

Ceantar Bardais Dún na nGall

Oifig Riarthóir na gCruinnithe,
Aras an Chontae,
Leifear.

1ú Nollaig, 2015

Fógra Cruinnithe

Beidh Cruinniú de Ceantar Bardais Dún na nGall ar siúl **De Máirt 8ú Nollaig 2015, ag 10.30 r.n. in Ionad Serbhísí Pobail, Bhaile Dhún na nGall.**

DO GACH BHALL DEN CEANTAR BARDAS DÚN NA nGALL

A Chara,

Iarrtar ort bheith i lathair ag an gcruinniú seo Ceantar Bardais Dún na nGall. Tá Clar an Cruinnithe le seo.

Mise, le meas

Seosamh O'Piopla
p.p. Riarthóir Cruinnithe

Municipal District of Donegal

Office of Meetings Administrator,
County House,
Lifford.

1st December, 2015

NOTICE OF MEETING

The next Meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal will be held on **Tuesday 8th December 2015, at 10.30 a.m. in the Donegal Public Services Centre.**

TO EACH MEMBER OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to attend this meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal. The Agenda is attached.

Yours sincerely,

for Joe Peoples
Meetings Administrator

AGENDA

1. Consideration of Minutes of Budget Workshop of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 7th October, 2015.
2. Consideration of Minutes of Meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 13th October, 2015.
3. Consideration of Minutes of Meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 28th October, 2015.
4. Consideration of Minutes of Workshop of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 4th November, 2015.
5. Consideration of Minutes of Meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 6th November, 2015.
6. Update Reports from Council Services:
 - 6.1 Housing & Corporate Services
 - 6.2 Roads / Transportation
 - 6.3 Planning & Economic Development
 - 6.4 Community, Enterprise and Cultural Services
 - 6.5 Environment Services
7. Motions
 - 7.1 Cllr Noel Jordan
“That this Municipal District seeks the necessary funding to repair the school ahead warning lights at Frosses National School, as it is a health and safety issue for the school children.”
 - 7.2 Cllr Niamh Kennedy
“That this Municipal District in conjunction with the Office of Public Works, Failte Ireland and all other relevant agencies or groups, meet to progress and develop further events at Donegal Castle to increase and better utilise this unique tourism product”.
8. Correspondence
 - 8.1 Request for a Deputation from Bundoran Surf Industry.
 - 8.2 Request for a memorial for the late Mr. James White
9. Questions
 - 9.1 Cllr Sean McEniff
“What is the up to date position regarding the repair of Ballyshannon town clock?”

- 9.2 Cllr Barry O'Neill
"What is the up to date position of Donegal County Council on restoring the full Library Service to Ballyshannon?"
- 9.3 Cllr Barry O'Neill
"Will Donegal County Council immediately progress the issue of restoring the Town Clock in Ballyshannon, one of the most historical and significant architectural buildings in the County?"
- 9.4 Cllr Niamh Kennedy
"Can this Municipal District please ensure that going forward in future at least one elected member sit on the HSE committee to report back to members?"
- 9.5 Cllr Niamh Kennedy
"Can this Municipal District write to the environment and emergency services committee to ask if they have formally invited An Taisce representatives to a committee meeting as was requested at the last environment meeting. If so what was the response?"

10. Date of Next Meeting - Tuesday the 12th January, 2016 at 2.00 p m.

Minutes of Budget Workshop of Municipal District of Donegal held on Wednesday the 7th October 2015 in the Peter Kennedy Chamber, Donegal Public Services Centre, Donegal commencing at 4.00pm.

Members Present:

Cllr. John Campbell
Cllr Noel Jordan
Cllr. Niamh Kennedy
Cllr. Tom Conaghan

Officials In Attendance:

Mr.Garry Martin, Head of Finance & Director of Information Systems and Emergency Services
Ms. Bridie McBrearty, Area Manager, Municipal District of Donegal
Mr. Mark Sweeney, A/Area Manager, Municipal District of Donegal
Mr. Enda Monaghan, Senior Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate Services

Apologies

Cllr Sean McEniff
Cllr Barry O'Neill

Proposed Approach to General Municipal Allocations for 2016

Mr. Garry Martin, Director of Service, circulated and presented a briefing note to Members in relation to the proposed approach to the General Municipal District Allocations for 2016.

He asked for feedback from Members in order to ensure that all items can receive consideration in the preparation of the Budget. He asked that they contact him by e-mail or phone.

Having briefed the Members in relation to the background, the 2015 General Municipal Allocations and the requirements of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 and associated regulations, and asked that the Municipal District consider the adoption of a provisional general municipal allocation in the amount of €100,000.00. This figure will be reviewed in conjunction with the consideration of the 2016 revenue budget with a view to assessing the capacity of the organisation to increase to an amount similar to that included in the 2015 revenue budget.

A number of comments/queries were dealt with at the workshop and there was consensus with the approach recommended.

Budget Timelines 2016

Mr. G Martin circulated and presented a report on the proposed Budget Timelines 2016.

Members noted the Plenary Budget Meeting will be held on Wednesday the 18th November 2015 and it was also noted as agreed at the recent plenary meeting that the Statutory Municipal District Budget meeting would be held on 28th October 2015 in Lifford at 10.30am. Formal notifications will issue in due course.

Members' attention was drawn to the fact that the Council had not varied the Local Property Tax and that the Revenue Commissioners had been notified accordingly. In addition the 3 Year Capital Programme would be presented to Members at the Plenary Council meeting of the 30th November 2015.

Commercial Rates Harmonisation & Base Year Adjustment

Mr. Martin circulated and presented a detailed report to Members on the background, main Features, issues for consideration and requirements in relation to Commercial Rates Harmonisation and Base Year Adjustment. Members were advised that it was proposed to continue the small business grant up to a maximum of €250.00 to rate payers which could mitigate against increases arising from the harmonisation.

A number of comments/queries were dealt with in particular the following:

Cllr Kennedy queried if 69.18 is the agreed ARV for Donegal, Mr. G Martin confirmed that this is what is proposed for 2016 but it is subject to Members' agreement. He further advised that the Council is precluded from increasing the adopted multiplier of 68.37 until after the harmonisation process is complete.

Mr. Martin also informed Members that the Valuation Office is due to do a national re-valuation of commercial properties in 2018/2019 and it is envisaged that this will eliminate any inequities potentially in the system at present. This re-valuation will be a re-balancing exercise and will not increase the overall valuation for the County.

Cllr Campbell asked if Rate Payers could pay by Direct Debit, Mr. G Martin informed Members that there are a number of payments options for Rates Customer including Direct Debit, Standing Order, Cash Office, Deferred Payments etc. He further advised that the Council continue to work with customers and that it was not in the Council's interest to close any business.

In response to a query from Cllr Campbell if there would be a separate report from the Audit Service in relation to rates, Mr. G Martin informed Members he did not expect this on Donegal this year.

Local Government (Reform Act) 2014 – Amendment of certain provisions relating to rates and vacant premises

Mr. Martin circulated and presented a report on the background, considerations and conclusions regarding the Local Government (Reform Act) 2014 – Amendment of certain provisions relating to rates and vacant premises.

It is recommended to Members not to vary the refund rate as currently constituted in Donegal and that full refunds will continue to apply in eligible circumstances going forward.

A number of comments / Queries were dealt with as follows:

In response to a query from Cllr Campbell as to whether a decision can be taken at Municipal District level to for example charge 50% rates for vacant properties or if this is a decision for the Plenary Council, Mr. G Martin informed Members that the decision can be made at the Municipal District but that if this is agreed there is, from his perspective and based upon best available information, a requirement to make a similar provision for bad debts.

Cllr Kennedy submitted consideration should be given to a levy on properties in town centres to encourage property owners from leaving units vacant and the benefit this would have for towns. In response to the suggestion, Mr. G Martin informed Members the implications of such a scheme/levy would have to be considered in order to make a determination on the impact of such a scheme.

In response to a query from Cllr Campbell regarding the average amount of write offs of €590,000.00 for the Municipal District of Donegal, Mr. G Martin informed Members that this relates to vacant properties in the District.

Emerging Issues in Preparation of 2016 Revenue Budget

Mr. Martin briefed Members on emerging issues for the 2016 Budget as follows:

- The requirement to make principal repayments in additional to interest payments on non-mortgage loans
- Lesser income anticipated in 2015/2016 from Non Principal Private Residence Charge
- Shared Services – Central Payroll – additional cost of approximately €157,000.00
- Proposed contributions to Knock and Donegal Airports
- Workforce Plan – increase in payroll costs
- Review of Leisure Centres – i.e. Aura, Ballyshannon, Bundoran WW and Finn Valley Centre
- Change in Pension Related Deduction

- Increase cost of insurance in the region of 4% – 5 %
- Car-parking charges – need to be reviewed - currently happening in this District
- Costs to be held at the Centre where there is a contractual obligation on the Council to meet costs, e.g. Abbey Centre, Sea Sessions
- Development Fund Initiative – currently being considered by the Strategic Policy Committee
- Noted Stranorlar Members concerns in relation to inadequate funding allocated for roads in their District.
- Increase in Housing Maintenance funding required to adequately maintain existing stock.
- Strategic Development Fund
- Marine Section – Piers and Harbours
- The need to maximise funding from European sources
- The need to further develop Tourism Product
- The need to maximise the use of Assets
- Commercial Rates/Development Contributions from Wind-farms – noting there is a national policy which will be coming into being in the near future and this may have an impact on the DCS for Wind-farms

Mr. Martin re-iterated that if Members had any feedback in relation to the Budget for 2016 to let him know at an early date so that this can be reflected in the Budget preparation.

In response to a query from Cllr Jordan in relation to commercial rates on Wind-farms, Mr. G Martin informed Members that the Council continues to be in a position to collect rates from wind-farms once they are operational but that a realistic level of DCS should be a requirement from the winds-farms at planning stage.

Proposed Approach to 3 Year Capital Budget preparation 2016 – 2018 as required by Section 135 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended)

Mr. G Martin informed Members it is intended to present the 3 year Capital Programme to Members for consideration on the 30th November 2015. He advised that the capital programme is largely dependent for co-funding on the Development Contribution Scheme for all services.

In response to a query from Cllr Campbell regarding the Development Contributions from Wind-farms, Mr. G Martin informed Members that he has asked the Planning Section to develop a more straight forward Development Contribution Scheme, keeping within the legal framework.

In response to a further query from Cllr Campbell regarding DCS and if conditions can be imposed to extract fees for example to

provide for Road Works, Mr. G Martin informed Members that the debate in relation to DCS in relation to Wind-farms was to charge wind-farms but to reduce the general DCS. He submitted the DCS Scheme needs to be balanced and requires more debate as the scheme that is put in place will determine the Councils capacity to fund its Capital programme for the next number of years. He further submitted the current DCS is still very low in Donegal compared to other parts of the Country.

Feedback from Municipal Districts on 2016 Budget Requirements

In response to a query from Cllr Kennedy as to increase in funding in the Development Fund Initiative Mr. G Martin informed Members this would depend on the final Budget figures.

In response to a query from Cllr Campbell if there are any proposals to amend the method in which monies are divided out between the Districts, Mr. G Martin informed Members there wasn't at this point.

Cllr Kennedy submitted that the feedback she is receiving regarding the Local Property Tax that the Council should be cutting hedges in rural and other areas. In response Mr. Martin advised that the Council needs to reflect to the public more of what is actually being done by the Council.

Cllrs Kennedy and Jordan submitted it would be of great benefit if the Local Improvement Schemes could be re-introduced as it was a good way to get rural roads improved. Mr. Mark Sweeney informed Members the scheme had been discontinued a few years ago and at that time there was a list of LIS jobs and if they were to be re-introduced, consideration would have to be given to either a new list or the ones that had previously applied. Mr. Martin submitted the Members could use the Members or Strategic Development Fund for such a scheme if they so wished as it would be coming out of the existing pool of money. Cllr Kennedy queried the Community Assist Programme and Mr. M Sweeney informed Members he would investigate this and revert to Members. However he advised he understands that owing to Health & Safety Requirements, this has become much more restricted.

Mr. Martin also informed Members there is a meeting on Thursday the 8th October 2015 as a follow up to the Malin Waters Project and the Council would be investigating if other areas could be funded via EU Funds.

In response to a query from Cllr Campbell if the Municipal Budget process would take place after the Plenary Budget from 2017, Mr. G Martin informed Members he was hopeful it would, as this would be a logical process which required amendments to the existing regulations, which he understood the Department is working on.

In response to a query from Cllr Campbell regarding Housing Policy and discretionary funding for Housing, Mr. G Martin informed Members that there are little discretionary monies.

In response to a query from Cllr Kennedy if for example the Rory Gallagher Festival should be funded by the Centre rather than through the Members Development Fund, Mr. G Martin informed Members that the matters which are funded through the Centre are ones where the Council already has a contractual obligation e. g. Sea Sessions, but there is no contractual obligation for the Rory Gallagher Festival. Mr. Martin submitted that strategically the Council should be looking at adding festivals/events for the tourism benefit this would bring to the District and this could be done through the Strategic Development Fund.

In response to a query from Cllr Campbell if the possibility of 'improvement districts' had been looked at where the Council could levy an additional charge in an area to be spent on improvements within that area, Mr. G Martin informed Members that this has not yet been examined by the Council. However he advised if localities had any particular proposals in this regard the Council would review same. He also advised he would investigate if any such activity had been undertaken in other Counties and revert to Members.

Other Matters

Donegal Town – Christmas Lights

Mr. M Sweeney informed Members that he had been approached by the Donegal Town Community Chamber who are seeking assistance for funding the Christmas lights in Donegal Town. He submitted they are seeking a contribution of around €8000.00 towards extending the lights further down Quay Street and in the past Donegal County Council has contributed to the lights in Donegal Town from the Car Parking income. He recommended that an allocation of €6000.00 should be considered in this regard by the Council. Members accepted this recommendation which would go to the next Meeting of the Municipal District for ratification.

Draft Road Traffic (Special Speed Limits) (County of Donegal) (Amendment) Bye Laws 2015 – (Certain Housing Estates)

A discussion took place in relation to the proposed introduction of special speed limits in certain estates.

In response to a query from Cllr Campbell regarding the forthcoming special meeting of the Plenary Council to deal with the proposed bye-laws which will introduce a 30 KMPH speed limit in certain estates, Mr. M Sweeney informed Members that the intention is to introduce the 30Kmph speed limits in certain estates and then to monitor if speed has reduced. If speed has not reduced the

intention is then to apply for funding to introduce engineering methods to reduce the speed limits. He further advised Members the 30 kmph signs are to be erected on the estates before the 30th November 2015 if the Bye-Laws are adopted in order to draw down the funding for the signs.

A number of other matters were raised that will require clarification as follows:

- How estates were selected
- Why was Brookfield Manor in Donegal Town not included given the proximity of the Gael Scoil to the estate
- Why were some estates left out in Killybegs
- Will this pilot scheme be extended to other estates
- If speed ramps will be included as part of the engineering methods to reduce speeds if the signage does not have an impact
- Suggested using the 'snail' on the signage
- Are there other opportunities to reduce speed in estates rather than solely relying on signs or engineering methods e.g. through residents associations

In response to the matter raised Mr. M Sweeney undertook to convey same to Roads Headquarters in advance of the Special Meeting of the Plenary Council in order that these matters can be clarified.

This concluded the business of the Workshop.

**Area Manager,
Municipal District of Donegal**

**Cathaoirleach,
Municipal District of Donegal**

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD AT
2.00 P. M. ON TUESDAY THE 13TH OCTOBER 2015 IN THE PETER KENNEDY
CHAMBER, DONEGAL PUBLIC SERVICES CENTRE, DONEGAL**

MDD/152/15 MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr Barry O'Neill
Cllr Noel Jordan
Cllr Niamh Kennedy
Cllr Tom Conaghan
Cllr Sean McEniff
Cllr John Campbell

MDD/153/15 OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. Garry Martin, Director Designate Municipal District of Donegal
Ms. Bridie McBrearty, Area Manager, Municipal District of Donegal
Mr. Mark Sweeney, A/Area Manager, Roads/Transportation
Mr. Denis Kelly, Senior Executive Planner, Central Planning Unit
Ms. Margaret Fitzgerald, Clerical Officer, Central Planning Unit
Mr. Killian Smith, Executive Planner, Housing, Corporate and
Planning Control
Mr. Enda Monaghan, Senior Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate
Services
Mr. Dearn McClintock, Waste Regulation Officer

MDD/154/15 Votes of Sympathy

Votes of sympathy were passed in respect of the following recent deaths:

Mrs. Mary McMenamín – grand-mother of Tony Brogan, Housing
Assessment Officer, MD Donegal
Mrs. Philomena McGinty – mother-in-law of Peadar Thomas, retired
Area Manager, MD Donegal
Mr. Michael McGrath, father of Caroline Britton, Community &
Enterprise, Donegal PSC
Mrs Peggy McDaid, mother of Michael McDevitt, Roads Services
Supervisor

**MDD/155/15 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD ON THE 8TH
SEPTEMBER 2015**

On the proposal of Cllr Kennedy, seconded by Cllr Conaghan the
Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal held on
the 8th September 2015 were confirmed.

MDD/156/15 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF WORKSHOP OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD ON THE 8TH SEPTEMBER 2015

On the proposal of Cllr Kennedy, seconded by Cllr Conaghan the Minutes of the Workshop of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 8th September 2015 were confirmed.

MDD/157/15 Attendance of Deputation from Donegal Bay Rowing Club

Members welcomed the deputation from Donegal Bay Rowing Club. The Deputation was represented by: Mr. Seamus Maguire, Mrs. Deborah Bonner, and Mr. Pauric Kennedy. Mr. Maguire made a detailed presentation which included video clips etc. in relation to the following:

- Background and progress of the Donegal Bay Rowing Club from the 1970's to-date
- Youth Development and Club activities/competitions
- Other Clubs in the County and Relevant Associations
- Background to the All-Ireland Coastal Rowing Championships and previous years events
- The success the Club has had to-date in obtaining funding from Sports Council and Members Strategic Development Fund and the appreciation of same
- All-Ireland Rowing Coastal Championships 2016 to be held in Donegal, hosted by Donegal Bay Rowing Club and the benefit this will have to the local economy including additional events/entertainment being organised around the main event
- The process/strategy involved in securing the event for Donegal for 2016 and the involvement of other clubs in the County
- The funding required to run the event
- Other Maritime Festivals
- Ulster Championships
- The potential for this event to come to Donegal for future years
- The input from Malin Waters – Joy Harron/ Barney McLaughlin in producing a magazine/programme for the 2016 event (this document was circulated for information purposes)
- Submitted any funding or other assistance that could be provided to them would be appreciated.

A number of comments / queries were dealt with as follows:

Cllr Jordan thanked the Deputation for their very comprehensive and information presentation and invited Members to ask questions.

Cllr O'Neill complimented the deputation on their hard work in bringing the event to the county. He queried if the southern

crews will travel to Donegal to compete. Mr. Maguire informed Members they had engaged early with the Groups to encourage as much participation as possible. He also submitted they had endeavoured to keep costs as low as possible e.g. availability of camping facilities in the area, providing information on accommodation etc. to the Groups. He also noted that the assistance from 'Malin Waters' in producing the event magazine had been of benefit in creating awareness for groups attending. He confirmed that accommodation providers are now booked out for the period of the event.

Cllr O'Neill also thanked Mr. B McLaughlin and Ms. Joy Harron for their assistance and asked that the potential for the event to return to Donegal in future years be examined.

Cllr McEniff submitted this is a fantastic event for the area as events such as this, is what builds tourism. He wished the deputation all the best for the future and to continue the good work.

Cllr Jordan queried the involvement of Clubs or Community Groups in organising Maritime Festivals, Mr. Maguire informed Members they had approached groups, Rowing Clubs, Festival Committees etc. in relation to the Maritime Festival as this had the potential to become an annual event.

In response to a query from Cllr Jordan as to when the Ulster Rowing Championships would be held, Mr. Maguire informed Members they would be held before the All Ireland event.

In response to a query from Cllr Campbell if the club are confident they can fund the event, given €50,000.00 is a large sum of money, Mr. Maguire informed Members they have experience of sourcing funding and in any event they could not turn down the opportunity to host the event. He also submitted they are confident of the support of the other clubs and would be grateful for any support they could get from the Council or any other source for the event in 2016 and subsequent years.

Cllr McEniff queried had the group applied to Failte Ireland for funding to assist with the event, Mr. Maguire advised that they are engaging with them. Cllr McEniff also advised that the potential for cross border funding should be examined.

Mr. Maguire further informed Members that they have engaged with the local Credit Union, who is examining ways in which to support local events until grants come through. In response to a query from Cllr Campbell in this regard, Mr. Maguire advised Members they have the capacity to spend the money to cover the event and then to draw down grants thereafter.

In response to a query from Cllr Campbell if the clubs from the very south of the Country would travel to Donegal for the Championships, Mr. S Maguire informed Members he expected they would as a lot of the families involved in rowing will make this week of the event their summer holidays and stay the full week to enable them to train before the competition starts.

Mr. Garry Martin submitted it was very impressive to get the All Ireland Rowing Championships for 2016 to Donegal and congratulated the Donegal Bay Rowing Club. He submitted it was a great event and also that the Maritime Festival would tie in well with the Malin Waters. He submitted that a lot of the satellite events running in conjunction with the Championships would be great for the local economy. In response to a query from Mr. Martin regarding the timing of the event given it was the busy tourist season and the potential conflict with other events at that time of year, Mr. Maguire informed Members the competition was held during August due to the availability of young people to attend during the school holidays.

In response to a query from Cllr Kennedy if there had been any agreed rates with the Accommodation Providers for the Championships, Mr. S Maguire informed Members they had encouraged as far as possible to keep the costs low and also that they had received some sponsorship from the providers. He also informed Members that the event will be opened in the Sand House Hotel in Rossnowlagh with the closing ceremony being held in the Abbey Hotel in Donegal Town.

Cllrs Jordan and Kennedy offered their congratulations to Ms. Deborah Bonner on her recent dragon boat event in Dublin.

The deputation thanked Members for the opportunity to present the details of the 2016 All Ireland Coastal Rowing Championship and Members wished them all the best in their endeavours.

MDD/158/15 HOUSING AND CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

Progress reports on Grants, Loans, Casual Vacancies, and Social Housing Support Programme

Members noted the update reports on Grants, Loans, and Casual Vacancies, Housing Assistance Payments and Social Housing Support Programme as circulated with the Agenda and presented by Ms. B McBrearty.

Ms. B McBrearty informed Members that the 2 properties that were advertised as Choice Based Lettings have since been let. A further 7 houses will be ready to let shortly and 4 properties are being dealt with through Cluid Housing in Ballyshannon. There is one property

in an area for which there is no need and the property at 60 St Benildus Avenue in Ballyshannon would be re-advertised for sale.

She further informed Members that the Council had been asked by the Department to set out a strategy to bring long term voids which will cost more than €30,000 to refurbish back into stock and this is currently being worked up. She also informed Members of the funding draw downs for vacant units which will total in excess of €150,000 for 27 units in this District.

In relation to Housing Loans there have been no applications to-date in 2015 although there have been a few enquiries. In relation to Housing Grants she confirmed that the processing of same is up to date.

In relation to the Social Housing Investment Programme, Ms. B McBrearty informed Members that the layout plan for the Donegal Town Houses has been submitted to the Department for comment before being finalised. She also advised that the Council is carrying out survey works at Laghey and Killybegs to seek approval for the construction of housing units at these locations. She further advised the Department is allocating additional funding for house purchase and that this is being further examined in areas of need in the Municipal District.

In relation to the Council's extension programme in this Municipal District the two extensions have been completed.

In relation to the Housing Assistance Payments, Members were advised that the scheme is progressing well in Donegal. In next few weeks, existing Rent Supplement Recipients will begin to transfer to Housing Assistance Payments in tranches in agreement with the Community Welfare Officers.

In relations to the CAS Programme, Members noted approval has been granted for the 2 group homes and plans are being drawn up in conjunction with the new scheme at Railway Park.

A number of queries / Comments were dealt with as follows:

In response to a query from Cllr Kennedy if there are any plans to carryout works to older houses e.g. replacement windows, Ms. B McBrearty informed Members that funding is currently available for insulation programmes and when all houses in the country are insulated to the appropriate standard then monies will be provided for such works. Tenders are currently being finalised for 60 houses in this District. She also informed Members she has asked the Clerk of Works to compile a list of properties that require works that might be funded from this year's budget eg. Range windows/doors replacements. She also informed Members there are a small

number of roofs that require replacing which will be completed during 2015.

In response to queries from Cllr Campbell in relation to Housing Assistance Payments, Ms. B McBrearty informed Members that the issues that had been anticipated before the scheme was introduced have largely not materialised and that the scheme is progressing well with some households seeing an improvement in their financial situations. In relation to inspection of HAP properties she confirmed these would be commencing within the 8 month required period and that a resource is being provided to carryout same.

In response to a query from Cllr Jordan regarding applying for Housing Loans to the Council and if there is a specific timeframe for applying, Ms. B McBrearty informed Members applicants can submit their application at any time to the Office.

Corporate Matters – Book of Condolences

Ms. B McBrearty informed Members there is a book of Condolences at the Main Reception Desk in Donegal PSC, available for signing in respect of the victims of the Carrickmines Fire which will be there until the end of this week.

MDD/159/15 ROADS / TRANSPORTATION SERVICES REPORT

Schedule of Road Works 2015

Members noted the progress report on the schedule of Road Works 2015 for the Municipal District of Donegal as circulated with the Agenda and presented by Mr. Mark Sweeney.

Mr. M Sweeney also briefed Members in relation to a number of items on the Schedule of Works that have been completed since the report was prepared and works which are due to commence shortly. He advised that the surface of the Drumlonagher roundabout will be re-laid over three nights next week.

Low Cost Remedial Works

In relation to Low Cost Remedial Works Mr. Sweeney informed Members there had been no agreement reached with the Landowner at this stage and therefore the works are being transferred to another location in order to be in a position to draw down the funding in this years schedule of works. It is hoped that the works at Cavangarden Junction can be undertaken in 2016 if the matters can be resolved.

In relation to proposed works at Laghey, Mr. Sweeney informed Members designs have been completed by the National Roads Office and that the advance works would be undertaken shortly.

In relation to the Leghowney Junction, Mr. M Sweeney informed Members a response is due from the National Roads Authority this week.

In relation to the Solice/Harvey's Point Junction, Mr. M Sweeney informed Members that the National Roads Authority have included this for a HD Assessment for 2016 which he regarded as a step forward for this junction.

Footpath Programme

In relation to the Footpath Programme, Mr. M Sweeney informed Members the works in Ballyshannon have yet to commence but the other works have been completed.

Gateway

Mr. M Sweeney advised Members that up to 14 participants are coming to the Roads Section under the Gateway Scheme. The works which they may undertake will compliment the works being undertaken by the Community Chamber in Donegal Town. He asked that any requests for works to be undertaken through this scheme should be channelled through him-self and that he would welcome such requests.

A lengthy discussion took place in relation to the Gateway Scheme and in particular the following points were made:

In response to a query from Cllr Campbell if the participants in the scheme will receive training for which they will receive e.g. FETAC Certification, Mr. M Sweeney informed Members they will received the normal in-house training that full-time employees receive e.g. Safe Pass etc. and will be supplied the Personal Protective Equipment. He also advised that this is a national scheme and that roads in Donegal are taking on 14 Participants. He further informed Members the participants would not be carrying out duties normally undertaken by County Council employees but that there are several other suitable works that they can undertake.

Cllr Campbell questioned if the experience gleaned by participants in the scheme would lead to full-time employment and also questioned if the scheme was merely to artificially reduce the numbers on the live register and to provide cheap labour

In response to a query from Cllr Jordan if most of the participants are from the Donegal Town Area, Mr. Sweeney informed Members they are and that one supervisor will supervise the participants and that a pick-up is being provided for travelling to and from jobs.

Cllr O'Neill expressed his concern at the negativity in relation to the scheme and welcomed it advising it would be a good opportunity for unemployed persons to get back to work from a personal development point. In addition the scheme would lead to a lot of

improvements in the area. He submitted a lot of towns will be happy to identify works that can be undertaken by the scheme.

Cllrs Kennedy and Conaghan welcomed the scheme and the benefits it will have for both the Participants and improvements it will bring to this District.

Members submitted it would be good see the Council recruit staff on a full-time basis as this would be of benefit to the County also.

Contribution to Christmas Lights in Donegal Town.

As discussed at the recent Workshop, Mr. M Sweeney informed Members he had received a request for funding from the Donegal Town Community Chamber towards the Christmas Lights in Donegal Town where they propose to extend the lights at Quay Street. Following a short discussion, on the proposal of Cllr McEniff, seconded by Cllr Jordan, Members agreed to a contribution of €6000.00 towards the Christmas lights in Donegal Town.

MDD/160/15 PLANNING CONTROL REPORT

Members noted the update reports circulated with the Agenda and presented by Mr. Killian Smith, Executive Planner on the following matters:

- Statistics
- Appeals
- Significant Cases (incl. Transboundary applications)
- Other cases (Part 8's etc.)

A number of comments/queries were dealt with as follows:

ESB Fence, Ballyshannon

Cllr O'Neill referred to the ESB Fence at Ballyshannon as raised by him at the previous meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal. He made a lengthy submission in relation to the water safety issue and the fact that public safety was being compromised. He referred to a letter he had that had been issued by the Donegal Water Safety personnel. He referred to a recent meeting that had taken place with Council staff, ESB and Irish Water Safety. He submitted that the issue has not been properly addressed and that he would continue to raise this matter.

In response to the planning issues raised, Mr. K Smith informed Members as this matter has been dealt with by An Board Pleanala, the matter is closed from a Planning perspective, apart from two conditions that have been attached to the permission as granted by the Board.

In response to a query from, the Cathaoirleach as to what Cllr O'Neill was seeking, he advised he was seeking that the Council re-address the whole area of public safety at this location in Ballyshannon by meeting with Irish Water Safety.

MDD/161/15 UPDATE FROM CENTRAL PLANNING UNIT

Date for a Workshop for the Members of the Municipal District of Donegal.

Following a short discussion it was agreed that a workshop for the Members of the Municipal District of Donegal would be held at 10.00 am on Wednesday the 4th November 2015 in the Donegal Public Services Centre to discuss the following items:

- Local Area Plan Update
- Casual Trading

In response to a query regarding timelines for the completion and adoption of the Town Design Plan for Donegal Town, Mr. D Kelly informed Members this can be discussed at the Workshop in November 2015.

The Local Economic and Community Plan – presentations to Municipal Districts

Mr. D Kelly made a detailed presentation to Members in relation to the documents already circulated on the Local Economic and Community Plan.

The presentation included the following:

- Purpose and Legal Context of LECP
- Role of MD's
- Structure of LECP
- The extend of Participation
- Current stage in process
- Draft LECP documents made up of
 - Volume 1: The Draft LECP
 - Volume 2: the Action Areas
 - Appendix 1: The profile of the County
 - Appendix 2: Record of Participation, Policy Review, Summary of funding programmes
- Priority Goals, Objectives and Actions
- Connection with DCC Strategic Infrastructure Priorities and other programmes
- Consistency with Core Strategy and Objectives of CDP 2012 – 2018 as varied
- Consistency with RPG's for Border Region
- Consistency of economic and community elements with each other
- Examples of complementarities
- Next Steps

- Members Consideration

Members complimented Mr. D Kelly and his team for the comprehensive presentation and for the extensive amount of work involved in the matter. Following a short discussion, on the proposal of Cllr O'Neill seconded by Cllr Conaghan, Members confirmed they are satisfied with the draft plan and its consistency with:

- (1) The Core Strategy & Objectives of the CDP 2012 – 2018 (as varied)
- (2) The Border Regional Guidelines Planning Guidelines 2010
- (3) That the community elements and the economic elements are consistent with each other.

MDD/162/15 COMMUNITY, CULTURE AND PLANNING DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Members noted the Activity Report circulated with the Agenda and presented by Mr. B McLaughlin in relation to the following activities:

1. Donegal Town Development Hub
 - a. Connect Mental Health Business Workshop
 - b. Promotion of Donegal Craft Village
 - c. Retail Strategy – Donegal Town
2. Donegal Town Craft Village Update
3. Playgrounds – Donegal
4. Bundoran Activity Report
 - a. Discover Bundoran Brochure 2016
 - b. Pumpkin Carving Competition and Pumpkin Parade
5. Donegal Diaspora Project
6. Tip O'Neill
7. Community Tourism Diaspora Initiative
8. Public Participation Network
9. Pride of Place
10. Tourism – The Gathering – 2015
11. Youth Council
12. County Museum
13. Heritage Office Update

Mr. B McLaughlin also briefed Members in relation to the following items:

Muckross Pier

Mr. B McLaughlin referred to Muckross Pier as raised at the previous meeting of the District and advised he understands the Pier would require a lot of work and that there is a concern that the level of required funding may not be achievable but that he would discuss the matter again with Cllr Kennedy.

Tourism Workshop/Conference

Mr. B McLaughlin briefed Members in relation to the Tourism Workshop/Conference that was held the previous Friday which was well attended and well received. He also confirmed he would revert to Members in relation to the workshop, requested at the previous meeting, in relation to tourism for this District.

Public Participation Network

In response to a query in relation to links with the Public Participation Network and the Municipal District Members, Mr. B McLaughlin informed Members there are links but not directly with the Municipal District and that this matter has not yet been developed by the Department.

Community Finance Ireland - Killybegs

Members noted there is an information meeting in the Neil Mor Centre in Killybegs on Wednesday 14th November in relation to loans to Community Groups.

Tidal Energy

Members noted there is a meeting in Killybegs on the 13th October 2015 in relation to Tidal Energy.

Donegal Town Craft Village

Cllr O'Neill complimented the great work done at the Craft Village in Donegal Town noting that it is fully occupied. He also paid tribute to the Mental Health Workshop.

MDD/163/15 ENVIRONMENT SERVICES REPORT

Members welcomed Mr. Dearn McClintock, Waste Regulation Officer to the meeting. He presented the report circulated to Members dealing with the following updates:

- Waste & Litter
- Backyard Burning and Bonfires
- Free Household Hazardous Waste Collection
- Tidy Towns successes in Donegal.

A number of comments / queries were dealt with as follows:

Cllr O'Neill submitted it was a great achievement for all involved in Donegal in the Tidy Towns in particular the work of the voluntary groups and others involved in improving our towns and noted that the groups involved must gain satisfaction with the number of additional points achieved in the competition. He thanked every one involved and encouraged them to keep up the good work.

Cllr Kennedy noted that Killybegs had gained 13 points in the Tidy Towns competition which was a huge jump and offered credit to all Towns involved. She also thanked Donegal County Council for collecting the rubbish gathered by the various groups.

MDD/164/15 DISCUSSION ON CARPARKING CHARGES IN BALLYSHANNON

The following motion was submitted by Cllr O'Neill

"That this Municipal District Council abolishes Car Parking charges in the town of Ballyshannon".

Cllr Campbell objected to the motion being included on the Agenda advising in accordance with Standing Order no. 18, the submitted motion was out of order.

Following a discussion, Cllr O'Neill proposed an amended motion as follows:

"That the Municipal District of Donegal calls on Donegal County Council to consider abolishing car parking charges in the Town of Ballyshannon as part of the review of the charges."

The amended motion was seconded by Cllr Kennedy and adopted.

Members were advised;-

The Donegal County Council (Parking Places) Bye-Laws 2004 relate the following towns, Ballybofey, Stranorlar, Donegal Town and Ballyshannon.

The Council is currently reviewing these By-Laws with a view to updating them in line with the report previously presented at the Workshop meeting held on 8th September 2015. To assist the Members in their consideration of this motion our review will include an analysis of the parking statistics in Ballyshannon together with a report on the benefits of retaining pay and display in the Town. Subject to workload I hope to be able to present the Bye-Law review and Ballyshannon report before the end of the year.

In proposing the motion Cllr O'Neill submitted that the parking charges in Ballyshannon are a deterrent to customers. He advised that Ballyshannon required assistance not only in relation to all the business closures that have taken place in the last number of years but also to existing businesses to remain open. He disputed the fact that there wouldn't be monies available to provide services if charged are abolished noting that there are a number of other towns in the County of a similar size where parking charges had not been

introduced. He requested that the Council expedite the process of reviewing the charges in Ballyshannon.

Cllr Campbell opposed the motion submitting that it would be a negative step to abolish charges in Ballyshannon. This in turn would mean a reduction in funding for other towns which would in effect come back to the ratepayers in the County. He further submitted there had been a previous commitment for charges to fund the construction of the car park in Ballyshannon which the Council completed a few years ago.

Mr. M Sweeney informed Members that the money collected in Ballyshannon will have to come from elsewhere in the event that charges are abolished. He advised he would finalise the review bring and back a report to Members as early as possible.

Mr. G Martin submitted that a review of parking charges is taking place at a county level and noted the benefits to the Towns where there are charges and the importance of a balance between reasonable charges and creating a pool of income to benefit the towns. Noting the sentiment of the motion initiatives are required to create economic activity in Ballyshannon and other small towns in the county. He submitted that the Council is committed to finding solutions for the challenges which are present in small towns and that when the review is completed work will commence on working through the statutory process.

Cllr O'Neill thanked Members for passing the motion.

MDD/165/15 DISCUSSION ON KILCAR – WILD ATLANTIC WAY AND SIGNAGE

On the proposal of Cllr Kennedy, seconded by Cllr O'Neill the following motion was adopted;-

“That this MD along with Failte Ireland reconsider, investigate and resolve the reasons why Kilcar village and the coast road at Kilcar is bypassed (Wild Atlantic Way and Signage).”

Members were advised;-

The Council will forward this proposal to Failte Ireland and request a meeting to discuss same.

Cllr Kennedy in proposing the motion made a lengthy submission in respect of the motions and in particular in relation to the following:

- The decline in visitor numbers to Kilcar
- That the signage for Kilcar is confusing and not just the Wild Atlantic Way Signage

- No direct signs to the Coast Road and no need to direct traffic away from the Coast Road
- Has been in contact with Failte Ireland and went around all the signs in the area
- 75 % of visitors to Sliabh Liag are by car and therefore should be made aware of the facilities available in Kilcar e.g. Hostel, Knitwear and other facilities
- The Junction at Kilcar has become dangerous with no lines on the road

In seconding the motion Cllr O'Neill submitted that the Council should engage with Failte Ireland to try to address this matter and to encourage traffic through Kilcar and not to have the village sign posted better is a mistake. He submitted contact should be maintained with Failte Ireland in this regard.

Cllr Campbell submitted that Donegal County Council is not the lead or partner Agency in the development of the Wild Atlantic Way and that this is a matter for Failte Ireland. He noted that the WAW does not go through Kilcar, similar to other towns and that much more needs to be done to enable businesses to identify opportunities which would expand their footfall. He referred to the conference run by the Council to show businesses how to make opportunities out of the WAW and that this needs to be pursued by the business/tourist sector. He advised he did not anticipate that Failte Ireland would amend the WAW route, but perhaps they may allow for a sub-route. He stressed the importance of businesses looking at other solutions to maximise the benefit of the WAW to their respective areas rather than changing the WAW route. He recommended that signage for Slieve League should be repositioned.

Mr. B McLaughlin confirmed that the Wild Atlantic Way is a Failte Ireland initiative and therefore route /signage etc. is their responsibility. He advised that the Council would engage with Failte Ireland in relation to this motion.

MDD/166/15 Request for a Deputation from the Bundoran Surf Industry

Members noted the correspondence received from the Bundoran Surf Industry circulated with the Agenda seeking to send a deputation to the next meeting of the District. Members noted the Bundoran Surf Industry were in attendance at a meeting of this District in May 2015. It was noted that the Bundoran Surf Industry had not specified in their correspondence which matters they wished to raise at the Meeting and it was agreed that this should be clarified by them so that the request could be received further consideration at the next meeting. Mr. G. Martin advised that he had no issue in dealing with the access issue at Bundoran Surf Industry and would meet them again if their request is in relation to this. He asked for

agreement in principle to this course of action and informed Members that he would keep them fully informed of updates. On the proposal of Cllr Campbell, seconded by Cllr Kennedy, Members agreed that a letter issue to them as agreed above and agreement in principle was given to Mr. Martin's to proceed as requested. Ms. B McBrearty confirmed the letter would issue shortly to seek the clarification.

MEMBERS NOTED THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:-

MDD/167/15 Speed Ramps in Housing Estates in the Municipal District of Donegal

The following question was submitted by Cllr Kennedy:-

“Can the Municipal District of Donegal consider placing speed ramps at housing estates in this MD and give reasons for and against?”-

Cllr Kennedy was informed that:-

“Donegal County Council as part of a pilot scheme set up to coincide with Circular RSD 01/2014 issued by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport have identified a number of social housing estates where it is proposed to introduce a 30km/hr "Slow Zone" in line with the guidelines issued by the Department. The estates identified in the Donegal MD are as noted below:

1. Emerald Drive Housing Estate in Killybegs.
2. St Theresa's Housing Estate in Bruckless.
3. Mill Race Crescent housing Estate in Donegal Town.
4. Saimer Drive Housing Estate in Ballyshannon
5. Erne Dale Heights Housing Estate in Ballyshannon. Elaghmore Housing Estate in Bundoran.

The Slow Zones should be developed and implemented as a Local Authority supported community based approach to reduce speed limits to 30km/hr and to add safety measures within a select area in order to change driver behaviour. The ultimate goal of a Slow Zone is to lower the incidence and severity of crashes and to enhance quality of life.

Once a Slow Zone has been set up the Local Authority will then monitor vehicular speeds within the estates.

If the vehicular speeds are not adhering to the 30km/hr speed limit (85th percentile) then the Local Authority can apply to the Department for funding to add engineering solutions to the estate to slow vehicles down. The introduction of speed ramps is one such

engineering solution. The main benefit of the introduction of speed ramps is that they will slow traffic down.

The main drawbacks are as follows:

1. Vehicles tend to speed up between the speed ramps.
2. Speed ramps can cause driver distraction in that the driver focusing on the speed ramps making them less aware of their surroundings.
3. Some residents are happy to see speed ramps but do not want them in front of their property.
4. Speed ramps on steep slopes can be a hazard to the road user.
5. Speed ramps will reduce response times for emergency vehicles.
6. Speed ramps generate increased noise levels from vehicles crossing the ramps.

It is recommended that speed ramps are only installed within self contained sections of an estate with low traffic volumes and not on through roads within the estate where there are higher traffic volumes.

Speed ramps in housing estates should only be considered after the introduction of a Slow Zone.”

MDD/168/15 Pilot Scheme for the treatment of Invasive Plant Species

The following question was submitted by Cllr Kennedy:-

Can this MD implement a pilot scheme for the proper treatment of invasive plant species eg Knotweed?

Cllr Kennedy was informed that:-

There is currently a pilot project underway within this Municipal District for the treatment of Japanese knotweed.

MDD/169/15 Date of next meeting

Members agreed the date of the next meeting on Tuesday the 8th December 2015 as per the agreed standing orders.

Members also affirmed their agreement to the MD Budget Meeting in Lifford at 10.30 a. m. on Wednesday the 28th October 2015.

Members also agreed to a Planning Workshop on Wednesday the 4th November 2015 at 10.00am, in Donegal Public Services centre.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Area Manager
Municipal District of Donegal**

**Cathaoirleach
Municipal District of Donegal**

Minutes of Municipal District of Donegal Budget Meeting held on Wednesday 28th October 2015 in the County House, Lifford.

MDD/170/15

Members Present

Cllr. Noel Jordan
Cllr. Tom Conaghan
Cllr. Niamh Kennedy
Cllr. Barry O'Neill

MDD/171/15

Officials in attendance

Garry Martin, Director of Finance, Information Systems and
Emergency Services
Cathy Slattery, Finance Department

MDD/172/15

Apologies

Cllr. Sean McEniff

MDD/173/15

Municipal District Budget 2016

The Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District updated the members by advising them that in order to ensure that all legal requirements associated with the requirements of Section 102 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) and associated regulations, including the Local Government (Financial & Audit Procedures) Regulations 2014 and the Local Government (Financial & Audit Procedures) (Amended) Regulations 2015 are met, it will be necessary to convene a meeting of the municipal district to consider the Draft Budgetary Plan for the Municipal District for 2016.

The Head of Finance clarified the reasons for the proposed approach.

In this context it was proposed to hold such a meeting on Friday 6th November 2015 in Donegal Public Service Centre at 5pm. This was proposed by Cllr. Tom Conaghan and seconded by Cllr. Niamh Kennedy.

The Cathaoirleach closed the meeting at this point.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Area Manager
Municipal District of Donegal

Cathaoirleach
Municipal District of Donegal

**Minutes of Municipal District of Donegal Workshop held on 4th November 2015 at
10.00 am in the Members Room, Donegal PSC.**

Members present:

Cllr Barry O Neill
Cllr Niamh Kennedy
Cllr Tom Conaghan
Cllr Noel Jordan

Officials in Attendance:

Mr. Garry Martin, Director Designate, Municipal District of Donegal/Director of Finance, Emergency Services and Information Systems
Mr. Denis Kelly, Senior Executive Planner, Central Planning Unit
Ms. Claire McCallan, Conservation Architect, Central Planning Unit
Ms. Collette Beatty, Assistant Planner, Central Planning Unit
Ms. Sinead Harkin, Executive Planner, Central Planning Unit
Ms. Alana Greene, Executive Planner, Central Planning Unit
Ms. Mary McBride, Executive Planner, Central Planning Unit
Mr. Barney McLaughlin, Community & Enterprise, Donegal
Ms. Margaret Fitzgerald, Central Planning Unit,
Mr. Mark Sweeney, A/Area Manager, Roads/Transportation
Mr. Enda Monaghan, Senior Staff Officer, Housing / Corporate Services

Apologies

Cllr John Campbell
Cllr Sean McEniff
Ms. Bridie McBrearty, Area Manager, Housing & Corporate Services

Minutes

Local Area Plan Update

Mr. Denis Kelly introduced the Planning Staff in attendance to Members and proceeded to present the report on Initial Stage of Public Participation and Consultation to Prepare Draft Local Area Plan in Respect of Tier 2 Towns. Members were brought through the report in detail and a number of queries were dealt with at the Workshop. Members complimented the Central Planning Unit on the level of work and detail in the report. In response to a request for feedback, Members made the following submissions:

Cllr O'Neill submitted the following:

- Welcomed focus on economic, tourism and heritage development in Ballyshannon as opposed to being centred on residential zoning.
- Asserted that Ballyshannon, as the oldest town in Ireland didn't have the same problems with dereliction and 'ghost estates' as other towns outside of the County

which he felt may have been due to only 15ha of the 200ha of land zoned for development actually having been developed since the last CDP.

- Felt every town should develop to its strengths with Ballyshannon needing to draw on its designation as a Heritage Town.
- Would like to see parking charges reviewed given close proximity of Ballyshannon to the Border – encourage people to shop local.
- Stated the LAP will be critical to the development of Ballyshannon and to all towns over the next few years.
- Highlighted the visual importance of historic streetscape development with particular reference made to the Town Clock in Ballyshannon.
- Emphasised the importance of developing, improving and promoting the IDA Portnason site as part of the LAP, advised of business interest in the site. Cited the success of the Craft Village in Donegal Town. Feels the development of Portnason should be lead by Donegal County Council, LEO and the Ballyshannon Regeneration Group (BRG).
- Commended the work carried out by the BRG and the value of the group to Ballyshannon.
- Proposed an index of recorded protected structures relevant to each MD should be detailed on each LAP.
- Proposed an index of public 'Rights of Way' relevant to each area should be detailed on each LAP.
- Requested a Town Design Statement for Ballyshannon to reflect and protect the heritage and architecture of the Town.
- Acknowledged the excellent restoration of the Convent Building and the importance of preserving a building of such architectural value.
- Proposed making the development of the Mall Quay area, incorporating the 'old dog pound' with a breakwater in the estuary, a key objective of the LAP. Felt it could be a huge amenity for the south of the County.
- Welcomed the 'town centre outwards' approach in relation to retail in the Donegal Town Plan and felt that this should be the same for all towns.
- Remarked that the ESB were not required to carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment for the fence they erected in Ballyshannon in a Natura 2000 site.

Cllr Kennedy submitted the following:

- Noted the volume of submissions in relation to Killybegs and in particular with regard to St. Catherine's Well.
- Advised that there are 4 piers in Killybegs, the largest of which - the port pier being the oldest area in Killybegs.
- Advised of past developments that overlook the vicinity around St. Catherine's Well, the Church graveyard and Kitt's Castle. Would not like to see future development advance further along this area. Advocated the need to safeguard St. Catherine's Well.
- Acknowledged the importance of port related activities and the further development of same but asserted that there is adequate alternative lands for development removed from St. Catherine's Well.

- Welcomed future development of the Letterkenny Institute of Technology, Killybegs Campus.
- Queried where the Town Boundary for Killybegs would be in the new LAP and would it include the new industrial road and/or Fintra Beach and the Clock Tower development.
- Highlighted the need to protect the old railway line and bridges out past the Hollybush Junction
- Queried how much land is to be zoned for recreation and/or greenfield site opportunities and how much land to be zoned for residential / other development
- Welcomed that Killybegs is making progress with employment increasing
- Enquired how are NIAH Buildings listed
- Emphasised the need to enhance the appearance of Killybegs and in particular the Donegal Road into the town
- Enquired if the submission the Killybegs Community Council made in relation to the Local Economic and Community Plan could be used in part to enhance their submission regarding Killybeg's LAP
- Requested that maps for the previous town plans showing the various zonings be circulated to Members for information purposes

Cllr Conaghan submitted the following:

- Welcomed the report presented
- Stressed the importance of all community and business committees/groups in Donegal Town working together to ensure a comprehensive LAP for the town.
- Advocated the need for a traffic management plan for Donegal Town to alleviate congestion in particular at the bus stop in the town centre, which is hampered by 'double parking' and at school drop off/pick up points.
- Proposed the consideration of 'pay and display' parking as a solution to town centre traffic congestion and/or a pedestrian only zone but recognised that 'buy in' would be required from retailers and community groups in the town. Recommended that revenue collected from 'pay and display' could be used to enhance the town.
- Detailed the repair work required on The Iron (Tirconnell) Bridge
- Expressed concern for elderly residents in relation to the risk of flooding on Water Street. Suggested the estuary could be dredged to reduce the danger of flooding.
- Recognised the potential of the town.

Cllr Jordan submitted the following:

- Welcomed the report presented and emphasised the importance of learning from past oversights in other areas in relation to zoning.
- Complimented the Donegal Town Business Focus Groups on their excellent submission
- Highlighted the need for investment in Ballyshannon.
- Was critical of the level of investment by the IDA in the County.
- Expressed surprise at the lack of submissions in relation to recreation for Killybegs given its recent success stories and accomplishments.
- Enquired if the spokesperson for Taxi Drivers could still make a submission as he had missed the consultation period.

- Queried when the Town Design Statement would be completed for Donegal Town, emphasised the need for considered zoning.
- Concurred with Cllr. Conaghan in relation to flood risk.

Mr. Kelly thanked Members for their feedback and advised that each town has different requirements that need to be reflected in the Town Design Statements and reaffirmed the importance of policies being in place to support same. Ms. Claire McCallan concurred with Mr. Kelly and suggested that while an urban design statement may be the best fit for Killybegs for example, a village management document may be more fitting for Ballyshannon and the need to be mindful of the character of each of the towns mentioned is of the utmost importance, as it is not a case of 'one size fits all'.

Ms. McCallan gave a brief overview of the role of the NIAH and of the cultural significance of NIAH recorded structures to a town. Mr. Kelly highlighted the potential opportunities available in Ballyshannon, Donegal Town and Killybegs regarding heritage. In relation to a query regarding The Iron (Tirconnell) Bridge in Donegal Town being on the NIAH, Ms McCallan advised the Members that a detailed assessment had already been carried out of the bridge and that all of the NIAH recorded structures are mapped.

With respect to the Town Clock in Ballyshannon, Members were advised that as the clock is in private ownership and although a number of attempts have been made by the Council to engage with the owner, no progress has been made. It was also noted that there is a grant aid process open until 20th November 2015 but this would require engagement from the owner.

Mr. D Kelly advised the Members that there will be further public consultation regarding the Local Area Plans and that town boundaries would be examined in relation to each LAP. Mr. Kelly furthered that the submission received from the Killybegs Community Council with respect to the LECF could be considered with regard to the Killybegs LAP.

In concluding this item, Members noted the next phase of the Local Area Plan process will be the arrangement of a further facilitated workshop in each town. Members also confirmed their endorsement to the general approaches as outlined in Sections 5.1 to 5.4 and 5.5 to 5.11.

Casual Trading

Mr. D Kelly referred to previous discussions held with Members in relation to Casual Trading both at Strategic Policy Committee and Plenary Council meetings where it had been agreed that the matter would be discussed at workshops in the Municipal Districts to obtain feedback from Members. Mr. Kelly advised that this feedback would subsequently be presented to the Plenary Council with respect to updating the current Donegal County Council (Casual Trading) General Byelaws. Mr. Kelly submitted it is timely to review the byelaws in the County given the amalgamation of the Town and County Councils and also with the preparation of the draft LAPs in relation to Tier 2 towns. Mr. Kelly briefed Members in relation to the matters that require consideration including

- Exemptions
- Fees

- The formation of a subcommittee with full stakeholder representation to discuss relevant issues
- Designation of Casual Trading areas.

Mr. Kelly outlined that Casual Trading means selling goods at a place (including a public road) to which the public have access as of right or at any other place that is a Casual Trading area and added that Donegal County Council introduced the following exemptions

- the selling of hot food by touring Hot Food Vendors provided that they do not remain static for a period exceeding four hours at any one stop and provided that they do not trade within 100 metres of any commercial premises trading in hot food, between the hours of 20.00 and 9.00 hours
- the selling of ice-cream by touring ice-cream vendors which do not remain static for a period exceeding four hours at any stop.

Mr. Kelly went on to clarify that ice-cream vans selling 'door to door' in residential areas does not constitute Casual Trading. A discussion took place in relation to the disparity in fees currently charged in each Municipal District and whether they should be standardised throughout the County. Mr. Garry Martin proposed that while Casual Trading fees should be fair, proportionate and reasonable, they should be harmonised at County level. Mr. Martin suggested a comparative with what other counties are charging should be undertaken and the amount ratepayers are charged should be also be taken into consideration.

A number of comments/queries were dealt with as follows:

In response to a query from Cllr Kennedy if Casual Traders are obliged to clean up the trading areas after trading times, Mr. Kelly advised this should be considered as part of the process and the Council needs to review this matter with the Roads and Transportation Directorate and the Water and Environment Directorate in relation to the associated costs involved which in turn need to be reflected in the Casual Trading fees charged.

Cllr Conaghan asserted that Casual Trading fees are disproportionate to what ratepayers are charged and that the 100m exemption is not enforced especially during peak trading times like festivals which has an impact on local rate paying businesses. Cllr. Conaghan also highlighted the issue of litter after big events and the cost to the Council which is not contributed to by Casual Traders.

Cllr O'Neill detailed his concerns in relation to Casual Trading in Ballyshannon as follows:-

- Two thirds of the Casual Trading spaces in the County are in Ballyshannon
- The current designated Casual Trading site is the only open public space in Ballyshannon and is unavailable during the hosting of other festivals and events of significant benefit to the local economy - e.g. Rory Gallagher festival which bring €2m to the local economy - as it operates on a year-round basis.
- The fee currently charged for Casual Trading in Ballyshannon of €250.00 for the first Casual Trading space and €150 for each additional space thereafter, is disproportionate and needs to be increased. The price of Event Licences also needs to be reviewed and regulated/enforced.

- Casual Trading Licences should be valid for a calendar year as opposed to issued for a 12 month period.
- The traders contribute little to Ballyshannon and they have an unfair advantage over and are having a detrimental effect on ratepayers businesses
- The lack of enforcement is an issue with breaches of the Casual Trading Bye-laws going undetected/ not enforced.
- Proposed the use of signage to highlight Casual Trading bye-laws.
- Proposed the use of an alternative site for Casual Trading on the Rock Road, Ballyshannon as opposed to the current site.

Cllr O'Neill detailed his concerns in relation to Casual Trading at Rossnowlagh Beach as follows:-

- In accordance with beach bye-laws there should be no trading on Rossnowlagh Beach.
- There is no regulation of Casual Trading currently taking place on Rossnowlagh Beach e.g. Ice-cream vans, donkey rides, jet ski hire etc.
- Casual traders operating on the beach do not partake in or contribute towards any clean up of the beach. This service is provided by the local community with assistance from Donegal County Council.
- Referred to a previous proposal for a beach management centre at Rossnowlagh which he submitted and expressed disappointment that it did not proceed.
- Suggested designating a Casual Trading area in Rossnowlagh away from the beach.
- Submitted that the exemptions in relation to hot-food touring vendors and ice-cream touring vendors need to be reviewed as 100m is not an adequate distant from ratepayers. Suggested that 1000m would be a more appropriate distance and that the no trading period of between 8pm and 9am should be extended to a 24hour period.
- Need for regulation and enforcing of bye-laws.
- Fees for Event Licences need to be increased significantly and regulated/enforced.

Cllr Jordan concurred with comments made by Cllr. O'Neill and Mr. Martin in relation to a review of fees currently charged with a view to harmonising fees across the County which will have a significant impact on Ballyshannon which hosts the majority share of Casual Trading in the County.

Mr. Kelly acknowledged the feedback from the Members and the issues they felt were caused by the existing bye-laws and exemptions including; the need to increase the distance of 100m; the need to increase the no trading period of between 8pm and 9am; waste management issues; traffic safety issues and noise pollution.

Mr. Kelly thanked the Members for their feedback and advised that in tandem with feedback received from the other Municipal Districts he would revert to the Plenary Council with same for the purpose of establishing draft general bye-laws in relation to Casual Trading for the County which will provide a framework for agreeing a designated Casual Trading area in the Local Area Plans currently being drafted.

It was further noted that a clear definition of 'hot food' would be provided for the purpose of clarity in respect of the current exemptions.

Members thanked the staff from the Central Planning Unit.

This concluded the business of the Workshop.

**Area Manager,
Municipal District of Donegal**

**Cathaoirleach,
Municipal District of Donegal**

Minutes of Municipal District of Donegal Budget Meeting held at 5.00 p.m. on Friday 6th November 2015 in the Peter Kennedy Chamber, Donegal Public Services Centre.

MDD/174/15

Members Present

Cllr. Noel Jordan
Cllr. Tom Conaghan
Cllr. Niamh Kennedy
Cllr. Barry O'Neill
Cllr. Sean McEniff
Cllr. John Campbell

MDD/175/15

Officials in attendance

Garry Martin, Director of Finance, Information Systems and Emergency Services
Ms. Bridie McBrearty, Area Manager, Municipal District of Donegal
Mr. Mark Sweeney, A/Area Manager, Municipal District of Donegal
Mr. Enda Monaghan, Senior Staff Officer, Municipal District of Donegal.

MDD/176/15

Draft Budgetary Plan for the Municipal District of Donegal for 2016

Mr. Garry Martin, Director of Finance, Information Systems and Emergency Services, briefed Members as to the purpose of the meeting which was to confirm and put on record that the approach adopted in consideration of the Draft Budgetary Plan for the Municipal District of Donegal for 2016 was in line with existing Regulations. He advised that it was a statutory meeting required by Section 102 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) and associated regulations, including the Local Government (Financial & Audit Procedures) Regulations 2014 and the Local Government (Financial & Audit Procedures) (Amended) Regulations 2015 as advised to Members at their meeting on the 28th October 2015.

Mr. Martin informed Members that a similar approach was being taken as that of previous year and it is in line with the current legislation governing Local Authority budgets. Members were advised that it was a reserved function of the Member to either adopt the Draft Budget as presented with or without amendments and as provided in the legislation, (Section 102 (4A) (e) the Chief Executive "shall take account of any budgetary plan adopted...in preparing the draft local authority budget (in accordance with subsection (2))".

Mr. Martin also briefed Members in relation to the sequencing of decisions as currently set out in the legislation which it is hoped will be amended in time, to allow for the Municipal Districts to adopt their budgets after the plenary budget meeting, when it is clear what discretionary funding is available to the Municipal Districts. Members noted the Draft Budget for 2016 was adopted with amendments in some of the Districts and without amendments in the others.

The following documents as circulated with the Agenda were noted by Members;-

1. Draft Budgetary Plan & General Municipal Allocation for 2016.
2. Circular Fin 05/2014
3. Appendix 1 – Overview of Budget Process
4. Appendix 2 – Report to be submitted to the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government by 30 September
5. Appendix 3 Draft Budgetary Plan
6. Circular Fin 08/2015
7. Appendix 1 – 30 September report to Department – Preliminary estimate of capital and current income for the forthcoming financial year.

A number of comments /queries were dealt with as follows;-

In response to a query from Cllr Campbell regarding the meeting held on the 28th October 2015, Mr. G Martin informed Members the minute for this meeting will be available to Members for consideration at the December 2015 meeting of the Municipal District.

In response to a query from Cllr O'Neill, Mr. G Martin clarified that the purpose of today's meeting is to adopt a draft Budget for 2016 for the District which would be reviewed after the Plenary Budget has been agreed for 2016.

Cllr Jordan proposed that an allocation be made for Local Improvement Schemes in Budget for 2016 and this was seconded by Cllr Kennedy. A discussion took place in relation to LIS's, following which Mr. G Martin clarified that Members are not required to put a figure on LIS if they wish to have it included at this stage, as the MD Budgets will be reviewed following the adoption of the Plenary Budget. It would then be a matter to be reviewed in discussion with Members.

Following further discussion on the proposal of Cllr McEniff, seconded by Cllr Conaghan, Members agreed to adopt the Draft Budgetary Plan for 2016 for the Municipal District of Donegal

with the following amendment as referred to above;- *‘that the Municipal District of Donegal recommend that an allocation for a Local Improvements Scheme be provided in the Plenary Budget for 2016.’*

Cllr O’Neill also requested that a portion of the Plenary Budget for Tourism be allocated to the Districts specific to each Municipal District. Mr. G Martin informed Members that as an observation, the global figures in the Plenary Budget may relate to non-discretionary funding e.g. staff or other fixed costs but advised he would ask the Director to outline what the costs are included in the Tourism Budget for Members consideration at plenary level.

In response to a query from Cllr Kennedy in relation to funding for bridges in the District with particular reference to Fintra Bridge, Mr. G Martin informed Members he would request this matter be reported on by the Director of Roads / Transportation either in his Plenary Budget Report or alternatively in the Strategic Infrastructure report.

Mr. Martin thanked Members for their consideration and adoption with amendment, of the draft Budget for 2016 for the Municipal of Donegal.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Area Manager
Municipal District of Donegal**

**Cathaoirleach
Municipal District of Donegal**

Municipal District of Donegal

Housing/Corporate Update as at 27th November 2015

Casual Vacancies as at 27th November 2015

Location of Vacancy	Area	BED	Dwelling Vacated	Repairs Completed
SI Cottage at Ballinacarrick	BALLINTRA	3	24th March, 2013 (Tenant Deceased)	Possession Order Granted 25/6/15
1 Erne Dale Heights	BALLYSHANNON	1	23rd March, 2013	Section 183 to full Council - January 2016
1B Ernedale Heights	BALLYSHANNON	1	10/02/2009	Section 183 to full Council - January 2016
2 Erne Dale Heights	BALLYSHANNON	1	15th July 2009	Section 183 to full Council - January 2016
2B Erne Dale Heights	BALLYSHANNON	1	4th January 2011	Section 183 to full Council - January 2016
60 St Benildus Avenue	BALLYSHANNON	2	Repossessed on 28/04/2010	Tenders closing on 27/11/2015
24 Lawne Park	BALLYSHANNON	3	02 October 2015	Works ongoing
30 Lawne Park	BALLYSHANNON	3	10 July 2015	Works ongoing
30 Cluain Barron	BALLYSHANNON	3	11 October 2013	Major Refurb required
73 Slieve League Avenue	CARRICK	3	16-Jun-2015	Works ongoing
16 O'Cleirigh Avenue	DONEGAL	1	18-Aug-2015	Works ongoing
21 O'Cleirigh Avenue	DONEGAL	3	22-Sep-2015	LTV Fund
201 Castleview	DUNKINEELY	3	27-Jun-2014	LTV Fund
SI Cottage at Stragar North	KILLYBEGS	2	17th Aug 2012	LTV Fund
56 St Cummins Hill	KILLYBEGS	1	11 September 2015	Works ongoing
29 Termon Villas	PETTIGO	3	30 March 2015	Requires survey

Position at 27th November 2015

HOUSING GRANTS

	YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED	REFUSED \ CANCELLED	FURTHER INFO	PENDING
HO	2013	17	13	3	0	1
	2014	22	14	6	0	2
	2015	12	5	2	0	5

	YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED	REFUSED \ CANCELLED	FURTHER INFO.	REFERRED TO OT	REFERRED TO ENGINEER	PENDING
HD	2011	33	15	18	0	0	0	0
	2012	21	7	13	0	0	0	1
	2013	25	4	21	0	0	0	0
	2014	16	8	8	0	0	0	0
	2015	34	5	13	0	0	0	16

	YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED	REFUSED \ CANCELLED	FURTHER INFO	PENDING
HM	2015	1	0	1	0	0

HOUSING LOANS

There are no housing applications to date in 2015 and no outstanding applications to be dealt with.

SOCIAL HOUSING SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Position at 27th November 2015

Scheme	2 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4 bed	5 bed	Total	Status					
	apts (own door)	2 storey	2 storey	2 storey	bungalow		Design	Planning	Tender	Under Con	Completed	
Building Programme 2015 - 2017								draft layout				
Donegal Town	8	8	6	2		24	24	with Dept				
Purchases 2014 and 2015												
Killybegs*		1	1			2						
Carrick*					1	1		awaiting keys				
Donegal Town*	1		3	1		4						
Bundoran			1			1		price offered				
Extensions 2015												
Ballyshannon						2						2
CAS 2015												
2 Com Group Homes*					2	2	2	Being built in conjunction with Donegal Town and awaiting CAS approval				

Other Supply

Proposals for provision of 25 no. units in Donegal Town and 22 no. units in Ballyshannon have been supported by Council and the AHB is currently seeking to supply these through either purchasing units or having units built in the towns

HAP Tenancies	
Municipal District	Number
Donegal	39
Letterkenny	188
Glenties	27
Stranorlar	46
Inishowen	53

Total	353
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**Donegal Municipal District
2015 Roadworks Programme
Status Report - 8th December 2015**

Surface Dressing 2015

Regional Road Surface Dressing

No	Road Number	Road Name and/or Townland Name	Engineering Area (14)	Estimated Cost of work (EURO)	Status	Percentage Complete
1	R-262-2/3	Frosses - Glenties	Dunkineely	€22,759	Completed	100.00%
1	R-230-8	Crowlar, Crove	Killybegs	€40,312	Completed	
1	R 232 -8	Pettigoe Road	Ballyshannon	€63,071	Completed	

€126,142

Total Budget

Local Road Surface Dressing

No	Road Number	Road Name and/or Townland Name	Engineering Area (14)	Estimated Cost of work (EURO)	Status	Percentage Complete
1	LP-1425-2	St. John's Point - Ballycroy	Dunkineely	€23,694.00	Completed	100%
2	LP-1685-1	Frosses - Drumbarron	Dunkineely	€17,160.00	Completed	
3	LP-1715-1	Letterbarra - Lettertreane	Dunkineely	€12,012.00	Completed	
4	LP-1665-1	Doorin Line - Mullanboys	Dunkineely	€7,722.00	Completed	
5	LP-1675-1	Tullyvoose - Tullinlagan	Dunkineely	€15,000.00	Completed	
6	LS-6065-1	Lettertreane - Drumboarty	Dunkineely	€16,058.00	Completed	
7	LS-5555-1	Tullaghacullion - Benroe	Dunkineely	€15,000.00	Completed	

No	Road Number	Road Name and/or Townland Name	Engineering Area (15)	Estimated Cost of work (EURO)	Status	Percentage Complete
1	LP-1275-2	Croaghlin - Conlin Bridge	Killybegs	€14,400.00	Completed	100%
2	LP-1115-1	Roxborough - Derrylahan	Killybegs	€19,622.00	Completed	
3	LP-1065-1	Pilgrims Path Teelin	Killybegs	€9,180.00	Completed	
4	LP-1015-4	Stranagartan	Killybegs	€16,000.00	Completed	
5	LS-5285-1	Meenychannon	Killybegs	€13,317.00	Completed	

No	Road Number	Road Name and/or Townland Name	Engineering Area (16)	Estimated Cost of work (EURO)	Status	Percentage Complete
1	L2365-3	Carricknahorna	Ballyshannon	€20,400.00	Completed	100%
2	L2225-7	Belalt South	Ballyshannon	€22,313.00	Completed	
3	L8035-1	Grousehall Pettigo	Ballyshannon	€17,340.00	Completed	
4	L2375-1	Cavangarden	Ballyshannon	€21,120.00	Completed	
5	L7095-1	Foyagh	Ballyshannon	€19,200.00	Completed	
6	L7895-1	Ardfarn	Ballyshannon	€20,769.00	Completed	
7	L-2485-4	Cliff Road	Ballyshannon	€6,876.00	Completed	

No	Road Number	Road Name and/or Townland Name	Engineering Area (17)	Estimated Cost of work (EURO)	Status	Percentage Complete
1	LP1965-2	Tawnyvorga(Harveys pt)	Laghey	€18,000.00	Completed	100%
2	LP2185-3	Shannagh Rd	Laghey	€25,200.00	Completed	
3	LP2585-2	Tullywee	Laghey	€13,400.00	Completed	
4	LS6545-2	Druminnin	Laghey	€20,800.00	Completed	
5	LP1845-4	Ballydevitt-Clanborrin x rds	Laghey	€28,000.00	Completed	
6	LS6615-2	Clarcam	Laghey	€14,000.00	Completed	

€426,583 Total Bud.

2015 Regional and Local Road Improvement Works

No	Road Number	Road Name and/or Townland Name	Engineering Area (14)	Own Resources / Contractor	Budget	Status	Percentage Complete
1	R-262	Sir Albert's Bridge,	Dunkineely	O/R	€29,270.00	Completed	100%
2	L-1365-4	Drimaghy - Tullinteane	Dunkineely	O/R	€47,700.00	Completed	
3	L-1375-2/3	Croagh Orbal - Meenagoland	Dunkineely	O/R	€37,700.00	Completed	
4	L-1415-1	Loughmuilt - Ballywoges	Dunkineely	O/R	€37,700.00	Completed	
5	L-1645-1/2	Raneely - Drumcoe	Dunkineely	O/R	€35,425.00	Completed	
6	L-1685	Selicas - Letterfad	Dunkineely	O/R	€38,800.00	Completed	
7	L-6085	Edenamuck - Drimaheark	Dunkineely	O/R	€35,425.00	Completed	
8	L-6035-1	Lettermore - Letterfad	Dunkineely	O/R	€22,300.00	Completed	
9	L-1565-2	Inver Port - Hillhead - Fanaghans	Dunkineely	Contractor	€28,180.00	Completed	
10	L-5895-1	R262 - Dibbin School	Dunkineely	O/R	€47,500.00	Completed	
11	L-1565-1	N56 - Inver	Dunkineely	Contractor	€25,200.00	Completed	
12	L-1345-2	Ballyloughan - Benroe	Dunkineely	O/R	€24,200.00	Completed	
13	L-1515-5	Ardaghey Glebe	Dunkineely	O/R	€14,523.00	Completed	
14	R-262-1	Drumbeigh	Dunkineely	O/R	€69,458.00	Completed	

No	Road Number	Road Name and/or Townland Name	Engineering Area (15)	Own Resources / Contractor	Budget	Status	Percentage Complete
1	R-263-2	Killybegs Streets	Killybegs	Contractor	€92,214.00	Completed	100%
2	R-263-14	Cashel Village - (Fire Station)	Killybegs	O/R	€39,200.00	Completed	
3	L-5085-1	Dooley (Hostel Road)	Killybegs	O/R	€57,700.00	Completed	
4	L-1315-2	Faiafannan - Stragar	Killybegs	O/R	€41,200.00	Completed	
5	L-1125-1	Carrick - Meenaneary	Killybegs	O/R	€53,199.00	Completed	
6	L-1085-2	Carrick - Teelin	Killybegs	Contractor	€66,700.00	Completed	

7	L-1315-1	Church Road Killybegs	Killybegs	Contractor	€36,700.00	Completed
8	L-1195-1	Line Road Kilcar	Killybegs	O/R	€27,700.00	Completed
9	L-1185-3	Ballymoon Road	Killybegs	O/R	€33,400.00	Completed
10	L1125-1	Carrick Upper	Killybegs	O/R	€52,000.00	Completed
11	L5055-1	Cashel & Straid	Killybegs	O/R	€20,766.00	Completed

No	Road Number	Road Name and/or Townland Name	Engineering Area (16)	Own Resources / Contractor	Budget	Status	Percentage Complete
1	LP 2425-2/4	Ballyshannon Streets	Ballyshannon	Contractor	€99,000.00	Completed	100%
2	R231	Rossnowlagh rd	Ballyshannon	Contractor	€95,000.00	Completed	
3	LP2175-1	Ballintra Street	Ballyshannon	Contractor	€39,000.00	Completed	
4	LP2365-2	Cashelard	Ballyshannon	Contractor	€65,500.00	Completed	
5	LP2535-1	Ballymunterhiggins	Ballyshannon	O/R	€32,000.00	Completed	
6	LS8065-1	Tievemore-Lettercran	Ballyshannon	Contractor	€70,000.00	Completed	
7	L7475-2	County Bridge	Ballyshannon	O/R	€43,000.00	Completed	
8	LS7265-2	Ballymagroarty	Ballyshannon	O/R	€28,000.00	Completed	
9	LS7515-2	Alla	Ballyshannon	O/R	€32,000.00	Completed	
10	LS8005-1	Clyhore	Ballyshannon	Contractor	€20,000.00	Completed	
11	R-231-1	Rossnowlagh rd	Ballyshannon	O/R	€10,418.00	Completed	
12	L-79651-0	Ardloughill	Ballyshannon	O/R	€15,000.00	Completed	
13	LP-2335-3	Rockhill	Ballyshannon	O/R	€45,000.00	Completed	
14	LP-2225-2	Baklydermot - Pollnaranny	Ballyshannon	O/R	€50,000.00	Completed	

No	Road Number	Road Name and/or Townland Name	Engineering Area (17)	Own Resources / Contractor	Budget	Status	Percentage Complete
1	LP1955-1/25-1	Donegal Streets	Laghey	Contractor	€99,000.00	Completed	100%

2	R232 1-4	Pettigoe Rd patches	Laghey & Ballyshannon	Contractor	€158,000.00	Completed
3	LS6585-1	Clarcam	Laghey	O/R	€20,000.00	Completed
4	LP1945-3	Lough Eske Demensne	Laghey	O/R	€79,000.00	Completed
5	LS6495-1	Heneys	Laghey	O/R	€49,000.00	Completed
6	LP1815-5	Drumboarty - Drumalost	Laghey	O/R	€37,610.00	Completed
7	LP1965-1	Friary Road	Laghey	O/R	€37,000.00	Completed
8	LP-1865-1	Ballydevitt-Drumstevlin	Laghey	O/R	€51,000.00	Completed
9	LS6421-1	Spierstown	Laghey	O/R	€69,000.00	Completed
10	L-6565-1	Birchill	Laghey	O/R	€14,000.00	Completed
11	LT19151	Mullans	Laghey	Contractor	€20,000.00	Completed
12	LP-1815-7	Sruell	Laghey	O/R	€35,000.00	Completed
13	LS-6581-1	Clarcam	Laghey	O/R	€38,530.00	Completed

€2,365,218.00 **Total
Budget**

Donegal Municipal District

Capital Improvement Works 2015

Programme of works

Footpath upgrade works						
Eng. Area	Location	Road No	Description	Budget	Status	Budget per Eng Area
14	Dunkineely	N56	The footpath above the national school	€12,000.00	Completed	€12,000.00
15	Kilcar	R 263-8	The footpath leading to St Cartha's Church, Kilcar from Kilcar town.	€9,000.00	Completed	€18,000.00
	Killybegs	L 13152	Footpath outside the Corporation Cottages just off Church Road in Killybegs	€9,000.00	Completed	
16	Ballintra	L 2175-1	Main Street, Ballintra	€9,000.00	Completed	€27,000.00
	Ballyshannon	L 2425 & L-2445-1	Erne Dale Heights & Westport	€18,000.00	Completed	

	Donegal Town	L 1905-1	Marian Villas	€18,000.00	Completed	
17	Mountcharles	L 2615-1	School crossing point at Main Street, Mountcharles	€5,000.00	Completed	€23,000.00
Total						€80,000.00

Donegal Municipal District

LOW COST REMEDIAL WORKS

Low cost safety measures						
Engineering Area	Location	Site Location	Road No	Budget (€)	Description of works	Status
17	Donegal	Haugh Donegal Town	L-1945-1	€16,000.00	Installation of safety barrier	Completed
16	Ballyshannon	Cavangarden Junction - Changed to Rosilly Bar	L-2365-1	€30,000.00	Road widening works	Completed

NRA - HD 28 Works - Management of Skid Resistance						
Engineering Area	Location	Site Location	Road No	Budget (€)	Description of works	Status
17	Donegal	Donegal PSC Roundabout	N15	€76,103.00	Surface restoration	Completed
14	Mountcharles	HD28 Turriss Hill	N15	€47,997.00	Surface restoration	Completed

NRA - HD 15 Works - Network Safety Ranking

Engineering Area	Location	Site Location	Road No	Budget (€)	Description of works	Status
17	Donegal	HD15 2015 DL_054.0 Laghey	R232 & N15	€66,000.00	Junction improvement works	Monies deferred to next year.

<p>Housing Corporate & Planning Control Services</p> <p>Planning Control Report</p>

Donegal Municipal District Meeting – 8th December 2015

Content:

- 1. Summary of planning applications for each District**
- 2. Appeals (Received & Decisions Notified).**
- 3. Significant Cases (incl. Transboundary applications)**
- 4. Other case types [Part 8's etc]**

Summary of planning applications for each Municipal District (2015)

	Period	Apps Recd	Granted	Refused	Deferred	< 2 months	Invalid
Donegal	01/01/15-31/03/15	108	60	9	11	47	12
	01/04/15-30/06/15	101	82	16	28	80	17
	01/07/15-30/09/15	84	55	5	21	38	14
	01/10/15-31/10/15	27	16	4	6	15	3
Total		320	213	34	66	180	46
Glenties	01/01/15-31/03/15	72	50	1	16	32	8
	01/04/15-30/06/15	73	55	3	19	42	7
	01/07/15-30/09/15	84	37	10	27	32	16
	01/10/15-31/10/15	32	18	3	13	13	2
Total		261	160	17	75	119	33
Inishowen	01/01/15-31/03/15	86	50	2	19	25	21
	01/04/15-30/06/15	104	69	8	24	56	21
	01/07/15-30/09/15	111	71	15	17	66	24
	01/10/15-31/10/15	30	27	6	9	25	3
Total		331	217	31	69	172	69
Letterkenny	01/01/15-31/03/15	88	52	7	21	25	8
	01/04/15-30/06/15	101	68	11	33	51	12
	01/07/15-31/08/15	94	86	5	27	65	9
	01/10/15-31/10/15	45	29	6	9	26	7
Total		328	235	29	90	167	36
Stranorlar	01/01/15-31/03/15	46	30	4	16	12	6
	01/04/15-30/06/15	74	52	5	18	42	8
	01/07/15-30/09/15	67	51	4	19	40	9
	01/10/15-31/10/15	16	15	3	6	15	1
Total		203	148	16	59	109	24
County Totals*		1443	973	127	359	747	208

Received (02/10/2015 – 13/11/2015) – 2 in total - Both in the Donegal Municipal District

Decision Notified (02/10/2015 – 13/11/2015) – 1 in total and in the Donegal Municipal District

Appeal's Received (02/10/2015 – 13/11/2015)

REF NO	APPLICANTS NAME	APP. TYPE	DECISION DATE	L.A. DECISION	DEVELOPMENT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION	BORD PLEANALA RECD DATE
13/51404	PROVENTO IRELAND PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY	P	10/09/2015	R	<p>A TEN YEAR DURATION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF 4 NO. WIND TURBINES WITH MAXIMUM BLADE DIAMETER OF 93 METRES AND A MAXIMUM BLADE TIP HEIGHT OF 126.5 METRES, EXTERNAL WIND TURBINE TRANSFORMERS, COMMUNICATION ANTENNAE, AN ELECTRICAL CONTROL BUILDING, TURBINE HARDSTANDS, A TEMPORARY CONTRACTORS COMPOUND, NEW ACCESS TRACKS AND THE UPGRADE OF EXISTING TRACKS, A NEW SITE ENTRANCE, DRAINAGE WORKS INCLUDING DRAINAGE CHANNELS AND SILT TRAPS ALONG THE ACCESS TRACK UNDER GROUND ELECTRICAL CABLES, A PERMANENT METEOROLOGICAL MAST 80 METRES IN HEIGHT, AND ALL ANCILLARY DEVELOPMENTS AND ASSOCIATED SITE DEVELOPMENT WORKS</p> <p>CRILLY, TULLYLIN, PETTIGO.</p> <p>THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT INCLUDES AN ACCESS OFF SEEGRONAN ROAD, KILLETER, CASTLEDERG, CO. TYRONE AND PROPOSED TEMPORARY ROAD WIDENING AND IMPROVEMENT WORKS ON SECTIONS OF THE TRANSPORT ROUTE IN NORTHERN IRELAND ALONG SEEGRONAN ROAD AND CRILLYS HILL ROAD WITHIN MEENAMULLAN, SEEGRONAN, CRILLYS HILL AND KILLETER TOWNLANDS, KILLETER, CASTLEDERG. CO. TYRONE</p>	07/10/2015

14/51324	SHAUN MOLLOY & SONS LTD	P	17/09/15	C	DEVELOPMENT OF A WASTE RECOVERY, RECYCLING AND TRANSFER DEPOT CONSISTING OF (A) CONSTRUCTION OF A SHED FOR SORTING/OADING OF WASTE AND RECYCLED MATERIALS; (B) CONSTRUCTION OF AN OFFICE BUILDING WITH STAFF WELFARE FACILITIES AND PARKING; (C) INSTALLATION OF A WASTERWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM AND PERCOLATION AREA TO SERVE THE OFFICE BUILDING AND (D) ALL ASSOCIATED SITE DEVELOPMENT WORKS ARDLENAGHAN & LURGANBOY, DONEGAL TOWN	
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Decision Notified (02/10/2015 – 13/11/2015) – Donegal Municipal District

REF NO	APPLICANTS NAME	APP. TYPE	DECISION DATE	L.A. DECISION	DEVELOPMENT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION	BORD PLEANALA DEC. DATE	DECISION
15/50482	CAROL STUART	P	18/06/15	C	CONSTRUCTION OF A DOMESTIC GARAGE AND ALL ASSOCIATED SITE WORKS LETTERFAD, LETTERBARROW	03/11/2015	C

Transboundary Applications

Ref.No:	N.I. Ref.No:	Date Rec'd	App./Contact	Type	Description / Location	Case Officer	Status
TB 12/03	J/2011/0082/F	08/10/2013	D.O.E. N.I.	Further Environmental Information and Revised Plans	Amendment to Windfarm at Crighshane & Crighdenis, Killeter, Castledearg.	P Kelly	Active
TB 13/04	C/2013/0248/F	08/11/2013	D.O.E. N.I.-	Environmental Impact Assessment Procedure	Windfarm at Windy Hill	P Kelly	Active
TB 14/01	J/2013/0287/F	07/01/2014	D.O.E. N.I.	Environmental Impact Assessment Procedure	Windfarm at Meenamullan near Killeter	P Kelly	Active
TB14/03	J/2014/0124/LCB	28/04/2014	D.O.E. N.I.	Consultation	Installation of Street Lighting ballards at Clady Bridge (Listed Building), Urney Road, Clady	P Kelly	Active
TB14/04	J/2011/0433/0	17/04/2014	D.O.E. N.I.	Addendum to Environmental Statement & Information	Major mixed use cross border development	P Kelly	Active
TB15/01	J/2014/0624/F	10/02/2015	D.O.E. N.I.	Initial Consultation	Wind Turbine at 290m S.W. of 30 Creevagh Road, Co. Derry	P Kelly	Active
TB15/02	A/2015/0049/F	10/202/2015	D.O.E. N.I.	Initial Consultation	Wind Turbine with a hub height on lands 108m N.W. of 18 Killea Road, Derry.	P Kelly	Active
TB15/03	LA11/2015/0066/F49/F	05/05/2015	Derry City & Strabane District Council	Initial Consultation	erection of a single wind turbine - 30m hub height with 17.3m blades, associated access and 2 no. electricity cabinets on lands 250m N.W. of 9 Elagh Road, Derry	P Kelly	

TB15/04	J/2013/0187/F Appeal Ref.No: 2014/A0180	08/09/2015	P.A.C.	Appeal Procedures	Extension to of consented Seagronan Windfarm Ltd	P Kelly	Active
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Part 8- Donegal Municipal District - None Active at 13/11/2015



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

**Community, Enterprise & Planning Directorate
Community & Development Division**

Municipal District of Donegal

8th December 2015

Community & Development Division

REPORT

1. Playground Update – Donegal Municipal District
2. IPB Pride of Place
3. Marine Tourism Update
4. Community Tourism Diaspora Initiative 2015
5. Donegal Gathering Update
6. Bundoran Tourism Officer Update
7. Public Participation Network (PPN) Update
 - a. PPN Newsletter
8. E U Bulletin



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

Municipal District: Donegal

Activity / Project Update: December 2015

Activity / Project Title	PLAYGROUNDS
Project Description/Activity	Annual Maintenance of Playgrounds 2015/2016 Annual maintenance of Playgrounds 1. Glencolmcille 2. St John Bosco, Donegal Town 3. Mall Park, Ballyshannon & Outdoor Fitness Equipment 4. Kilcar
Budget <i>(if applicable)</i>	
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	1. Works consists of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Replacement of broken equipment• Replace worn safety tiles and remove trip hazards• Grease all equipment that contains bushes, bearings, shackles, etc.• Fitting of new 'Smoking Cessation' signs• Fitting of new 'Rules' signs <p><u>Current Status:</u> Rospa Inspections and identification of necessary repairs have been carried out.</p> <p>Tender requests have issued on 12th November, 2015 with a closing date of 12 midday on 27th November, 2015.</p>
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	* Annual Maintenance Tender to be assessed and awarded before the end of December 2015.
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	Eamon Boyle Executive Engineer Three Rivers Centre Tel: 087 1788623 eamonb@donegalcoco.ie



Ceantar Bárdas Dhún na nGall
Activity/ Update

1. Activity Description	IPB Pride of Place Awards 2015
2. Activities	<p>Four Donegal initiatives qualified for the National Pride of Place Awards 2015 taking place in Ennis on 14th November 2015.</p> <p>1. Killybegs Community Council: A lot of development and initiatives in & around the town, e.g., The Niall Mór Centre, The Carpet Factory, The Mens Shed, Mooneys Boat Building Yard , The LYIT Catering College, the Community Hospital, work on large fishing vessels at the main pier. There is great & evident community involvement in the Tidy Towns (floral displays all around the town, painted derelict buildings on the main street, maintenance of old churches and graveyards kept. Campaigns were organised to keep the local community hospital and the Catering College in the town and succeeded. Tidal Wave Energy research in progress. Making the most of the Wild Atlantic Way - succeeded to have signage relocated in the town and marina being developed at present. Great awareness of funding and development resources. A vibrant, interesting and go-ahead town to live in and to visit.</p> <p>Coiste Pobal na gCealla Beaga: Coiste pobail an bhaile gníomhach i ngach gné den bhaile agus port an-ghníomhach le tionscnaimh éagsúla ar fud an bhaile mar Ionad Niall mór, Ionad Oidhreachta na gCairpéadaí, Oibreacha ar na loing mhóra san phort, monarcáin báid Mooneys, Coláiste Lónadóireachta an LYIT, Ospidéal Pobail, slachta baile agus go leor eile. Cur chun cinn na Gaeilge tábhachtach don cheantar agus ag comhoibriú le ceantracha comharsanachta mar Gleann Cholmcille, An Charraig, Teileann, Si Liaig, Ard an Rátha srl. Ag úsaid agus ag obair le Failte Éireann ar Shlí an Atlantaigh Fhiáin. Airdeallach ar fhoinsí forbartha agus airgeadais ábhartha chun an baile a choinneáil mar bhaile turasóireachta, oidhreachta, oideasuil, tionscadála, poirt agus áit mhaith le cónaí ann don phobal ar fad.</p> <p>2. Gortahork Community Council: Micí Mac Gabhann's House/Heritage Centre a great heritage & tourism attraction; various developments developed at pier area since last year, e.g., the paving, walkways, seating, tables and walks adjacent to the area of Magheraroarty. Various activities take place in the Community Centre, e.g., the Gael Linn Coláiste Gaeilge which is attended by approx 800 people during the Summer and 300 at Easter; the Youth Club who have a 10 year lease on the Youth Centre upstairs, which was designed by them, i.e., a disabled access was put in place following last year's adjudication, the interior design and furnishings was chosen by the Youth and it is utilised and kept by them all the time; There is a ladies committee and a mens committee and various activities such as local crafting, visits to other suchlike projects, quizzes, classes such as computer literacy, language, keep-fit classes etc. A lot of fundraising is carried out in fun/interesting ways. Developments taking place in association with the Wild Atlantic Way. An all-inclusive society exists in the Magheraroarty area and it is a great place to visit and to live in.</p> <p>Coiste Pobail Ghort a'Choice: Coiste gníomhach a thaispeánann díogras agus meas ar a gceantar, ar a dteanga agus ar a bpobal go mór. Go leor imeachtaí ar siúl do gach aois agus cúraim a thabhairt do gach duine. An Coláiste Gaeilge a</p>

reachtáil ag an Cháisc agus i rith an tSamhraidh; Club Óige gníomhach agus páirteach in go leor imeachtaí san cheantar, san chontae agus go náisiúnta agus á n-ionad féin le háiseanna riachtanach acu chun cruinniú ann; Turais speisialta i rith na bliana do dhaoine chun cuairt ar thionscnaimh agus áiteacha eile; Cúrsaí spóirt do gach aois; Ionad Oidhreachta Mhicí Mac Gabhann athoscailte, bainistithe agus suim mhór ann; Fáilte roimh thurasóirí agus cuairteoirí i gcónaí; Limistéar an chéidh cóirithe agus glanta ar fad; Siúlóidí eagsúla san cheantar. An coiste ag obair le heagrais nar an Comhairle Contae, Údarás na Gaeltachta, ETB, Foras na Gaeilge, Gael Linn, DLDC agus go leor eile agus ní ligeann said a dhath thart. Ag obair ar an Shlí an Atlantaigh Fhíain go mór. Seo áit mhaith le cónaí ann agus chun cuairt air am ar bith.

3. The Workhouse, Dunfanaghy: Developed considerably over the past 10 years as a tourist, children’s activities, heritage, community and cultural centre. Local walks have been developed by the centre in the Dunfanaghy and Horn Head area and guided nature walks are in demand. The Tidy Towns committee operate from the centre and are very much involved in various festivals such as the annual Dunfanaghy Jazz & Blues, Errigal Arts, St Patrick’s Day, Halloween and other seasonal activities throughout the year. The playground has been a great addition to the Workhouse. There is a restaurant and craft shop in the building and the centre is utilised by locals & visitors throughout the year. It is a hub of activity and visited by tourists more and more recently. The Wild Atlantic Way has showcased the various activities to draw tourists/visitors to the town regarding eateries, singing pubs, surfing, horseriding, walks, beaches etc.

Teach na mBocht Dhun Fionnachaidh: Ionad shaibhir i saol an phobail san cheantar. Ionad oidhreachta, cultúrtha, turasóireachta, dúlra agus pobail go mór é. Fáilte roimh an phobal agus cuairteoirí. Ionad súgartha den scoth agus áiseanna ar fáil mar mar bialann, ríomhaireacht, cúrsaí éagsúla (cniotáil, dúlra, stair agus cúraim páistí le míchumais), club leabhair agus ionad cruinnithe. Ag obair le feiltí éagsúla san cheantar (Feile an Earagail. Jazz & Blues, La fheile Phádraig, Imeachtaí Shamhna) agus le heagrais eile. Eolach ar eagrais forbnartha agus airgeadais.

4. The Sliabh Sneacht Centre, Drumfries: A Diaspora, Cultural, Tourism and Heritage centre, officially opened in 2014 by Tip O’Neill’s son, Tommy, from Boston. It hosts concerts, meetings, indoor sports, classes of various kinds, e.g., robotics, dancing, computer literacy, etc. It houses the Tip O’Neill Suite where the O’Neill family and interested parties have donated photographs, paintings and other memorabilia to the centre. It also houses a genealogy centre for the area. A wedding took place in the centre in August that attracted a lot of media attention. The North West cycling club use the centre as their point of starting & finishing. The Sliabh Sneacht walk has been developed by the community organisers and toilet & shower facilities are provided for their use. The local school uses the facilities. The organisation uses the Wild Atlantic Way to promote all their facilities and welcomes everyone to use and visit their wonderful facilities.

Ionad Sliabh Sneacht, Droim Fraoich, Bun Cranncha: Ionad nuathógtha chun freastal ar an phobal agus ar chuairoteoirí agus ar thurasóirí. Ionad Diaspóra, oidhreachta agus cultúrtha. Oscailte le bliain anois, ta go leor ar siul san Ionad mar cúrsaí a reachtail ann mar robotaci, damhsa, spóirt; Seomraí cruinnithe ar cíós leis an ETB agus HSE chun cúrsaí slainte, ríomhaireacht srl a reachtail; Ionad Ginealas lonnaithe ann; Rothaíocht an North Pole (ceangailte le grúpaí rothaíocht in Albain, Sasain, san Tuiscart agus i nÉirinn; Áiseanna leithris & cithfholcadáin ar fáil do aclaí; Siúlóids SI Sneacht forbairte; Áiseanna leictreach/uisce do champail taobh amuigh den Ionad; Ceolchoirmeacha, freastal ar thórraimh, bainisí beaga agus ócáidí cóisir. Ceangailte le Slí an Atlantaigh Fhíain.

Buiséad/Budget	€6,000 (Contae)
Teagmhálaí Contact Person	Caitlín Uí Chochláin 087 9084888



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

Municipal District: Donegal

General Maritime Activity

Activity / Project Title	Marine Tourism Marketing & Development
Project Description/Activity	The Marine Tourism Marketing & Development Plan covers a range of locations, activities and projects.
Budget (if applicable)	N/A
Progress to date within the last two months/quarter 3 - inclusive of current status	<p>Cool Route Meeting A meeting of the Cool Route partner delegates took place on 27th and 28th October in the Abbey Hotel, Donegal Town (more details available in the Cool Route report).</p> <p>WILDSEA Europe Meeting A meeting of the WILDSEA Europe project delegates took place on 8th and 9th October in the Clanree Hotel, Letterkenny. Delegates from Spain, Italy, Croatia, Northern Ireland and Donegal were in attendance. The meeting coincided with the Donegal Tourism Ltd 'Connecting the Wild Atlantic Way Tourism Conference'. Project delegates had the opportunity to network with local project stakeholders at the conference and were also given a tour of the county including Malin Head with the guidance of Emmett Johnston from National Parks and Wildlife. Opportunities to develop Malin Head as a world class marine national park were discussed. A list of 15 stakeholders/tourism businesses has been compiled and these businesses will be contacted in due course to engage them with the project.</p> <p>Poll an tSnamh A feasibility study has been completed on the old swimming pool in Rannafast. The feasibility study found no issues in terms of the Natura Impact Statement for the site. The feasibility study details a proposed marine leisure facility in the area including pontoons and the development of the old swimming pool. Further funding from the EU or another source will be required in order for works to commence. Failte Ireland and Údarás na Gaeltachta have both provided letters of support for this project.</p> <p>Gaeltacht Meeting The Marine Tourism Marketing & Development Officer recently met with a group of 30 tourism businesses in Gweedore and delivered a presentation on opportunities to promote their business. Ongoing support is being provided to these businesses to help them get listed on MalinWaters.com and Govisitdonegal.com. Some of these businesses are now stakeholders in other European projects.</p> <p>Killybegs Tourism The new website is continuing to perform for tourism in Killybegs and the Killybegs tourism Facebook page has over 880 likes to date. The flags and town map were a welcomed addition to the town in</p>

particular for the arrival of cruise ships. Donegal County Council is in discussion with Cruise Ireland the marketing body for cruise tourism in international markets about membership with the aim of increasing cruise tourism into 2016 and beyond.

Marine Infrastructure

Greencastle, Teelin and Mountcharles pier pontoons were put in place but have been removed from the waters for protection from storm damage during winter months. They will return in the Spring. The new pontoon is in place at Bunagee Harbour and will now be featured in the Welcome Anchorages publication in 2016.

Sliabh Liag Branding and Website Development

The Sliabh Liag Facebook page is growing from strength to strength with over 4963 likes on the page. The Facebook page has been set up at www.facebook.com/sliabhliagexperience The website www.sliabhliag.com is now live and has already received several thousand visitors. A number of promotional materials have been developed including a brochure, flyer, nomadic stand, pop-ups and online banners that will be used in the future promotion of Sliabh Liag.

Fanad Lighthouse

The Fanad Lighthouse Facebook page is performing well. <https://www.facebook.com/fanadlighthouse> and has over 1574 likes. A new manager has been appointed to Fanad Lighthouse and will begin work in December 2015 at which point training will be provided by Donegal Tourism Ltd for the new manager on the booking engine and website CMS. The website can be viewed at www.fanadlighthouse.com

World Boat Angling Championships

The World Boat Angling Championships took place in Bundoran and Mullaghmore in September 2015 and MalinWaters provided sponsorship and other support such as digital marketing. 22 teams of 5-8 anglers from all over the world took part in this week long event.

Crana Fest 2015

The Crana Fest 2015 kayaking event took place in October 2015 in Buncrana with sponsorship from MalinWaters. The event was very well attended with competitors taking part from Ireland, Scotland the UK and further afield. The event was organised by Moville based company Inish Adventures. The event continues to grow year on year.


All Ireland Rowing Championships 2016

A new website has been development to promote rowing and the All Ireland Championships in Donegal www.donegalbayrowingclub.com The website features a blog, social media integration, e-mail marketing options etc. Training will be provided to the rowing club members so that they can update the Wordpress CMS system themselves.

Tides of Time Project

The final Atlantic Area Programme manual has not been published however the project is still being developed. A list of over 15 interested partners in this project has been compiled. The proposed Atlantic Area Programme project called 'Tides of Time' is in circulation to potential partners around Europe including Sail West partners. Expressions of interest have been received and the EU Unit are working to determine the best project partners to form consortium. This project incorporates both education and tourism in the development of a marine touring route of locations where marine events of historic significance took place such as the Spanish Armada,

	<p>World Wars etc. Donegal has a huge amount of shipwrecks. This project seeks to educate, to conserve and enhance locations of historic importance and to promote the coast a location of marine heritage and history. It is likely that the call for submission of applications will now take place in January 2016.</p> <p>NEA 3 Project Donegal County Council is working with the council in Brittany on NEA 3 an Atlantic Area project. Applications will be submitted for consideration in Q1 of 2016. Donegal County Council has specified the areas of interest to them as part of this project that would provide the best benefits for Donegal. The project is based on the development of three centres of excellence including tourism, waste and seaside sports, industry & trade services and pleasure boating, ports development. The project seeks to develop a 'Destination Atlantic' to promote marine tourism activities on the Atlantic coastlines. Donegal County Council has made suggestions as to a new name for the project as requested by Brittany County Council.</p> <p>Sail West The new Sail West Marketing Plan has been completed and is currently under review pending approval from partners. (A full update is available in the Sail West report).</p>
<p>Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarter 4 reporting period</p>	<p>WILDSEA Europe Project Following the recent meeting in Donegal, it has been agreed that Donegal County Council will be responsible for the video production element of the project. Procurement for this video production element will take place in Q4 of 2015 with a view to completing the video in the Spring of 2016. Partners are providing footage from every region along the route. Procurement for the new website has been completed and a company in Spain appointed by lead Spanish partners. The website will be in English initially with translation expected later. It is due for launch in the Spring of 2016. This website will feature and promote the 15 tourism business stakeholders in Donegal.</p> <p>FEDETON It was announced that the next meeting of the FEDETON delegation would take place in County Donegal. Discussions are currently underway in terms of the organisation of this event, which is expected to take place in February 2016. The exact date and venue have yet to be confirmed.</p> <p>Sliabh Liag Project Work will commence on updating the content on the Sliabh Liag website. The Facebook and Twitter pages will continue to be maintained by Donegal Tourism Ltd. The TripAdvisor page will also be managed here.</p> <p>Arranmore Island Website Work has commenced on the new website for Arranmore Island with an expected completion date in December 2015. The island community groups are working to develop content, a new CMS has been installed and the website is being converted to a mobile responsive design.</p> <p>Fanad Lighthouse Developments The new Fanad Lighthouse manager will be provided with training by Donegal Tourism Ltd on the new website CMS, booking engine and donation system with a view to handing over the management of these systems. The Facebook page and website will continue to be updated and managed by Donegal Tourism Ltd until January 2016. Bookings have been received for the Christmas period and this is when the lighthouse is expected to open pending no complications.</p>

	<p>The official launch date has yet to be confirmed.</p> <p>All Ireland Rowing Championships 2016 Work is ongoing with Donegal Bay Rowing Club to develop promotional materials for the event next year. Also, discussions are taking place regarding the Maritime Festival that will take place to compliment the rowing championships that same weekend.</p> <p>Venture 16 The Venture 16 World Powerboat Championships are coming to Killybegs in the summer of 2016. Donegal Tourism Ltd and Donegal County Council are engaged in discussions with community groups around creating an event.</p>
<p>Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i></p>	<p>Joy Harron Marine Marketing Development Officer Donegal Tourism Ltd Donegal Public Service Centre Drumlonagher Donegal Town Co. Donegal</p>  <p>Tel: + 353 (74) 9724431 Mobile: +353 (87) 0619360 E-mail: info@malinwaters.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/malinwaters Twitter: www.twitter.com/sailmalinwaters LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/joyharron</p>

Sail West Activity

Activity / Project Title	'Sail West' project promoting the MalinWaters brand.
Project Description/Activity	The Sail West project aims to develop marine tourism within the shared maritime regions of North West Ireland, Northern Ireland and Western Scotland. The project is funded by the EU INTERREG IVA programme. Led by DCC the project commenced in 2010 and good progress was made in the initial few years. The project will now continue following the completion of INTERREG funding through the valued financial and advisory support of the existing partners.
Progress to date within the last two months/quarter 1-3 - inclusive of current status	Marine Blast App Ian Hurrell creator of the Marine Blast app recently came to Donegal to attend the Cool Route meeting where he gave a presentation about the app during the local stakeholder workshop and offered local businesses the opportunity to get listed. The marinas, pontoons and coastal attractions of Donegal have now been listed on the popular Marine Blast app for iPhones. The app previously only featured the UK and Scotland but now lists Donegal and Sligo, plus Northern Ireland as part of the MalinWaters, Sail West project. This app is free to download and is hugely popular with the sailing community. It is

available for iPhone and will soon be available on Android.

MalinWaters.com Website Statistics

Q3 has seen over 130% increase in traffic to MalinWaters.com with the new mobile responsive design, increasingly traffic is coming from mobile devices. New content developed in the next phase plus the marketing campaigns early next year will further increase traffic with over 100k visitors expected to view the website in 2016.

Yachting Life Advert

An advert was placed in the September/October 2015 issue of Yachting Life magazine. This issue was chosen as it is distributed at two major sailing events – The Scotland Boat Show and The Southampton Boat Show with an additional 20,000 copies circulated on top of the regular print quantities for this purpose.

Marketing Plan

The MalinWaters Marketing Plan for 2016 has been completed and is currently being reviewed by partners. The marketing plan contains a detailed digital marketing strategy which will see the deployment of the latest digital tactics to increase MalinWaters brand awareness and increase business for tourism partners in the regions.

MalinWaters Video Production

The new MalinWaters video continues to get views YouTube. The link to the video is <https://youtu.be/tqsYexmDGJk>

MalinWaters Website Development

Functionality updates have now been completed on MalinWaters.com, new completely mobile friendly CMS system installed, updates to backend CMS for SEO and future proofing complete. Front end design remains the same, functionality on the backend of the website has been revamped and future proofed.

Facebook Paid Advertising Campaign

Several paid Facebook advertising campaigns have been completed with a selection of promotional banners used in conjunction with Facebook news feed advertising to reach a specific target audience. Facebook adverts in French and German languages have been launched to target markets in the local language. The Facebook page now has over 6.3k likes and continues to grow.

Sail Scotland Campaign

MalinWaters banners are now live on SailScotland.co.uk. There are also several new blog posts dedicated to promoting MalinWaters now published on SailScotland.co.uk. These blog posts have been shared on Sail Scotland's Facebook and Twitter pages with a combined reach of over 30k of a targeted marine tourism audience.

MalinWaters Map Reprint

The new map has been printed and was distributed at promotional events, marinas and harbours throughout the MalinWaters regions.

Chelsea Magazine Company Ltd

The display advertising campaign including MPU and leaderboard is complete on Classic Boat, Sailing Today and Yachts and Yachting with a combined audience of over 67k web, 49k e-mail subscribers and 142k social media followers. The campaign also incorporated an e-mail marketing element with MalinWaters newsletters being distributed across the network.

Sailing Today Campaign

A new online and print campaign for 2016 has been agreed with Sail Scotland to promote MalinWaters. This will include a two page spread


	<p>in the Sail Scotland publication, e-mail, social media and banner advertising campaigns.</p> <p>Google Ad Words Campaign The Google Ad Words campaign completed at the end of March 2015 drove over 10k visits to MalinWaters.com. Another Google Ad words campaign is planned for 2016.</p> <p>MalinWaters Design Creatives and Video Production A professional suite of over 20 banner adverts, Facebook covers and YouTube/Twitter background imagery have been designed to promote MalinWaters and represent each region equally. These will continue to be used across all marketing channels in 2016.</p> <p>E-mail Marketing E-mail Marketing is ongoing with a MalinWaters dedicated e-mail sent out to over 700 subscribers in which County Donegal is promoted along with the partner regions. The subscribe tab that has been added to the MalinWaters Facebook page continues to gather additional subscriptions via social media.</p> <p>Time Inc E-mail Campaign Time Inc 3rd Party e-mail campaign completed with 7 emails sent, 3 solus varieties, over 162k reach. The e-mails were sent to Practical Boat Owner, Yachting Monthly, Yachting World, Motorboat and Yachting, YBW.com. Another campaign for 2016 is in development.</p>
<p>Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarter 4 reporting period</p>	<p>Partnership Agreement 2016 Due to the success of the project, partners have agreed to continue to support MalinWaters and to remain in the partnership by contributing themselves financially to the project with a view to applying for future EU funding and participating in other projects. This agreement will be reviewed on an annual basis. Údarás na Gaeltachta has now joined the Sail West project as a full partner for the first time.</p> <p>Marketing Plan 2016 The Marketing Plan for 2016 has been completed with new campaigns planned for the coming year. Partners have been encouraged to contribute to this plan and make suggestions for campaigns in their particular regions.</p> <p>Website Content Updates Website content updating is ongoing. More itineraries to include Bunagee have been planned. Content updates include areas such as the events section, itineraries, the blog etc. Details of marinas, activity providers etc. also need to be updated.</p> <p>Q4 Project Targets Continued promotion of MalinWaters as a marine tourism destination to niche target markets.</p> <p>Social Media Continued updating and development of the social media channels.</p> <p>E-mail Marketing In Q4 we will continue the MalinWaters e-mail marketing campaign with regular newsletters sent out to subscribers.</p> <p>Meeting with Partners A meeting with Sail West partners will be arranged for early 2016 in order to plan marketing activity for next year.</p> <p>Cool Route Engagement In April 2016 a stakeholder workshop is being organised as part of the</p>

	<p>Cool Route project in Scotland, it is expected that Sail West partners will be invited in order to discuss future opportunities to collaborate.</p> <p>Strategic Events Calls for 2016</p> <p>A survey of proposals for strategic events will be sent out to all Sail West partners and known event organisers requesting the submission of proposals for 2016 events. All proposals will be reviewed and agreed upon by all partners before confirmation of sponsorship for events.</p>
<p>Contact Person (to include telephone number & e-mail address)</p>	<p>Joy Harron Marine Marketing Development Officer Donegal Tourism Ltd Donegal Public Service Centre Drumlonagher Donegal Town Co. Donegal</p> <p>MalinWaters^o</p> <p>Tel: + 353 (74) 9724431 Mobile: +353 (87) 0619360 E-mail: info@malinwaters.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/malinwaters Twitter: www.twitter.com/sailmalinwaters LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/joyharron</p>

Cool Route Activity

<p>Activity / Project Title</p>	<p>'Cool Route' Cruising Oceans on Latitudes above 51^o North</p>
<p>Project Description/Activity</p>	<p>In March 2015 Cork Institute of Technology were notified that they were successful in their bid for INTEREG VB funding under the Northern Periphery & Arctic programme 2014-2020.</p> <p>Donegal County Council is a project partner on the Cool Route project. Other project partners include Glasgow Caledonian University, Royal Cork Yacht Club, Derry City Council, Port Authority Torshavn Faroe Islands, Blue Seas Marinas Scotland, Western Norway Research Institute and associated partners Donegal Tourism, the Irish Cruising Club and Sail Scotland.</p> <p>The project merges all aspects of the practical logistics and business potential to establish a bi-directional yacht cruising route along the offshore areas of the Northern Periphery Area, stretching from the South of Ireland, to the UK (Northern Ireland and Western Scotland) on onwards to Norway.</p> <p>As an eco-tourism product, exploiting the natural resources of the zone in a manner that is sustainable and environmentally viable; this new sea route will be marketed internationally and will have a common branding, booking and information system.</p> <p>The objective of the project is to produce a <i>Business and Marketing Plan</i>, together with a Commercialisation Plan, together with and accompanied by a <i>Logistical Study and Practical Guide</i> for potential entrepreneurs in the NPA</p>

	<p>zone, for the establishment of small mooring, berthing and ancillary facilities- such as shower blocks and laundry facilities for cruising yachts in remote NPA coastal areas; providing new market opportunities in sectors such as Tourism and Catering, Craft Production, Food, Marine and General Engineering Services, for remote local communities, mainly during the months of mid-April to mid-October.</p> <p>These opportunities will importantly also promote economic activity and interaction between communities across the programme area. During the project Donegal County Council and Donegal Tourism will lead on work package 2, which is external project communications and product dissemination which will look at the development of a project website and logo and develop a social media communications strategy. The project kicked off with a partner meeting in Cork in April 2015 and we can look forward to the positive contribution this project will make to yachting tourism to the County and the NW. The project is managed by Joy Harron, Marine Tourism Marketing and Development Officer with Donegal Tourism Ltd with assistance from Claire Gallagher, Donegal County Council.</p>
<p>Budget (if applicable)</p>	<p>Total of €1.26 Million Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme Funding for all partners.</p>
<p>Progress to date within the last two months/quarter 2 -inclusive of current status</p>	<p>Project Meeting Hosted in Donegal Cool Route delegates recently met in Donegal Town from 27th – 28th October. This visit to Donegal included a partner meeting and also a stakeholder workshop. Each partner was required to present an update on their individual project work packages. Donegal County Council/Donegal Tourism Ltd representative Joy Harron presented an update on work package 2 – communications and dissemination of information. A stakeholder workshop was held on day 2 with local tourism businesses, sailing clubs etc. invited to attend. The workshop was very positive and it was important to engage with and get feedback from local stakeholders. The next meeting is due to take place in Glasgow in April 2016.</p> <p>Publicity Press release and photos of the project meeting in Donegal have been circulated to media in Donegal as well as all national and relevant international media outlets e.g. Irish Times and Irish Examiner.</p> <p>Social Media Donegal County Council/Donegal Tourism Ltd have set up all the social media channels for the Cool Route project as follows: Facebook: www.facebook.com/eucolroute Twitter: www.twitter.com/eucolroute Please like and follow Cool Route online to keep up to date with project activities and progress.</p> <p>LinkedIn A closed Cool Route group has been set up on LinkedIn where project partners can discuss and share ideas.</p> <p>Mail Chimp – E-mail Marketing An e-mail marketing account with Mail Chimp has been setup and project partners details imported. Mail Chimp has also been installed on the new website to begin gathering consumer e-mail addresses for future e-mail marketing purposes.</p>

	<p>Cool Route Website The new Cool Route website is now live at www.sailcoolroute.eu</p>
<p>Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarter 4 reporting period</p>	<p>Next Meeting The next project meeting will take place in Glasgow in April 2016.</p> <p>Cool Route Conference Call A Cool Route conference call is scheduled for 1st December 2015 between all partners in order to discuss project progress. This call will be to discuss the meeting in Donegal this October.</p> <p>Social Media Post regular project updates on Facebook and Twitter will be ongoing.</p> <p>Cool Route Website Further updates on project progress, news stories and activities associated with the project will be updated on the website.</p> <p>Design Creatives Procurment will take place to appoint a digital agency to design a suite of creatives relating to project Cool Route.</p> <p>Promotional Materials To procure for a range of promotional materials about the Cool Route project that can be used both offline and online including a brochure, pull up stands and posters.</p> <p>Project Presentation To create a project presentation in PowerPoint outlining the project objectives for use by all partners.</p> <p>Photography Donegal County Council/Donegal Tourism Ltd have responsibility for photography relating to the project. Dropbox is continuously used to start to build up an image bank of project photos.</p>
<p>Contact Person (to include telephone number & e-mail address)</p>	<p>Joy Harron Cool Route Communications Manager Donegal Tourism Ltd Donegal Public Service Centre Drumlonagher Donegal Town Co. Donegal</p> 



Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme

2014-2020

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

Municipal District: Countywide

Activity / Project Update

Activity / Project Title	Community Tourism Diaspora Initiative 2015
Project Description/Activity	The key objective of the Fund is to provide support to local and community event organisers and activities / projects that will harness diaspora links for the benefit of local and community tourism. The Fund is being administered by your local city / county council.
Budget (if applicable)	€ 32,223.00
Progress to date within the last two months-inclusive of current status	<p>Funding draw-down process is coming to its final stage; Post-Event Reports from the festival organisers should be submitted before Christmas.</p> <p>Via E-mail to: iga@countydonegaltourism.com</p> <p>OR by Post:</p> <p>Tourism Community Support FAO: Iga Lawne Donegal PSC Drumlonagher Donegal Town F94 DK6C</p> <p>5 events are due to take place in December.</p>
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly reporting period	<p>Anticipated completion of the project incl. processing payments – early January 2016*.</p> <p>*Timely completion of the project is subject to submissions of required documentation by the event organisers.</p>
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	Iga Lawne, Tourism Community Support Officer, Donegal Tourism Ltd E: iga@countydonegaltourism.com / T: 074-972 4475



Activity / Project Update

Activity / Project Title	Donegal Gathering website and Facebook www.donealgathering.com
Project Description/Activity	Donegal Gathering is a key initiative of the Donegal Diaspora project bringing together young and old, from near and far, for a truly unique experience. The Donegal Gathering calendar is packed with amazing exhibitions, fun festivals, cracking concerts and sporting events taking place in Donegal.
Budget (if applicable)	N/A
Progress to date within the last two months-inclusive of current status	<p>Donegal Gathering website</p> <p>Donegal Gathering statistics show continuous increase of visits to the website in 2015 compare to last year.</p> <p>Total website views since January 2015: 133,530 Total Visitors since January 2015: 67,003 <i>(total website views in 2015 have exceeded the website views in 2013 and 2014)</i></p> <p>Monthly website views 2014 vs 2015:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sept:- 2014: 4,020 / 2015: 9,302 (+131%) • Oct:- 2014: 5,059 / 2015: 9,416 (+86%) • Nov:- 2014: 2,466 / 2015: approx. 4,000 (approx.+62%) <p>Website views - Q1-Q3 of 2014 vs Q1-Q3 of 2015:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jan-Mar:- 2014: 14,107 / 2015: 25,859 (+83%) • Apr-Jun:- 2014: 18,373 / 2015: 42,880 (+133%) • Jul-Sept:- 2014: 24,708 / 2015: 52,199 (+111%) <p>Monthly number of visitors 2014 vs 2015:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sept:- 2014: 2,169 / 2015: 4,985 (+130%) • Oct:- 2014: 2,401 / 2015: 4,472 (+86%) • Nov:- 2014: 1,321 / 2015: approx. 2,000 (approx.+51%) <p>Visitors to the website - Q1-Q3 of 2014 vs Q1-Q3 of 2015:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jan-Mar:- 2014: 6,298 / 2015: 12,134 (+92%) • Apr-Jun:- 2014: 8,806 / 2015: 23,544 (+167%) • Jul-Sept:- 2014: 12,574 / 2015: 25,211 (+100%)
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly reporting period	Website stats update for Q4 2015 & 2015 All Year Stats
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	Iga Lawne, Tourism Community Support Officer E: iga@countydonegaltourism.com / T: 074-9724475



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

Municipal District: Donegal

Activity / Project Update

Activity / Project Title	Bundoran Tourism Officer Update
Project Description	Promotional Activities
Current Activities	<p><u>Discover Bundoran Brochure 2016</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee meeting held.• Letters printed for each business in Bundoran to come on board for the business directory.• Committee tasks assigned.• Competition announced for cover photo for brochure. <p><u>Information Panels at Fairy Bridges/Wishing Chair Bundoran</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 information panels to be installed beside the Fairy Bridges/Wishing Chair/Crash Memorial at Roguey Walk, Bundoran.• Environmental reports submitted to Planning Authority.• Content for panels being gathered.• Planning permission to be submitted to Planning Authority. <p><u>Recruitment of new members for the Discover Bundoran Tourism Partnership</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A drive to recruit new businesses into Discover Bundoran to raise funds for running of tourist office and events in 2016.• Letter written to all businesses in town with membership details. <p><u>Bundoran Christmas Lights</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public meeting and online consultation held.• Letter issued to businesses to purchase Christmas lights.• Lights ordered. <p><u>Bundoran Tourist Office</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ongoing management of Bundoran Tourist Office.• Training and familiarisation continues for TUS staff members.• Administration tasks allocated. <p><u>Discover Bundoran website and social media</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ongoing management of www.discoverbundoran.com and social media channels.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve the content. Update more frequently with content that matters to Bundoran target market. <p><u>Marketing of Bundoran Waterworld</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marketing plan for year 25 (2016) of Waterworld. Gathering of information for next year's marketing plan which will include 25th birthday celebrations
Contact Person	Shane Smyth – shane@discoverbundoran.com 087 3737817



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

Municipal District: Donegal

Activity / Project Update

Activity / Project Title	Public Participation Network (PPN)
Project Description/Activity	Link through with organisations from the community & voluntary sector to have a voice on Council decision making bodies and structures
Budget (if applicable)	
Progress to date within the last two months/quarter* - inclusive of current status	<p>Four levels of PPN:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> County Plenary – Now 430 registered members Municipal District PPN Secretariat – 19 member organising committee of the PPN. Had their seventh meeting on November 3rd Linkage Groups. There are 8 of these specific interest sub groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Inclusion – Held their 4th meeting on the 17th November. Two reps to North West Regional Drugs & Alcohol task force to be nominated from this group. Tourism – Held first meeting on the 17th September - elected 2 community reps onto Tourism Forum Environment – Held first meeting on 29th September. Second meeting due to take place the 24th November Heritage – Held first meeting on 10th September, elected 2 reps onto Heritage Forum Community Safety & Joint Policing – Held first meeting on 15th September – elected the 7
<i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	

	<p>community reps onto Joint Policing Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Older Persons Forum – Held first meeting on the 15th October. Reps from older persons forum to attend a National Older Persons Council Convention in Fingal on the 19th and 20th November. Reps from the forum will also attend a HSE quality improvement division listening meeting on the 23rd November in LK PSC. • Fishing and Aquaculture – First meeting of this group due to held in early December. Representation on SPCs to be provided from this group • Community & Voluntary – In the process of being established <p>Newsletter - First PPN newsletter was launched in October. Gave update on progress of the PPN since inception and the committee seats that have been filled by the PPN</p>
<p>Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County plenary AGM to be held. Executive planning body of the secretariat to be set up to coordinate the AGM • Hold first meeting of fishing & aquaculture linkage group, • Community & Voluntary linkage group to be set up. Community & Voluntary reps on the LCDC and SPCs will report to this group
<p><i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i></p> <p>Contact Person (to include telephone number & e-mail address)</p>	<p>Bobby Smith 074 9194276</p>

NUACHTLITIR LRP DHÚN NA nGALL THE DONEGAL PPN NEWSLETTER

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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Special points of interest:

- Second Annual General Meeting of the County PPN will take place this November
- Linkage Groups remain open to join. We would encourage the general membership at the PPN to become involved in the linkage groups as it offers groups to participate directly in influencing the agenda of committees that deal with subject matter that are of interest to them.

The PPN linkage group registration form:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DonegalPPNLinkageGroups>

FÁILTIÚ

A chairde,

Tá lúcháir ar Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Poiblí Dhún na nGall an nuachtlitir seo a sheoladh chun tú a choinneáil ar an eolas faoin obair atá ar bun ag an Líonra. Ós rud é gurb é seo an chéad eagrán den nuachtlitir, ba mhaith linn an deis seo a ghlacadh tuairisc a thabhairt duit ar dhul chun cinn an Líonra Rannpháirtíochta.

Tá an Líonra déanta sa dóigh is go mbeidh ról ag eagraíochtaí pobail i dtaca le ceapadh polasaí agus maoirseacht ar rialtas áitiúil agus ar struchtúir ábhartha, agus mar sin de, tá súil againn go gcoinneofar ar an eolas tú fríd an nuachtlitir seo maidir le réimsí oibre a bhféadfadh suim a bheith ag d'eagraíocht iontu agus bealaí inar féidir le d'eagraíocht a bheith páirteach.

WELCOME

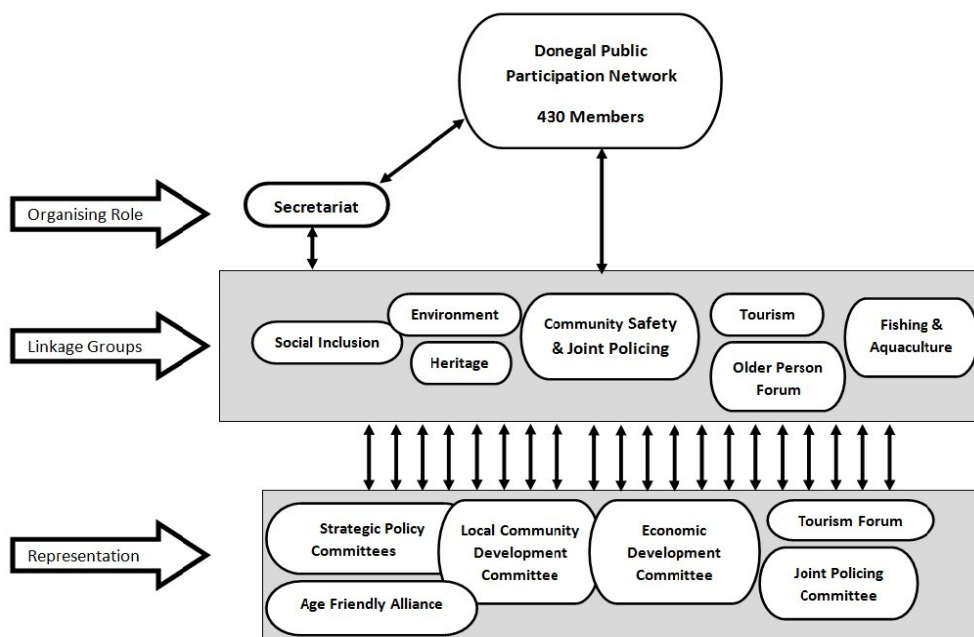
Donegal Public Participation Network (PPN) is delighted to be launching this newsletter to provide community organisations with an update on the work of the PPN.

As this is the first edition of our newsletter we would like to take this opportunity to update you on the progress of the PPN since its establishment in the Autumn of 2014.

The function of Donegal PPN is to give community organisations a role in the policy making and oversight of local government through participation in its decision making structures.

This newsletter provides an update to the core membership of the PPN on how this role has been fulfilled over the past year and how the voice of the Community & Voluntary, Social Inclusion and Environment sectors is being heard at committees of Council and how we are shaping policies and services that affect our community.

The link to register as a member of Donegal PPN, along with additional information on the PPN, is available at <http://www.donegalcoco.ie/community/supportingcommunities/>



TUAIRISC CHUN DÁTA AR AN LRP / PPN UPDATE

Donegal PPN is being managed by a 19 person secretariat that were selected at the inaugural meeting of the PPN in November 2014. The secretariat members are drawn from Environment, Social Inclusion and Community & Voluntary organisations as well as groups that are located from within each of the five municipal districts of the County.

The current membership of the Secretariat can be seen via the link below:

<http://www.donegalcoco.ie/media/donegalcountyc/community/pdfs/PPN%20Secretariat%20Membership.pdf>

The main function of the PPN Structure are to ensure that community based organisations are afforded an opportunity to influence Local Authority Policy through participation in it's various structures. The PPN secretariat have been responsible for organising this representation role over the past year with over 30 representatives from various community organisations throughout the County now taking membership on 16 Council Committee's.

NASCGRÚPAÍ / LINKAGE GROUPS

Linkage groups are designed to be the engines of participation in the PPN structures. The Linkage groups allow members groups with a common interest to meet to discuss the topic with similar community groups and organisations with a view to having these concerns raised and dealt with at the relevant Council committee.

Donegal PPN to date has established seven linkage groups as follows:

1. Social Inclusion
2. Heritage
3. Community Safety & Joint Policing
4. Environment
5. Tourism
6. Older Persons Forum
7. Fishing & Aquaculture

All PPN members are free to join any of the above groups and registration remains open through the link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DonegalPPNLinkageGroups>

The function of these linkage groups is to elect PPN representatives to Council & related Community structures that deal with this specific interest area. The PPN representatives are the voice of the group and bring issues/proposals raised by the group to the relevant committees. These representatives then report back to the group on a regular basis to receive feedback and further guidance thus creating a two-way communication flow.

CRUINNITHE NA NASCGHRÚPAÍ

LINKAGE GROUP MEETINGS

Cuimsiú Sóisialta / Social Inclusion

The Social Inclusion Linkage Group comprises of members of the PPN who have an involvement or interest in Social Inclusion issues and how those issues can be promoted through council structures. The Social Inclusion Pillar currently provides representation into a number of Council Committee's and also the Educational Training Sub Group of Inishowen Development Partnership.

Donegal County Council Strategic Policy Committees

Donegal County Council Housing & Corporate Strategic Policy Committee

Name	Organisation
Finola Brennan	Community Based Women's Networks & Donegal Women's Network

Donegal County Council Economic, Enterprise & Planning Strategic Policy Committee

Name	Organisation
Annette Patton	Community Development Alliance

Donegal County Council Community, Social & Culture Strategic Policy Committee

Name	Organisation
Paul Kernan	Pobal le Chéile

Donegal County Council Other Committees

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

Name	Organisation
Susan McCauley	Cara House FRC

Donegal Youth Council Steering Committee

Name	Organisation
Gina Grant	Donegal Down Syndrome

Other Committees

Inishowen Development Partnership's Education & Training subgroup

Name	Organisation
Jim Nash	New Horizons Partnership

The Donegal PPN Social Inclusion Linkage Group have also been involved in developing the Community elements of the Donegal Local & Economic Community Plan, through partnership with Donegal County Council to ensure the inclusiveness of the objectives and actions that will be included in the six year strategy.

Oidhreacht / Heritage

The PPN Heritage Linkage group had its initial meeting in September, there are currently in excess of 30 Community groups who have expressed an interest in participating in this group due to the importance of heritage issues to the work programmes currently being implemented by their communities.

A general presentation on heritage matters in the county and the Donegal Heritage Plan was followed by a general discussion by the group on heritage matters that are of importance to the community & voluntary sector.

The group then selected two of their members, Michael Mullen and Molly Reynolds to represent them on the Donegal Heritage Forum. It is anticipated that the group will meet again in early 2016 to review progress.

Sábháilteacht Pobail agus Comhphóilíneacht / Community Safety & Joint Policing

Donegal Joint Policing Committee (JPC) will begin to meet in autumn and this committee, through the three sets of stakeholders, Donegal County Council, Garda Síochána and Donegal PPN, will promote issues in a collaborative manner which will have an impact on expressing issues of importance to our communities such as road safety, public order, rural isolation and anti social behaviour.

Donegal PPN have provided seven members to provide representation into the Joint Policing Committee, the JPC members from the PPN have had number of areas of priority outlined to them by the Linkage group members and the JPC representatives will be reporting back to the linkage group in due course.

JPC Membership

Oireachtas Members

Mr Pádraig MacLochlainn	Mr Joe McHugh	Mr Thomas Pringle	Senator Brian Ó Domhnaill
Mr Pearse Doherty	Mr Dinny McGinley	Mr Charlie McConalogue	Senator Jimmy Harte

Council Members

Cllr Niamh Kennedy	Cllr Bernard McGuinness	Cllr Gerry Crawford	Cllr Jack Murray
Cllr Nicholas Crossan	Cllr Albert Doherty	Cllr James Pat McDaid	Cllr Liam Doherty
Cllr Martin Farren	Cllr Seamus Ó Domhnaill	Cllr John O'Donnell	Cllr Frank McBrearty Jnr
Cllr Ciaran Brogan Mayor Ex-officio	Cllr Jimmy Kavanagh	Cllr Martin McDermott	Cllr Gerry McMonagle

Local Authority Members

Chief Executive Seamus Neely	TBC
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An Garda Síochána

Chief Superintendent Terry McGinn	TBC
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Donegal PPN

Mr James Trearty	Mr Joe Boland	Ms Deirdriú Murray	Ms Carmel Mulhern
Mr Lawrence McManus	Ms Lorraine Thompson	Mr Gary Doggett	

Timpeallacht / Environment

There are three core sub sectors identified within community organisations in the County, Community & Voluntary, Social Inclusion & Environment. To date, over 40 groups have become member of the Environment Linkage Group and have identified environmental issues as being important to them. The environment, as a topic for discussion, is wide and diverse, and therefore the types of community organisations who make up the environment linkage group is also diverse ranging from groups whose sole function is ecological protection to parish councils and tidy town groups.

The importance of the environment is recognised in the make up of Council committee's with seats being reserved for the environment pillar of the PPN on Strategic Policy Committee's and the Local Community Development Committee.

Donegal County Council Strategic Policy Committees

Donegal County Council Economic, Enterprise & Planning Strategic Policy Committee

Name	Organisation
Dermot McLaughlin	Wild Inishowen

Donegal County Council Community, Social & Culture Strategic Policy Committee

Name	Organisation
Ethna Diver	An Táisce

Donegal County Council Other Committees

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

Name	Organisation
Emmett Johnston	Inishowen Basking Shark Group

The initial meeting at the environment linkage group, held in September, allowed for a general discussion on environmental matters that have been identified by community voluntary organisations as being of importance to them as was as a discussion with Donegal County Council's Director of Service for Environment, Mr Joe People's, on Council's responsibility for environmental protection and the environmental services it provides.

Turasóireacht / Tourism

Tourism is a topic that is of interest and importance to community organisations in County Donegal and it's importance is acknowledged by the PPN Secretariat in establishing a linkage group to allow community groups to meet collectively, select representatives onto the Council's Tourism Forum, inform their representatives of issues to be raised at the Tourism Forum and received ongoing feedback directly from their representatives.

At the first Tourism Linkage Group meeting, chaired by secretariat member, Mr Martin McBride, the linkage group selected two of their members to represent them on the Tourism Forum who are Mary McGowan of Donegal South Forum & Donnan Harvey of Letterkenny Cathedral Quarter Company Ltd.

Fóram Seanóirí / Older Persons Forum

The Donegal Age Friendly Strategy, launched in May 2015, is a multi stakeholder strategy which aims to make County Donegal a great place to grow old in, so the County can be enjoyed and appreciated by everyone for it's quality of life.

One of the actions contained in the Age Friendly Strategy is the establishment of the Donegal Older Person Forum. This forum is been established as part of the PPN Linkage group structure to allow older people and groups who represent, or provide services to, older people, can be represented in relevant decision making bodies to allow them to influence and shape the way in which services are provided to them.

The first meeting of the forum, which is convened by PPN secretariat member, Mr Andrew McNulty was held in October 2015.

The Older Persons Forum will provide representation in due course onto the Donegal Age Friendly Alliance and the Letterkenny Age Friendly Steering Committee. The Older Persons Forum are also due to meet the HSE this November to discuss priority health issues as they relate to older people.



**Social Inclusion Linkage Group
Environment Linkage Group**

IONADAÍOCHT EILE DE CHUID AN LRP

OTHER PPN REPRESENTATION

PPN Representation on Economic Community and Policy Committees

Roads & Transportation SPC

Name	Organisation	Pillar
Karen McCormick	Foyle Sailability	Community & Voluntary

Housing & Corporate SPC

Name	Organisation	Pillar
Finola Brennan	National Collective of Community Based Women's Networks & Donegal Women's Network	Social Inclusion

Economic, Enterprise & Planning SPC

Name	Organisation	Pillar
Dermot McLaughlin	Wild Inishowen	Environment
Annette Patton	Community Development Alliance	Social Inclusion

Community, Social & Culture SPC

Name	Organisation	Pillar
Ethna Diver	An Táisce	Environment
Paul Kernan	Pobal Le Chéile	Social Inclusion
Joe Boland	19 th Donegal Scout Group	Community & Voluntary

Environment & Emergency Services SPC

Name	Organisation	Pillar
Trish Murphy	Irish Basking Shark Group	Environment

Donegal Economic Development Committee

Name	Organisation	Pillar
Andrew McNulty	Balor Development Community Arts	Community & Voluntary

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

Name	Organisation	Pillar
Emmett Johnston	Inishowen Basking Shark Group	Environment
Susan McCauley	Cara House FRC	Social Inclusion
Martin McBride	North Donegal Community Network	Community & Voluntary
Susan McLaughlin	Foróige	Community & Voluntary

FORBAIRT AN LRP PPN DEVELOPMENT IN 2016

It is expected that the PPN Secretariat will be supported in their work in providing representation onto Council structures, and other agencies by a full time resource worker in 2016. This position is to be funded by the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government and Donegal County Council.

This work will continue to be developed through the Countywide Linkage Group and Municipal District structures of the PPN.

AG DUL CHUN CINN

Tá súil againn gur shíl tú go raibh an chéad eagrán de nuachtlitir an LRP suimiúil agus lán eolais. Ar bhonn leanúnach, beidh an nuachtlitir seo ina foinse eolais duit i dtaca leis an LRP agus a chuid ionadaithe, a chruinnithe agus ábhair thábhachtacha eile a bhaineann leis an líonra.

GOING FORWARD

We hope you have found the first edition of the PPN newsletter interesting and informative. On an ongoing basis this newsletter will be your update on the PPN and its representatives, its meetings and other important matters related to the network.

We strongly encourage you to sign up for one or more of the Linkage Groups if you have not already done so. Linkage Group meetings are a good opportunity to learn more about the PPN and its representation role and to see whether it is something you might want to get involved in for the future. Invites to these meetings are only sent out to those members who have registered to the Linkage Group.

We would also like to advise that the next annual meeting of the County Plenary (all PPN members) will be taking place this November. More details will follow closer to the date but we hope to see you all there as it will be a great chance to catch up on the progress of the PPN so far.

Le dea ghuí



Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall
Donegal County Council

ISSUE 7 OCTOBER 2015

EU UNIT UPDATE



WHATS INSIDE...

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- ▶ **Networks and Collaboration**..... 11
- ▶ **Policy Work**..... 13
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WELCOME / FAILTE

This bulletin is produced by the EU Funding and Strategic Policy Unit of Donegal County Council. The EU Unit works with all services of Donegal County Council to proactively target external funding opportunities, influence policy and identify EU networks of benefit to the Council. The Strategic Policy Unit promotes and support inter-agency networking and partnership across the wider north west region through a range of collaborative structures and projects. This bulletin will provide you with all the latest news in relation to Donegal County Councils involvement in this important area of work.

Seamus Neely, Chief Executive Donegal County Council



Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall
Donegal County Council



LADDER

LOCAL AUTHORITIES AS DRIVERS FOR DEVELOPMENT
EDUCATION AND RAISING AWARENESS

July 2015 saw Donegal County Council host 33 international delegates from 11 Countries. The delegates visited Donegal as part of the LADDER project and took part in a three-day EU level training course on Development Education and Awareness Raising (DEAR). There are three EU level trainings in total, Donegal and Croatia hosted in July, the third will take place in Greece in early November. The training was delivered by The Hague Academy for Local Governance from the Netherlands who are also a partner of LADDER. Donegal County Council's, Social Inclusion Unit are leading out on the LADDER project which aims to change attitudes and improve public understanding of issues and difficulties facing developing countries tackling global poverty, promoting justice, human rights, and sustainable ways of living. Donegal County Council staff participated in the training which aims to strengthen the capacity of local authorities and civil society

organisations to act in a sustainable way as drivers for development. The second Steering Committee will be held online in September. At present all Category A partners, of which Donegal County Council is part, are preparing to develop and host their National Level trainings towards the end of 2015 with Local Level trainings to take place in first half of 2016. For further information contact Christina O'Donnell codonnell@donegalcoco.ie



Nikos Gamouras ALDA, Letterkenny Mayor
Gerry McMonagle, Anne-Laure Joedicke ALDA, Cathaoirleach Ciaran Brogan and Marco Boaria ALDA at welcome reception for LADDER international delegates at Glenveagh Castle



Letterkenny Municipal District Mayor Gerry Mc Monagle, Donegal County Council Chief Executive Seamus Neely, Director of Service Micheal Heaney, Hague Academy Trainers and ALDA staff with Donegal County Council Staff who participated in the EU Development Education and Awareness Raising training

COSME

Programme for the
Competitiveness of
Enterprises and SMEs
2014-2020

The project, HikingEurope was successfully submitted to the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises' (EASME) COSME second call for "Supporting Competitive and Sustainable Growth in the Tourism Sector" under theme 2, "Diversifying the EU tourism offer and products - Promoting transnational thematic tourism products" on the 30th June 2015.

Donegal County Council were invited by the Spanish Catalan Tourist Board to join their consortium of partners who are located in Spain, Italy, Croatia, Germany and Austria. HikingEurope, if successful, will look to tackle the issue of tourism diversification in European regions that have traditionally focused and benefitted from mass tourism but are willing to commit to a more sustainable, responsible and high-quality alternative based in less explored European areas, specifically in inland/rural locations.

The project will place a focus on hiking activities considered as a unique way to unveil the local heritage in a sustainable manner, while contributing to physical activity and thus to a better health and quality of life of citizens. A result from the Commission is expected in late November 2015. For Further information contact: EU Unit Donegal County Council Tel.: 074 9153900



Stage 1 Project TIDAL concept bid to the North West Europe Interreg VB Programme.

Donegal County Council led a Stage 1 concept project bid to the North West Europe Interreg VB funding programme. This transnational financing programme seeks to encourage public, scientific, private and civil society organisations to cooperate with a view to improving the economic, environmental, territorial and social development of Europe's regions. The region covers Ireland, UK, regions of France, Belgium Netherlands and Germany and is one of the European Unions programmes that finances large scale capital projects. The project is titled – TIDAL and is an acronym for Technology Innovation Demonstration and Learning and

involved a transnational consortium from Ireland, UK, France and Belgium.

In July 2015 Donegal County Council as the lead project partner were informed that project TIDAL had successfully passed the stage one concept and were invited to submit a 2nd bid to the more detailed stage of the process in December 2015. Work has recently commenced on this bid with Donegal County Council and LYIT playing host to the first partner meeting on 21st & 22nd September. The meeting was attended by all partners including the NWE programme project officer. The two day meeting was detailed and with the programme project officer in attendance it was the forum to discuss all detailed matters relating to the project. The detail of the project and the content of the stage 2 project are still under discussion and a decision taken on the most appropriate course for the consortium. The Stage 2 call officially opens in October 2015 and close on 30th December 2015. For further information contact: EU unit Donegal County Council Tel : 074 9153900

PROJECT TIDAL Workshop in Lille 7th & 8th September

Donegal County Council as lead partner on project TIDAL was invited to attend a workshop hosted by the North West Europe Programme in Lille, France on 7th and 8th September. This event provided all applicants who were successful at the Stage 1 of the application process with an opportunity to meet with the Programme secretariat and other project promoters. The workshop provided information to project leads on the next phase of the application process and the programme team were on hand to advise on the stage 1 project feedback provided by the monitoring committee.

The stage 2 bid opens in October 2015 and closes by 30th December 2015. The project bid is being lead by Donegal County Council with full partner commitment and input from Letterkenny Institute of Technology. Other project partners are from France Belgium and private industrial partners. The first full Tidal Partner meeting took place on 21st and 22nd September in LYIT, Donegal and also attended by the project officer from North West Europe. Donegal County Council are now exploring the stage 2 requirements and the timeline for completion of the project by December 2015.

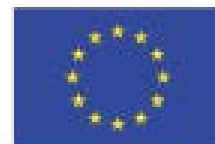
Transnational Interreg VB Project: HERICOAST

Donegal County Council are a partner in a project application entitled 'HERICOAST' which is an acronym for 'Management of Heritage in Coastal Landscapes'. The application was submitted to Interreg Europe which is a transnational Interreg VB European Regional Development fund programme, in July 2015 by the lead partner, Vest-Agder County Council, Norway. The project aims to improve regional policies for heritage management in maritime and fluvial regions across the 8 partners comprised of county and regional authorities from France, Spain, Italy, Romania, Lithuania; Clue University Amsterdam and Civilscape landscape forum Europe are advisory partners. In Donegal



the project will focus on a range of coastal settlements and their unique and valuable maritime heritage and aim to improve the existing policy instruments in place and thereby revitalize coastal communities. In the context of the wider project, Donegal will contribute to, and be informed by the wider shared experience

across the partner regions within their coastal landscapes. Claire Mc Callan, Conservation Architect and Alana Green, Executive Planner from the Central Planning Unit have worked closely with the EU Unit and Vest-Agder County Council, Norway to formalize the application. A decision on the application will be made by the Monitoring Committee of Interreg Europe in Luxembourg in early December 2015. For further information contact EU unit Donegal County Council Tel.: 074 9153900



European Union | European Regional Development Fund

SCALE Project Steering meeting, Brussels June 2015

In June, the EU Unit and Social Inclusion Unit staff travelled to Brussels to attend a two day project steering meeting of potential partners for a project titled "SCALE - Scaling up Assisted Living in Europe". This project has emerged from the members of the CORAL Network which is a European network of regions collaborating in the field of Ambient Assisted Living and Active and Healthy Ageing. Project SCALE aims to identify innovative solutions

and create effective ecosystems for Active and Healthy Living by building on partners' experiences, via mutual learning /knowledge transfer events and sharing of good practices in order to identify common approaches that can support policy goals. The meetings in Brussels were very informative and Donegal County Council submitted its application, along with 24 other partners, as part of the overall project proposal to Interreg Europe on the

31st of July. If successful, this five year project will commence in 2016 and will link with the Donegal Age Friendly Strategy which was launched by Daniel O'Donnell on May 22nd of this year.

For further information contact: EU Unit Donegal County Council, 074 9153900.

WILDSEA Europe

The EASME EU funded *WILDSEA Europe* project was launched in July 2015 in Barcelona and is led by lead partners Travelecoology from Spain. Mr. Garry Martin from Donegal County Council was in attendance at the launch and has joined the project Steering Committee.

The project seeks to develop a touring route based on the wonderful variety of marine biodiversity and wildlife along our European coastlines, while at the same time looking at methods of conservation of our marine biodiversity and protection for future generations. The project includes elements of research and conservation in addition to the marketing and promotion of an EU wide marine wildlife and biodiversity trail called WILDSEA Europe. Donegal County Council will have a number

of key responsibilities in the project including communication, marketing, video production and much more. Malin Head has been chosen as a key pilot area for the WILDSEA Europe project due to its rich wildlife and biodiversity, including the basking shark and dolphin population.

Donegal County Council was pleased to host the recent meeting of the WILDSEA Europe delegation. Partners from all over Europe came to Donegal from the 7th to the 9th of October. The project partners also attended the Donegal County Council Wild Atlantic Way Tourism Conference which took place on October 9th. Check out #wildseaeurope on Twitter for more details, a website and Facebook page will be launched soon.



FUNDING AND PROJECTS



The Cool Route project continues to develop following the successful bid for INTEREG VB funding under the Northern Periphery & Arctic programme 2014-2020 by lead partner Cork Institute of Technology. Project partners include Glasgow Caledonian University, Royal Cork Yacht Club, Derry City Council, Port Authority Torshavn Faroe Islands, Blue Seas Marinas Scotland, Western Norway Research

Institute and associated partners Donegal Tourism, the Irish Cruising Club and Sail Scotland.

Cool Route partners are delighted to welcome Údarás na Gaeltachta who have recently joined the Cool Route project as an associate partner. Udaras na Gaeltachta will be hosting a meeting at their offices in Cork this September where CIT will present the Cool Route project to County Council Directors of Service from all along the West Coast of Ireland. This will be an excellent opportunity to discuss the project in detail and to look at potential ways to maximise the positive impact on sailing along our joined west coast.

Donegal County Council is a project partner on the Cool Route project and has responsibility for the communications and product dissemination element of the project. A new project website has been launched and can be found on www.sailcoolroute.eu Social media channels

are consistently growing on Facebook and Twitter @eucoolroute.

Donegal County Council will host the next meeting of project partners in Donegal in late October and we look forward to welcoming delegates to the County, an excellent opportunity to showcase our marine tourism offering to visitors from the various European partner regions such as Norway, Faroe Islands, Scotland etc. The visit to Donegal will take place over two days including extensive meetings and a tour of our sailing locations.

The project merges all aspects of the practical logistics and business potential to establish a bi-directional yacht cruising route along the offshore areas of the Northern Periphery Area, stretching from the South of Ireland, to the UK (Northern Ireland and Western Scotland) on onwards to Norway. For more information please contact Eu unit : 07491 53900



CLEAN- Technologies and open innovation for low carbon regions

The common challenge addressed by the CLEAN project is how best to meet EU low carbon targets in Europe's regions, focusing on how to decrease energy consumption in existing buildings. Buildings are responsible for 40% of energy consumption in the EU and consume between 8 and 12 times as much heating oil as new

ones. The overall objective is to work together between 2016–2020 to improve the energy performance of the built environment by 4% in the project regions. The expected changes will be better performance in 7 policy measures that address low carbon. This will be as a result of greater focus in policy instruments on: 1) Better design of services and products in the regional energy efficiency market; 2) Improved promotion of the products and services to building occupiers. This will benefit all stakeholders in a region's energy value chain, i.e., consumers of energy services, suppliers of energy products and services, centres of energy expertise (including innovation) and public authorities (promoters of energy efficiency). CLEAN proposal was submitted by ERNACT to the 1st call of the Interreg Europe Programme. Decisions are expected in December 2015.



(Involving The Community To Co-Produce Public Services)

This is a project led by ERNACT and with the participation of Donegal County Council and Derry and Strabane County Council and which was approved in the 1st call of the Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme. With a total budget of €1.5 million and €560,000 specifically ring fenced to benefit the North West region, IMPROVE aims to increase the level of innovation in the six partner regions in the field of technology-driven public service solutions. It adapts a novel living labs-driven approach to maximise knowledge transfer between regions and stakeholders.

Real communities will demonstrate the approach by using it to co-produce services, and develop tools and methodologies for use by other regions to implement the results of the project. The project was officially launched with the kick-off meeting celebrated in May 2015 in Letterkenny (Donegal). The main work at the moment is focused in partners documenting and sharing the good practices coming from their regions that will serve as a basis to develop the common methodology that will guide the development of the future public services planned in the project. In order to widespread these good practices the project started in September a series of 9 webinars that will last until October 2015. The launch conference will take place on 10th and 11th November in Bifrost (Iceland).

Smart Creativity Hubs

This project addresses the challenges created by ongoing advances in production processes, digital technology and new materials on the business and operating models of enterprises in the design-led sectors. This includes enterprises in the fashion and textile sectors and those producing ceramic, wood and artisan food products.

These challenges occur predominantly in peripheral or older manufacturing areas of the NWE that do not have the market size or modern innovation infrastructure needed to overcome them. The project's novel approach will network or cluster distinct strengths



in new technologies, materials and processes from existing organisations across NWE to effect a critical mass of new innovation services for enterprises, regardless of location.

The proposal, submitted by ERNACT has been selected by the North West Europe programme to enter into stage 2 and will be submitted at the end of 2015. Only 19 out of 82 project ideas have been approved to get to stage 2 which is very promising.



NICHE - BUILDING INNOVATIVE FOOD VALUE CHAINS IN REGIONS

The NICHE project aims to support the food sector as a whole to face its major challenges that arise from changes in the sector's economic

and non-economic environments. The availability of safe, sustainable and healthy food has taken a new and pressing dimension in the light of an ever-growing global population and increasing environmental and sustainability concerns. Technology has already substantially re-shaped the business models, value chains and efficiencies in this sector, but a new wave of driven innovation is needed to give response to this new demand.

A special feature of the food production sector in Europe is that the 99% of the enterprises, generating 50% of the turnover, are SMEs. These current challenges cannot be met by any individual enterprise but require concerted actions and coordination of initiatives.

Aware of the role that innovation may have in giving response to this demanding sector, the NICHE project wish to realize its potential

by effectively promoting policies in 7 European regions where food has been identified as a key sector to apply existing research and innovation strengths.

By working together the NICHE partnership aims, by 2019 and through the improvement of existing policies, achieve an average 15 % increase in the adoption of research and innovation solutions by food sector companies in their regions to give response to the demand of this sector identified as high-potential sector for their smart growth.

NICHE proposal, prepared by ERNACT and with the participation of Donegal County Council and Derry and Strabane District Council as partners, was submitted to the 1st call of the Interreg Europe Programme. Decisions are expected in December 2015.



Sliabh Liag Project

Excellent progress has been made on elements of the Sliabh Liag project, co-funded through the INTERREG IVA Cross-border programme and the Failte Ireland's Tourism Capital

Investment Programme funded under the National Development Plan 2007-2013.

Construction works have been completed to both the access road (Carrick – Ranger Station) and existing par park (Ranger Station). Visitors to Sliabh Liag have been utilising the new extended car parking facilities at the Ranger Station throughout the summer of 2015.

The Visitor Centre / Transportation Hub at Teelin village is programmed for completion in September 2015. The new centre when operational will provide parking, services and other facilities and enable management of visitors accessing the cliffs.

A communication and marketing plan has been developed and implemented, incorporating online advertising, photography and creation of a new Sliabh Liag website www.sliabhliag.com.



Enterprise Europe Network

Enterprise Europe Network is made up of over 600 business support organisations in over 50 countries from both within and beyond Europe. The Network helps small business make the most of European and international markets, facilitates them to explore new opportunities and assists them in accessing both new technologies and funding. Donegal County Council through the Local Enterprise Office is one of four national partners delivering the project in Ireland for the next six years and the Local Enterprise Office will manage both the activities of all 31 Local Enterprise Offices and the budget for these activities over this period. The other project partners are Enterprise Ireland (Lead), Dublin Chamber of Commerce and Cork Chamber of Commerce. The project is funded under the COSME Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and SMEs 2014-2020.

Ms Eileen Kelly, has been appointed coordinator of the project within the Local Enterprise Office and the project was officially launched by Council Chairman, Kieran Brogan on July 21st in Letterkenny. The project has an overall budget of €4.78M for the six years with some 55% of the budget dedicated to the Local Enterprise Offices. For further details contact Eileen Kelly at eilen.kelly@leo.donegalcoco.ie



International SMEs Everywhere Project (ISEP)

SMEs are much more likely to survive and grow in the current competitive global business environment if they can internationalise. We also know that SMEs that do enter international markets or internationalise are more innovative and more resistant to local and national crisis. The Local Enterprise Office in Donegal County Council is partner to an application submitted under Interreg Europe by HAMPSHIRE County Council, as the lead partner, that involves partners from eight countries across Europe – Ireland, Austria, UK, Denmark, Italy, Czech Republic, Poland and Spain. The project aims to identify good practice in the area of internationalising of SMEs, facilitate each participating region develop robust action plans to assist SMEs internationalise, identify national and regional policy issues and recommend policy and programme changes to enable greater levels of internationalisation to happen. It is hoped that a decision on the application will be made before the end of the year. If the application is successful Donegal Local Enterprise Office as a key role in the project with regard to identifying and codifying best practice within the project and in facilitating the project workshops. For more information contact Local Enterprise Office 0749160735.



ReNew Project



Renew project looked at the fish waste industry in Donegal and an appraisal was carried out by consultants on behalf of Donegal County Council and Inishowen Development Partnership in 2015. It outlines the scale of Fish Waste in the pelagic, demersal and aquaculture sector in Donegal. An objective of the ReNew project is to deliver innovations for the waste supply chain, promoting recovery of valuable materials from waste.

Information provided by our partner the Technology Centre for Bio-refining and Bio-energy (TCBB) demonstrates that through selective enzymatic processing, collagens for cosmetic applications, gelatins for food applications and bioactive peptides for biopharmaceutical applications can all be recovered. For mature sludge anaerobic digestion with another carbon rich bio mass waste is the best approach. The report highlights the approach taken in Scotland of all stakeholders coming together in planning an integrated solution to fish waste issues. With developments in Killybegs including the planned construction of a state of the art Bio-marine plant there is opportunities in maximising the commercial value of what too now has been considered waste. New discard rules will increase the volume and potential for developing commercially viable alternatives, these could include markets for dried heads and frames of fish in African countries where it is seen as a cheap source of protein. The Renew project ran from 2013 – 2015 with Donegal County Council joining the consortium in early 2014. The project has been valuable to Donegal and to the sector and has assisted in examining a growing market and economy for the region.

For more information please contact the EU unit Donegal County Council Tel.: 074 9153900



Malin Head Development

The Malin Head tourism project was formally opened by Minister McHugh TD on Tuesday 16th June. The opening of the new facilities at Malin Head will enhance the visitor experience and boost tourism in the area, creating long-term benefits for the local community. The project works include the building

of passing places, cliff top trails, and a viewing area with telescopes and Information panels that inform visitors of trail conditions. County Mayor Ciaran Brogan believes the partnership model was key to its success. “We know that these projects need the buy in of all stakeholders. This project should serve as a model for other groups looking to build on the critical mass of tourism product in their locality”. This point was supported by Inishowen Mayor, Rena Donaghey who believes “that the community must be involved at all levels in terms of developing actions on the ground”.

In opening the project, Minister McHugh TD said that “Under the banner of the Wild Atlantic Way, Malin Head will benefit from a now internationally recognised brand which has been a resounding success for tourism on the western seaboard”. The Malin Head project is funded through the European Union’s INTERREG IVA programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body and developed in partnership with the Lough Agency. *For further information contact Ciaran Martin - ciarán.martin@donegalcoco.ie*



CAPITEN 2020 Marine Leisure Project

Following last years visit from Mr Vincent Gonac’h, Donegal County Council will now partner the Regional Council of Brittany in a bid under the Atlantic Area INTERREG VB Programme. As project coordinator, Mr. Gonac’h hopes to build on the successes of the first two NEA projects dedicated to the development of the nautical and marine leisure industry. The new Marine Leisure Project which

aims to encourage job creation and business growth, will work with transnational partners including Irish partners, Limerick County Council and Donegal County Council. Partners from countries such as Great Brittan, France, Spain and Portugal also form part of the consortium. A strategic implementation plan has been circulated to the partners outlining the work packages and key action areas. By September 30th 2015, each region will have submitted their plan to undertake numerous local and regional initiatives. These initiatives will compliment and achieve great synergy in what is hoped to be achieved under

the new Marine Leisure Project. This sector is of critical importance to Donegal given the success of the Sailwest and Malin Waters project, and also the extensive coastline and unique marine based resources which the County has to offer. Through our participation in this project, Donegal County Council will develop transnational networks and partnerships of benefit, which will seek to exploit the economic opportunities of the sector, put in place sustainable solutions and promote job creation in our regions. Submission of Stage 1 of the application will take place in late 2015. For further information contact: EU Unit Donegal County Council, 074 9153900.



The MalinWaters brand is growing from strength to strength. Partners have now agreed to formally continue to promote the brand into 2016 by each contributing financially to the marketing activity associated

MalinWaters^o

with the Sail West project. This successful consortium of partners will also look towards future EU funding opportunities to continue to build on the success of this EU project that is now funded by partners themselves.

A new development in the project has taken place via a partnership with Marine Blast. The marinas, pontoons and coastal attractions of Donegal have now been listed on the popular Marine Blast app for iPhone. The app previously only featured the UK and Scotland but now lists Donegal and Sligo, plus Northern Ireland as part of the MalinWaters, Sail West project. This app is free to download and is hugely popular with the sailing community.

It will soon be available on Android.

MalinWaters.com website statistics have shown a very positive growth following recent work to update the website to become mobile friendly. Google Analytics statistics have revealed a significant increase in traffic to MalinWaters.com since the new CMS and mobile functionality went live. The website has seen a 210.38% increase in mobile visitors since the website is now mobile friendly.

For further information contact: Joy Harron, Marine Marketing Development Officer Donegal Tourism Ltd donegalmarinetourism@gmail.com



The Peace III Pettigo/Tullyhommon - Termon Project is now completed. The Project was led by Donegal County Council and partners included, Association for the Development of Pettigo and Tullyhommon (ADoPT) and Fermanagh District Council. Since 2011, the Project activities have regenerated the twin villages of Pettigo and Tullyhommon. Outputs have included creation of a riverside walkway straddling the Donegal – Fermanagh border, streetscape improvements, extension/ refurbishment of the Methodist Hall, development of a purpose built childcare facility and a paint scheme for business and residential properties. At the core of the Project is the Termon Complex which is a state of the art community centre.

The Complex features include a gym, multi purpose hall suitable for a variety of sports, concerts, stage

productions, exhibition space, coffee dock and also meeting/conference rooms. In the adjacent grounds are a multi use games area (MUGA), landscaped gardens and playpark. In addition to the capital aspects of the Project, ADoPT implemented a Community In Action Plan which involved activities and events that have encouraged greater co-operation on a cross border and cross community basis.

The project is an achievement and tangible result of the Interreg cross border collaboration programme and is a long term legacy of which the village and surrounding locality will benefit for years to come. For more details on the Termon Complex and it's activities, events and facilities please visit termoncomplex.wordpress.com or e-mail termoncomplex@gmail.com

Centre for Cross Border Studies Workshop for Interreg VA River Restoration Project

Joint management of the environment has been identified as a key economic challenge for the INTERREG VA Programme. On the 31st July 2015, the Centre for Cross Border Studies (CCBS) facilitated a project development workshop focusing on Specific Objective 2.4 aiming to “improve the water quality in cross-border river basins” using the Impact Assessment Toolkit for Cross Border Co-operation.

Within the Programme area, Ireland and Northern Ireland share 11 cross-border river basins. A greater level of cross-border collaboration between both jurisdictions is needed in order to improve freshwater quality and contribute to compliance with the Water Framework Directive requirements.

Led by the Environment section of Donegal County Council in

partnership with AFBI (Agri Food and Bio Sciences Institute), University of Ulster, Blackwater catchment, Geological Survey Northern Ireland and Loughs Agency are developing a river restoration / catchment management project under this call.

The proposed INTERREG VA River Restoration project will address the problem of how to restore or maintain good (or high) status on a catchment specific basis in three cross-border catchment (e.g. Blackwater, Melvin and Finn) taking into consideration both surface and groundwater. This specific call opens on the 7th of October with a closing date of early January 2016. For further information please contact Roisin McBride at – rmcbride@donegalcoco.ie

‘Trail Gazers Project’

The Trail Gazers Project aims to transfer learning, technology and experience from the SPACEialNW project while at the same time working with interested parties in developing an online ‘Trail Gazers Application’.

This application will allow visitors to take a virtual tour of different walking and recreational trails throughout the regions. It will allow potential visitors to see in advance the natural and build environment along each trail, the tourist and visitor attractions, restaurants, pubs, shops, businesses etc.

The project seeks to action data capture and comparability across different jurisdictions, work with interested partner countries to identify the existing, planned and potential recreational walking routes across the region and explore with interested partner countries the best approach to using technology as a promotional tool.

The project seeks to work in partnership with tourism providers in interested partner countries to identify approved accommodation and attractions within close proximity to a route.

To enhance the visitors (walkers, cyclists and outdoor pursuits) experience of everything Donegal recreational routes has to offer, while at the same time promoting and developing the counties natural and cultural heritage to a world wide audience.

The project is being developed with the Interreg VB Atlantic Area programme which is due to open in late 2015. For further information contact Ms. Roisin Mc Bride EU unit roisinm@donegalcoco.ie

Tides of Time Project Update

Donegal County Council and Donegal Tourism Ltd, Ireland are currently developing their ‘Tides of Time’ project which is at scoping and development stage. The aims of the project are:

- Revitalisation of Coastal communities by providing a new means of stimulating economic and social improvement and job creation through tourism and education.
- Promote transnational co-operation and create a co-operative network of partners building relationships and understanding of maritime historic events in each region.
- Research, identify, restore and conserve sites of maritime heritage, archaeological and historical significance with articular reference to maritime conflicts through

the years. This is of particular significance as the Great War Centenary takes place between 2014 – 2018.

- Develop a maritime heritage trail linking heritage sites, underwater attractions and coastal sites with historical and archaeological value and deploy a marketing campaign and reduce tourism seasonality by providing a wide range of activities.

It is hoped that the projects outputs will range from; Maritime History & Conflict Trails, Island Heritage, WW 1, WW2, Spanish Armada & other events, Conservation of Historic Maritime Sites, Marketing, Promotion, Signage, Activities – boat tours, wreck diving etc, Community Ambassadors – Training. For more information contact: EU unit : 074 9153900

SHOWCASING OUR WILD ATLANTIC WAY MARINE AND COASTAL TOURISM OFFERING AT THE FEDETON ASSEMBLY MEETING IN DUNKIRK, FRANCE

Donegal County Council and Donegal Tourism Ltd representative Joy Harron recently presented County Donegal's Marine and Coastal Tourism strategy to a large gathering of European delegates in Dunkirk including representatives from the EU Commission. Joy attended the Workshop based themed around the 'contribution of maritime heritage in the life of European nautical tourism destinations'. The presentation on County Donegal was very well received and various Donegal County Council EU projects were discussed such as the Sail West, MalinWaters project. The new MalinWaters YouTube video was shown to the European Delegates and it received a very positive response.

The event took place over two days in Dunkirk, France on 24th and 25th June 2015 as part of the calendar of events organised by the European Federation of Nautical Tourism Destinations (FEDETON) of which Donegal County Council is the only current member in Ireland. On the final day of the workshop, the President of FEDETON announced that the next European Assembly meeting would

take place in Donegal. The date has yet to be confirmed but it is likely to take place in February 2016. During the visit to Donegal European Delegates will tour our Wild Atlantic Way coastline and will have the opportunity to experience marine tourism activities and attractions in County Donegal. This is a very strong network of partners to take forward future EU projects that will benefit the County as a whole.

During the event another European project called CurioSeaty was launched. This project is focused on maritime

history along European coasts with a view to developing a touring route incorporating maritime activities. This was an excellent opportunity to meet potential new partners and to discuss Donegal County Council future European project plans such as the upcoming Atlantic Area 'Tides of Time' project with representatives from leading tourism bodies, SME's and local authority organisations from across Europe. For more information on FEDETON visit: <http://www.nautical-tourism.eu>



During August 2015 Enterprise Ireland released a call for expression of ideas for regional initiatives. The aim of this call is to assist in identifying potential areas of enterprise and sectoral opportunities in regions; and to stimulate a future pipeline of potential strategic, sectorally focused and regionally based projects.

It is intended that such projects will be:

- Industry-driven project/s that leverage identified regional strengths and sectoral opportunities.

- Collaborative in nature, involving key stakeholders (private-private / public-private) in a region or across more than one region. The collaboration may take the form of "clusters" and "enterprise hubs", a further deepening of SME-Higher Education Sector engagement in regions, and/or formal structures and teams to drive collaborative projects.
- Able to demonstrate clear benefits to the enterprise base and the region/s (for example, increased design-led innovation, enterprise capability, procurement and supply chain opportunities, start-up activity, etc).

Donegal County Council, Letterkenny Institute of technology and Bord lascaigh Mhara have formed a

stakeholder group that on a regular basis meet as a means of joining forces and working together to achieve a shared vision for the sectors and North-west region. On behalf of this stakeholder group Donegal County Council lodged an expression of ideas to Enterprise Ireland on 11th September, based on the detailed and focused work progressed to date on the development of a Marine Renewables Innovation centre. This collaboration seeks to address the need for a Marine innovation centre based on the three focus sectors of Tourism, Food product development and marine renewable energy and to serve the needs of the NW region.

For more information contact: EU unit Donegal County Council Tel.: 074 9195300

Project ASCENT

Apply Skills and Conserve our Environment with New Tools

The EU Unit of Donegal County Council is currently working with the Errigal Stakeholders Committee to identify funding opportunities for Errigal Mountain. The Committee's overall aim is to cater for the growing number of visitors to Errigal while minimising the environmental impact and creating opportunities for local communities. In response to the challenges being experienced on the site, and to negate environmental impacts, Donegal County Council, in partnership with the National Parks & Wildlife Service, the local community and other stakeholders wish to undertake a project in partnership with other regions to develop sustainable environmental

management tools and techniques. This will be known as the ASCENT Project - *Apply Skills and Conserve our Environment with New Tools.*

Errigal Mountain Path Study

In July 2015, the Committee commissioned a study, the Errigal Mountain Path Study, to secure expert advice on how to address the recreation-induced erosion at Errigal and how to best care for this iconic mountain into the future. The early findings of the study indicate that it is a long term project, which will require significant funding to develop a vision for conservation management and protection of Errigal.

The EU Unit intends to further explore the Northern Periphery & Arctic 2014-2020 Transnational Cooperation Programme as a fitting funding programme for the ASCENT Project as it has a strong priority focus on 'Protecting, Promoting and Developing Cultural and Natural Heritage' and specific objective 'Increased capacity of remote and sparsely populated communities for sustainable environmental management'. For further information please contact, Roisin McBride - rmcbride@donegalcoco.ie

EU Unit Presentation to the LADDER Training event

The Donegal County Council EU unit was invited to deliver a presentation to the LADDER event in Letterkenny on July 17th. The theme of the presentation was the added value of International collaboration. The EU unit provided delegates with an outline of previously funded EU projects across a range of sectors (marine leisure, tourism, culture, heritage, enterprise, green economy) and also outlined the range of EU networks which have been established and which are of benefit to Donegal County Council. The ALDA European Association for Local Democracy also presented at the event and opportunities for collaborative work with the EU Unit and Social Inclusion Units of Donegal County Council are being explored.



EUROPEAN
PROGRAMME
FOR
SUSTAINABLE
URBAN
DEVELOPMENT



URBACT III

Donegal County Councils EU unit are currently exploring the URBACT III programme and how it might be of benefit to the county. URBACT's mission is to enable cities to work together and develop integrated solutions to common urban challenges, by networking, learning from one

another's experiences, drawing lessons and identifying good practices to improve urban policies. Following the success of I & II, URBACT III (2014-2020) has been developed to continue to promote sustainable integrated urban development and contribute to the delivery of the Europe 2020 strategy.

URBACT III programme will be organised around four main objectives:

1. **Capacity for Policy Delivery**
2. **Policy Design**
3. **Policy Implementation**
4. **Building and Sharing Knowledge**

Projects will develop three types of interventions:

1. **Transnational exchange**
 2. **Capacity-building,**
 3. **Capitalisation & dissemination.**
- The National contact point based in NUI Maynooth has accepted an invitation to deliver a programme workshop in November 2015 to Donegal County Council and a wider group of locally interested parties. At present keen interest has been expressed from Inishowen Development Partnership with a possible collaborative project with Donegal County Council. For Further information contact: EU unit Donegal County Council Te.: 074 9153900

Conference for the Atlantic Arc Cities 11th September



The Conference of the Atlantic Arc Cities hosted the event. The theme of the conference was *the Atlantic dimension: a development opportunity*. Donegal County Council was invited to participate in the event and to undertake an elevator pitch with the aim of securing project partners for transnational funded projects.

Donegal County Council presented an overview of key marine tourism projects and strategy to date, and in conjunction with Donegal Tourism Ltd. outlined some of the key topics which are being developed for submission to the opening call of the Interreg VB Atlantic Area Programme. The EU unit will be working with partners on key projects including Tides of Time (Maritime heritage), Trailgazers and coastal sustainability / protection. For further information contact: EU unit Donegal County Council Tel.: 074 9153900

EU Unit Submission to pre-consultation process for the preparation of Donegal County Council Killybegs Local Area Plan.

Donegal County Councils Development Planning Unit initiated pre-consultation on the preparation of a Local Area Plan for Killybegs. An invitation for submissions was extended to the public during August 2015 and closed on 11th September 2015. The EU unit on behalf of a Killybegs working group consortia lodged a submission to address and identify areas for consideration during the plan preparation process. Such areas for consideration are based on the work undertaken to date on the development of the Northwest region for marine renewables, food product development and tourism innovation.

This three sector focus is the subject of this submission and is based on the work of a stakeholders consortium led by Donegal County Council, and which includes a range of relevant partners, including Letterkenny Institute of Technology and Bord Iascaigh Mhara.

Work has been ongoing for a number of years on the development of an Innovation centre based in Killybegs with a particular emphasis on the marine economy in Killybegs and the 3 sector focus of activity. The aim of the project is to capitalise on the very rich marine resources available to Donegal and the North West Region as a whole.

It is also intended through this initiative to capitalise on the physical and human infrastructure and valuable resource that exists across a range of sectors and business activities in the Killybegs Marine Hub. A further submission will be made during the statutory public consultation period to inform the Development Planning section of the progressive work of the working group. For Further Information contact: EU unit Donegal County Council Tel.: 074 9153900

EUROPEAN UNION



Committee of the Regions

Regions, EU Institutions and Policy-Making – Online Course

EU regions and cities matter in policy-making. Their role and impact is, however, not well known and often underestimated in public debate. EU unit staff are taking part in an online course or MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) on EU regions, institutions and policy-making which aims to explain how the EU institutions function, how they work together and how this impacts policies and activities at the regional and local level. The course contributes to the capacity-building of regional and local authorities and is organised by the European Committee of the Regions - the EU's assembly of regional and local representatives. More than 50 politicians and experts from other EU institutions, agencies, European associations and academic institutions will contribute to its production. This course is for everybody interested in the EU and its regional affairs, particularly for officials of regional and local administrations involved in EU affairs. During the eight-week course participants will focus on one specific theme each week and have the opportunity to evaluate their learning progress through a weekly quiz. Content will be delivered in the form of educational videos, live web debates with experts, infographics, factsheets, and participants will be invited to interact via social media.

For further information contact: EU Unit Donegal County Council, 074 9153900.

Heritage Streets Alive 2015

An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
The Heritage Council



INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR IRELAND



Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall
Donegal County Council



Heritage Streets Alive 2015 was launched in June 2015 and is a cross-border cross-community regeneration project. The aim of the project was to invite local people from three historic streets in Donegal and Derry to showcase the strengths of their streets and to co-create a better future for them. The project was funded by the Heritage Council of Ireland, and co-partners Church Lane Campaign Group, Holywell Trust, Peace Walls Project, International Fund for Ireland, Derry City and Strabane District Council and Donegal County Council. The Project involved the streets of Church Lane in Letterkenny as well as Fountain Street and Chamberlain Street in Derry.

The participants visited each of their streets and at later workshops shared great stories of the things that make them special and unique – past and present. The project went from an inquiry into these street's many strengths and leapt forward into a better future with a workshop to co-create visions for each of the three historic streets. Creating three street visions was a key milestone in this project and the main finale seen

each of the streets come alive on the 29th of August as part of National Heritage Week 2015 when each street hosted a special day of culture and showed each of the 3 streets 2020 vision in a fun and creative way.

The project was the vision of Mary Kerrigan who is the project leader and a Built Environment Educator and Creative Visionary. Participants and co-funders/delivery partners are extremely positive about the

emerging benefits of the project, especially in its capacity building and groundbreaking community engagement which showcased the enthusiasm, commitment and support for the project from all involved. The opportunity to up-scale this project over a longer period of time is something that is being explored.



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Comhairle Chontae Dhún na nGall Donegal County Council

**Seirbhísí Uisce agus Timpeallachta.
Water and Environment Services.**

Tel/Guthán: (074) 9153900 Fax/Facs: (074) 9172812.
www.donegalcoco.ie www.ccdhunangall.ie

ENVIRONMENT SECTION REPORT NOVEMBER 2015.

Waste Awareness

Adopt a Road 2015 / 2016:

Applications for the Adopt a Road 2015 / 2016 scheme have been sent to Tidy Towns groups that entered the 2015 national competition. The closing date for applications is Friday 13th November 2015.

LA 21 Environmental Partnership Grant 2015:

This is an annual grant administered by the Department of the Environment. It was advertised both nationally and locally in August 2015. Donegal County Council received an allocation of €15,700 with matching funding to be provided by Donegal County Council. A total of 19 applications were awarded funding for a wide variety of projects.

Waste Enforcement Report

Halloween Bonfires.

Donegal County Council Mobile Litter Units and Litter Wardens were involved in the removal of waste materials stored at 5 locations around the County. Additionally the Council removed over 800 tyres illegal dumped on the run up to Halloween, which potentially could have been used to build bonfires.

This happened after the Council appealed on Radio for the public to report such illegal activities in their communities.

The harmful consequences to burning waste cannot be underestimated and the Council is committed to preventing such activities, should the opportunity arise.

Smokey Coal.

Donegal County Council Environment Enforcement personnel attended the annual 'Smokey Coal' conference in October, hosted by Leitrim County Council. It was important to note that the problems around Smokey Coal enforcement are similar in most other Local Authorities.

Council staff are currently conducting enforcement activities around this legislation, involving site inspections of retailers and distributors as well out of hours vehicle inspections in Letterkenny to prevent the illegal sale and distribution of unauthorised fuels.

The Council is currently using Public Service Announcement on Radio about the enforcement of the Smokey Coal Regulations.

Brown Bins.

Donegal County Council waste enforcement personnel are conducting a series of inspections of household waste collector's premises to ensure that there is an effective roll out of Brown Bins in all localities that fall under the current Regulations.

Enforcement

Environment Complaints 2015 = 914

Fixed Penalty Notices served under the Litter Pollution Act 1996 (Litter Fines) = 126
Paid = 53

Cases before the Courts for unpaid Fines = 14

Successful prosecutions for 2015 = 4.

Beach Report.

Beach Improvement Works

Work continues at a number of our beaches to improve access for visitors of all abilities. This includes;

- Murvagh: A new boardwalk access path will be installed from the car park to the beach. This followed extensive survey work and approval by the NPWS in this Special Area of Conservation. Chestnut paling fencing will also be erected to restrict access to the beach across the dunes which have become badly degraded over recent years. Having beach access restricted to one dedicated, fit for purpose, access path will allow the dunes recover and resolve this issue which was of concern to An Taisce and the Blue Flag status of the beach.
- Fintra: A new plinth is being installed adjacent to the beach car park to accommodate the seasonal Lifeguard Station. This will allow better patrolling of the beach by the Lifeguards during the bathing season. It will also free up spaces in the car park which is limited in size and frequently congested.
- Carrickfinn: Access improvements to Tra Bhaide (Carrickfinn) are nearing completion. This development was supported by Coiste Tra Bhaide installing a hand rail, extending access path and reducing the slope of same.
- Shrove: A new boardwalk access path is being installed from the car park to the beach. This will replace the traditional access path which was extremely steep and had become a hazard following years of degradation. Chestnut paling fencing will also be erected to restrict access across the dunes which have become badly degraded.



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16/10

26/08/2015

FAO Bridie McBerarty

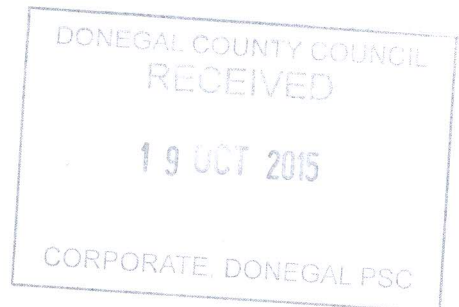
Dear Bridie,

I refer to your letter asking for clarification on the request to have a meeting with the Donegal electoral area at their November meeting. The main reason for the meeting to seek clarification on how the surf schools are going to be able to safely access Tullan Strand as the current slope has almost been completely destroyed by rain showers and will not last the winter storm season. The council (Garry Martin and Liam Murray) asked the four surf schools to fix the slope 2 years ago. We each contributed €1250 to hire a contractor at a cost of €5,000. The temporary job that was done has lasted till now (2 seasons). This work will now need to be done again to prepare the slope for season 2016. This will be the third time the surf schools have funded repairs in the last 7 years. Given that Donegal Co Co has 450k allocated and has repeatedly "committed" to sorting this problem the four surf schools have decided that we are not going to pay to fix private property belonging to someone else.

The traditional surf school season starts on the 1st of April. This gives the council less than 5 months to sort the issue. When the slope was washed away in January 2015 Garry Martin give a commitment to get the slope sorted. In 2014 money was allocated from Bundoran Town council.

Regards
Killian O'Kelly

CC Gary Martin Donegal Co Co
CC Mark Sweeny Donegal Co Co
CC Barry O'Neill CC
CC Sean McNiff CC

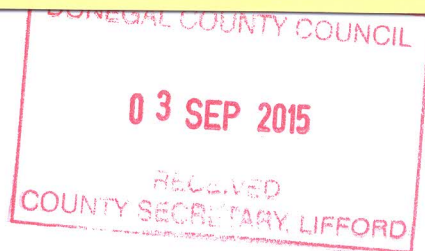
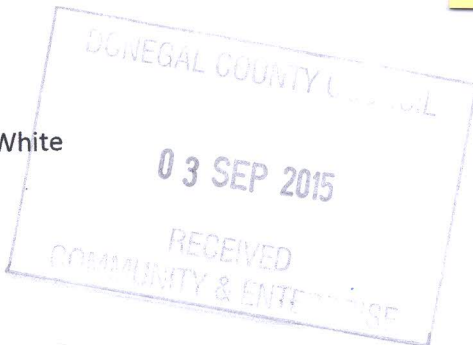


Donegal County Council
County House
The Diamond
Lifford
Co. Donegal

2/9/15

Ref: The late James White

Dear Sir/Madam



I am unsure whether this is the place to be writing to. If not perhaps you could send this letter to the correct authority.

I am contacting you in connection with my cousin James White who died on 2/9/14. I feel that a memorial would be appropriate in Ballyshannon/Donegal town in his memory.

James, as I am sure everyone is aware, was the TD for the area for a large number of years. He also was involved in the hotel business (the White Hotel Group). During this time he also raised a considerable sum of money for a cancer charity.

James was a true son of Donegal. He loved Donegal with a passion which lasted all of his life. At his funeral on 4/9/14 Ballyshannon was brought to a standstill by the massive crowds. He was friend of Enda Kenny who visited him in hospital and was present at his funeral.

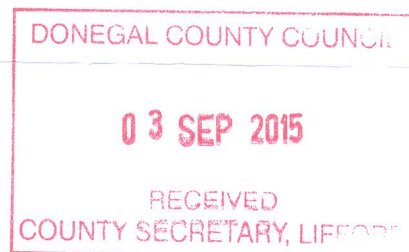
James was a great man for helping people and no problem was too great for him. He endeavoured to help all in need as best he could. I have spoken with his two sisters, Kathleen in England and Lena in New Zealand, and other members of the extended White family and everyone I have spoken to agrees with my suggestions.

One year has passed since James has died and perhaps the time would be right to do this. I would greatly appreciate your comments and suggestions on this matter.

Yours sincerely

Ann White

Ann White





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

Donegal Municipal District Meeting of 8th December 2015 Motions & Questions

Agenda Item No.71

Office Ref:DLMD-2015-10001

Submitted by Clr. Noel Andrew Jordan

Assigned to: Roads and Transportation

Motion That this Municipal District seeks the necessary funding to repair the school ahead warning lights at Frosses National School, as it is a health and safety issue for the school children.

Signed off by: MARK SWEENEY

Response: Funding has been sought and is included in the 2016 budget for the replacement of 38 flashing school ahead warning lights throughout the county.

In the Donegal MD the following lights are going to be replaced in 2016:

1. Frosses National School.
2. Glencolumbkille
3. Pettigo

Agenda Item No.72

Office Ref:DLMD-2015-10002

Submitted by Clr. Niamh Kennedy

Assigned to: Community and Enterprise

Motion That this Municipal District in conjunction with the Office of Public Works, Failte Ireland and all other relevant agencies or groups, meet to progress and develop further events at Donegal Castle to increase and better utilise this unique tourism product

Signed off by: Paddy Doherty

Response: The Council are open to supporting the further development of events around and within Donegal Castle in conjunction with the Office of Public Works and Failte Ireland and the local community. To see if this can be advanced can seek to convene a meeting of the stakeholders and report back to the Municipal District .

Agenda Item No.91

Office Ref:DLMD-2015-10003

Submitted by Clr. Sean McEniff**Assigned to:** Community and Enterprise**Question** "What is the up to date position regarding the repair of Ballyshannon town clock?"**Signed off by:** Paddy Doherty**Response:** Council Staff have made attempts to contact the owner of this property by both telephone and by calling to the property owners home in May of this year to provide the owner with advice on applying for grant assistance that maybe available to the owner should they apply. that may assist them in carrying out the repairs to the clock on their property. No contact has been made to date despite these efforts.

Agenda Item No.92

Office Ref:DLMD-2015-10004

Submitted by Clr. Barry O Neill**Assigned to:** Cultural Services**Question** "What is the up to date position of Donegal County Council on restoring the full Library Service to Ballyshannon?"**Signed off by:** Eileen Burgess**Response:** The Library Service in Ballyshannon is staffed part-time as it always has been. The priority for the Library Service at present is to maintain current levels of public opening hours. There has been progress from December 2011 when the library temporarily closed due to changes in staffing levels, to a half day opening per week from mid 2012 and further from February 2015 to three half days open per week. The current opening hours meet current demand. In addition to the public opening hours, 4 local preschools are regularly visited as an outreach service. There may be scope to extend this outreach service further which is being examined at present.
The Library Service is due to prepare a new 5 year strategic plan within which plans for the development of the service, including public opening hours, facilities available and capital developments will be set out. Developments will be in line with the national strategic plan for public libraries, Opportunities for All and will work towards the national standards and benchmarks for public libraries.

Agenda Item No.93

Office Ref:DLMD-2015-10005

Submitted by Clr. Barry O Neill**Assigned to:** Community and Enterprise**Question** "Will Donegal County Council immediately progress the issue of restoring the Town Clock in Ballyshannon, one of the most historical and significant architectural buildings in the County?"**Signed off by:** Paddy Doherty**Response:** Council staff have made attempts to contact the owner of the property both by telephone and by calling to the property owners home. the object of this was to advise the owner of grant assistance that maybe available to them. That they could then apply for to assist with carrying out repairs to the clock. To date no contact with the owner has been made.

Agenda Item No.94

Office Ref:DLMD-2015-10006

Submitted by Clr. Niamh Kennedy**Assigned to:** Corporate**Question** "Can this Municipal District please ensure that going forward in future at least one elected member sit on the HSE committee to report back to members?"**Signed off by:** Bridie McBrearty**Response:** Committees of the Council are elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Plenary Council. At its last meeting on 6th June 2014, 5 Members were elected to Regional Health Forum West. (Minute Ref: C311/14 refers.) These positions are elected for the duration of the Council. Should a vacancy become available during the period of this Council, it will be a matter for the Plenary Council to fill any such position.

Agenda Item No.95

Office Ref:DLMD-2015-10007

Submitted by Clr. Niamh Kennedy**Assigned to:** Water and Environment**Question** "Can this Municipal District write to the environment and emergency services committee to ask if they have formally invited An Taisce representatives to a committee meeting as was requested at the last environment meeting. If so what was the response?"**Signed off by:** Joe Peoples**Response:** The Council has requested An Taisce to attend a future meeting of the Environment and Emergency Services SPC and a response is awaited.