



# Chief Executive's Management Report

Fingal County Council Meeting  
Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> of January, 2020

**Item No. 28**

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S MANAGEMENT REPORT – JANUARY 2020

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# ECONOMIC, ENTERPRISE AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT (EETD)

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## EVENTS

### FESTIVAL EVENTS FUNDING



68 applications have been received under the Festivals and Events Funding Scheme 2020. All applications will now be evaluated in accordance with the criteria as set out in the Scheme.

### 2020 EUROPEAN CROSS COUNTRY



Fingal will host the 2020 European Cross Country Championships at The National Sports Campus, Dublin 15 on 13th December. Fingal County Council, in addition to sponsoring, are fully engaged with several areas of the overall event

with members of the Events Unit forming part of the local organising committee.

Recently the Mayor accepted the ceremonial flag in the company of Athletics Ireland President, Georgina Drumm and Sport Ireland CEO, John Treacy.

Team Ireland brought home their best ever haul of medals returning home from the European cross Country Championships in 2019 with two bronze medals and two team silver medals - it really looks promising for FingalDublin2020.

## TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

### DESTINATION TOWNS

Fingal County Council has been awarded funding to Skerries as part of a €15.5m 'Destination Towns' initiative launched earlier this year. The objective of the initiative is the increase 'dwell time' in the destination. The plan for Skerries is to build a coherent tourist proposition by developing a cultural and heritage walking trail running through the town, based on Skerries' special connection to St. Patrick and taking in the other significant and plentiful, places of interest in the town.

The components of the project are:

- The development of a cultural and heritage walking trail running through the town, based on Skerries' special connection to St. Patrick and taking in the other significant and plentiful, places of interest in the town

- Telling the Martello Towers' story and their significance to the Fingal Coastline
- Lighting iconic buildings and Harbour area

## HERITAGE PROPERTIES

### Howth Courthouse



Tolmac Construction Ltd will begin the refurbishment of Howth Court House this month. The works are expected to take approximately 16 weeks to complete.

### Model Railway Museum at the Casino



The Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Eoghan O'Brien, will open The "Casino Model Railway Museum on Tuesday, 21st January 2020.

The installation of the Cyril Fry Model Railway to its new permanent home in the recently conserved Casino is finally complete. The completion of this project will add to the portfolio of heritage

properties that are owned by Fingal and will allow public access to this highly individual building.

## Local Enterprise Office Fingal



Some of the Local Enterprise Office (LEO) highlights for December 2019 are as follows:

### Evaluation and Approvals Committee

The fourth quarter Evaluation and Approvals Committee (EVAC) took place on Wednesday the 4th December. 9 companies were approved for €201,175 worth of funding.

### National Student Enterprise Programme (SEP) 2019/2020 Launch



The SEP 2019/2020 was launched by Pat Breen, T.D., Minister of State for Trade, Employment, Business, EU Digital Single Market and Data Protection and rugby star Josh Van Der Flier; the SEP Ambassador for this year.

Mayor of Fingal, Cllr. Eoghan O'Brien and Oisín Geoghegan, Head of Enterprise in Fingal, were in attendance alongside last year's National SEP winner in the Junior category from Malahide-Portmarnock Educate Together.

This year's Programme will see two new pilot competitions. The first "My Entrepreneurial Journey" requires students to map out the life of a successful entrepreneur. In the Senior category the new "Most Creative Business Idea"

competition—under the theme **“Go Green: Be Sustainable”**—allows students to push their most innovative ideas.

### Fingal Enterprising Women’s Network (FEWN) Christmas Lunch



Over 100 Fingal female entrepreneurs joined the Mayor of Fingal Cllr. Eoghan O’Brien, Chief Executive AnnMarie Farrelly, and the Local Enterprise Office to celebrate the start to the festive season at the annual FEWN Christmas Lunch on Thursday 5th December at the Roganstown Hotel and Country Club.

The theme and keynote of the event was: **“Work Smarter Not Harder: Skyrocket your Business Success in 2020”**. Special guest speaker Breda Stackpool helped attendees prepare for the coming year with a stimulating interactive session on developing the mindset to move forward with confidence, purpose; and the relevant actions to deliver business success in 2020.

### Local Enterprise Week 2020



**LOCAL  
ENTERPRISE  
WEEK 2020**  
*Making It Happen*  
**02-06 March**

Work is currently underway for Local Enterprise Week 2020. This year, LEW will occur from the 2nd

to the 6th March, and will feature a packed series of events to help businesses and start-ups to access supports, training and networking. These events will take place right across the county.

### Sports to Start-Up Ideas Generation Workshop

LEO Fingal has partnered with Sport Ireland in a pilot Start Your Own Business course aimed specifically at full-time athletes to enable them to utilise these skills in business, beginning with an Idea Generation Workshop on Friday 17th January 2020. This programme will be available to Dublin-based, full-time professional and amateur sportspeople.

Participants in the inaugural Fingal event in the National Sports Campus will be eligible to apply for one of the 12 places on the main Sport to Start-Up Programme in 2020.

### Trading Online Vouchers (TOV)



The TOV programme is funded by DCCAE, as part of the National Digital Strategy, to support local and established small businesses to enhance their online offering. The last pre-application workshop in 2019 was held in the Riasc Centre, Swords on Friday 6th December.

In 2019, 64 companies were approved for €135,087 worth of TOV funding.

### New Training Announced

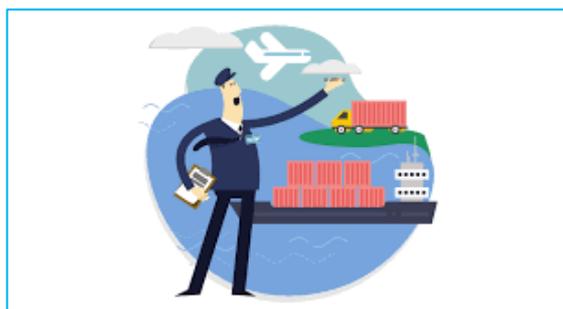
For 2020, LEO Fingal will roll out a new suite of specific business development training. The initial programme will feature a good mix of practical workshops in areas such as:

- Cash Flow Management
- Leadership Masterclass

- Pricing for Profit
- Professional Communications
- Effective Sales
- Develop Your Business Skills

In addition to these, there will be a series of workshops for women in business which will support the wider work of the Fingal Enterprising Women's Network.

### **BREXIT Supports: Prepare Your Business for Customs**



LEO clients continue to engage in one-to-one sessions with a Brexit mentor to review their case and establish the extent of their exposure and preparedness for Brexit. A series of training workshops on Customs Export & Import Procedures designed to support Fingal businesses clients, addressing the customs implications of trading with a "Third Country" (Non-EU) in advance of the UK's exit from the Single Market and Customs Union. In 2019, 91 business attended five of these workshops.

Another workshop will take place at the IDA Regional Training Centre in Ballycoolin in January.

### **Showcase 2020**

LEO Fingal is once again supporting local business at the Showcase 2020; held in the RDS on 19-21 January. The business supported this year are:

- Elke Westen MA (Howth)
- Berry Be Beauty (Balbriggan)
- Michelle Owens Art (Skerries)
- The Wish List Gifts (Swords)
- The Little Paper Mill (Skerries)
- Jane Darcy (Malahide)

### **Start Your Own Business Programme (SYOB)**

The fifteenth SYOB and final course of 2019 commenced on the 19th of November. This is a ten-week course and all courses were heavily subscribed with a combined total of 174 participants in attendance for 2019.

### **Business Development Workshops**

534 people participated in 54 LEO Fingal Business Development Workshops In 2019. In addition, six SME focussed six-week digital and social media programmes ran in 2019 with 72 participants.

### **Business Clinics and Mentoring**

Clinics are offered to individuals that wish to start up a new enterprise or expand their existing business. During December, 5 clinic days were undertaken, delivering expertise to 26 businesses in Fingal. This brings the cumulative figures for 2019 to 102 days clinics and 739 attendees. In addition, 153 individual Mentoring assignments were delivered in 2019.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

### **Balbriggan Socio Economic Strategy**

Balbriggan was successful in its application to form part of 23 Action Planning Networks across Europe as part of the EU URBACT scheme. The iPlace initiative brings together 10 small European towns/cities that aim to produce 10 different and unique robust economic development strategies, targeting their own genuine niches , and generating urban innovation ecosystems . City partners will focus on deepening the understanding of their own local economic strengths and establish strategic methods to revitalise their economy, adapt their city to the next economy and to future economic changes, establishing methodological bases for resilient towns and cities.



The IPlace partners are Amarante (PT), Gabrovo (BG), Medina del Campo (ES), Pori (FI), Grosseto (IT), Saldus (LV), Heerlen (NL), Kocevje (SI). Balbriggan will host a visit from the lead partner Amarante, Portugal and URBACT expert in January as part of the process of developing the rollout of this European wide programme in 2020 – 2022.



Implementation groups will meet in January and February, across the plans four pillars: Local Economy, Public Realm, Education, Training & Employment & Community Affairs & Integration to continue progressing the plans actions. The Our Balbriggan Rejuvenation Plan and its summary can be downloaded at [www.balbriggan.ie](http://www.balbriggan.ie)

## Fingal Local Community Development Committee

A meeting of the Fingal LCDC was held on the 11th of December, where updates were given on the key areas of LEADER and SICAP. and the various Local Development and Community Development funding programmes.

## SICAP

The draft annual Fingal SICAP plan for 2020 has been submitted to Pobal and the LCDC. The draft plan has been prepared by Empower and the Fingal LCDC SICAP Oversight Committee. The Fingal LCDC will now engage with Pobal on the content of this draft plan. The final plan needs to be agreed and approved by the Fingal LCDC and Pobal by early February 2020. The Fingal SICAP programme progressed well in 2019 with early indications that the 2019 annual plan's targets have been fully met.



## LEADER Programme

The Fingal LEADER Programme continues to accelerate the funding of eligible projects in the administrative areas of Fingal, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown and South Dublin.



At the latest Dublin Rural LEADER Action Group Meeting in December, €585,000 was approved for new projects in Rural Dublin. During 2019, over €1.5 million was approved over 18 projects. In the programme to date, 61 projects have been approved for €2.8 million. Of these 42 are in Fingal. 4 in Dun Laoghaire Rathdown and 15 in South Dublin. The pipeline of new projects to be brought to the LAG for consideration in the first quarter of 2020 is strong.

Fingal County Council continues to deliver the financial and administrative oversight responsibilities for the approval and drawdown of LEADER funded projects following the national transfer of the LEADER Article 48 Administrative Checks from Pobal to the Local Authority Sector.

### Enterprise Centres

Occupancy rates at the Council's three enterprise centres in December 2019 were Drinan 97%, BASE 91% and Beat 88%. The three Enterprise Centres currently support 69 businesses and 345 jobs.



Enquiries for new Shared Digital Workspace at the Beat Centre Balbriggan are currently being taken. Over 1,000 sq feet of Shared Digital Workspace is now open comprising 8 Desks. A further 3,600 sq feet of space in the Enterprise Centre is to be developed shortly and LEADER funding of €200,000 has been pre-approved to enable this. The total Budget available for the redevelopment of the Centre is €260,000. The Beat Enterprise Centre continues to support the work of the Our Balbriggan Project in the area of enterprise support and workspace provision.



# OPERATIONS

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Drainage Works

### Works Programme:

The Operations Department organised the planting of 20 trees in Corduff Park on 6<sup>th</sup> December. This event was organised as part of a Sustainability and Community Initiative on behalf of GLS who have generously sponsored the purchase of the trees to facilitate the enhancement of Corduff park. GLS have identified this as a fitting opportunity to give back to the local community while commemorating 20 years in operation and as part of their 'Think Green' program, which was launched in 2008. Children from 3 local schools, representatives from Clean Up Corduff, GLS, Council staff, crews and Councillor Breda Hanaphy were in attendance for the planting of the trees.



### **Programme of Works**

The Operations Department recently carried out landscaping of roundabouts in Warrenstown Estate. A mix of ornamental grasses and pollinator friendly perennials were planted which will enhance the appearance of the roundabouts by providing colour and adding to the biodiversity value in the area.



Swords Operational Staff carrying out essential repair works in Balbriggan Grave yard.



Footpath replacement works in Donabate

## Road Opening Licences

The Operations Department continue to process and manage all Road Opening Licence Applications through the Map Road Licencing System for the Fingal Area. The team work closely with the Road Management Office to ensure all works on public roads, footpaths and open spaces are carried out in accordance with the standards and specifications set out in the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sports Guidelines for Managing Openings in Public Roads

Fingal County Council received a total of 1721 Applications to date for 2019 and 1620 Licences have been granted for the Fingal Area.





Tree planting in the Swords Operational Area, 300 Standard Trees to be planted by the end of 2019.



On Saturday 21st December, 2019, the staff at the Estuary Recycling Centre logged vehicle number 200,000 using the facility in 2019, and on Monday 23rd 1200 cars used the facility.

Staff at Estuary Recycling Centre re-using Christmas lighting left at the centre to bring Christmas cheer to users of the site!



Part of the Swords Area Winter Works Programme, removal of shrubberies due to anti-social behaviour.



Bulb Planting Lusk By-pass



Groundworks completed for the Portrane Village Renewal Programme



Laneway clean-up Balbriggan



Installation of services at Balbriggan Harbour

### Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit

#### Hires put in Place

There were **79** hires put in place from 1<sup>st</sup> December to 31<sup>st</sup> December, engaging **24** suppliers.

#### Included in these were:

- Large Tanker to transport Leachate from Rogerstown Park to Portrane Treatment Plant.
- Concrete Crushing Plant, Excavator and Front-Loading Shovel for works at the Coolmine Depot Dublin 15.



Concrete Crushing at Coolmine Depot, Dublin 15

57 Requests for Tender for Plant Hires in 2020 were Awarded and Contracts issued to successful bidders in December 2019.

### **FLEET PURCHASE**

Continuing the rollout of the Fingal Fleet Electrification Plan, an order has been placed for a Fully Electric Zero Turn Mower for Howth/ Malahide Operations. The launch of more fully electric vans and trucks is to take place early in the New Year.

### Public Lighting

The street lighting section supply and erect Christmas lights for a number of Christmas trees throughout the county. They also take part in the Switch-On Events in Swords, Blanchardstown & Balbriggan.



Balbriggan Court House



Blanchardstown Christmas Tree



Balbriggan Town Square

### Traffic Operations Unit

### Traffic Management Schemes

**2019 Traffic Signal Contract** – Work is coming to a close on the installation, ESB connections and commissioning of the 8 pedestrian / zebra crossings at various locations throughout Fingal. The following crossings are now fully operational:

- Clonsilla Road
- Powerstown Road,
- Station Road Ongar

The remainder have been installed and are awaiting final ESB connection



Lining works at Burrowfield Road/Station Road Crossing

**2019 VAS Signage Contract** –The appointed Contractor has completed the erection of all DFS (speed readers) and Bicycle VAS. The remaining warning VAS (signage) will be erected in early January. This will complete the VAS signage contract for the 36 signs.



Shelerin Road

Hartstown Road

**Signing and Lining** – Lining works have now ceased for this year as colder temperatures do not allow for installation.

**2019 Ramps Contract** – It is envisaged that the majority of the ramps on the programme of works will be installed and complete by the end of 2019. Any remaining ramps will be completed in early 2020. However, installation is dependent on weather.



New bus friendly ramp (1 of 3) installed on Carrackbrack Road, Howth on approach to St Fintans NS in December

## Traffic Projects Unit

### Speed Limits Project



*New ramp (2 of 3) installed on Carrackbrack Road, Howth outside St Fintans NS in December*

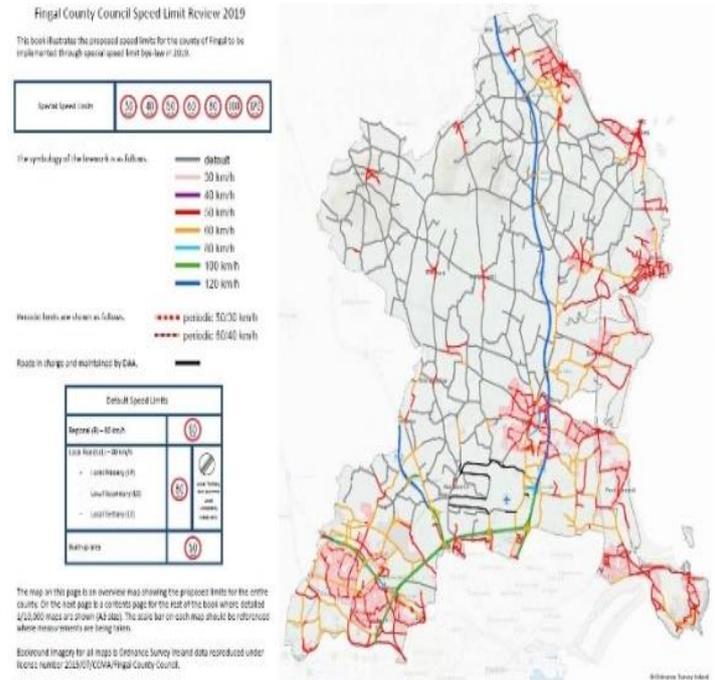


*New ramp installed on Allendale Drive in December*

As part of the 2019 programme of works, hard standing areas were required for Variable Message Sign (VMS) on the Snugborough Road, on the approach to the National Aquatic Centre. These slabs, complete with upstand walls were concreted on the 6<sup>th</sup> December.



**Hardstanding area for VMS outside National Aquatic Centre**



Work on the consultation phase of the Speed Limit Review for Fingal County is continuing with the Drawings being presented to the Elected members at each of the Area committees in December 2019. Public Consultation will commence early in the New Year.

### Traffic Control Project

Traffic Signals Maintenance Contract: Work is continuing on the updating of the Traffic Assets information on the Deadsure system. This information will form part of the Traffic Signals Contract.

### Traffic Infrastructure Mapping

Work is ongoing on the mapping of the traffic infrastructure on the GIS system.

## Road Safety Section

### Fingal County Council Scrambler and Quad Bike Safety Campaign

Fingal County Council launched a scrambler and quad bike safety campaign to raise awareness of the dangers of inappropriate use of these vehicles and to outline the correct environment, care and requirements when riding these vehicles. The advert will be shown in Blanchardstown/Pavillions/Balbriggan cinemas commencing on 27<sup>th</sup> December (this is the busiest week in cinemas over the festive period) and will run for a total of 3 weeks. The advert will also be posted through our social media platforms and is strongly supported by An Garda Síochána, the RSA and Motor Cycling Ireland.

**Bleeper Bike Share Scheme** - We are continuing to identify additional locations across Fingal including Swords, Portmarnock, Baldoyle, Sutton and Seabury, Malahide to expand and encourage Bleeper Bike share scheme user growth amongst commuters and a further 15 bike racks will be installed at suitable locations in early January. Bleeperbike are pursuing private landowners to increase parking locations across Fingal.

In December, Irish Rail granted permission to use their bike racks for Bleeper bike and these have now been added to the app as below.



## “Your Life, Your Choice Campaign”

The Road Safety Section will commence the roll-out of the ‘Your Life, Your Choice’ campaign in January and along with An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar, will launch this initiative in the Dublin 15 area.

The ‘Your life, Your choice’ campaign is the first time a road safety instruction program incorporates virtual reality (VR) technology and is sponsored by AVIVA Driving School. It is designed for students aged 16 years and over. VR headsets will provide a unique seven-minute simulation experience of a serious road incident, with the user being fully immersed as a front seat passenger into a crash scenario. The students will experience an accident induced by a number of different situations, including the use of mobile phones, distractions from other passengers, or the failure to drive within the speed limit. Parental consent will be required due to the realistic content on the headsets.

With statistics proving that passenger fatalities are highest in the 16-25 age group, new virtual reality technology provides a valuable opportunity to reinforce the message of danger on the road particularly to those who are starting out on the road for the first time. This instruction will provide students with knowledge otherwise unable to be taught without the fully immersive experience.



Road Safety Staff wearing the VR Headsets

## Cycle Training

In our continued efforts to support and encourage cycling in Fingal, particularly from a young age, the Council offered a subvention to CYCLE RIGHT approved trainers to carry out cycle training in Primary Schools across Fingal. A total of 480 students from various schools completed cycle training during September/October/November as follows:

Donabate/Portrane E.T.	65 Students
Gaelscoil Rose Eo	27 students
Powerstown E.T.	23 students
Ladyswell N.S	65 Students
Pope John Paul II N.S.	159 students
St Oliver Plunketts N.S.	112 students
St Andrews N.S.	29 students



Feedback from all schools was very positive with Principals confirming that all children enjoyed the course and participated well, were very engaged in learning the rules of the road, the correct hand signals to use, road safety awareness and that it is a great way of building confidence in those who might be nervous cycling out on the roads.

The Road Safety Section will continue to offer subventions to CYCLE RIGHT approved trainers in 2020.

## School Wardens

School Warden Elizabeth Swan has now been appointed to a new crossing at Skerries Educate Together as requested by Members and will commence in her new position on January 6<sup>th</sup> 2020. This has been welcomed by the School and Parents. School Warden Joan O' Callaghan will replace Elizabeth at St Peter and St Pauls N.S. Balbriggan.

Further requests have been received for additional/new school wardens at schools throughout Fingal and site inspections will be carried out in the New Year at these particular locations.

## Bridge Rehabilitation Project

Work is progressing on the following projects:

### **Rehabilitation of Church Road Bridge, Blanchardstown, Wyanstown Bridge & Wimbletown Bridge**

The competition to engage a site contractor has been published in December with a closing date of 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020. The evaluation stage will follow with site works expected to commence at the end of Q1 2020.

### **Rehabilitation of Knightstown Bridge, Colecot Bridge & Callaighwee Bridge**

All site works have been completed and work is ongoing on the completion of the Safety Files for all three bridges.

### **Rehabilitation of Curragh, Curragh West & Clonsaugh Bridges**

The Ivy removal contractor was awarded the contract on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2019 and the works were carried out in December 2019. The Engineering Consultant was appointed in December to carry out the design of the bridge rehabilitations and preparation of tender documents.

## Drainage Works

With the increased occurrence of flood events both locally and nationally maintenance of drains and ditches is an important part of the preventative work carried out by Operations throughout the year. The photograph below shows clearance work being carried out to the drainage ditch which runs through Seagrang Park, Baldoyle. This work is ongoing and will be completed by year end.



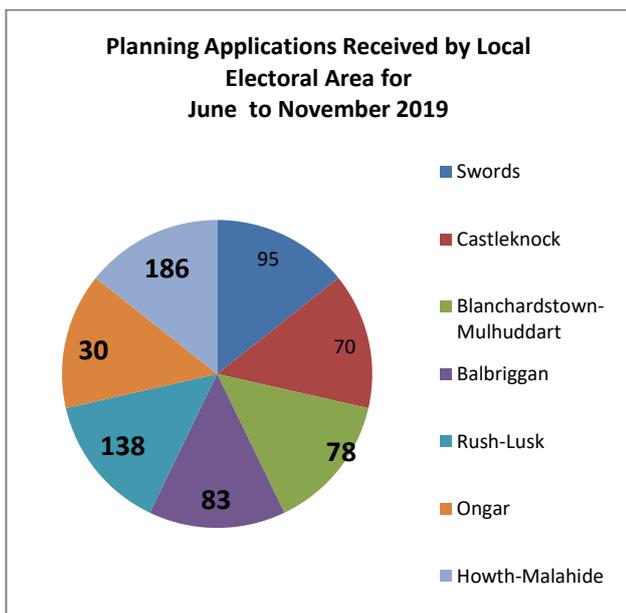
# PLANNING AND STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE (PSI)

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Planning Applications
Planning Decisions
Building Control
Variations 2 and 3 to the Fingal Development Plan
Playground Provision
Development Management/Forward Planning (Water Services)
Building Control/Taking in Charge

## Planning Applications

There have been 1221 planning applications received to the end of November 2019, 137 of these applications were invalid leaving a total of 1084 valid applications. The volume of applications received by Local Electoral Area (LEA) is detailed in the table below. Please note that the data for individual LEA's is only available from June 2019

During 2019, there were a total of 13 SHD applications for 3,043 units, two of which were refused by An Bord Pleanála for 461 units, there are currently 11 live SHD application in the formal planning process.



## Planning Decisions

A total of 1063 planning decisions have been made to the end of November 2019. There have been 866 decisions to grant permission (82%) and 197 refusals of permission (18%). There have been 78 grants of permissions in respect of single house construction, 467 grants of permission for domestic extensions, 247 commercial/retail grants of permission and 31 grants of permission in respect of housing developments – 3 of which related to 100 plus developments, 8 of which related to development 50 - 100 housing units and 18 of which related to developments of 2-20 housing units.

## Building Control

There have been 164 Disability Access Certificates submitted to the end of November 2019. Of these 151 have been granted, 1 was deemed not required and 3 are currently on time extension. There have been 252 Fire Safety Certificates submitted to the end of November 2019. Of these 175 have been granted, 5 were invalidated and 54 are currently on time extension.

## Variations 2 and 3 to the Fingal Development Plan

Variations 2 and 3 to the Fingal Development Plan are on public display for the period 10<sup>th</sup> January to 7<sup>th</sup> February. Variation no. 2 responds to the

publication of the National Planning Framework and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy, while Variation No. 3 removes indicative road proposal from Sheet No. 13 Blanchardstown South of the Fingal Development Plan 2017 – 2023 that runs north-south from Hansfield SDZ. Further details are available on [consult.fingal.ie](http://consult.fingal.ie).

### Playground provision

Two recently completed public playgrounds in Balbriggan located on Quay Street and at the Band Stand in Bremore Park are now open to the public and will be formally opened in the near future. A further playground located at Rathmore Park, Lusk is nearing completion and works will commence shortly on a major new playground located in Skerries Town Park.



### Development Management/Forward Planning (Water Services)

- Flood Risk Assessments and Drainage Strategies to inform Local Area Plans (LAP) - FCC staff are currently managing the

tendering and preparation of the surface water management plans to inform Kellystown LAP, Rowlestown LAP, Coolquay LAP, Belcamp LAP, Flemington LAP, Folkstown LAP, Rowanslittie LAP. Tender notice for the latter three was issued in December 2019.

- Pre-planning consultations – During December staff from Forward Planning (Water Services) have engaged in discussions with more than 14 developers at pre-planning stage to discuss issues related to the provision of water services and to ensure the implementation of sustainable drainage systems on site. Staff have engaged in discussions at preplanning stage on 29 Strategic Housing Developments.

### Building Control/Taking in Charge

- Taking in Charge of Legacy Developments – Frameworks of services providers are operating and have been used to develop site resolutions on 12 IBRC developments and 6 other developments. All bond claims have been submitted and verified by IBRC through 2019. IBRC have approved 2 bond claims and we are awaiting response on the remainder. When funded FCC plans to progress to the Taking in Charge Statutory process.
- Taking in Charge – 9 estates/infrastructure have been TIC through 2019.
- Building Control Inspectors undertook more than 250 first time inspections of buildings so far this year, with 29 alone during November 2019, as well as multiple repeat inspections. Inspections are targeted with a risk based approach in accordance with government policy. Recent government circulars in regards fire safety have been incorporated into our inspections. Bringing back Homes policy has added another area of focus with regard to the re-use of commercial units without the requirement for planning permission.
- We have 35 no. Dangerous structures notified to the Council so far this year.

# HOUSING & COMMUNITY, CULTURE & SPORTS (H&CC&S) & LIBRARIES

Housing	Community, Culture & Sports Arts Office Community Development Office Sports Division <b>Libraries</b>
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## Housing Supply Report

Fingal County Council is very proactive in the delivery of social housing units and continues to provide housing solutions in accordance with the Housing Strategy 2020 and Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan through a range of delivery mechanisms including construction, Part V, acquisitions, leasing and Housing Assistance Payment Scheme (HAP).

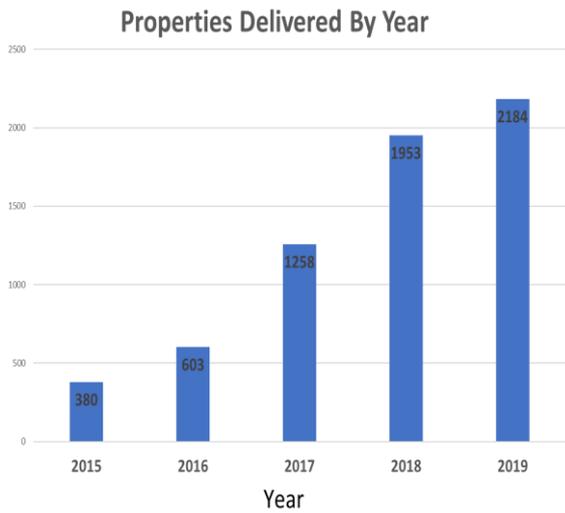
Delivered via	Target
New Build*	419
Acquisitions	121
Leasing	170
HAP	1,474
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,184</b>

\*Construction, Part V, Turnkey Acquisitions

## Delivery Output 2015-2018

The target set for delivery of social housing by Fingal County Council for the four year period 2015 – 2018 was **3,013** homes. Delivery output for that period was **4,194** homes.

Year	Homes Delivered
2015	380
2016	603
2017	1,258
2018	1,953
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,194</b>



## Delivery Output 2019

A target of delivering **2,184** social housing units during 2019 was set for Fingal and that target has been met. The delivery figures for 2019 are currently being finalised and detailed delivery reports will be presented to each Area Committee shortly.

It should be noted that the delivery figures for 2019 are not yet finalised.

## Construction Programme

The Council has an ambitious construction programme underway with 22 sites across the county and 210 homes already delivered. The following table outlines the various stages that construction projects are currently at.

Project	Units	Status
St Cronan's x 2 schemes	15	Completed
Cappaghfinn I	14	Completed
Balrothery - North + East	9	Completed
Wellview, Dublin 15	20	Completed
Racecourse Common	74	Completed
Ballyboughal	8	Completed
Pinewood, Balbriggan	20	Completed
Estuary Road - V de Paul	8	Completed
Castlelands, Balbriggan	24	Completed
Ravenswood, Coldwinters, Peter McVerry Trust	8	Completed
Rivermeade	2	Completed
Pinewood CC, Balbriggan	2	Completed
Avondale, Dublin 15	42	Completed
Church Road, Dublin 15 - FCC	22	Completed
Rolestown Phase 1 (10 delivered Q2 2019) + (4 delivered in Q3, 2019)	20	Completed
Rolestown Phase 2	6	On Site
Rathbeale Road, Swords	24	On Site
Church Road, Dublin 15 - Cluid Housing	64	On Site
College St. Baldoyle - Cluid Housing	4	On Site
Tucketts Lane, Howth	8	Tendering Stage
Wellview Cul de Sacs	20	Tendering Stage
Cappagh, Dublin 11	69	Planning Stage
Kilhedge Lane - Tuath	48	Planning Stage
Outlands, Swords	11	Planning Stage
Church Fields Phase 2B	70	Planning Stage
Former Leonards Garage, Lusk	14	Planning Stage
	<b>626</b>	

In addition, there are a number of schemes at pre-planning stage which will be brought forward to the relevant area committees over the coming year

### Church Fields, Dublin 15

Approaches to housing delivery on the strategic land bank at Church Fields, Dublin 15 are being examined, with the Project Talamh Programme Office conducting economic and financial modelling and analysis. Progress on delivering the housing potential of the site continues;

- An initial phase of the housing development of Church Fields has been approved and is at tendering stage - 20 homes.
- The next phase of development consisting of 70 social houses will be presented at this Council meeting for approval.
- Funding has been approved under the Serviced Sites Fund (SSF) to enable delivery of key road and green infrastructure to facilitate the development of the site.
- Work is underway on the design of the road link between Damastown Road and Wellview Avenue including the upgrade of the existing Wellview Avenue and a cycle way adjacent to Church Road. It is proposed to present this to the Area Committee in February.
- The green infrastructure design is also underway as outlined in the Land Management Plan.

The Area Committee will continue to be briefed on in relation to development on the overall site.

### Land Development Agency

The Council is working with the Land Development Agency (LDA) to bring forward land banks located in Fingal to unlock their potential to deliver mixed tenure housing.

The Council has received funding under the SSF for lands at Hackettstown in Skerries which is in the Land Aggregation Scheme and currently in the ownership of the Housing Agency/LDA. The Council has been working with the LDA and the Housing Agency to bring this site forward for development.

### Part V Delivery

Delivery under Part V has increased year on year with the upturn in construction. Early on-site delivery of units is the approach taken by the Council in Part V negotiations with developers. Over 350 homes have been delivered under Part V since 2015. A detailed report on Part V delivery is presented quarterly to each Area Committee.

### Approved Housing Bodies

The Approved Housing Bodies continue to play an important role in the delivery of social housing and the Council continues to work closely with AHB's operating in the County.

### Other Development Opportunities

The Housing Department are available to meet with developers who are building across the county with a view to exploring opportunities to bring forward proposals to increase the supply of social housing.

### Serviced Sites Fund

The Serviced Sites Fund (SSF) provides for enabling infrastructure to facilitate the delivery of affordable homes on local authority and Housing Agency sites. Fingal County Council has received approval in principle for the following projects which will enable the delivery of social, affordable purchase and affordable rental homes at scale on strategically located sites in the county;

Church Fields                    € 11m

Cappagh                            € 3.5m  
 Dun Emer, Lusk                    € 1.5m  
 Hackettstown, Skerries    € 2.2m ( LDA site )

### Affordable Dwelling Purchase Arrangements

The Affordable Dwelling Purchase Scheme is a national initiative that will see affordable homes built on state owned land in co-operation with local authorities.

The procurement process for the developed design, construction, delivery and sale of 39 affordable residential units at Dun Emer, Lusk is nearing completion and the Council anticipate that the contractor will be appointed shortly with the first phase of housing being completed Q1 2021.

It is proposed to bring further detail and updates on this scheme to the Area Committee shortly.

### Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan

RIHL was launched on 1st February 2018 and, for those meeting the eligibility criteria, it offers a choice of two different loan products with low interest rates. Further details and application forms available on [www.rebuildingirelandhomeloan.ie](http://www.rebuildingirelandhomeloan.ie)

Number of applications received to date	895
Number of applications approved	426
Value of the loans approved	€94,052,331.00
Number of loans drawn down	191
Value of loans drawn down	€41,785,849.00

### Private Rented Inspections

In February 2018, all local authorities were issued with targets for the Inspection of Private Rented

Properties by the DHPLG in conjunction with its Strategy for the Private Rental Sector – a key component of Rebuilding Ireland. The aim is to increase the national average inspection rate from 6% to 25% of registered rental properties by 2021. The targets are based on the percentage of tenancies registered with the RTB, which within the Fingal County Council administrative area was 21,034 at end of 2018.

The annual targets are as follows:

2018 (10%)	2019 (15%)	2020 (20%)	2021 (25%)
2,072	3,155	4,207	5,259

The target set for inspections during 2019 has been met.

**January Photos from social housing construction schemes**

**Rolestown , Co Dublin - 26 units:**



**Rathbeale Road, Swords Co Dublin - 24 units:**



**Ladyswell Crescent, Mulhuddart, D15 - 22 units**



## Housing Tenancy Services Report

### Housing Support

#### *Social Housing Support*

Fingal County Council allocated 420 properties to applicants on the social housing list during 2019, compromising offers of standard social housing and housing with Affordable Housing Bodies.

#### *Refusals of Offers*

72 households had refused offers of dwellings from Fingal County Council during 2019, including 9 families who are residing in commercial emergency accommodation (hotels and B&B's)

#### *Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)*

In 2019, 635 tenancies have been registered with details on further tenancies being progressed at year end.

#### *Homeless Services*

Fingal County Council is currently in contact with circa 607 families who are in homeless circumstances or at risk of homelessness.

496 families have exited homelessness during 2019 (including 366 Homeless HAP tenancies), with further tenancy arrangements due to conclude through the various forms of social housing support.

Since 2015, over 1,078 tenancies have been registered under the HHAP system.

The Councils Homeless Clinic, which is open every day, assesses households experiencing homelessness. Advice and support is provided to these households by the Homeless Team, in addition to information regarding the options available to them. The Council works in conjunction with various agencies such as Focus

Ireland and Threshold in supporting homeless families.

### Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024

#### Proposed Traveller Group Housing at Stockhole Lane, Baskin

A report is being presented to this meeting of the Council in relation to the proposal to construct 7 No dwellings as part of a Traveller specific group housing scheme on Stockhole Lane, Baskin in accordance with Part XI of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001(as amended), Fingal County Council.

### Returning Dwellings to Productive Use

The number of casual voids within Social Housing Stock which are currently in the re-let process is as set out in the table below;

Voids	At 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2019
In letting process	27
Undergoing re-let repairs	15
With County Architect for procurement of pre-let repairs	33
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>75</b>

### Planned Maintenance Programmes

#### Boiler Servicing

The council provides an annual boiler servicing facility, including all maintenance and upgrade works, for a nominal fee of €3 per week to participating tenant. The 2020 programme will commence in the coming month.

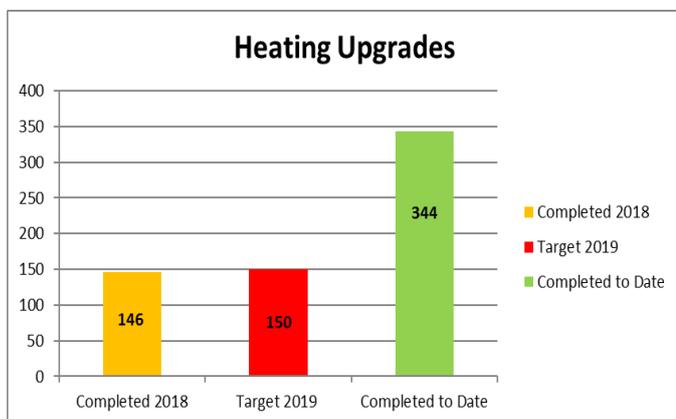
## Cyclical Maintenance

This programme provides for external painting and joinery repairs to council housing stock. Currently the programme operates on a 6/7 year cycle. The current contract commenced in May 2019 and 410 dwellings have been completed to date out of a target 550 dwellings. The completion of external painting is weather dependent and progress was slower than anticipated during the Autumn period.

Estate	Units Included		Status
Seaview Park, Portrane	13	13	Complete
Longstone Park ,Portrane	20	20	Complete
Ministers Park , Lusk	58	58	Complete
Hands Lane Cottages	7	7	Complete
Glasmore Park	26	26	Complete
Jugback Lane	49	49	Complete
Seamount Grove, Malahide	39	39	Complete
Fortlawn Estate	229	198	In progress
Sheepmoor Estate (part)	109	0	
	<b>550</b>	<b>410</b>	

## Heating Upgrades

Boiler upgrades are continuing based on the Council's commitments under its Climate Change Action Plan. These include boiler and systems upgrades ( as required ) as part of re-let repairs to void properties.



## Estate Maintenance and Grass Cutting

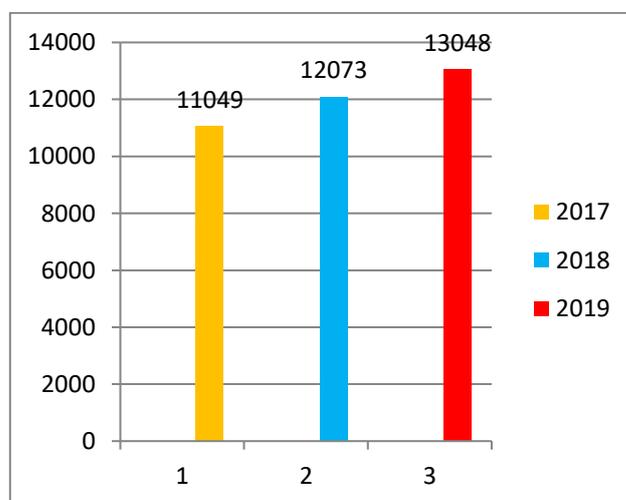
The Housing Maintenance Division provides a grass cutting service for circa 350 elderly or vulnerable tenants, within its housing estates. In addition, grass cutting is provided in small areas of open space, not covered by Operations Department, with the overall objective of improving the visual aspect of the estates.

Laneways provided to the rear of dwellings in the older estates can be a source of dumping and anti-social behaviour and the Housing Maintenance Division works with local residents to find solutions where issues exist. In some cases, laneways are gated and keys provided to adjoining residents for local access. In other situations, where all householders are in agreement, laneways can be incorporated into the adjoining rear gardens.

**Laneway in Fortlawn, Dublin 15** – works were completed in November 2019 to incorporate a section of laneway at Fortlawn Avenue into three Council Properties.

**Laneway in Lambeecher, Balbriggan** - 4 laneways in Lambeecher have been gated in December 2019 following a request by residents.

## Total Maintenance Requests



### Anti-Social Behaviour/Inspectorate/Welfare/Stock Management

The ongoing management and sustainment with regard to social tenancies and good estate management falls within the remit of the ASB/Inspectorate Unit. Alleged breaches pertaining to tenancy agreements are investigated and pursued in accordance with Housing legislative guidelines.

There are occasions when the vulnerabilities, complexities and health related issues associated with a tenancy require tenancy sustainment intervention and supports. Ongoing case management and review with a variety of external agencies, including Approved Housing Bodies, An Garda Síochána, Tusla and the HSE is a necessity to ensure all agencies work collaboratively with a view to achieving best outcomes.

### Stock Management

43 cases under review – 14 regularisations, 13 breaches (allegations of sub-lets, abandonments, illegal occupiers), 16 Miscellaneous

14 downsizing, 16 Miscellaneous

Surrenders 84 (2019)

### Housing Welfare

The Social Workers attached to the Housing Department are available to support vulnerable tenancies and to work with housing applicants who have medical/welfare needs.

In addition, there are currently 20 cases being provided with supports by the Tenancy Sustainment Service.

### Anti-Social Behaviour

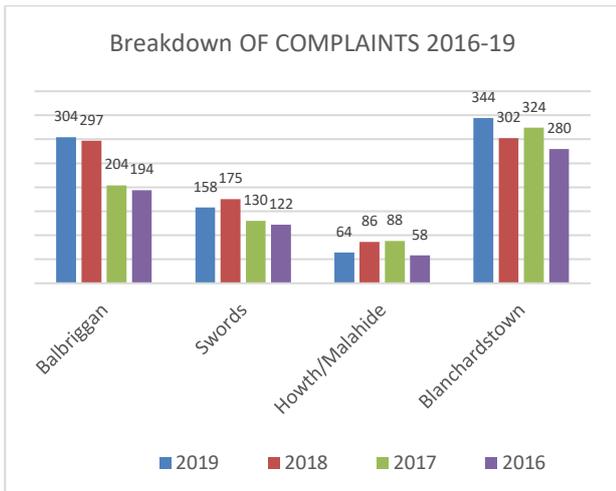
	Active Investigation	Active Monitoring	Closed
Dublin 15	25	13	4
North County	27	18	3
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>7</b>

### Total Complaints Received

2019	870
2018	860
2017	746
2016	654

### Area Breakdown of Complaints

	2019	2018	2017	2016
Balbriggan	304	297	204	194
Swords	158	175	130	122
Howth/Malahide	64	86	88	58
Blanchardstown	344	302	324	280
<b>Total</b>	<b>870</b>	<b>860</b>	<b>746</b>	<b>654</b>



### Anti-Social Interventions

Interviews Held	92
Tenancy Alerts	27
Tenancy Warnings	4
Tenant Induction Training	10

### Housing Inspections (end of Nov)

Traveller Specific Inspections	1818
Estate Inspections	944
EM/ASB Inspections	3858

## Community Culture & Sports Division

### Arts Office:

#### **Grainne Hallahan and Irish Aphasia Theatre Showcase**

Fingal County Council was delighted to present Grainne Hallahan's Irish Aphasia Theatre Showcase in Draíocht on the 11<sup>th</sup> of December.

This is showcase of research they have initiated on the beneficial effects of theatre on those with a condition called Aphasia – Aphasia is the term associated with an acquired brain injury, it can affect individuals at any stage of life either as a result of stroke or trauma to the brain, it impairs the individuals ability to communicate verbally.

Grainne Hallahan was supported in this project through funding awarded under our Public Art Programme Emerging artist award and also through the Arts Council's Artist in the Community Scheme and support from Fingal Arts Office. Grainne is from Dublin 15 and has developed a close relationship, with Fingal County Council and Draíocht through this project.



#### **Amharc Fhine Gall 12<sup>th</sup> edition Exhibition presents 'Holdfast' by Anne Ensor**

The Arts Office is delighted to present Holdfast a new commission by Ann Ensor a visual artist based in Dublin 15. Ensor's exhibition is an immersive installation which explores the aesthetic properties and the environmental significance of kelp seaweed. Deputy Mayor Councillor Tom Kitt officially launched the exhibition with special guest Caitríona Fallon, Visual Arts Curator Siamsa Tíre and Co-Founder of Green Arts Initiative Ireland.

This is Draíocht's first formal exhibition addressing climate change and resonates with Fingal's County Council's participation in *An Urgent Enquiry*. The exhibition is accompanied by an interactive project space designed by Orla Goodwin for children. It continues until 29<sup>th</sup> February 2020.



### **Hide Sculpture, 14<sup>th</sup> December**

The Arts Office welcomed asylum seekers and refugees, many of them resident in Mosney Direct Provision Centre, to an excursion with Irish friends to the Hide Sculpture Project, Rogerstown Park. The trip was organised by Sanctuary in Nature and Culture, an organisation that welcomes new residents in Ireland, by introducing them to our landscapes, to our natural world, and to our heritage buildings. Public Art Co-ordinator Caroline Cowley and artist Garrett Phelan introduced them to the artwork, while Frank Prendergast of Fingal Birdwatch Ireland talked about the bird life in Rogerstown Estuary.

### **Community Development Office:**

Wins for Flemington Balbriggan and Whitestown, Dublin 15 in IPB Pride of Place Awards



There was great success for Fingal at the IPB Pride of Place Awards as Flemington, Balbriggan was awarded 'Best Urban Neighbourhood' and the residents of the Whitestown Estate, Dublin 15 were runners-up in the 'Best Housing Estate' category at the Awards Ceremony in Kilkenny on 15<sup>th</sup> November.

The neighbourhood of Flemington in north-west Balbriggan is one of the fastest growing new communities in Ireland and the Community Centre in Flemington is the neighbourhood hub where many new clubs and groups have emerged in recent years. The judges were highly impressed with the rich variety of active clubs in Flemington providing an inclusive environment for all who wished to participate in their activities. They were provided with an excellent presentation on the work of the various groups and saw for themselves the truly pioneering efforts to reach out to everyone in the community. The Flemington Local Development Group (FLDG) which is coordinated by the Community Development Office is a forum for representatives from the local community, local authority, state agency and local development in the Flemington area to work collaboratively to address issues emerging at a local level. With busy Foróige youth projects and a

strong integration forum, the urban neighbourhood of Flemington is very much reflective of present day Fingal and modern Ireland.

Runners-up in the 'Best Housing Estate' category were the Whitestown Estate, Dublin 15 residents. The group has recently embarked on an ambitious community arboretum project to remember deceased members of the local community within the estate and were recognised for their hard work and dedication to their local area.

**Fingal Comhairle na nÓg AGM** were among one of the first Comhairle groups to be invited to Leinster House for this years Dáil na nÓg on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November. Five members attended for this amazing experience to see how the system works. 200 young people are elected to Dáil na nÓg (the National Youth Parliament) through their local Comhairle na nÓg. There was a lot of planning for day and the event was a great success.



### Martin Russell Volunteer Recognition Event



The Community Office organised an event in Mourne Community Centre, Skerries in conjunction with the new Centre Manager, to recognise the tremendous volunteering work done by local man, Martin Russell over the years. Martin was the chair of the centre for many years and was responsible for keeping the centre going and increasing activities during his years with the Mourne Estate Residents & Management Association. The local community of Mourne Estate along with friends, family and neighbours from the wider Skerries community paid tribute to Martin on the night who has recently retired as a volunteer.

### Mountview Resource Centre Xmas Tree of Hope Event



Mountview Family Resource Centre in Whitechapel Estate, Dublin 15 hosted their annual Christmas Tree of Hope event recently, with support from the Community Office of FCC. Hundreds of local parents and children took part in festive activities at the Centre where members of the local community remembered those who are no longer with us. In neighbouring Whitestown the WEM Christmas Tree event similarly allowed local people to remember those who have passed away this year, and in previous years.

### PPN Linkage Group Meetings 2019



The final round of Fingal PPN Linkage Group meetings took place at the end of November and December 2019. Linkage Groups are an opportunity for community organisations from across Fingal to meet together in networks, to highlight issues or concerns and organise collective advocacy campaigns. Any community organisation who is a member of the PPN can participate. For more information on upcoming Linkage Group meetings for 2020 see [www.fingalppn.ie](http://www.fingalppn.ie)

### Flemington Community Centre – Christmas Family Event



Flemington Community Centre held its annual Christmas family event for the community in Flemington, Balbriggan on 18<sup>th</sup> December. The event was well attended and the entertainment included face painting, a disco and a special visit from Santa. The Christmas Event helps the community centre to establish itself in the Flemington/Moylaragh area and promotes the courses/classes/activities that are commencing in January 2020. The Community Centre is the heart of the Flemington/Moylaragh area and the Christmas event is an important tool in building community spirit and strong relations with Fingal County Council.

### Age Friendly Fingal.



## Age Friendly Ireland

Creating a great place in which to grow old is the aim of the WHO inspired movement to cater for an ageing population, with Ireland leading internationally in rolling out the programme. On 16<sup>th</sup> December the Cathaoirleach of Meath County Council, Wayne Harding, welcomed the Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar TD, and Alana Officer of WHO to Slane Castle to formally recognise the response of all 31 Local Authority led Age Friendly Programmes with a presentation of charters.

Each local authority in Ireland is leading on the implementation of a local Age friendly Programme, in partnership with multiple stakeholders in the public, business and community/NGO sectors. Minister for Employment Affairs & Social Protection, Regina Doherty; Minister of State for Housing and Urban Development, Damien English; Minister of State for Mental Health and Older People, Jim Daly; and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Helen McEntee were also in attendance. This milestone occasion marked the full engagement of all 31 authorities and a multitude of key stakeholder agencies in taking actions which will improve the quality of life of older people across Ireland

## Sports Division:



## Big Sports Quiz

This collaboration programme with Libraries Division and the Sports Office is in its fifth year. The programme combines Sports Conditioning and the Sporting Facts programme in addition each child is given two sports books to read 'Fintan's Fifteen' by Alan Nolan and 'Get out and Play Rugby' by Rod Smith. The children from 3<sup>rd</sup> class in Balbriggan Educate Together National School and Bracken Educate Together National School were delighted with their visit to Balbriggan Library for the Big Sports Quiz on Wednesday 11th December. In line with the focus on physical activity the 120 school children walked from their schools to the library.

The Big Sports Quiz takes the form of a table quiz, with questions about the books the children read and Sporting Facts. Both authors, Rod Smith and Alan Nolan attended and acted as quizmasters asking questions on their books, while the Sports Officers, Owen McGrath and Stephen McGinn asked questions on the Sporting Facts. There were many spot prizes, including a number of books, signed by the authors. The Mayor presented the certificates to every child that participated in the programme.



**Fingal Schools Futsal Tournament** - The Sports Office in conjunction with the FAI ran this successful tournament. The programme, now in its third year was staged in the National Indoor Area. With 44 Primary and Secondary schools and

in excess of 400 boys and girls participating. It is the biggest attendance to date. Of particular note was the increase in the number of secondary schools in attendance. This year's boys section tournament winners were Ardgillan Community College with Malahide Community School winning the girls section. The primary school section was participation only, with no outright winners.



**Dates for your diary: Operation Transformation**  
walks will take place on **Saturday 18th January**

- Porterstown Park Dublin 15, Meet in the park – 9.30am
- Swords, Rivervalley Park, Meet at the All-Weather-Pitch – 9.30am
- Balbriggan, Meet at Quay Street Car Park – 11am
- Tyrrelstown Park, Meet at the car Park – 11am

We are also partnering with Kildare Local Sports Partnership for one event in St Catherine's Park, Lucan at 11am.

## LIBRARIES

### **Libraries Nationwide Communication Campaign**

Monday 20th January sees the start of a national radio, cinema, digital and social media advertising campaign, inviting the public to #TakeACloserLook at their library. These adverts will run for four weeks and will feature library staff from around the country, including two staff from Fingal: Raquel Murillo Diestro from Malahide Library and Muhammad Ali from Blanchardstown Library.

The second stage of the communication campaign will be an Open Day on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> February, when libraries around the country, including Fingal Libraries, will showcase the range of library resources and services on offer, from the printed word and e-services, to 3D printers, tablets and laptops, to events that keep you informed and entertained.

### **Reception for national Europe Direct Soapbox winner**

On 17th December, The Mayor Of Fingal, Cllr. Eoghan O'Brien, formally congratulated Beverly Joseph, the 2019 Europe Direct Soapbox winner, at a reception in her honour at Blanchardstown Library. Beverly won the national Europe Direct Soapbox final in November 2019, having come through the regional round held at Blanchardstown Library earlier in the year. Blanchardstown Library is home to one of ten Europe Direct Centres in Ireland. It provides information to the public on all things European as well as serving as a platform for discussion and debate on European matters. The annual Soapbox competition is a competitive event attracting entrants from around the country. The theme of the 2019 competition was 'Climate Change is Not My Problem' and Beverly's impassioned speech and excellent delivery impressed the judges to earn her first place in the final. Beverly won a prize of €1,000 and a trip to Brussels in 2020,

where she will receive a tour of the European Parliament and other EU institutions.



The Mayor, Cllr. Eoghan O'Brien with Beverly Joseph, her parents and Council staff.

wished them every success with their future entrepreneurial enterprises.



The Deputy Mayor, Cllr. Tom Kitt speaking at the presentation of certificates for the Young Entrepreneurs Club.

### Young Entrepreneurs Club

Also in December, the Deputy Mayor of Fingal Cllr. Tom Kitt presented certificates to 19 young entrepreneurs, aged 10 to 12 years, who had participated in a Young Entrepreneurs Club at Blanchardstown Library. Participation in the Club involves an eleven week programme during which budding entrepreneurs learn about conducting market research, designing a product, making a pitch, marketing, advertising, sales and financial management. The Club which is an initiative of the Europe Direct Information Centre and the Work Matters Service in Fingal Libraries is facilitated by Serena Bryans who is the Student Enterprise Co-ordinator with the Fingal Local Enterprise Office. On completion of the programme the young entrepreneurs sold their handmade products at a very successful Christmas Market Day in Blanchardstown Library on 5th December. Speaking at the presentation of certificates, Cllr. Kitt congratulated the young participants and

# ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE ACTION & WATER SERVICES (ECAWS)

Contents	
<b>Environment &amp; Climate Action</b> Climate Action Environmental Awareness Circular Economy and Waste Policy Water Quality Protection	Litter Management Waste Enforcement  <b>Water Services</b> Operations

## ENVIRONMENT

### Climate Action

**Public Street lighting** historically accounted for approximately 50% of Fingal County Councils energy usage. A programme for replacing streetlighting with energy efficient LED's is well underway, with 57% replaced to date.



Complete roll out of LED public lighting is on target for completion by 2021.

The **Council's vehicle fleet** is continually being replenished with electric vehicles with 12 fully electric vans and 6 fully electric utility vehicles in service with a further 14 vans and 3 utility vehicles on order.

A comprehensive **boiler replacement programme** is underway in social housing stock with 292

boilers replaced in 2019; and the tenant induction programme now includes energy, water, waste and environmental awareness elements.

Both the **Climate Action and Environmental awareness webpages** have been revamped to improve accessibility for the public, and both include suggestions on how individuals can reduce their carbon footprints and make more sustainable choices.



**Be energy efficient**

Change to LED bulbs - While more expensive, they last longer and use far less power so you will see the impact in your bills.

Wash clothes and dishes using eco-cycles, which use less water and energy.

Buy the most efficient appliances you can, turn down the thermostat and only heat the house when you need to.



**Reduce your waste**

Rubbish sent to landfill produces the potent greenhouse gas methane.

Recycle where possible, and get a compost bin.

Most operators collect brown bin waste, or you can produce compost for use in the garden.

Try to buy refills of household staples like coffee or washing powder, which use less packaging.



**Buy local**

Try to do the bulk of your shopping in your community. This not only keeps jobs in local areas but also reduces car use.



**Try to go meat free**

While we don't advocate enforced vegetarianism or veganism, going meat free at least once a week is healthier, cheaper and will help reduce agricultural emissions.



**Buy seasonal**

Try to eat fruit and vegetables in season.

Food often travels thousands of kilometres before reaching the local supermarket, and shipping and aviation have a major impact on climate change.

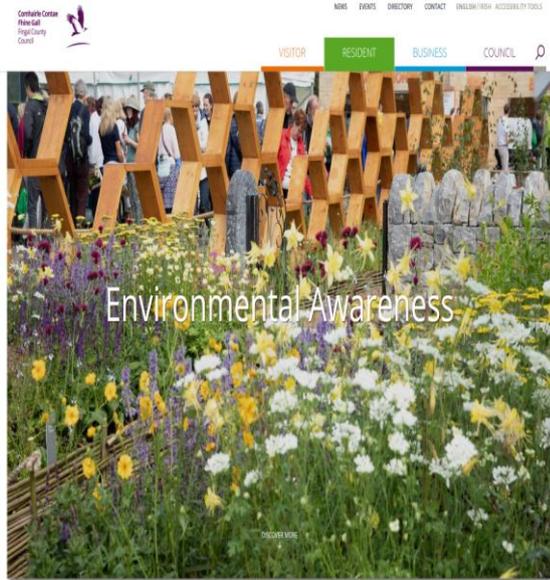
Only buy what you'll eat.



**Use the off switch**

Turn out the lights, and power down the TV, laptop, tablet, and other appliances when you're not using them.

Turn off the water when you brush your teeth – treating water to make it safe to drink



The Fingal Climate Action team are collaborating with **CARO (Climate Action Regional Office)** and the other Dublin Local Authorities on a number of issues:

- Electric Vehicle Charge Points: Fingal Operations team have led by undertaking market soundings to gauge the level of interest and market capacity to deliver EV charge points to the Dublin Local Authorities with economies of scale. This group will also consider the recently released Electric Vehicle Public Charge Point Grant which is a Government grant in support of the ambitious roll out of EV charge points across the country.
- Planning: A group will work on key issues around Climate Proofing County Development Plans.
- Communications: This group will coordinate regional communication around the annual calendar of events and progress on CCAP actions.

A Climate Action Workshop for Young People was held in Nov in Civic Offices Blanchardstown. This workshop was hosted by CARO, An Taisce Climate Ambassador Green Schools & Fingal County Council Climate Action Team. There were over 40 participants including transition year students and their teachers from across Fingal.

A proposed amendment of Part L of the Second Schedule to the Building Regulations is out on public consultation at present with welcome proposed requirements for electric vehicle recharging infrastructure for new dwelling house construction.

### Environmental Awareness

The Environmental Awareness section undertook an information campaign to promote a more environmental Christmas, through social media internally through promoting eco friendly gifts.





The consultation can be accessed at:  
<https://www.dccae.gov.ie/en-ie/environment/consultations/Pages/Public-Consultation-Waste-Action-Plan-for-a-Circular-Economy.aspx>

### Transposition of the Circular Economy Waste Package

The DCCAE are also consulting on the **Transposition of the Circular Economy Waste Package** as it relates to its founding directives – on waste, landfilling of waste, packaging, end-of-life vehicles, batteries and accumulators and waste electrical and electronic equipment. It can be accessed at:

<https://www.dccae.gov.ie/en-ie/environment/consultations/Pages/Consultation-on-the-Transposition-of-the-Circular-Economy-Waste-Package.aspx>

Both Consultations close at 5pm on **Friday 21st February 2020**.

### Water Quality Protection

#### LEADER – Working with water and biodiversity: a guide for community groups

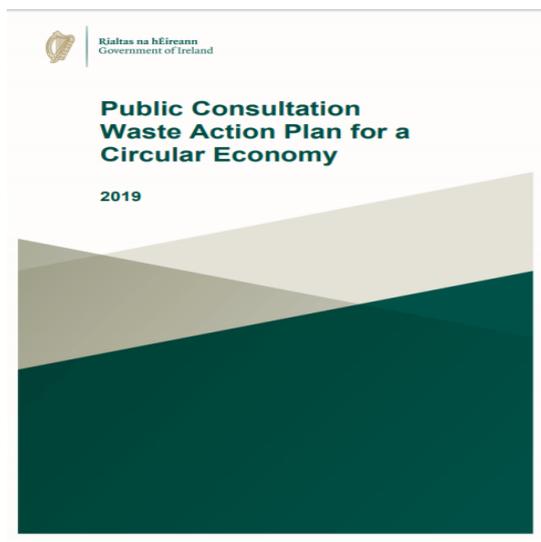
The Local Authority Waters Programme has published guidance for communities on environmental (water and biodiversity) projects that can be funded through the LEADER programme 2014-2020. Further details are available at the following location

<https://www.catchments.ie/leader-working-with-water-and-biodiversity-a-guide-for-community-groups/>

#### The Community Water Development Fund 2020

This fund is open to all community and voluntary groups, (including river and lake trusts and catchment partnerships) who want to get involved in the protection and restoration of clean and healthy waters in their local

### Circular Economy and Waste Policy Consultation



### Public Consultation on “Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy”

The Minister for Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment (DCCAE) Richard Bruton T.D. announced the opening of a public consultation process on the development of Ireland’s **Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy**. The results of the consultation will help revise National Waste Policy and further the Circular Economy

Types of projects considered for funding will include:

- Capital projects such as restoration/habitat conservation/natural flood mitigation measures.
- Projects that promote public awareness/education and events such as biodiversity days, surveys, training workshops, surveys and plans, etc.
- General amenity such as beach clean, improving amenity areas, bird watching facilities, etc.

Application Form and Guidance Notes are available to download from the LA Waters Programme:

<http://watersandcommunities.ie/community-water-development-fund-2020/>

The closing date for applications submitted by post or email is **Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 5.00 pm** with an extended deadline for online applications of **Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 8.00 pm**.

### Litter Management

A total of 44 litter fines & 24 warning notices were issued in December as follows

Area	Fines	Warning Notices
Balbriggan/Swords/Rush/Lusk	22	20
Blanchardstown/Mulhuddart/ Castleknock/Ongar	20	2
Howth/Malahide	2	2

18 court prosecutions under the Act were instigated in December.

### Waste Enforcement

Quarter 4 inspections have now been completed in relation to Producer Responsibility Initiatives such as Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment (WEEE), Batteries, End of Life Vehicles (ELV's) for the

importation of vehicles and compliance with REPAK End of Life Tyres (ELT). Other areas of action included inspections related to construction and demolition waste such as Article 27 Notifications, C&D waste management plans and review of planning applications for waste related requirements.

During 2019 over 700 inspections were undertaken by waste enforcement officers across a wide range of activities including construction and demolition waste, suspected illegal activity, waste related complaints, household and commercial food waste, waste facilities, waste collection permits, packaging and unauthorised end of life vehicle sites.

### National Waste Enforcement Priorities 2020

National Environmental Enforcement Priorities have been developed for 2020. In relation to waste the following priorities have been agreed for action:

#### Tackling Significant Illegal Waste Activity

- Illegal dumping;
- unauthorised operators,
- Waste Presentation Bye-Laws

#### Multi-Agency Sites of Interest

- Identification of Unauthorised Sites
- Construction and Demolition Activity - unauthorised disposal of C&D waste.
- Management of C&D waste
- Management and controls at source including Construction sites.

#### End-of Life Vehicles (ELV) Directive

- Authorised End of Life Vehicles sites / Operators
- Unauthorised End of Life Vehicles sites/ End of Life Vehicles Operators

#### Waste Collection - Household & Commercial

- Compliance with waste collection permits
- Compliance by commercial sector with segregation requirements
- Continued roll-out of Brown Bin

### Tracking of Waste Flows

- Improve the quality of data and the mechanisms to ensure waste data can be shared
- Detect and reduce misclassification of waste.

National waste enforcement priorities and Fingal local enforcement activities will be incorporated into an environmental inspections plan for 2020 in line with the requirements of the Recommendation of the European Parliament and the Council providing for Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections in Member States (2001/331/EC).

### WATER SERVICES

#### **Operations**

Water and Drainage Services continue to be provided as agreed in the Service Level Agreement with Irish Water.

# CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNANCE (CAG) & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

## Contents

### Communications

Nuacht Fhine Gall

Fingal named Local Authority of the Year by InBusiness

Magazine

Digital Media

### Information Technology

BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition

## Communications

### Fingal News

The latest edition of Fingal News ezine in both English and Irish was published in December. It is available to read on <https://www.fingal.ie/news>.

## Nuacht Fhine Gall

Eisúint  
№ 12  
Nollaig  
2019



25  
BLIANTA  
1994-2019  
Comhairle Contae  
Fhine Gall  
Fingal County  
Council

Do Chomhairle  
ag obair duitse



## Fingal named Local Authority of the Year by InBusiness Magazine



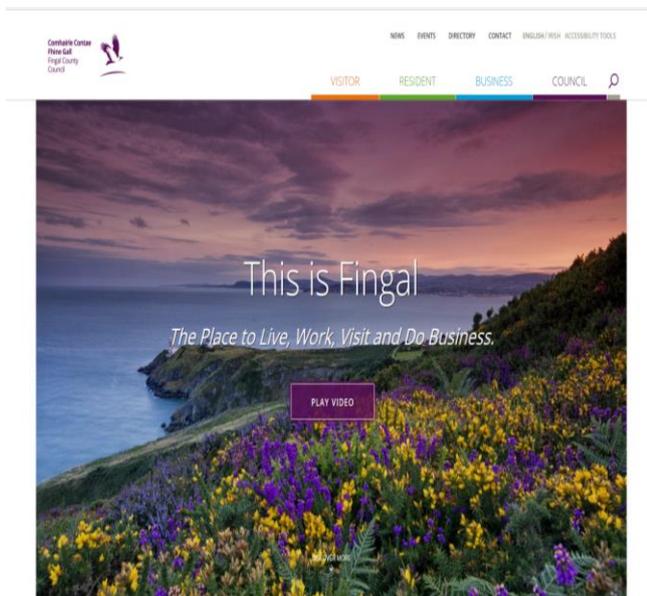
Fingal County Council has been named 'Local Authority of the Year'. Deputy Mayor Cllr Tom Kitt accepted the award on behalf of the Council at the InBusiness Recognition Awards 2019.

InBusiness is the official publication of Chambers Ireland and the annual awards aim to celebrate the success and achievements in Irish business and to recognise individuals and organisations who support the growth of businesses within Ireland.



## Digital Media

The Council's digital media platforms continued to perform well during 2019 which saw the launch of a new look website.

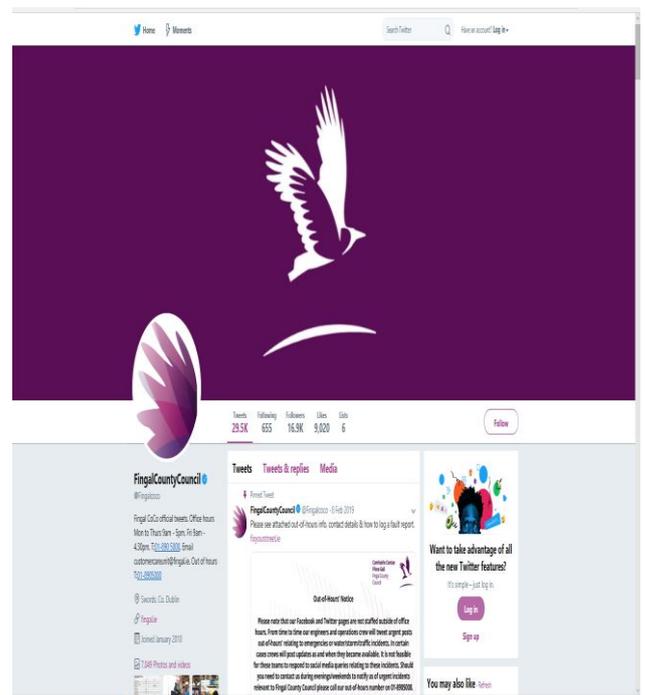


Our digital channels are used to improve engagement with our citizens and include Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, LinkedIn and Snapchat. 2019 also saw the introduction of Instagram to our digital channels.



The Council's Facebook account saw the number of followers rise by 24.33% during 2019 to 16,543. A total of 1,205 posts were posted during 2019 which had a total reach of 5,150,687 users and generated an engagement rate of 5.2% from 7,355,570 impressions. An impression is the number of times a tweet shows up in somebody's timeline and engagement is when they react to the post by liking, sharing or clicking it.

The Council's main Twitter account @fingalcoco saw the number of followers rise by 11.56% to 16,860. It generated 5,852,600 impressions in 2019 which was an average of 16,035 per day and the monthly engagement rates ranged from 0.8% to 1.6% with an engagement rate of over 1%, which is our monthly target, being recorded for seven of the 12 months.



The Council also operates nine other specialist Twitter accounts which are run by our Libraries, Events, Arts, Heritage, Sports, Community Development, Digital, LEO and PPN sections. They have over 30,000 followers between them.



## Information Technology

### Fingal County Council takes part in this years BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition



Ireland's most exciting festival of science and technology takes place from 8-11<sup>th</sup> January at the RDS, Dublin. The BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition, now in its 56<sup>th</sup> year, is a fun-filled spectacle of creativity and inspiration, offering something for people of all ages. At this year's Exhibition, the Digital Fingal team will be showcasing innovative digital initiatives led by Fingal County Council that look to improve the way we live and work in Fingal – from using drones to prevent illegal dumping, rolling out smart street furniture that can charge your phone and give you free WiFi and developing interactive maker spaces to enhance creativity and innovation. The Digital Fingal team will be joined by Fingal Libraries, Smart Dublin and Dublin Maker.

At the heart of the Exhibition are the 1,100 students representing 244 schools across the island of Ireland who will compete for the coveted title of BT Young Scientist & Technologist(s) of the Year 2020. Last year Adam Kelly, a student from Skerries Community College was awarded the overall prize for his project entitled “Optimizing the Simulation of General Quantum Circuits”, which explored efficient ways to mathematically model quantum computers.



## FINANCE

Contents
Financial Reports

### Financial Reports

#### **Making of Rate**

Following determination of the rate by Members at the Annual Budget meeting, the rate will be made by the Chief Executive on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January following the statutory publication process. Rate bills for 2020 will issue immediately after the rate has been made.

## Appendix

### A Look Back Over 2019

# A Look Back Over 2019 – January



Fingal County Council reflected on the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of its establishment – The inaugural meeting of the new Council took place at Newbridge House on January 7<sup>th</sup>, 1994.

Fingal County Council provided 17 recycling points for Christmas Trees in the New Year



RTÉ's Operation Transformation series came to Balbriggan and was broadcast from Bremore Castle



# A Look Back Over 2019 – February



JOIN US FOR

FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL'S  
**#COUNCILS4CLIMATEACTION**  
PUBLIC INFORMATION EVENTS

ENERGY SAVING ADVICE FROM SEA!

MON 18 FEB	MAIN EVENT - SWORDS 5.30-8.30pm County Hall, Main Street, Swords	KIDS' CORNER!	WED 20 FEB	BALBRIGGAN EVENT 5.30-8.30pm Bracken Court Hotel, Bridge Street, Balbriggan
MON 25 FEB	BLANCHARDSTOWN EVENT 5.30-8.30pm Crowne Plaza Dublin, Blanchardstown Town Centre		THUR 28 FEB	SUTTON EVENT 5.30-8.30pm Marine Hotel, 13 Sutton Cross, Burrowe, Sutton

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT  
[www.dublinclimatechange.ie](http://www.dublinclimatechange.ie)

4 successful public information events were held in Fingal in relation to Climate Action

Fingal Skills Strategy Launched – the Strategy identifies gaps between the skills of Fingal’s workforce and the skills that employers need. The Strategy sets out specific actions such as developing new training courses, increasing course provision, and building relationships and links with employers, educational institutions and other stakeholders.



# A Look Back Over 2019 – March

## MUSIC @ MALAHIDE CASTLE 2019



MALAHIDE CASTLE DUBLIN | f/eventsinfingal | @eventsinfingal | fmgal.ie | 25 |

A series of 7 concerts for Malahide Castle was announced

Six hugely successful St. Patrick's Day Parades were held in Fingal and were attended by tens of thousands of people



Works on the Donabate Distributor Road site continued

# A Look Back Over 2019 – April



Swords Cultural Quarter Tender issued. The completed SCQ will bring a multi million Euro investment with a new Civic Centre, Theatre, Library and public plaza



Following the announcement that Paul Reid would leave Fingal in May, AnnMarie Farrelly was appointed Interim CE



Rogerstown Park, located on the site of the old Ballealy Landfill, was officially opened on April 27<sup>th</sup> 2019 by Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Anthony Lavin

# A Look Back Over 2019 – May



Green Coast Award Winners! Portmarnock's Velvet Strand and Burrow Beach, Sutton received Green Coast Awards from An Taisce

Bleeper Bike Scheme Extended to Swords, Malahide and Howth!



Chief Executive Paul Reid bids Fingal Farewell at a reception to wish him well in his new position as Director General of the HSE

# A Look Back Over 2019 – June



Fingal County Council 2019 –2020

Cllr. Eoghan O’Brien (FF) Mayor

Cllr. Tom Kitt (FF) Deputy Mayor



Gold Medal!  
Fingal's 'Bee Positive'  
garden was awarded gold  
in the large garden  
category at the Bloom festival  
in Phoenix Park

85,000 attend the Flavours  
of Fingal County Show at  
Newbridge House and Farm

# A Look Back Over 2019 – July

Fingal parks win 5 Green Flag Awards



## HOTHOUSE FLOWERS

+ SPECIAL GUESTS JERRY FISH & EOIN GLACKIN

SWORDS CASTLE, SATURDAY JULY 20TH - DOORS 5PM

Tickets €20 inc. booking fee WWW.TICKETS.IE

Hugely successful  
Swords Summer Festival  
takes place with  
Hothouse Flowers and  
Jerry Fish playing  
Swords Castle



Pollinator friendly planting at  
Bremore Castle, Balbriggan



# A Look Back Over 2019 – August



Fingal Heritage Plan Launched and Local Studies and Archives finds a new home in North Street, Swords!



Works to facilitate the Swords Cultural Quarter begin



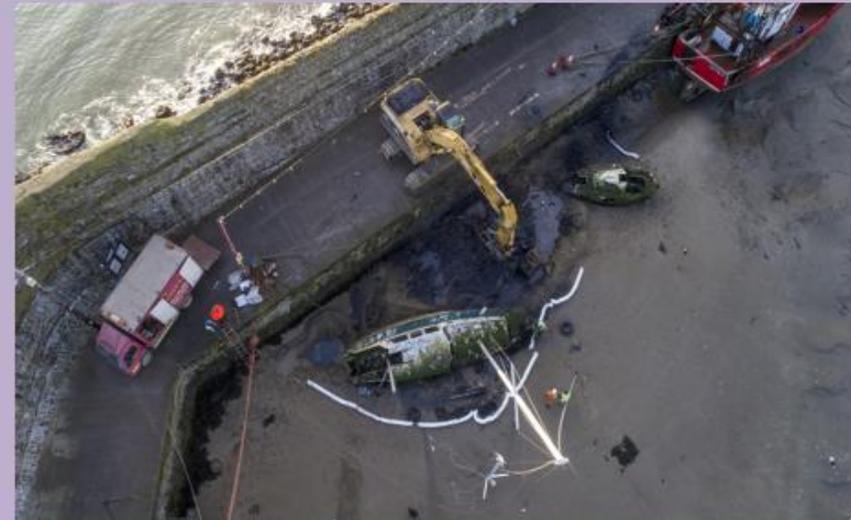
Heritage Week takes place in Fingal



# A Look Back Over 2019 – October



New look website launched



Wreck removal at Balbriggan Harbour



Amazing Festival of Fire Events



# A Look Back Over 2019 – November

Comhairle Contae  
Fhine Gall  
Fingal County  
Council



AnnMarie Farrelly was Appointed as Chief Executive at a special meeting of Fingal County Council on Friday, November 1.



School Streets initiative piloted



Awards Galore!



Fingal County Council received the award for Local Authority of the Year at the Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards on Thursday, November 29

# A Look Back Over 2019 – December



Tree planting in Corduff Park



Public Service Innovation Week



Wins for Flemington,  
Balbriggan and  
Whitestown, D15  
At the IPB Pride of Place  
Awards



Fingal to host the  
European Cross Country  
Championships in  
December 2020



Balbriggan Town Awards  
Held in the Bracken Court  
Hotel