

Municipal District of Glenties

Office of Meetings Administrator P.S.C Dungloe 7th October 2020

NOTICE OF MEETING

The Municipal District of Glenties Meeting will be held on Tuesday 13th October, 2020 <u>at</u> 11.00am 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. The Agenda is attached.

Yours sincerely

Eamonn Brown Meetings Administrator

Cuir freagra chuig: Ionad Seirbhísí Pobail, Bóthar Ghaoth Dobhair, An Clochán Liath, Contae Dhún na nGall F94 H4CF Please reply to: Public Service Centre, Gweedore Road, Dungloe, Co. Donegal F94 H4CF



Ceantar Bardais Na Gleanntaí

Oifig Riarthóir na gCruinnithe P.S.C Clochán Liath 7ú Deireadh Fomhair 2020

FOGRA CRUINNITHE

Beidh Cruinniú de Ceantar Bardais Na Gleanntaí in Ionad Seirbhísí Clochán Liath ar an 13ú lá mí Deireadh Fomhair, 2020 ag 11.00 i.n

DO GACH BHALL DEN CEANTAR BARDAS NA GLEANNTAÍ

A Chara

Iarrtar ort bheith i lathair ag an gcruinniu seo Ceantar Bardais Na Gleanntaí. Ta Clár an Cruinnithe le seo.

Mise, le meas

Éamonn de Brún Riarthóir Cruinnithe

Cuir freagra chuig: Ionad Seirbhísí Pobail, Bóthar Ghaoth Dobhair, An Clochán Liath, Contae Dhún na nGall F94 H4CF Please reply to: Public Service Centre, Gweedore Road, Dungloe, Co. Donegal F94 H4CF

<u>AGENDA</u>

1.	Consideration of the Minutes of Glenties Municipal Distr			
	Committee Meeting held on 8 th September 2020.	11am		
2.	Report from Workshop held on 11 th September 2020.			
3.	Economic Development.	11.05		
4.	Community Development, I.S & Emergency Services	11.25		
5.	Planning.	11.45		
6.	Roads.	12.05		
7.	Housing & Corporate Services.	12.25		
8.	Environment.	12.45		

MINUTES OF MEETING OF GLENTIES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE

HELD ON 8th SEPTEMBER 2020 IN

ST. COLUMBA'S COMMUNITY CENTRE, BURTONPORT

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

Brendan McFadden - SEE, Area Manager, Roads &

Transportation

Sinead McClafferty - Area Planner

David Friel - Coastal Officer

Charles Sweeney - Community Development Manager

Kevin McGarvey - Assistant Chief Fire Officer Michael Rowsome, S.S.O. Housing/Corporate

GMD 49/20 Venue

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. McGarvey commended the assistance and facilities provided by staff in St. Columba's Community Centre, Burtonport. Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig acknowledged the assistance also provided by former Cllr. Alcorn.

GMD 50/20

<u>Confirmation of Minutes of Glenties Municipal District</u> <u>Committee Meeting</u>

On the proposal of Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig, seconded by Cllr. Ó Fearraigh the minutes of the Glenties Municipal District Meeting held on 14th July 2020 were confirmed.

GMD 51/20 HOUSING

51.1 Grants

The Committee noted the reports circulated with the Agenda and presented by the Housing Manager in relation to the status of (i) Housing Aid for Older People Grants, (ii) Housing Adaptation Grants and (iii) Mobility Aid Grants as at the 31st of August 2020.

51.2 Casual Vacancies

Members noted the report on 16 no. casual vacancies in the Municipal District as at the 31st of August 2020 and the Housing Manager confirmed that works in progress at 8 of the units will be complete by the end of September. Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig recommended that the Council utilise direct labour to work on the reletting of casual vacancies.

51.3 <u>Social Housing Construction Schemes</u>

Members noted the report previously circulated and presented by the Housing Manager in relation to the status of the following proposed social housing developments:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Units</u>
Dunfanaghy	Work to commence Q3	4
Dungloe	Preliminary Design	44

In response to a query from Cllr. Gallagher regarding the housing mix in the Dungloe Scheme, the Housing Manager advised that further details and drawings will be available at the Housing Workshop on the 11^{th} of September.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig outlined his opposition to the dependence of the state on the private sector for the delivery of social housing.

51.4 House Acquisition Programme

The Committee discussed the report circulated with the agenda and presented by the Housing Manager in relation to the status of the House Acquisition Programme.

Cllr. McClafferty commended the proposals for additional housing delivery in Dunfanaghy.

Cllr. Ó Fearraigh recommended that the Council plan for the acquisition of housing units on offshore Islands. In this regard the Housing Manager clarified the minimal demand on both Tory (1) and Arranmore (2).

Cllr. MacGiollaEasbuig requested the Council to communicate with Senior Management in Clúid (Approved Housing Body) to invite them to meet the Glenties Municipal District Committee to fully utilise all available units in the Cois Locha facility. Cllr. Gallagher outlined her frustration with the HSE in respect of their protracted communication process in relation to the Cois Locha facility.

Cllr. Gallagher requested a report regarding the vacant Udarás housing in Fintown.

51.5 <u>Turnkey Acquisition</u>

The Committee discussed the report previously circulated and presented by the Housing Manager regarding the continuing turnkey acquisition process in Falcarragh and Gweedore.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig expressed concern regarding planning granted for a potential acquisition scheme on the Glen Road, Annagry due to the proximity of front doors to a busy road.

51.6 Lands for Social Housing

In response to a query from Cllr. McCalfferty, the Housing Manager advised that advertisements are currently on the Council website actively seeking land in towns with a social housing need.

51.7 <u>Parents & Friends - Dungloe</u>

Cllr. McGarvey updated the meeting regarding plans for the utilisation of housing units in the Dungloe area once this facility is fully occupied.

51.8 Private Rented Housing

In response to concerns expressed by Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig regarding the change in use of a private rented house to an Air BNB unit, the Housing Manager clarified the legal protection available to tenants and the dispute resolution process offered by the Residential Tenancy Board.

51.9 <u>Maintenance</u>

The Committee highlighted housing maintenance issues in Falcarragh (Ballina), Meenaniller (Ailt Aoibhinn), Ardara (Radharc an Ghleanna), Glenties (Ard Patrick) and Derrybeg (Cois Cuain) for the attention of the Housing Service Maintenance team.

51.10 <u>Mulherns Corner, Dungloe</u>

Cllr. McGarvey requested an update on plans for development of Mulherns Corner at the Main Street, Carnmore Road Junction.

51.11 <u>Tenant Liaison Officer</u>

In response to a recommendation from Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig to recruit a dedicated Tenant Liaison Officer, the Housing Manager clarified that the role is currently carried out by the Housing Assessment Officer.

51.12 Workshops & Budget Meetings

Members agreed the following schedule of Workshops/Meetings:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Service</u>
Sept 11th	10 am	Housing – Capital
Sept 11 th	12 pm	Planning Regeneration & Development
Sept 11 th	1 pm	Community Development Railway Walk
Sept 11 th	2 pm	Marine - Magheroarty Sea Wall/ Tory Ferry

Oct 9th 10 am Finance - Budget Workshop

Oct 29th 2 pm Finance - Budget Meeting

51.13 <u>Spraoi le Chéile</u>

On the proposal of Cllr. Gallagher, seconded by Cllr. Ó Fearraigh, the Committee nominated Cllr. McGarvey for election to the Board of Ionad Curám Paistí an Chlochán Liath Teo. t/a Spraoi le Chéile.

51.14 <u>Deputation</u>

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig requested that a deputation from the Ardpatrick Housing Scheme in Glenties attend the next Municipal District meeting.

GMD 52/20 <u>ECONOMIC DEVLOPMENT</u>, <u>INFORMATION</u> SYSTMES AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

52.1 <u>Economic Development Unit</u>

The Committee welcomed the reports circulated within the agenda and presented by the Assistant Chief Fire Officer who updated Members regarding:

- (i) The Donegal Place Brand initiative to convey the County's unique identity and competitive advantage as a great place to live, work, invest, explore and study.
- (ii) The Buy Donegal weekend taking place from the 6th to the 8th of November to highlight the range of Donegal products and services available. The campaign will be supported with an extensive online marketing campaign and a dedicated www.buydonegal.com website.

(iii) #LoveDonegal day, which will take place on the 16th September 2020 to showcase the people, music, arts, businesses, marine and cultural landscape of Donegal.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig expressed disappointment at the absence of any reference to the cooperative model of economic development and the excessive emphasis on private profit making enterprise.

52.2 Tourism Marketing Unit

Members welcomed the reports circulated previously and presented by the Chief Fire Officer who updated Members regarding the GoVisitDonegal.com tourism destination portal which provides information on accommodation, festivals, attractions, travel and information.

Cllr. Molloy highlighted the inability of tourism infrastructure to cope and cater for the recent influx and outlined the extensive work required to improve parking facilities, signage and lay byes to accommodate increased vehicular traffic.

Cllr. McGarvey recommended the expansion of campervan facilities to cater for a growing market in an era of staycations arising from the pandemic restrictions on foreigh travel.

Cllr. Gallagher requested the tourism unit to liaise with Members in relation to the immediate commencement and delivery of a tourism development plan in advance of 2021 season.

52.3 Research & Policy Unit

The Committee discussed the report circulated with the Agenda.

Cllr. McGarvey undertook to revert to the Glenties Municipal District in relation to the inaugural Fisheries Committee Meeting scheduled on the 16th of September.

52.4 <u>Strategic Funding Unit</u>

Members noted the reports circulated previously and Cllr. Gallagher recommended that a representative from the unit attend a future Municipal District Meeting to update on their work programmes and to facilitate input from the Committee.

52.5 Local Enterprise Unit

Members discussed the reports circulated with the agenda and presented by the Assistant Chief Fire Officer who updated the Committee in relation to:

- (i) the Business Continuity Voucher Scheme
- (ii) the Trading Online Voucher Scheme

52.6 <u>Information Systems</u>

The Committee discussed the report circulated with the agenda and the Assistant Chief Fire Officer responded to Cllr. Gallagher's queries in relation to WiFi4EU, free public WiFi scheme.

52.7 <u>Emergency Services</u>

The Committee considered the report circulated with the agenda and presented by the Assistant Chief Fire Officer in relation to the activity of both the Fire

Service and Civil Defence. Members were updated in relation to the recruitment campaign for additional retained Firefighters (male and female) throughout the County and the forthcoming 2021 delivery of a water tanker capable of carrying 8500 litres of water.

Cllr. McGarvery commended the efforts of the Civil Defence during the pandemic.

In response to a query from Cllr. Ó Fearraigh and Cllr. Cllr. McClafferty, the Assistant Chief Fire Officer advised that the fire service carry out regular surveys of hydrants as part of the training regime and check fire hydrants for accessibility, pressure, visibility/marker plates and liaise with Irish Water in respect of any deficiencies.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig queried the lack of action by the Fire Service in relation to establishment of a 1st Responders Volunteer Firefighting service.

The Assistant Chief Fire Officer stated that the fire service is sufficiently staffed with medically trained operatives with a structured chain of command and that he will liaise with the Fire Service in respect of issues raised by Members.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig criticised the lack of fire fighting infrastructure on offshore Islands and particularly on Tory Island and stated that a similar service available on the mainland should be provided on Islands.

The Assistant Chief Fire Officer highlighted the importance of fire prevention and the issue of preventative equipment to all residents on offshore Islands.

GMD 53/20 ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION

53.1 <u>Roadworks Programme</u>

The Committee welcomed the update circulated with the agenda in respect of the status of all projects in the Road Service Supervisor areas and the Roads Manager responded to Members queries in relation to highlighted issues in Meenaleck, Crolly, Dore, Annagry, Derrybeg, Brinalack and Curransport. Members commended the ongoing efforts of the road service throughout the Municipal District.

53.2 <u>Active Travel Measures</u>

The Committee welcomed the application list of projects for active travel measures to improve conditions for vulnerable road users throughout the Municipal District.

53.3 <u>Climate Change Adaptation Measures</u>

Members welcomed the application list of projects submitted for climate change scheme funding.

53.4 <u>Drainage Programme</u>

In response to a query from Cllr. Ó Fearraigh, the Roads Manager clarified that the agreed drainage programme will be completed during quarter 4.

53.5 Hedgecutting Programme

In response to a query from Cllr. McGarvey, the Roads Manager informed the Committee that the hedgecutting level of service has issued to Members and that a media campaign is due to commence.

53.6 <u>Members Lighting</u>

Cllr. Ó Fearraigh queried the status of Members Lighting programme and the Roads Manager confirmed that the Roads SPC are finalising protocols to facilitate implementation of an efficient programme.

53.7 Winter Maintenance

In response to a query from Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig regarding gritting routes, the Roads Manager advised that a Countywide Workshop is to be arranged in this regard.

53.8 <u>Gaeltacht Signage</u>

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig requsts that 'stad' be utilised on all stop signs in the Gaeltacht areas.

53.9 Speed Limits

Cllr. McGarvey requested the erection of speed limit signage in Meenmore on the approach to Dungloe to reduce speeding traffic.

53.10 Wild Flower Pilot Project

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig requested an update on this matter.

53.11 Road Crossings

In response to a query from Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig, the Roads Manager confirmed that unauthorised road crossings are being followed up with the people who conducted the specific works.

GMD 54/20 ENVIRONMENT

54.1 Waste Awareness

Members noted the reports from the Waste Awareness Officer circulated with the agenda and presented by the Coastal Officer in relation to Waste presentation bye - laws, recycling, upcycling and online community workshops. The Committee commended the efforts of the litter warden to tackle illegal dumping and his prompt action when contacted.

54.2 Flood Relief Scheme

The Committee noted the status of the Glenties Flood Relief Scheme as reported by the SEE in the CFRAM unit.

54.3 <u>Coastal Management</u>

The Committee welcomed the report from the Coastal Officer regarding the Summer Beach season, the lifeguard service, whale stranding, & the ongoing review to determine improvements required to cope with the surge in visitor numbers.

In response to queries from Cllr. Ó Fearraigh and Cllr. McClafferty regarding the provision of pontoons at Bunbeg and Port na Blagh piers, the Coastal Officer undertook to relay requests to the Marine Service.

Cllr. McClafferty highlighted safety concerns at Port na Blagh pier and queried if by laws can be introduced to address motorised vehicles on Port na Blagh beach.

Cllr. McGarvey commended the expeditious closure of beaches during the Pandemic.

GMD 55/20

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Committee noted the reports circulated with the agenda in relation to the 'Yours' project and the Leader/Rural Development programme.

The Community Development Manager updated Members on the status of the Errigal Stakeholders group.

Cllr. McGarvey requested the opening of libraries to facilitate families and particularly those without access to adequate broadband.

GMD 56/20

PLANNING

56.1

The Committee considered the reports circulated with the agenda in relation to (1) Development applications, (2) Enforcement, (3) Planning clinics - telephone call only basis), (4) Regeneration and (5) CPU.

56.2

Transboundary EIA Public Consultation

The Committee were circulated with a report at the meeting from A/Senior Executive Planner regarding notification of the commencement on 2nd September 2020 of a transboundary EIA public consultation on the UK's proposed Sizewell C Nuclear Power Station. On the proposal of Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig, seconded by Cllr. McClafferty, the Glenties Municipal District expressed opposition to the proposed nuclear power facility.

GMD 57/20

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig requested that a deputation meet with the Lithuanian Ambassador in relation to prisoners' rights in the Lithuanian jurisdiction. This proposal did not receive support from the Committee.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

Report from Housing Workshop OF GLENTIES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE HELD ON 11th September 2020 IN Dungloe PSC

Members present: Cllr. Noreen McGarvey (Cathaoirleach)

Cllr. Marie Therese Gallagher

Cllr. Anthony Molloy

Cllr. Michael McClafferty

Cllr. John Sheamais Ó Fearraigh

Cllr. Michéal Choilm Mac Giolla Easbuig

Officials present: Michael McGarvey -A/Director Water & Environment

Service

John Gallagher - A/SE Housing Capital

Eamonn Brown - Area Manager, Housing & Corporate

Eamonn Boyle - Area Housing Engineer

Michael Rowsome - SSO, Housing & Corporate

1. John Gallagher A/SE Housing Capital made a presentation

to the Glenties Municipal District detailing the various delivery mechanisms used to meet the existing Social

housing need throughout the Municipal District.

2. Plans in respect of the site layout at Chapel Road,

Dungloe were on display and Members were updated in relation to the acquisition of 10 acres of land to satisfy

need in Dungloe.

3. Members were advised of proposals for delivery of social

housing in Dunfanaghy, Falcarragh, Gweedore, Ardara and

Glenties.

4. The Committee were updated in respect of the Housing

Acquisition programme, Specific Instance Housing and Approved Housing Bodies by the A/SE Housing Capital

and Housing Manager.

6.

Members raised the following issues for the attention of the Housing Service:

- Necessity to provide housing in Gaeltacht areas to preserve Irish language.
- Pilot project in a rural area to retain sustainable small villages.
- Provision of sufficient internal and external space along with playgrounds in all Social Housing Schemes.
- Necessity for sound proofing standards to adhere to regulations.
- Provision of adequate sewage infrastructure in all schemes.
- Employment of direct labour to build social housing.
- Negative impact of Air BNB's on social housing availability.
- Provision of adequate housing on Islands to retain offshore population.
- Increasing number of homes for sale purchased as holiday homes reducing availability for indigenous need.
- Progress serviced land initiatives.
- Amend Policy to increase number of SI's.
- Relaxation of rules to facilitate Tenant Purchase by elderly.
- Cross service collaboration between Roads and Housing to be addressed at SPC to reduce response time to simple road maintenance issues on housing schemes.

The Housing Service responded to all queries and undertook to liaise with AHB's, SPC, SMT and Department of Housing where necessary.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE WORKSHOP.



Economic Development, Information Systems & Emergency Services Directorate

Report to Municipal District of Glenties

Content

- 1. Economic Development
 - 1.1 Economic Development Unit
 - 1.2 Tourism Marketing Unit
 - 1.3 Research & Policy Unit
 - 1.4 Strategic Funding Unit
- 2. Local Enterprise Office
- 3. Information Systems
- 4. Emergency Services
 - **4.1 Fire Service**
 - **4.2 Civil Defence**

1. <u>Division: Economic Development</u>

1.1 <u>Division: Economic Development – Economic Development Unit</u>

Project / Activity Report

Title	Economic Development Unit
Outline of Work	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: Alpha Innovation Centre: Work is underway in initiating the Alpha Innovation Centre. Letter of Offer from Enterprise Ireland for €3.7m is being awaited. But in the meantime plans are being put in place to be in a position to move swiftly with the Letter of Offer is signed. The project will support businesses and early idea entrepreneurs develop their innovation capability and business resilience post Brexit and post Covid.
	Donegal Place Brand initiative: 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.
	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.
	This will also involve the revamp of the Donegal.ie website as the online home for the new Donegal place brand. The project will kick off on Friday October 1 st with work likely to be completed in early 2021.
	Donegal Connect: The EDU are working with the Local Enterprise Office/ Donegal Diaspora Project on Donegal Connect which will take place virtually on October 8 th . 3 sessions themed around relocating to Donegal/remote working, showcasing innovation in Donegal and music session will take place. The aim of Donegal Connect is 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.
	For more visit <u>www.donegalconnect.com</u>

Register to attend at https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/donegal-connect-tickets-121351959979

The latest key stats for the Donegal Connect Twitter as follow;

Impressions (last 28 days) Total Followers

Twitter 100,00 1,482

Buy Donegal Weekend: A new campaign from the EDU to support Donegal businesses will take place from $6 - 8^{th}$ November 2020.

#BuyDonegalWeekend 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 www.buydonegal.com website where consumers can go to find out more about products and services on offer from Donegal.

#LoveDonegal Day: #LoveDonegal took place on Wednesday the 16th September to once again celebrate Donegal across the world.

The #LoveDonegal day initiative was co-ordinated by Donegal County Council's Economic Development Unit with assistance from a range of Council services including the Tourism Unit, the Communications Office, Local Enterprise Office and the Donegal Diaspora Project.

#LoveDonegal reached over 17 million users on Twitter alone on the campaign day and trended number 1 on twitter all day. There was strong engagement from people in the USA, the UK and in South America. Love Donegal saw people, young and old, across the globe, share their stories, pictures, videos and memories of why they #LoveDonegal with content featuring on Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, Facebook and Tik Tok highlighting the Donegal landscape, amenities, businesses, music, sport, arts, heritage and the Gaeltacht region.

Many influential and widely known figures got involved on the day celebrating their love for Donegal from corners across the world with interviews held on Highland Radio, Raidió na Gaeltachta and Newstalk FM as well as extensive coverage through online and print media channels.

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 proactively promoting and 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.

Outdoor Space & Social Distancing: The scheme supports businesses in the tourism and hospitality sectors to reopen by facilitating additional outdoor dining and seating areas, while also meeting statutory requirements and ensuring accessibility for all. Businesses apply for a Section 254 license and the Council is committed to a prompt assessment of applications within 10 working days of receipt of a complete application and temporarily waiving fees from 1 June 2020 to 31 December 2020. More info at

http://www.donegalcoco.ie/media/donegalcountyc/planning/pdfs/applicationforms/Scheme%20for%20Outdoor%20Spaces%20during%20a%20time%20of%20.pdf

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.

The Concierge Service responds swiftly and proactively to the needs of businesses including businesses looking to re-open and adapting their operation to meet social distancing requirements in a post-Covid society. To date 52 queries have been dealt with through this service.

Property Solutions: involves identification, marketing, option appraisal of Council owned property and land for economic development opportunities including provision of soft landing and second site location opportunities for business. The Unit is dealing with several queries relating to potential property solutions across the county.

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 31st
- 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.

Donegal Tourism Strategy: This new 5-year Strategy will guide the work of Donegal County Council by providing strategic direction for the recovery and development of the sector over the next 5 years.

A more detailed Terms of Reference is currently being finalised.

Caravan & Camping Study: The EDU is currently engaging with the Donegal Caravan & Camping Parks Association (DCCPA) in finalising a terms of reference to undertake a study to assess and evaluate the opportunities and challenges facing the Caravan & Camping sector in Donegal and to make recommendations on how best to support the future development of this sector with a view to ensuring a sustainable and viable sector going forward. This assignment 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.

This study will be tendered in the coming weeks and it is expected that this study will be complete in Q1 2021.

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. This includes the provision of essential baseline data and information for location decision makers.

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 128,000 679

The EDU continue to inform businesses of the range of Covid-19 government supports alongside insightful business and original content features.

In addition to the above accounts, the EDU works closely with the Council's Communications Office to share information on the Councils corporate social media channels.

Other publicity achievements aligned to this Donegal Place Brand strategy are referred to below as part of our Remote Working Strategy.

The EDU asks elected members to follow InvestDonegal on Twitter and LinkedIn.

Remote Working: 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 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.

Work is being commissioned for an international webinar in November in collaboration with the Inishowen Development Partnership as part of the Laurentic Remote Work Social Enterprise Subgroup to showcase Donegal and the work carried out by the EDU in the area of remote working, reaching an international audience.

The EDU is also working with various Innovation and Digital Hubs in Donegal and with Grow Remote to set up a Grow Remote Chapter in Donegal that will support those choosing to remote work from Donegal.

Atlantic Economic Corridor: working with Local Authority partners along the western coast to progress mutually beneficial projects and initiatives. The EDU are currently managing €34,549.99 of funding support (Hub Opening Scheme) from the Department of Rural and Community Development/Western Development Commission to 8 digital hubs in the county to enable them to open safely over the coming months. Working to support drawdown of funds from hubs.

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.

Contact Person

Ciaran Martin ciaran.martin@donegalcoco.ie (086) 8261760

Rosita Mahony – <u>rosita.mahony@donegalcoco.ie</u> (087) 2510128

1.2 <u>Division: Economic Development – Tourism Marketing Unit</u>

Project/Activity Report

All Ireland - Domestic Campaign - Preparations underway

- 6 week campaign targeting island of Ireland initially planned for Autumn 2020 but will be dependent of Public Health Advice and compliance.
- The message of this campaign is "Reset, Reconnect, Rediscover.
 Go Visit Donegal".
- 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.
- Campaign will include presence on air, while bringing the message to life with a selection of 20 and 30 second radio advertising spots promoting Donegal and inviting audiences to take part in a competition to win an amazing trip to Donegal!

Donegal Tourism Recovery Taskforce Initiative – Online Publication

Working with the marketing sub-committee Donegal Tourism Recovery Task Force. Donegal County Councils Tourism Team along with Failte Ireland are developing an online interactive publication to communicate what is open in the shoulder season supplemented with features on geographical areas to include itineraries x 6 highlighting lesser-known attractions in addition to business listings (what's open). This online interactive publication will:

- Provide domestic tourists to the county with information on what to do, explore etc and motivate/encourage and offer reasons for them to disperse throughout the county, extend their stay and increase their spend.
- Gareth Wray has been appointed to deliver a suite of Autumn photography

 3D issue will design the publication which will have the ability to convert PDFs into engaging digital publications with interactive features that can be viewed on desktop, tablet, and mobile devices through Flipbooks Online or Flipbooks Desktop.

Donegal/ Derry Campaign – North West Regional Development FundDonegal County Council is continuing to work with Derry City and
Strabane District Council in developing an integrated marketing campaign for the region in Q1 2020.

- Failte Ireland and Tourism Ireland NI have been approached to support this campaign.
- All video and photography have been taken for both regions.

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 (**1**st **Jan – 28**th **Sept 2020**): 400,557 (up 94% on 2019) Users to date (**1**st **Jan – 28**th **Sept 2020**): 121,228 (up 98% on 2019)

Page views: **Sept (to date) 2020** vs Sept 2019: 40,580 vs 24,635 (up 65%) Users: **Sept (to date) 2020** vs Sept 2019: 11,991 vs 8,360 (up 43%)

September website views by country

- Traffic came from 62 countries in total
- Top Ten Countries:

1. III Ireland	7,564	62.82%
2. 👪 United Kingdom	3,366	27.96%
3. Multiple States	550	4.57%
4. Germany	60	0.50%
5. 🖭 Canada	51	0.42%
6. China	49	0.41%
7. Martalia	42	0.35%
8. (not set)	38	0.32%
9. France	31	0.26%
10. Netherlands	30	0.25%

- Regular Newsletter updates to the trade –topics include Donegal Tourism updates, Fáilte Ireland announcements, LEO supports etc.
- Autumn Offers page is live on the Go Visit Donegal website and there are 13 offers submitted. There are 71 offers in total currently listed on the website across all categories.
- Upcoming Winter Offers the Winter Offers category will become available to providers in the coming days.

Go Visit Donegal - Social Media update – August 2020

• Facebook Page:

Page likes: 38,991 | New likes gained: 523

Page Followers: 39,524 | New followers gained: 543

• <u>Twitter:</u>

Followers: 14,189 | New followers: 190 | Tweet impressions: 143K

| Profile Visits: 1,434 | Mentions 781

• Instagram:

Followers: 17,730 | New followers: 623 | Top post reach: 17,310

TIDE – Atlantic Network for Developing Historical Maritime Tourism

Budget Total: €2,462,267 – Donegal €383,494 (3 years) €120,821 (2020)

This project aims to develop a niche historical maritime tourism package for Atlantic based on connecting & marketing assets from historical period across different regions ie World Wars, Atlantic Migrations, Napoleonic Era & Spanish Armada. There are 7 Partners from 5 Ireland, United Kingdom, Spain, Portugal & France & 10 Associated Partners.

Website: www.tide-atlantic.eu

Project offer continuing to work with various Donegal stakeholders to collate and record information eg. Fanad Lighthouse, Fort Dunree, Inishowen Museum & Killybegs.

Project progressing in accordance with agreed schedule.

CAPITEN PROJECT

Project extension sought to March/April 2021 due to impact of Covid-19 pandemic.

VR headsets to be distributed to the visitor centres at each of the three Wild Atlantic Way Signature Discovery Points in the county (Sliabh Liag, Fanad Lighthouse, and Malin Head).

Rural Development (LEADER) Programme

Funding to undertake a study on the International Marketing of Ireland's North West has been granted by the Department for Donegal, Sligo and Mayo.

This study will provide a series of actions of mutual benefit to the three partner counties in developing an International Marketing Strategy for the North West Region.

Contact Person

Barney Mc Laughlin
Head of Donegal Tourism
barney.mclaughlin@donegalcoco.ie
074 9724465

1.3 <u>Division: Economic Development – Research and Policy Unit</u>

Project /Activity Report

Activity / Project Description	Research & Policy Unit 'To strategically guide policy decisions & investments in County Donegal through the provision of baseline data, research, policy, planning, monitoring and evaluation expertise'	
Progress to date within the July/Aug	The Research & Policy Unit co-ordinated Donegal County Council submissions to the following: Public Consultation exercise relating to the EU Cohesion Funding for the period 2021 to 2027 to identify the priorities for the 2021 to 2027 Partnership Agreement and Operational Programme for the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+). Udarás na Gaeltachta (ÚnaG) Strategic Plan 2021 – 2025 The Irish Central Border Area Network (ICBAN) 'Framework for Regional Priorities (2020 – 2027)'. Provided statistical support to: Submission to the European Commission's draft revised EU guidelines on Regional State Aid (the "Regional Aid Guidelines"). Participated in review of Donegal Children and Young People's Services Committee's 'Children and Young People's Plan 2021- 2023' and provided information, statistics and guidance on Cross Border Commuter Patterns, Brexit, EU Cohesion Strategy and Homelessness. Brexit Paper Research and Policy Unit are preparing a report on the 'Key Implications of Brexit on Donegal'. The first draft report was prepared on the 24th Sept, 2020.	

	Donegal County Council Fisheries Committee Inaugural meeting of the Fisheries Committee was held on 16th September, 2020 and the Research and Policy Unit provides administrative support in convening this meeting and also prepared a number of key documents that illustrate the current position of the Seafood Industry in Donegal, Key Policies & Funds (Common Fisheries Policy, European Regional and Maritime Fund, FLAG etc) and the likely impact on Covid-19 and Brexit will have on the future of this sector.	
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period	 The Research and Policy Unit will Convene second meeting of Donegal Fisheries Committee on the 22nd October, 2020 Provide statistical support to Lancaster University Prepare second draft of the Brexit Report 	
Contact Person (to include telephone number & e-mail address)	Loretta Mc Nicholas Tel 087 9029307 E Imcnicho@donegalcoco.ie	

Project / Activity Report

Activity / Project Title	TrailGazers Bid Project
Activity / Project Description	'To quantify the return to the local economy for every euro invested in walks and recreational trail infrastructure '
Budget	€2.6 M
Progress to date within quarter* -inclusive of current status	The Research & 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:
	 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 Develop and trial a range of practical initiatives and interventions such as business to consumer initiatives, digital marketing tools etc to enhance the return

- Work with communities, businesses and other key stakeholders to 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 organised a transnational workshops on the 3rd Sept, 2020 to discuss emerging options for the development along each of these trail sites that will capitalise on the assets and minimise the constraints. This will feed into bespoke Community Trail Plans that will harness footfall from walks and trails and divert visitors into surrounding towns and villages to explore, experience and spend.
- Project Advisory Group meeting was held on the 10th Sept 2020 to discuss servicing the trail; signage and promotion; sensitivity mapping along the trail; capturing local stories and points of interest; improving trail accessibility and extending the trail to link with key heritage sites and attractions; trail maintenance.
- Suppliers were appointed on the 4th August to capture digital footage, imagery and stories that will showcase Inch Levels and surrounding catchment area to new niche audiences and also provide content for the 'Lost Stories & Folklore of the Trail App'. 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.
- The Research and Policy Unit submitted a second financial claim and progress report on behalf of Donegal County Council to the First Level Controller for validation on the 9th Sept, 2020.

	 Ongoing awareness raising of the work that is been led out by the Research & Policy Unit, Economic Development Directorate in utilising walks and trail infrastructure to stimulate economic development in the Atlantic Area . Most recently Trail Gazers Project and Inch Levels Wildfowl reserve was featured on nationwide https://www.rte.ie/player/series/nationwide/SI0000001172?e pguid=IH000382904 after the ads the clip starts at 11.17sec.
Project Targets for the next quarterly* reporting period	 Submission of overall Project Progress Report for all 10 Trail Partners Convening of the fifth virtual meeting of Trail Gazers Steering Committee on the 27th October, 2020 Convening of the fourth meeting of Trail Gazers Project Monitoring Committee on the 28th October, 2020 Call for quotations for procurement of sensors for Inch Levels.
Contact Person (to include telephone number & e-mail address)	Loretta Mc Nicholas Tel 087 9029307 E Imcnicho@donegalcoco.ie

1.4. <u>Division: Economic Development – Strategic Funding Unit</u>

Project/Activity Report

Title	Strategic Funding Unit – exploring EU and National Funding Opportunities that support the objectives set out in the Donegal County Council Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024
Outline of Work	Strategic Funding Webinar Donegal County Council Strategic Funding Unit will be hosting a series of webinars targeted towards the needs of Donegal County Council divisions and aimed at staff. The webinars will provide information on project development and funding opportunities. The first webinar took place on Thursday 1 st October and will include 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. Registration and details of the webinar are available on the Intranet. The next webinar is planned for 2 nd November 2020. Strategic Funding Unit Newsletters Donegal County Council Strategic Funding Unit has commenced a targeted e-mail campaign targeting 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. The goal of these newsletters is to inform staff of relevant funding opportunities. Networking & Partnerships The Strategic Funding Unit are working with a variety of networks to explore project development and funding opportunities. Donegal County Council Strategic Funding Unit will be taking part in the CPMR (Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions) General Assembly meeting which takes place on 29 th October 2020. This meeting will focus on the EU recovery plan for the pandemic crisis. The SFU is also in discussion with the IREO (Irish Regions European Office) in regards to supports and opportunities for funding that will be available in the coming months in particular the Next Generation EU funding.

Future International Events

The Strategic Funding Unit is working with a number of international organisations and networks to discuss the potential of hosting key international events here in Donegal. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, these events are likely to be moved forward to 2022.

Other Funding Investigations

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.

Donegal Town Pier Situation Analysis

The Strategic Funding Unit has completed a Situation Analysis for Donegal Town Pier. An online workshop took place on 25th September for Donegal MD members. A decision was made to develop Terms of Reference for a Masterplan for the future development and opportunities around Donegal Town Pier as an area that can benefit both tourism and the local community.

Contact Person

(to include telephone number & e-mail address) Joy Harron

Acting Staff Officer

Mobile: +353 (87) 0619360

E-mail: joyharron@donegalcoco.ie

2 <u>Division: Local Enterprise</u>

Project / Activity Report

Activity / Project Title	The Local Enterprise Office (LEO)	
	The Local Enterprise Office (LEO) as part of the Economic	
	Development, IS & 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 & Other initiatives.	
Outline of Work	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.	
	Business Continuity Voucher	
	Business Continuity Voucher	
	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.	
	Progress: 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. €388,67817 has been paid out to date to 233 businesses across the County. This scheme is now closed to new applications.	



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 <a href="https://example.com/here/beauty-telephone mentoring is available to available to download here/beauty-telephone mentoring is available to available to download here.

Progress: To date, 128 Mentoring applications have been received by the Local Enterprise Office of which 96 are COVID - 19 related.



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: 408 TOV applications have been received by the Local Enterprise Office in 2020 with 296 applications awarded €718,881.05 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 reconnecting with employees and customers. The closing date for applications is October 9th and 2 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 €50,000 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 14 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/.

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:

<u>Feasibility/Innovation Funding</u>

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 microenterprise 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, 15 Feasibility, Business Start Up and Expansion grants have been approved €300k funding creating a projected 49 jobs over the 3 year period.

The next meeting of the Evaluation Committee is scheduled for the early October 2020, with 8 new applications under review.

BREXIT

With less than 100 days to Brexit, firms should now be taking the necessary preparations and actions for the substantial changes that will arise on 31st December 2020. The purpose of the "Are You Brexit Ready?" event is to reinforce the need for your business to take action now to prepare for Brexit. The event includes a series of online talks on issues that are critical to your business as you prepare for Brexit, as well as the opportunity to engage in "1 to 1" sessions with relevant Brexit experts.

In addition, a further 3 Customs Training Workshops are scheduled over the next 2 months 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 26th 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

1942 people have attended a range of tailored training programmes in 2020 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. A further 100 people have registered to attend online training courses over the next month.

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 will develop their export plan with the support of expert mentoring for review in September.

<u>Harbour-</u> The Study has commenced with the contract awarded to ByrneLooby Ltd. The assignment is due for completion in October 2020.

AMBITION- Pre Accelerator for Women

An exciting new programme to develop female entrepreneurship in Donegal – we are searching for Donegal's next female entrepreneurs. 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 is 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.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S ENTERPRISE DAY

This year's National Women's Enterprise Day takes place online on Weds, 14th October.

3.0 Enterprise Promotion

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:

- Local Enterprise Week
- Business Information Session
- Student Enterprise Programme
- Enterprise Awards

	4.0 Economic & Other Initiatives The LEO is engaged in a wide range of other initiatives, including;	
	 The Food Coast – Donegal's Good Food Initiative, The Food Coast – Mark of Origin The Creative Coast Enterprise Europe Network Donegal Diaspora EU Programmes 	
Contact Person	Brenda Hegarty, Assistant Head of Enterprise Local Enterprise Office 2: 074 9160895/9160735 Mobile: 0873404510 brenda.hegarty@leo.donegalcoco.ie	

3 <u>Division: Information Systems</u>

Project/Activity Report

Activity / Project Title	Information Systems COVID-19 Response 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. A range of planned key information systems have been implemented in parallel.	
Activity / Project Description		
Budget (if applicable)		
Progress to date within the last month-inclusive of current status	 Substantial increase in the volume of structured and unstructured IS support tasks in the period January – August 2020 over same period in 2019 due to Covid 19. Lifford HQ, Stranorlar Regional Training Centre, Letterkenny PSC, Central Library, LEO HQ, Milford PSC, Carndonagh PSC and Donegal Town PSC connected to 1GB Government Networks Infrastructure. Setup of County Council WiFi networks offsite at John Bosco Centre, Aura Leisure Centre & Carndonagh Community School to facilitate Council & MD meetings. Strategic deployment of IS Staff at PSC's & HQ to manage network infrastructure, systems and data for critical services. 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. Facilitating ongoing widespread segregation of staff members in buildings under social distancing guidelines. Facilitating ongoing home working arrangements across a number of Departments. Continual adaption of DCC website for public COVID-19 information 250 online meetings on GoToMeeting in September, with roll out of GoToMeeting functionality to 95 admin users. Ongoing deployment of electronic return to Work COVID-19 forms & notices for Council staff in conjunction with HR as staff return to offices. 	

11. Implementing return to work protocols for staff returning "on to Network" from Working from Home, to ensure data and systems integrity. 12. Former Army Barracks campus in Lifford added to the Wide Area Network. 13. Network Rewiring of the Machinery Yard Complex completed. 14. New firewall cluster installed on our network to enhance our cyber security. **Systems Programme** 15. Support of COVID19 Restart Grant online system and backend electronic support system. 1683 applications via website to date. 1299 applications for top-up, having received a payment in the first Restart Grant Scheme. Development of online system for Restart Grant + (phase II) scheme 564 new applications for Restart Grant + to date. 16. Ongoing development and support of major online and backend support systems to facilitate management of the Defective Block Scheme which opened on 29th June. 17. Major upgrade of Dynmaics CRM for a number of solutions to facilitate in house development of mobile applications. 18. New car parking management system installed for management of parking function. E-Parking system app launched on 22nd June for on-street payment of parking charges. 6558 registered users since June on eParking App. 17,357 parking requests made. **Contact Person** Daragh McDonough - Broadband Officer dmcdonough@donegalcoco.ie (to include telephone 074 9172450

number & e-mail address)

Activity/Project Update

Activity / Project Title	WiFi4EU
Activity / Project Description	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.
Budget (if applicable)	€150,000
Progress to date within the last month-inclusive of current status	The following locations have been identified in each MD. These are locations where the minimum of 30mbs can be guaranteed, in public spaces the centre of villages, with agreeable hosts. See attached.
Project Targets for the next monthly reporting period	Confirm Broadband lines at locations in Donegal MD and commence installation of hardware. Commence ordering Broadband connections throughout other MD's Finalise additional locations to complete each MD
Contact Person (to include telephone number & e-mail address)	Daragh McDonough – Broadband Officer dmcdonough@donegalcoco.ie 074 9172450

WIFI for EU Locations

Glenties MD
Glenties - Garrett O'Donnell Pharmacy
Glenties - Community Centre or Museum
Falcarragh - Falcarragh Community Centre
Falcarragh - An tSean Bheairic
Ardara - Corner House Bar
Dunfanaghy – Centra
Annagry - Annagry Pharmacy
Arranmore - Comharchumann Forbairt agus Fostaíocht Arainn Mhóir
Dungloe - Mulhern's Corner Bar
Dungloe - Teach Owenie Ban
Kilclooney - Dolmen Centre
Gortahork - Ostan Loch Altan
Dunlewey - Dunlewey Community Centre

Activity/Project Update

Activity / Project Title	NBP – National Broadband Plan
Activity / Project	The NBP was signed by Government in November 2019 and will
Description	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. 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. Liaison with NBI is through the Broadband Officer in Donegal County Council and the Department of Rural and Community Development. 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.

	During 2020 NBI will be carrying out route proofing and surveying in preparation for the main fibre rollouts commencing in 2021.	
Budget (if applicable)		
Progress to date within the last month-inclusive of current status	Wireless backhaul connection for BCP at Comharchumann Oileáin Thoraí is completed MalinBeg site confirmed with eNet and progressing. ESB power	
	application submitted. Alternative options being considered at Malin Head. Ongoing advice to the public on broadband availability. Enquiries made into broadband status at Portnason/Erne Enterprise parks, Ballyshannon.	
Project Targets for the next monthly reporting period	WiFi installations to take place at Leghowney Community Centre, Meenreagh Hostel and Cranford Community Centre. Wireless backhaul connections to commence for Sliabh Liag, MalinBeg & Glenveagh. Surveying of existing Pole & Chamber infrastructure in Donegal will commence on week 5 th Oct. Will see NBI (National Broadband Ireland) branded vehicles and personnel out and about taking photographs and inspecting chambers.	
Contact Person (to include telephone number & e-mail address)	Daragh McDonough – Broadband Officer dmcdonough@donegalcoco.ie 074 9172450	

4 <u>Division: Emergency Services</u>

4.1 Fire Service

Activity	Number of: (August)*	Total for year
Fire Brigade incidents within County Donegal**:	56	558
Mobilisations (by Donegal Fire Service Brigades)**:	63	630
Mobilisations into Donegal (by NI Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS))**:	6	66
Fire Safety Certificate applications received	11	107
Fire Safety Certificates waiting to be assessed	6	N/A
Fire Safety Certificate applications assessed by Fire Officer and waiting for Further Information from Applicant / Agent.	41	N/A
Fire Safety Certificate decisions made	9	100
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)	21	64
Fire Safety Complaints received	2	14
Fire Safety Complaints dealt with	2	14
During Performance Inspections carried out	0	0
Fire Safety awareness presentations delivered	0	0

 $[\]ast$ Current data only available up to end of August 2020.

^{**} Provisional Figures.

4.2 Civil Defence

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

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

Volunteers (All Garda vetted and completed TUSAL Child Protection Training)	Accumulative Monthly Deployment of Vols. from 01/09 - 31/09	Total Task Deployment up to 30 / 09	Total Accumulative Manhours from 01/09 – 30/09	Manhours up to 31/09
56	64	3347	82	1981

Vehicles Used:

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

Response:

As Donegal has now moved to Level 3 in the Living with COVID Action Plan, all non essential training has ceased. Up skilling training continues in Cardiac First Responder (Defibrillator and CPR) for volunteers whose certificate has expired, essentially for volunteers who are providing a COVID response during this time.

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. 8 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 4 patients from various locations in the county.

Going forward:

The COVID19 pandemic in recent weeks has shown a gradual increase in the number of cases in Donegal. In the event of an escalation of incidences, again, Civil Defence stands ready to review any requests aligned with our volunteer capacity and capability at that time.



Municipal District of Glenties 13 October 2020

Community Development Division

CLÁR / AGENDA

- 1. Report on recent activity in the Community Development Division
- 1.1 Donegal Walks & Trails
- 1.2 Donegal Youth Council
- 1.3 Community Enhancement Programme 2020
- 1.4 YOURS Project
- 1.5 Rural Development Programme/LEADER
- 1.6 Social Inclusion Week 2020

Activity / Project Title	Donegal Walks and Trails	
File:		
Project	Maintenance, development and promotion of walks &	
Description/Activity	trails in Donegal including cycle routes and Greenways.	
Budget (if applicable)		
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status	I have visited the following trails; • Ards Forest Loops • Muckish loops (Cresslough – Falcarragh trail) • Gola island • Crolly (sli na Rossan) • Sli na Finne All issues arising from the visits have been noted and documented on a brief report along with maps and photographs. Sport Ireland Audit has been completed with myself present for	
* Delete irrelevant reporting period	the Cresslough – Flacarrgah trail and the report received back with a few minor items to attend. Also have met with Udaras rep and looked at some items of concern at Sli na Rossan .	
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	 Sport Ireland audit is due in the next few weeks. In Q3/Q4 of 2020. Look at trying to resolve the issues mentioned on Sli na Rossan. Upgarde works to Cresslough – Falcarragh Muckish Railway walk (MRW) to commence in Q3 2020. Glenties Alter trail to commence construction in Q3 of 2020. 	
Contact Person (to include telephone number & e-mail address)	Darryl Connor (Outdoor Recreational Development Officer) 0873613811 dconnor@donegalcoco.ie	

Activity / Project Title	Donegal Youth Council
Project Description/Activity	
Budget (if applicable)	
Progress to date within the last two months/quarter* - inclusive of current status	Donegal Youth Council 2018-2020 are finishing up their two year term at the end of September. The Youth Council worked tirelessly on their three Topics over the two years as well as taking on extra work from other committees. The following are pieces of work that the group was able to finish regardless of the covid_19 crisis.
	Road Safety Working Group
	School Bus Seat Belt initiative launched by Donegal Youth Council
* Delete irrelevant reporting period	The Donegal Youth Council are due to finish off their two year term in the coming weeks. During their term the Donegal Youth Council have worked closely with the Donegal Road Safety Working Group to promote road safety and have been involved in scripting and recording road safety adverts which have aired on Highland Radio, focusing on speed, the use of mobile phones when driving, planning a safe way home, and driving while under the influence of drugs - the first radio advert of its kind in Ireland. The Youth Council have also played a significant role in the "Live to Play Campaign" in association with the Road Safety Working Group and Ulster GAA; the promotion of the annual Road Safety Road Show for Post Primary Schools in Donegal; the "Keep the Race in its Place Campaign" for the Donegal Rally.
	The DYC along with the Donegal Road Safety Working Group have launched a campaign to inform students and parents on the importance of wearing seatbelts on school buses. The young group have designed Belt Up stickers which will be displayed on school buses outlining a step by step process for school children to wear their seatbelt on buses safely and securely. All school buses are fitted with seat belts, but it is vital to continue to encourage students to wear these at all times. As there are multiple journeys made by school pupils through the School Transport system annually, safety should remain the absolute priority for all bus companies. The Donegal Youth Council have combined their efforts to make sure the safety messages are displayed in a manner that is easy for everyone, of all ages, travelling on buses to understand. A number of local bus companies have offered to display the belt up stickers and a pilot scheme has been launched as schools get ready to return with McGettigan Travel, Letterkenny. Brian O'Donnell, Road safety Officer said "This campaign is not just about school children. It is vital that parents, guardians and teachers
	get on board to highlight the importance of road safety. They play a major role in conveying the message that it is normal to reach for your seat belt once you get on the bus. The seatbelt initiative that is being launched will give an important reinforcement of the messages

that parents provide to their children, about wearing seat belts. Together schools and parents will make wearing seatbelts a normal part of travelling for children, and will establish lifelong safety routines."

Shauna Hoey, Foroige and Donegal Youth Council coordinator said "I am delighted to be involved in launching the campaign. The safety of our school children is obviously extremely important and I believe this initiative is a great way to get the message of 'belting-up' across to students and it was a pleasure working with members of the Youth Council as they developed this idea."

Doherty's Travel in Dungloe also supported Donegal Youth Council in this initiative. We would hope other bus companies will get involved. Donegal Daily covered the story and was shared on multiple social media platforms.

CYPSC

Donegal Youth Council worked alongside Anne Timony Meehan to collaborate the survey for young people of Donegal to get their feedback on what is working well and what need more attention for young people in Donegal. Over 200 young people completed the survey which will alter the CYPSC 2020-2023 Plan.

First Young Adult Representative to take her seat on Donegal CYPSC. The participation of Children and Young People is a fundamental principle of Donegal CYPSC. Donegal CYPSC will continue to work to strengthen the involvement of children and young people including seldom heard children and young people, young Travellers, young people from new communities and black and ethnic minority backgrounds as well as children and young people with disabilities, young people who are carers and young people who identify as LGBTI+.

Donegal CYPSC is delighted to welcome Éadaoin Nic Con Uladh from Dungloe, as the first Young Adult Representative on the committee. Éadaoin's Expression of Interest was approved at the CYPSC meeting on 1st Sept. Éadaoin brings a wealth of experience gained from her involvement in the current Donegal Youth Council, the Donegal Youth Voices Group, the Foroige Reference Panel, Foroige National Council and Foroige Financial Subcommittee. Éadaoin has also been a member of the Jigsaw National Advisory Panel, the School Council and the National School council with ISSU. Éadaoin was also part of the Donegal Youth Council group who worked on the design, content and piloting of the CYPSC Young Peoples Survey to inform the new Children & Young People Plan 2021-2023. Shauna Hoey, Donegal Youth Council Coordinator commented "Éadaoin has been involved in many youth organisations throughout her teenage years. Her work is known throughout the county and she demonstrates so many traits of an inspiring role model within her peer group. Éadaoin has shown dedication and determination with her involvement on the Donegal Youth Council and she will thrive in this role as well."

Éadaoin will be supported throughout the process and will have a direct link to the Youth Council as she will be returning as a Youth Leader for the new term. Donegal CYPSC Coordinator Anne Timony

Meehan said "Eadaoin's presence on Donegal CYPSC will provide a fresh youth perspective that will enhance discussions and the work of CYPSC going forward." Éadaoin will attend her first Donegal CYPSC meeting on 29th Sept 2020. Éadaoin will be supported throughout this process. **Pride of Place Awards** Members completed an interview explaining their work to the panel of Judges. Results will be released in later this year. List of Committees Donegal Youth Council are involved in; Breakout The Donegal Road Safety Working Group LCAAP Committee Ministry for Youth Northern Ireland Alcohol Forum Committee Health Forum Committee Connect For Life Jigsaw Youth Steering Committee (New Year) Cruinniú na nÓg (New Year) Social Media Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/donegalyouthcouncil/ Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/donegalyouthcouncil/ Twitter: https://twitter.com/DonegalYouth Comhairle: https://www.comhairlenanog.ie/local-comhairle/donegal/ Updated on a regular basis. **Project Targets for the next** Closing Ceremony due to be held at the end of September. bi-monthly/quarterly* Key work will take place with link teachers to find a method of reporting period working together during this time. Elections will be held in October/November. The Annual General Meeting will be held in November.

* Delete irrelevant reporting period

Contact Person (to include telephone number & e-mail address)

Charles Sweeney on CHARLES.SWEENEY@donegalcoco.ie Shauna on 0867812720 or Shauna.hoey@foroige.ie

Activity / Project	Community E	nhancement Programme 2020	
Title			
Activity / Project	Donegal LCDC received an initial fund of €77,231.72 for the Community		
Description	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		
Budget		nac scorr amounted each for a for a ward	
Progress to date	The applications	s for the initial tranche of funding were assessed	d and agreed by
within the last two	the LCDC at their meeting on 15 th September. The application process for the		
months-inclusive of current status	second round of funding is open with a closing date of 3pm on 1st October 2020		
Project Targets for	The LCDC agreed to divide the funding equally between each MD and the		
the next bi-monthly	grants awarded in Round 1 for Glenties MD are as follows:-		
reporting period			
	Large Grants		
	CEP20/3/G	An tSean Bheairic	€3,145.78
		Larionad Acmhainni Nadurtha Cuideachta	
CEP20/34/G faoi Theorainn Rathaiochta (LAN CTR)		€4,700.00	
	Small Grants		
	CEP20/1/G Rosses Womens Shed/Sciobol Ban na Rosann €603.00		
	CEP20/5/G	Downstrands Family Resource Centre	€1,000.00
	CEP20/7/G	Paisti Cois Mara	€665.91
	CEP20/10/G	Club Oige Chriost Ri	€655.15
	CEP20/11/G	Ardara Sheltered Housing Association CLG	€676.50
	CEP20/17/G	St Columbas Community Centre	€1,000.00
	CEP20/28/G	Glenties Market Hall Committee	€1,000.00
	CEP20/30/G	St Connells Museum/Heritage Centre	€1,000.00
	CEP20/37/G	Sciobal na mBan/Upstyles Gweedore	€1,000.00
Contact Person	Seamus Canning 074 9172597		
	seamusc@donegalcoco.ie		

	T	
Activity / Project Title	YOURS Project – Youth & Old, Understanding, Remembering &	
	Sharing.	
	New – Donegal Digital Media Project	
Project	Intergenerational Project - PEACE IV	
Description/Activity		
	Digital Media Project – PEACE IV	
Budget	€150,000	
	€83,684.08	
Progress to date within the	Shared Past Local History – Facilitator sought for this theme,	
last two months/quarter* -	closing date for quotations – 5 th October, 2020. It is proposed	
inclusive of current status	that online sessions commence week starting 12 th October,	
	2020.	
	Online Mindfulness Classes – Classes commencing on Tuesday	
	6 th October via Zoom facilitated by Mary Kara, Donegal	
	Mindfulness. Open to participants of YOURS Project. Weekly	
	for a 6 week period. 13 registered for the classes.	
* Delete irrelevant reporting period	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 owning	
	to public health guidance.	
	Arts & Cultural Intergenerational Dancing complete	
	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.	
	- Contract State of the 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. Request for a Facilitator submitted on the e-tender	
	system. This Project is separate to the YOURS Project. Five	
	schools in the county have expressed an interest in the Digital	

	Media Project.
	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
Contact Person (to include telephone number & e-mail address)	Sharleen Tinney Project Co-ordinator sharleen.tinney@donegalcoco.ie / 0870574901

This project is supported by the EU's Peace IV Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB)







Activity / Project Title	Rural Development Programme/LEADER
Activity / Project	Denogal Local Community and Dayslanment Committee are
Description	Donegal Local Community and Development Committee are
Description	the Local Action Group for County Donegal, with responsibility
	for the LEADER/Rural Development Programme 2014-2020
Budget	€12,913,873
	Note: Project costs €9,685,406, administration and animation
	costs €3,228,467
Progress to date within the	There are 4 Implementing Partners within the county; Donegal
last two months-inclusive of current status	Local Development Company (DLDC), Inishowen Development
current status	Partnership (IDP), Údarás Na Gaeltachta and Comhar na
	nOileán, who are rolling out the LEADER programme on behalf
	of the LAG (Local Action Group). 200 projects in Donegal are
	now approved by Pobal and Letters of Offer have issued/are
	pending granting LEADER funding to a value of just over
	€8.713m. Donegal has the highest approved project spend
	nationally for the LEADER programme to date.
Project Targets for the next	The next LCDC/LAG meeting will be held on 20 th October 2020,
bi-monthly reporting period	with further projects coming forward for approval.
	Monthly Evaluation Committee meetings are also being held in
	order to progress projects to LCDC/LAG stage and the
	development companies continue to engage with promoters on
	the ground to develop and assess potential applications and to
	promote the LEADER programme.
Contact Person	Seamus Canning 074 9172597
	seamusc@donegalcoco.ie

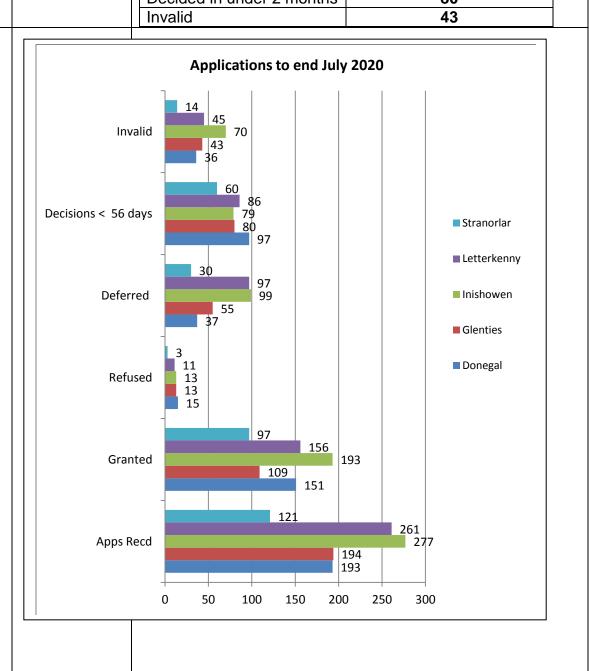
Activity / Project Title	One Donegal – Social Inclusion Week		
	2020		
Project Description/Activity	Social Inclusion Week is co-ordinated by Donegal County Council and aims to highlight the very positive work being done, not only by the Council, but also by other statutory and community organisations in attempting to raise awareness of social inclusion related issues in Donegal.		
	This year's social inclusion week takes place from 12 to 18 October 2020.		
Budget (if applicable)			
Progress to date within the last two months/quarter* - inclusive of current	Social Inclusion Week 2020 was launched on Monday 12th October.		
status	The event highlights the incredible work being done across County Donegal to promote social inclusion. In the absence of physical events this year, our Social Inclusion Unit are showcasing an extensive and wide ranging programme of online and remote events, workshops, and webinars emphasising a broad spectrum of collaborations both within Donegal County Council and other social inclusion stakeholders		
	SOUNTY COUNTY CO		
Contact Person	Charles Sweeney CHARLES.SWEENEY@donegalcoco.ie		





Glenties MD Meeting 13th October 2020

	Item	Update		
1	Development			
	Applications			
	(1) Statistics	County Totals Year to End July 2020:		
		Applications received	194	
		Granted	109	
		Refused	13	
		Deferred	55	
		Decided in under 2 months	80	
		Invalid	43	





Planning Services Report

2	Enforcement			
		Glenties MD	September	
		New Cases	8	
		Closed Cases	3	
		Outstanding cases on record	190	
		since 2012		
3	Notes & Monthly Schedule	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.		
		Planning Clinics: 21 st October		
		4 th November		
		18 th November		
		2 nd December		
		Please see website for further dates.		
		http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/planningclinics/		
4	Regeneration	Appendix A	oo planing planingomioo	<u></u>
	Report			
5	O 01111 011			
	Planning Unit			
	(1) Letterkenny Plan and	Preparation work on both the Local Area Plan and the Local Transport Plan is continuing.		
	Local Transport PLan	A public consultation exercise on the Local Transport Plan in the form of a short questionnaire is running from 25 th September until 16 th October.		
		Previously advised areas of work on the LAP are continuing including in relation to:		
		 Flood risk in parts of the the Strategic Flood Risk A support of the Plan. Residential land supply. Economic Development A with Director of Economic 4. TEN-T Detailed Design. Regeneration Strategy Ma 6. Network Development Pla It is proposed to resume the MD 	Assessment being prepared Appraisal work (in consultating Development and IDA). Asterplan. In (Irish Water)	I in
		near future and subject to Cov now requested to agree a dat enable updates on the above a on the project.	rid restrictions. Members a te for the next workshop	are to



(2) Buncrana Buncrana Strategic Study The 'Strategic Strengths as study was completed in late

The 'Strategic Strengths and Future Strategic Directions' study was completed in late August, 2020 and circulated to Members in mid-September, 2020. The Study brings together the towns strategic issues, strengths and sets out recommendations with a clear focus on further future areas for potential development, work and investment. The Study will serve as a key evidential document that will, inter alia:

- Inform the preparation of a new Local Area Plan for Buncrana and define its role within a North West City region;
- Inform future investment decisions of the Local Authority and other state agencies; and
- Support other complementary initiatives for Buncrana, such as potential funding applications and public interventions.

(3) County Development Plan 2018-2024 (CDP 2018-2024)

<u>Policy Interpretation and Implementation: Plenary</u> Workshops

The latest Plenary Workshop was held on Monday 14th September, 2020. At this Workshop, three key areas were identified by Members:

- ~ Policy T-P-4;
- ~ Small businesses in the rural area; and
- ~ The use of modular/log cabin-style design in the rural area.

A date for the next Plenary Workshop was due to be considered at the adjourned Plenary Council meeting of 30th September, 2020.

Proposed Variation on Foot of Adoption of Northern and Western Regional Assembly's Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy

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.

On foot of Members' approval at the aforementioned meeting, this review has now commenced with the aim of presenting a Proposed Variation before the end of 2020 for Members' approval to publish for public consultation shortly thereafter. Further updates will be provided in the interim.



Planning Services Report

Proposed Variation re TEN-T Priority Roads Project At the Plenary Council meeting at the end of September, 2020, Members decided to: ~ approve a Proposed Variation; and ~ formally commence environmental procedures/studies. The next 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. Wind Energy Policy and Proposed Variation 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. There has been no further update from the Department as to when the finalised Guidelines will be published. · Weekly List of applications and decisions: 6 Further Information http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/weeklyplanning/ alists/ Click on web Planning service email (to be used in correspondence with links to the planning service): planning@donegalcoco.ie access Planning Webpage: information. www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/ • Planning Application Online Query – planning reference number required: www.donegalcdb.ie/eplan/internetenguiry/rpt_guerybysurfor recloc.asp File Retrieval Form – to be used for file retrieval and when

requesting planning searches:

eretrieval/File%20Retrieval.pdf

www.donegalcoco.ie/media/donegalcountyc/planning/pdfs/fil



Appendix A





Regeneration & Development Team Community Development & Planning Services

October 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

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

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 27th July 2020. The closing date for receipt of tenders was 31st August 2020 and has now passed. The tender box has subsequently been opened and a total of 3no. tenders were received. Arrangements are currently being made to put in place an evaluation team to assess the tenders.

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



Planning Services Report

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.

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. Detailed design is also currently completing. Otherwise the CPO process is presently pending confirmation from An Bord Pleanala of the arrangement for Oral Hearing in accordance with the Covid-19 Regulations, guidelines and protocols. An Bord Pleanala have indicated that they intend to determine the CPO by 15th January 2021.

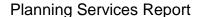
In respect of the Aranmore Island Shore Front Amenity, arrangements are being made for the early eradication, treatment and management of pockets of an invasive species which have been identified within the site. This work is informed both by a Natura Impact Statement and a Site Specific Invasive Species Management Plan. Approval has been received from the DRCD in respect of the procurement strategy for this work and arrangements are now being made to commence same on 14th October 2020.

Importantly Detailed Design has completed and the tender for an Architect Led Supervision Team to supervise the construction contractor opened on etenders with a closing date of 2nd October 2020 at 12pm. This tender will then proceed to immediate evaluation week beginning 5th October 2020.

At the time of writing it is intended to open the tender for a construction contractor on 2nd October 2020.

The next steps in the process are as follows:

- 1. Asbestos survey (Burtonport)
- 2. Eradication of invasive species (Aranmore Island)
- 3. Evaluation of the tenders received (Supervision Team and Contractor/Aranmore Island).
- 4. 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
- 5. 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 Q4 of 2020 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 28th February 2020 and was one of the successful Category 2 projects announced by Minister Michael Ring TD On 25th June 2020.

Verification of the project milestones and timelines was submitted to the DRCD on 10th July 2020. An 'Offer of Approval in Principle' was formally received on 30th July 2020 setting out the Funding Approval Process and the terms and conditions of the offer. On the 5th August the Funding Offer was accepted and signed by the Team and returned to the DRCD.

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)

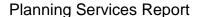
This project was submitted to the DRCD on 28th February 2020 and was one of the successful Category 2 projects announced by Minister Michael Ring TD On 25th June 2020.

Verification of the project milestones and timelines was submitted to the DRCD on 10th July 2020. An 'Offer of Approval in Principle' was formally received on 30th July 2020 setting out the Funding Approval Process and the terms and conditions of the offer. On the 5th August the Funding Agreement was accepted and signed by the Team and returned to the DRCD.

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 30th September 2020.

On receipt of approval the Team will 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 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 workshop took place with the Elected Members on Friday 4th September 2020 in respect of the SEED project and at which a full update on the status of this project and the projected timelines for delivery was provided.

A Public consultation event in respect of the proposed SEED project took place on Thursday 10th September 2020 from 2pm to 8pm in The Base Enterprise Centre, Stranorlar.

A Part 8 planning scheme for the 'SEED' project was published on Tuesday 22^{nd} September 2020. The Plans and particulars of the development are currently available for inspection online and by prior appointment only at County House, Lifford and The Base Enterprise Centre, Stranorlar until Tuesday 20^{th} October 2020. Submissions may then be made in writing before Wednesday 4^{th} 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 1st December 2020 deadline.

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



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before a Part VIII planning scheme can be progressed for this project. As a result it will not be possible to complete a Part VIII planning scheme for this project in time for the publication deadline in September meaning that this project will not be eligible for submission to the RRDF as a Category 1 project under this call by the deadline of 1st December. Notwithstanding same, 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.

A full update on the status of this project and the projected timelines for delivery was provided to the Elected Members at a workshop on 8th September 2020.

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 application readiness for submission to the RRDF for Category 1 funding by the 1St December deadline.

A full update on the status of this project and the projected timelines for delivery was provided to the Elected Members at a workshop on 11th September 2020.

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 coworking space, a creative space, retail space, warehousing, youth space, public



Planning Services Report

amenities etc. The project will directly address vacancy and dereliction and will be integrated with public realm interventions and accessibility improvements.

A workshop took place with the Elected Members on the 8th September 2020 in respect of the proposed Part 8 development and at which a full update on the status of this project and the projected timelines for delivery was provided.

A Public consultation event in respect of the proposed Part 8 development took place on Thursday 10th September 2020 from 2pm to 8pm in the offices of Spraoi agus Spórt, Supervalu Retail Complex, Carndonagh.

A Part 8 planning scheme for the Carndonagh Town Centre Regeneration Project was published on Tuesday 22^{nd} September 2020. The Plans and particulars of the development are currently available for inspection online and by prior appointment only at County House, Lifford and the Carndonagh Public Services Centre until Tuesday 20^{th} October 2020. Submissions may then be made in writing before Wednesday 4^{th} 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 1st December 2020 deadline.

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

As a result it will not be possible to complete a Part VIII planning scheme for this project in time for the September publication deadline meaning that this project will not be eligible for submission to the RRDF as a Category 1 project under this call by the deadline of 1st December.

A full update on the status of this project and the projected timelines for delivery was provided to the Elected Members at a workshop on 15th September 2020.

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



Planning Services Report



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 3rd 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.

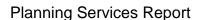
The Plan can be viewed at the following link: http://www.donegalcoco.ie/media/donegalcountyc/planning/pdfs/rameltonactionplan/Ramelton%20Action%20Plan.pdf

1.4.2 Killybegs

In Killybegs, the Killybegs Regeneration Group where 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

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 1st December 2020 deadline.





1.4.4 Ballyshannon & 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. At the time of writing it is intended to open a tender for Consultancy Services in respect of both Ballyshannon and Dungloe on Monday 5th October 2020. 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.

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 28th May 2020 in advance of the next day deadline.

In advance of the Letterkenny Municipal District Meeting of June 2020, a hard copy A3 document was circulated to Members giving a summary of the project and including a visually informed story of the project and application.

The project is an ambitious, transformative and strategic step in Letterkennys longer term regeneration goal to transform the core of the town as a liveable 'place for People and Public Life'. It includes an exciting blend of five interrelated sub-projects which work together in combination to deliver integrated urban regeneration at a strategic level with actions and interventions across: urban regeneration, liveability, vacancy, public space, employment, enterprise, tourism and vibrancy. The sub-projects of the application are:

A. The Cathedral Quarter – Making a Creative District –

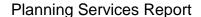
A re-imagined public space at Market Square

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 HubStrategic land acquisition

Strategic failu acquisitio

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.

The procurement process in relation to consultancy services to prepare a Regeneration Strategy for Letterkenny Town Centre opened on 7th February 2020 on E-tenders and the Official Journal of the EU and it included a closing date for submission of tenders of 20th March 2020. In response to the evolving national position in relation to the Coronavirus Covid-19 and in response to a number of requests via E-tender, this deadline was extended in accordance with national advices from the Office of Government Procurement (OGP) to 29th May, 2020.

The tender box was opened on Tuesday 2nd June 2020. A total of 12no. bids were received. An Evaluation Team met on three occasions to assess the bids received. Notification issued to the successful and unsuccessful tenderers on 11th August 2020 thus commencing the standstill period in accordance with S.I. No.130 of 2010, European Communities (Public Authorities Contracts) (Review Procedures) Regulations 2010. This period expired on Friday 11th September 2020 and a further update was provided to Letterkenny MD at the Letterkenny MD workshop on 15th September 2020.

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.



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The Paul Hogarth Company are an Irish based practice of landscape architects, urban designers and planners and have delivered similar projects such as the Walled City Public Realm Strategy, urban design schemes at Ebrington, Connswater Greenway and Colin Town Centre Masterplan in Belfast which involved a transport hub element. The company are also currently working on the Tuam Regeneration Strategy and have reached draft strategy stage in this project. The Paul Hogarth Company will also be supported by Neil Galway of Queens University Belfast in relation to social scientist input. Hall Black Douglas have been involved in projects such as the design of the Social Enterprise Centre in Letterkenny and the Connswater Greenway and will be responsible of the architectural input into our project particularly as regards design concepts for key sites. Atkins will bring the transportation expertise including a number of previous and current relevant projects including the Letterkenny Integrated Land Use and Transportation Plan (ILUTS; around 2009) and the Letterkenny Local Transport Plan (through CPU). AV Browne are experts in communications and branding and will ensure the effective and creative communication of the project to the wider community.

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)
- 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 DoHLG 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



Planning Services Report

conditions. It is targeted to undertake further discussions with other relevant landowners during September/October 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 inhouse 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.

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 27th July 2020 and has a closing date of 4th 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 Letterkenny Elected Members at a workshop on 15th 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.



Planning Services Report

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 28th 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 has been arranged for 8th October 2020 with Letterkenny MD at which Pasparakis Friel Architects will attend to give a presentation to Members.

Regeneration & Development Team October 2020.

GLENTIES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING 13th October 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 Verbal Update.
- 3. Clady Bridge Summary of Feasibilty Report.
- 4. NRDO Update
- **5. AOB**

13th OCTOBER 2020

HOUSING AGENDA

- 1. Progress Report Grants
- 2. Progress Report Casual Vacancies

1. PROGRESS REPORT SOCIAL HOUSING PROGRAMME AT 07/10/2020

(a) Grants

Housing Aid for Older People Grants						
Year	Total	Approved	Cancelled/ Refused	Applicant Further Info	Referred to Eng	Pending
2020	57	30	4	2	21	23

Housing Adaptation Grants							
Year	Total	Approved	Cancelled/ Refused	Applicant Further Info	Referred to Eng	Referred to OT	Pending
2019	25	15	8	0	1	1	2
2020	18	6	5	0	4	3	7

Mobility Aids Grants							
Year	Total	Approved	Cancelled/ Refused	Applicant Further Info	Referred to Eng	Referred to OT	Pending
2019	48	31	14	2	0	1	3
2020	32	6	6	3	15	2	20

PROGRESS REPORT – CASUAL VACANCIES AT 7/10/ 2020

Glenties MD	Address	Beds	Vacant From	Current Status
Ardara				
	Drumaghey Park	2 bed	06/08/2020	Tender documents have been issued to contractors
	Drumaghey Park	3 bed	11/09/2020	Tender documents have been issued to contractors
	Drumaghey Park	2 bed	05/10/2020	Tender documents have been issued to contractors
Burtonport				
	Altán	3 bed, 2 storey	08/08/2019	Refused twice, re- offered
	Altán	3 bed, 2 storey	22/09/2020	Tender documents issued this week
Creeslough				
	Massinass	3 bed	03/12/2019	Recommendation to demolished and rebuild.
Doochary				
	Radharc an tSéipéil	2 bed, bungalow	16/09/2019	Contractor due to complete works this week
Dungloe				
	Croveigh (LTL)	5 bed	26/04/2019	Tender documents issued to contractors last week
	Ard Chroine, Quay Rd	1 bed, bungalow	21/08/2019	Contractor due to complete works this week
Derrybeg				
	Clós Naomh Mhuire, Stranacorkra	2 bed, bungalow	15/08/2019	Contractor due to complete works this week
Dunfanaghy				
	Eadán Mór (LTL)	3 bed	18/04/2019	All works complete and ready to offer
Falcarragh				
ai :	Carrowcannon	2 bed	13/08/2020	Tender documents issued to contractors last week
Glenties	CIANT 1 CI III	21 1	24/08/2020	m 1 1
	Clós Naomh Chonaill	2 bed	24/08/2020	Tender documents issued to contractors last week

Tory Island				
	Tuam na Toinne	3 bed	29/07/2020	Tender documents to be
				issued to contractors
				next week

Housing Capital Update Report Glenties Municipal District Meeting

13th October 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		
	Tender Stage			
Dunfanaghy	Contract awarded. Works commenced on 10/08/2020. Expected completion date Q3 2021	4		
Preliminary [Preliminary Design Stage (No. of units subject to change)			
Chapel Road, Dungloe	Preliminary Design Stage	44		
	48			

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 the 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.



ENVIRONMENT REPORT – October 2020

WASTE AND LITTER MANAGEMENT

Municipal District: All

Activity / Project Title

Project Description /Activity

School Bikes Africa - Strong Sturdy Bikes wanted



Letterkenny Rotary Club's Annual School Bikes Africa Appeal

Once again, Letterkenny Rotary Club are delighted to announce the opening their annual School Bikes Africa Appeal which is led by Letterkenny Rotary Club in conjunction with Donegal County Council and Bryson Recycling. The annual appeal is held during October to coincide with National Re-Use month and this year has a target to collect 50 strong sturdy bikes over the month of October.

Rotary Ireland has expanded its commitment to collecting, refurbishing and delivering unwanted bikes to school children in Africa giving them the chance of a better life and open up many more opportunities. As many have to travel long distances to and from school, often in searing temperatures and doing this on foot can be difficult at best, so having a bike can make a huge change for the pupil and family alike as it can be utilised in other ways to help out their communities.

To date, Rotary have delivered over 3,000 bikes and based on feedback from the Gambia and other African regions, it has now been decided to restrict the collection this year to;

- Strong sturdy bikes that can withstand rough terrain,
- Bikes to suit both primary and secondary level students, with a minimum of 24" wheel size,
- In reasonable repair, and
- Having mountain bike type tyres.

Racer type bikes with narrow wheels are not sought this time.

While providing these children with bikes for school, Rotary are also helping those much closer to home, namely the inmates at Loughlan House Open Centre, Co. Cavan who are also getting the chance of furthering their own education. Their participation in this project allows them to study for a City & Guilds FETAC Bike Mechanics course which ultimately will help with their own rehabilitation into society and perhaps aid their job prospects in the long term, as well as the satisfaction of working on such a worthwhile charitable project.

Many thanks once again to Bryson Recycling and Donegal County Council for facilitating the Collection. Suitable bikes can again be dropped off at any of the Council's six Recycling Centres in Dungloe, Carndonagh, Letterkenny, Milford, Stranorlar and Laghey during opening times. A Spokesperson for Letterkenny Rotary Club advised that the local drop-off points make the collection much easier for the Appeal and while only certain sizes and calibre of bikes are appropriate this year for the Gambian appeal, they look forward to the support by the Donegal people as in prior years. As Donegal is one of eleven counties involved in the national appeal this year, the transfer of the bikes to Loughlan House will be organised for November.

In support of the campaign Suzanne Bogan Waste Awareness Officer with Donegal County Council said, "This is a great initiative to be involved in and it fits perfectly with the aims and ethos of Reuse month. We were delighted with the opportunity to continue our involvement with Rotary and this campaign, as it was such a positive one. It is important that people take note of the type of bikes requested this year".

For information on the opening times for your local Recycling Centre visit www.brysonrecycling.org/households/recycling-centres/.

Contact Person

Suzanne Bogan, Waste Awareness Officer suzannebogan@donegalcoco.ie

Activity /	October is National Reuse Month			
Project				
Title				
Project	My Waste National Upcycling Competition:			
Description				
/Activity	Upcycle Challenge 2020			
	9 categories – each with a prize of €750			
	OPEN FOR			
	how to enter			
	1 2 3 4 5 source diary of diary of photo form			
	closing date 30/10/2020 mywaste epa			
	Online Reuse Tutorials: The Mywaste team will also be hosting online tutorials, blogs and much on the following dates; 8th October 12pm - 3pm, 15th October 12pm - 3pm, 22nd October 12pm - 3pm. Repair My Stuff - Promotion on social modia			
	Repair My Stuff: Promotion on social media			
	REPAIR DIRECTORY For many, purchasing a new pc or new washing machine when an old one breaks is the norm, however, repair and reuse is often a cheaper and most certainly a more environmentally sustainable option. Businesses can get listed by registering for free at repairmystuff.ie/register Lupr appliance RELAND'S LEADING ON-LINE REPAIR DIRECTORY Find a local professional who can repair it! Categories will include: but are not limited to: Lucronic Blasg. Lucronic Blasg.			
	Reuse in the Garden: Joanne Butler from Ourganic Gardens has produced a number of short			
	videos for social media, Joanne will also host an online workshop on making a raised bed from pallets etc on Thursday 29th October, details will be advertised on social media.			
	I Radio: Adverts on Reuse on I-Radio as part of a regional package, focusing on 'Repair My Stuff', Charity Shops and Fast Fashion.			
Contact	Suzanne Bogan, Waste Awareness Officer			
Person	suzannebogan@donegalcoco.ie			

Activity /	Community Grants
Project	
Title	
Project	
Description	 Approach Road Grants - 39 applications received
/Activity	Tidy Towns Improvement Grant - 32 applications received.
Contact	Suzanne Bogan, Waste Awareness Officer
Person	suzannebogan@donegalcoco.ie

Activity /	Online "People for Bees" Workshop
Project	
Title	
Project	
Description /Activity	Another successful online workshop funded under the Community Environment Action Fund took place on Thursday 24th September delivered by the Irish Wildlife Trust. The workshop focussed on Bee Monitoring and Habitat Creation and there were 18 participants.
	People for Bees
	Online Community Workshops in
	Bee Monitoring & Habitat Creation
	Date: 1 st July, Time: 18:00 – 19:30
	Open to community groups based in Co Donegal. This is an online workshop delivered by video call. To register a place for your group contact conservation@iwt.ie by 30 th June
	Funded by Donegal County Council Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall Donegal County Council
Contact:	Suzanne Bogan, Waste Awareness Officer
	suzannebogan@donegalcoco.ie

COASTAL MANAGEMENT

Activity / Project Title	End of Bathing Season
Project Description/ Activity	September 15th saw the end of the Bathing Season. The Lifeguard Service was withdrawn along with other supporting coastal services. It sees the end of a very busy year. The quieter months now allow us conduct necessary maintenance around the coastline with repairs to beach accesses, signage, water safety equipment, etc.
Contact Person	David Friel david.friel@donegalcoco.ie

Municipal District: Glenties MD

Activity / Project Title	Coastal Flooding and Erosion Risk Management
Project Description/ Activity	The Coastal Flooding and Erosion Risk Management (CFERM) study of four coastal areas in the Glenties MD continues to progress.
	Walkover studies are now complete and a procurement exercise underway to appoint specialist surveyors for site flyovers to collect necessary data.
Contact Person	David Friel david.friel@donegalcoco.ie