

Ceantar Bardais Dún na nGall

Oifig Riarthóir na gCruinnithe,
Aras an Chontae,
Leifear.

7ú Eanáir, 2025

Fógra Cruinnithe

Beidh Cruinniú de Ceantar Bardais Dún na nGall ar siúl **De Máirt 14ú Eanáir 2025, ag 11.30 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

Padraig O'Sirin
Riarthóir Cruinnithe

Municipal District of Donegal

Office of Meetings Administrator,
County House,
Lifford.

7th January 2025

NOTICE OF MEETING

The next Meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal will be held on **Tuesday 14th January 2025 at 11.30 am 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,

Pauric Sheerin
Meetings Administrator

AGENDA

1. Consideration of Minutes of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 10th December 2024.
2. **Update Reports from Council Services:**
 - 2.1 Housing & Corporate Services
 - 2.2 Roads & Transportation
 - 2.3 Economic Development, Information Systems and Emergency Services
 - 2.4 Environment Services
 - 2.4.1 Required Capital Investment in Bundoran Waterworld.
 - 2.5 Community Development
 - 2.6 Planning Services

Motions

3. Cllr Jimmy Brogan
“To ask this Municipal District to contact the relevant Government departments to seek funding to remove Ash trees along the roadside and to assist households in removing Ash trees which are in a dangerous condition due to Ash Dieback Disease. All Ash trees will be effected and will have to be removed safely as soon as possible because they are a threat to life and property.
4. Cllr Michéal Naughton
“I am calling on the Donegal MD as a matter of urgency to call on Uisce Eireann to upgrade the reservoir for the Leghowney area”.
5. **Date of Next Meeting(s) / Workshop(s)**
 - MD Meeting on Tuesday the 11th February 2025 at 11.30 am in the Peter Kennedy Chamber (as per standing orders)
 - Casual Trading Workshop on Thursday 16th January 2025 at 10am in the Peter Kennedy Chamber
 - Town Regeneration Workshop on Thursday 16th January 2025 at 11am in the Peter Kennedy Chamber

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL
HELD AT 2.00PM ON TUESDAY THE 10TH DECEMBER 2024 IN THE PETER
KENNEDY CHAMBER, DONEGAL PUBLIC SERVICE CENTRE**

MDD/125/24 MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr Noel Jordan, Cathaoirleach
Cllr Niamh Kennedy
Cllr Michéal Naughton
Cllr Manus Boyle
Cllr Jimmy Brogan
Cllr Michael McMahon

MDD/126/24 OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. Garry Martin, Director Designate, Municipal District of Donegal
Mr. Pauric Sheerin, Area Manager, Housing & Corporate Services
Mr. Mark Sweeney, A/Area Manager, Roads/Transportation
Mr. Danny McCrystal, Senior Enterprise Development Officer,
Economic Development
Ms. Aideen Quinn, A/Executive Planner, Planning
Ms. Tara Quinn, Executive Architect, Housing Capital
Ms. Suzanne Bogan, Environmental Awareness Officer,
Environment Section
Mr. Paddy Doherty, Divisional Manager, Community Development
Ms. Caroline Britton, Staff Officer, Community Development
Mr. Enda Monaghan, Senior Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate
Services
Ms. Evelyn Sharpe, Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate Services

MDD/127/24 APOLOGIES

MDD/128/24 VOTES OF SYMPATHY

Votes of sympathy were passed in respect of the following; -

- The late Dolores Devenney, 28 Fernhill, Letterkenny, sister in law of Bernard McNeely, Housing, Donegal MD
- The late Veronica Drummond, East Rock, Ballyshannon, mother of Colin Drummond, Library Services, Bundoran
- The late Philomena Doherty, Magherabuoy, Killygordon, mother of Cllr Gary Doherty
- The late Joseph Gallagher, Greaghs, Laghey
- The late David Farrell, Erne Dale Heights, Ballyshannon
- The late Kathleen Carty, Finner Avenue, Bundoran
- The late US Senator Billy Lawless, late of Galway & Chicago, Illinois. Tribute was paid to the late Senator Lawless who had worked tirelessly on behalf of the undocumented Irish in the USA.
- Shane Gillespie, late of Keenaghan, Kilmacrennan and formerly of Drumbar, Donegal Town

MDD/129/24 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD ON 8TH OCTOBER 2024

On the proposal of Cllr Naughton, seconded by Cllr Kennedy, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 8th October 2024 were confirmed.

MDD/130/24 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE BUDGET WORKSHOP OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD ON 1ST OCTOBER 2024

On the proposal of Cllr McMahon, seconded by Cllr Boyle, the Minutes of the Budget Workshop of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 1st October 2024 were confirmed.

MDD/131/24 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE HOUSING WORKSHOP OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD ON 15TH OCTOBER 2024

On the proposal of Cllr Boyle, seconded by Cllr Brogan, the Minutes of the Housing Workshop of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 15th October 2024 were confirmed.

MDD/132/24 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE BUDGET MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD ON 21ST OCTOBER 2024

On the proposal of Cllr McMahon, seconded by Cllr Naughton, the Minutes of the Budget Meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 21st October 2024 were confirmed.

MDD/133/24 HOUSING & CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

HOUSING & CORPORATE SERVICES

In relation to the follow ups from the last Municipal District Meeting, Mr Sheerin noted these had been carried out as agreed.

CORPORATE SERVICES

2025 Schedule of Meetings

Mr Sheerin noted the Schedule of Meetings for 2025 was included in the circulated meeting pack.

Bundoran Waterworld CLG (4 No. Elected Members or their Nominees)

The Members agreed to defer the filling of the remaining position to the January Municipal District meeting.

HOUSING SERVICES

Staff Changes

Mr Sheerin acknowledged and thanked Caroline Britton (Staff Officer) and Barry Gallagher (Clerk of Works) for their work over the last number of years, wishing them well in their new posts. He welcomed Evelyn Sharpe to the position of Staff Officer.

Casual Vacancies

Mr Sheerin referred to the circulated Housing Report, taken as read. He advised the number of casual vacancies is now reduced to one, with a number of new/acquired units in Carnvalley and 2 houses at Clareden Drive expected to be dealt with in the early new year. Cllr Naughton welcomed the reduction in casual vacancies, noting it was the lowest he'd seen recorded, acknowledging the work of Mr Sheerin and his team. Mr. Sheerin paid tribute to the Housing Team for the progress in this area.

Changes to Grant Scheme

Mr Sheerin advised of new regulations and changes to the grant scheme effective for applications made after 1st December 2024, suggesting holding a workshop to go through the main changes, including increased income thresholds to qualify, renewed focus on means testing the owner as opposed to the applicant etc. He noted that applicants who have applied under the old scheme (pre 1st December 2024) can withdraw their application and apply under the new scheme if it is more beneficial to them. He advised the current 80/20 split between Council and Department will increase to 85/15, however the grant is financial assistance towards costs, therefore applicants will still need to contribute towards the overall costs. Members noted income limits and grants amount have increased.

Housing Capital

Ms T Quinn referred to the circulated Housing Capital Report, taken as read. She noted tenders for Laghey Development are currently being assessed, expected commencement onsite early January 2025 and the Road Safety audit consultant has been appointed for the site.

Derelict/Dangerous Buildings

Cllr Naughton raised concerns on the number of derelict and dangerous buildings throughout the County, citing they are eyesores and dangerous adding the €10k budgeted for 2025 is not adequate. Cllr Jordan noted that Limerick County Council are using CPO's to purchase derelict buildings and put them back in use. Mr Sheerin

advised the €10k budget is to be used for minimum safety measures required to leave the property safe. He suggested working in collaboration with the Regeneration Team to discuss powers for dereliction, possible CPO of derelict buildings etc, suggesting holding a workshop to discuss further. Cllr Brogan also supported using the CPO process to help to deal with derelict buildings with a view to helping town and villages and the provision of social housing.

Flooding – Clareden Drive

Cllr Brogan suggested the Council consider flooding mitigation measures through flood proof doors and windows at the two houses purchased at Clareden Drive, Donegal Town as they are in a flood risk area. In response to same, Mr. Sheerin advised he would ask technical staff to consider same and noted that these two particular house have not yet been flooded as they are at a higher level than those that were flooded in the past.

Electoral Register

Cllr McMahon asked that a letter is sent to the Department to review how the electoral register is currently being managed, he stated a number of people did not get polling cards which led to the low turnout at the recent general election. Mr. P Sheerin agreed to send correspondence to convey the views of the Members.

MDD/134/24 ROADS / TRANSPORTATION SERVICES REPORT

Mr Sweeney provided follow up on issues raised at the previous meeting:

- **Arrangements for the Roads Workshop on the 22nd October 2024.**
- This workshop proceeded as scheduled.

- **Arrangements for Donegal Town Congestion Meeting on the 24th October 2024.**
- This public meeting proceeded as scheduled.

- **Provide clarifications on the Part 8 timelines.**
- The Feasibility and Options Report (F&OR) for the Dunkineely Safety Scheme was submitted to the TII's Road Safety Inspection Engineer for consideration and approval on 30/10/2024

The various stages associated with the delivery of this project are:

1. The TII's Road Safety Inspection Engineer is currently assessing the F&OR
2. TII approve the F&OR.
3. Funding will be allocated at this point from the TII to deliver the works subject to approval of F&OR.

4. DCC Progress Preliminary Design Report (PDR) including details design, Stage 1 Road Stage Audit, Quality Audit and submit to TII.
 5. TII approve PDR.
 6. DCC to progress the Part 8 planning for the works, ie briefing to the members, public consultation, briefing to Members at MD level before seeking Part 8 approval at plenary level.
 7. Council approves the Part 8
 8. DCC carry out a Stage 2 Road Safety Audit on the detailed design (which may include any observations made during the Part 8 process subject to design team consideration).
 9. Progress with the Works
-
- **Investigate the possibility of extending double yellow lines near the side entrance at the Permanent TSB.**
The area in question is on private lands but the Area Office will speak to the landowner to see if the double yellow lines being sought can be provided.
 - **Seek a meeting with TII to discuss dangerous junctions.**
The Road Design office and Road Safety Engineer are happy to facilitate a workshop with the Members and have asked for a date to be arranged.
 - **Provide the property owner at Clyhore with new sandbags.**
These sandbags were provided.
 - **Progress the Christmas Lights allocations for Bundoran and Donegal Town.**
The agreed allocations have been processed.
 - **Report the faulty streetlights and seek confirmation on the workforce numbers within Electric Skyline who will be operating in Donegal.**
Electric Skyline have 1 supervisor and 4 electricians working on public lighting maintenance in the County. These electricians move around the County to wherever needed.

Note also there is a 14-day timeframe to resolve faulty lights but in some instances the fault may be more complex than simply replacing the lantern head and in these instances the contractor is to provide an update to the DCC team and advise of the fault, the reason why the timeframe will be exceeded and a likely timeframe for resolution.

Electric Skyline also carries out patrols across the county to detect faulty lights along with reports from the public and elected members

The Dunkineely Safety Scheme

Cllr Boyle asked if An Garda Síochána could continue to keep a presence at this location while we are waiting on the scheme to be delivered as it is slowing traffic down in the area. Mr Sweeney advised that this was discussed at the last collision prevention meeting with An Garda Síochána and they were asked to continue monitoring the area until the scheme is delivered.

Flooding Response

Cllr Kennedy mentioned that some of the property owners at Bridge Street in Killybegs that were affected by the flooding as a result of Storm Bert arranged their own dehumidifiers and asked for these to be covered by the Council.

Mr Sweeney advised that anyone who got their own dehumidifier should go back to where they hired it and ask them to send the bill to the Donegal County Council. Mr Sweeney also appealed to landowners to access their properties and ensure trees are in good condition or take necessary measures to make them safe especially along public roads and waterways.

Street Lighting

Cllr McMahon asked if there is an emergency contact when there is a problem with street lights at the weekend. Mr Sweeney advised there is a 14 day timeframe to resolve faulty lights, given the extent of the public lighting network in the County and lights are constantly being replaced. In relation to strategic lights, Mr Sweeney will enquire if they can be responded to quicker.

Eircom

Cllr McMahon suggested a meeting with Eircom, as there is a Pole at Lissacholly edging onto the road which has not been taken away, a sunk manhole at West End Bundoran and a damaged cover at the Handball Alley with a cone on top for over 6 months. Cllr Brogan agreed communications with the public and Councilors needs to be established. Mr Sweeney advised Uisce Éireann, Eir & ESB are responsible for their own covers/chambers, however if there are dangerous poles or manholes, they can be reported to him and he'll follow up with whoever is responsible.

Paddy McAteer

Cllr Kennedy acknowledged the work done by Mr Paddy McAteer in the Killybegs Roads Area and wished him well in his new role. Cllr Boyle reiterated this.

Crossing at Bruckless

Cllr Boyle noted his concerns relating to the crossing at Bruckless, stating it is an accident waiting to happen. Mr Sweeney stated the Council are working with NTA, who have done preliminary designs for a bus stop and shelters at this location and the crossing is being considered as part of this design. The lighting there is good and the area is within the 40kph speed zone and we would welcome anything that can be done to help make the crossing point safer.

Section 183 – Disposal of Lands at Sminver, Ballyshannon

Mr Sweeney advised there was a minor error on the area quoted on the Disposal of lands at Sminver, Ballyshannon which has been corrected and Members noted the amended Section 183 circulated with the Agenda.

On the proposal of Cllr McMahon, seconded by Cllr Naughton, the Section 183 – Disposal of Lands at Sminver, Ballyshannon Members confirmed their agreement to the amended Section 183 Notice which would be an item on the Agenda for the next meeting of the Plenary Council for consideration.

Section 183 – Disposal of Lands at Drumduff, Inver

Members noted the Section 183 notice circulated with the Agenda. On the proposal of Cllr Jordan, seconded by Cllr Kennedy, the Section 183 – Disposal of Lands at Drumduff, Inver, Members confirmed their agreement with same. Members noted that the Section 183 Notice would be an item on the Agenda for the next meeting of the Plenary Council for consideration.

MDD/135/24 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INFORMATION SYSTEMS & EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT

Mr McCrystal referred to the circulated Report, taken as read, highlighting the Buy Donegal marketing campaign, Donegal Tech Advocates Even, the Turning of sod for the start of enabling works at Lifford, opening up an opportunity site, expected to be completed in quarter 2 of 2025.

Mr McCrystal advised work is ongoing on a Donegal Tourism brochure for 2024, a new Donegal Gold Brochure and planned representation at the Holiday World Show in Dublin in January 2025. He highlighted the success of nighttime economy events and the Donegal Enterprise awards celebrating the best in Donegal Businesses in 2024.

Cllr Jordan thanked the staff of Economic Development for their work especially in relation to the buy Donegal promotion over the previous

weekend, he commended Donegal County Council for its role in promoting the businesses of Donegal.

Cllr McMahon congratulated Ballyshannon Chamber of Commerce on the fantastic display of 100 Christmas Trees in St Annes Church, the proceeds of which will purchase new bells for the Church. He asked that the Council send out a letter of congratulations to all involved, which was agreed.

Cllr Naughton referred to the Council's budget and thanked the executive of Donegal County Council for taking time out for consideration, he stated now is not the time to impose increase on businesses, as many of businesses are under pressure so he is delighted the Council are working with the people.

Cllr Kennedy thanked the Economic Directorate for their good work throughout the year, stating it is very valuable and has received great feedback.

MDD/136/24 ENVIRONMENT SERVICES REPORT

Litter & Waste

Ms Bogan referred to the circulated Report, taken as read. She highlighted that Donegal County Council were selected with two other Local Authorities to run a Free Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day, which was held in Letterkenny Recycling Centre with almost 400 customers on the day with very positive feedback. She highlighted the Anti-Dumping initiative, teaming up with the #LoveDonegal Day campaign, household doorstep surveys, Irish Farm Film Producers Group – farm plastic recycling days where over a thousand tonne of plastics was collected.

Cllr McMahon requested a workshop with the Environment Section to discuss what can be done to deal with litter/illegal dumping. He noted legislation passed for CCTV to be installed at bottle banks and strategic areas, but this has not yet happened. He advised he is in discussions with Mr Sweeney regarding roadside cleanups on the Ballyshannon – Belleek and Bundoran to Ballyshannon roads, including health & safety implications/ traffic management, insurance required etc. Ms Bogan agreed to organise a workshop with the Council's Waste team.

Climate Action

Ms Bogan referred to the number of projects being funded under Strand 1 of the Building Low Carbon Communities and the Shared Island Community Climate Action (in partnership with Northern Ireland).

Flood Relief Schemes

Ms Bogan noted the status of flood relief schemes at Lifford, Ballybofey & Stranorlar, Buncrana & Ramelton.

Flooding at Pettigo

Cllr McMahon noted Pettigo was not mentioned in the list of flood relief schemes, citing a number of businesses had experienced flooding recently and suggested a joint meeting with Water Services in Northern Ireland to discuss a remedy. He asked for a workshop be arranged with all the representatives to discuss this.

Cllr Jordan advised John Feely is bringing a motion forward relating to the Pettigo Flooding, to the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council meeting the following day.

Cllr Naughton recalled a meeting with the OPW four years ago, with councillors from Fermanagh & Omagh District Council (Enniskillen DEA) where a guarantee was given that something would be done, however this never materialised. He suggested a meeting with Jim Casey (OPW) is required. He added hedge cutting only taking place twice yearly means there are more branches in rivers, which contributes to the flooding.

Flooding at Killybegs

Cllr Boyle thanked Staff of Donegal County Council for all their efforts in Killybegs, noting trees and debris still needs to be cleared out. He praised the Fire Service for the work they carried out to save the buildings.

Cllr Kennedy noted this is the third time Killybegs has been flooded and this will continue to happen unless a solution is found. She added the businesses and residents are delighted with the support they were given.

Cllr Jordan commended the staff of the Council and emergency services for their work at Killybegs. In the aftermath of Storm Darragh, he noted the dangerous conditions under which the ESB had to work under, to restore services so quickly for businesses and householders. He thanked the Water Section for restoring the Water after Storm Darragh. He welcomed Minister O'Donnell coming to Killybegs, and stated this scheme needs to be fast tracked, noting it is ongoing for 18 months and has multiple phases to go through, with little sign of respite for homeowners and businesses.

Ms Bogan agreed to relay these concerns (Pettigo and Killybegs) to the Senior Executive Engineer and Flood team and ask them to follow up directly with the Councillors.

Mr Martin acknowledged the events of 23rd November 2024, advising that while storms are monitored closely, what happened in Killybegs was not predictable. He acknowledged the work of emergency services and the clean-up, citing the closing date of 9th January for applications to the humanitarian relief scheme. He confirmed funding will be provided for dehumidifiers. Mr Martin acknowledged the work of those who responded on the day, including Roads, Fire Services and Housing who were on-site on the day, the response from DSP, DET and Minister O'Donnell who visited Killybegs in a bid to get the scheme moving to progression. He advised a meeting will take place (Council & OPW staff) to discuss interim mitigation measures and the long-term scheme required.

Proposal to Lease property at Donegal PSC (Section 183)

Ms Bogan asked to note the Section 183 notice from the Council's Property Management Section, regarding the leasing of property at Donegal PSC to Uisce Éireann. Members noted that this Section 183 notice would be an agenda item on the Agenda for the Plenary Council meeting in January 2025.

Public Toilets, Donegal Town

Cllr Naughton stated the public toilets in Donegal Town are not fit for purpose and things are moving too slowly to resolve this issue. He noted there is nothing in the budget for public toilets and requested a proposal on how to resolve this issue is brought to the January meeting.

Cllr Boyle agreed, adding there are no public disabled toilets in the town, and suggested that the HSE building could provide a fob to disabled users out of hours, if this could be arranged.

Cllr Kennedy suggested the HSE Building is too far from the town centre, she noted at a previous SPC meeting, it was proposed to seek an agreement with a Hotel in the town centre, to provide toilet facilities which the Council would subsidise, and asked Ms Bogan to discuss with Director Michael McGarvey, to see if any progress can be made on this.

Ms Bogan to follow up on this and revert to the Councillors.

Murvagh Walk

Cllr Naughton commended the Environment Section and Coilte for the outstanding work done at Murvagh, stating it was very much needed in the area.

Farm Plastic Recycling.

Cllr Brogan noted the price of plastic disposal has increased a lot. Ms Bogan advised the Council are not involved with the charging of fees, but would seek clarification from IFFPG regarding same and revert to Cllr Brogan.

MDD/137/24 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING SERVICES

Mr Doherty referred to the circulated Report, taken as read, highlighting the Community Trails Plan, Donegal Youth Council elections, CLÁR 2024 launch with Measure 1 open at the moment.

Donegal Craft Village

Cllr Naughton asked Mr Doherty if a workshop could be organised with the Craft Village residents, to discuss their concerns in relation to fencing, painting, vacant units etc. He advised there are 14 businesses there and they want support and direction from the Council.

Mr Doherty confirmed he is in discussions with Mr McCrystal regarding the Craft Village and will organise a meeting as soon as possible.

Sliabh Liag

Cllr Naughton requested a meeting in relation to Sliabh Liag to discuss visitors fees.

Mr Doherty confirmed that he has committed to a workshop on Sliabh Liag and will be sitting down in the coming months to discuss the implication of the bye laws there.

Planning

Ms A Quinn noted the reports circulated with the Agenda and confirmed Planning clinics resumed in person, with dates published on the new Council website. She advised the Development Contribution Scheme is going to be put forward at the next Plenary meeting. She advised Casual Trading workshops will be setup in January, with proposals to be brought to the Plenary meeting.

MDD/138/24 REQUEST FOR AN UPDATE ON THE RESPONSE TO THE RECENT FLOODING INCIDENT AT BRIDGE STREET, KILLYBEGS.

The following question was submitted by Cllr Boyle: -

“Can Donegal County Council provide an update on the response to the recent flooding incident at Bridge Street, Killybegs? ”.

Cllr Boyle received a response from the Area Manager, Housing Corporate Services which was dealt with earlier in the meeting by each of the services involved in the incident.

MDD/139/24 REQUEST FOR AN UPDATE ON THE TII REPORT ON DUNKINEELY NATIONAL SCHOOL.

The following question was submitted by Cllr Boyle: -

“Is there any update on the TII Report on Dunkineely School”.

Cllr Boyle received a response from the Area Manager, Roads & Transportation Section.

MDD/140/24 Date of Next Meeting / Workshops

The following Workshops were agreed to be held at Donegal Public Services Centre:

Workshop	Date/Time
Junctions – Roads	9 th January 2025 at 10am
Fire Services Workshop	9 th January 2025 at 11am
Casual Trading Workshop	16 th January 2025 at 10am
Town Regeneration Workshop	16 th January 2025 at 11am

The next Municipal District of Donegal meeting will take place Tuesday 14th January 2025 at 11.30am in the Peter Kennedy Chamber (as per Standing Orders)

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Area Manager
Municipal District of Donegal

Cathaoirleach
Municipal District of Donegal



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

Municipal District of Donegal

14th January 2025

Housing & Corporate

REPORT

1. Casual Vacancies
2. Housing Grants
3. Housing Loans
4. TP Applications
5. HAP Tenancies
6. Household Need by Location
7. Housing Capital Report
8. Lease & Repair Scheme Summary

Casual Vacancies

Area	BED	Dwelling Vacated	Comment
Dunkineely	2	Keys returned 21/10/2024	Ready for Letting

Position as at 2nd January 2025

HOUSING GRANTS

	YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED	REFUSED \ CANCELLED \ INVALID	FURTHER INFO	PENDING
HO	2023	122	108	6	6	2
HO	2024	172	142	9	7	14

	YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED	REFUSED \ CANCELLED \ INVALID	REAPPLIED UNDER HM GRANT	FURTHER INFO.	REF. TO OT	REF. To ENGINEER	PENDING
HD	2023	70	58	9	0	2	1	0	0
HD	2024	92	69	3	0	3	3	0	14

	YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED	REFUSED \ CANCELLED \ INVALID	REAPPLIED UNDER HD GRANT	REF. TO OT	FURTHER INFO	PENDING
HM	2023	39	25	2	9	0	3	0
HM	2024	15	10	0	5	0	0	0

HOUSING LOANS

	YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE	APPROVED	REFUSED \ CANCELLED	PENDING	Further information
Housing Loans	2023	15	3	2	10	0	0
Housing Loans	2024	8	1	2	5	0	0

Tenant Purchase Applications 2023 - 2024

Year	No. of Apps Received	Incomplete Returned	Open Applications	Refused/ Not Eligible	Offer letters Issued	Completed
2023	22	0	1	2	19	3
2024	14	0	13	1	0	0

HAP/PRD

HAP Tenancies	
Municipal District	Number
Donegal	201
Letterkenny	710
Glenties	104
Stranorlar	282
Inishowen	412
Sub Total	1709
Tenancies Closed	3237
Overall Total	4946

Updated 03/01/2025

HOUSING NEED BY LOCATION

Municipal District		Waiting List (Net Need)	Transfer List	Total Gross Need
Donegal		219	212	431
	Ballintra	9	5	14
	Ballyshannon	43	55	98
	Bruckless	5	2	7
	Bundoran	47	57	104
	Carrick	1	4	5
	Donegal	83	56	139
	Drimarone	1	1	2
	Dunkineely	1	4	5
	Frosses	1	1	2
	Glencolmcille	3	0	3
	Kilcar	1	1	2
	Killybegs	13	17	30
	Laghey	5	1	6
	Mountcharles	4	7	11
	Pettigo	2	1	3
	Total	219	212	431

Updated 03/01/2025

Housing Capital Update Report
Donegal Municipal District Meeting
14th January 2025

1. Social Housing Developments – Construction Schemes

Donegal County Council is currently progressing the following social housing developments within the Donegal Municipal District:

Location	Status	No. of Units
Construction Stage		
Drumacrin, Bundoran Phase 1	<p>Construction works progressing on site.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundations, sub-structure blockwork & ground floor pre-cast concrete slabs complete to all units. • Super-structure blockwork is ongoing. • Roofing works including slating is ongoing. • Service drainage (foul & Storm) complete to 39 units. • Watermain is 95% complete within site boundary. • Storm discharge works completed to outfall. 	42
Largymore, Kilcar (SI)	<p>Construction works ongoing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site access road construction. • Superstructure blockwork ongoing. • Roof construction ongoing. 	1
Design / Tender Stage		
Laghey	Tenders have been returned and are being assessed for the appointment of an Architect led Design team to progress the project through detailed design stage to completion.	2
Radhairc Na Mhuirlin, Phase 2, Glencolmcille	<p>A Quantity Surveyor is currently preparing an all-in cost plan for the proposed development for submission to the Department of Housing.</p> <p>Tenders have been returned and are being assessed for the appointment of an Architect led Design team to progress the project through detailed design stage to completion.</p>	5

<p>An Glasán, Phase 2, Kilcar</p>	<p>A Quantity Surveyor is currently preparing an all-in cost plan for the proposed development for submission to the Department of Housing.</p> <p>Tenders have been returned and are being assessed for the appointment of an Architect led Design team to progress the project through detailed design stage to completion.</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>Preliminary Design Stage (No of units subject to change)</p>		
<p>New Row, Fintra Road, Killybegs</p>	<p>Engagement is ongoing with Uisce Eireann with regard to existing services on the site.</p> <p>A GI contractor has been appointed to carry out a detailed ground investigation and enabling works on site. Works due to be carried out in January 2025.</p> <p>Quantity Surveyor is preparing an all-in cost plan for the proposed development, for submission to the Department of Housing.</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>Total</p>		<p>71</p>

2. House Acquisition and Buy and Renew Programme

The construction works are near complete on 2no. 3 bed properties in Donegal Town. An ESB connection and any other minor works are to be finished to allow for the allocation of these properties in January 2025.

The Council has commenced the conveyancing process for a Tenant-in-situ acquisition in Donegal Town.

3. Social Housing through Turnkey Acquisition

The Council has a current county-wide turnkey acquisition process open, which will remain open until the 30th of September 2026. ETenders (reference RFT 2461070) refers, where all documentation and information can be obtained. Submissions are currently being accepted and must be made in accordance with the requirements of the procurement documentation.

Proposals are being accepted for 1, 2, 3 & 4 bedroom housing units in towns or villages throughout the county, on lands suitable for housing purposes.

Council staff are currently engaging with a number of Developers in the Donegal MD. Information and guidance are being provided on an individual basis to Developers to guide them through the process. This is a competitive tender process and therefore, specific details can only be shared upon receipt of a final tender.

Separately, Members are aware of a further turnkey proposal at Drumrooske, Donegal Town for 35 units. Contracts have been signed and the Developer, AMPCO Builders Co. Ltd. has commenced works. The development will be completed in 2 phases with Phase 1 comprising 25 units and Phase 2 comprising 10 units.

4. Lands / Property for Social Housing Purposes

The Council is actively pursuing the acquisition of lands suitable for housing purposes, in towns and villages where there is currently not a social housing solution available. In the Donegal MD, the following provides an update:

- 1.** An offer to acquire lands in Ballyshannon has been agreed, subject to contract and availability of utility connections.
- 2.** Additional lands are being considered across Donegal MD and Members will be informed of same upon the Council progressing to make offers to acquire.

Repair & Lease Scheme Summary						
	Applications					
MD	Received	No. of Units	Awaiting assessment	Rejected	Progressing	Total
Inishowen	26	29	3	23	0	26
Donegal	19	46	0	19	0	19
Glenties	26	39	0	26	0	26
Letterkenny	37	62	10	27	0	37
Stranorlar	27	84	0	27	0	27
Total	135	260	13	122	0	135

update at 31/12/2024

**Donegal Municipal District
2025 Roadworks Programme
Status Report – 14th January 2025**

2025 Road Maintenance (Surface Dressing) Programme										
2025 Regional & Local Road Surface Dressing Programme										
Road Class	Road Number	Road Name and/or Townland Name	Engineering Area	RSS Area	Year	Length (m)	Width (m)	Total Area of work (sq.m)	Estimated Cost (EURO)	Status
			To be agreed when funding is announced							

DRAFT 2025 Road Improvement Programme

No	Road Class	Road Number	Road Name and/or Townland Name	Eng Area	Works Type	Year	Length (m)	Width (m)	Total Area of work (sq.m)	Estimated Cost (EURO)
Draft 2025 Road Improvement Programme										
1	R	R262-3	Frosses - Glenties (Binbane)	14	RI	2025	750	6	4500	€171,000.00
2	LP	L1515-2	Ardaghey - Ardara (Meenabraden)	14	RI	2025	700	7	4900	€147,000.00
3	LP	L1845-3	Ballydevitt - Altadoo	14	RI	2025	600	6	3600	€108,000.00
4	LP	L1375-3-4	Leagan - Croagh	14	RI	2025	700	3.5	2450	€73,500.00
5	LP	L1615-2	Lettermore - Meentacor	14	RI	2025	900	3	2700	€81,000.00
6	LS	LS6375	Edrim Glebe - Dromore upper (Wards)	14	RI	2025	650	3.2	2080	€65,000.00
7	LS	LS975-1	Drumgorman	14	RI	2025	850	3.5	2975	€70,000.00
8	LT	LT16251	Ardaghey OLD N56	14	RI	2025	200	5.5	1100	€33,000.00
9	LP	L1685-4	Sallows - Letterfad	14	RI	2025	1150	3.3	3795	€113,713.00
10	LP	L1485/2	Brenter - Tievedooly	14	RI	2025	1500	3.3	4950	€106,000.00
										€968,213.00
1	R	R-263-7	Drumnafinnagle - Kilcar Jn	15	RI	2025	450	8	3,600	€99,241.00
2	L & R		Killybegs streets	15	RI	2025	500	6	3,750	€150,000.00
3	LP	LP1345-2	Binroe - Ballyloughlan	15	RI	2025	750	4	3,000	€110,000.00
4	LT	LT10354	Cashelhill (Picnic Area)	15	RI	2025	400	3	1,200	€45,000.00
5	LS	LS5435-1	Drumanoo	15	RI	2025	1000	3.5	3,500	€80,000.00
6	LS	LS5565-1	Gibbertstown town towards Calhame	15	RI	2025	900	3	2,700	€95,000.00
7	LP	LP1335-1	Carricknagore	15	RI	2025	1000	4	4,000	€150,000.00
8	LS	LS5215-1&2	Derrylaghan	15	RI	2025	900	3.5	3,150	€110,000.00
9	LT	LT10251	Creevin, Carrick	15	RI	2025	750	3	2,250	€60,000.00
10	LP	LP1265-1	Glenlee roundabout - Drumbarity	15	RI	2025	600	5.5	3,300	€110,000.00
										€1,009,241.00
1	R	R267	Bundoran	16	RI	2025				€70,000.00
2	L & R		Ballyshannon	16	RI	2025				€70,000.00
3	R	R231	Rossnowlagh	16	RI	2025	470	7.2	3384	€112,000.00
4	LS	L7615-2	Garvanagh	16	RI	2025	550	3.50	1925	€61,000.00
5	LP & LS	L2335-4to 7&2	Derries	16	RI	2025	1000	3.50	3500	€112,000.00
6	LP	L2365-1	Cashelard	16	RI	2025	1100	6.20	6200	€136,400.00
7	LS	L7775-2	Tullyhorkey	16	RI	2025	450	6.00	2700	€82,000.00
8	LP	L2535-2	Higginstown	16	RI	2025	500	5.00	2500	€80,000.00
9	LS	L7285-1	Ballyalla	16	RI	2025	900	3.30	2880	€67,000.00
10	LS	L7335-1	Glaskerragh to Tamur	16	RI	2025	1000	3.20	3200	€80,000.00
11	R	R920	Belleek	16	RI	2025	200	7.00	1400	€53,786.00
12	LP	L2565-1	Magheracar	16	RI	2025	400	7.00	2800	€90,000.00
							6570			€1,014,186.00
1	R	232 -5-6	Pettogo Rd	17	RI	2025	900	6	5400	€150,000.00
2	L & R		Donegal Streets	17	RI	2025				€100,000.00
3	LP-LS	L2165-1	N15 to Murvagh Crossroads	17	RI	2025	950	6	5700	€172,000.00
4	LS	L6935-1	Knockbane	17	RI	2025	850	3.5	2975	€59,500.00
5	LS	L6685-1	Aughlem-Straness	17	RI	2025	1000	3.5	3500	€70,000.00
6	LS	L6665-1	Finnadoos-Drumadoney	17	RI	2025	1000	3.5	3500	€70,000.00
7	LP	L2125-5	Kellys Bridge rd	17	RI	2025	1000	3.5	3500	€70,000.00
8	LS	L6715-1	Drumbar-Drumgowan	17	RI	2025	1000	3.5	3500	€70,000.00
9	LS	L8035-1	Tievemore to old PO	17	RI	2025	950	3.5	3325	€66,500.00
10	LS	L8065-1	Lettercran Extension	17	RI	2025	1200	3.5	4200	€84,000.00
11	LS	L6675	Drummenny Middle- Upper	17	RI	2025	1200	3.5	4200	€84,000.00
12	LS	L6785-1	Drumlast	17	RI	2025	1000	3.5	3500	€70,000.00
13	LS	L6895-1	Trummon East	17	RI	2025	700	3.5	2450	€49,070.00
							11750			€1,115,070.00
										€4,106,710.00

Donegal MD footpath repair & public lighting infill works

Footpath Works														
RSS Area	Location	Year 1 Budget 2018	Year 2 Budget 2019	Year 3 Budget 2020	Year 4 Budget 2022	Year 5 Budget 2024	Overall Total Budget	Spent to date Year 1 2018	Spent to date Year 2 2019	Spent to date Year 3 2020	Spent to date Year 4 2022	Spent to date Year 5 2024	Total spent to date	Remaining balance
14	Mountcharles	€5,729.00	€16,600.00	€24,350.00			€46,679.00	€5,729.00	€17,515.99	€22,737.25			€45,982.24	€696.76
	Dunkineely			€23,432.00			€23,432.00			€9,650.00			€9,650.00	€13,782.00
	Frosses		€16,600.00	€23,432.00			€40,032.00		€2,759.75	€0.00			€2,759.75	€37,272.25
	Ardaghey Area				€6,347.00	€33,426.00	€39,773.00				€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€39,773.00
15	Killybegs	€15,568.00	€16,600.00	€50,000.00			€82,168.00	€15,575.78	€16,600.00	€51,817.02			€83,992.80	-€1,824.80
	Kilcar			€3,200.00			€3,200.00			€2,958.60			€2,958.60	€241.40
	Glencolumbkille		€8,300.00	€16,314.00			€24,614.00		€0.00	€0.00			€0.00	€24,614.00
	Carrick		€8,300.00	€1,700.00			€10,000.00		€7,919.45	€1,772.90			€9,692.35	€307.65
16	Killybegs Area				€17,246.00	€33,426.00	€50,672.00				€14,894.81	€14,413.77	€29,308.58	€21,363.42
	Ballintra			€11,214.00			€11,214.00			€11,214.00			€11,214.00	€0.00
	Ballyshannon	€95,224.00	€16,600.00	€35,000.00			€146,824.00	€95,987.00	€16,702.99	€30,966.14			€143,656.13	€3,167.87
	Bundoran		€16,600.00	€25,000.00			€41,600.00		€16,600.00	€25,000.00			€41,600.00	€0.00
17	Ballyshannon Area				€105,492.62	€33,426.00	€138,918.62				€62,982.21	€0.00	€62,982.21	€75,936.41
	Donegal Town	€32,897.00	€16,600.00	€47,214.00			€96,711.00	€24,048.08	€17,500.00	€23,367.99			€64,916.07	€31,794.93
	Laghey		€8,300.00	€8,000.00			€16,300.00		€9,450.16	€0.00			€9,450.16	€6,849.84
	Bridgetown			€6,000.00			€6,000.00			€19,788.65			€19,788.65	-€13,788.65
	Pettigo		€8,300.00	€10,000.00			€18,300.00		€880.35	€0.00			€880.35	€17,419.65
	Donegal Area				€36,424.34	€33,426.00	€69,850.34				€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€69,850.34
	Totals	€149,418.00	€132,800.00	€284,856.00	€165,509.96	€133,704.00	€866,287.96						€538,831.89	€327,456.07

Public Lighting Infill Works						
Area	Location	Description	Total Cost	Status	Total Spent	Remaining balance
14	Drimark, Donegal Town	Infill lighting - 7 additional lights at Drimark on Local	€10,871.00	Completed		
	Mountcharles	Lower End Mountcharles –	€6,750.00	Completed		
	Mill Park Hotel, Doonan	Proposed lighting from Doonan Roundabout to	€9,500.00	Completed	€27,662.46	-€541.46
15	Kilcar	Lighting improvement	€10,650.00	Completed		
	Killybegs	Old Fintra Rd near Glenlee	€18,725.00	Yet to commence	€18,680.68	€10,694.32
16	Ballyshannon	Rossnowlagh Link Road.	€30,000.00	Completed	€25,864.00	€4,136.00
17	Killymard, Donegal Town	Extend existing public lighting past the school	€11,600.00	Completed		
	Tirconnail Street & Castle Street, Donegal Town	Infill lighting needed along the public road at Tirconnail Street on local	€10,000.00	Started		
	Killymard, Donegal Town	Killymard Church to Drumrooske Housing	€22,500.00	Completed	€26,025.48	€18,074.52
		Total amount	€130,596.00		€98,232.62	€32,363.38

2025 Drainage Grant

RSS Area	Budget	No	Description of Works	Road No.	Estimated Cost €	Status
14						
			To be agreed when funding is announced			
15						
16						
17						

2025 LIS Priority List -								
2025 Budget								
DMD %			18.6715%					
DMD Budget								
								Total
RSS Area	Location	Percentage of budget	Budget	No	LIS No	Townland	Engineers cost estimate	Status
14	Ardaghey	44.73%						
						To be agreed when funding is announced		
15	Killybegs	27.64%						
16	Ballyshannon	9.82%						
17	Laghey	17.82%						
							Total	€0.00
							Budget	€0.00
							Balance	€0.00



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

Economic Development, Information Systems & Emergency Services Directorate

Master Municipal District Report January 2025

Content

- 1. Economic Development**
- 2. Local Enterprise Office**
- 3. Information Systems (IS)**
- 4. Emergency Services**
 - 4.1 Fire Service

1. Economic Development

1.1. Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location / Further Info	Point of Contact
2 nd Wed of each month	Innovation Campfire	<p>Next Innovation Campfire Series is on Wed Jan 15th at 13:30</p> <p>Hosted by Alpha Innovation - Our 15-minute sessions showcase inspiring innovation stories from around the world; learn from the experiments, tests, fails, quick wins, and big successes of others; enable participants to be part of a growing community of like-minded individuals; and allow participants to shape future sessions by volunteering to tell a story they are passionate about.</p> <p>You can watch back by visiting ALPHA Innovation Innovation Campfire — ALPHAInnovation.eu</p>	Kevin Sexton - kevinsexton@alphainnovation.eu
23 rd January 2025	Green hydra Multistakeholder Engagement Meeting	<p>The first Regional Multistakeholder meeting for the Interreg Europe Green Hydra project will be held in Colab, ATU Letterkenny on Thursday January 23rd at 1030 to discuss the Hydrogen Landscape in Ireland and areas for collaboration in Donegal.</p> <p>Representatives from the ESB, Hydrogen Ireland and Department of Environment, Climate and Communications will be in Attendance.</p>	Daniel McChrystal – dmcchrystal@donegalcoco.ie

1.2 Economic Development Unit

Marketing & Campaigns Updates

Invest Donegal Communications Update

Latest key stats for the InvestDonegal LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram and web accounts are as follows:

Impressions (last 28 days)		Total Followers
Linked In	13,169	5,515 (+17)
Twitter	3.9k	3,434 (+41)
Instagram	13k	5,134 (+82)
Facebook	8k	2,220 (+20)

Donegal.ie 5.4K Web Users

8 News Items Published.

25th Nov 2024 – 15th Dec 2024

Inward Investment Brochure

The Economic Development team are currently progressing work to develop a new brochure promoting the value proposition for inward investment in County Donegal and highlighting County Donegal as a great place to live, work, study and do business. This brochure will be available in print and digital format.

Inward Investment/Relocation Marketing Campaign

Donegal County Council is working with marketing agency BigO on a new marketing campaign promoting Donegal as a great place to live, work, study, invest and do business. The campaign will include a new hero video, short videos/reels, social media and website promotion of County Donegal. The campaign will start to roll out in early December, with a launch event to take place in advance. Details to be confirmed soon. This campaign will be a follow-on campaign building upon the success of the previous #MovetoDonegal relocation campaign.

Donegal Emigrants Working Lives in Scotland: The Economic Development Team alongside DCC Culture Division hosted events in Edinburgh and Glasgow to explore the stories of Donegal Emigrants who worked in Scotland and commemorating the ordinary people from the Irish community who contributed to Scottish communities and industry that has often been overlooked or considered too ordinary to be recorded. The series of events was very successful with a high turn out from the Irish community in both cities capturing a variety of important and unique stories of our cultural heritage. Plans are ongoing to expand this project further to mark the 850th birthday of Glasgow with support from the Irish Consulate Service.

#BuyDonegal: The #BuyDonegal / #CeannaighDúnnanGall campaign ran for four weeks, from November 25th to December 20th. During this time, we hosted two live radio broadcasts with Highland and Ocean FM, highlighting the diverse array of exceptional businesses throughout the county. Additionally, we shared weekly features on social media to amplify these businesses online.

Donegal Tech Advocates: Donegal County Council, in collaboration with regional stakeholders, developed and launched the Donegal Tech Advocates group in April 2024. The focus of this group is to promote, grow and empower the dynamic and innovative tech sector across the county. The third Donegal Tech Advocates event took place in Donegal ETB Letterkenny with the theme “The Opportunities and Challenges for Tech in Donegal” which saw three companies present on their experiences and resources utilised for upskilling their staff. The final event takes place on the 28th of November hosted by Optum.

Business Concierge Service

The Councils Economic Development Division provides a Business Concierge Service for businesses looking at access Council Services and supports. This service can be accessed by emailing economicdevelopment@donegalcoco.ie

Donegal 2040 DAC

Board and Corporate Governance

The Board of Donegal 2040 DAC is continuing to meet on a regular basis to progress a range of areas including the below.

Update on Projects:

ALPHA Innovation is an initiative of *Donegal 2040 DAC*, supported by *Donegal County Council's Economic Development Unit* and *Enterprise Ireland*. It was set up to accelerate and enable ambitious individuals, SME businesses, startups & scaleups to innovate and build globally ambitious ventures across the county.

Donegal businesses take part in Go-To-Market Lab in Boston

Entrepreneurs from the North West City Region, will prepare for scaling their start-ups and refine their Go-To-Market export strategy. This program is tailored for high-growth enterprises poised to expand internationally. While in the US, founders will be based in the renowned *Cambridge Innovation Centre (CIC)*, where they will have the opportunity to stress-test their business models with US experts and sharpen their value propositions.

Participation is fully funded, and qualifying companies can claim up to 50% off flights and accommodation subject to meeting the conditions of Donegal LEO.

Alpha Innovation Centre and Beta Business Centre

Current Status: Enabling works / Demolition works on site completed. Main construction contract to be tendered. Estimated project completion date: Q4 2026, subject to funding.

Remote Working Hub Carrigart:

Status: In operation. Annual management agreement in place.

Details: One storey building with 18 Hot Desks in an open space floor plan. Meeting room, private phone booths, kitchen facilities and bicycle parking.

Operation & Management of Island House, Killybegs (Post Construction)

Current Status: Under Construction. Estimated Completion Date: Q1 2025.

Marketing Campaign: to commence Q1 2025.

Operation & Management of Burtonport Enterprise Centre (Post Construction)

Current Status: Under Construction. Current Estimated Completion date: Q4 2025.

Operation & Management of The Ritz, Ballybofey (Post Construction)

Current Status: Detailed design.

Current Estimated Completion date: Q4 2027.

Olivia Gallen,
General Manager, Donegal 2040
info@donegal2040.ie 087 2589071

Inward Investment Activity

North West City Region

US Trade Mission 2024 & Golden Bridges

The US Trade Mission took place from 11th to 15th November 2024 and was a very successful trade mission that incorporated both meetings and events showcasing the North West City Region.

This year's North West City Region delegation included representatives from both Donegal County Council and Derry City and Strabane District Council, with both the Mayor of Derry City and Strabane District Council, Cllr. Lillian Seenoi Barr and Cathaoirleach of Donegal County Council, Cllr. Niamh Kennedy attending along with Chief Executives, John G. McLaughlin and John Kelpie, Directors of Service and Heads of Departments and Kevin Sexton of Alpha Innovation. Representatives from the North West Tertiary Education Cluster along with representatives from Udarás na Gaeltachta also attended.

The objective is to raise the profile of the North West City Region in the US and promote the region's value proposition for inward investment and deliver the Pathfinder II programme supporting businesses who wish to scale into the US market.

US Trade Mission Activities 2024:

- On 11th November, the delegation attended a welcome reception at the Donegal Philadelphia Association Diaspora Centre where there was an opportunity to build relationships with the Diaspora and raise awareness of the value proposition of the NWCR from an economic development perspective.
- Organised through our membership of the IABCN (Irish American Business Chamber and Network) in Philadelphia the delegation attended a reception at Philadelphia City Hall hosted by Mayor Parker's Chief of Staff, Pierre-Olivier on 12th November. This was an opportunity to strengthen the economic relations between Philadelphia and the NWCR.
- A visit to Project HOME, an initiative of Sister Mary Scullion took place on 12th November. This project looks at housing, employment, medical care and education for those who are homeless.
- The delegation travelled to Villanova University on 12th November, where the Mayor and Cathaoirleach took part in a panel discussion on 'women in leadership' moderated by Professor

of Politics, Cera Murtagh. This was followed by a meeting with Dr. Anthony Green, MedTech/Innovation expert at Benjamin Franklin Technology Centre.

- On Wednesday 13th November, the delegation travelled to Boston and attended a State House reception hosted by Senator Nick Collins where they discussed opportunities to collaborate with the NWCR. A visit to JFK library followed.
- On Thursday 14th November, the delegation participated in a NWCR business breakfast discussion moderated by Invest NI Chair, John Healy and co-hosted by the Irish Consulate and British Consulate offices in Boston. This was followed by a 'Speaker Series' event hosted by the Irish Consul General, Sighle Fitzgerald. This included a discussion with the Mayor and Cathaoirleach moderated by Mary Murphy, Irish Institute, Boston College covering a range of topics highlighting the benefits of investing in the NWCR.
- On the afternoon of 14th November, the Mayor/Cathaoirleach, Chief Executives and Directors of Service met with Governor Maura Healey at the State House to discuss the NWCR in terms of FDI, Diaspora, key sectors and to discuss collaboration opportunities between the US and the NWCR.
- The NWCR Irish Consulate evening reception and presentation of the Golden Bridges Awards took place on 14th November.
- The annual Golden Bridges Conference took place on 15th November 2024, and this included several panel discussions on the economic opportunities in the NWCR.
- Pathfinder II is a programme designed to support businesses who wish to enter the US market. It is as a result of collaborative partnership between Donegal County Council and Derry City & Strabane District Council under the North West Strategic Trade and Investment Programme 2024. 6 businesses participated in Pathfinder II in 2024.

Promoting the NWCR

A new brochure and video highlighting the value proposition of the NWCR were produced for this year's NWCR US Trade Mission and promoted throughout the week. Link to [video on YouTube](#)

The North West City Region is promoted online via the website www.irelandnw.com and social media on LinkedIn and X on a regular basis and in collaboration with Derry City and Strabane District Council.

NWCR on LinkedIn has 798 followers.

NWCR on X (formerly Twitter @NwIreland) has 248 followers.

Website: www.irelandnw.com

Service Land Initiative at The Commons, Lifford

Construction of enabling infrastructure began in December and it is expected that enabling infrastructure will be complete by Q2/Q3 2025.

The EDU is engaging with various potential site users including Social Housing, Community Health, Recreation and businesses.

Disposal of Council owned Land to support Economic Development

The team is dealing with several requests for disposal of lands for economic development in Ballyshannon, Letterkenny and Bunrana.

Contact Persons

Daniel Mc Chrystal – Senior Economic Development Officer
dmcchrystal@doneglcoco.ie 087 614 7496

1.2: Tourism Marketing Unit

Project Activity

TBEX

Donegal Tourism is thrilled to host TBEX - Europe (Travel Blog Exchange) in September 2025, a major gathering for the travel blogging, influencer, and content creator community.

This event will bring approximately 500 content creators to our destination, where they will take part in four days of intense meetings, conferences, workshops, and networking activities. The conference will be preceded by tours all over Donegal and followed by post-tours across Ireland's regions.

Donegal Tourism aims to take full advantage of this exceptional opportunity to showcase Donegal's distinctive assets on the international stage. Many partnership and sponsorship opportunities now exist, any potential partner can contact Mary Daly, Donegal Tourism directly.

Holiday World Show 2024

This event is taking place in the RDS, Dublin from Fri 24th – Sun 26th January 2025. It is anticipated that the show will attract over 550 exhibitors, and 40,000 attendees over the weekend. Seventeen providers from across the county have confirmed their intentions to attend the show under the umbrella of Donegal Tourism. The Tourism Unit are liaising with the show organisers in relation to PR in advance of the show and securing prizes for the show competition.

Details are available on the Show website: <https://www.holidayworldshow.com/>

Age Friendly/Disability Strategy/Caravan and Camping Committees

Donegal Tourism continues to participate in these groups to see where the Tourism Industry in the county can learn from consultation and collaboration.

Donegal Tourism Brochure 2025

Finalising an A4 and A5 brochure including new categories such as Distilleries. A provision to print 15,000 has been made to distribute to key partners and trade.

Walking Trails Promotion

Procuring video production and promotion for walking trails in 2025 partnering with the Outdoor Recreation team.

Donegal Golf Brochure

Donegal Golf Brochure New Donegal Golf Brochure almost at completion following consultation with all 17 golf clubs in the county. It is planned to launch this brochure in February 2025. The brochure will be printed in January and be available for trade shows. It is proposed to print 5,000 copies of the brochure.

Golf Promotion Plan for 2025

Finalising promotion plan for golf promotion in 2025.

Best of the Northwest Golf Collaboration

Work continues with our colleagues in Derry City/Strabane District Council as the project comes to an end – a digital campaign will go live in January to promote the Best of the North West. A PR campaign to include fam trips and media features will also get underway in the early new year. A representative from

Donegal Tourism and Visit Derry will attend the annual PGA Golf Show in Orlando in January under the collaboration project.

Tourism Seminar 2025

Planning continues for the annual Tourism Seminar which will be jointly hosted by Donegal County Council and Failte Ireland on Wednesday 5th March during Local Enterprise Week. The event will also act as a networking event for the tourism trade in the county and will take place during Enterprise Week 2025.

Night-Time Economy (NTE) Buncrana

NTE Buncrana as part of the national NTE anti-social behaviour campaign 'Safe & Sound' has launched and will feature in bars and venues in Buncrana and beyond, on local radio, social media and newspapers. We also launched a promotional Christmas video that encouraged people to visit Buncrana for the Buncrana Christmas Markets.

The NTE Action Plan is in the process of being drafted and it will be ready in the New Year. The NTE Steering Group will be established in January.

TOURBO

As TOURBO Semester 4 progresses, the new Tourism Strategy (2025-2030) is being forwarded as Donegal County Council's 'Policy Instrument.' The 'Good Practices' of TOURBO's Project Partners are being reviewed by DCC's TOURBO Team with a view to identifying potential frameworks that may be of benefit in the Tourism Strategy, in line with TOURBO's overarching objectives. It is agreed that Donegal will host our TOURBO Partner meeting in Autumn 2025.

Sustainable Arctic & Peripheral Biking Tourism Project (SUB)

Now half way through the workshop series, the 2nd SUB Workshop, which centred around Entrepreneurial Skills, took place in Sweeney's Hotel, An Clochán Liath, on the 3rd of December. Our speakers included Ireland on Bike, Udaras na Gaelteachta and Electric Bike Downings. Everyone who attended shared insights and contributed to entrepreneurial skills within the biking tourism sector in Donegal. The next workshop, which will focus on Sustainability & Responsibility will take place on Tuesday 4th February in Harvey's Point, Lough Eske. Registration is now open.

Planning also continues for the SUB Peer-to-Peer programme and Partner Meeting which Donegal will host next March and April respectively.

EDIN

The EDIN project, funded in partnership with INTERREG Europe, focuses on the improvement of the relevant policies to attract Digital Nomads to Donegal. The program is now in Semester 2 with Donegal County Council taking the Communications and Marketing lead on this. Donegal County Councils "Working Holiday Campaign 2022 & 2023" has been highlighted and accepted as the first good practice on the program. In semester 3 Donegal County Council will host a study visit of other project partners to the county.

GoVisitDonegal.com Website

Go Visit Donegal Website

Kick Off meeting has taken place with web developers to outline requirements and expectations for the new version of the go visit Donegal website which will be launched in 2025. Registration on the website by all trade will be encouraged.

2024 (Nov) - Users 15,439- Page Views 36K

Festival and Events is the most viewed page – views 3,160

Your Wild Atlantic Way is the second most viewed page – views 1,903

Online & Social Media Updates – Go Visit Donegal Nov 2024

Facebook: Reach: 34.3k, Views: 34k

Instagram: Reach: 3.3k, Views: 5.5k

LinkedIn: Reach: 6,690 Imps,136 Reactions, 2030 Followers

TikTok: Followers: 1,456

Donegal Tourism CLG

The next associates committee meeting is scheduled for January 21st in the Donegal MD.

The board met in Dungloe on December 17th.

Grant Schemes

Minor Tourism Related Works Grant Scheme

Successful projects under the 2024 scheme have been notified. Funding for this scheme must be drawn down by June 30th, 2025.

The 2023 projects are nearing completion, and the tourism team are following up with each of the groups in relation to drawing down the grant.

Regional Festival & Events Grant Scheme

€49,750 has been awarded to Donegal County Council under the 2025 Fáilte Ireland Regional Festival Funding Scheme. The tourism team are following up with each of the festival groups in relation to drawing down the 2024 scheme.

Contact Person

Sarah Nolan, Acting Head of Tourism Unit

sarahnolan@donegalcoco.ie 074 91 94241

1.4: Strategic Funding Unit

Strategic Funding Unit – Exploring EU and National Funding Opportunities that support the objectives set out in the **Donegal County Council Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024**

INTERREG Europe Project

Green Hydra

The Green Hydra project focusing on the barriers and opportunities around innovation in hydrogen as a renewable energy source kicked off in April 2024. The scope of this project is to improve national, regional or local policies for involving SME's across the whole hydrogen value chain. The first in person partner Steering Committee meeting took place in Ravenna, Italy on 18th and 19th September and this included a capacity building workshop focused on 'Understanding the green hydrogen value chain', a study visit to Marina di Ravenna Energy and Sea Research Centre and SAPIR port terminal to see how other regions are working with green hydrogen as a renewable energy source.

The first Regional Multistakeholder meeting will be held in Colab Letterkenny on Thursday January 23rd at 1030 to look at the Hydrogen Landscape in Ireland and areas for collaboration in Donegal. Representatives from the ESB, Hydrogen Ireland and Department of Environment, Climate and Communications will be in Attendance.

ICC – Intelligent Cities Challenge

Donegal County Council is a partner along with Derry City and Strabane District Council on the EU funded Intelligent Cities Challenge project led by ERNACT. As one of 64 cities and city regions across Europe, Ireland's North-West City Region is actively participating in the European Commission's Intelligent Cities Challenge 2.0 initiative (ICC). This project requires a Local Green Deal (LGD), aimed at creating tangible actions for change through strategic public-private partnerships. These partnerships bring together businesses, local authorities, and communities to drive sustainable initiatives forward.

Contact Person

Marion Callaghan – Staff Officer
Marioncallaghan@donegalcoco.ie

2. Local Enterprise Office

November 2024 (Year to Date Supports)

Grant Aid (M1) – Six Evaluation Committee meetings have taken place for 2024 with the following approvals:

- 50 Businesses have been approved Grant Aid
- The total value of Grant Aid Approvals is €1,057,387.97.
- The next EVAC meeting is taking place on 25th February, 2025.

Trading Online Vouchers: 59 TOVs approved this year totalling €125,353.05.

Mentoring: 389 business applicants approved up to 12 hours expert mentoring.

Training: 1495 Attendees on 71 Courses held.

Digital Start: 10 applications approved for this support to a value of €40,284.

Green for Business/Green For Micro: 39 applicants approved for these supports to a value of €86,346.

Energy Efficiency Grants: 7 applicants approved for this support to a value of €50,000.

Lean For Business: 22 applicants approved for this support to a value of €100,000.

Trading Online Voucher (TOV) scheme will close permanently on the 13th December 2024.

Applications submitted on or before this date will be processed as normal. The final TOV workshop for LEO Donegal will take place on Wednesday 4th December via Zoom. Moving forward, businesses looking for digital supports will be directed to the [Digital For Business](#) and [Grow Digital](#) schemes.

Donegal Enterprise Awards: The annual Enterprise Awards will take place on Friday December 6th at Rockhill House from 11.30am to celebrate the best in Donegal business during 2024. Six businesses have been shortlisted for the awards. Invites have been issued to all Elected Members.

Energy Efficiency Grant: The current closing date for the Energy Efficiency Grant is 20th December 2024. Businesses who have completed a Green for Business programme or SEAI Energy Audit, with less than 50 employees, can avail of the grant.

Export Development Programme: 4 LEO clients have undertaken an export readiness exercise with Full Circle Consultancy and are now engaging in a programme to identify suitable markets for export. This will be followed by market visits and buyer meetings in these markets.

Get Exporting Programme: At least three Donegal businesses have been selected to progress to Stage 2 of the *Get Exporting* Accelerator Programme. This stage, which consists of four half-day workshops, will run from October 2024 to January 2025. The programme is designed for LEO clients with limited export sales who wish to develop strategies for entering international markets.

Enterprise Europe Network (EEN): Representatives from LEO Donegal recently attended The Enterprise Europe Network Annual Conference 2024 which was held in Budapest, Hungary from the 6th-8th November. This year's event, titled "Boosting the potential of European SMEs", saw over 750 Network members and partners from 55 countries, gather for three days of expert insights and collaboration, involving 160 speakers, in what was a highly successful event.

Start Your Own Business Training Programme: The next Start Your Own Business Programme will commence on Tuesday 7th January, 2025.

LEO Business Supports Clinic take place twice per month – on-line and in-person at locations throughout the county. As well as learning of LEO supports, all attendees will get the opportunity for one-to-one business advice. The next clinic is an in-person event and is taking place on Friday 22nd November, 2024 in the Inishowen Innovation centre in Buncrana.

To book a place at any of the aforementioned events go to [Online Bookings - Donegal \(localenterprise.ie\)](#)

Contact Person

Brenda Hegarty, Head of Enterprise, Local Enterprise Office
074 9160735 Brenda.Hegarty@leo.donegalcoco.ie

3. Information Services

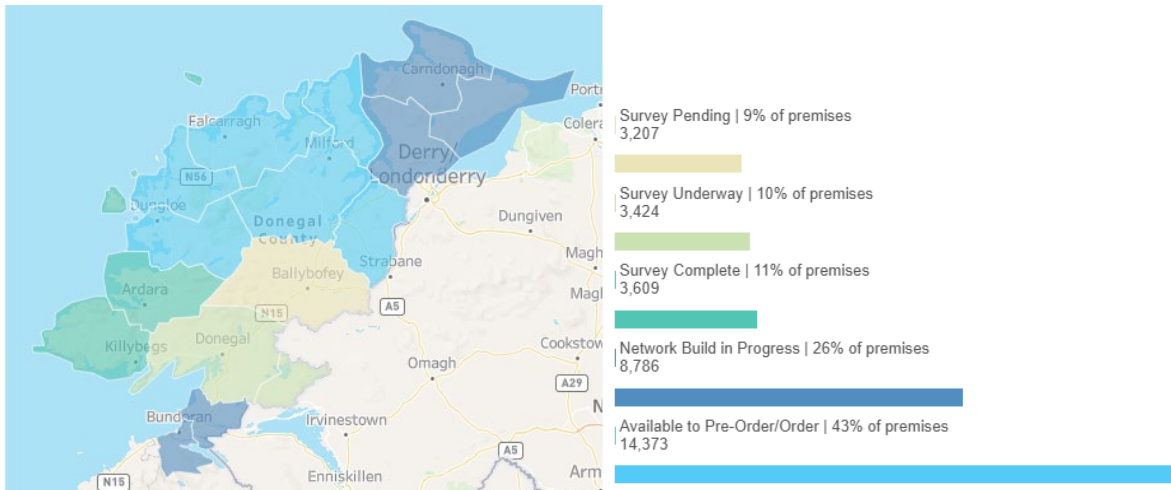
Information Services (IS)

National Broadband Plan

The rollout of the NBP continues in County Donegal. This is a government investment of €128m into the telecommunications infrastructure in the county, bringing fibre broadband to every premises in the Intervention Area.

The Letterkenny, Creeslough, Termon, St. Johnston, Bunbeg, Fintown and small Island deployment areas are complete and actively connecting customers.

These deployment areas cover 14,373 premises or 43% of the Intervention Area. Network build is in progress in the 5 deployment areas of Carndonagh, Buncrana, Moville, Bundoran, Ballyshannon, totalling 8,786 premises or 26% of the IA. Surveying is complete in the Ardara, Killybegs, Arranmore & Tory Island deployment areas covering 3,609 premises or 11% of the IA. Surveying is now underway in the Donegal and Pettigo Deployment areas of 3,424 premises, or 10% of the IA. 3,207 premises, or 9% of the IA, in the deployment area of Ballybofey/Stranorlar are at survey pending stage. NBI are currently planning Active Equipment Module builds on the islands to connect to the mainland. To keep informed of the rollout plan in Donegal we encourage people to register their interest with; <https://www.nbi.ie>



Winter Maintenance Programme

As the winter maintenance programme has started and the first frosts and snows of the season have fallen, our winter dashboard highlights the roads to be gritted every evening. Register with www.mapalarter.ie/donegal to receive weather related alerts.

<https://donegal.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/989516ab92554f10ae6b3b7338e80063>

EU Projects:

The Interreg funded **CIVITEC** project met in Jaén, Spain for its 2nd project meeting on 6th – 7th November. Civitec is about making the democratic process more participatory, inclusive and responsive by enhancing citizen involvement through new digital tools and processes. Donegal County Council presented 2 case studies on using GIS tool to encourage online participation.



The Interreg funded **ENAIBLER** project met in San Sebastian Spain on 13th – 14th November

The study visit gave an opportunity to delve into the latest advancements in AI technology and it's impact on various sectors by bringing together experts, researchers, and industry leaders to explore the transformative power of artificial intelligence and advocate for responsible AI practices.



T&S V7 Pilot

Donegal County Council participated as pilot site for the recent T&S (travel and subsistence) V7 upgrade with LGMA. Key elements of the T&S V7 is the additional categorisation of vehicle types and receipts to facilitate SEAI reporting along with enhanced processing features.

Contact Person

Siobhán Foy, Head of Information Systems
074 9172404 e-mail: sfoy@donegalcoco.ie

4. Emergency Services

4.1 – Fire Service

Fire Service Monthly MD Report (January)

Activity	Number of: (November) ¹		Total for year	
Fire Service Operations				
Fire Brigade incidents within County Donegal**:	62		745	
Mobilisations (by Donegal Fire Service Brigades)**:	71		868	
Mobilisations into Donegal (by NI Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS))**:	7		107	
Operational Activity Breakdown November 2024	Turnouts		Incidents in County	
	Fires	Special Services	Fires	Special Services
Donegal Fire Service	20	51	18	37
Northern Ireland Fire Service	2	5	2	5
Sub Total	22	56	20	42
Total	78		62	
Fire Prevention				
Fire Safety Certificate applications received:	8		174	
Fire Safety Certificates waiting to be assessed:	29		N/A	
Fire Safety Certificate applications assessed by the Fire Officer and waiting for Further Information from the Applicant / Agent:	56		N/A	
Fire Safety Certificate decisions made:	9		145	
Applications for Dangerous Substance Licences received:	0		10	
Dangerous Substance Licences issued:	1		6	
Form of notice received under the Explosives Act, 1875:	8		47	
Inspections and Auditing carried out (Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003, Annual Licensing, DSA 1972, Explosive Stores, Pyrotechnics, BCA 1992 & 2007):	10		204	
Fire Safety Complaints received:	1		21	

Fire Safety Complaints dealt with:	1	21
During Performance Inspections carried out:	0	0
Fire Safety awareness presentations delivered:	18 ²	120

1. **Current data is only available up to the end of November 2024.**
2. **As part of its community fire safety programme, Donegal Fire Service facilitated fire station open days in Moville & Carndonagh Fire Stations. Carndonagh, Bunrana, Milford, Moville & Letterkenny Fire Brigades provided fire safety presentations/station visits/talks at various events throughout the County whilst 10 No. home fire safety visits were also completed.**

ENVIRONMENT MD REPORT – January 2025

CLIMATE ACTION

<p>Activity / Project Title</p>	<p>Decarbonising Zones – Climate Actions Work Event, 8th November 2024</p>
<p>Project Description/ Activity</p>	<p>The Council’s Climate Action Unit recently collaborated with the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications “Climate Actions Work” team to host a community event in Carndonagh Decarbonizing Zone. The aim was to engage the community and stakeholders in an action plan for the area that works towards a climate friendly shared vision. The event was very well attended with excellent discussion and ideas shared. DECC produced a report of the day which DCC are now reviewing with a view to finalising the DZ vision and actions for Carndonagh. A similar event is being planned for Falcarragh / Gortahork DZ.</p>  <p> CARNDONAGH DECARBONIZATION ZONE WORKSHOP  Inishowen Development Partnership  WE'RE TAKING CLIMATE ACTION  Gníomhú Ar Son na Haeráide Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications An Roinn Comhshaoil, Aeráide agus Cumarsáide Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications CAPTURED LIVE BY RUTH GRAHAM </p>

Figure 1 – A visual summary of the contributions made by the attendees at the event.


Contact Person	Lorraine Arbuckle, Climate Action Coordinator larbuckle@Donegalcoco.ie
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Activity / Project Title	Climate Action Plan Implementation
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Project Description/ Activity	<p>The Donegal County Council Climate Action Team held its 2nd cross-directorate meeting on 12th December 2024. Items discussed included monitoring progress on actions, fleet decarbonising, and Sustainable Development Goals. A presentation was given to the Team by Accelerating Action, highlighting the many uses and benefits of the SDG software recently procured by DCC to support the alignment of our services with the SDGs and targets.</p>
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Contact Person	Lorraine Arbuckle, Climate Action Coordinator larbuckle@Donegalcoco.ie
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Activity / Project Title	Sustainable Energy Community - Pettigo
Project Description/ Activity	<p>AdOPT, a community group in Pettigo have registered to become a Sustainable Energy Community (SEC) with the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI). Benefits of being a SEC include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve financial and energy savings • Improve public wellbeing and comfort from energy efficient buildings • Boost local knowledge, skills and employment • Build capacity and leverage funding • Contribute to climate change targets • Support an equitable transition to a low carbon society <p>Through their SEC Mentor, AdOPT Pettigo are now availing of Donegal County Council’s Bridging Finance programme to finance the development of their first Energy Master Plan. This programme is delivered through a Memorandum of Understanding between Donegal County Council and SEAI to provide pre-funding to SECs so that they can avail of SEAI grants of up to €25,000 for Energy Master Plan preparation. This important master plan identifies the decarbonising measures that can be taken, and sign posts the various grants available to do so.</p> <p>DCC encourage any SEC that could benefit from bridge financing through this programme, enabling access to further grants, or any community considering becoming an SEC to contact their SEC Mentor. Details can be provided by contact person below.</p> 
Contact Person	<p>Lorraine Arbuckle, Climate Action Coordinator larbuckle@Donegalcoco.ie</p>

Activity / Project Title	Communities Caring for Water Conference 2024 – ‘Our Water, Our Future; Empowering Communities to Improve and Protect’ and Launch of the LAWPRO Catchment Support Fund 2025
Project Description/ Activity	<p>Community Climate Action Officer, Fiona Kelly attended the Communities Caring for Water Conference on Saturday 9th November 2024.</p> <p>The event, hosted by LAWPRO and The Rivers Trust, took place in Athlone, Co. Westmeath from 10am to 4pm. There was a series of talks by community groups, experts and water quality advocates over the course of the day covering the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change and working with Nature • Hydromorphology Pressures and Solutions • Capacity Building in Community Groups • The Importance of Public Participation <div data-bbox="548 886 1289 1444" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Pictured at the 'Communities Caring for Water Conference: (Pictured L-R) Fiona Kelly, DCC - Community Climate Action Officer, Jimmy McVeigh, LAWPRO - Border Region Management, Dr. Trish Murphy, Inishowen Rivers Trust.</p> <p>Malcolm Noonan TD, the Minister for Nature, Heritage and Electoral Reform gave his support to the Conference and launched the LAWPRO Catchment Support Fund for 2025. The fund aims to build the capacity of non-governmental organisations working in the area of water quality in Ireland by providing funding towards their core costs. This funding provides support to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop and strengthen the skills, processes, and resources that catchment organisations need to survive, adapt, and thrive.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• water quality focused organisations who play a key role in the protection and restoration of water bodies and help in achieving the objectives of national policy and plans. <p>The deadline for applications is 14th January 2025. Contact below for more information.</p>
Contact Person	Fiona Kelly, Community Climate Action Officer fionakelly@donegalcoco.ie

BUNDORAN WATERWORLD REFURBISHMENT

1. Background

Bundoran Waterworld (BWW) complex is wholly owned by Donegal County Council and is managed through an Appendix 8 company, Bundoran Waterworld Company Limited By Guarantee. The Directors on this Board include five Council nominees, four by the elected members and one by the Chief Executive, as well as 3 local business representatives.

Turnover for the financial year ending 31st December 2023 was €988,000, an increase of €105,000 on the previous year. Staff numbers include 3 full time, permanent staff year-round and which for 2024 saw the employment of 42 seasonal staff, with the season generally running from Easter to the end of August each year. The centre is largely self financing, requiring a modest contribution of €9,439 from the Council in 2023 to allow it to trade on a break even basis, a reduction from the still modest €18,841 required for the 2022 trading year.

The Center is acknowledged by businesses in the Bundoran and surrounding areas as the critical tourism product infrastructure that draws and holds day-visitors and longer stay tourists in the area, thus supporting the core hospitality industry that Bundoran is based upon. This is evidenced in the most recently completed financial year accounts where 69,441 visitors contributed to the turnover figure of €988,000 at the centre itself. The bulk of activity takes place in the July & August periods each year but the facility's opening in the Easter to June period supports wider footfall to Bundoran during this shoulder season period.

The inclement weather experienced during Summer 2024, was negated somewhat by this wet-weather facility that allowed visitors to experience a critical tourism product. It is widely acknowledged by businesses themselves that BWW was a saviour for many ancillary providers in Bundoran during Summer 2024, with footfall that would not have occurred otherwise.

2. Introduction to Investment Requirement

Opened initially in 1991, the centre is now approaching 34 years of activity. While there has been an ongoing minor capital investment programme, a number of areas of infrastructure are reaching obsolescence/end of life or are no longer fit for purpose to meet visitor expectations. These can largely be categorized into two areas of work, namely;

- Extension and refurbishment of changing village and associated works and
- Installation of new Air Handling Unit (AHU) in pool area.

Both of these investments are critical in their own right, the changing village to

increase capacity and thus turnover, as well as to modernize the facilities to current day expectations. The AHU in the pool area is the original installed at initial build and is a mission critical piece of infrastructure in that, should it fail, the centre cannot open (such an instance occurred recently in another leisure centre in Ireland). It was originally intended to leave the AHU replacement until later but inspections which took place associated with the Changing village project led to the conclusion by Council engineers, as advised by external advisors, that there was a critical necessity for its early replacement.

In that context two tenders were commenced in Q4 2024 for the procurement of contractors to deliver the necessary works.

3. Project Description

a) Changing Village and associated works

The project consists of the extension of the entrance area to include a new reception and viewing area, the extension and refurbishment of the changing area to include the supply and installation of new cubicles, lockers, showers, toilets, tiling and other miscellaneous items at Waterworld as indicated in the contract documentation.

The works shall primarily consist of the following:

- Removal of existing cubicles
- Removal of existing lockers (to be safely stored for future use)
- Removal of existing floor tiling and tile skirting
- Removal of sanitary ware (existing showers to be safely stored for future use)
- Installation of new tiling
- Installation of new cubicles
- Installation of existing lockers
- Installation of new sanitary ware
- Disabled access upgrade
- Upgrading ventilation system
- Redirecting of existing electrical and drainage services affected by works.
- Reconfiguration of first floor layout
- Extension to front elevation
- All plumbing, electrical and builders work associated with the above.

Miscellaneous Works:

The works will/may involve working adjacent to and around existing services including:
- ESB & Eircom cables.

The tender assessment process for this has been completed and an agreed tender in the sum of €1,836,181 excl. VAT has been received. Associated consultancy and design costs for these works, previously procured, amount to €59,700 excl. VAT.

b) Air Handling Unit in Pool Area

The project consists of the replacement of the existing Pool Hall AHU sections with a new efficient system incorporating a heat recovery block with bypass, new EC fans, recirculation damper and low temp LPHW heating coil to future proof to be capable of operating with future heat pump technology integration.

The works shall primarily consist of the following:

- Removal of the existing pool hall AHU sections.
- Temporary support of the existing ductwork while new fan sections are installed internally.
- Supply, installation and commissioning of new Heat recovery block with bypass, new EC fans, recirculation damper and low temp LPHW heating coil to future proof for potential Heat Pump integration.
- Builders work to include groundworks for relocating 2 No. Inspection Chambers.
- Ground preparation for concrete raft to support external Heat recovery block.
- Structural steel support interlinking ductwork between internal and external AHU sections.
- Creating and making good new and old openings in the existing cladding on the north & west facades of the building.
- Modification and reconnection to existing internal ductwork and painted to match existing.
- New BMS controller for AHU to integrate on to existing BMS.
- All plumbing & electrical works associated with the above.

Miscellaneous Works:

The works will/may involve working adjacent to and around existing services including:
- ESB & Eircom cables.

The tender assessment process for this is nearing completion with a tender sum of €379,352 excl. VAT. Associated and mandated consultancy costs for this project amount to €66,390.

The nature of some of the works allow for grant application funding from SEAI through its pathfinder programme. There is a confidence from engagement with the required energy consultants for this scheme that it is grant eligible and in that context it is

estimated that a capital grant in respect of the incorporated energy efficiency contributing investments in the amount of approximately €350,000 will be realized.

4. Council contribution required & proposed funding source.

The net contribution required from the Council for both projects, taking account of grants and without allowing any further contingency costs, is therefore €1,991,623.

It is proposed, subject to the agreement of the members, to reassign a portion of a €4m approved, but not assigned capital loan, approved in May 2022, to co-finance this.

This came about as a result of the Council ring-fencing at that time, based upon best understandings, a sum of €4m co-financing required for the Council's public lighting programme. In the intervening period, a significant portion of the public lighting retrofit programme has been achieved through annual maintenance programmes (funded from own-resources), with future works to be funded in-part by external grants and in-part through the annual maintenance programme. There will be a need to continue to invest in the county's public lighting infrastructure. However, it is not expected that there will be a requirement to fund these works through borrowing in the immediate term.

In that context, the Council is asked to approve of the reassignment of a proportion of this unrequired €4m loan in the sum of €1,991,623 to cover the co-financing costs of these two projects.

Garry Martin

Director of Services

9th January 2025



Municipal District of Donegal

14th January 2025

1. Playgrounds 2025

- a. Annual Maintenance of Playgrounds
- b. Killybegs Playground Refurbishment

2. Failte Ireland Platforms for Growth & Destination Towns

- a. Bundoran Destination Towns
- b. Platforms for Growth Tullan Strand

3. Rural Programmes

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------|
| a. Largy Coastal Walk | ORIS |
| b. Laghey Sensory Garden | CLAR |
| c. Rossylongan | ORIS |
| d. Glenlee Forest Trail | CLAR |
| e. Laghey Parish Hall & Playground | T&V |
| f. Aodh Ruadh Park, Ballyshannon | CLAR |
| g. Meenaneary Community Centre | CLAR |
| h. Teelin Community Centre | CLAR |

4. Community Trails Plan

5. Rural Development Programme/LEADER 2023-2027

6. Local Enhancement Programme 2025

7. Healthy Ireland Fund



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

Municipal District: Donegal

Activity / Project Update: January 2025

Activity / Project Title	Playgrounds 2025
Project Description/Activity	Annual maintenance of Playgrounds Works consists of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Replacement of broken and damaged equipment.• Carry out repairs to safety surfaces.
Budget (if applicable)	
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<u>Current Status:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annual safety inspections due to be undertaken mid-January.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Once safety inspections complete, maintenance tender will be prepared and published for 2025.
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	John Deeney Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: jdeeney@donegalcoco.ie



Activity / Project Update: January 2025

Activity / Project Title	Killybegs Playgrounds Refurbishment
Project Description/Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Refurbishment of the Killybegs Playgrounds, funded through the Community Recognition Fund and Donegal Co Co.
Budget (if applicable)	
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<p><u>Current Status:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Initial meeting with community groups to discuss the project and their vision for the playgrounds.Donegal Co Co technical staff undertaking detailed surveys of each playground.Surveys complete.Initial design works in progress to develop plans for the playgrounds.Design proposals were shared with the Killybegs Community Council who got feedback from the local community. Minor design amendments are being made to address feedback.Design and tender documents ready to publish, awaiting confirmation from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine before issuing tender documents due to land lease conditions.Meetings held with the Killybegs Harbour Master to get their approval before publishing tender.Tender documents published to secure a playground contractor.Assessment of tenders in progress.Contractor appointment in progress and playground equipment has been ordered.Contractor appointed and play equipment have been delivered to their yard for the project.Refurbishment works have commenced.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Refurbishment works planned to be completed Q1 2025.
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	John Deeney Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: jdeeney@donegalcoco.ie



Activity / Project Update: January 2025

Activity / Project Title	Bundoran Destination Towns (Fáilte Ireland Co-Funded)
Project Description/Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Installation of artwork on the three approach roundabouts to Bundoran; Tullaghan/Drumacrin/Finner• Installation of wayfinding signage throughout Bundoran• Streetscape improvement works to; Central Lane/Renisan's Lane/Meehan's Lane
Budget (if applicable)	
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<p><u>Current Status:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Architect appointed to delivery the project.• Part 8 Planning secured for the wayfinding signage and streetscape improvement works.• Tender documents/detailed designs being prepared for the wayfinding signage and streetscape improvement works.• Artist selected for the roundabout artwork, contract documents being completed.• Artist contract documents completed and issued, site meeting held with Artist and his engineer to discuss the works.• Consultation ongoing with TII regarding approval for Artwork on the N15 roundabouts.• Part 8 Planning Application for the installation of artwork on the Tullaghan, Drumacrin & Finner roundabouts opened to public consultation on the 15th September.• Reviewing detailed designs for the wayfinding signage and streetscape works.• Part 8 planning for the earwork on the Tullaghan, Drumacrin and Finner roundabouts secured at the November 2023 Council meeting. Review meeting held with Artist's design team to commence fabrication of artwork in January 2024.• Reviewing project cost estimates to keep within available budget.• Artwork installed on the Tullaghan roundabout, Drumacrin roundabout and Finner roundabout.• Tender documents published for a contractor to undertake the wayfinding signage and streetscape works.• Assessment of tender submissions complete.• Undertaking a value engineering exercise to bring project inline with available budget.• Contactor appointed and works have commenced.• Works programmed to be completed February 2025.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue works.
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	John Deeney Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: jdeeney@donegalcoco.ie



Activity / Project Update: January 2025

Activity / Project Title	Platforms for Growth Tullan Strand Funded by Fáilte Ireland
Project Description/Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development of a Facility Centre for Water Based Activities at Tullan Strand in Bundoran along with improved access to Tullan Strand Beach.
Budget (if applicable)	
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<p><u>Current Status:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cross departmental meetings being held with different sections of the Council to fully understand project requirements and future maintenance requirements.• Draft tender documents prepared to seek a Consultant to develop site specific designs and secure planning permission.• Discussions with local stakeholders and landowners.• Meeting held with local stakeholders from Bundoran.• Tender documents were published on etenders seeking a professional design team.• Submissions received and tender assessment process underway.• Consultant identified to undertake the project and scoping of survey works underway.• Discussions held with landowners regarding access.• Surveys are underway and design works progressing.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue surveys and design work in preparation a planning application to An Bord Pleanála Q2 2025.
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	John Deeney Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: jdeeney@donegalcoco.ie



Activity / Project Update: January 2025

Activity / Project Title	Fintra to Largy Coastal Walk
Project Description/Activity	Rural Programmes Project Management Measure
Budget (if applicable)	€ 50,000
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<u>Current Status:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Initial meeting has taken place with the community group and the landowners.• The draft brief to procure the consultant engineer is ongoing.• The Design Team are investigating the feasibility of the various potential trails.• The project was tendered on the E-tender platform and the tender report is currently being finalised.• The Consultant has been appointed and the initial design work has commenced.• The project is ongoing and on schedule to finished for the end of the year.• A draft report has been Submitted to the DCC for review and will be shared with the community group in the coming weeks.• The ecology report has identified endangers species habitat along the proposed route that will require particular attention.• A further meeting with the consultant engineers and the ecologist has been scheduled for mid-January 2025.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	The Project will be finished by the end of Q1 2025
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	Brian Keogh Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie



Activity / Project Title	CLÁR 2023 Measure 1
Project Description/Activity	Laghey Parish Hall Sensory Garden
Budget (if applicable)	€ 55,555
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<u>Current Status:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Initial meetings with Community Group have taken place. Provisional letter of offer has issued.• The procurement process to appoint an Architect has taken place and is appointed.• The Architect is now finalising the design and preparing tender documents to procure a contractor.• The Contractor is now appointed.• Work has commenced on site.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	This project should be completed by the end of Q1 2025
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	Brian Keogh Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie



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

Activity / Project Update: January 2025

Activity / Project Title	Rossylongan ORIS 2024 Measure 2
Project Description/Activity	Upgrade of Paths & Trials in the Rossylongan Forrest Park.
Budget (if applicable)	€222,000
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<u>Current Status:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Initial meeting with Community Group took place in December 2024.• DCC will commence preparing tender documents for this project in January 2025.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	This project should be completed by the end of Q4 2025
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	Brian Keogh Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie



Activity / Project Title	CLÁR 2023 Measure 1
Project Description/Activity	Glenlee Forest Trail, Killybegs
Budget (if applicable)	€ 55,555
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<u>Current Status:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Initial meetings with Community group and Coillte has happen. Provisional letter of offer has issued.• Coillte are currently designing the new trail.• The works should be started in Q1 2025
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	Works to be completed in Q1 of 2025
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	Brian Keogh Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie



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

Activity / Project Update: January 2025

Activity / Project Title	Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2023
Project Description/Activity	Laghey Parish Hall Extension & Playground
Budget (if applicable)	€ 263,500
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<u>Current Status:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Initial meetings with Community Group have taken place in recent weeks.• A brief to procure an Architect is being prepared.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	Procurement of an Architect to be completed in the next eight to ten weeks.
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	Brian Keogh Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie



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

Activity / Project Update: January 2025

Activity / Project Title	CLÁR 2024 Measure 1
Project Description/Activity	Aodh Ruadh Park Ballyshannon, Refurbish Spectator Stand
Budget (if applicable)	€ 55,555
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<u>Current Status:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Initial meetings with the Community group have taken place in December 2024.• Provisional Letter of Offers will be sent to the Group in January 2025.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	Brian Keogh Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie



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

Activity / Project Update: January 2025

Activity / Project Title	CLÁR 2024 Measure 1
Project Description/Activity	Meenaneary Community Centre upgrade to electrical systems
Budget (if applicable)	€ 55,555
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<u>Current Status:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Initial meetings with the Community group have taken place in December 2024.• Provisional Letter of Offers will be sent to the Group in January 2025.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	Brian Keogh Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie



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

Activity / Project Update: January 2025

Activity / Project Title	CLÁR 2024 Measure 1
Project Description/Activity	Teelin Community Centre Thermal Upgrade
Budget (if applicable)	€ 55,555
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<u>Current Status:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Initial meetings with the Community group have taken place in December 2024.• Provisional Letter of Offers will be sent to the Group in January 2025.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	Brian Keogh Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie



Activity / Project Update

Project Title	Community Trails Plan															
Project Description	<p>A Community Trails Plan for the Donegal MD is being developed which will identify existing and seek to connect potential walking trails that provide safe 'doorstep' outdoor recreation opportunities at a local level for the community.</p> <p>This plan will provide a roadmap guiding communities and informing the sustainable development and management of a network of walks/paths/trails whilst ensuring the preservation of the ecological and culturally rich natural environment that is unique South Donegal.</p>															
Progress to date	<p>Consultant, Humphrey Murphy from ILC has been appointed and continues working through a programme of desktop research, including mapping, site verification and community conversations.</p>															
Project Targets	<p>Building on the information already gathered we now want to hear from our communities, to learn of their experiences and aspirations to ultimately inform the ongoing and future development of our walking network in South Donegal. A series of drop-in community events are scheduled across the District for the following dates: -</p> <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Date</th><th>Time</th><th>Location</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Tues, 21st Jan 2025</td><td>2pm to 4pm</td><td>Members Room, Donegal PSC</td></tr><tr><td>Tues, 21st Jan 2025</td><td>6pm to 8pm</td><td>Abbey Centre, Ballyshannon</td></tr><tr><td>Thurs, 23rd Jan 2025</td><td>2pm to 4pm</td><td>Carrick Community Hall</td></tr><tr><td>Thurs, 23rd Jan 2025</td><td>6pm to 8pm</td><td>Henry Kee's Office, Main St, Killybegs</td></tr></tbody></table> <p>We Want To Hear From You</p> <p>Members of the public are encouraged to attend one of the events to share with us what community trail opportunities your community are interested in pursuing and how we can better connect our places and spaces for everyone across the Donegal MD.</p>	Date	Time	Location	Tues, 21 st Jan 2025	2pm to 4pm	Members Room, Donegal PSC	Tues, 21 st Jan 2025	6pm to 8pm	Abbey Centre, Ballyshannon	Thurs, 23 rd Jan 2025	2pm to 4pm	Carrick Community Hall	Thurs, 23 rd Jan 2025	6pm to 8pm	Henry Kee's Office, Main St, Killybegs
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Further Details - Contact	<p>Claire McCallan Architect in the Community cmccallan@donegalcoco.ie</p> <p>Caroline Britton Community Development Officer cbritton@donegalcoco.ie</p>															



Activity / Project Title	Rural Development Programme/LEADER 2023-2027
Project Description/Activity	Donegal LCDC are the Local Action Group (LAG) for County Donegal, with responsibility for the LEADER programme 2023-2027.
Budget (if applicable)	€10.4m for RDP/LEADER 2023-2027 for projects and administration.
Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<p>Implementing Partners within the county; Donegal Local Development CLG (DLDC), Inishowen Development Partnership (IDP), Údarás Na Gaeltachta and Comhar na nOileán, are closing out and completing the LEADER Transitional programme on behalf of the LAG.</p> <p>The New LEADER Programme 2023-2027 is now open for Expressions of Interest across the 4 Implementing Partners and respective areas. Donegal has been awarded approximately €10.4m in allocation for the delivery of programme to cover the period.</p> <p>Currently 9 projects have been approved through the LAG with funding of €334,171.46 allocated.</p>
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	<p>LDCs will continue to work with promoters on the ground to animate and develop new projects for submission to internal evaluation committees and then to the Local Action Group for consideration.</p> <p>Members can access further information on the overall programme at https://www.donegalcoco.ie/community/leader/</p>
Contact Person	Ciaran Martin cmartin@donegalcoco.ie Administrative Officer, Community Development Division, Donegal County Council



Municipal District: All

Activity / Project Title	Local Enhancement Programme 2025
Project Description/Activity	The Local Enhancement Programme 2025, provides for capital supports essential for many small community groups and organisations and €1m to aid with energy and running costs.
Budget (if applicable)	€303,465
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<p>The Department of Rural and Community Development launched the Local Enhancement Programme 2025 with a national fund of €7m.</p> <p>The fund is aimed particularly at those who serve disadvantaged communities in rural and urban areas.</p> <p>The scheme is designed to ensure local priorities are identified and met, so as to improve and enhance community facilities for all.</p> <p>The Local Enhancement Programme 2025 will support groups, particularly in disadvantaged areas to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focus on small capital works/repairs/improvements, and the purchase of equipment for community use such as improved access for persons with a disability; enhancing community participation for disadvantaged and marginalised groups and improving energy efficiency of community facilities to reduce ongoing costs.• Current funding is also available for Community groups to assist with their energy and running costs. <p>All funding will be available to a diverse range of community groups including but not limited to Men's and Women's sheds/groups, community centres, parish halls and local voluntary groups.</p> <p>Donegal LCDC have been allocated €303,465 for award under the Programme. This total amount comprises of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• €260,113 capital funding for the Local Enhancement Programme to use towards carrying out necessary repairs and improvements to facilities, energy efficiency type projects, purchase of equipment etc.• €43,352 current funding. The funding is for day to day running costs such as energy, insurance, heating costs etc. <p>The Local Improvement Grant Scheme has 3 different grants available for groups to apply for:</p>

	<p>Capital Grant – Small – Grants from €500 to €1,000 (for expenditure period 13th January – 28th November 2025)</p> <p>Capital Grant – Large – Grants from €5,000 to €10,000 (for expenditure period 13th January – 28th November 2025)</p> <p>Current Funding - Grants up to a max of €500 for day to day running costs (for expenditure period 1st June 2024 – 30th May 2025)</p>
<p>Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period</p>	<p>The deadline for receipt of applications to the Local Enhancement Programme 2025 for 3.30pm on Tuesday, 25th February 2025.</p> <p>Applications for these grants are through online platform only and opened for receipt application on 13th January.</p>
<p>Contact Person (to include telephone number & e-mail address)</p>	<p>Ciaran Martin cmartin@donegalcoco.ie Administrative Officer, Community Development Division, Donegal County Council</p>




Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall
Donegal County Council



Municipal District: Countywide

Activity / Project Update

<p>Programme</p>	<p>Healthy Ireland Fund</p>
<p>Project Description/Activity</p>	<p>Healthy Ireland The objective of the Healthy Ireland Fund 2023 – 2025 is to improve the health and wellbeing of people of all ages and abilities living in Ireland through the implementation of the Healthy Ireland Strategic Action Plan 2021-2025.</p>
<p>Budget</p>	<p>€233,122.42 Round 4 Funding</p>
<p>Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status</p> <p>Donegal Sports Partnership Active Play</p> <p><i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i></p>	<p>Healthy Ireland Round 4 The Healthy Ireland Round 4 Programme (HIF 2023-2025) represents a more evidenced-based outcomes led approach, with a longer 3-year timeframe. The grant period for Round 4 will run from 1 June 2022 to 31 December 2025, with the outcomes led approach to be delivered from 2023-2025.</p>  <p>Pictured L-R: Danny Gillespie, Donegal Sports Partnership; Margaret Fitzgerald, Healthy Ireland Programme; Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh, Leas-Chathaoirleach of Donegal County Council; Paddy Doherty, Senior Executive Officer, Community Development, Donegal County Council; Ciaran Martin, Slaintecare Healthy Communities Programme; Kirsty Browne, Donegal Sports Partnership.</p>

Donegal County Council in collaboration with Donegal Sports Partnership and funded through the Healthy Ireland Programme and Slaintecare Healthy Communities Programme launched the Active Play Donegal Programme on 7th November 2024.

The Active Play Donegal Programme aims to increase participation in physical activity for children through developing the capacity and skills of 'Play Leaders' within communities. Identified Play Leaders will receive training and support in how to encourage children in their domain to become more physically active through the medium of play.

Speaking at the launch of the programme in the Craoibhin Community Enterprise Centre, Termon Leas-Chathaoirleach of Donegal County Council, Cllr Jimmy Kavanagh said "Being active through play helps children not only increase their physical fitness but also builds confidence and resilience while encouraging creativity and problem-solving skills - all of which benefit children's health and happiness as they grow."

**Donegal Volunteer Centre
Planting Seeds of Support among Rural Farmers**



Pictured L-R: On a site visit with members of Ballybofey, Stranorlar & District Historical Society and following a First Aid Training Course.

Ireland is undergoing an epidemic related to loneliness and social isolation within the population as a whole, with some 20% of the general population reporting to be lonely in an EU survey carried out in 2022.

The traditional sense of 'community' prevalent amongst rural farmers for many generations has suffered a significant decline in the past 20 years due to increased machinery use, intensive farming schedules, off-farm employment, health issues, technology, and the changing demographics of the group. This has led to a spike in isolation, loneliness, and hidden mental health challenges. Donegal Volunteer Centre in partnership with Healthy Donegal is aiming to promote personal and community development, upskilling and social network development in farmers aged 55+ who are only working/living on the farm and have no off-farm employment and who lack other social outlets.

**Foroige
Civic Play Project**



Healthy Donegal in partnership with Foróige works to enable young people to involve themselves consciously and actively in their personal development and in the development of society. Using outdoor recreational areas - 'Earn Zone' sites identified as part of Healthy Donegal's Civic Dollars Project, this project aims to help participants

- Build self-esteem and confidence through challenging experiences,
- Develop the ability to manage personal and social relationships,

Participants recently took part in a one day Be Wild Be Free Forest skills workshop at a specially designated camp at Ards Friary Forest and Beach. The workshop was facilitated by Wild Awake and activities provided an opportunity for young people to connect with green spaces while using the Civic Dollar App. The group participated in animal tracking, beach games, tree/holly bush care to support a newly developing forest, camp fire safety, how to source kindling, set up a heat/cooking source to allow for the cooking of a curry infused picked nettles for dinner which was consumed by the campfire with hot drinks as members moved onto tool use, forest roaming and quality time with one another which encouraged a natural disconnect from gadgets.

Follow Healthy Donegal on

<http://www.donegalcoco.ie/community/healthydonegal>

<https://www.facebook.com/HealthyDonegal>

https://www.instagram.com/healthy_donegal/

<https://twitter.com/HealthyDonegal>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwcqNcNTWBCaRjEFGqSkOnA>

Contact Person

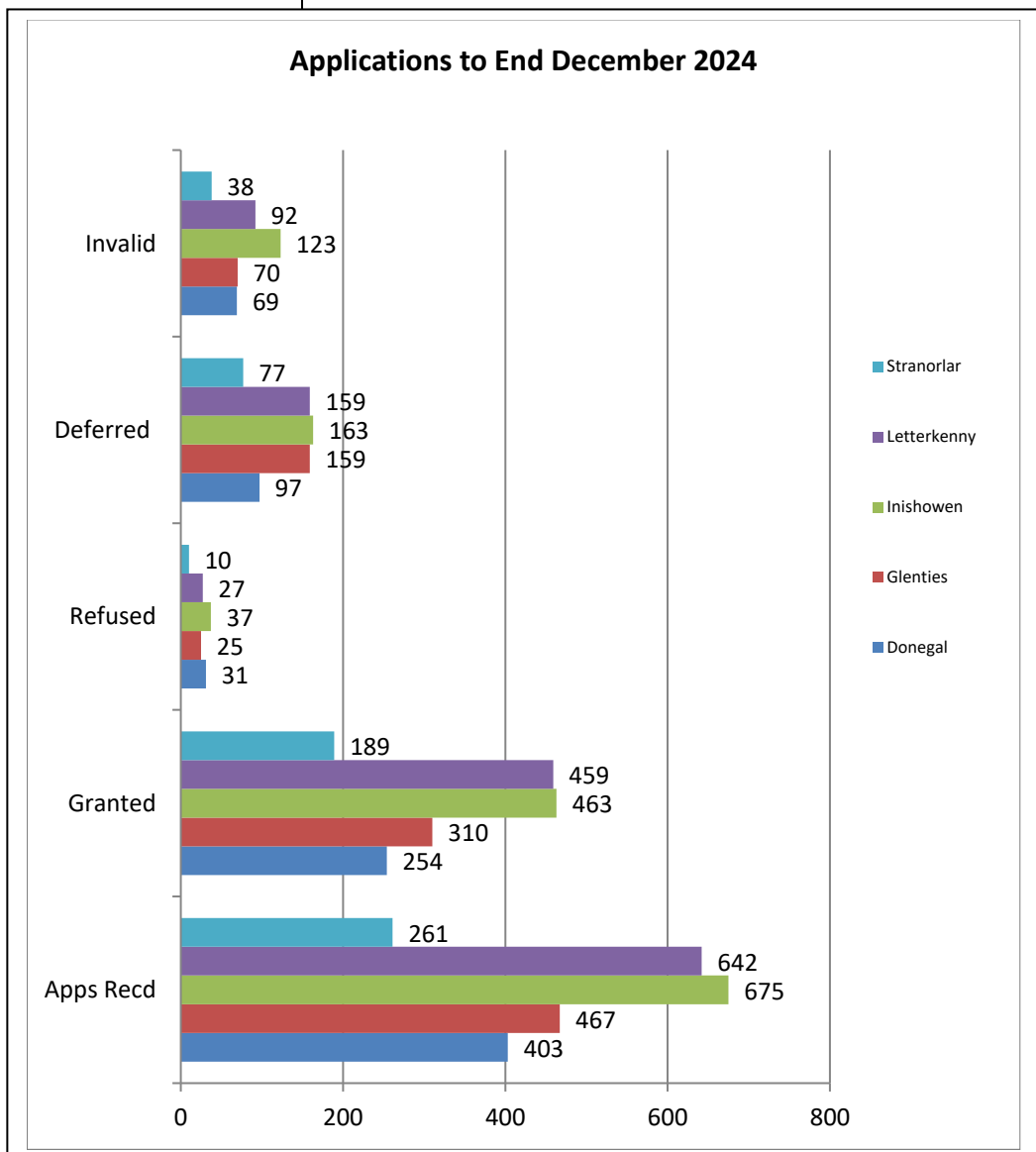
Margaret Fitzgerald, Healthy Donegal Coordinator

074 9172562

mfitzgerald@donegalcoco.ie

**Donegal MD Meeting
 14TH January 2025**

Item	Update												
1 Development Applications													
(1) Statistics	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Donegal MD Totals Year to End December 2024</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Applications received</td> <td>403</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Granted</td> <td>254</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Refused</td> <td>31</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deferred</td> <td>97</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Invalid</td> <td>69</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Donegal MD Totals Year to End December 2024		Applications received	403	Granted	254	Refused	31	Deferred	97	Invalid	69
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Donegal MD	To end Dec 2024									
New Cases	50									
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Outstanding cases on record since 2012	248									
3	Notes & Monthly Schedule	<p>Pre planning clinics are on a telephone call only basis (ring 074 9153900) between 9.00am and 12.30pm on the dates outlined below.</p> <p>The pre planning clinic calls will be taken by the Executive Planners and shall be for substantial applications only.</p> <p><u>Planning Clinics 2025</u> 16th January 2025 30th January, 2025 13th February 2025 27th February 2025</p> <p>Please see website for further dates. http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/planningclinics/</p>								
4	Casual Trading									
5	Regeneration & Development									
6	Building Control & Taking in Charge									
7	Central Planning Unit									
8	Capital Projects Delivery Unit	See Appendix A								
9	Conservation									
10	Further Information <i>Click on web links to access information.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly List of applications and decisions: Weekly Lists Donegal County Council • Planning Service email (to be used in correspondence with the planning service): planning@donegalcoco.ie • Planning Webpage: Planning Donegal County Council • Planning Application Online Query – Search a Planning Application Donegal County Council <p>File Retrieval Form – to be used for file retrieval and planning search requests: fillable-file-retrieval-planning-application-number-search-request-form.pdf</p>								



CAPITAL PROJECTS DELIVERY UNIT

Community Development and Planning Services

Report to Donegal Municipal District Members: Dec 2024

Activity / Project Title	Killybegs 2040
Project Description/Activity	<p>Killybegs 2040 is a transformative town centre regeneration project which forms part of the longer-term regeneration strategy.</p> <p>The project elements are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The change of use, extension and modification of Island House (currently an existing derelict and vacant building) to provide a tourist information and reception centre, digital hub, public conveniences, café space, and all associated site development works. An extension is proposed at first and second floor levels and will include a glass viewing area. • Provision for a 1000 sq m civic space and alterations to road layout and car parking arrangements, including footpaths, open paved areas, planting, landscaping, public seating etc. The improved car parking and road layout will improve access to both Island House and the Civic Space to support overall regeneration plans. • Acquisition of key regeneration sites for the future delivery of appropriately located additional car parking and linkages between Main Street and Shore Road.
Budget	€5.4m
Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status	<p>Island House:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Foul Sewer connection through DAFM lands commenced. - External works commenced to form ramp and steps to building. - 2nd floor terrace waterproofing complete. - Internal Paint finishes underway. - Internal fixed furniture work has commenced.



	<p>Public Realm:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Drainage works completed on Shore Road and Main Street. - Shore Road and Link Road resurfacing complete including Line Painting. Base Course applied to Main Street. - Power and Lighting to the Public Realm Complete and energised. - Paving to the main plaza area and car park surfacing complete and opened to the public. <p>The 'Coal Yard' temporary car park for the project is operational.</p>
<p>Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period</p>	<p>Island House Q1 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Foul Sewer, ESB connection, water connections all to be completed with power on. - Lift and Heating system to be commissioned. - 2nd fix M&E, joinery, fitted furniture and partitions to be complete. - External works to steps ramps and building surround to be complete. - Decking to terrace to be complete. <p>Public Realm Q1 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All remaining works to be completed, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Tree planting o Railings and metalwork art/sculptural pieces.. o Paving to footpath adjacent Tara Hotel. o Kerbing and paving to raised crossings on Main Street. o Wearing course and line painting to Main Street. o Road Signs. o Water Feature installed and commissioned. o Works around new ESB Substation on Shore Road. - Snagging to have commenced.
<p>Contact Person(s)</p>	<p>Michael Quigley, Executive Engineer Ardal McDermott, Senior Executive Engineer</p>



Donegal Municipal District - 14th January 2025 Motions

Agenda Item No.3

Office Ref:DLMD-2025-01001

Submitted By: Cllr Jimmy Brogan**Assigned To:** Roads

Motion "To ask this Municipal District to contact the relevant Government departments to seek funding to remove Ash trees along the roadside and to assist households in removing Ash trees which are in a dangerous condition due to Ash Dieback Disease. All Ash trees will be effected and will have to be removed safely as soon as possible because they are a threat to life and property. "

Signed Off By:

Response: The Members are advised that Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine has published "A Guide for Landowners to Managing Roadside Trees" and the advice noted in same is that the trees on your land are your property and as a landowner you are responsible for their care. Ensure that you are aware of the full legal extent of your land ownership. Land ownership normally extends to the centre of the road; therefore, it is the landowner not the local authority who is responsible for the trees and hedges beside the road. Also, the Roads Act 1993 requires owners or occupiers of land to take all reasonable steps to ensure that trees or other vegetation on their land are not a hazard to persons using a public road. Local authorities may issue notices to landowners requesting them to maintain or cut back trees or hedges.

Agenda Item No.4

Office Ref:DLMD-2025-01002

Submitted By: Cllr. Michael Naughton**Assigned To:** Corporate

Motion "I am calling on the Donegal MD as a matter of urgency to call on Uisce Eireann to upgrade the reservoir for the Leghowney area."

Signed Off By: PAURIC SHEERIN

Response: Subject to the adoption of this motion, arrangements will be made to write to Uisce Eireann, setting out the details of the motion and the submissions made at the MD meeting.