration will be given to the Main Street one way traffic system in 2021.

**GMD 64/20**

### **HOUSING SERVICE**

**64.1**

### **Housing Grants**

The Committee discussed the report issued with the Agenda and presented by the Housing Manager in relation to the status of the grant schemes as at the 7<sup>th</sup> of October 2020. The Housing Manager advised Members that in excess of 20 approvals have recently issued, following the recent decision of Plenary Council to increase the level of grant assistance.



## 64.2

### Casual Vacancies

Members discussed the report circulated with the Agenda in relation to the status of 14 no. casual vacancies as at the 7<sup>th</sup> of October. The Committee were informed of the difficulties experienced by Contractors in obtaining raw materials for kitchen and R11 non-slip lino for bathrooms.

Cllr. McClafferty and Cllr. Ó Fearraigh welcomed the decision to demolish and rebuild social housing at Massinass, Creeslough and expressed a desire to have additional units completed at this location.

## 64.3

### Housing Capital

The Committee noted the report circulated with the Agenda in relation to:

- Construction Schemes
- Acquisition Programme
- Turnkey Acquisition
- Single Rural Dwellings
- Land/Property availability for Social Housing

## 64.4

### Approved Housing Bodies

Cllr. Gallagher and Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig expressed disappointment at the prevailing situation whereby units in both Respond and Clúid developments in Dungloe are not fully utilised. The Housing Manager updated Members on recent communication with both bodies and with the Housing department in respect of Capital Acquisition Schemes.

64.5

**Udarás - Fintown**

In response to a query from Cllr. Gallagher the Housing Manager confirmed that Udarás have no immediate plans in relation to their housing units in Fintown.

64.6

**Housing General**

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig requested an update in relation to (1) the status of the letting of housing to the local community in Falcarragh, (2) on the status of the windows and doors programme and (3) date of the next Housing SPC.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig expressed frustration at the engagement of private contractors to carry out road repairs within local authority housing schemes.

64.7

**Standing Orders**

On the proposal of Cllr. Gallagher, seconded by Cllr. Ó Fearraigh the Committee recommended that the standing orders be amended initially on a 4 month trial basis to include 'Motions and Questions' and to suspend the current standing orders.

In response to a request for assistance with the submission of Motions and Questions from Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig, the MD Director stated that the Senior Staff Officer, Area Manager and himself would assist as needed to ensure the Councillor could make his submissions.

Cllr. McClafferty requested Area Management to consider the emerging issues surrounding the publication & verification of material on social media following Workshops held out with the public domain.

**GMD 65/20**

**ENVIRONMENT**

The Committee noted the reports circulated with the Agenda and the Director requested Members to submit any queries to the Corporate Management Team or to the Coastal Officer.

**THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.**

**MINUTES OF STATUTORY BUDGET MEETING OF GLENTIES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT  
HELD ON 29<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2020 IN THE DUNGLOE PUBLIC SERVICES CENTRE**

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**Members Present:** Cllr. Noreen McGarvey (Cathaoirleach)  
Cllr. Marie Therese Gallagher  
Cllr. John Sheamais Ó Fearraigh  
Cllr. Anthony Molloy  
Cllr. Micheal McClafferty  
Cllr. Michéal Cholm MacGiolla Easbuig (Online)

**Officials Present:** Richard Gibson – Head of Finance (Online)  
Michael McGarvey – A/Director of Water & Environment  
Eamonn Brown – Housing & Corporate Manager  
Brendan McFadden – SEE, Roads Manager  
Michael Rowsome – SSO, Housing & Corporate

**GMD 66/20**

**Draft Budgetary Plan for Glenties Municipal District 2021**

**66.1**

The Head of Finance informed the Committee that:

- The Local Government Reform Act 2014 and associated regulations require the allocation of a General Municipal Allocation (GMA) as part of the annual revenue budget process.
- It is proposed to allocate an amount equivalent to €20,000 per Member to the General Municipal Allocation. The final and conclusive decision will be made as part of the Plenary Budget meeting in November 2020, at which point Members can determine the final amount to be made available to the GMA.

**66.2**

**Members Issues**

Cllr. McGarvey welcomed the provision of Strategic Development Funding in the sum of €120,000 & highlighted the positive impact of this Fund throughout the Municipal District. Cllr McGarvey also stressed the importance of maintaining budgets for essential Roads & Housing programmes.

Cllr MacGiolla Easbuig outlined financial difficulties experienced by ‘An Gailearaí’ in Gweedore & requested the Council to provide support for this vital cultural service in the Gaeltacht. Cllr MacGiolla Easbuig also requested the Council to support the work of Coiste na Gaeilge, provision of dedicated resources for both Island & Greenway developments.

Cllr McClafferty requested the Council to provided funding for the installation of Public Lighting in towns, villages & at dangerous

junctions, Tory Pier extension, Arranmore Roads & floodlighting of football pitches.

Cllr Ó Fearraigh recommended an increase in the provision of matching funding to exploit anticipated State & European development programmes.

Cllr Gallagher highlighted the necessity for the increased resourcing of the Planning Service locally, the opening of Library facilities & retention of an adequate Cultural Services budget. Cllr Gallagher also requested the Council to expedite the previously agreed assignment of staff to Community Development & Greenways Programme & to assign a dedicated resource to initiate & plan a programme of shovel ready infrastructural developments.

Cllr Molloy requested the Council to minimise bureaucracy in accessing Members public lighting funds.

### 66.3

#### **Management Response**

The Head of Finance responded to Members queries and also stated that; Notwithstanding the challenges posed by the ongoing Pandemic & Brexit,

- That it is anticipated that the 2021 budget will not vary significantly from the 2020 budget due to central Government support.
- Council intends to maintain current ambitious capital investment programme.
- Reserves and loan financing capacity will be required to maximise co-funding opportunities in the years ahead
- Additional expenditure will need to be financed by creation of an additional source of income (LPT, Rates) or a reduction in expenditure elsewhere.
- Any request for assistance from outside bodies will necessitate submission of a specific & detailed Business Plan.

The Director updated Members in relation to the current status of proposals to assign dedicated staff to Community Development & the Greenways Programme prior to the year end.

### 66.4

#### **Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr McClafferty, seconded by Cllr Ó Fearraigh, the Municipal District Committee of Glenties in line with the requirements of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 and associated regulations,

adopted the Draft Budgetary Plan and General Municipal Allocation in the sum of €120,000 at this time.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig proposal to reject the Draft Budgetary Plan and General Municipal Allocation was not supported.

**THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.**

**REPORT FROM MUNICIAPL DISTRICT BUDGET WORKSHOP HELD ONLINE**  
**9<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2020**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cllr. Noreen McGarvey (Cathaoirleach)  
Cllr. Marie Therese Gallagher  
Cllr. John Sheamais Ó Fearraigh  
Cllr. Michael McClafferty  
Cllr. Micheál Mac Giolla Easbuig  
Cllr. Anthony Molloy

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Richard Gibson – Head of Finance  
Michael McGarvey – Director of Services  
Brendan McFadden – SEE Roads Service  
Eamonn Brown - Housing Manager  
Michael Rowsome –SSO Housing & Corporate

1. The Head of Finance made a presentation to the Committee regarding the following issues:
  - Confirmation of Municipal District Budget Meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 2 p.m. in the Dungloe PSC.
  - Overview of Budget processes, including proposed approach to General Municipal Allocations for 2021, reflecting on Members priorities and further discussions with SMT in advance of the Budget meeting scheduled for 25<sup>th</sup> November with a statutory date for adoption of Budget by 8<sup>th</sup> December 2020.
  - LPT allocation for 2021, & the importance of this source of income to the funding of Service work programmes & major infrastructural developments.
  - Projections in respect of 2021 Commercial Rates in light of challenging business environment.
  - Possible approaches to rates vacancy for 2021 in line with Section 31(1) of the Local Government Reform Act 2014.
  - Emerging issues in preparation of the 2021 Revenue budget. Members were advised that additional expenditure has eclipsed any savings arising from Pandemic restrictions, the continuing decrease in NPPR income & the importance of Government supports to retain current service levels.
  - Proposed approach to 3 year capital Budget preparation 2021-2023 & the prioritisation of shovel ready projects based on affordability.
  
2. The Committee highlighted the following issues for consideration by the Head of Finance during the formulation of the Budget.
  - Appointment of dedicated officials in the following areas; Tenant Liaison, Island Development, Community Development & Letterkenny to Burtonport Railway Project Engineer.
  - Training & Equipment provision for voluntary fire fighters

- Expansion of winter maintenance, footpath, hedgecutting & public lighting programmes
  - Additional Dredging at piers & harbours
  - Takeover of Community Playgrounds
  - Seasonal Ferry Service for small Islands
  - Takeover of additional non county roads
  - Increase in funding for Tidy Town Committees
  - Beach development Programme
3. Members requested the following reports;
- Development Charge Income & Distribution over last 5 years
  - Savings & Expenditure arising from Pandemic
4. The Head of Finance responded to Members and advised that he would liaise with SMT to flag emerging issues in advance of the Budget meeting.

**THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE WORKSHOP**





**ENVIRONMENT REPORT – November 2020**

**WASTE AND LITTER MANAGEMENT**

<p><b>Activity / Project Title</b></p>	<p><b>School Bikes Africa - Great Success!</b></p>
<p><b>Project Description/ Activity</b></p>	<div data-bbox="565 646 1243 1066" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="521 1108 1284 1142" style="text-align: center;"><b>Sample of Bikes collected at Letterkenny Recycling centre</b></p> <div data-bbox="565 1146 1243 1642" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="272 1684 1528 1822">The annual School Bikes Africa campaign has been another great success and it looks like the target of 50 strong sturdy bikes will be surpassed again this year. The campaign is a partnership between Letterkenny Rotary Club, Bryson Recycling and Donegal County Council. Bicycles were collected through all six recycling centres.</p>
<p><b>Contact Person</b></p>	<p><b>Suzanne Bogan, Waste Awareness Officer</b> <a href="mailto:suzannebogan@donegalcoco.ie">suzannebogan@donegalcoco.ie</a></p>

National Reuse Month - October

Activity / Project Title

Project Description/ Activity

**Repairmystuff** : Promotion on social media



**Reuse in the Garden:**

**Video series:**

Joanne Butler from Ourganic Gardens has produced a number of short videos for social media, these excellent videos are all now available on the Councils You Tube Channel.

**Pallet Workshop:**

Joanne also **hosted an online workshop** on making a raised bed from pallets on Thursday 29th October, there were 23 participants on the day that joined the workshop.

*An Athúsáid sa Ghairdín*

Buail isteach le haghaidh Seisiún BEO maidir leis an Athúsáid sa Ghairdín, nuair a dhéanfaidh Joanne Butler ó OURganic Gardens leaba ardaithe as pailléid, agus fráma fuar as dramh-ábhair a úsáid.

Ceisteanna agus Freagraí ina dhiaidh. Is í mBéarla a DHÉANFAR AN SEISIÚN SEO.

Déardaoin 29 Deireadh Fómhair @1pm  
Leis an nasc a fháil, déan teagmháil le [suzannebogan@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:suzannebogan@donegalcoco.ie)



REUSE IN THE GARDEN

**LIVE SESSION  
MAKING A PALLET  
RAISED BED FOR  
THE GARDEN**

Join us for a LIVE Reuse session in the garden, where Joanne Butler from OURganic Gardens will be making a raised bed using scrap pallets and a cold frame using scrap materials. Q&A to follow

Thursday 29th October @1PM  
For Link Contact [suzannebogan@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:suzannebogan@donegalcoco.ie)



**Radio:** Advert on Reuse on I Radio as part of a regional package, focusing on Repair my stuff, Charity Shops and Fast Fashion.

Contact Person

Suzanne Bogan, Waste Awareness Officer  
[suzannebogan@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:suzannebogan@donegalcoco.ie)

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Green Schools</b>
<b>Project Description/ Activity</b>	<p><b>Green Schools Online Teacher seminars – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November:</b></p> <p>Green Schools Ireland are hosting an online training for schools working on the various Green Schools themes on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November. They have also developed and distributed guidance documents on the implementation of the 7- step programme across all green schools themes in light of Covid -19.</p> <p><b>My Waste:</b> The team at mywaste.ie have also produced guidance documents on managing waste at schools in light of Covid – 19.</p>
<b>Contact Person</b>	<p><b>Suzanne Bogan, Waste Awareness Officer</b> <a href="mailto:suzannebogan@donegalcoco.ie">suzannebogan@donegalcoco.ie</a></p>

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Shortlisted - Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards</b>
<b>Project Description/ Activity</b>	<p>The "<b>Donegal Men's Shed Showcase 2019</b>" has been shortlisted in the <b>Supporting Sustainable Communities</b> category in the Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards.</p> <p>The Excellence in Local Government Awards 2020 (ELG Awards), sponsored by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, are held to recognise and celebrate the outstanding work being carried out by local authorities all over Ireland.</p> <p>For more info see our website <a href="https://www.chambers.ie/events/elg-awards/">https://www.chambers.ie/events/elg-awards/</a></p>
<b>Contact Person</b>	<p><b>Suzanne Bogan, Waste Awareness Officer</b> <a href="mailto:suzannebogan@donegalcoco.ie">suzannebogan@donegalcoco.ie</a></p>

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Dog Fouling Awareness</b>
<b>Project Description/ Activity</b>	<p>The Litter Warden in the Glenties MD spent time engaging with dog owners on the 10<sup>th</sup> October in a number of locations popular for walking dogs - Dungloe walkway, Carrickfinn and Magheraclogher. The Litter Warden spoke to dog owners about the importance cleaning up after their dogs. It is intended to repeat this positive work in other locations in the future.</p>
<b>Contact Person</b>	<p><b>Suzanne Bogan, Waste Awareness Officer</b> <a href="mailto:suzannebogan@donegalcoco.ie">suzannebogan@donegalcoco.ie</a></p>


**COASTAL MANAGEMENT**

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Beach Maintenance</b>
<b>Project Description/ Activity</b>	With our beaches quieter at this time of year there is now an opportunity to address a number of maintenance issues. DCC would request that visitors to the beaches be aware of contractors at work and keep at a safe distance.
<b>Contact Person</b>	David Friel 087 7801596

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Beach Ringbuoy Inspections</b>
<b>Project Description/ Activity</b>	Inspections of our beach ringbuoys continue around our coastline. Recent storms had an impact on a number of such locations which will be assessed and addressed.
<b>Contact Person</b>	David Friel 087 7801596

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Fin Swim</b>
<b>Project Description/ Activity</b>	<p>Launching recently in Carrickfinn Beach, Henry O'Donnell has embarked on a Finswim around the Island of Ireland in an effort to become the first person in history to circumnavigate a country by Finswimming.</p> <p>Donegal County Council is proud to support this project which will also help to raise funds for two National Charities;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Irish Cancer Society</li> <li>• Water Safety Ireland</li> </ul> <p>Henry's progress around the Country can be tracked on the website <a href="http://www.finswim2020.com">www.finswim2020.com</a></p> <p>Following each stage Henry raises awareness of the importance of water safety. His landfalls have received great welcome and support including recent memorable events in Tory Island and Glengad.</p>
<b>Contact Person</b>	David Friel 087 7801596



<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Dooley Beach Access</b>
<b>Project Description/ Activity</b>	<p>Improvement works are underway at Dooley Beach boardwalk access. New access restriction work will prevent access to the beach and dunes by quads and scrambler bikes. These vehicles were causing degradation of the EU Designated dune site and damage to the sand ladder access.</p> 
<b>Contact Person</b>	David Friel 087 7801596

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Glenties MD - Coastal Flooding and Erosion Risk Management</b>
<b>Project Description/ Activity</b>	<p>The Glenties CFERM is continuing. Specialist surveys of the site areas have been successfully tendered and a preferred bidder appointed. This appointment will provide aerial surveys, in line with the OPW requirements, of;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gweebarra Bay,</li> <li>• Maghery,</li> <li>• Inishfree Bay (Carrickfinn Peninsula) and</li> <li>• Magheroarty.</li> </ul>
<b>Contact Person</b>	David Friel 087 7801596



**Comhairle Contae  
Dhún na nGall**  
Donegal County Council

**Economic Development, Information Systems &  
Emergency Services Directorate**

**Report to Municipal District of Letterkenny/Milford for November 2020**

**Content**

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# 1. Division: Economic Development

## 1.1 Division: Economic Development – Economic Development Unit

### Project / Activity Report

Title	Economic Development Unit
<b>Outline of Work</b>	<p>The Economic Development Unit proactively engages in economic development opportunities, supporting job creation and strategic investment in Donegal and is focusing on the following areas of work:</p> <p><b>Buy Donegal:</b> A new campaign from the EDU to support Donegal businesses will be launched on weekend <b>6 – 8<sup>th</sup> November 2020</b> and will continue until the end of December 2020. With over 170 businesses signed up to date #BuyDonegal will highlight the great range of Donegal products and services available and encourage people to buy them. The campaign is being supported with an extensive online marketing campaign including a dedicated <a href="http://www.buydonegal.com">www.buydonegal.com</a> .</p> <p><b>Donegal Place Brand initiative:</b> The Tender has been awarded to an agency called OCO Global who have outlined a comprehensive proposal and demonstrated a significant pedigree in developing place brands. Stakeholder consultations have commenced.</p> <p>The new place brand strategy will develop a compelling and coherent proposition for Donegal that will convey the county’s unique identity and competitive advantage as a great place to live, work, invest, explore and study.</p> <p>This will also involve the revamp of the Donegal.ie website as the online home for the new Donegal place brand. The project commenced on Friday October 1<sup>st</sup> with work likely to be completed in early 2021.</p> <p><b>Alpha Innovation Centre:</b> project development work is ongoing on the Alpha Innovation Centre, pending a Letter of Offer from Enterprise Ireland for €3.7m. The project will support businesses and early idea entrepreneurs to develop their innovation capability and business resilience post Brexit and post Covid.</p> <p><b>Donegal Connect:</b> The EDU in collaboration with the Local Enterprise Office/ Donegal Diaspora Project delivered this year’s Donegal Connect event which took place virtually on October 8<sup>th</sup> featuring 3 sessions themed</p>

around relocating to Donegal/remote working, showcasing innovation in Donegal and transatlantic music. The aim of Donegal Connect was to reach out to a global audience and extend our links with the Donegal Diaspora to encourage more people to take jobs, relocate, set up a business or visit Donegal, to grow our economy. As part of this, the EDU undertook an extensive marketing and promotional campaign to profile the event.

A total of 370 people registered for the event.

**Economic Development Covid-19 Recovery:** The Unit is continuing to be proactive in supporting businesses during this Covid-19 pandemic and activities include:

**Communications on business supports:** The EDU is sharing information on the various supports available to businesses at this time including supports available through LEO, Enterprise Ireland, Failte Ireland and the Councils Business Restart Grant Plus Scheme on all our platform including Donegal County Council and Invest Donegal platforms. A summary document was circulated to the elected members on the range of supports available on the 14<sup>th</sup> October. An updated version will be circulated in due course.

**Concierge Service** is a dedicated point of contact for existing businesses, potential business start-ups or businesses looking to relocate or wishing to expand, by offering support and advice and connecting them with key personnel for a wide range of Council services and supports.

Queries are directed to [economicdevelopment@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:economicdevelopment@donegalcoco.ie).

To date 43 queries have been dealt with through this service.

**Property Solutions:** The Unit is currently engaging with a number of businesses in relation to potential property solutions facilitated through Council owned property and land including on lands in Lifford, Ballyshannon and Inishowen as well as potential solutions in Letterkenny.

**Collaboration:** Working with our colleagues in Community Development and Planning Services to progress a range of strategic projects including:

- Platforms for Growth, Stage 3 Application for large scale investment at Fort Dunree with the submission of Part B Business Case on



August 31<sup>st</sup>, awaiting final decision on funding.

- Various Regeneration and Development Proposals under the URDF and the RRDF to ensure that an economic development focus is derived for the respective locations prioritised. These projects are in locations across the county in all Municipal Districts.

**Caravan & Camping Study:** A study to assess and evaluate the opportunities and challenges facing the Caravan & Camping sector is currently being tendered and it is expected that this study will be complete at the end of Q1 2021. This will include extensive consultations with key stakeholders and the recommendations will inform a range of interventions that will assist in addressing the challenges currently being experienced.

**Global engagement:** work is continuing to proactively target potential FDI opportunities in the US market in collaboration with Derry City & Strabane District Council and working to create a Donegal/North West bias for businesses interested in exploring investment opportunities in the EU and UK.

**Golden Bridges 2020:** Golden Bridges 2020 will take place virtually on 20<sup>th</sup> November. The purpose of this event is to promote partnerships between Ireland Northwest (Donegal/Derry/Strabane) and Boston, Massachusetts by bringing together influential leaders from Ireland Northwest and their counterparts in Boston and Massachusetts.

The conference is a showcase of the Northwest to an audience of influential Irish American business and political leaders keen to learn more about the region's offering. The conference will be followed by an annual awards ceremony recognising those in the US who are keeping relationships and connections with Ireland as strong as ever.

**InvestDonegal Communications Update:** InvestDonegal LinkedIn and Twitter (@DonegalInvest) accounts were set up in March & May 2020 respectively. Latest key stats as follows;

	Impressions (last 28 days)	Total Followers
Linked In	31,555	899
Twitter	145,000	800

	<p>The EDU asks elected members to follow InvestDonegal on Twitter and LinkedIn.</p> <p><b>Remote Working:</b> Following on from a public consultation which was held in July 2020, receiving 48 responses, the EDU is developing a new Remote Working Strategy for Business in Donegal to maximise the opportunities arising for the county as a destination of choice for remote working which will form a key part of the COVID-19 recovery plan. This work is underway.</p> <p>A Grow Remote Donegal Chapter has been initiated to promote remote working opportunities to the unemployed and underemployed across the county and to market Donegal as a great place to live and work.</p> <p><b>The Laurentic Conference:</b> The Council is participating in this years online Laurentic Conference which focuses on a number of themes over the course of four days, November 10<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> &amp; 19<sup>th</sup>. The event is free and you can see the full agenda and Register by logging on to our website <a href="http://laurenticforum.com/">http://laurenticforum.com/</a></p> <p><b>Atlantic Economic Corridor:</b> working with Local Authority partners along the western coast to progress mutually beneficial projects and initiatives. The EDU are currently managing €34,500 of funding support (Hub Opening Scheme) from the Department of Rural and Community Development/Western Development Commission to digital hubs in the county to enable them to open safely over the coming months. Working to support drawdown of funds from the eight successful hubs across the county.</p> <p>The EDU and Western Development Commission are also developing a photobank to be used for promotion of the region; showcasing Donegal based companies, the quality of life and co-working spaces. This work is currently ongoing with the successful photographer but has been restricted recently owing to limited access to local business.</p>
<b>Contact Person</b>	<p>Ciaran Martin <a href="mailto:ciaran.martin@donegalcoco.ie">ciaran.martin@donegalcoco.ie</a> (086) 8261760</p> <p>Rosita Mahony – <a href="mailto:rosita.mahony@donegalcoco.ie">rosita.mahony@donegalcoco.ie</a> (087) 2510128</p>

## 1.2 Division: Economic Development – Tourism Marketing Unit

### Activity Report

	<p><b>Donegal Tourism Recovery Taskforce</b></p> <p>Donegal County Council is participating in the Tourism Recovery Task Force for Donegal and is working with Failte Ireland to devise, create, and curate marketing campaigns that deliver the message that Donegal is ready to welcome visitors in line with Government and HSE guidelines.</p> <p>This includes an online publication to communicate what is open in the shoulder season supplemented with features on geographical areas to include 6 itineraries highlighting lesser-known attractions in addition to business listings (what's open). The purpose of this initiative is to encourage domestic tourists to visit Donegal when it is safe to do, motivate/encourage and offer reasons for them to move around the county, extend their stay and increase their spend.</p> <p>Photographer Gareth Wray has been appointed to deliver a suite of Autumn photography, 3D issue have been appointed to design the interactive digital publication and itineraries are being developed by tourism team.</p> <p><b>All Ireland Domestic Campaign - 'Reset, Reconnect, Rediscover'</b></p> <p>The Tourism Unit is working with Creative Design company MMGY to develop and deliver this campaign targeting the domestic market once the Covid 19 restrictions are lifted.</p> <p>This marketing campaign will be instrumental in encouraging people to visit our hotels, restaurants and visitor attractions in the shoulder season, with the aim to increase awareness of Donegal across key audiences, encourage action to keep the destination front of mind and position Donegal as a safe staycation option.</p> <p><b>Donegal/ Derry Marketing Campaign – North West Regional Development Fund</b></p> <p>In addition to above, the Tourism Unit are working with Derry City and Strabane District Council to develop and deliver an extensive crossborder tourism marketing campaign in collaboration with Failte Ireland and Tourism Northern Ireland in late Q1 /Q2 2021. Funding has been secured from NWRDG with match funding being requested from Failte</p>
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Ireland the Tourism NI.

### **Tourism Product/Package Development Programme**

Donegal County Council is also working with Derry City & Strabane District Council (DCSDC) to deliver a new crossborder North West Tourism Product Development Programme. €100,000 has been secured from the NWRDG and the programme aims to support approximately 30 businesses which means that 15 businesses in Donegal and Derry will benefit from the programme.

A tender document is being drawn up to engage a company that will provide a number of experienced mentors, with industry-specific backgrounds to mentor SME Owner/Managers as part of the overall programme. This programme will be closely aligned with the crossborder tourism marketing campaign planned for late Q1/Q2 referred to above.

### **Digital Marketing**

#### **GoVisitDonegal.com**

GoVisitDonegal.com is County Donegal's Tourism Destination portal which provides information on accommodation, festivals, attractions, travel information etc. The website is free for service providers to register and promote their business.

#### **Website performance stats:**

Page views to date (Jan - Oct 2020): 416,648 (up 81% on 2019)

Users to date (Jan – Oct 2020): 126,813 (up 83% on 2019)

Traffic came from 67 countries in total.

#### **Offers Page**

The new Offers page on the website has been adapted to the current Level 5 restrictions – 2 main categories include supporting takeaways and also Donegal businesses that are selling their products/services online – we are working closely with the Economic Development Team supporting #BuyDonegalWeekend campaign

#### **Go Visit Donegal - Social Media Update**

##### **Facebook Page:**

October:

Page Likes: 39,289 | New: +101

Page Followers: 39,840 | New: +109

##### **Twitter:**

	<p>October: Followers: 14,376   New followers: 70   Tweet impressions: 75K   Profile Visits: 582   Mentions 309</p> <p><b>Instagram:</b> October: Followers: 18,177   New followers: 99   Top post reach: 11,117</p> <p><b>Engagement with the Tourism Trade</b> Regular e-zine updates are issued to the trade on a regular basis,– topics include Donegal Tourism updates, Fáilte Ireland announcements, LEO supports etc.</p> <p><b>TIDE – Atlantic Network for Developing Historical Maritime Tourism</b> This project is working to develop a niche historical maritime tourism package for the Atlantic based on connecting &amp; marketing assets from historical periods across different regions i.e. World Wars, Atlantic Migrations, Napoleonic Era &amp; Spanish Armada.</p> <p>The experience will use digital technology to enrich the visitor experience such as Virtual Reality &amp; Archaeology Techniques that will be used in the visitor attractions. Website: <a href="http://www.tide-atlantic.eu">www.tide-atlantic.eu</a></p> <p><b>Gaeltacht Tourism</b> The Gaeltacht Tourism Officer is engaging with Overseas Adventure Travel, an international tour company that operates in 80 countries with a view to expanding their Donegal offering. OAT aim to expose their travellers to unique, off the beaten path experiences whilst also including the highlights/main attractions.</p> <p><b>Rural Development (LEADER) Programme</b> A study to identify the detail of an international marketing campaign to promote Donegal, Sligo and Mayo in overseas markets including the US has been approved.</p> <p><b>Donegal Tourism Strategy</b> A new Tourism Strategy for Donegal is currently being tendered. This strategy will provide strategic direction for the recovery and development of the sector over the next 5 years.</p>
<b>Contact Person</b>	<p>Barney Mc Laughlin Head of Donegal Tourism <a href="mailto:barney.mclaughlin@donegalcoco.ie">barney.mclaughlin@donegalcoco.ie</a> 074 9724465</p>

**1.3. Division: Economic Development Unit – Research and Policy**

**Project / Activity Report**

Activity / Project Title	Insert name of project or initiative
<p><b>Activity / Project Description</b></p>	<p><i>Research &amp; Policy Unit</i></p> <p><i>‘To strategically guide policy decisions &amp; investments in County Donegal through the provision of baseline data, research, policy, planning, monitoring and evaluation expertise’</i></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Udarás na Gaeltachta ( ÚnaG) are currently in the process of preparing its Strategic Plan 2021 – 2025 and to inform the process ÚnaG requested submissions from key local authorities. This plan will be based on the follow key strategic themes of ‘empowerment’, ‘strengthening’ and ‘sustainability’. Údarás na Gaeltachta have identified a number of key drivers/areas for this strategy including :             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GTeic – Gaeltacht Digital Network</li> <li>• The Gaeltacht Brand</li> <li>• The Gaeltacht Diaspora</li> <li>• Strengthening Tourism Projects</li> <li>• Innovation in the Marine Sector.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Donegal County Councils response was coordinated by the Research and Policy Unit in consultation with Elected Members , Directors of Staff and Rannóg na Gaeilge and utilising key in house datasets. It was compiled by the R&amp;P team and submitted on the 30th Sept, 2020.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Donegal County Council held the second meeting of the Fisheries Committee was held virtually on the 22nd October, 2020. The Research and Policy Unit provided administrative support in convening this meeting, minutes and follow-ups. All representatives and alternates agreed by the Elected Members were notified of the next meeting, which will take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov, 2020. Administrative support will be provided by the R&amp; P Unit.</li> <li>• The UK is currently in the transition period, following its decision to leave the EU. This transitional period will come to an end on the 31st Dec, 2020. A new UK-EU relationship will emerge on the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 and to prepare for this the Research and Policy unit have been requested by Director of</li> </ul>

	<p>Service, Head of Economic Development and Head of Enterprise Development to prepare a draft report on the 'Key Implications of Brexit on Donegal' . The first draft report was prepared on the 24<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2020. A second report was presented on the 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2020 containing range of high quality maps prepared by the GIS Officer, Donegal County Council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing support provided to the Donegal Children and Young People's Services Committee who are currently in the process of developing its 'Children and Young People's Plan 2021-2023' by providing key data, statistical and policy insights and review of draft documents.</li> <li>• Ongoing statistical and information supports to Elected Members , Directors of Services, Committees and Staff of Donegal County Council</li> </ul>
<b>Contact Person</b>	<p>Loretta Mc Nicholas  Tel  087 9029307  E   lmcnico@donegalcoco.ie</p>

## Project / Activity Report

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Trail Gazers Bid Project</b>
<b>Activity / Project Description</b>	<i>'To quantify the return to the local economy for every euro invested in walks and recreational trail infrastructure '</i>
<b>Budget</b>	€2.6 M
	<p><b><i>The Research &amp; Policy Unit is managing the transnational EU funded Trailgazers Project. This project has 9 different partners located across Ireland, UK, France, Spain and Portugal. This project will:</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Quantify the impact of key strategic investments in walks and recreational trail infrastructure can have on stimulating rural communities, using sensors data, counters, surveys of users, businesses, communities etc</i></li> <li>• <i>Develop and trial a range of practical initiatives and interventions such as business to consumer initiatives, digital marketing tools etc to enhance the return</i></li> <li>• <i>Work with communities, businesses and other key stakeholders to</i></li> </ul>

*develop community plans and initiatives around the site*

- *Develop a range of community trail ambassadors to champion the sites as catalysts for the development of rural economies*

*Inch Levels is the trial site in Donegal and key learnings will be applied to other sites in the county.*

#### **PROGRESS**

- The Research and Policy Unit, convened, chaired and provided the secretariat for the fifth virtual meeting of the Trail Gazers Steering Committee on the 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2020. This meeting focused on the development of a trail multiplier to understand the economic impact of every euro invested in walks and trails; the development of a marketing strategy for walks and trails across the Atlantic area ; an outline of the proposed trail care packs ; progress in deploying the technology solution and development of the digital dashboard, early results of the trail visitor survey and the development of bespoke community trail plans.
- The Research and Policy Unit, convened, chaired and provided the secretariat for the fourth virtual meeting of the Trail Gazers Project Monitoring Committee on the 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2020. The PMC ensures the smooth delivery of the joint implementation plan for the project across the 10 transnational partners.
- The R&P Unit issued a second call for quotations for the procurement of sensors for Inch Levels on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2020.
- Following on from the transnational workshops held with partners in August and September the Research and Policy Unit has continued to work with partners on emerging options for the development along each of these trail sites that will capitalise on the assets and minimise the constraints. This work will feed into the development of bespoke Community Trail Plans that focus on innovative and practical way to harness footfall from walks and trails and divert visitors into surrounding towns and villages to explore, experience and spend.
- Participated in Training on the Lost Stories and Folklore of the Trail App on the 6<sup>th</sup> Oct 2020. Ongoing development of conservation theme to tie together key stories around Inch Levels. Work continues with suppliers , appointed on the 4<sup>th</sup> August to capture digital footage, to develop imagery and stories that will showcase Inch Levels and surrounding catchment area to new niche audiences



	<p>and also provide content for the <i>'Lost Stories &amp; Folklore of the Trail App'</i>. This app will allow visitors to explore Inch Levels trail site virtually and listen to local stories and folklore associated with key points of interest along the trail site. It will help to build up an affinity with the site that will last long after the visit has ended.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Research and Policy Unit submitted a second financial claim and progress report on behalf of Donegal County Council to the First Level Controller which has been validated. The R&amp;P Unit are currently working with all partners to ensure verified expenditure from all 9 partners is received by the R&amp;P Unit by the 6<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2020. Compilation of overall project report and claim by the R&amp;P unit for the 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2020.</li> <li>• Ongoing awareness raising of the work that is been led out by the Research &amp; Policy Unit, Economic in utilising walks and trail infrastructure to stimulate economic development in the Atlantic Area.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Project Targets for the next quarterly* reporting period</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submission of overall Project Progress Report for all 10 Trail Partners on the 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2020</li> <li>• Evaluation of sensors quotations on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2020</li> <li>• Population of Trail Care Template on Flora &amp; Fauna surrounding Inch Levels</li> <li>• Finalisation of promotional video for Inch Levels and series of vodcasts.</li> <li>• Second iteration of emerging options for development of Community Trail Plans.</li> <li>• Participation in a range of coordination meetings across different themes and</li> </ul>
<p><b>Contact Person</b> (to include telephone number &amp; e-mail address)</p>	<p>Loretta Mc Nicholas  <b>Tel </b> 087 9029307  <b>E  </b> <a href="mailto:lmcnicho@donegalcoco.ie">lmcnicho@donegalcoco.ie</a></p>


#### **1.4. Division: Economic Development Unit - Strategic Funding Unit Report**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Strategic Funding Unit</b> – exploring EU and National Funding Opportunities that support the objectives set out in the <b>Donegal County Council Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024</b>
<b>Outline of Work</b>	<p><b>Strategic Funding Webinar</b></p> <p>The first Strategic Funding Unit webinar took place on 1<sup>st</sup> October. Over 35 staff joined the webinar. an introduction to the work of the Strategic Funding Unit by Joy Harron, an overview of EU funding opportunities for 2021 by Brendan Mooney of the NWRA and an insight into National funding opportunities from Hugh O’Reilly of the Wheel.ie. Feedback after the webinar was very positive and meetings are now being arranged with the various directorates to assess funding needs and look at potential projects to be funded.</p> <p>The next Strategic Funding Unit webinar will take place on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020. The theme for this webinar is Innovation and Digitisation in the Public Sector. Speakers include Catherine Madders, Innovation Fund Executive from the Public Service Innovation Team, Reform and Delivery Office who will provide a presentation on the opportunities for public sector projects in the Innovation Fund 2021. Colm McColgan, General Manager from Ernact will be presenting the latest updates in relation to the new Digital Europe Programme for EU funding and the types of project themes that could support the digital agenda for County Donegal. Joy Harron, Staff Officer from the Strategic Funding Unit will be presenting an overview of a Funding Needs Analysis to introduce Council teams to the process of identifying and prioritising funding needs on a cross-directorate basis in order to determine the funding requirements and types of projects that could be developed in 2021 and beyond. To register click on the link below: <a href="https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_WmcTlyVKQ2GGUYNIP0ac5A">https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_WmcTlyVKQ2GGUYNIP0ac5A</a></p> <p><b>Strategic Funding Unit Newsletters</b></p> <p>Donegal County Council Strategic Funding Unit continues its targeted e-mail campaign. E-mail newsletters are being sent to the team members in the various Divisions regarding funding opportunities, project development and events that are relevant to the work they are doing in line with the strategic objectives set out in the corporate plan. To date 6 targeted e-mail newsletters have been sent since the campaign commenced mid-September. The goal of these newsletters is to inform staff of relevant funding opportunities.</p> <p><b>Divisional Funding Needs Analysis</b></p> <p>The next step in the SFU Strategy will be to carry out a series of Funding Needs Analysis meetings with each of the Council Divisions in order to determine the needs, priorities and to develop viable projects in advance of funding calls</p>

	<p>opening next year.</p> <p><b>Networking &amp; Partnerships</b>  The Strategic Funding Unit are working with a variety of networks to explore project development and funding opportunities. Donegal County Council Strategic Funding Unit participated in the CPMR (Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions) General Assembly meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2020. This meeting was focused on the EU recovery plan for the pandemic crisis and Brexit. The SFU also held an online meeting with CPMR and NWRA to input the needs of Donegal County Council in relation to the Brexit Adjustment Reserve Fund. Details of which will be announced by the European Commission in November 2020.</p> <p><b>EUDiF Funding Application</b>  The Strategic Funding Unit is working with the LEO Diaspora Officer on an application to the EUDiF (European Union Global Diaspora Facility) to apply for funding for a Diaspora engagement project.</p> <p><b>EURural Project</b>  The Strategic Funding Unit is working with the Municipality of Aras de los Olmos (Spain) on the development of a project under the EU funding call Europe for Citizens. If successful the project aims to foster democratic engagement and civic participation in rural areas and encouraging democratic participation of citizens at EU level and participation in the EU policy-making process.</p> <p><b>AER Summer Academy Event 2022</b>  The SFU is in talks with AER (Assembly of European Regions) in regards to hosting their Summer Academy here in Donegal in 2022 depending on the pandemic situation. This would provide a positive economic boost to the county and international exposure. Fáilte Ireland are also working with the SFU to support this initiative.</p> <p><b>Other Funding Investigations</b>  The Strategic Funding Unit is investigating a number of funding opportunities in relation to themes around digital transformation including digital hubs, IoT, infrastructure, tourism innovation, sustainability, climate change and specific funding calls such as the Innovation Fund, NPA, Peace Plus, Atlantic Area Programme and Horizon 2020.</p>
<p><b>Contact Person</b>  <i>(to include telephone number &amp; e-mail address)</i></p>	<p><b>Joy Harron</b>  <b>Acting Staff Officer</b>  <b>Mobile:</b> +353 (87) 0619360  <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:joyharron@donegalcoco.ie">joyharron@donegalcoco.ie</a></p>

## 2. Division: Local Enterprise Office

### Project / Activity Report

Activity / Project Title	The Local Enterprise Office (LEO)
	<p>The Local Enterprise Office (LEO) as part of the Economic Development, IS &amp; Emergency Services Directorate, is the “first stop shop” for anyone planning, starting or growing a small business in Donegal. The LEO plays a major role in offering expertise, know-how and financial support to local small businesses, enabling them to grow and thrive. Supports available can be categorised under 4 core pillars, notably Financial, Capability Development, Enterprise Promotion and Economic &amp; Other initiatives.</p>
<b>Outline of Work</b>	<p>A range of COVID 19 supports in addition to the regular LEO supports are on offer and a summary of the supports and the uptake is detailed below.</p>  <p><b>Business Continuity Voucher</b></p> <p>The Business Continuity Voucher was designed for businesses across every sector that employ up to 50 people. The voucher worth up to €2,500 in third party consultancy costs could be used by companies and sole traders to develop short-term and long-term strategies to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic.<sup>33</sup></p> <p><b>Progress:</b> 678 applications were received by Donegal LEO in the 8 week period to May 2020 with 574 applications approved to the value of €917,560. €487,800 has been paid out to date to 312 businesses across the County. <u>This scheme is now closed to new applications.</u></p>



### **Expert Mentoring**

Up to 12 hours of free online/telephone mentoring is available to any business seeking assistance in addressing COVID -19 issues including developing their cash flow projections, managing cashflow, drafting loan applications, HR advice, Risk Assessment, etc and developing short action plans to address the identified actions. Mentoring application forms are available to download [here](#).

**Progress:** To date, 124 COVID -19 Mentoring applications have been received.



### **Trading Online Voucher Scheme**

The Trading Online Voucher (TOV) Scheme which has been updated from 8th April to offer more assistance for businesses looking to build an online presence has recorded significant demand. 90% Financial assistance up to €2500 is available to small businesses that have been trading for more than 6 months with less than 10 employees. Participation in the Trading Online Workshop is compulsory for approval for this scheme. The scheme has received further budget in the July stimulus package and additional vouchers are available which are monitored on a weekly basis.

**Progress:** 446 TOV applications have been received by the Local Enterprise Office in 2020 with 342 applications awarded €828,196 grant funding in line with the approved budget. Demand for the scheme remains high with significant bookings for the compulsory

online training sessions. The Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment (DCCAE) has given instruction to continue to issue the vouchers with the budget under review on a weekly basis.

### **Micro-Enterprise Assistance Scheme**

This is a NEW Scheme launched in September 2020. The objective COVID-19 Micro-Enterprise Assistance Scheme is to provide a grant of a minimum of €500 to a maximum €1,000 in respect of vouched expenditure contribution towards the cost of reopening or keeping a business operational and re-connecting with employees and customers. The closing date for applications has been extended to November 13<sup>th</sup> and 3 applications have been received to date.

### **Eligibility Criteria**

This fund is open to operating businesses who self-declare that they meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Have suffered a 30% reduction in turnover due to COVID-19 restrictions or downturn in trade
- Commit to remaining open and to hiring and sustaining employment;
- Employed between 2 and 10 full-time employees (or full-time equivalents) on their payroll at the
- 29th February 2020;
- Have an annual turnover of less than €2 million as per the latest set of annual accounts;
- Have a commercial focus excluding ineligible sectors:
- Are not eligible for the COVID-19 Restart/Restart Plus Grant or similar COVID-19 business restart
- grants from other government departments.



### **Microfinance Ireland Supports for COVID-19**

The **COVID 19 Business Loan** from Microfinance Ireland (MFI) in association with the Local Enterprise Office is a government funded initiative to support small businesses through the current period of uncertainty and protect job creation/sustainment in Ireland. If any micro-enterprise is impacted or may be impacted negatively by COVID-19 resulting in a reduction of 15% or more in turnover or profit, AND they are having difficulty in accessing Bank finance, the **MFI COVID-19 Business Loan** may be an alternative funding solution for them. Loans up to €25,000 are available with a reduced interest fee of 4.5% as opposed to 5.5% available, if the application is submitted via the Local Enterprise Office. Interest Free and Repayment Fee for 6 months is available. For more information, click [here](#).

***Progress: 23 applications have been received by the Local Enterprise Office of which 16 have been approved to date. The scheme has reopened for applications.***

*In addition, there is a **COVID-19 Working Capital Loan available from SBCI**. This is for eligible businesses impacted by COVID-19. Loans from €25,000 up to €1.5m will be available at reduced rates (max 4%), with up to the first €500,000 unsecured. Applications can be made through the SBCI website <https://sbci.gov.ie/>.*

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#### Other Supports

##### **New Stimulus Package**

A new stimulus package valued at €8-10m is expected to be announced next week for LEO M1 clients who are engaged in manufacturing and internationally traded services.

## **Measure 1: Financial Supports**

- **Start Up/Business Expansion**

For existing companies and potential start-ups that meet eligibility criteria (such as manufacturing/added value/ internationally traded services, employing 10 or fewer people with the potential for growth and job creation), the Local Enterprise Office offer three types of financial supports:

- **Feasibility/Innovation Funding**

Up to 60% of the cost of undertaking a feasibility study on an innovative new product or service may be considered subject to a maximum of €20,000.

- **Priming (Start Up) Grant Aid**

Our Priming Funding is designed to assist a micro-enterprise within the first 18 months of start-up. It covers 50% of eligible costs, subject to a maximum contribution of €80,000.

- **Business Expansion Grant**

Our Business Expansion Funding is designed to assist a micro-enterprise that has been trading for over 18 months. It covers 50% of eligible costs, subject to a maximum contribution of €80,000.

***Progress:*** In 2020, 22 Feasibility, Business Start Up and Expansion grants have been approved €430,490k funding creating a projected 60 jobs over the 3 year period.

The next meeting of the Evaluation Committee is scheduled for late November 2020, with 9 new applications under review.

### **BREXIT**

With less than 60 days to Brexit, firms should now be taking the necessary preparations and actions for the substantial changes that will arise on 31st December 2020. An “Are You Brexit Ready?” event to reinforce the need for businesses to take action was organised recently and over 500 businesses across Ireland took part in the online event which included a series of online talks. A follow on



event incorporating “1 to 1” sessions with relevant Brexit experts is scheduled for November 12th.

In addition, a further 2 Customs Training Workshops are scheduled in November to help businesses to prepare for Brexit.

### **Brexit Stimulus Package**

Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation has announced an additional budget allocation of €8 -10m to the border LEOs in 2020 as a stimulus measure to mitigate any Brexit related slowdown. Six programmes supporting local businesses are at advanced planning with tendering completed or underway. The programmes of support will include a Scaling Programme, a Green Energy Programme, a Retail Programme, an Export Programme, an Innovation Programme and a Scaling Programme.

### ***Measure 2: Capability Development***

The Local Enterprise Office provides a broad suite of training, management development, mentoring and peer-learning programmes all aimed at increasing the capability of owner managers and their key internal staff. During COVID 19 many of these Programmes have moved online and are in huge demand.

These include:

### **Profitnet**

Profitnet is a highly successful business development and support programme which has benefited 180 Donegal businesses to date. The programme runs for a period of up to 18 months and involves monthly group meetings with peer business owners, which are facilitated to ensure there is an exchange of innovative and creative business solutions. The Engineering Profitnet meeting has hosted 4 online meetings since the COVID -19 restrictions have been put in place. The formal Profitnet meeting was held on 26<sup>th</sup> August, with 14 Donegal Engineering businesses, there will be a further 2 new businesses joining the group. An application to advance the Engineering Cluster did not secure funding from Enterprise Ireland under the BEDF Fund.

### **Training**

Over 2000 people have attended a range of tailored training programmes in 2020 to date including online courses on Preparing for the Return to Work Post COVID 19-Key Considerations for Business, Start your Own Business, Preparing for Brexit, Getting your Business Online.

**Gateway to Growth International Export Programme** – Led by Derry City and Strabane District Council and Donegal County Council, the programme comprises of export workshops, one to one reviews and a North West Trade Mission financed by The Executive Office and the Irish Government. The first programme concluded in February with a further 18 companies participating on the new online programme which commenced in May, this is now completed and the businesses presented their export plans at an online session in November.

**Technical Study for Marine Development Works at Killybegs Harbour-** The Study has commenced with the contract awarded to ByrneLooby Ltd. The assignment has been delayed and is now due for completion in early December 2020.

### **AMBITION- Pre Accelerator for Women**

An exciting new programme to develop female entrepreneurship in Donegal –has commenced. AMBITION is a pre-accelerator programme run by Local Enterprise Office Donegal, in partnership with NDRC, which sources and builds digital startups to invest in and work with. The AMBITION programme was open to female founders, entrepreneurs, or those with a strong start-up idea, who have links to Donegal. The business idea with the most potential will be awarded €10,000. 41 applications were received by the closing date and 11 Female led teams, 3 of which are Donegal Diaspora have been selected to participate on the 6 week pilot programme.

	<p><b>NATIONAL WOMEN’S ENTERPRISE DAY</b></p> <p>This year’s National Women’s Enterprise Day took place online on Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> October.</p> <p><b>3.0 Enterprise Promotion</b></p> <p>Under the Service Level Agreement between Enterprise Ireland on behalf of the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation, a key area of activity of the local Authority/Local Enterprise Office is the promotion of an enterprise culture and entrepreneurship within the county. Activities under this include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Local Enterprise Week</b></li> <li>• <b>Business Information Session</b></li> <li>• <b>Student Enterprise Programme</b></li> <li>• <b>Enterprise Awards</b></li> </ul> <p><b>4.0 Economic &amp; Other Initiatives</b></p> <p>The LEO is engaged in a wide range of other initiatives, including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Food Coast – Donegal’s Good Food Initiative,</b></li> <li>• <b>The Food Coast – Mark of Origin</b></li> <li>• <b>The Creative Coast</b></li> <li>• <b>Enterprise Europe Network</b></li> <li>• <b>Donegal Diaspora</b></li> <li>• <b>EU Programmes</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Contact Person</b></p>	<p>Brenda Hegarty, Assistant Head of Enterprise  Local Enterprise Office  ☎: 074 9160895/9160735   Mobile: 0873404510  ✉ <a href="mailto:brenda.hegarty@leo.donegalcoco.ie">brenda.hegarty@leo.donegalcoco.ie</a></p>

## LEO Donegal - Performance Metrics

<b>Jobs:</b>	<b>Output 2019</b>	<b>Target 2020</b>
LEO Client Portfolio	239	251
Total Portfolio Employment (All Jobs, both FT & PT)	1,331	1,401
Net Jobs Increase (All Jobs created minus all Job Losses)	57	70
<b>Measure 1( Grant Aid)</b>	<b>Output 2019</b>	<b>Target 2020</b>
<b>Number of Clients Approved Funding:</b>	41	60
No. of projected potential new jobs associated with Approvals (Priming & Business Expansion)	78	110
<b>Measure 2( Non grant supports)</b>	<b>Output 2019</b>	<b>Target 2020</b>
<b>Training/Development Programmes (All Training and Networking events)</b>		
Total No. of All Programmes (Training/Networking/Events/Seminars)	69	60
Total No. of all Participants participating in above Programmes	2,532	2,000
<b>Mentoring:</b>		
Total Number of individual mentoring – (participants availing of one to one mentoring – one to one engagement by a Mentor with one client)	106	140
<b>Schools Entrepreneurship:</b>	<b>Output 2019</b>	<b>Target 2020</b>
Number of Schools Participating (Secondary schools only engaged in school enterprise programmes)	22	22
Number of Students Participating	1,261	1,200
<b>Trading On Line Vouchers:</b>	<b>Output 2019</b>	<b>Target 2020</b>
No. of Trading Online Vouchers approved	42	45
<b>Business Continuity Vouchers</b>		
No of Business Continuity Vouchers approved	NA	New Programme
<b>Export Enterprise Development Programme</b>	<b>Output 2019</b>	<b>Target 2020</b>
No. of clients undertaking Export Enterprise Development Programmes in Enterprise Ireland	9	32
<b>Enterprise Europe Network</b>	<b>Output 2019</b>	<b>Target 2020</b>
Number of Firms attending events	10	15
Number of Brokerage Events	2	2
Number of firms at brokerage events	240	200
Number of ASO and PA	4	10
<b>Donegal Diaspora</b>	<b>Output 2019</b>	<b>Target 2020</b>
Events	7	5
Newsletter issues	2	4
Number of business enquiries generated	3	6
International Committee meetings	2	2

### 3. Division: Information Systems

#### Activity/Project Update

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Information Systems COVID-19 Response</b>
<b>Activity / Project Description</b>	<p>The Information Systems Department has implemented a range of services and solutions to deal with internal staffing and work rearrangements, and solutions for public information and communications.</p> <p>A range of planned key information systems have been implemented in parallel.</p>
<b>Budget</b> <i>(if applicable)</i>	
<b>Progress to date within the last month-inclusive of current status</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Continued increase in the volume of structured and un-structured IS support tasks in the period January – September 2020 over same period in 2019 due to Covid 19.</li> <li>2. Dungloe PSC connected to 1GB Government Networks Infrastructure.</li> <li>3. Setup of County Council WiFi networks offsite at John Bosco Centre &amp; Aura Leisure Centre to facilitate Council &amp; MD meetings. Facilitating online connections at AURA Leisure centre for Oireachtas CPG meeting.</li> <li>4. Strategic deployment of IS Staff at PSC's &amp; HQ to manage network infrastructure, systems and data for critical services.</li> <li>5. Secure ongoing remote working solutions for key staff in a range of departments to ensure that critical work can be processed in all COVID-19 eventualities.</li> <li>6. Facilitating ongoing widespread segregation of staff members in buildings under social distancing guidelines.</li> <li>7. Facilitating ongoing home working arrangements across a number of Departments.</li> <li>8. Continual adaption of DCC website for public COVID-19 information, including detailed covid19 mapping dashboards and show my 5km map.</li> <li>9. 524 online meetings on GoToMeeting in October, with roll out of GoToMeeting functionality to 99 admin users.</li> <li>10. Ongoing deployment of electronic return to Work COVID-19 forms &amp; notices for Council staff in conjunction with HR as staff return to offices.</li> </ol>

	<p>11. Implementing return to work protocols for staff returning “on to Network” from Working from Home, to ensure data and systems integrity.</p> <p>12. Former Army Barracks campus in Lifford added to the Wide Area Network and setup up transferred hardware completed.</p> <p>13. Network Rewiring of the Machinery Yard Complex completed.</p> <p>14. New firewall cluster installed on our network to enhance our cyber security.</p> <p><b>Systems Programme</b></p> <p>15. Support of COVID19 Restart Grant online system and backend electronic support system. 2,589 applications via website to date. 1,493 applications for top-up, having received a payment in the first Restart Grant Scheme. Development of online system for Restart Grant + (phase II) scheme 897 new applications for Restart Grant + to date. Final figures as Grants closed on 31<sup>st</sup> October.</p> <p>16. Ongoing development and support of major online and backend support systems to facilitate management of the Defective Block Scheme which opened on 29<sup>th</sup> June.</p> <p>17. Ongoing upgrade of Dynmaics CRM for a number of solutions to facilitate in house development of mobile applications.</p> <p>18. New car parking management system installed for management of parking function. E-Parking system app launched on 22<sup>nd</sup> June for on-street payment of parking charges. 7,327 registered users since June on eParking App. 19,999 parking requests made.</p> <p>19. Donegal County Council were awarded the Constituent Engagement Award by ESRI Ireland for their excellence in communicating and collaboration with citizens and external communities through maps.</p>
<p><b>Contact Person</b> (to include telephone number &amp; e-mail address)</p>	<p>Daragh McDonough – Broadband Officer <a href="mailto:dmcdonough@donegalcoco.ie">dmcdonough@donegalcoco.ie</a> 074 9172450</p>

## Activity/Project Update

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>WiFi4EU</b>
<b>Activity / Project Description</b>	WiFi4EU is an EU sponsored initiative to create free public WiFi spaces within the Digital Single Market. Municipalities across Europe had the opportunity to apply for a max of 4 Vouchers. DCC were successful in winning 4 vouchers to the value of €60,000. The Department of Rural & Community Development will match fund each voucher +€60,000. DCC to invest additional €30,000 to create budget total of €150,000 or €30,000 per Municipal District. Propose to install 75 outdoor public WiFi access points throughout County Donegal to create centres of public connectivity.
<b>Budget</b> <i>(if applicable)</i>	€150,000
<b>Progress to date within the last month-inclusive of current status</b>	Broadband lines have been ordered and checked for minimum 30mbps threshold. Where fibre connections are available, they are being ordered. KN have started installations. Level5 restrictions have again stalled access to some premises
<b>Project Targets for the next monthly reporting period</b>	Installation of WiFi hardware and configuring of backend support system where Broadband lines have been activated. Continued installation of Broadband lines across all MD's
<b>Contact Person</b> <i>(to include telephone number &amp; e-mail address)</i>	Daragh McDonough – Broadband Officer <a href="mailto:dmcdonough@donegalcoco.ie">dmcdonough@donegalcoco.ie</a> 074 9172450

## Activity/Project Update

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>NBP – National Broadband Plan</b>
<b>Activity / Project Description</b>	<p>The NBP was signed by Government in November 2019 and will deliver High Speed Broadband to all rural Premises as defined in the Amber areas of the National Broadband Plan Map. The NBP will invest €135m in fibre infrastructure in County Donegal over the 7 years of the rollout and will connect 32,130 premises.</p> <p>National Broadband Ireland (NBI) is the consortium which will deliver the network and the NBP contract is managed by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment.</p> <p>Liaison with NBI is through the Broadband Officer in Donegal County Council and the Department of Rural and Community Development.</p> <p>Early implementation of the NBP in 2020 will see the rollout of Community Broadband Connection Points (BCP's). These centres will act as locations where High Speed Broadband is available in a local community setting or strategic site until the NBP Fibre is implemented.</p> <p>During 2020 NBI will be carrying out route proofing and surveying in preparation for the main fibre rollouts commencing in 2021.</p>
<b>Budget</b> <i>(if applicable)</i>	
<b>Progress to date within the last month-inclusive of current status</b>	<p>WiFi hardware installations have taken place at Leghowney Community Hall, Meenreagh hostel &amp; Cranford Community Centre.</p> <p>NBI Surveying of Network continuing in Letterkenny Area.</p> <p>Pole installation at MalinBeg has taken place ready for wireless backhaul link.</p> <p>Contractor appointed to install cabinets at Malinbeg Old School and Malin Head public convenience building.</p>
<b>Project Targets for the next monthly reporting period</b>	<p>Configuring of WiFi services at each of the BCP locations is ongoing with Vodafone.</p> <p>Schedule in visit to Tory island for WiFi installation</p> <p>Pole to be erected at Malin Head for backhaul connectivity.</p> <p>NBI Surveying continues in Letterkenny area.</p>
<b>Contact Person</b> <i>(to include telephone number &amp; e-mail address)</i>	<p>Daragh McDonough – Broadband Officer  <a href="mailto:dmcdonough@donegalcoco.ie">dmcdonough@donegalcoco.ie</a>            074 9172450</p>



#### 4. Division: Emergency Services

##### 4.1 Fire Service

Activity	Number of: (September)*	Total for year
Fire Brigade incidents within County Donegal**:	49	607
Mobilisations (by Donegal Fire Service Brigades)**:	58	688
Mobilisations into Donegal (by NI Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS))**:	3	69
Fire Safety Certificate applications received:	11	122
Fire Safety Certificates waiting to be assessed:	12	N/A
Fire Safety Certificate applications assessed by Fire Officer and waiting for Further Information from Applicant / Agent:	33	N/A
Fire Safety Certificate decisions made:	12	112
Applications for Dangerous Substance Licences received:	0	9
Dangerous Substance Licences issued:	0	2
Form of notice received under the Explosives Act, 1875:	0	14
Inspections and Auditing carried out (Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003, Annual Licensing, DSA 1972, Explosive Stores, Pyrotechnics, BCA 1992 & 2007):	49	118
Fire Safety Complaints received:	1	15
Fire Safety Complaints dealt with:	1	15
During Performance Inspections carried out:	0	0
Fire Safety awareness presentations delivered:	0	0

\* Current data only available up to end of September 2020. \*\* Provisional Figures.

## Notable Activities / Projects

### Training

2 no. QQI-approved *Compartment Fire Behaviour (CFB) Initial Wearer* training courses were carried out recently, working in conjunction with our colleagues from Sligo Fire Service and the LASNTG.

The two courses were held jointly at Tubbercurry and Sligo Fire Stations over two weeks, starting on the 26<sup>th</sup> October. There were 13 participants from Donegal taking part and the Fire Brigades that they represented were as follows: Letterkenny, Bunrana, Carndonagh, Glenties, Stranorlar, Donegal Town, Killybegs, Glenties, Gweedore and Falcarragh.

The completion of this course was an important milestone in the overall training programme for our most recent batch of recruit fire-fighters, and ensures that they are now qualified breathing apparatus (BA) wearers and as a result can be deployed offensively to fight structural fires.

On-station training continues to be carried out by every brigade albeit with strict control measures in place to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all crew members against the background of the COVID-19 pandemic. This will ensure that all the essential skills are continuously being refreshed and are kept up-to-date.

The Fire Service continues to respond to all emergency calls during these times.

### Recruitment

A recruitment campaign has recently been carried out by the HR Department for a number of brigades where there are current vacancies. The brigades in question are: Letterkenny, Bunrana, Carndonagh and Killybegs.

The next step in the process will be to carry out suitability assessments of the applicants, however this will not commence until the Government lifts the Level 5 restrictions which are currently in place.

### Fire Safety Week

National Fire Safety Week was held across the island, north and south, from the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 12th October inclusive. The theme for the week was '*Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives*'.

Given that COVID-19 restrictions were in place during this period interaction with members of the public was confined to social media and the placing of informative signage outside each fire station.

## 4.2 Civil Defence

### Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Response – Donegal Civil Defence

**Resources:** *The availability of resources remains the same for Civil Defence however, we are mindful of the recent increase in the number of positive COVID 19 cases in Donegal in recent weeks and have revised our COVID action plan again, with our members, to ensure the service can continue to be provided to the community.*

<b>Volunteers</b> (All Garda vetted and completed TUSAL Child Protection Training)	<b>Accumulative Monthly Deployment of Vols. from 01/10 - 31/10</b>	<b>Total Task Deployment up to 31 / 10</b>	<b>Total Accumulative Manhours from 01/ 10 – 31/10</b>	<b>Manhours up to 31/10</b>
56	48	3468	138	2084

#### **Vehicles Used:**

<b>Equipment (4WD Vehicles)</b>	<b>Equipment (Van)</b>	<b>Equipment (Ambulance)</b>	<b>Equipment (Minibus – Fitted with polycarbon screen to prevent spread of COVID )</b>
4	0	1	2

#### **Taskings:**

Donegal Civil Defence continues to provide the following services to the HSE and other agencies on a need basis;

1. Assisting GP's with the transportation of suspect COVID 19 patients from primary care centre's to the COVID Test Centre, Kilmacrennan Road, Letterkenny using screened Minibus. – 4 transfers for the month of October.
2. Collection of medications from local pharmacies and deliver to 3 Multiple Sclerosis patients in their own homes. This service continues to be provided on a once a month basis, to 3 patients who live alone and have no transport and the option of use of public transport is not a reality.
3. Transportation of patients under the care of the National Council of the Blind (NBC) who are registered blind, to hospital appointments in Sligo University Hospital for eye appointments. During the month of October, this service has been provided to 6 patients from various locations in the county.
4. Transportation of 1 No. patients to hospital appointments in Scally Practice, Letterkenny for eye scan.
5. Assisting the Irish Blood Transfusion Service (IBTS) with the blood clinic at Jacksons Hotel, Ballybofey daily for the week of the 27<sup>th</sup> to the 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2 clinics per day. This

support included assisting the IBTS manage social distancing by meeting donors with their appointments and managing the flow going into the Clinic.

***Response:***

The COVID19 pandemic in recent weeks, has shown a gradual increase in the number of cases nationally and particularly so in Donegal. As a result, the government has placed the country on Level 5 restrictions since the 19<sup>th</sup> October. Civil Defence stands ready to assist the relevant agencies and review any requests aligned to them, taking into consideration the volunteer capacity and capability at that time.

**Training:**

Training in specific areas which is deemed essential training, has recommenced during the month of October as follows;

***First Aid :***

Emergency First Responder (EFR) OSCE Examinations were held in the Civil Defence Headquarters, on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> October, certifying 7 persons to EFR level.

Cardiac First Responder: 8 persons were certified to Cardiac First Responder Advanced Level on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October.

**Auxiliary Fire Service** training recommenced in Carndonagh AFS Station on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October and also in Donegal Town on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> October.

**Immunisation against Influenza:** A scheme to provide for the annual influenza vaccination of Civil Defence members was introduced in 2018, Circular 12/2018 refers. New strains of the influenza virus emerge each year and new vaccines are produced annually. To improve the protection available to Civil Defence volunteers, the Department of Defence grant-aids expenditure on immunisation against influenza. Given the current COVID-19 pandemic, getting the flu vaccination is more important than ever and all Civil Defence volunteers are encouraged to avail of the scheme. All active members of Civil Defence will be offered this vaccination, free of charge through their GP. The immunisation programme for volunteers, will be administered locally through the Civil Defence Officer, with 100% of the costs incurred recouped from the Department of Defence based on receipt of certified paid invoices by the Local Authority.

Ends

31<sup>st</sup> October 2020



Municipal District of Glenties

10 November 2020

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**Community Development Division**

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**CLÁR / AGENDA**


1. Report on recent activity in the Community Development Division
  - 1.1 Age Friendly
  - 1.2 Community Enhancement Programme 2020
  - 1.3 YOURS Project

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Age Friendly Project</b>
<b>File:</b>	
<b>Project Description/Activity</b>	<b>Social Inclusion Week – Radio Age Friendly Panel</b>
<b>Budget (if applicable)</b>	NA
<b>Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status</b>	<p>Donegal Age Friendly Programme has created very busy phonelines and emails in the last week. To open Social Inclusion week they arranged an Age Friendly full panel discussion on the Greg Hugh's show, Highland Radio. The panel comprised of members from the Age Friendly Alliance, agencies from Donegal County Council, the Health promotion and Primary Care from the HSE, Alone, Donegal Sports Partnership, Local-link and Education Training Board.</p> <p>The Interagency group talked about the Age Friendly Programme and how they have worked together as group in the last few years but especially this year through the Covid Pandemic. Each of the panel members explained all the different services available to Older People in Donegal and how they can avail of them. The group spoke about the importance for Older People to keep moving through doing simple exercises, how they can keep themselves healthy at home and reminded them if they were in need of anything to contact the free-phone Helpline. The local link explained that transport is still very much up and running but if Older People had any concerns about coming out and needed anything delivered to their homes to contact the Age Friendly Programme through the Helpline and they will arrange it. The radio interview ended on a positive note with a Competition for Older People.</p>
<i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	
<b>Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period</b>	
<b>Contact Person</b>	Mairead Cranley Social Inclusion – 0876072067 <a href="mailto:Mairead.cranley@donegalcoco.ie">Mairead.cranley@donegalcoco.ie</a>



<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Age Friendly Project / Creative Ireland</b>
<b>File:</b>	
<b>Project Description/Activity</b>	<b>Conversational Portrait for Older People</b>
<b>Budget</b> <i>(if applicable)</i>	€5000
<b>Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status</b>	<p>Donegal Age Friendly, in partnership with Donegal County Council Culture Division and portrait artist Andy Parsons, is looking for participants for a Creative Ireland Creativity in Older Age Virtual Portrait Sitting. The project is currently taking place in four local authority areas in the North West – Donegal, Roscommom (Project Leader), Leitrim and Sligo.</p> <p>Invitations were sent out to over age 70 who are in a care home or cocooning at home, missing their cultural activities and interested in making new connections at this time. During these sessions, which will be conducted online through Zoom, Andy will create an artwork while getting to know each person and how they have responded to the last few months of Covid. In return for their time, the portraits will be delivered to the sitters who may display them in their own homes, for the enjoyment of family, friends and staff. Portraits will also be exhibited in digital form on Donegal Age Friendly, Donegal County Council and Age &amp; Opportunity's Bealtaine Festival websites and facebook pages.</p> <p>To take part, the Older Person would need to have some way to access a computer or phone for a video zoom call, even if just for two to three mornings. If people wanted to take part and didn't have access to a computer or phone, Donegal Age Friendly Programme agreed to work with the Individuals to get them set up. There are 4 places available and we are hoping for a balance of people living at home or in a care home in the county, male and female.</p> <p>The closing date for this project was Friday the 23rd of October. 60 Older people registered for their portrait, this is currently going through a short listing process, the 4 winning participants will be notified in the coming days. Because the project was so successful the Age Friendly Programme will seek further funding to run this project again in the future.</p> <p>Andy Parsons has wide experience of working with older people and of working in care settings. He is currently the Artist-In-Residence at Sligo University Hospital, while last year he led a very succesful Age &amp; Opportunity-managed Artist's Residency at Killybegs Community Hospital. There he worked with residents and staff on a project exploring traditional hand crafts common to South and South West Donegal. You can see more information about Andy's work with Age &amp; Opportunity here: <a href="http://bealtaine.ie/news/show/conversations_a_virtual_portrait_project_with_andy_parsons">http://bealtaine.ie/news/show/conversations_a_virtual_portrait_project_with_andy_parsons</a></p>
<i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	



	 A man with glasses and a white shirt is seated, painting a portrait of a woman on an easel. He is holding a paint palette and a brush. In the background, a television screen displays a video call with a woman, and a laptop is open on a desk. The room appears to be a home office or studio.
<b>Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period</b>	
<b>Contact Person</b>	Mairead Cranley Social Inclusion – 0876072067 <a href="mailto:Mairead.cranley@donegalcoco.ie">Mairead.cranley@donegalcoco.ie</a>

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Community Enhancement Programme 2020 – Community Centres and Buildings</b>																																																									
<b>Activity / Project Description</b>	Donegal LCDC received an initial fund of €77,231.72 for the Community Enhancement Programme 2020. Additional Funding was announced for the Community Enhancement Programme under the July Stimulus Package and Donegal LCDC has been allocated €234,073 for award.																																																									
<b>Budget</b>																																																										
<b>Progress to date within the last two months-inclusive of current status</b>	The applications for the initial tranche of funding were assessed and agreed by the LCDC at their meeting in September. The applications for the second round of funding were assessed and agreed by the LCDC at their meeting on 20 <sup>th</sup> October. The LCDC agreed to divide the funding equally between each MD.																																																									
<b>Project Targets for the next bi-monthly reporting period</b>	<p>The grants awarded in Round 2 for Glenties MD are as follows:-</p> <p><b>Small</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>CEP20/4/G</td> <td>Mna Phort Mahise</td> <td>€900.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CEP20/19/G</td> <td>Coiste Forbartha Oilean Ghabhla</td> <td>€1,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CEP20/21/G</td> <td>Dunfanaghy Family Resource Centre</td> <td>€1,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CEP20/22/G</td> <td>Coiste Halla Naomh Bhride</td> <td>€598.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CEP20/25 /G</td> <td>Coiste Cultura Loch an Iuir</td> <td>€578.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CEP20/32/G</td> <td>Ionad Cois Locha</td> <td>€1,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CEP20/46/G</td> <td>Port Arthur Development Committee</td> <td>€1,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CEP20/47/G</td> <td>Ard Chroine Residence</td> <td>€1,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CEP20/51/G</td> <td>CDP na Rossan Ctr</td> <td>€1,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CEP20/52/G</td> <td>Bord na nOg Ard an Ratha</td> <td>€1,000.00</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Large</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>CEP20/16/G</td> <td>Creelough Community Day Centre</td> <td>€4,700.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CEP20/23/G</td> <td>Pobal Eascarrach CTR</td> <td>€4,700.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CEP20/35/G</td> <td>CDP na Rossan Ctr</td> <td>€3,500.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CEP20/41/G</td> <td>Comharchumann Oilean Arainn Mhor CTR</td> <td>€1,500.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CEP20/48/G</td> <td>Sciobal na bhFear Baile na Finne</td> <td>€4,494.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CEP20/49/G</td> <td>Coiste Forbartha Eadan Fhionn Fhraoigh</td> <td>€5,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CEP20/54/G</td> <td>Comharchumann Thorai Teo</td> <td>€3,844.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CEP20/55/G</td> <td>CLG Chloich Cheann Fhaola - Liathroid Laimhe</td> <td>€5,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CEP20/57/G</td> <td>Sciobol an Phobail</td> <td>€5,000.00</td> </tr> </table> <p>A total of 30 Community Groups in the Glenties MD have received an offer of funding under Community Enhancement Programme in 2020.</p>	CEP20/4/G	Mna Phort Mahise	€900.00	CEP20/19/G	Coiste Forbartha Oilean Ghabhla	€1,000.00	CEP20/21/G	Dunfanaghy Family Resource Centre	€1,000.00	CEP20/22/G	Coiste Halla Naomh Bhride	€598.00	CEP20/25 /G	Coiste Cultura Loch an Iuir	€578.00	CEP20/32/G	Ionad Cois Locha	€1,000.00	CEP20/46/G	Port Arthur Development Committee	€1,000.00	CEP20/47/G	Ard Chroine Residence	€1,000.00	CEP20/51/G	CDP na Rossan Ctr	€1,000.00	CEP20/52/G	Bord na nOg Ard an Ratha	€1,000.00	CEP20/16/G	Creelough Community Day Centre	€4,700.00	CEP20/23/G	Pobal Eascarrach CTR	€4,700.00	CEP20/35/G	CDP na Rossan Ctr	€3,500.00	CEP20/41/G	Comharchumann Oilean Arainn Mhor CTR	€1,500.00	CEP20/48/G	Sciobal na bhFear Baile na Finne	€4,494.00	CEP20/49/G	Coiste Forbartha Eadan Fhionn Fhraoigh	€5,000.00	CEP20/54/G	Comharchumann Thorai Teo	€3,844.60	CEP20/55/G	CLG Chloich Cheann Fhaola - Liathroid Laimhe	€5,000.00	CEP20/57/G	Sciobol an Phobail	€5,000.00
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<b>Contact Person</b>	Seamus Canning 074 9172597 <a href="mailto:seamusc@donegalcoco.ie">seamusc@donegalcoco.ie</a>																																																									

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<p>YOURS Project – Youth &amp; Old, Understanding, Remembering &amp; Sharing.</p> <p>New – Donegal Digital Media Project</p>
<b>Project Description/ Activity</b>	<p>Intergenerational Project - PEACE IV</p> <p>Digital Media Project – PEACE IV</p>
<b>Budget</b>	<p>€150,000</p> <p>€83,684.08</p>
<p><b>Progress to date within the last two months/quarter* - inclusive of current status</b></p> <p><i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i></p>	<p><b>Shared Past Local History</b> – Online ‘Back to the Future’ Classes starting Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, facilitated by Carol O’Callaghan, author and artist. There has been a huge interest in this theme, schools and older people taking part. End result will be the formation of 20 stories gathered from participants based on local Heritage from the County of Donegal and be published in booklet form as a resource for schools and other community groups.</p> <div data-bbox="448 837 1075 1722" data-label="Complex-Block"> </div> <p><b>Online Mindfulness Classes</b> – Classes commenced Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October via Zoom facilitated by Mary Kara, Donegal Mindfulness. Topics such as self compassion, gratitude and self care and mindful walking have been</p>

discussed. Participants are finding the classes most rewarding and beneficial to their mental health especially during the current times.

**Wellbeing & Physical Activity** – ‘Generations United’ – Social Soccer – facilitated by Donegal Sports Partnership. 8 week programme planned covering, health and well being, history, nutrition and physical activity. Engagement with minority groups within the respective areas. Suitable for all fitness levels, targeting retired footballs (or those with an interest in the sport) and the youth. Theme has been postponed owing to public health guidance. Discussions ongoing with the Sports Partnership on an alternative way to deliver this activity.

**One Donegal – Social Inclusion Week** -Intergenerational seminars were held as part in Donegal Social Inclusion Week. Online Fitness Class for both generations facilitated by Paul Smyth Inclusive Fitness and Mindfulness Class facilitated by Mary Kara, Donegal Mindfulness.

**Video** – Pupils from a local school produced a short video for the YOURS Project, sending positive messages to older people, in particular grandparents on staying safe and well. Posted on YOURS FB page and Donegal County Council FB page.

Link to videos hereunder

<https://www.facebook.com/YOURSintergenerational/videos/698296027738682/?t=3>

<https://www.facebook.com/YOURSintergenerational/videos/675878566686858/?t=1>

**Arts & Cultural** – Intergenerational Dancing – complete.

**Addressing Stereotypes** – ‘Walk and Ponder’ – complete.

**Bridging the Generation Gap** - Male Active Programme - ‘Pass it on’ – complete. This theme is continuing with the assistance of the Donegal Sports Partnership and Inishowen Development Partnership.

**Personal Skills** – Past and Present – Craft Group – complete.

**NEW - Digital Media Project** - A local history project to capture the historical narrative of the social development of the county over the past half century, which will allow for the engagement of both young and older people in gaining an understanding of the past, which will assist in shaping the future. This Project is separate to the YOURS Project. Five schools in the county have expressed an interest in the Digital Media Project. Etenders have been received and are at

	<p>evaluation stage.</p> <p>All activities on the YOURS project can be seen on the FB page @YOURSintergenerational. Communication with past and present participants ongoing via phone, social media etc..</p>
<p><b>Contact Person</b> (to include telephone number &amp; e-mail address)</p>	<p>Sharleen Tinney Project Co-ordinator <a href="mailto:sharleen.tinney@donegalcoco.ie">sharleen.tinney@donegalcoco.ie</a> / 0870574901</p>
<p><i>This project is supported by the EU's Peace IV Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB)</i></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div data-bbox="220 846 517 943">  <p><b>Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall</b> Donegal County Council</p> </div> <div data-bbox="539 779 884 958">  <p><b>LCDDC</b> Coiste um Fhorbairt Pobail Áitiúil Donegal Local Community Development Committee</p> </div> <div data-bbox="890 824 1225 958">  <p><b>Peace</b> Northern Ireland - Ireland European Regional Development Fund</p> </div> </div>	





**Glenties MD Meeting  
10<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

Item	Update																																				
<b>1 Development Applications</b>																																					
(1) Statistics	<p><b>County Totals Year to End September 2020:</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="496 517 1329 745"> <tr> <td>Applications received</td> <td><b>284</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Granted</td> <td><b>146</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Refused</td> <td><b>18</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deferred</td> <td><b>72</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Decided in under 2 months</td> <td><b>110</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Invalid</td> <td><b>63</b></td> </tr> </table>	Applications received	<b>284</b>	Granted	<b>146</b>	Refused	<b>18</b>	Deferred	<b>72</b>	Decided in under 2 months	<b>110</b>	Invalid	<b>63</b>																								
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## Planning Services Report

<b>2</b>	<b>Enforcement</b>									
		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th><b>Glenties MD</b></th> <th><b>October</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>New Cases</td> <td><b>6</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Closed Cases</td> <td><b>0</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Outstanding cases on record since 2012</td> <td><b>196</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Glenties MD</b>	<b>October</b>	New Cases	<b>6</b>	Closed Cases	<b>0</b>	Outstanding cases on record since 2012	<b>196</b>
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<b>3</b>	<b>Notes &amp; Monthly Schedule</b>	<p><b>Please note pre planning clinics during the Corvid-19 restrictions are on a telephone call only basis between 09.30am and 12.30pm on the dates outlined below.</b></p> <p><u>Planning Clinics:</u> 16<sup>th</sup> December</p> <p>Please see website for further dates. <a href="http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/planningclinics/">http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/planningclinics/</a></p>								
<b>4</b>	<b>Regeneration Report</b>	Appendix A								
<b>5</b>	<b>Central Planning Unit</b>									
	(1) <i>Letterkenny Plan and Local Transport Plan</i>	<p>Preparation work on both the Local Area Plan and the Local Transport Plan is continuing.</p> <p>The public consultation exercise on the Local Transport Plan ran from 25<sup>th</sup> September until 16<sup>th</sup> October and elicited a very strong response of over 500 survey returns. This information is currently being analysed with a view to presenting the findings to Members in the near future.</p> <p>Previously advised areas of work on the LAP are continuing including in relation to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The above-noted Local Transport Plan, in consultation with Roads Directorate colleagues and NTA and TII colleagues.</li> <li>2. Economic Development Appraisal work (in consultation with Director of Economic Development and IDA).</li> <li>3. TEN-T Detailed Design (assimilation of into LAP and LTP).</li> <li>4. Regeneration Strategy Masterplan.</li> <li>5. Network Development Plan (Irish Water)</li> </ol> <p>It is proposed to resume the MD workshop programme in the near future and subject to Covid restrictions. Members are now requested to agree a date for the next workshop to enable updates on the above areas and further consultation on the project.</p>								



(2) <i>Buncrana</i>	No further updates at this time.
(3) <i>County Development Plan 2018-2024 (CDP 2018-2024)</i>	<p><b><u>Policy Interpretation and Implementation: Plenary Workshops</u></b></p> <p>The latest Plenary Workshop was held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2020. At this Workshop, three key areas were identified by Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>~ Policy T-P-4;</li> <li>~ Small businesses in the rural area; and</li> <li>~ The use of modular/log cabin-style design in the rural area.</li> </ul> <p>It was agreed to convene at least one further Plenary Workshop to consider the above-noted matters in more detail. That Workshop will be arranged as soon as it is practical to do so in the context of the current Covid restrictions.</p> <p><b><u>Proposed Variation on Foot of Adoption of Northern and Western Regional Assembly's Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy</u></b></p> <p>A report was submitted to the July Plenary Council meeting noting that the Council was obligated through Section 11(1)(b)(iii) of the Planning and Development Act to instigate a variation to the Plan to ensure statutory alignment with the RSES, notwithstanding the high degree of alignment that already exists, particularly with regard to the provisions of the CDP Core Strategy.</p> <p>On foot of Members' approval at the aforementioned meeting, this review was commenced in September, 2020 and has included preliminary consultations with both the Office of the Planning Regulator and the Northern and Western Regional Assembly. The documents are currently being finalised with the aim of presenting a Proposed Variation to the November Plenary Council meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Proposed Variation re TEN-T Priority Roads Project</u></b></p> <p>At the Plenary Council meeting at the end of September, 2020, Members decided to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>~ approve a Proposed Variation; and</li> <li>~ formally commence environmental procedures/studies.</li> </ul> <p>The next programmed steps are to bring a report to the November Plenary meeting on the outcome of the environmental procedures/studies with a view to seeking approval to move to public consultation on the Proposed Variation and associated environmental studies in early January, 2021.</p>



		<p><b><u>Wind Energy Policy and Proposed Variation</u></b></p> <p>Work is continuing on a Proposed Variation to address the policy lacuna arising from the outcome of the Judicial Review of late 2018. Whilst this work can be progressed to a certain extent over the next couple of months, decisions on when to move to publish a Proposed Variation for public consultation will depend to a large degree on when finalised Wind Energy Guidelines are published by the Department on foot of the Draft Guidelines published in December, 2019. At the time of writing this report there has been no further update from the Department as to when the finalised Guidelines will be published.</p>
6	<p><b>Further Information</b> <i>Click on web links to access information.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weekly List of applications and decisions: <a href="http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/weeklyplanninlists/">http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/weeklyplanninlists/</a></li> <li>• Planning service email (to be used in correspondence with the planning service): <a href="mailto:planning@donegalcoco.ie">planning@donegalcoco.ie</a></li> <li>• Planning Webpage: <a href="http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/">www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/</a></li> <li>• Planning Application Online Query – planning reference number required: <a href="http://www.donegalcdb.ie/eplan/internetenquiry/rpt_querybysurforrecloc.asp">www.donegalcdb.ie/eplan/internetenquiry/rpt_querybysurforrecloc.asp</a></li> <li>• File Retrieval Form – to be used for file retrieval and when requesting planning searches: <a href="http://www.donegalcoco.ie/media/donegalcountyc/planning/pdfs/file Retrieval/File%20Retrieval.pdf">www.donegalcoco.ie/media/donegalcountyc/planning/pdfs/file Retrieval/File%20Retrieval.pdf</a></li> </ul>



## Appendix A



### **Regeneration & Development Team Community Development & Planning Services**

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#### **November Municipal District Meetings (2020) Report to Elected Members**

##### **1.0 RURAL REGENERATION AND DEVELOPMENT FUND (RRDF)**

###### **1.1 EXISTING APPROVED CATEGORY 1 RRDF PROJECTS (2019)**

###### **1.1.1 Killybegs 2040 – A Town Centre Regeneration Project**

Tenders for Architect Led Design Team services to deliver regeneration project ‘Killybegs 2040’ through the stages of detailed design and construction supervision to final certification and handover were uploaded to eTenders on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2020. The closing date for receipt of tenders was 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020 and has now passed. The tender box has subsequently been opened and a total of 3no. tenders were received. Evaluation of the submissions received is underway.

The next steps in the process are as follows:

1. Evaluation of the tenders received.
2. The submission of a Tender Report to the DRCD for consideration (a report on the tender process, assessment and evaluation of tenders and a recommendation to appoint the successful tender), and
3. On receipt of DRCD approval the appointment of the Design Team and commencement of the detailed design stage. It is anticipated that this will complete over a 16 week period after which the Contractor will be procured and the formal launch of the project on site will take place. This is presently scheduled for Q2 2021 and the build period is currently estimated at 52 weeks.

## Planning Services Report

### 1.1.2 Burtonport and Aranmore Island – Harbour to Island Regeneration

This project continues to progress in accordance with the Funding Approval Process set out by the Department of Rural & Community Development (DRCD).

A tender report for the appointment of an Asbestos Consultant to carry out a Refurbishment, Demolition & Asbestos Survey (RDAS) of the relevant buildings in Burtonport has been submitted to the DRCD, has received approval and may now proceed. Arrangements are being made to schedule same. Detailed design is also currently completing. Otherwise the CPO process is presently pending confirmation from An Bord Pleanála of the arrangement for Oral Hearing in accordance with the Covid-19 Regulations, guidelines and protocols. An Bord Pleanála have indicated that they intend to determine the CPO by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

In respect of the Aranmore Island Shore Front Amenity, the early eradication, treatment and management of pockets of an invasive species which had been identified within the site has been completed. This work was informed both by a Natura Impact Statement and a Site Specific Invasive Species Management Plan.

Importantly Detailed Design has completed and the tender for an Architect Led Supervision Team to supervise the construction contractor opened on tenders with a closing date of 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2020 at 12pm. Evaluation is underway and presently ongoing.

The tender for a construction contractor opened on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2020. This tender had an initial closing date of 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020, however the deadline was extended by one week to 6<sup>th</sup> November 2020 further to requests from potential tenderers. A number of queries from potential tenderers have been received and the Team is responding to same in advance of the 6<sup>th</sup> November deadline.

The next steps in the process are as follows:

1. Asbestos survey (Burtonport)
2. Evaluation of the tenders received (Supervision Team and Contractor/Aranmore Island).
3. The submission of a Tender Report to the DRCD for consideration (a report on the tender process, assessment and evaluation of tenders and a recommendation to appoint the successful tender), and
4. On receipt of DRCD approval the appointment of the Supervision Team and Contractor and commencement of the Aranmore Island element of the project on site. At present this is scheduled to commence in Q1 of 2021 with a 31 week build period.

## 1.2 EXISTING APPROVED CATEGORY 2 RRDF PROJECTS (2020)

- 1.2.1 **Back to Ballyshannon** – A transformational project to re-energise, re-imagine and sustain the social, cultural, historical, physical and economic fabric of Ballyshannon’s historic town centre.

**Value: €247,500. (RRDF funding approved €185,625)**

This project was submitted to the DRCD on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020 and was one of the successful Category 2 projects announced by Minister Michael Ring TD On 25<sup>th</sup> June 2020.

The Category 2 project is now entering the ‘project development’ stage. Early feasibility work has commenced in respect of potential end project user(s) in advance of acquisition discussions and preparations are underway to procure archaeological and built heritage consultation services.

- 1.2.2 **Ramelton Historic Town Centre** – A Restorative & Transformational Public Realm Scheme.

**Value: €249,159 (RRDF funding approved €186,869)**

This project was submitted to the DRCD on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020 and was one of the successful Category 2 projects announced by Minister Michael Ring TD On 25<sup>th</sup> June 2020.

The Category 2 project is now entering the ‘project development’ stage. A detailed Project Brief and Procurement Strategy has been prepared and was submitted to the DRCD on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020. Approval to proceed to tender has now been received.

The Team will now prepare to open a tender process for fully integrated Architect Led Detailed Design & Supervision Services to bring this project through public consultation, part 8 planning and detailed design to a contract ready capital project.

The estimated timeline for the completion of this work is approx. 48 weeks including the procurement processes.

- 1.3 **NEW CALL FOR CATEGORY 1 PROJECTS (SHOVEL READY) UNDER THE RURAL REGENERATION & DEVELOPMENT FUND (RRDF)**

- 1.3.1. Ballybofey & Stranorlar

The ‘**SEED**’ project – A sustainable, green regeneration project to Strengthen, Engage, Enable and Deliver transformational change in Ballybofey-Stranorlar.

This project was unsuccessful as a Category 2 application to the RRDF in February 2020 of this year. In July it was confirmed to Members that notwithstanding this set back, the Team remained committed to the





## Planning Services Report

Regeneration of the twin towns and the continued progression of the ‘SEED’ regeneration project in the towns as an important part of our regeneration work programme, which includes the delivery of a Regeneration Strategy for the twin towns.

A Part 8 planning scheme for the ‘SEED’ project was published on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2020. The Plans and particulars of the development were available for inspection online and by prior appointment only at County House, Lifford and The Base Enterprise Centre, Stranorlar until Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2020. Submissions must be made in writing before Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

It is proposed to bring a Chief Executives Report on the Part 8 development to the Members in November to enable the submission of a Category 1 shovel ready funding application to the RRDF by the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020 deadline. Economic Appraisal, QS project costing services, valuations & the preparation of CGI 3D photo real visuals have been procured and are all ongoing.

### 1.3.2 Ballyshannon

**Back to Ballyshannon** – A transformational project to re-energise, re-imagine and sustain the social, cultural, historical, physical and economic fabric of Ballyshannon’s historic town centre.

The work of progressing the ‘Back To Ballyshannon’ project towards ‘shovel ready’ status as a capital project has commenced, enabled by the Category 2 funding for project development announced in June. The Team has identified that a feasibility study of end users, acquisition, archaeological assessment, compliance with Fire Regulations and Disability Access requirements are all works elements which require further procurement, investigation and progress before a Part VIII planning scheme can be progressed for this project. The Team is committed to progressing the development of this project to shovel ready status in as timely a manner as possible with a view to achieving project readiness for future calls under the Fund.

### 1.3.3. Burtonport

An update on the status of the existing Burtonport – Aranmore ‘Harbour to Island Regeneration’ project was provided for in Section 1.1.2 of this report. The completion of this project requires the delivery of a new Harbour/Ferry Terminal Building in Burtonport which will provide, inter alia, accommodation for the Harbour Master, Ferry ticketing offices, public amenities and community space replacing much of the existing arrangements which are scheduled for demolition in the first phases of the scheme. The new Harbour Building, will also be augmented by a new enterprise building.

Public consultation has been completed in respect of the proposed new Harbour and Enterprise building in Burtonport and Part VIII planning has been secured. Accordingly this final element of the project is in a high state of

## Planning Services Report

application readiness for submission to the RRDF for Category 1 funding by the 1<sup>st</sup> December deadline. The project has now been costed and the preparation of photo real 3D CGI visuals of the project has been procured and is ongoing at present.

## 1.3.4. Carndonagh

Carndonagh is identified in the County Development Plan, 2018-2024 as a Tier 2 Strategic Town with the following identified ‘Special Economic Functions’: Development Centre with a focus on Tourism, Tourism and the Wild Atlantic Way and Centre for delivery of Local Authority Services and it is an objective of the Local Area Plan 2018-2024 to inter alia: “seek the development and renewal of areas within Carndonagh that are in need of regeneration..”

The Team is collaborating with *Spraoi agus Sport* in Carndonagh in the development of a regeneration project in the Diamond, Pound Street and town centre area of the town. The project envisages a new hub located in a regenerated heritage building, and proposes a range of uses including: a co-working space, a creative space, retail space, warehousing, youth space, public amenities etc. The project will directly address vacancy and dereliction and will be integrated with public realm interventions and accessibility improvements.

A Part 8 planning scheme for the Carndonagh Town Centre Regeneration Project was published on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2020. The Plans and particulars of the development were available for inspection online and by prior appointment only at County House, Lifford and the Carndonagh Public Services Centre until Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2020. Submissions must be made in writing before Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

It is proposed to bring a Chief Executives Report on the Part 8 development to the Members in November to enable the submission of a Category 1 shovel ready funding application to the RRDF by the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020 deadline. Economic Appraisal, QS project costing services, valuations & the preparation of CGI 3D photo real visuals have been procured and are all ongoing.

## 1.3.5 Rathmullan

The Team acknowledges the significant work done to date by the ‘Way Forward Group’ in Rathmullan in progressing a ‘future use feasibility study’ for the Napoleonic Gun Battery in conjunction with Pasparakis Friel.

The Team is exploring the opportunity to further progress this project towards shovel ready status as a capital project, which might then enable an application for Category 1 funding under future calls of the RRDF. This will require the progression of the project through further pre-planning, planning and detailed design/contract work. It has been agreed that Consultancy Services will be



## Planning Services Report

procured to progress these work elements and a request for tender documentation is currently being prepared.

The Team met with ‘The Way Forward’ Group on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020 to discuss the road map, immediate next steps and timelines for the progression of this project.

### 1.4 REGENERATION STRATEGIES

The Regeneration & Development Team had undertaken with Members to progress Regeneration Strategies in a number of Tier 2 Strategic Towns as a part of our work programme. This work has been progressing through in house resources and capacities together with consultancy services. An update on this area of the work programme is provided hereinunder:

#### 1.4.1 Ramelton

The Ramelton Action Plan was formally launched on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020.

The Plan was funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme and is the result of collaboration with the local community, Donegal County Council and Dedalus Architecture.

The Action Plan provides a number of heritage led actions that have been developed in consultation with the local community and which are intended to support the renewal and regeneration of Ramelton. The Plan will assist and support a wide range of public and private stakeholders such as landowners, business owners, local community groups, statutory bodies and public authorities in providing heritage led guidance and dedicated actions for the regeneration, repair and future development of the town in a sustainable manner.

The Plan can be viewed at the following link:

<http://www.donegalcoco.ie/media/donegalcountyc/planning/pdfs/rameltonactionplan/Ramelton%20Action%20Plan.pdf>

#### 1.4.2 Killybegs

In Killybegs, the Killybegs Regeneration Group were successful in 2019 in securing FLAG monies towards, inter alia, the preparation of a Regeneration Strategy. The Regeneration Team has partnered with this Group to assist in the preparation of the strategy, which will be delivered by consultancy services. A competition to procure the necessary professional services has been held and Pasparikis Friel emerged as the successful bid. They have been engaged and the work of preparing a Regeneration Strategy for Killybegs is well underway.

#### 1.4.3 Ballybofey



## Planning Services Report

As was agreed in July the Team undertook to procure consultants to progress the preparation of the Regeneration Strategy. The procurement process has now closed and Pasparakis Friel Architects have been appointed. Work has commenced and is ongoing in relation to consultation, profiling and surveying due to the tight timeframe set down for delivery of a draft strategy and alignment with the scheduled submission of a Category 1 application to the RRDF for the 'SEED' project by the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020 deadline.

## 1.4.4 Ballyshannon &amp; Dungloe

The work of commencing and progressing Regeneration Strategies for Ballyshannon and Dungloe has been impacted by the national public health emergency which has affected the ability to engage with the public, stakeholders and to hold further such events. As a result the timelines for the presentation of a draft strategy need to be adjusted accordingly.

In order to introduce momentum to this work and ensure timely progression and delivery it has been decided to advance Regeneration Strategies in Ballyshannon and Dungloe through the procurement of Consultancy Services. A tender for Consultancy Services in respect of both Ballyshannon and Dungloe opened on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020. The closing date is Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020 after which the evaluation of any tenders received will immediately proceed.

The timeline that this approach enables, is scheduled to deliver a Draft Regeneration Strategy by end of February 2021 and a Final Regeneration Strategy by end of April, 2021. The work programme proposed will include for public, community and Elected Member participation and consultation and further engagement with Members will be arranged to discuss the delivery of the Strategies once the award to the successful company has been made.

## 2.0 URBAN REGENERATION AND DEVELOPMENT FUND (URDF)

### 2.1 Application submitted to the Urban Regeneration & Development Fund

The URDF application Letterkenny 2040 (Phase 1) '**Re-energise and Connect the Historic Town Centre**' was successfully submitted to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2020 in advance of the next day deadline.

The project is an ambitious, transformative and strategic step in Letterkenny's longer term regeneration goal to transform the core of the town as a liveable 'place for People and Public Life'. The sub-projects of the application are:



Planning Services Report

**A. The Cathedral Quarter – Making a Creative District –**

A re-imagined public space at Market Square

A revitalized and accessible Church Lane through delivery of a shared surface scheme

A 1,500 sqm Creative Design Hub with green urban parkland

A repurposed vacant building as a Tourist Office

**B. Enabling Renewal at Lower Main Street**

Strategic land assembly and acquisition package

**C. Revival at the Courthouse**

New enterprise space blended with a tourist attraction in the Historic Courthouse presenting ‘Donegal: People and Place’.

**D. Enabling a Regional Transport Hub**

Strategic land acquisition

**E. LK Green Connect**

Connecting origins, destinations and targets inc. strategic land acquisition

The overall value is estimated at: €18.1m (approx.)

This application is now under assessment. DoHPLG have indicated that a date for announcement is not known at this time.

**2.2 Existing approved URDF project in Letterkenny (application submitted 2018; final approval to proceed received September 2019)**

This application secured €1.9m in URDF monies, match funded by €600,000 for three sub-projects, the detail and progress of which is set out below:

**(i) Ongoing procurement process for consultancy services to prepare a Regeneration Strategy for Letterkenny Town Centre.**

There has been significant progress in relation to the procurement process to appoint the consultants in respect of the Letterkenny Regeneration Strategy and to this end, we can now confirm that The Paul Hogarth Company have been advised that they are the successful tenderer. As the required standstill period has expired we will now proceed to complete the contract to appoint The Paul Hogarth Company as the lead consultant of a consortium. The consortium also consists of Hall Black Douglas Architects, Atkins and AV Browne.

The project will be a 12 month programme commencing in its initial phase with survey, analysis and consultation and this will include early engagement with the MD. There are 5 key deliverables across the 12 month duration:

1. An overall masterplan for the town centre. This will provide the skeleton for the entire town centre including identification of the optimum site for a Regional Transport Hub and the critical linkages between the historic town centre and newer retail areas (Complete around February/March 2021)



## Planning Services Report

2. Concept design proposals for 10 key regeneration sites. The sites to be focused on for design concepts will emerge through the earlier phase of the project. (Complete around May/ June 2021)
3. A Linkages and Public Space Action Plan. This will prioritise the delivery of future public spaces and linkages and identify where the best value and benefit can be achieved from investment made (Complete around July/August 2021).
4. Tailored design guidelines to guide future development in relation to parameters like car parking, street frontage and building heights as examples. (Complete around July/August 2021).
5. Branding and communication- this will occur throughout the entire project and lead to a final project event around September 2021.

As referenced, the next step (which is underway) is to complete the contract with the Paul Hogarth Company. Once the appointment is complete, a clear timeline to commence the project will be established including early engagement with the Elected Members and consultants.

**(ii) Acquisition of key town centre regeneration site.**

Negotiations have been progressing with intent with central landowner of the key regeneration site approved by DoHGL for acquisition. Progress has been affected by the National public health emergency associated with Covid-19 and its associated impact on what would be considered 'normal' market conditions. It is targeted to undertake further discussions with other relevant landowners during Q4 2020 in order to confirm the acquisition pathway. In the interim, the team has been making preparations to be in a ready position to formally commence acquisition following the appropriate level of negotiations with all relevant landowners.

**(iii) Public realm in the area of the Social Enterprise Centre**

Detailed design of the public realm approved is being carried out using in-house architectural resources. To this end, Donegal County Council is now appointed as PSDP on this sub-project and currently advancing detailed design including a topographical survey, ground investigations and structural design. At the time of writing it is anticipated that works will commence on site before year end, with a completion target of the end of May 2021.

**2.3 Update in relation to an Architectural Competition to Re-imagine Market Square, Letterkenny.**

Further to previous updates and information circulated, the Market Square Architectural Competition, funded by Letterkenny Chamber of Commerce, was launched on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2020 and has a closing date of 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020. There has been substantial interest in the competition registered by over 60 requests for the topographical survey of the Square. An evaluation panel is now required to evaluate and shortlist the submissions received in the context of the design brief for the competition and this was discussed with the



## Planning Services Report

Letterkenny Elected Members at a workshop on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2020. It is proposed that this will be followed by a further workshop on the shortlisted entries with Letterkenny Members together with a process of public consultation. This will inform the finalization of the winning design. The design brief for the competition clarifies that the competition is an open and creative design process to seek innovation and inspire creative perspectives in relation to Market Square and that the winning design is not a commission. The design brief also clarifies that the winning design may or may not be taken forward to Part VIII or alternatively, it may be taken forward to Part VIII in adapted form.

#### 2.4 Letterkenny Cultural Corridor project

As previously advised in the Chief Executives Report to the plenary meeting of Donegal County Council in September 2019, Letterkenny's cultural partners (Donegal County Museum, the Regional Cultural Centre and An Grianan Theatre) secured funding from the Irish Architectural Foundations 'Re-imagine' project to undertake the Letterkenny Cultural Corridor project. The objective of the project is to strengthen the connections between the three cultural institutions and to strengthen the concept of the area as a 'Cultural District.' The funding provided for the engagement of Pasparakis Friel Architects by the cultural partners to advance the project and this launched through an online survey and other consultation in early March 2020 with progress and briefing on the project subsequently impacted upon, to a degree, as a result of the national Covid-19 restrictions.

As discussed in our URDF workshops with Letterkenny MD in February and March 2020, the Regeneration and Development Team engaged with the cultural partners and Pasparakis Friel Architects so as to incorporate the project as a component of sub-project E (LK Green Connect) of the URDF application submitted to DoHPLG on the 28<sup>th</sup> May 2020, specifically in respect of the strategic acquisition of lands to enable the delivery of a direct physical connection between the three institutions.

To date, the architects have developed a number of short term and temporary sign posting interventions which have recently been installed to improve and enhance the existing physical connection between the three institutions.

Further work is required to develop the design concept in respect of the direct link proposed together with further consultation including the Elected Members of the Letterkenny MD and to this end a workshop took place on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2020 with the Letterkenny MD at which Pasparakis Friel Architects attended to give a presentation to Members.

**Regeneration & Development Team  
November 2020.**

Community Development, Enterprise & Planning S  
Planning Services Report



**GLENTIES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT  
MEETING  
10<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

**Roads & Transportation Agenda**

- 1. Follow up to Issues raised at last MD Meeting.  
Report has / will issue in advance of the MD Meeting to  
the Member that raised the query.**
- 2. Road Works Programme – Report Attached.**
- 3. NRDO Update.**

## **Road Works Programme Status as at 04 November 2020**

I have listed below outstanding elements of the 2020 Road Works Programme and the anticipated delivery dates.

### **Dungloe RSS Area**

- Caravan Road – Surfacing Works scheduled to start Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November and will take 4 days.
- Millwheel towards Seamus O Baoill's Infill Surfacing – Contractor has indicated week ending 13/11/20.
- Caravan Road, Dungloe - Footpath recently completed.
- Doochary Village - Footpath recently completed.

### **Glenties / Ardara RSS Area**

- Green House Road - Footpath Works complete with adjacent Tarmac Overlay scheduled for week ending 13/11/20

### **Gweedore RSS Area**

- Crolly Footpath – Works substantially completed including surfacing
- Bunbeg Footbridge & Footpath repairs – Works substantially completed except surfacing (planned for Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> Nov).
- Bunbeg Pier Rd – Works Ongoing
- Dore Footpath – Works Ongoing
- Corveen Glen Rd flooding project – Works Ongoing and will continue until Dec
- Meenaleck CIS – Works substantially completed except surfacing (planned for Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> Nov).
- Molloy's Jct (Derrybeg) Safety Scheme – Works yet to commence
- Kincasslagh RI Project – Contractor due 16<sup>th</sup> November

### **Falcarragh RSS Area**

- Baltoney (Gortahork) Footpath – Works ongoing



## Islands Programme

Arranmore Island Bitmac Contracts – Preparatory works completed on all 4 Roads. Contractor due 16<sup>th</sup> November.

Lining on a number of Roads is outstanding as we are awaiting a Lining Contractor to complete as soon as practical.

Brendan Mc Fadden  
SEE 04 Nov 2020.

## Major & Minor Roads Projects

### 1. N56 Kilkenny Letterilly

Works are now completed with snagging now almost completed as well.

### 2. N56 Dungloe to Cloghbolie

Construction is ongoing by BAM Civils Ltd., and progress is good to date. Barry Transportation are supervising the Works on behalf of Donegal County Council.

### 3. N56 Letterilly to Glenties (Kilraine)

The first section of this scheme from Letterilly to Glenties has been awarded to Wills Bros. Ltd., and Construction will commence in Q1 2021. The section from Glenties to Kilraine will be tendered separately in Q4 2020 with construction commencing in Q1 2021.

### 4. N56 Dungle to Glenties – Land Acquisition

Close out of the remaining Land Acquisitions will be completed by the end of the year (332 out of 339 complete), although a small number of the remaining cases will possibly be referred to arbitration.

### 5. N56 Dungle to Glenties – % for Art Scheme

Stage 2 of the procurement process is now complete and a winning proposal has shortlist of 5 has been identified. This is being communicated to the shortlisted participants.

**Fergus Towey, SEE**

**10<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2020**

**HOUSING AGENDA**

**1. Progress Report – Grants**

**2. Progress Report – Casual Vacancies**

## 1. PROGRESS REPORT SOCIAL HOUSING PROGRAMME AT 03/11/2020

### (a) Grants

<b>Housing Aid for Older People Grants</b>						
<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Approved</i>	<i>Cancelled/ Refused</i>	<i>Applicant Further Info</i>	<i>Referred to Eng</i>	<i>Pending</i>
2020	72	46	7	5	14	19

<b>Housing Adaptation Grants</b>							
<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Approved</i>	<i>Cancelled/ Refused</i>	<i>Applicant Further Info</i>	<i>Referred to Eng</i>	<i>Referred to OT</i>	<i>Pending</i>
2019	25	16	9	0	0	0	0
2020	24	8	6	2	6	2	10

<b>Mobility Aids Grants</b>							
<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Approved</i>	<i>Cancelled/ Refused</i>	<i>Applicant Further Info</i>	<i>Referred to Eng</i>	<i>Referred to OT</i>	<i>Pending</i>
2019	48	32	16	0	0	0	0
2020	35	17	10	1	7	0	8

## 2. PROGRESS REPORT – CASUAL VACANCIES AT 03/11/2020

Glenties MD	Address	Beds	Vacant From	Current Status
<b>Ardara</b>				
	Drumaghey Park	2 bed	06/08/2020	Contractor appointed and works commenced on site last week
	Drumaghey Park	3 bed	11/09/2020	Contractor appointed and works commenced on site last week
	Drumaghey Park	2 bed	05/10/2020	Contractor appointed and works commenced on site last week
<b>Arranmore</b>				
	Leabgarrow	2 bed	21/10/2020	Contractor appointed and works commenced on site last week.
<b>Burtonport</b>				
	Altán	3 bed, 2 storey	22/09/2020	Contractor appointed and works commenced on site last week
<b>Creeslough</b>				
	Ard Cois Locha	2 bed	23/10/2020	House is currently being assessed top determine works required.
	Ard Cois Locha	3 bed	23/10/2020	House is currently being assessed top determine works required.
	Massinass	3 bed	03/12/2019	Unit to be demolished and a new scheme to be developed on the site.
<b>Dungloe</b>				
	Croveigh (LTL)	5 bed	26/04/2019	Contractor appointed and works commenced on site last week
	Ard Chróine, Quay Rd	1 bed, bungalow	21/08/2019	Offered, refused, reoffered
<b>Derrybeg</b>				
	Clós Naomh Mhuire, Stranacorkra	2 bed, bungalow	15/08/2019	Offered

<b>Falcarragh</b>				
	Carrowcannon	3 bed	01/03/2019	Contractor appointed and works commenced on site last week
	Carrowcannon	2 bed	13/08/2020	Contractor appointed and works commenced on site last week
<b>Glenties</b>				
	Clós Naomh Chonail	2 bed	24/08/2020	Contractor appointed and works commenced on site last week
	Radharc na hEaglaise	3 bed	21/10/2020	House is currently being assessed to determine works required.
<b>Tory Island</b>				
	Tuam na Toinne	3 bed	29/07/2020	Quotations due back on the 2/10/2020. It is proposed to get works completed by mid December.











## Housing Capital Update Report Glenties Municipal District Meeting

10<sup>th</sup> November 2020

### 1. Social Housing Developments – Construction Schemes

Donegal County Council is currently progressing the following proposed Social Housing development in the Glenties Municipal District:

Location	Status	No. of Units
<b>Tender Stage</b>		
Dunfanaghy	Contract awarded. Works commenced on 10/08/2020. Expected completion date Q4 2021	4
<b>Preliminary Design Stage (No. of units subject to change)</b>		
Chapel Road, Dungloe	Preliminary Design Stage	45
<b>Total</b>		<b>49</b>

### 2. House Acquisition Programme

Donegal County Council has acquired, or is in the process of acquiring, properties under the House Acquisition Programme. In the Glenties Municipal District during 2018-2020 a total of 13 properties were purchased under this programme. There are 19 further acquisitions currently in progress which are currently at the final stages of conveyance.

Following acquisition and prior to allocation, improvement works are carried out on the properties where required to provide high quality, energy efficient, sustainable homes to individuals and families.

### 3. Social Housing through Turnkey Acquisition

Donegal County Council's turnkey acquisition process is continuing throughout the county. This competitive dialogue procurement process will result in a major capital investment in social housing and initial projects have now completed. This is a very effective mechanism enabling the Council to feed into the design of the proposal so as to ensure that the end product is suitable for the needs of social housing tenants. Proposals are subject to meeting the requirements of the procurement process, planning, departmental approval and contract.

In order to safeguard the nature of the process and bearing in mind the commercial sensitivities of the process as well as the extent of the approvals required, the Council will continue to provide Elected Members with detailed information of the proposals upon receipt of final departmental approval (i.e. stage 4). Notwithstanding this approval, proposals are subject to contract.

Final approval has been received from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG) for both phases of a turnkey development at Falcarragh. Developers Michael & Linda Whoriskey have substantially completed works on Phase I of the development containing 6 no. three bedroom units and work is nearing completion on Phase II of the development which contains 2 no. three bedroom units as well as 4 no. two bedroom units. The Council is currently progressing the contract in conjunction with our legal representatives.

Council officials are continuing to dialogue with Developers with regard to additional valid proposals for Falcarragh and Gweedore and Members will be fully informed of these proposals upon receipt of final departmental approval.

#### **4. Single Rural Dwellings (SRD)**

Progress is continuing in respect of 2 no. SRD's in Glenties Municipal District. Both single rural dwellings have been tendered and tenders are received. The transfer of land to the local authority in each case, as required under this process, is taking place in parallel.

#### **5. Lands / Property for Social Housing Purposes**

The Council is actively seeking lands in towns where there is a social housing need where there are currently no viable housing delivery options. Offers to acquire land have been made in a number of towns and Members will be kept informed on the outcome of same.

An advertisement has recently been placed on the Council's website and encompasses all towns and villages in the county. Interested parties are invited to submit an expression of interest for parcels of land, derelict sites and existing buildings in line with guidance outlined in the advertisement.

# **Local Government Act, 2001 & Local Government Reform Act, 2014**

## **STANDING ORDERS**

**Regulating the Proceedings of the Municipal District  
Members in the Municipal District of Glenties**

**(As amended at meeting of the 10<sup>th</sup> November 2020)**

# **MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF GLENTIES**

## **STANDING ORDERS**

### **REGULATING THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEMBERS**

#### **Meetings of the Municipal District Members**

1. Unless upon any occasion when it is otherwise fixed by statute or by resolution of the Municipal District members, Ordinary Meetings of the Municipal District members shall be held on the second Tuesday of each month, except for the months of August and November. A schedule of Ordinary Meetings of the Municipal District members for the ensuing year shall be approved at each Annual Meeting.

#### **Annual Meeting**

2. In every year in which a local election is held, the Annual Meeting shall be held on the date specified by the local authority, which shall be not later than ten days after the Annual Meeting of the local authority, and not on an excluded day.  
In every other year the Annual Meeting shall be the second Tuesday in May.

Whenever an Annual Meeting is for any reason not held on the appointed day, the Meetings Administrator shall, following consultation with the Cathaoirleach or if the office of Cathaoirleach is vacant or he/ she is unable to act, with the Leas Cathaoirleach, convene a meeting for a day which the Administrator considers to be the earliest convenient date for that purpose.

In an election year, the Municipal District members shall publish a notice of their Annual Meeting on the website of the local authority immediately upon the setting of the date for this meeting by the local authority. The notice shall state the date and venue of the Annual Meeting, that the first business of the meeting will be the election of the Cathaoirleach and, where appropriate, specify the bodies to which the Municipal District members are entitled to make appointments at that meeting or subsequently. The notice shall be in a similar form to that published by the local authority advising of its Annual Meeting.

In the case of an Annual Meeting in an election year and until the election of the Cathaoirleach at such meeting, the Chair for this period shall be taken by a Municipal District member, or an employee of the local authority selected by the meeting for this purpose. Any member selected to chair an Annual Meeting under this subparagraph shall not have a second or casting vote and any employee of the local authority if so selected in accordance with this subparagraph, shall not have any vote.

At an Annual Meeting in an election year the election of a Cathaoirleach is to be the first business of an Annual Meeting and the next business, the election of a Leas Cathaoirleach.

In the case of the Annual Meeting in an election year, the business to be transacted after the election of the Cathaoirleach and the Leas Cathaoirleach shall include the consideration of the election, appointment or nomination of members of bodies elected, appointed or nominated by the Municipal District members.

### **Meeting to consider Draft Budgetary Plan**

3. The Chief Executive shall consult with the Municipal District members in the preparation of the draft local authority budget and for this purpose a draft budgetary plan will be prepared. This draft budgetary plan will allow the Municipal District members determine the manner in which the General Municipal Allocation will be spent. The draft budget plan shall be considered by the Municipal District members within the period determined by the Minister and the deliberations shall be concluded at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the date set for the local authority budget meeting

### **Special Meeting**

4. A Special Meeting of the Municipal District members may be convened at any time by the Cathaoirleach or if the office of Cathaoirleach is vacant or the Cathaoirleach is unable to act, by the Leas Cathaoirleach, or by the Cathaoirleach on foot of a request in writing presented to him or her by any three (3) Municipal District members.

Where the Cathaoirleach refuses or neglects to act on foot of a request within seven (7) days of it being presented to him/her, the Municipal District members making the request may convene a meeting. The provisions of Paragraph 6 of Schedule 10 apply in relation to calling of such meeting.

### **Hour of Meeting**

5. The hour of meeting of the Municipal District members shall be 11.00 a. m. or at such other hour as may from time to time be fixed by resolution of the Municipal District members. The Municipal District members shall rise not later than 5.00 p.m.

### **Place of Meeting and Address of Principal Offices**

6. In so far as practicable the place for holding meetings of the Municipal District members shall be the Dungloe Public Services Centre and meetings shall normally be held there, provided that the Municipal District members may from time to time, by resolution, appoint an alternative location for a particular meeting.

The address of the principal offices of the local authority for the purposes of these Standing Orders is County House, Lifford, County Donegal.

## **Summoning of Meeting**

7. A notification to attend a meeting, other than a meeting to consider the draft budget plan shall (a) be sent by email or otherwise delivered to each Municipal District member, (b) specify the place, date and time of the meeting, and (c) give not less than three (3) clear days notice. The three (3) clear days shall only exclude (i) normal day for receipt of the notice, and (ii) the day of the meeting.

In the case of a draft budget plan meeting, seven (7) days' notice shall be given.

A notification shall include or be accompanied by an Agenda listing the business to be transacted at the meeting. Subject to Standing Order 20 no business shall be transacted at a meeting, other than that specified in the Agenda, which relates to the meeting or business required by the Act, or otherwise by law to be transacted at the meeting.

An Agenda which has been sent or delivered for this purpose may be altered (whether by way of addition, deletion or otherwise) if an Agenda specifying the alteration is delivered or sent to each member not less than three (3) clear days before the day on which the meeting is to be held.

In the case of a Special Meeting convened by requisition under Standing Order 4, a copy of the requisition shall be sent with the notification.

8. A notification shall have the signature of the Meetings Administrator and any document claiming to have that signature shall be deemed, until the contrary is proved, to have been duly issued or given with the authority of the Municipal District members.

Want of service or non-receipt of a notification by any member or lack of a signature or any other defect in the notification does not affect the validity of a meeting or of any act or thing done at the meeting.

For the purposes of this Standing Order "signature" includes an e-signature or facsimile of a signature by whatever process reproduced or a printed version of the name of the Meetings Administrator.

## **Public Notice of Meeting**

9. Public notice of the place, date and time of a meeting shall be displayed not less than three (3) clear days before the day of the meeting in or at the place of meeting of the Municipal District members, and the Principal Offices of the local authority, if different, in a position convenient for public inspection during normal office hours.



The Notice shall include the Agenda for the meeting or specify a place where the Agenda can be inspected and in the case of a meeting requisitioned under Standing Order 4, the Agenda shall include, or be accompanied by, a copy of the requisition.

Subject to any arrangements as it may make, the Municipal District members shall supply a copy of a public notice and agenda to the media.

## **Constitution of Meetings**

10. The Chair shall be taken by the Cathaoirleach at a meeting of the Municipal District members within ten (10) minutes after the time appointed for such meeting or in his / her absence by the Leas Cathaoirleach or otherwise by a member called thereto by general agreement or chosen by vote of the members present to chair the meeting and such member shall leave the Chair on the arrival at the meeting of the Cathaoirleach or Leas Cathaoirleach.
11. The quorum for a meeting of the Municipal District of Glenties is three (3).

Whenever a meeting of Municipal District members is abandoned owing to failure to obtain a quorum, the names of those present at the time and place appointed for such meeting shall be recorded by the Meetings Administrator and they shall for all purposes be deemed to have attended a duly constituted meeting.

If a quorum is not present within thirty (30) minutes after the time fixed for the meeting, or at any time during the meeting, the meeting shall stand adjourned to a day to be named by the Cathaoirleach.

## **Order of Business**

12. The Order of Business at all meetings other than Annual Meetings and Special Meetings shall, subject to the provisions of any enactments, be as follows:
  - (i) Confirmation of Minutes.
  - (ii) Consideration of Reports and Recommendations.
  - (iii) Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District Members for transaction at such meeting.
  - (iv) Other business set forth in the Notice convening the meeting.
  - (v) Notices of Motion.
  - (vi) Correspondence.
  - (vii) Members written Questions

In the case of a meeting convened for a special purpose, the business specified in the Notification for such meeting shall be transacted and no other business.

At any ordinary meeting of Municipal District members it shall be proper, if a majority of the members present and voting so decide, to take an item for consideration out of the sequence of listing on the Agenda, provided always that such decision shall not affect any business required by Statute to be done before any other business at the meeting.

## **Confirmation of Minutes**

13. Minutes of the proceedings of a meeting of Municipal District members shall be drawn up by the Meetings Administrator.

The Minutes shall include:-

- (a) the date, place and time of the meeting,
- (b) the names of the members present at the meeting,
- (c) the names of the senior employees of the local authority present at the meeting,
- (d) reference to any report submitted to the members at the meeting,
- (e) where there is a roll call vote, the number and names of members voting for and against the motion and of those abstaining,
- (f) particulars of all resolutions passed at the meeting,
- (g) such other matters considered appropriate.

A copy of the minutes of a meeting shall be sent or given by the Meetings Administrator to each Municipal District member.

Minutes of a meeting shall be submitted for confirmation as an accurate record at the next following ordinary meeting, where practicable, or where not, at the next following meeting and recorded in the minutes of that meeting.

When confirmed, with or without amendment, the minutes of a meeting shall be signed by the person chairing the meeting they were submitted to for confirmation and any minutes claiming to be so signed shall be received in evidence without proof. When the question that they be confirmed is put from the Cathaoirleach, a Member may object to any part thereof as not being an accurate record and, upon a motion, any question of altering the record shall be determined by the Municipal District members by majority vote of those members who were present at the appropriate meeting, provided that no entry shall be made in the Minutes of any protest other than a record of dissent, save in the form of a motion or an amendment.

A copy of the minutes, when confirmed in accordance with this Standing Order, shall be open to inspection at the Dungloe Public Services Centre and at the principal offices of the local authority, and any person may inspect and make a copy of, or abstract from, the minutes during the usual office hours of the authority.

A copy of the minutes shall be provided to any person applying for them on payment of such reasonable sum, being a sum not exceeding the reasonable cost of supplying the copy, as may be fixed by the Municipal District members.

The minutes, and all related documents, shall be maintained on the website of the local authority.

## **Notices of Motion**

14. Every Notice of Motion dated and signed by the Member or Members giving it shall be delivered to the Meetings Administrator and shall be recorded in the order of their receipt and shall appear on the Agenda in that order.

No Notice of Motion shall be set down on the Agenda for any meeting unless such Notice of Motion shall have been delivered to the Meetings Administrator at least seven (7) clear days before the date of such meeting.

15. If any Notice of Motion of which notice has been duly given relates to a matter normally dealt with by a Committee or comes within the terms of reference of any Committee or Committees, it shall be referred to such Committee or Committees as the Meetings Administrator may determine. Any dispute on such reference shall be determined by the Cathaoirleach.
16. No member shall be permitted to have more than one motion (including adjourned motions), on the Agenda for any one meeting. Where at a meeting, or any adjournment thereof, more than one notice of motion appears on the Agenda to be proposed by one or more individual members, no second notice of motion of any such members shall be proposed until after every other member shall have proposed the sole or first notice of motion appearing in the member's name. A similar order of precedence shall apply to any further notices of motion remaining to be proposed by two or more members.

## **Motions to Amend or Revoke Resolutions**

17. A motion to revoke or amend a resolution of the Municipal District members can only be made on notice inserted in the Agenda, and such notice shall specify the resolution to be revoked or amended and furnish the terms of the motion to be made; however, no such motion shall be allowed to appear on the Agenda to revoke or amend any resolution of Municipal District members within six months of the date of the adoption of such resolution except with the written assent of not less than four (4) Municipal District members. A resolution may not be revoked at the meeting at which it has been adopted.

It shall be necessary for adoption of a motion to revoke or amend a resolution of the Municipal District members, that not less than four (4) members vote in favour and subject to such other requirements as may be specified in Standing Orders and to any statutory requirements.

18. Subject to Standing Order 18 any matter decided by the Municipal District members by motion on notice or on the report of a committee, shall not be re-opened within six (6) months of the date of such decision.

## Motion for Purpose of Dealing with Urgent Business

19. Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Standing Orders, a Motion to deal with a function related to the Municipal District members (not on the agenda) as “Urgent Business”, signed by not less than three (3) members, shall be accepted by the Cathaoirleach on the day of an ordinary meeting prior to the end thereof or 4 p.m. (whichever be sooner), subject to the following:

- (i) A motion under Urgent Business should be accepted in situations only where the subject matter has arisen in the period after the normal deadline for submission of motions has passed.
- (ii) Must also specify the reasons why it is proposed that the item concerned be dealt with as “Urgent Business”
- (iii) Would be put to the meeting as soon as possible after receipt thereof by the Cathaoirleach.
- (iv) In order to be passed will require that the number voting in favour is not less than half of the total number of Municipal District members and not less than three quarters of the members present at the meeting.

If the Motion is passed, the item concerned will be dealt with as the last business of the meeting **PROVIDED THAT –**

- (i) If there is more than one such Motion passed at the meeting the relevant items will be dealt with in the order that the Motions were received by the Cathaoirleach.
- (ii) Motions under ‘Urgent Business’ shall be limited to the Proposer, the Secunder and one Speaker from each political Grouping.
- (iii) All business required by Statute to be transacted in priority is concluded in sufficient time before the end of the meeting as specified in Standing Order 3 to allow for such urgent business to be dealt with.
- (iv) In the event that a motion is passed to suspend Standing Orders to complete the remaining items on the agenda, motions under ‘Urgent Business’ already accepted by the Council will be dealt with at the end of the meeting.

## **Adjournment of Meeting**

20. A motion for adjournment of the meeting of the Municipal District members may be made at any time and shall be determined without amendment and without debate, except that the mover of the Motion of adjournment and the mover of the Motion immediately affected by it, may each address the Municipal District members for not more than two (2) minutes on the question of the adjournment; and when the Motion for adjournment is adopted, the meeting will stand adjourned to a day then named or in the event of no such date being named, to the next occurring ordinary meeting.

A Special Meeting may be adjourned from time to time until its business is concluded.

## **Motions and Amendments**

21. The proposer of a motion not listed in the Agenda or an amendment, and not in common form, may upon moving the same deliver a copy to the Cathaoirleach .
22. A motion, notice of which stands in the Agenda and which has been proposed and seconded, may be withdrawn only on leave obtained from a majority of the Municipal District members present at the meeting at the request of the member concerned. A motion may either be proposed by the member in whose name it stands or if he or she be absent, by any member authorised by him or her in writing to propose it on his or her behalf; but unless so proposed, and in the absence of a request in writing from the member in whose name it stands to postpone it, the motion shall be dropped and shall not again be set down in the Notice Paper except on fresh Notice. A motion or an amendment when not seconded is dropped.
23. An amendment which has been proposed and seconded may be withdrawn only on leave obtained from a majority of the Municipal District members present at the meeting at the request of the member concerned.
24. Every amendment shall be relevant to the motion on which it is moved and shall be either (a) to leave out words, (b) to leave out words and insert or add others, (c) to insert or add words. An amendment shall not be in order if it is equivalent to a direct negative or if it is not in fact an amendment of the motion it purports to amend.
25. Whenever an amendment on an original motion has been moved and seconded, no second or subsequent amendment shall be moved until the first amendment shall have been disposed of, but notice of any second or subsequent amendment shall first have been given.
26. When an amendment is affirmed the original motion, as amended, becomes the substantive motion upon which any further amendment, of which notice has been given, may be moved.

27. When an amendment is lost, any further amendment, of which notice has been given, may be proposed but only one amendment shall be at any time before the meeting and an amendment shall not be in order if the Cathaoirleach rules it to be substantially the same as an amendment already lost.

## **Order of Debate**

28. Except with the permission of the Cathaoirleach, a proposer of a motion shall not address the Municipal District members for more than four (4) minutes, while any other member wishing to speak to the motion shall not address the Municipal District members for more than two (2) minutes. A member may speak once upon any item on the Agenda or on any motion except a motion which is to be put without debate. The proposer of a motion has the right to reply whilst the motion remains before the Cathaoirleach and, when the proposer replies, the debate on the motion is closed.
29. No member who has spoken to a motion may move or second an amendment, but when an amendment is moved and seconded, a member who has already spoken to the original motion may speak to the amendment.
30. A member may speak more than once on the same motion or amendment for the purpose only of submitting a point of order or making a personal explanation. The Cathaoirleach's decision in determining a point of order or personal explanation shall be final.
31. The Cathaoirleach shall ascertain that a motion is seconded before the proposer is permitted to speak to it.
32. A motion "that the Municipal District members proceed to the next business" may be made after any motion has been proposed and seconded. When made it shall be determined without amendment or debate and if it be affirmed, the business interrupted by such motion shall not be proceeded with further at that meeting and, unless the Municipal District members otherwise determine, shall be adjourned to the next ordinary meeting. The motion to proceed to next business shall not be made more than once during the debate on any question.
33. At any time during a discussion on a motion a member may move "that the question be now put" and if such leave be given by the assent of the majority of those present and voting, the motion shall be put, subject to the right of reply by the proposer of the original or substantive motion.
34. When two or more members at the same time offer to speak, the member called upon by the Cathaoirleach shall have precedence.
35. A member while speaking shall address only the Cathaoirleach.

36. A member speaking shall not be interrupted except upon a question of order, but may give way to a member desiring to make a personal explanation.
37. When a member seeks to make a point of order, the member then addressing the Cathaoirleach shall give way until the question of order has been determined by the Cathaoirleach, unless the former seeks to address the upon the question of order.
38. The Cathaoirleach is the sole judge of order at meetings of Municipal District members and has authority to maintain order and enforce prompt obedience to his / her ruling. When, during a debate, the Cathaoirleach rises, any member then speaking shall give way to the Cathaoirleach.

### **Disorderly etc., Behaviour**

39. If at a meeting any Municipal District member, in the opinion of the Cathaoirleach notified to the members, misconducts himself or herself by persistently disregarding the ruling of the Cathaoirleach, or by wilfully obstructing the business of the meeting, the Cathaoirleach, or any other member, may move “that the member named be not further heard”, and the motion, if seconded, shall be put and determined without discussion.
40. If, in the opinion of the Cathaoirleach, any member has been, or is, disorderly by persistently disregarding the ruling of the Cathaoirleach, or by behaving irregularly, improperly or offensively or by otherwise obstructing the business of the meeting, and the Cathaoirleach has conveyed his or her opinion to the members present by naming the member concerned, then the Cathaoirleach, or any member, may move “that the member named leave the meeting” and the motion, if seconded, shall be put and determined without discussion.
41. Where the Municipal District members decide that a member leave a meeting, that member shall immediately leave the meeting and shall not be entitled to speak or to take any further part in that meeting on that day.
42. Where, in the opinion of the Cathaoirleach, there is general disorder which impedes the orderly transaction of business, or where a member against whom it was resolved, in accordance with Standing Order 40, that he or she leave the meeting, refuses to do so, the Cathaoirleach may adjourn the meeting for such period as he or she considers necessary in the interests of order.
43. Where following a motion under Standing Order 41 the member refuses to leave the meeting, and the meeting is adjourned under Standing Order 42, a further motion may be put that the member concerned was the cause of the meeting being adjourned.
44. If following a motion under Standing Order 43, the Cathaoirleach expresses the further opinion that the member has continued to
  - be disorderly by disregarding the ruling of the, Cathaoirleach or

- behave irregularly, improperly or offensively, or
- otherwise obstruct the business of the meeting, and

the Cathaoirleach expresses this opinion to the members present by again naming the member concerned, then the Cathaoirleach, or any member, may move “that the member named be suspended for [a specified period]” and the motion, if seconded, shall be put and determined without discussion. The period specified in this motion shall be not less than one (1) month and not more than six (6) weeks.

- 45.** Where at least two-thirds of the elected members present and voting decide that the member be suspended, he/she shall be suspended with immediate effect from all meetings of the Municipal District members and any committee of the Municipal District members, for the period specified in the motion.
- 46.** If within three (3) months of the end of a period of suspension, where at least two-thirds of the elected members present and voting decide that the member concerned has again, or continued to
- be disorderly by disregarding the ruling of the chair, or
  - behave irregularly, improperly or offensively, or
  - otherwise obstruct the business of the meeting,

on the basis of a motion moved by the Cathaoirleach, or any member, “that the member named be suspended for [a specified period]” in accordance with Standing Order 44, and the motion, if seconded, shall be put and determined without discussion, he or she shall be again suspended with immediate effect from all meetings of the Municipal District members and any committee of the Municipal District members for a period of at [a specified period], but not exceeding six (6) months. The period specified in this motion shall be not less than six (6) weeks and not more than ten (10) weeks.

- 47.** Notwithstanding, Standing Orders 39 to 46, the Municipal District members may at any meeting subsequent to the imposition of the suspension, and during the period of suspension, decide by resolution to lift a suspension. Such resolution, whether under Standing Order 15 or Standing Order 19 shall be considered at the earliest point on the agenda possible, subject to the requirement under any enactment in relation to other specified business.
- 48.** The Cathaoirleach shall indicate to the meeting that the Chief Executive has sought consultations on arrangements for the exclusion, or where necessary, removal from the meeting, of any member the subject of a motion under this part of the Standing Orders. This shall be as a point of information only and there shall be no debate on this information.
- 49.** No member shall address the Cathaoirleach, unless from one of the seats reserved to the use of members.



## **Members Questions**

50. Every member shall be entitled, for an ordinary meeting of the Municipal District to put a total of two questions for such meeting, to the Meetings Administrator, but such questions shall not involve argument, nor contain any matters except such as are strictly necessary to explain such questions.
51. Every Question, dated and signed by the member giving it, shall be delivered to the Meetings Administrator not later than seven (7) days prior to the day for the Municipal District meeting. No Question shall be set down on the agenda for any meeting unless notice of the Question shall have been delivered to the Meetings Administrator.
52. Any question which, in the opinion of the Meetings Administrator, is unreasonable, unsuitable in form, frivolous or derogatory to the dignity of the Council may be disallowed. The Meetings Administrator shall consult with the Cathaoirleach in advance of any such decision.
53. A written reply will be made available to the member. In answering a question, the matter to which it refers is not to be debated.
54. Omnibus questions shall not be allowed.

## **Deputations**

55. The Municipal District members may by resolution decide to receive a deputation. Subject to the direction of the Cathaoirleach, up to a maximum of three (3) persons may speak on behalf of the deputation for not more than fifteen (15) minutes, unless permitted by the Cathaoirleach.

Request for a deputation to be heard by the Municipal District members shall not be considered unless the subject matter to be raised be notified, in writing, on the motion of a Municipal District member, or direct application by the body concerned, is sent to the Meetings Administrator at least fourteen (14) clear days before the date of the meeting.

The deputation may only be questioned by Municipal District members but shall not be entitled to ask questions.

When the members of a deputation have addressed the meeting, they shall withdraw from the meeting.

The Municipal District members may, by resolution, decide to receive a deputation without notice, provided three quarters (rounded up) of the members present vote for the resolution.

Only one (1) deputation will be received at an ordinary meeting of the Municipal District of Glenties.

## **Questions, Votes and Divisions**

56. Every question shall be determined by a show of hands, unless two members request a division, in which case the names for and against the motion or amendment, shall be taken down in writing and recorded in the Minutes.
57. Where the Cathaoirleach has not formally declared the result of a vote, or is in doubt as to whether his / her declaration is right or wrong, he or she is entitled if s/he thinks fit, to take a second vote on the matter, especially if he or she considers that through some misunderstanding the first vote did not properly represent the sense of the meeting at that time.
58. Each member present at a meeting of Municipal District members shall have a vote unless prohibited by any enactment.
59. Without prejudice to any enactment or other provisions, of these Standing Orders requiring either the presence of a specified number or proportion of the members, or that a specified number or proportion should vote in favour, for the doing of any particular act, all acts of the Municipal District members which are reserved functions or questions duly coming or arising before a meeting of the Municipal District members shall be determined - (a) by a majority of the members present and voting or where there is an equality of votes, by a second or casting vote of the person chairing the meeting (which person shall have and may choose to exercise such a vote).

## **Advice that Exercise of Reserved Functions should be by the Local Authority**

60. Where the Chief Executive, following consultation with the Cathaoirleach or Leas Cathaoirleach, advises that any proposed exercise or performance of a reserved function should be by the local authority, no motion or resolution purporting to exercise or perform such function shall be put.
61. A motion to decide to refer the matter to the Corporate Policy Group as to whether the function should be exercised and performed by the elected council of the local authority or by the Municipal District members, may be proposed and seconded at the meeting and put for decision at that meeting in accordance with Standing Orders 22 and 23.
62. Any reserved function, the subject of advice from the Chief Executive in accordance with Standing Order 60, and referred to the Corporate Policy Group in accordance with Standing Order 62, shall not be exercised or performed unless and until the Corporate Policy Group indicates that it may be so exercised by the Municipal District members.

## **Attendance of Public and Media**

63. The right of the public and representatives of the media to attend meetings of Municipal District members is subject to the following:-

Where the Municipal District members are of the opinion that the absence of members of the public and representatives of the media from the whole, or part of, a particular meeting is desirable because of the special nature of the meeting or of an item of business to be, or about to be, considered at the meeting or for other special reasons, the Municipal District members may, by resolution in respect of which, at least one-half of the total number of Municipal District members vote in favour, decide to meet in committee for the whole or part of the meeting concerned. The resolution in this instance shall indicate, in a general way, the reasons for the resolution and those reasons shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

- 64.** Members of the public and representatives of the media will occupy the parts of the Meeting Room allotted to their use.

The public shall be admitted subject to the following arrangements:

- Members of the public shall be seated and maintain silence and observe any directions given by the Cathaoirleach or by any employee of the local authority in attendance upon the Municipal District members. Such employees are responsible for the execution of all measures necessary for the maintenance of order and decorum in and about the Chamber.
- If a member of the public interrupts a meeting at any time or endeavours, without the permission of the Municipal District members to address a Meeting, the Cathaoirleach shall warn him or her and if the interruption continues shall order that person's removal.
- In the case of a general disturbance in any part of the Meeting Room open to the public, the Cathaoirleach shall order that part to be cleared.
- No cameras of any kind or sound recording or communication equipment may be used at meetings of Municipal District members without the prior approval of the members.
- The use of mobile phones shall not be permitted at meetings of the Municipal District members.

## **Committees**

- 65.** The Municipal District members may appoint a Special Committee for a specific purpose. When appointing such a Committee it shall at the same time determine the number and names of members to constitute such Committee and shall also fix the quorum which shall not be less than three (3). The term of office of a Special Committee shall be for such period as the Municipal District members may determine when appointing the Committee.
- 66.** Every Special Committee at its first meeting shall appoint a person from its members and, where practical, fix the day and the hour of future meetings.

67. In the election of Committees, candidates shall be proposed and seconded and if the number so proposed and seconded does not exceed the number of vacancies, those proposed and seconded shall be declared elected. Should the number of those proposed and seconded exceed the number of vacancies, a vote shall be taken in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 18 of Schedule 10, and the requirements of any other enactment will apply to appointments to committees.
68. Whenever a vacancy occurs in the membership of any Committee of the Municipal District members, by reason of the death, resignation or disqualification of a member, such vacancy shall be filled as soon as circumstances permit, by the Municipal District members after due notice.
69. In a Committee, a motion or amendment may be proposed without a seconder, and a member may speak more than once to any question, but otherwise the Rules of Order of the Municipal District members, so far as they are conveniently applicable, shall govern all proceedings of Committees, and the member in the chair at any meeting of a Committee shall determine questions of order.
70. Every Committee in the whole of its proceedings shall be governed by the Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District members affecting such Committee.
71. A copy of every Report of a Committee to be submitted to the Municipal District members shall, before the submission thereof, be transmitted to every member at least three (3) days before meetings of Municipal District members, save in cases of urgency when reading of the Report to the Municipal District members shall suffice.
72. Save for meetings of such Committees as the Municipal District members may specify from time to time, representatives of the media and the public may be present at meetings of Committees of Municipal District members. When confidential matters are under discussion Committees may decide to exclude such representatives from the meeting or the relevant portion of the meeting.
73. The Meetings Administrator shall summon a meeting of any Committee at the request of the Cathaoirleach of the Committee, or any three (3) of its members, or whenever the Meetings Administrator deems it necessary, in special circumstances that such Committee shall meet.
74. The Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District members shall be ex-officio a member of every Committee except those where membership is fixed by Statute.
75. In the absence of the Cathaoirleach of a Committee, the chair shall be taken by any Municipal District member of the Committee agreed at the meeting.

76. The Cathaoirleach of each Committee shall be responsible to the Municipal District members for the general management of the business entrusted to such Committee.
77. The Municipal District members may resolve themselves into a Committee of the whole of the Municipal District members for the transaction of business to be specified in the Resolution. {Section 45}
78. The decisions of the Committees of the Municipal District members shall not become binding, except where otherwise provided in the Standing Orders, until approved by the Municipal District members, unless the members specifically empowers these Committees to deal (without further reference to it) with certain matters, subject to the appropriate legal provisions.

### **Suspension of Standing Orders**

79. Subject to the provisions and requirements of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended), or of any other enactment, any Standing Order, except No's. 18, 19, and 20, if so decided by the Municipal District members, may at any time be suspended on a motion proposed, without notice, for the purpose of enabling any specific business defined in the suspensory motion to be considered and dealt with by the Municipal District members, subject to the requirement that at least two-thirds of the members present vote in favour.

### **Miscellaneous**

80. A member or members appointed to outside bodies and boards may from time to time submit reports to the Municipal District members on matters arising in such bodies or boards which have relevance to the Municipal District members and shall in any event do so in accordance with the requirements of Section 141 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended by section 53(1) of the 2014 Act.

## GLENTIES

### 5. Cllr John Seamais O'Fearraigh

"Further to the Motion passed by this Council in April 2016 in relation to the provision of adequate funding for the erection of monuments in the County, the Glenties Municipal District - Recognises the historical and cultural significance of the structure known as Bád Eddie on Machaire Clochair strand, Bunbeg, Co. Donegal; - Notes that the boat has become an iconic structure in the local landscape and is renowned nationally and internationally having featured in the U2 and Clannad music video and on the cover of Vogue magazine in Italy; - Recognises that Bád Eddie plays an important part in attracting tourists to the area, adds to their experience and that tourists and locals alike have an affinity with the boat; - Commends the work of the newly formed local committee, "Coiste Bád Eddie", who have come together with the aim of preserving the structure; - Pledges to preserve the structure through the placing of a new permanent replica of the structure at the location; - Commits to contributing to the funding the replica structure and further commits to work with other potential stakeholders to work towards securing additional funding streams; - Partners with Coiste Bád Eddie to assist in their efforts to preserve the boat; - Commits to initiating a stakeholder group with a meeting to take place between Council officials, the stakeholders and Coiste Bád Eddie prior to the end of year 2020."

### 6. Cllr. Maire Therese Gallagher

"That this MD draw up plans to provide safe pedestrian access in the town of Dungloe, to include safe access for residents in the fairhill/sheskinarone area, connecting footpaths at Radox to Pole road cross road, Quay road and Carnmore Road, and pedestrian access to Public carpark."

### 7. Cllr. Maire Therese Gallagher

"Will this MD invite Failte Ireland to meet with members and relevant staff and agencies to start a plan on tourism development within the Donegal Gaeltacht."

### 8. Cllr. Maire Therese Gallagher

"Considering that the post of CDO for this MD is to be appointed before year end, would this MD consider having a workshop/meeting in the new year to consider work programs for the MD area and discuss how consultation with local community groups can take place remotely considering covid restrictions."

9. Cllr. Anthony Molloy

"I would just like an update as to where we are at regarding the buy out of Council Houses .This has been brought up a few times at our Plenary meetings

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