

Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council



Chief Executive's Management Report

14th of February, 2022
Item 26

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S MANAGEMENT REPORT – FEBRUARY 2022

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Chief Executive's Foreword

We received the welcome news from Government at the end of last month that most of the public health measures which were in place could be removed. This included a return to physical attendance in workplaces on a phased basis. We received the Transition Protocol from Government which reflects the most recent public health advice and is the current guidance for the safe return and continued safe operating of workplaces. Our Health and Safety team will continue to advise on measures that should be adopted by employees to prevent COVID-19 from spreading.

It is almost two years since we had the full workforce physically attending the workplace five days a week and this has led to new ways of working. It has also inspired an examination of our workplaces to see if they need to be adapted to accommodate this new approach to working. Over the past few months the Architects Department has been working on a Spatial Strategy and we are now looking at a major revamp of our offices to facilitate the new ways of working. It will take significant investment and over a year for this project to be fully completed but it will give us a much better place to work in. I expect developments in relation to a remote working strategy to emerge in the coming weeks.

Last month I referred to a busy start to the year with the commencement of the development plan meetings. The Elected Members have put in significant time to attend the busy schedule of meetings and their contributions, participation and constructive debates will ensure we will move on to the next stage of the process in a strong position with a robust draft plan. I must express my gratitude to all the staff who have worked tirelessly to facilitate these meetings. It is a great example of the professional and dedicated workforce we have which is regularly remarked upon by councillors and citizens.

The Operations Works Programmes for 2022 are in the process of being agreed with the Elected Members. These are the largest programmes to be undertaken by the department with increased budgets and upon delivery will greatly enhance our county. A public lottery took place for County Wide Trading and 24 successful applicants were offered locations throughout the county. Trading is expected

to commence by the end of the month when site inspections have taken place and relevant documentation has been submitted. This is just one aspect of preparations which are underway for an outdoor Summer.

I am delighted that we will see the return of live events with the Events Unit managing St. Patrick's Day parades in Swords, Blanchardstown and Balbriggan and we will also be supporting parades in Rush, Lusk and Skerries through our Festival and Events funding scheme. To coincide with the Government's decision to designate a once-off public holiday, on Friday 18th March 2022, in recognition of the efforts of the general public, volunteers and all workers during the COVID-19 pandemic, and in remembrance of people who lost their lives, Fingal County Council's Events Office are planning a spectacular firework display on the coast at Malahide.

We have established a Fingal Age Friendly Team which is an interdepartmental team consisting of representatives from Architects, Active Travel, Communications, Community, Economic, Enterprise, Tourism and Cultural Development, Housing, Operations and Planning & Strategic Infrastructure with the support of Age Friendly Ireland - Healthy Homes representative and the Age Friendly Regional Programme Manager. The work of this team will be critical over the next number of months & years in enhancing the quality of life for Fingal's citizens now and in the future by developing and implementing age friendly policies and strategic objectives.

I look forward to more in person meetings with Elected members and staff where we can engage once again in a physical setting.

AnnMarie Farrelly
Chief Executive

HR, CORPORATE AND GOVERNANCE

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<p>Major Emergency Management</p> <p>Human Resources</p> <p>Health & Safety Unit</p> <p>Register of Electors</p> <p>Customer Services</p>	<p>CRM</p> <p>Information Technology</p> <p>Communications</p>

Major Emergency Management



The Major Emergency Management structures in place within the Council continue to be effective and serve us well as we continuously review and respond to advice issued by Government and ensure compliance with public health measures.

Fingal County Council’s Executive Management Team and senior management continue to meet regularly to ensure continuity of services and put measures in place to align with public health advice with recent alterations in this regard having been implemented.

Human Resources

The Human Resource Department continues to plan for and respond to the challenges brought by Covid19 in line with the Government’s updated **COVID-19** guidelines and the phased return to the workplace.

The Human Resources Department has a large scale recruitment campaign continuing in 2022.

Recruitment Programme 2022	
Recruitment Campaigns	33
Interviews Held to date	230
Number of Appointments	17
Number of Leavers/Retirements	15
Number of Job Offers Year to date	101
Number of Offers Declined	29
Number of Current Job Offers	72

Learning & Development

The following training courses are scheduled to take place in February 2022:

Health & Safety

- Evacuation Chair
- Mini Digger
- Confined Space High Risk
- Confined Space Rescue
- Site Dumper
- Manual handling
- Mobile Elevated Work Platform
- Grab Truck
- Forklift Refresher
- Forklift New Entrant

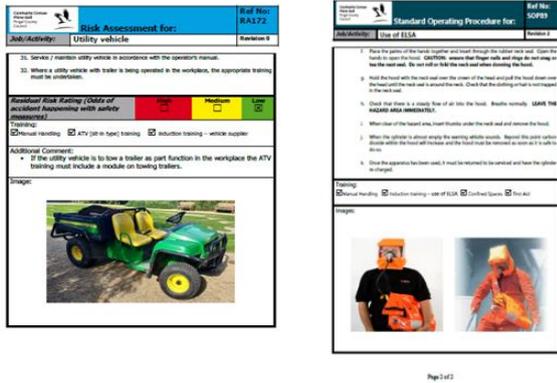
Business Skills

- Ignite Programme (grade 3 & 4 Staff Development Prog)
- Intercultural Diversity
- Dignity & Equality
- Project Supervisor Construction Stage
- Interviewer Skills
- Managing Aggressive Behaviour
- Personal Effectiveness (grades 3 & 4)

Health & Safety Unit (HSU)

The HSU continues to monitor incidences of staff self-isolations due to Covid-19 during the month of January along with answering staff queries on public health measures in place at the time in addition to general staff H&S enquiries. Safety audits, site safety inspections and accident investigations continued. The Unit reviewed standard operational procedures ranging from use of power tools, confined space cutting works, wood chipper operations, to use of emergency life support apparatus along with risk assessments for confined space works, working during Covid-19 pandemic, operation of utility

vehicles [sit-in quads] and portable power tools. HSU staff were retrained in Safe Pass and also supported the Training Section with manual handling for outdoor staff.



Register of Electors

The Register of Electors for 2022/2023 was published on 1st February 2022 and will come into effect on 14th February 2022.

The total electorate for Fingal is 192,710. The table below shows a breakdown per Local Electoral Area.

Local Electoral Area	Total
Balbriggan	23,337
Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart	17,073
Castleknock	32,301
Howth-Malahide	43,759
Ongar	20,714
Rush-Lusk	23,623
Swords	31,903
	192,710

Customer Services

On Monday, 7th of February, our offices re-opened to the public.

The Council's Customer Care Agents dealt with a total of - 14,804 Phone Calls and 1,892 Emails in the month of January .

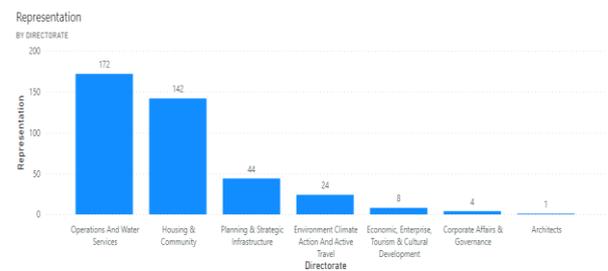
CRM

Staff continue to work on the Customer Relationship Management System (CRM) and issue responses to Councillors representations and complaints submitted by the public.

The month of January had a total of 395 Councillor's representations.



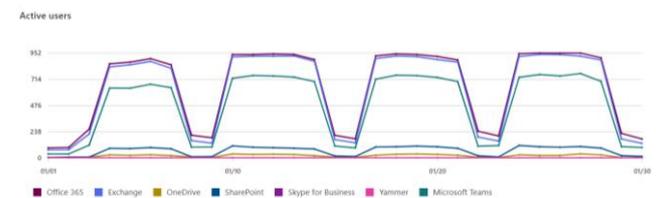
The table below shows the total number of Councillor's representations assigned to each Department to date in 2022.



Information Technology

Digital Working

In January staff took part in 9,918 Teams meetings, 32,047 calls took place, and 747,727 emails were received or sent by the Council.



IT Infrastructure & Support

687 support calls were logged by Council staff with the IT Service Desk in the past month and 14 calls were logged by Councillors with Sord. 100% server availability and 100% network availability were achieved in the month of January.

Development Plan



The IT Department have been providing on-going support to Planning Department for the Development Plan process. Work over the past month has included development and support of the Report Management and Administration Systems (RMAS) to enable management of production of reports for Development Plan motions; development and support of GIS map capture facility for Councillors' motions; training sessions for Councillors; support for production of agendas and document packs for Development Plan meetings; configuration, setup and support of IT facilities for Development Plan meetings.

National Broadband Plan

National Broadband Ireland (NBI) surveying works in Fingal (Donabate/Portrane Deployment Area)

Surveying and design works for the National Broadband Plan (NBP) rollout continues in Fingal on week beginning 7th February 2022. NBI are the company undertaking the fibre network roll-out to enable high speed internet connectivity for 544,000 premises across the country.

NBI would like the public to know that contractors will be on the ground in these counties, both inspecting and recording pictures of infrastructure such as poles, cables and underground ducts. The teams have been

fully trained in physical distancing practices, hygiene, appropriate use of personal protective equipment and how to engage with the public in a safe manner if and when required.

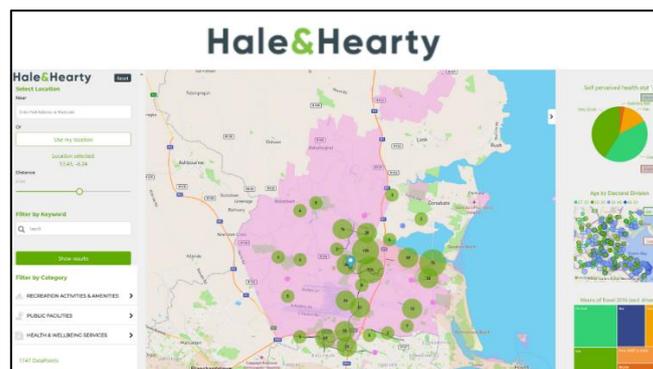
In Fingal, the surveys will take place in the following areas –

- Baldoyle
- Donabate/Portrane
- Howth
- Malahide
- Portmarnock
- Rowlestown
- Sutton
- Swords

Entegro are the contracting company commencing this work and they will have vehicles and signage with both their own, and NBI logos. Employees will also wear hard hats and high visibility vests featuring the NBI logo. All contractors will also carry official ID cards & essential worker letters.

The NBI customer call centre number is 0818 624 624 (local call rate) or email contactus@nbi.ie for any queries. For further information on the National Broadband Plan see www.nbi.ie

Hale and Hearty



Fingal County Council are partners in the "Hale and Hearty" EU-funded project that aims to improve access to health and wellbeing information. The project uses multiple open data sources (including local authority data) to provide a comprehensive health and wellbeing knowledge base. The Hale and Hearty Knowledge Base is now available for use at <http://data.gov.ie/haleandhearty> Please take the time to fill out the short feedback survey.

The project is managed by the Open Data Unit in the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER) and project partners are –

- Central Statistics Office
- Department of Health
- Fingal County Council
- Derilinx
- Ireland's Data Cloud Cluster (IDCC)

To find out more information about the Hale and Hearty project visit the project website at <https://haleandhearty.ie/>

Communications

Seachtain na Gaeilge

Seachtain na Gaeilge takes place from March 1-17 and it is a time when everyone is encouraged to use as much Irish as possible. Fingal County Council will be putting together a programme which can be found on [Fingal.ie/SeachtainnaGaeilge22](https://www.fingal.ie/SeachtainnaGaeilge22). Watch out for our Social Media channels where we will be sharing Irish content also. To share information on events you are organising contact eolas@fingal.ie

Seachtain na Gaeilge

Beidh Seachtain na Gaeilge ar siúl ón 1 go 17 Márta agus mana na féile ná triail a bhaint as an gcuid Gaeilge atá agat - Bain Triail Aisti. Beidh Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall ag cur clár le chéile arís i mbliana agus má theastaíonn uaibh bhur n-ócáid a bheith san áireamh sa chlár sin téigh i dteagmháil le eolas@fingal.ie n Beidh go leor ábhar ar fáil inár meáin shóisialta freisin. Beidh an t-eolas go léir ar fáil ar www.fingal.ie/seachtainnaGaeilge22.

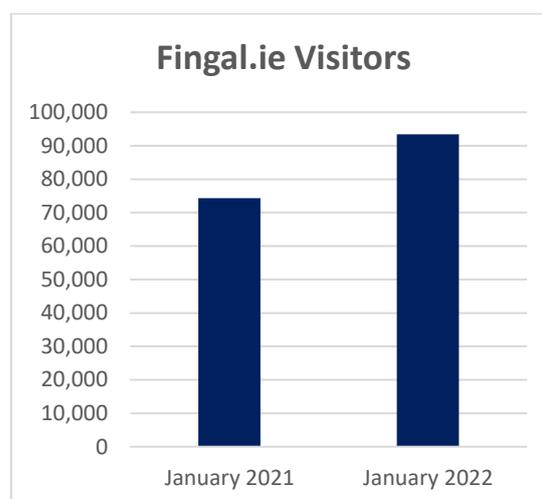
International Women's Day

To celebrate International Women's Day the Fingal County Council Communications team will be marking this occasion by celebrating women's achievements, highlighting some of the talented women working for Fingal County Council and also focussing on the female councillors. Watch out for content on Social Media and the website www.fingal.ie

Website

The [fingal.ie](https://www.fingal.ie) website attracted 93,400 visitors during January and recorded 259,500 page views. This represents increases of 25.7% and 24.22% respectively on the figures for January 2021 when 74,300 visitors and 208,900 page views were recorded.

The most visited pages in January, after the home page, were planning applications, choice based lettings, recycling and jobs.



Social Media

Our Twitter account, @fingalcoco, had 555,300 impressions during January and an average engagement rate of 1.5% from 238 tweets.

The best performing tweet, with 18,955 impressions and 416 engagements was a post about the installation of new protected cycle lanes along the Sutton to Howth cycleway which highlighted that this new infrastructure makes the space safer for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists alike.

On Facebook the best performing post was about the advanced works on the Harry Reynolds Road which had an audience reach of 24,242 and an engagement rate of 11.16%. The number of followers on Facebook is now 26,645 which is a 7.36% increase since December 31.

The Council's Instagram account saw its number of followers rise to 4,756 while LinkedIn broke the 5,000 barrier as the number of followers rose by 204 to 5,197.

The YouTube account increased its number of subscribers to 647. It published seven videos during the month with the most watched being a news report of the Taoiseach's visit to Balbriggan to view some of the sites for Our Balbriggan projects and launch the Irish Institute of Music and Song.



Projects and Campaigns

The Communications Unit worked with colleagues in the Strategic Infrastructure, Architects and Housing departments to organise the official sod-turning by the Mayor of Fingal Cllr Seána Ó Rodaigh at the new Church Fields Link Road and Cycle Network in Mulhuddart. The event also included a viewing of the site of Phase 2B of the Church Fields project where construction is already underway for 67 homes. Attendees included councillors and Oireachtas members and they were briefed by officials on the Church Fields project.

The Unit also provided communications support to the Strategic Infrastructure Department for advanced works on the Pedestrian and Cycle Route along the Harry Reynolds Road in Balbriggan which helped to explain to residents and stakeholders why trees along the road were being taken down now and the benefits this would have for the overall project. Photographs were also shared on social media showing the planting of some of the 304 new trees to compensate for the 130 trees removed to accommodate construction of the new cycle lanes.

Press Releases and Media Queries

We issued 16 press releases during January including one welcoming the allocation of €25.5m in funding for Active Travel projects across the county and dealt with 21 media queries that covered Planning, Housing, Active Travel, Environment and Events.

ECONOMIC, ENTERPRISE, TOURISM & CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

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<p>Tourism Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Events Tourism Heritage Properties 	<p>Economic Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Balbriggan Socio-Economic Strategy LEADER Programme Local Community Development Committee Enterprise Centres
<p>Cultural Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arts Libraries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Enterprise Development

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

EVENTS

ST. PATRICK'S DAY EVENTS 2022



This year sees the return of live events and they start with Fingal's 6 St. Patrick's Day Parades. The Events Unit will directly manage parades at Swords - 11am, Blanchardstown - 12pm and Balbriggan – 2pm. We will also, through our Festival and Events funding scheme, be supporting parades at Rush - 1pm, Lusk – 1.30pm and Skerries – 3pm.

This year, in line with Fingal County Council's Climate Change Action Plan we are only allowing electric and hybrid vehicles into the Swords, Blanchardstown and Balbriggan Parades. We are also inviting and encouraging members of the public to join the parade on their bicycles.

REMEMBRANCE AND RECOGNITION EVENT



To coincide with the Government's decision to designate a once-off public holiday, on Friday 18th March 2022, in recognition of the efforts of the general public, volunteers and all workers during the COVID-19 pandemic, and in remembrance of people who lost their lives, Fingal County Council's Events Office are planning a spectacular firework display on the coast at Malahide.

EVENTS & FESTIVALS FUNDING 2022

Call For Events in Fingal 2022

Comhairle Contae
Fhine Gall
Fingal County
Council



Fingal County Council are calling for all event and festival organisers to let us know the details of your programme of events.

This information will be included in the Council's overall promotion of events and festivals in Fingal. Please email events@fingal.ie

To keep up to date on Events in Fingal follow us on



A total of 46 successful applications were received under the Events and Festivals Funding Scheme in 2021. The events unit were able to assist with 35 events/festivals that could not go ahead physically or had a significantly reduced capacity. We enabled some to migrate to the blended, hybrid or virtual models while others could proceed under government guidelines that existed at that time.

The updated Festival and Events Funding Scheme launched in December 2022 has now received over 75 applications to date.

The Events Unit are also calling on all festival and event organisers to provide details of their planned events for 2022 for inclusion in Fingal's annual Events Calendar 2022.

LOCAL LIVE PERFORMANCE PROGRAMMING SCHEME

During 2022, The Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media announced a series of LLPPS (Local Live Performance Programming Scheme)

funding. Fingal County Council were successful in being awarded 100% of the funding under the 3 LLPPS streams. Phase 3 is currently being implemented by the Arts and Events Units of EETCD. They are currently working on a programme of events for the County.

TOURISM

Local Tourism Development Groups

Howth Tourism – at the January meeting sub-groups were established to work on a Howth Digital Strategy and a 5-year tourism strategy for Howth, with input from Failte Ireland.

Skerries Tourism is working on a familiarisation trip, in association with Failte Ireland, set for end early March 2022 in line with launch of Dublin Coastal Trail. This event will target front line tourism staff, Failte Ireland's press team, social media influencers and journalists. The purpose of the trip is to promote Skerries as a destination.

Balbriggan Tourism is finalising updating www.visitbalbriggan.ie website, is planning a tourism seminar to encourage further engagement with local stakeholders and has agreed an action plan for 2022.

Malahide Tourism – Failte Ireland will co-host a meeting with a wider stakeholder group to invite stakeholder priorities for 2022 and to establish action groups.

Dublin 15 Tourism is focusing on developing a new visitor focused event for September 2022.

UNESCO Dublin Bay Biosphere Working Group is finalising promotional material that will feature in a major Irish Rail / DART campaign. A meeting of the group, held 11th January, discussed planning for 2022 including a conservation programme and a heritage/tourism/business strategy.

Dublin Coastal Trail



Signage for the trail has been installed and Fáilte Ireland intend to have a corporate launch in February. Dublin Coastal Trail saleable experiences and local stories have been developed in association with the local tourism development groups and shared with stakeholders. Fáilte Ireland invested in additional photography and videography in December 2021 which is available on www.irelandscontentpool.com.

Dublin's Coast and Fields



Fingal Tourism, in association with the local development groups, is working on a Fingal Seafood Trail. This trail will feature sections for Howth, Malahide, Rush, Skerries and Balbriggan, each section will feature food producers, restaurants and scenic areas plotted on Fingal's existing suite of maps for

each area. It is intended that the Fingal Seafood Trail will dovetail with the Dublin Coastal Trail.

HERITAGE PROPERTIES

UPDATE ON HERITAGE PROPERTIES CONSERVATION WORKS:

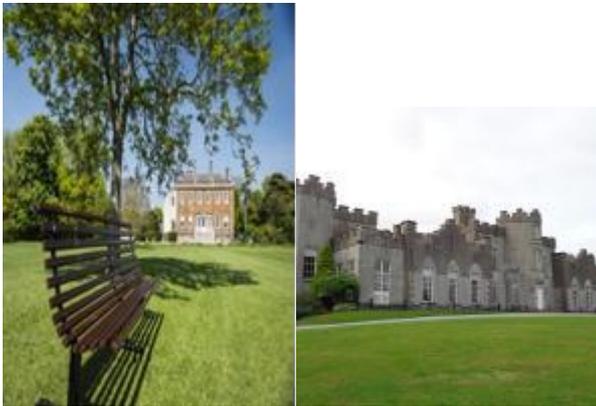


Skerries Mills – The new branding for Skerries Mills is now in use as part of the suite of branding used for Fingal's heritage properties and a new sign bearing the branding has been erected at the entrance to the mills.





Malahide Castle – Conservation work on the Great Hall is due to be completed this month.



Newbridge House – A tender will issue in early February for the upgrading of mechanical and electrical services at Newbridge House. It is envisaged that a contractor will be on site by early Summer.

A works tender for the major roof conservation works at both Newbridge House and Ardgillan Castle is being finalised and is due to issue in March.

Skerries Martello Tower - The tender for the integrated design team for the restoration of Skerries Martello Tower has been published on eTenders.

MARKETING/PROMOTION OF HERITAGE PROPERTIES

Malahide Castle – A mid-week combination ticket promotion is being marketed on social media for

Malahide Castle tours and Casino Model Railway Museum.

International Women's Day Talks confirmed for Malahide Castle & Newbridge House on 8th March 2022.

Newbridge House – A 'Lovers in History' Tour at Newbridge House confirmed for 11th February.

A report is being completed on Fingal's Collection of Horse Drawn Vehicles to appraise their historical value and research into them. The author of the report is Elizabeth Jamieson, National Trust Advisor on Historic Stables and Carriages in collaboration with OPW and the National Museum of Ireland.

ARTS OFFICE

Fingal County Council, Tyrone Guthrie Centre, and Bealtaine Festival Residency Award 2022



Fingal County Council, in association with the Tyrone Guthrie Centre and the Bealtaine Festival are offering two month-long residencies at the Tyrone Guthrie Centre during May 2022. The award aims to celebrate and support older artists at all stages of their careers working in visual arts and literature.

The residencies will offer a professional visual artist and writer, working in any discipline, the opportunity to research or develop new work in response to the Bealtaine Festival theme of 'Interdependence,' with the potential, if desired, to present work during Bealtaine 2023.

To be eligible to apply applicants must be aged 50+, have been born, studied, or currently reside in Fingal and be available from 1 - 31 May.

Applications are welcomed and encouraged from artists from diverse cultural or minority backgrounds.

Closing date for receipt of applications: Friday 25th March 2022 at 4pm

For further information and to apply please visit www.fingalarts.ie/news or www.fingal.ie/arts



Loughshinny Boathouse Artists' Studio



This restored former boathouse is in the beautiful setting of Loughshinny, a coastal village that lies

between Rush and Skerries. The boathouse is a dual-purpose building providing a lifeguard station for lifeguards and a day studio for artists. The dramatic location of the boathouse on the water's edge and at one end of the harbour offers a unique fully subsidised workspace for professional artists. The objective of the studio is to provide a working space for professional artists working in all art disciplines to develop their artistic practice. Artist can apply for a residency through an open call application. On the 25th of January 2022, Fingal artist, Martin De Porres Wright, took up residency at the studio.

Public Art Balbriggan



Fingal Artist Sean Molloy has completed his painting commission for the partnership with Irish Rail, the work has been developed into a bespoke di-bond edition which has been installed at "The Banks". The work is accompanied by a local Billboard campaign announcing its arrival to the public and is part of Fingal Arts Office's work activating public space through art with our colleagues in Our Balbriggan.



LIBRARIES

Renew Your Fingal Library Card!

We are reminding library users in Fingal that their library card has an expiration date and needs to be renewed. This can be done by telephone, by email or by calling into a branch library with the card. Once membership is renewed, all our usual services are available including book loans, eservices, printing and photocopying. All branches are open and services are operating as normal as Covid restrictions continue to be removed.



Fingal Libraries Services libraries.fingal.ie

Remember to **renew your Fingal Library Card** to continue using all our FREE and amazing services!

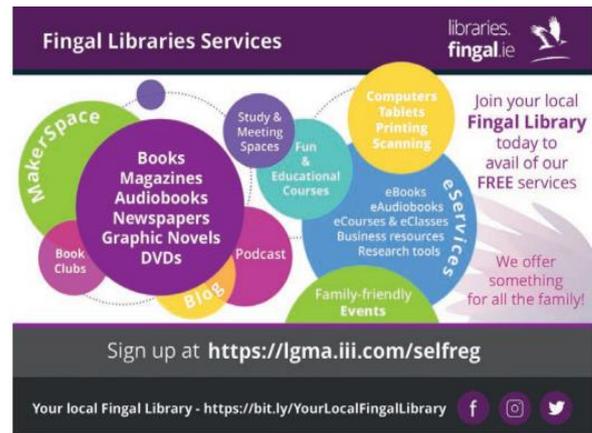
It's quick and easy!!

- At your local library branch, in person, by bringing your library card to the staff desk.
- By phoning/emailing your local library branch (please have your membership card details ready).

Your local Fingal Library - <https://bit.ly/YourLocalFingalLibrary>   

Call for new members

New library members are always welcome and the benefits of joining for all ages include access to a wealth of books, ebooks, eaudiobooks, emagazines and a host of other eservices. Libraries provide study spaces, access to technology and programmed events both in person and online. All this is provided free of charge so there are no barriers to becoming a member.



Fingal Libraries Services libraries.fingal.ie

Join your local **Fingal Library** today to avail of our **FREE** services

We offer something for all the family!

Sign up at <https://lgma.iii.com/selfreg>

Your local Fingal Library - <https://bit.ly/YourLocalFingalLibrary>   

Services include: Makerspace, Books, Magazines, Audiobooks, Newspapers, Graphic Novels, DVDs, Book Clubs, Study & Meeting Spaces, Fun & Educational Courses, Podcast, Bio&, Family-friendly Events, Computers, Tablets, Printing, Scanning, eBooks, eAudiobooks, eCourses & eClasses, Business resources, Research tools.

Fingal Libraries Spring events brochure

The Fingal Libraries Spring 2022 events brochure which is available at <https://www.fingal.ie/news/fingal-libraries-spring-2022-brochure> contains a full programme of interesting and helpful online activities for all the family. Throughout the COVID pandemic, we reached new audiences through our YouTube and social media channels generally and so will continue to offer online events. However, as restrictions continue to be lifted, we are starting to welcome our regular groups back into libraries and to plan in person events and activities.

Ireland Reads 2022

All library members will be able to take part in **Ireland Reads 2022** which will launch in early February. They will be encouraged to sign up and take the pledge to 'squeeze in a read' on **Ireland Reads Day, Friday 25th February**. More details will be available on our social media channels and in library branches during the month of February.

Shout Out to Students – eduroam WiFi is now available at Fingal Libraries!

Balbriggan, Baldoyle, Blanchardstown, Donabate, Howth, Malahide, Rush and Swords Libraries are now offering eduroam (education roaming) Wi-Fi. Pioneered by HEAnet, Ireland's National Education and Research Network, eduroam aims to improve the learning experience of students and to reduce the digital divide. Students whose college/university participates in eduroam can simply open their laptop or mobile device in one of the above named libraries and have immediate internet connectivity.

Fingal Maker Space at Blanchardstown Library

A reminder that the new Maker Space at Blanchardstown Library is a dynamic and diverse new facility delivering engaging hands-on maker education programmes to the Fingal community. Upcoming courses for the public include 2D Design, 3D Design, Electronics, Laser Cutting, 3D Printing, Sustainability, and Crafts.

Sensory toys and resources in Fingal Libraries

As part of a pilot project, a range of educational and developmental toys and resources is now available at Balbriggan, Blanchardstown, Garristown and Malahide Libraries. The toys and resources have been chosen to develop motor, social and sensory skills. They can be enjoyed by all children in the community and in particular by children with autism and other neurodiverse conditions. A catalogue is available at: <https://www.fingal.ie/autism-friendly-resource-programme-libraries>

The toys include learning frames, pegboards, scooter boards and wooden doorbell houses. Books are

among the resources included in the catalogue, including both fiction and non-fiction titles.

Healthy Ireland at Your Library



Healthy Ireland
at your Library

As part of Healthy Ireland at your Library, Fingal Libraries is delighted to partner with St. John Ambulance Ireland to share two online workshops, the first on the 9th March and the second on 6th April, both at 7pm. St John Ambulance Ireland believes that everyone should have immediate access to first aid no matter where they are or what they are doing at the onset of illness. These workshops include a demonstration of CPR and AED use, how to recognize heart attacks or stroke and the management of severe bleeding.

Psychotherapist Stella O' Malley will present two online talks in February. The first talk on the 14th at 7pm will focus on helping parents and teenagers develop more positive relationships. How to experience less stress and to develop effective strategies to feel calmer and stronger is the subject of Stella's second talk on 17th also at 7pm.

Parents of babies and young children will find plenty of practical advice from a series of online talks over the coming months on such topics as weaning your baby, feeding your toddler, and developing good sleep routines and practices.

Booking for the above events is through <https://www.eventbrite.ie/>

Orlaith O'Sullivan's monthly Creative Writing Circle for Teens, starting in February will be a safe, kind space in which to strengthen the ability

to create and develop written work. Participants will learn how to develop practices to care for the mind and heart, so that they have the energy and courage to keep creating. For full details and for registration see:

<https://www.orlaithosullivan.com/creative-writing-for-teens>

Seachtain na Gaeilge: 1st - 17th Márta

Beidh an t-iriseoir agus an t-údar Edel Coffey i mbun comhrá le Manchán Magan faoina leabhar is déanaí 'Tree Dogs, Banshee Fingers and Other Irish Words for Nature'. Trí Bhéarla le beagán Gaeilge, ionas gur féidir le gach duine a bheith páirteach agus éisteacht le chéile ar an Mháirt 1 Márta, 8.00pm. Journalist and Author Edel Coffey will be chatting in English with Manchán Magan, about his latest book. The conversation will be in English with a little bit of Irish so everyone can join in and listen on Tuesday 1st March, 8.00pm. Booking:

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/249331686787>

Códúchán as Gaeilge don chlann uilig l'Olus Education

Leibhéal: Réamhléiriú

Aois: 10 -12

Trealamh atá ag teastáil: Ríomhaire glúine nó ríomhaire le ceamara, micreafóin agus callairí Satharn 5th Márta, 11.00am Cuir d'áit in áireamh ar <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/252099786247> line

Engineers Week: 5th – 11th March

It's not just humans that can be engineers! From providing homes for other animals to live in, to helping plants grow, many animals are 'ecosystem engineers'. Join Fingal Libraries and our Dublin Zoo educator on 5th March to learn about some of the animals that help to engineer

their environments in important ways, and how their behaviour helps other species survive and thrive in their environment. Booking: <https://www.eventbrite.ie/>

Designer Minds have set a fantastic engineering challenge for our junior members which will be available to view on Fingal Libraries YouTube channel: *"There's been a huge flood and your grandmother's house has been cut off! She's starting to get cold and very, very hungry. Can you, as a Rescue Engineer design something that will overcome the challenges of gravity, friction and flood waters to get much needed supplies to her?"* The challenge involves you to use bits of recycling and other basic, household materials to construct a zip line to carry materials to nana.

Scratch Coding Workshops: Saturday 5th and 12th March. Bookings via <https://cccskerries.com/fingal/>

Europe Direct: Celebrating Women Entrepreneurs in the EU

Starting on 21st February, Europe Direct, Blanchardstown Library will host an interview series aimed at celebrating women entrepreneurs across the European Union. The interviews will feature a mix of personal experience and advice from a selection of women entrepreneurs from Ireland and other EU countries.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Town Centre First

The Town Centre First Programme will focus on re-imagining and revitalising rural communities and making town centres more attractive places to live, work, socialise and do business.

Fingal County Council has been allocated €100,000 from the Department of Rural and Community Development to support the development of a Town Centre Masterplan in Lusk.

Fingal Skills Strategy



The Fingal Skills Strategy Implementation Group continues to work with sub-groups for Transport & Logistics and Construction on the requirements of these sectors. A Fingal Skills webpage is in development to signpost skills and training opportunities.

Urbact Playful Towns



As part of the Let's Play Rush initiative which aims to increase the playfulness of the residents of the town the Rush Urbact Local Group (ULG) met in January 2022 to discuss the initiative's objectives and plans for 2022 and potential funding streams to support the work. The ULG's plans for 2022 will be informed by public engagement with the residents of Rush which will be advanced by ULG stakeholders in February.



Our Balbriggan 2019 – 2025 Rejuvenation Plan – A Socio-Economic Strategy



The Our Balbriggan Programme Office continues to support the Leadership Group and its five pillars, who meet regularly, to progress work across a range of economic and social measures including: Growing the Local Economy, Public Realm & Infrastructure, Education, Skills & Employment, Community Integration, Health & Well Being and Community Safety.

The Education, Skills & Employment Pillar Group met on 13th January and work has commenced on developing the Loves Learning Festival 2022 which is due to take place between 24th and 29th April 2022.

The demolition of the former O'Shea's Night Club building (Harbour) continues with ongoing archaeology monitoring of the site. The demolition of the building has now progressed to phase 3 and is due to complete in February 2022.



Paul Keogh Architects, the appointed Integrated Design Team (IDT) for the re-imagined Quay Street & Harbour Area, continue to progress work, including engagement with a wide range of internal and external stakeholders. Review of the Stage (1) preliminary design and feasibility study was signed off on 21st December in advance of more detailed design and a further round of consultations in Q1 2022.



The acquisition of 2-4 Dublin Street has been completed and Paul Keogh Architects have been appointed as the Integrated Design Team (IDT). Stage 1 project initiation commenced in mid-January on the design and planning for the renovation of the buildings into artistic & creative studios, courtyard and digital & maker space hub.

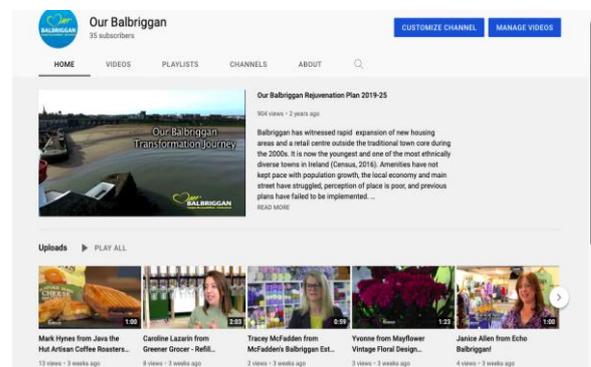


DBFL Consulting Engineers, Our Balbriggan Active Travel and Transport Consultants, are progressing preliminary work on the town's draft transportation and active travel plan. DBFL are working closely with Paul Hogarth Company (Masterplanning Consultants) who are developing in tandem a Town Public Realm Plan & Design Guide. Stakeholder consultations on these elements will take place in Q 1. 2022.



Taoiseach Micheál Martin was briefed on the Balbriggan Regeneration Plan when he visited Balbriggan on the 14th January for the official launch of the Irish Institute of Music & Song. The Taoiseach, who was accompanied by Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Darragh O'Brien TD, was shown the sites for several major regeneration projects which have received funding from the Urban Regeneration Development Fund (URDF).

Among the projects the Taoiseach was shown was the Heart of Main Street, with the help of almost €9m in URDF and matched funding, this area will be transformed into a Green Corridor linking Millpond Park with the centre of Balbriggan's main street, flowing down to the Harbour area. The Taoiseach was also taken to Quay Street, the Harbour and the Beach where approximately €10m of URDF and matched funding support will transform this area.



Our Balbriggan Communications highlights 2021:

- 41 published print press articles
- 4,500 What Next? Town Rejuvenation Plan Update 2021 newsletter's, hand delivered to local households & business
- 722,912 number of people reached on Facebook (4,479 followers)
- 409 new twitter followers (1,439 total)
- +90 new followers on LinkedIn (189 total)
- 3,037 subscribers to Our Balbriggan mailing list
- 282 subscribers on the Smart Balbriggan mailing list
- 19 direct e-bulletins sent to subscribers

LOCAL & RURAL DEVELOPMENT

FINGAL LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE



Coiste um Fhorbairt Pobail Áitiúil Fhine Gall
Fingal Local Community Development Committee

The Fingal LCDC continues to oversee and administer the key areas of LEADER and SICAP and the various Local Development and Community Development funding programmes under its remit. The LCDC also manages the Healthy Ireland Initiative, the Community Resilience Fund and the Social Enterprise Grants Scheme.



FINGAL LOCAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITY PLAN 2022-27

The Guidelines for preparing new LECPs have been published by the Department of Rural and Community Development. The new Fingal LECP will be a 'Whole-of-Council Plan' and will involve extensive consultation and engagement with internal and external stakeholders. The process of devising the new Fingal LECP will begin in the first half of 2022.



An Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail
Department of Rural and Community Development

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES FUND

Details of the new Community Activities Fund under the Community Enhancement Programme were launched in early January. Fingal LCDC has been allocated €301,042 to distribute to qualifying community and voluntary groups. The Community Activities Fund will support groups, particularly in disadvantaged areas with running costs and small capital items and facilities improvements. This funding is about giving a helping hand to communities, local groups and clubs. This new fund is being administered by the Fingal LCDC and is currently open for applications with a closing date of February 18th 2022. Details of the scheme and the online application form is available on the Council's website.

SICAP



A full review of the 2021 Fingal SICAP Annual Plan was carried out in January by the Fingal LCDC. Another successful year of KPIs have been delivered. The 2022 SICAP Plan will be presented to the Fingal LCDC at its next meeting in February for approval. The 2022 Fingal SICAP Plan has seen a considerable increase in budget to €1.39 million for the coming year.

LEADER PROGRAMME

The Dublin Rural LEADER Local Action Group and the Dublin Rural LEADER Programme continues to deliver funding and support to eligible projects in the administrative areas of Fingal, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown and South Dublin.



The updated 2021/22 Transitional Funding Arrangements for the LEADER Programme has the Dublin Rural LEADER LAG approved for €1,882,175 to cover both projects funding and administration funding for the period April 2021 – December 2022. Of this amount, €1,411,631 is available for LEADER Project Applications under the categories of Rural Enterprise, Social Inclusion and Rural Environment. Historically, Fingal Projects comprise 65-70% of the total LEADER Projects approved, roughly corresponding to Fingal's share of the Dublin Rural LEADER Geographical Area.

The LEADER Programme reverted on the 1st April to EU Transition Rules for the period 2021-22 with a new Dublin Rural LEADER Local Development Strategy to be prepared and put in place for 2023 onwards. Under the Transitional Arrangements the Dublin Rural LEADER LAG and LEADER Programme will continue to be funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development under the same eligibility and LEADER implementation rules as before. LEADER continues to approve and fund new projects as usual.

During 2021, Dublin Rural LEADER approved 19 Projects with a total value of €766,899.48. Of these, 16 Projects were in Fingal with a total value of €685,658.83.

Going forward there is currently over €3 million in the new LEADER projects pipeline of which over €1 million is for Rural Enterprise.

The next LAG Project Approvals meeting will be held in March.



Ár dTodhchaí
Tuaithe
Our Rural
Future



ENTERPRISE CENTRES

Fingal's Enterprise Centres continue to participate in ConnectedHubs.ie ConnectedHubs.ie is a one-stop-shop for remote working hubs throughout Ireland.

All three Enterprise Centres have space available to businesses who wish to avail of remote working options and facilities. Bespoke options or generic office fit-outs can be considered.

Occupancy rates at the Council's three enterprise centres at the end of November were Drinan 84%, BASE 90% and Beat 92%. The three Enterprise Centres currently support 65 businesses and over 320 direct jobs.

LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE FINGAL



LEO Fingal provides a broad suite of support services to stimulate enterprise and enable small businesses to succeed. Some of the LEO highlights for January 2022 are as follows:

Local Enterprise Week 2022



Local Enterprise Week 2022 will be officially launched on the 7th of February 2022. Local Enterprise Office Fingal will host a series of both in person and online events as part of the celebrations for Local Enterprise Week 2022 including a Startup Bootcamp, Cyber Security Workshop, Trading Online Voucher Webinar, Ethnic Entrepreneurship Event and a Fingal Enterprising Women networking event.

Green for Micro Initiative – Mentoring/Consulting Programme for SMEs

The Green for Micro is an initiative from the Local Enterprise Office to help prepare small businesses for the low carbon, more resource efficient economy of the future. This programme is available to businesses with up to ten employees.

Trading Online Voucher Scheme

An initiative under the Government's National Digital Strategy, the TOV scheme continues to support small businesses by allowing them to enhance their online offering by providing a grant of up to €2,500 for ecommerce and digital marketing activities. The first Trading Online Voucher webinar of 2022 was hosted by Fingal Local Enterprise Office on the Thursday 13th January 2022 and 129 clients registered for this event. Six applications were approved in January 2022, in the amount of €13,850. The next TOV webinar will take place during Fingal Local Enterprise Week on the 11th of March 2022.

Fingal Enterprising Women's Network



The Fingal Enterprising Women Network is continuing to welcome new members in 2022. As part of Local Enterprise Week 2022 Fingal Enterprising Women Network will host a special event on the 11th of March 2022 entitled "Dare to Change" which will feature guest speaker Lorraine Keane.

Business Advice Clinics and Mentoring

Business Advice Clinics and mentoring services continue to be offered online. In January 2022, seven Business Advice Clinic days were held, offering advice and support to 62 clients in Fingal. In addition, clients are continuing to receive one to one business mentoring from a newly updated panel of mentors and 35 Fingal clients have received this mentoring to date so far in 2022.

Management Development & Training

LEO Fingal will continue to provide a series of management development initiatives and workshops to assist the growth of small businesses throughout 2022. A new training programme commenced in January 2022 with new courses and programmes on offer some of which include Key to Cash Flow Management, Lean for Micro: Growing Lean, Instagram for Business, Protecting Intellectual Property, Prepare Your Business for Customs, and

Consumer & Market Research. To date 241 clients have availed of training in 2022.

Start Your Own Business (SYOB)



The first Start your Own Business course of 2022 took place on the 18th of January 2022 with 20 clients taking part. The next Start Your Own Business course will commence on the 8th of February 2022.

Microfinance Ireland Loans

LEO Fingal provides a loan scheme through its partnership with Microfinance Ireland, with "soft" loans of up to €25,000. LEO Fingal is actively promoting the availability of loans from businesses that have difficulty raising finance from their bank. Seventeen applications were processed, assessed and submitted to MFI in 2021

Showcase 2022



Showcase Ireland 2022 will take place from the 27th of February - 2nd of March 2022. The event will be hosted at the RDS, Dublin and will feature 8 clients from Fingal who will exhibit their products and creations. The eight Fingal companies are: Pamela and Suzanne Hughes - Love the Mug, Gillian Halpin - Jane Darcy, Aisling Howley - Little Paper Mill, Lorna Venton - Berry Be Beauty, Sarah Rossney - Sarah Rossney Art, Julie Peelo - Julie Peelo Accessories, Sandra Hickey - Milk bath, Yvonne Kelly - Yvonne Kelly Art.

Student Enterprise Programme



Ireland's largest student enterprise programme has been launched in what is now its 20th year. An initiative of the Local Enterprise Offices to encourage entrepreneurship in schools, the Student Enterprise Programme has seen over 300,000 school students take part nationally since it first began and over 13,250 taking part in Fingal from 2014 up to 2021. Preparations have also commenced for the Fingal Student Enterprise Programme (SEP) County Final which will take place in March 2022, 23 Second level Fingal schools are participating in the Fingal 2021/22 programme.

Fingal Enterprise Awards 2022



Preparations are underway for the Fingal Enterprise Awards 2022. Six finalists have been shortlisted and will now move to the next stage of the competition. Judging for the Fingal Enterprise Awards takes place on Monday 7th of February. The final of the Fingal Enterprise Awards takes place on the evening of Thursday the 10th March 2022. The Fingal Enterprise Awards competition is organised annually by the Local Enterprise Office to acknowledge and highlight the achievements of small businesses. This is part of a national competition in which one overall winner from each of the 31 Local Enterprise Office areas will compete for the National awards which will be held during local Enterprise Week. The competition is open only to businesses that have received financial support or investment from LEO Fingal.

OPERATIONS & WATER SERVICES

Contents

1. Works Programmes
2. Car Parking Services
3. Burial Grounds Services
4. Traffic Operations County-wide
5. Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit
6. Street Lighting LED Programme
7. Recycling Centre Update
8. Road Opening Licences
9. Water Services

1. Works Programmes

Balbriggan/Swords Area

Parks Programme of Works Rush



Before – Grass Margin at Tesco, Whitestown Road, Rush



After – New Landscaping Complete



Before – Pump opposite Harbour Park, Rush



After – New Landscaping Complete

Parks Programme of Works Swords



Castlegrange Estate - Levelling of grass area. Beech hedging also will be planted along entire length of wall. Further landscaping works planned in Autumn 2022 after phase one improvements are established.

Dog Off Leash Signage Regional Parks



Ardgillan Demesne - Recently installed Dog Off Leash Signage

Winter Works Programme



River Valley Swords - recent vegetation Removal from side and rear of private property boundaries



Delivery of Trees from Irish Nursery for planting in areas where trees were previously removed.

Howth/Malahide Area

Improvement Works - Howth Tram Line



Before



After

Improvement Works - Little Green, Malahide Seafront

Work to improve access, tidy areas under existing seating & repair the low retaining wall along the path edge have been carried out.



Before



After



Improved entrance ramp



Resurfacing under existing seats



Before - The low limestone wall along the path edge has had the missing stones replaced and been repointed along its length



After

Parkvale Entrance area to Seagrang Park, Baldoye



Muddy island areas resulting from additional paths being surfaced at the entrance have been converted to low raised beds. They will be planted up this spring.



St Michaels Special School, Baldoye

A smart new wheelchair accessible gate has been added to the car park entrance of the school to allow for easier flow between the playground & garden while limiting access into the adjacent carpark, by pupils.



Programme of Works

Balgriffin Cottages - Road Resurfacing Works took place at in the last week of January at Balgriffin Cottages. These works were included on the original programme of works for 2021 but due to the appointment contractor's unavailability the works were carried forward to Q1 of 2022.



Before



After

Part of the works also included remedial drainage works and the construction of a new asphalt car park area.



Footpath Works

R106 Swords Road - The appointment Contractor has poured nearly 75m² of new concrete paths which were previously in need of repair and a constant source of CRM's.



Before



After

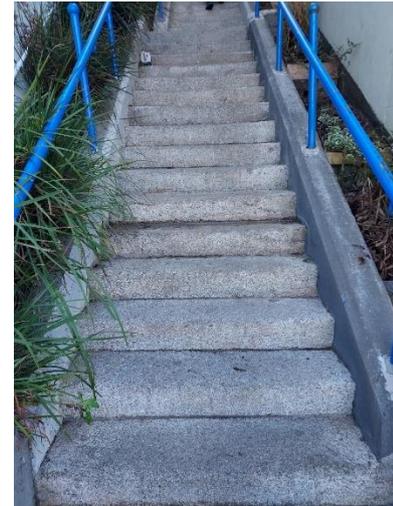
Portmarnock Walk - a large number of CRM's have been made against FCC. The new footpaths have been constructed with new tree pits to allow the girth of the expand freely without damaging the concrete path.



Before



After



Castleknock/Mulhuddart Area

Casual Trading

The Public Lottery for County Wide Casual Trading took place on 26th January 2022 via teams with all valid applicants.

Successful applicants have been offered the following locations:-

Balbriggan/ Swords	Howth/ Malahide	Castleknock/ Mulhuddart
Donabate Beach	Malahide Beach	St. Catherine's Park
Newbridge Demesne	Portmarnock Beach	Millennium Park
Red Island Carpark	Malahide Demesne	Porterstown Park
Ardgillan Demesne	Howth Summit Carpark	
Santry Demesne	Paddy's Hill	
Tower Bay, Portrane	Fingal Burial Ground	
Rush Beach South	Balgriffin Burial Ground	
Loughshinny		

Drainage & Other Works

The Roads Depot outdoor staff have been busy working on remedial road drainage issues and localised potholing repairs.



Church Road Howth - Pressure Washing of Granite Steps

The next stage is for all applicants to submit relevant documentation, followed by a site meeting with relevant officials. Permits will then be issued to traders.

Tree Removal Works - Broadway/Clonsilla



Flower Boxes - Lanesborough Gardens



Before



After

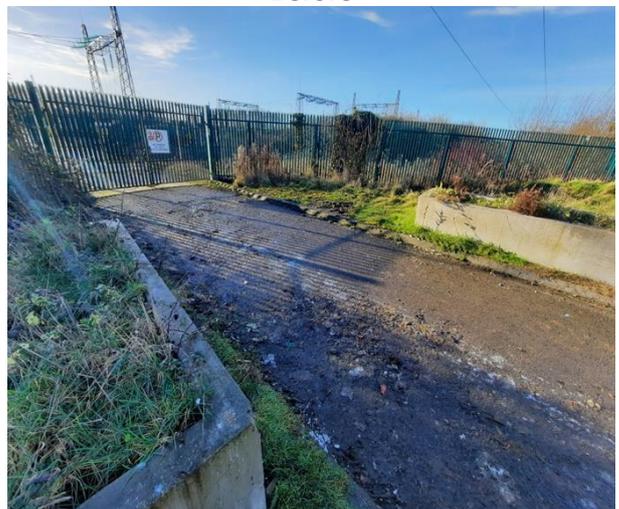
Clean Up Works

➤ **Macetown Substation**

The Operations Crew carried out a clean-up following large scale fly-tipping at Macetown Substation.



Before



After

Entrance to Coolmine Woods Grove Road



Before

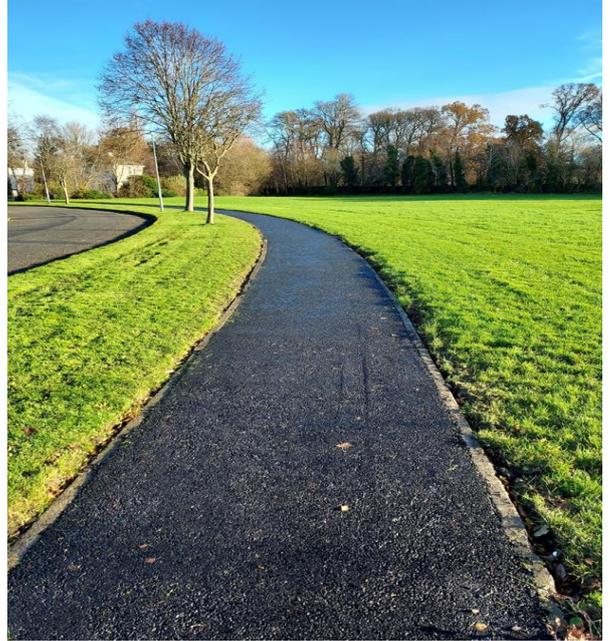


After

Disposal of Christmas tree in Millennium Park



Footpath Works



Georgian Village Footpath Improvement works

Road Resurfacing Works



Line Marking Renewals at Clonsilla Road/ Huntstown Way/ Parkway Road.





Ballycoolin Road Surface Restoration



Castleknock Way and Crescent Surface Restoration

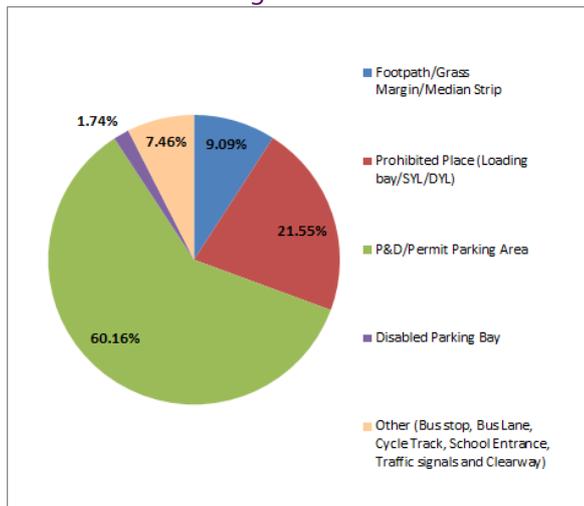
Breakdown of Parking Offences	Total	Percentage
Footpath/Grass Margin/Median Strip	89	9.09%
Prohibited Place (Loading bay/SYL/DYL)	211	21.55%
P&D/Permit Parking Area	589	60.16%
Disabled Parking Bay	17	1.74%
Other (Bus stop, Bus Lane, Cycle Track, School Entrance, Traffic signals and Clearway)	73	7.46%
Total	979	100%



2. Car Parking Services

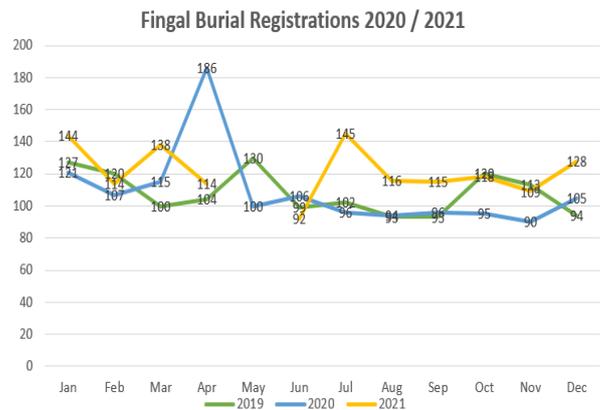
There was a total of 979 parking tickets issued during December 2021.

Breakdown of Parking Offences:



3. Burial Ground Services

The Operations Department are continuing to administer and monitor delivery to ensure business continuity for Fingal's Burial Ground Service.



4. Traffic Operations County-wide

Balbriggan/Swords Area



Seatown Road, Swords – 2 No. Junction ramp upgrades



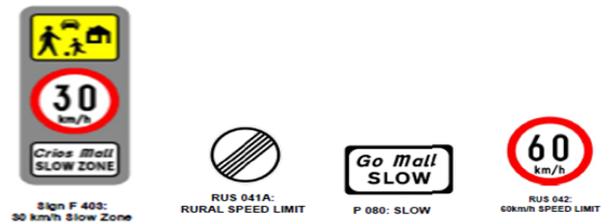
Watery Lane, Swords – 2 No. VAS Speed Readers

Howth/Malahide Area

Speed Limit Review 2021- Update

Actavo Ltd were appointed in 2021 during the pandemic to implement the Speed Limit review signage project county wide. The Contractor to date has installed over 1200 poles with signage attachment still ongoing by Contractor and Depot Staff. The project is entering its completion stage with about 55 residential areas further identified to be poled and signed. Additional works are also planned respect to new speed limit gateway signs in the Howth-Malahide area where speed limit boundaries have changed.

Typical signs including the SLOW ZONE signs (30km/hr.) are shown below.



Typical road signs in place

5. Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit

110 hires were put in place from 1st January 2022 – 31st January 2022, engaging 23 suppliers.

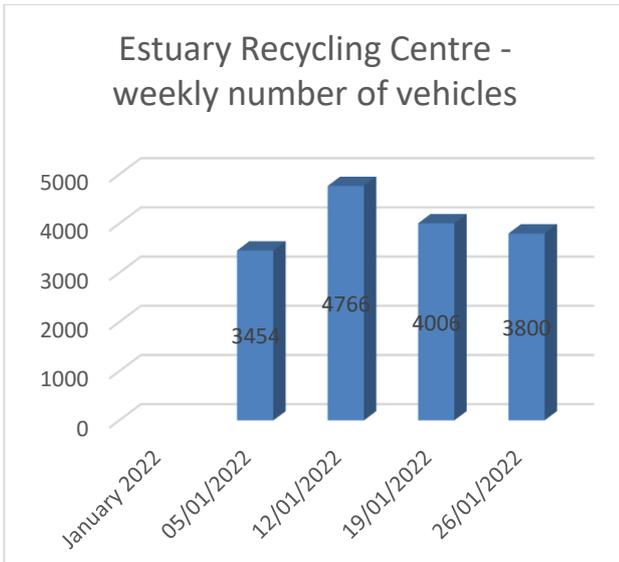
Hires include:

- Jet Vac,
- Large Articulated Vacuum Tank
- Hot wash and Confined Space Entry for the Cleaning and maintenance of Tanks at Rogerstown Park.

6. Street Lighting LED Programme

The Public Lighting Section will continue with the LED Programme in 2022.

7. Recycling Centre's Update

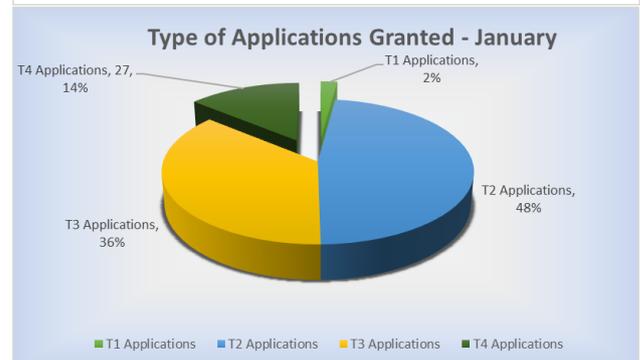
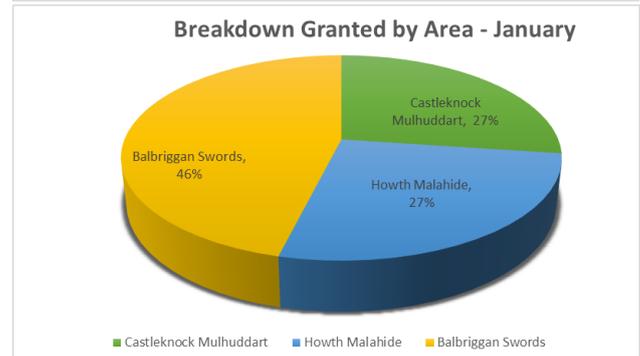
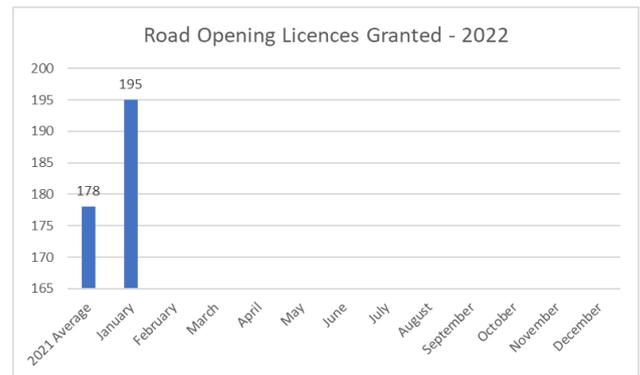


A review on the Recycling Centres at Coolmine and Estuary is currently underway. This review will look at net cost to the Council alongside the current charges.

8. Road Opening Licences

The Licensing unit continues to process and manage the licensing system for the County, applications are allocated by area for examination and conditioning which includes reviews of the existing carriageway, footpaths, cycleways, and grass verges. Applicants submit temporary traffic management plans for review to ensure all works are carried out safely within the public domain. Road Opening Licences are a cross functional process for the department and is essential for the asset management of Fingal County Council Road network.

195 licences were granted in January 2022.



T1 Application: The T1 is not a licence. It is notification of intent to perform works of high impact due to extent or complexity.

T2 Applications: An application to carry out works of moderate impact due to the location, extent, amount, or duration of the work.

T3 Applications: An application to carry out works of low impact due to the location, extent, amount, or duration of the work. A T3 licence requires a short application period and does not require a works programme notification.

T4 Applications: A notification of emergency works (as defined under legislation). Notification must occur at the time or as soon as possible after commencement and works must be carried out during a limited time period.

Ongoing Projects
There are a currently a number of significant road opening licence projects on going including under the supervision of the Operations Engineering Team.

9. Water Services

Water production and distribution, wastewater collection, treatment & disposal continue to be provided as agreed in the Service Level Agreement with Irish Water.

The Council continue to have responsibility for the Storm Water Network

Storm Water (surface water) Network – Operations

Operation and maintenance of the stormwater network is ongoing, in line with Covid-19 restrictions.

Works summary:

- Phase 2 works to install a section of new stormwater (surface water) network in Ballyboughal are still on hold pending the agreement of wayleaves.
- The Storm water manhole cover and frame replacement programme for replacing assets at the end of life is ongoing – Covers and frames were replaced at various locations in Skerries, Baldoyle and Portmarnock areas.
- Funding is being sought and a tender is being completed for a detailed design for an upgrade to the Storm water network within and around The Bawn and the Old Bawn. It is hoped that construction works on this new network will take place in late 2022.
- CCTV surveys are complete in the St Benedicts estate in Malahide and La Verna in Baldoyle to ascertain the location of misconnections to the Stormwater network from the foul system. Misconnections were identified and passed to the Management company responsible for La Verna who are now procuring a contractor to commence repairs.
- CCTV surveys were carried out in the Seabury estate in Malahide and a number of misconnections were identified. The locations of these have been passed to the property owners who are now procuring contractors to remove and connect to the foul sewer.
- Other maintenance and minor works programmes are ongoing. Works to CCTV,

drag and clean the Storm Water network in Inbhir Ide, Texas Lane and Yellow Walls road in Malahide are nearing completion. FCC are awaiting the removal of a gas service by Gas Networks once removed this programme will be complete. Completion by Gas Networks has been scheduled for Mid Term break as not to interfere with school traffic at this location.

- Works are complete at No: 18 Dublin Rd, Bayside to fit a stainless steel grate on an overflow culvert to stop material being washed up the from the coast. Works to seal and path a section of the line have also been complete to resolve a rodent issue.
- Tenders have been finalised for contractors to jet, drag and CCTV survey the Stormwater network in Chalfont, Malahide to assist road operations with the alleviation of ongoing road flooding. Works will be commencing in early January 2022.
- Works were carried out at Millview Lawns to resolve an issue with strong odours (Kerosene) emanating from the network and into private property. A home heating oil leak was discovered and since repaired. A number of misconnections were also discovered and reported to the householders to repair.
- Work has begun with formalising a 2022 Storm Water preventative maintenance cycle, recording and mapping programme. A contractor has been procured with a jet vac recycler truck and CCTV camera van. Hire has been arranged to commence from the 1st of February initially on a 4 week hire which may be extended. The objective of this work is to undertake maintenance in jetting the network, and to identify any deficiencies with cctv and to record the stormwater networks.

Storm Water (surface water) Network – Projects

A number of Storm water projects are currently being progressed:

- Burrow Beach Surface Water Outfall Pipeline Repair
Scope: This project is to replace the damaged anchor system for the pipeline

- Status: Design stage

 - Beaverstown Storm Water Pumping Station Upgrade
Scope: Review options for the existing pumping station
Status: Project planning / scoping
 - Howth Surface Water Culvert Replacement
Scope: Prepare a design to replace the existing surface water culvert
Status: Procurement

- 3) Outside these hours, the 24/7 customer care line is available for urgent queries at **1800 278 278**.
- 4) Irish Water Planned Works - Irish Water Regional Communications team provide regular updates concerning upcoming projects in the area and planned works which may cause disruption to customers. Regularly updates on the website at <https://www.water.ie/water-supply/supply-and-service-update/#>

Irish Water – Towards a National Publicly-Owned, Regulated, Water Services Utility

The Government's Policy Paper on Water Sector Transformation, entitled *Irish Water – Towards a National, Publicly-Owned, Regulated, Water Services Utility* was published on Tuesday 23rd February 2021. The paper and accompanying press release are available at www.gov.ie/housing. All new publications appear on the homepage under the Publications heading.

The paper sets out the Government's approach to water sector transformation including addressing Irish Water as the Single Public Utility.

The Council will continue to work to implement Government policy with regard to water.

Communication with Irish Water for Elected Representatives

The Local Representative Support Desk

- 1) Make contact at localrepsupport@water.ie or by phone at **0818 178 178 / 0818 578 578**.
- 2) Staff are available Monday – Friday from 9am to 5.30pm to deal with queries from elected representatives about any topic related to Irish Water.

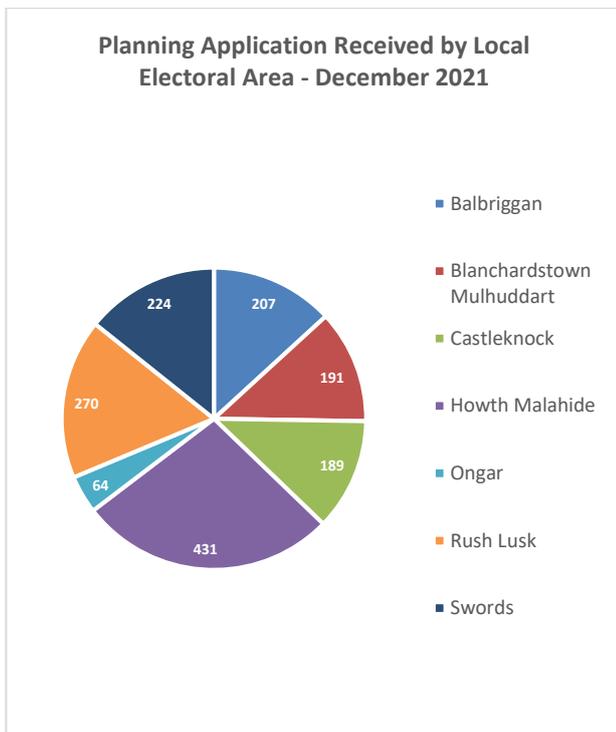
PLANNING AND STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE (PSI)

Contents	
Planning Applications Planning Decisions Building Control Admin Planning Enforcement/Derelict Sites Strategic Policy Unit	Heritage Office Parks & Green Infrastructure Division Built Environment Division Transportation Planning

Planning Applications – 2021 Statistics

There have been 1,576 planning applications received to the end of December 2021, 102 of these applications were invalid leaving a total of 1,474 valid applications. The volume of applications received by Local Electoral Area (LEA) is detailed in the table below.

Up to end of December 2021, 12 Strategic Housing Development (SHD) applications were made to An Bord Pleanála, plus 1 for amendments totalling 6,188 units. 10 decisions were made by the board up to end of December 2021. Of these, 8 were granted, 1 in February, 1 in March, 3 in September and 2 in November (3,426 units). 1 was one granted in July for amendments. 3 applications were Refused, 1 in March, 1 in June and 1 in July. There is a total of 5 SHD's (2,623 units) currently in the formal application process.



Planning Decisions – 2021 Statistics

A total of 1,490 planning decisions have been made to the end of December 2021. There have been 1,269 decisions to grant permission (85%) and 221 refusals of permission (15%). There have been 97 grants of permissions in respect of single house construction, 797 grants of permission for domestic extensions, 310 commercial/retail grants of permission and 35 grants of permission in respect of housing developments of which 16 relate to development of 2 - 20, 3 relate to development of 20 – 50, 9 relate to development of 50 -100 and 7 of which relate to development of 100+ housing units.

Building Control Admin – 2021 Statistics

In 2021, there were 156 Disability Access Certificate applications submitted, of these 146 were granted, 1 was invalidated and 5 are currently on time extension. There were 14 Revised Disability Access Certificate applications submitted, 11 were granted and 2 are currently on time extension. There were also 17 Dispensation/Relaxation applications submitted, all 17 were granted.

There were 248 Fire Safety Certificate applications submitted, of these 176 were granted, 2 were refused, 7 were invalidated and 35 are currently on time extension. There were 34 Revised Fire Safety Certificate applications submitted, 26 were granted and 2 were invalidated and 4 are currently on time extension. There were 22 Regularisation Certificate applications submitted, 5 were granted, 2 were invalidated and 15 are currently on time extension.

A total of 1,347 building control decisions were processed in 2021, this includes decisions that were made on applications submitted pre 2021 in addition to the applications submitted during 2021. This is made up of 482 decisions to grant, 7 refusals, 13 invalids, 3 amendments and 842 extensions of time.

Building Control Fire Safety, Disability Access, Regularisation and Dispensation/ Relaxation Certificate applications can be submitted online via the new BCMS applications module or in hard copy directly into the office.

Planning Enforcement/Derelict Sites

309 Warning Letters and 28 Enforcement notices issued in 2021. There was ongoing referral of enforcement files to the Law Department to initiate legal action. 15 new cases were referred to the Law Department during 2021 to initiate legal action bringing to 23 the number of enforcement cases currently with the Law Department or at varying stages in the court system.

The Derelict Sites Section issued correspondence to site owners/occupiers of 19 sites during 2021 with ongoing engagement arising from this. Statutory Notices issued under the Derelict Site Act with respect to 2 sites during 2021 with both sites placed on the Derelict Sites register.

Strategic Policy Unit

Fingal Development Plan 2023 – 2029



The Chief Executive's Draft Plan was issued to the Elected Members on 3rd December 2021, along with the sheets, appendices and environmental information.

Motions were accepted up to 7th January 2022. 915 motions were received and meetings to discuss the same began on 18th January 2022. The draft Plan will be issued for public consultation in February 2022.

Sustainable Swords

Work continues on the Sustainable Swords project. The ambition of Sustainable Swords is to create a multi-faceted approach to the planning, design and management of the town, in order to achieve better quality places as the physical setting for life in Swords. Sustainable Swords plans to consolidate and strengthen the historic town centre of Swords. The project will also set specific objectives for the town centre with the goal of increasing the resilience of the local economy and fostering an enhanced, accessible, inclusive, child friendly and healthy urban environment.

A second stage of consultation took place in October 2021. This follows the 'Your Swords, Your Say' survey which was carried out in May and the briefing session with Elected Members in July.

The submissions and comments received are being considered, with the draft Strategy expected to issue early 2022.



Vacant Site Register

There are currently 11 sites on the Vacant Sites Register (VSR). These include 3 residential sites and 8 regeneration sites.

Heritage Office

The Community Monuments Fund for 2022 is now open for applications until February 15th. The core aims of this Fund are the conservation, maintenance, protection and presentation of archaeological monuments. It will:

- enable conservation works to be carried out on monuments which are deemed to be significant and in need of urgent support;
- encourage access to monuments and improve their presentation;
- build resilience in our monuments to enable them to withstand the effects of climate change.

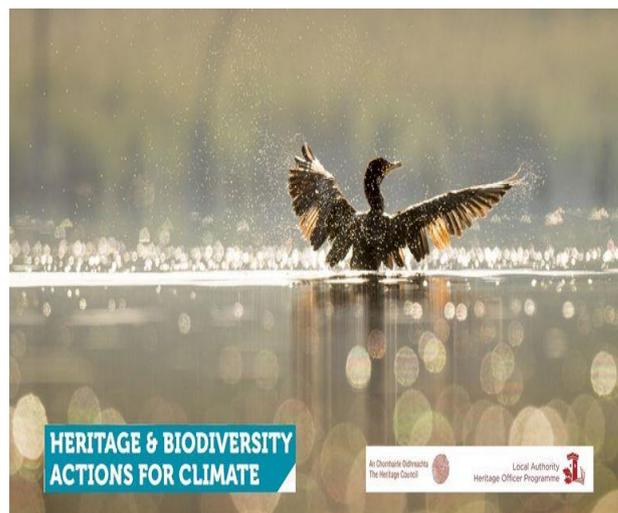
Find out more and apply: <https://www.fingal.ie/news/community-monuments-fund-2022>



The Heritage Council's Community Grant Scheme for 2022 is now OPEN for applications for the following:

- capital projects that apply good heritage practice to the management of places, collections, or objects (including buildings).
- ▶ capital projects that improve access and inclusion to heritage sites;
- ▶ the purchase of essential equipment.

This scheme enables communities and heritage non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to continue their work in this area or to start new initiatives. Closing date is Wednesday 16th February 2022 at 5:00pm. Full details at <https://www.heritagecouncil.ie/.../community-heritage...>



Malcom Noonan, Minister for State for Heritage launched the first in a new series of Climate Action webinars on Thursday 27th January. Featuring members of the Local Authority Heritage Officer Network, the free webinars are supported by the City and County Managers Association and the Heritage Council. The Fingal Cultural Heritage and Climate Change Risk Assessment and Fingal Heritage X Climate featured in the Embedding Climate in Heritage session. The one-hour webinars are every Thursday at 9.30 until 17th February– Wetlands, Community and Climate; Nature-based solutions for Climate; People, Heritage and Climate. Register at <https://kilkennyheritage.ie/.../save-the-dates-heritage.../>

Parks & Green Infrastructure Division

Phase 1 Balbriggan Sports and Recreational Hub at Bremore Regional Park

Detailed Design & Construction of New GAA Pitch & ancillary works



Works are scheduled to begin on the construction of the new full size public GAA pitch facility at Bremore Regional Park. In addition to the pitch, the works include provision of vehicular and pedestrian access and boundary fencing. The project represents the first phase of construction of the Balbriggan Sports and Recreational Hub. It is anticipated the construction works will be completed by late Summer this year. Following construction, the grass on the newly formed pitch will need to establish for 12 months before use to ensure the best outcome for future users of the new facility.

Update on Construction of Recreational Hub at Ward Rivervalley Regional Park



Works are progressing on the site of the new all-weather pitch at Ward Rivervalley Regional Park. Significant earth grading works have been carried out to create the base for the new car park and future access. The contractor has also begun the topsoil strip on the site of the new all-weather pitch and has arranged the required permissions for all utility connections on site. The Parks and Green Infrastructure Division have worked in consultation with local sports clubs to expand the scope of works to include significant upgrade works to the adjacent soccer pitch together with the provision of a GAA Go Games Pitch. This initiative will greatly expand the usability of the wider recreational hub throughout the year and to the greatest age range possible. It is anticipated that the new facility will be completed by late Summer this year and will become a valuable sporting amenity for the people of Swords and wider area.

Built Environment Division

Building Control/Taking in Charge Section – 31/01/2021

Building Control

- BCMS – 41 CNs were received in November 2021 and there were 33 Completion Certificates processed.
- Enforcement – There was a Part L non-compliance discovered during a site inspection of a site in Portmarnock this week commencing 24th January 2022. This non-compliance relating to lack of insulation over rear patio doors, was pointed out to the builder and is being addressed.



Insulation missing above patio doors at a development in Portmarnock

Taking in Charge

- Weavers Wood Clonsilla, foul sewer and watermains in St. Marys, Baldoyle, and a hammerhead extension at Old Golf Links, Malahide were Taken in Charge in January 2022. There is currently 1 estate “The Hawthorns” in Castleknock put up for being Taken in Charge in the next Council meeting in April.
- We have 46 Developments with formal TIC requests and a further 306 developments on our system, of which 62 are likely to remain private.
- Phase 1 TIC works on the following estates - Chieftain's way, Martello, New Haven Bay are currently underway.

- Phase 2 TIC works – Drynam, are under construction at the moment. There is also works almost complete in Thornleigh Swords by a completion contractor on behalf of the bondsman.
- The contract documents for engagement of Consulting Engineers to manage the Ongar remediation works necessary to bring the estates in Ongar up to Taking in Charge standard were published on the 10th December 2021 on Etenders.ie within a closing date of the 7th January 2022. Unfortunately, both consultants on the framework declined to submit a tender. We have been forced to set retender through an open procedure with the contract due to be advertised next week.
- There are currently 38 developers set up on our External Taking in Charge SharePoint Site to upload Taking in Charge documentation. This SharePoint site is now also being used by the Parks Department and Public Lighting Department in order to review uploaded Taking in Charge information.
- A yearly review of the Taking in Charge Policy and Specifications is underway and meetings between Building Control and other Sections responsible for producing the Policy and Specifications have been carried out. The final documents are currently being reviewed and the updated Policy and Specification will be published in the site in February 2022.

Dangerous Structures

- We currently have 48 active dangerous structures. There was 1 new notification in November, 2 new notifications in December and 2 notifications so far in January 2022.

References

- The number of reference requests received in December and January (so far) are 170 and 354 respectively.



Seabees being reset in Portrane

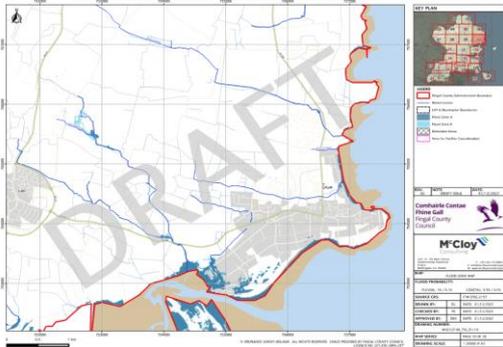
Development Management/Forward Planning (Water Services) Section

Development Management December 2021

- 96 no. new planning files have been received.
- 18 no. Additional Information files have been received and 2 clarifications on Additional Information.
- 1 no. Compliance Submissions have been received, 3 no. have been processed.
- 9 no. SHD applications have been received, 2 no. have been assessed.
- 1 no. Part 8/Part XI applications has been received, 4 no. have been processed.
- Pre-planning consultations – During December, staff from Planning (Water Services) have engaged in 8 no. pre-planning discussions with developers to discuss issues related to the provision of water services and to ensure the implementation of flood risk management and sustainable drainage systems on site.

Flood Risk Assessments/ Drainage Strategies

- FCC staff continue liaising with the appointed consultants developing the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for the upcoming County Development Plan. The SFRA DRAFT flood mapping and DRAFT report has been completed. This mapping and report will be updated over the coming months subject to new information (Tolka Flood Study) and submissions received from Councillors/public. The Water Services Planning Department are currently preparing responses to the motions received from the Councillors under the motion headings of green infrastructure, flooding, Irish Water and re-zoning.



- A new document "Nature-based Solutions to the Management of Rainwater and Surface Water Runoff in Urban Areas - Water Sensitive Urban Design - Best Practice Interim Guidance Document" has been issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. It is intended as a high-level best practice interim guidance document for all those whose work impacts on the urban environment, for urban planners and all built environment professionals involved in the planning process such as engineers, architects and landscape architects and shows how to move towards a more systematic and sustainable approach to urban planning and design that seeks to mimic the natural water balance of rural areas through "water sensitive urban design".



- Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS) – The Fingal SuDS guidance document (Green/Blue Infrastructure for Development) has been reviewed to include changes in technical standards. This document along with the Draft SFRA documents have been incorporated into the new development plan.



Irish Water

- Staff continue to liaise with Irish Water regarding existing constraints within the water/wastewater networks and identifying solutions to resolve.
- Connection and Developer Services – staff continue to provide a planning review of water/wastewater connection applications on behalf of Irish Water. However, there have been no new CDS applications during October/November.
- Staff continue to complete Irish Water templates for every planning file completed.

Transportation Planning

R132 Connectivity Project

The Council was pleased to recently receive An Bord Pleanála's notification of the successful granting of planning permission for the R132 Connectivity Project, following our planning submission in April 2021. The project involves upgrade works from north of Pinnock Hill Roundabout to north of Estuary Roundabout, to facilitate installation of new protected cycle and pedestrian facilities, removal of hard shoulders, conversion of roundabouts to signalised junctions and a reduction in speed limit to 50km/h. The P&SI team worked closely with TII and the NTA to ensure the proposed scheme ties in and facilitates MetroLink, BusConnects and the delivery of the Sustainable Swords strategy.



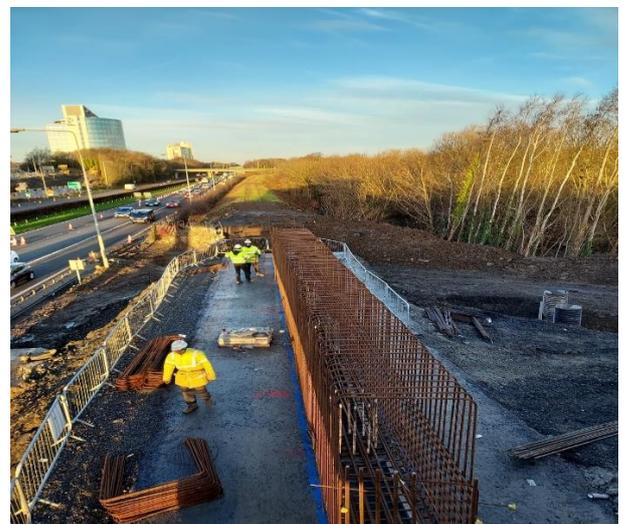
Churchfields



The Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Department recently appointed Fox Building and Engineering Ltd to deliver the Church Fields Link Road and Cycle Network. The contractor has commenced site set up with work expected to last 18-months. The Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Seána Ó Rodaigh turned the first sod on the project on Friday 28th January and she was joined by the Tánaiste, Leo Varadkar TD, the Minister for Housing Local Government and Heritage, Darragh O'Brien TD, Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, Roderic O'Gorman TD, Minister of State at the Department of the Taoiseach, Jack Chambers TD, as well as Councillors and Oireachtas members from Dublin 15.

The Church Fields Link Road and Cycle Network is co-funded by the NTA and the Dept of Housing, Local Govt and Heritage. It will create new connectivity to facilitate the development of the Church Fields Masterplan which will deliver significant housing, retail and community amenities to support the sustainable growth of Mulhuddart. It will also feature Ireland's first 'Dutch Style' cycle-friendly roundabout, optimised for safe use by pedestrian, cyclists and motorists. High quality segregated cycle and pedestrian infrastructure is also included throughout the scheme, including a new cycle route linking Damastown Avenue and Church Road Roundabout to Gaelscoil an Chuilinn and Powerstown Educate Together National School on Powerstown Road. This will include construction of new crossings on all arms of the existing roundabout, making walking and wheeling to schools in the area safer for students.

Snugborough Interchange Upgrade



Site works continue on this major infrastructural project with the contractor Bam having recently completed piling in the median island on the N3, to support the foundation of the bridge pier. Work on the bridge abutments and retaining walls on either side of the mainline N3 are ongoing and traffic management is in place to facilitate the safe operation of this complex construction site. The interchange is scheduled to be completed in March 2023.



HOUSING

Housing

Supply
Asset Management
Support
Tenancy Services

Church Fields, Dublin 15

The Part 8 public consultation period for the proposed 300 dwellings and the Eastern Linear Park concluded on 31st January 2022. The Chief Executive report will be presented to the Members for their consideration at the March Area Committee.

The Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Department recently appointed Fox Building and Engineering Ltd to deliver the Church Fields Link Road and Cycle Network. The contractor has commenced site works. Friday 28th January 2022 marked the first step in the construction of new infrastructure at the Church Fields site in Mulhuddart, as the Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Seána Ó Rodaigh turned the first sod on the project. The Mayor was joined in viewing the Church Fields site by the Tánaiste, Leo Varadkar TD, the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Darragh O'Brien TD, Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, Roderic O'Gorman TD, Minister of State at the Department of the Taoiseach, Jack Chambers TD, as well as councillors and Oireachtas members from Dublin 15.





Construction of Affordable Homes in Lusk

Construction of the 39 affordable and 12 social homes continues at Dun Emer in Lusk alongside the upgrade works to the road infrastructure which is funded by the Affordable Housing Fund (formerly the SSF)

Current construction work on the site at Dun Emer, Lusk.



Housing Delivery

Construction Programme

Summary of unit numbers in pipeline	units
Under Construction	207
Tender Stage	129
Planning and Design	1,114
Part V	206
TOTAL	1,656

Schemes on Site

Site Name	No. Units	Status Detail	On Site Date	Handover (estimated)
Dun Emer, Lusk	51	On Site	Q2 2021	Q4 2022
Wellview Cul de Sacs , Wellview, D15	20	On site	Q4 2020	Q3 2022
Cappagh, Dublin 11	69	On Site	Q2 2021	Q3 2022
Church Fields Phase 2B, Mulhuddart, D15	67	On Site	Q4 2021	Q4 2022

Schemes with Part 8 Planning Approval and at Tender stage

Site Name	No. Units	Status Detail	On Site Date	Handover (estimated)
<u>Tucketts Lane, Howth</u>	8	Tender process concluded. Stage 4 application for funding submitted to DHLGH.	Q2 2022	Q3 2023
Outlands, Swords	11	Detail design in progress. Issue tender to appoint contractor in Q1 2022.	Q2 2022	Q2 2023
Church Road, Lusk	5	Detail design in progress. Issue tender to appoint contractor in Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q2 2023
Former Leonards Garage, Lusk	10	Detail design in progress. Issue tender to appoint contractor in Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q2 2023
<u>Hayestown, Rush</u>	62	Stage 2 procurement process underway.	Q3 2022	Q3 2023
Infill Sites in Dublin 15	2	Detail design in progress.	Q3 2022	Q2 2023
<u>Kilhedge Lane, Lusk - Tuath Housing</u>	31	Detail design in progress. Issue tender to appoint contractor in Q2 2022.	Q3 2022	Q4 2023



Fingal County Council construction scheme at Wellview, D15

Schemes at Pre-Planning Stage

Site Name	No. Units	Status Detail	On Site Date	Handover (estimated)
Garristown – North and East Housing Association	6	Stage 2 approval received from DHLGH. Part 8 being prepared.	Q4 2022	Q4 2023
Church Fields, D15	1,000	Part 8 being prepared. Part 8 process commenced in Dec 2021 for 300 units.	Q4 2022	Q4 2023
<u>Mayeston, Dublin 11</u>	100	Feasibility being prepared	Q4 2022	Q4 2023
North Street, Swords	8	Feasibility being prepared	Q2 2023	Q2 2024



Fingal County Council construction scheme at Cappagh, Dublin11



Fingal County Council construction scheme at Church Fields



Part V completed unit at Lusk village.

CALF completed units at St Josephs, Clonsilla, Dublin 15.



The Local Authority Home Loan is a Government backed mortgage for first-time buyers or other eligible applicants through local authorities. The scheme is for the purchase of new or second-hand residential properties and for self-builds. It also includes the purchase of homes through State

schemes such as the Tenant Purchase Scheme and Affordable Housing Schemes. This loan has now replaced the Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan with slightly different eligibility criteria.

The "Fresh Start" principle means that people who are divorced or separated and have no interest in the family home, or who have undergone personal insolvency or bankruptcy arrangement or proceedings or other legal process, will be eligible to apply. The loan also revised the maximum salary of a single person who may apply under the scheme to 65K per annum.

The Local Authority Home Loan became available nationwide from all local authorities from **4th January 2022**. The loan is a normal Capital and Interest-bearing mortgage which is repaid by direct debit on a monthly basis. A successful applicant can borrow up to 90% of the market value of the property. In Fingal the maximum value of a property that can be purchased is 320,000.

For more information please see:

<https://www.fingal.ie/council/service/localauthorityhomeloan>

<https://localauthorityhomeloan.ie/>

Rent Payments – Council Tenants

The Rents Team are available to engage with tenants who may have experienced a change in circumstances to their tenancy (e.g. change of income or family composition) or who may have fallen into arrears. Should tenants have any queries regarding their rent charge or arrears they should contact the Council immediately at

email: rents.assessments@fingal.ie or rents.arrears@fingal.ie Further details are available on the Council's website www.fingal.ie.

Housing Asset Management Report

Energy Efficiency/Retrofitting Programme

The proposed works programme for 2022 is currently under review with the DHLGH.

Returning Dwellings to Productive Use

The number of casual voids within social housing stock which are currently in the re-let process set out below:-

Voids for Re-letting	at 4th February 2022
In letting process	36
Undergoing re-let repairs	25
With County Architect for procurement of pre-let repairs	11
TOTAL	72

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 tenants. The Council releases batches of work to dedicated Contractors throughout the course of the year. To date, the Council has provided Contractors with 20 of 20 batches totaling 5131 properties and servicing is progressing well.

Cyclical Maintenance - Scheme Painting

The programme provides for external painting and joinery repairs to council housing stock which currently operates on a 6/7 year cycle. A new programme will issue in the coming weeks.

Housing Tenancy Services Report

Over 200 applicant submissions have been made for HAP through the online portal since it went live in October 2021 with 88 of those accepted as complete. The remainder are in progress for completion by tenant/landlord or did not progress for various reasons (over income limit, unaffordable property etc). 40 HAP Tenancies were set up in January 2022.

Since its inception in Fingal County Council in 2017, the HAP team has set up over 3,200 tenancies.

Housing Support

Housing List Position

The Housing Support Team are finalising the preparation of the yearly list position which is scheduled to issue in March.

Contact Details for Tenancy Services Division

Set out below are the **Housing Support Team** Contact details and the **Tenancy Services Division** details-

The Housing Support Team Contact Details	
Phone	01 890 5902 /01 890 5000
Email	Housing.allocations@fingal.ie
Website	www.fingal.ie
Tenancy Services Contact Details	
Homeless Services	01 890 5090 homeless@fingal.ie

Estate Management (Maintenance, ASB)	01 890 5588 Estatemanagement@fingal.ie
Lettings	01 890 5380 Housing.allocations@fingal.ie
Housing Support	01 890 5902 Housing.allocations@fingal.ie
Customer Care Team	01 890 5000 CustomerCareUnit@fingal.ie

Choice Based Lettings

Fingal County Council launched a new online portal to facilitate the Choice Based Letting (CBL) scheme. CBL is an approach used for the allocation of designated Social Housing Units. It allows housing applicants to express an interest in being considered for the allocation of designated Social Housing Units.

Applicants with active applications may now access Choice Based Letting by logging onto <https://cbl.fingal.ie> using their unique username and password. To access their unique username and password applicants must contact choicebasedlettings@fingal.ie with their housing reference number and phone number. The housing team has issued 1,060 secure passwords and usernames to date. CBL is being advertised through social media which is increasing requests for passwords and usernames. Applicants are actively

encouraged to obtain their passwords and usernames to express interest in any properties advertised.

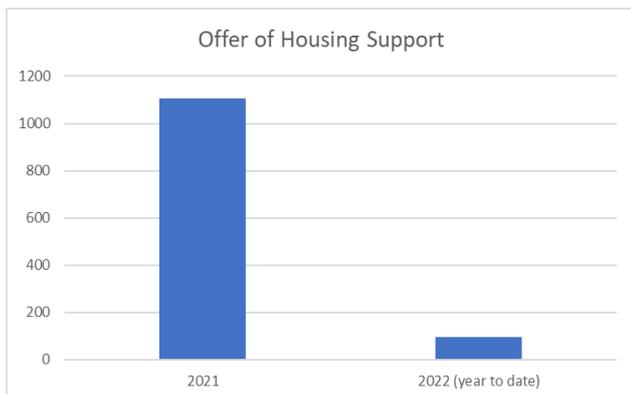
Available CBL properties will be advertised on a weekly basis from Wednesday to the following Tuesday on <https://cbl.fingal.ie>

Approved Social Housing applicants log in each week to check the dwellings that are available using their username and password. Expression of interest in a property must be made online by the following Tuesday.

On January 12th – 18th, Miller's Glen, Swords was advertised through Choice Base Lettings. A new housing development managed by the Approved Housing Body - Iveagh Trust. The scheme includes 1 bed, 2 bed and 3 bed apartments. 302 applicants made an expression of interest through the portal for Millers Glen.

Offers of Housing Support

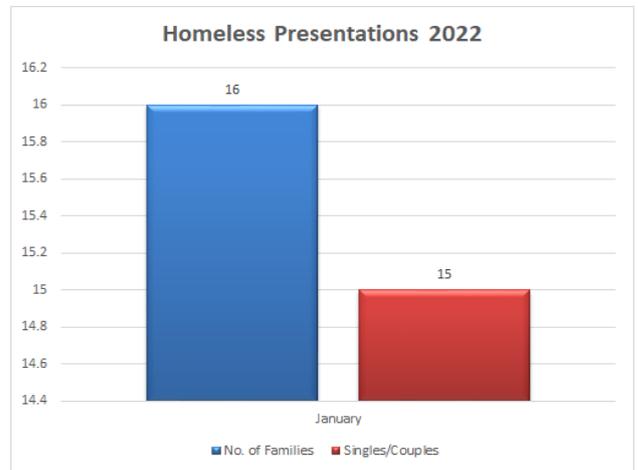
The Housing Allocations Team has continued to provide offers of social housing throughout all levels of **COVID-19 restrictions** and this is demonstrated in the chart below. During the month of January 2022 95 offers of Housing Support were made to approved applicants.



Homeless Services

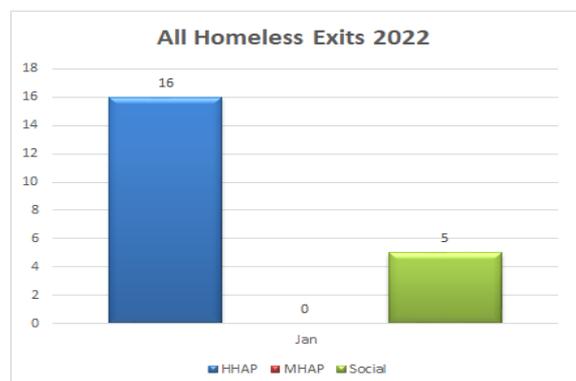
The Council's Homeless Team continue to engage with those experiencing homelessness to offer advice and support. Homeless Assessments continued over the phone through all levels of Public Health Restrictions.

In January 2022 there were 31 new homeless presentations, comprising 16 families and 15 singles/couples.



During January 2022, 21 households, comprising 15 families and 6 singles/couples, exited homeless circumstances into various forms of social housing support- including into private rented tenancies under Homeless HAP.

Homeless HAP accounts for 16 of these tenancies.



Cold Weather Strategy 2021/ 2022

The Dublin Region Homeless Executive (DRHE) has activated its Cold Weather Strategy 2021/ 2022 which runs from November 2021 to the end of March 2022. This is in order to meet a likely increase in demand for homeless services and to have the appropriate contingency plan in place for cold weather conditions.

Should there be a cold weather or any emergency event, the DRHE will co-ordinate the response to homelessness on behalf of the four Dublin Local Authorities. Whilst services continue to operate throughout the year to support people experiencing homelessness, during the winter period, services are increased and enhanced to mitigate against the health risks that the bad weather poses.

Draft Homeless Action Plan 2022- 2024

The DRHE is currently preparing the Draft Homeless Action Plan Framework for Dublin 2022-2024.

Traveller Accommodation Plan

Traveller Accommodation

A programme of works in relation to the refurbishment and upgrading of existing accommodation on specific sites is currently in development with the County Architect for further progression in 2022. Refurbishment work is planned for a number of sites in accordance with the provision of the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024 which is pending a review and will be presented to the Council in the near future.

The Annual Estimate of Accommodation of Travellers Families 2021 has been completed with a return of 554 families residing within the Fingal administrative area.

Daily site visits by Housing Inspectors are continuing on all Fingal County Council Traveller specific sites while checking on vulnerable residents and advising on the continued supports available.

Senior Officials are engaged on an ongoing basis with various external agencies and traveller advocacy groups

Housing Welfare Service

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.

The Estate Management Section continues to work with the most vulnerable and complex of our Tenants in collaboration with our Social Workers, Tenancy Sustainment Officers and external statutory agencies to protect and assist the most vulnerable of our tenancies.

Maintenance Requests



15,425 maintenance requests were received last year with 1,204 year to-date.

A letter is due to issue to all Tenants to remind them of their responsibilities with regard to maintenance of their homes and to provide them with a useful reference and contact detail information for the Council's maintenance service including the out of hours service which is for emergencies only.

Anti-Social Behaviour/Inspectorate Unit

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 however when the vulnerabilities, complexities and health related issues associated with a tenancy require tenancy sustainment and welfare 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 may be required to ensure all agencies work collaboratively with a view to achieving best outcomes for our Communities.

The Council recently worked in collaboration with An Garda Síochána to issue a letter to all residents of a specific area in Dublin 15 which is experiencing escalating incidents of anti-social behaviour by youths involved in criminal damage and intimidation.



Stock Management

Active Caseload

Breach of Ten.	35
Miscellaneous	28
Regularisation	9
Rightsizing	22

Surrenders on Estate Management Grounds 2022

– 0 (Jan)

ASB Caseload Management

Jan 2022	Active Investigation	Active Monitoring	Closed
Dublin 15	34	11	8
North County	40	12	34
Total	74	23	42

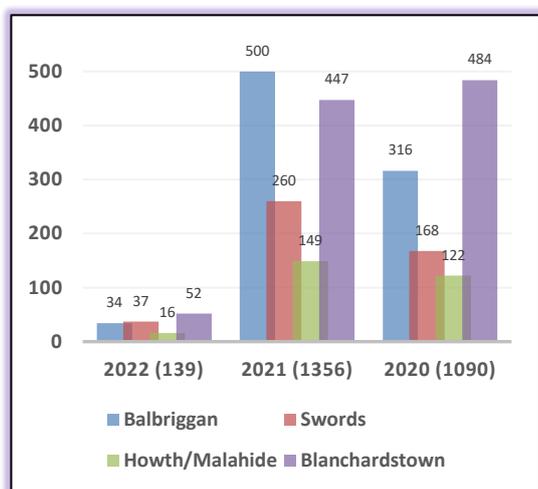
All ASB complaints received are followed up and investigated by a designated team within the ASB Unit and allegations of breaches of Tenancy are pursued accordingly. All complaints are received in confidence.

Estate Management are working with the Communications Unit to finalise an online video to induct new Tenants to their homes and provide them

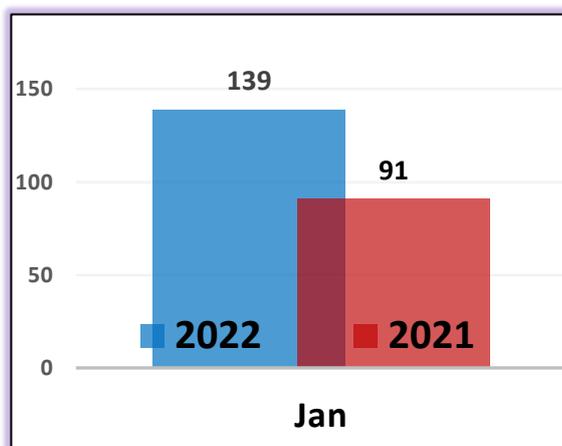
with useful and necessary information pertaining to their Tenancy.



Area Breakdown 2020-2022



Monthly Breakdown of Complaints Received 2020-21



Anti-Social Interventions

Interviews Held 2022	5
Interviews Held 2021	47
Tenancy Alerts 2022	2
Tenancy Alerts 2021	31
Tenancy Warnings 2022	0
Tenancy Warnings 2021	2

Inspectorate

Traveller Specific Inspections 2022	134
Traveller Specific Inspections 2021	1746
Estate Inspections 2022	112
Estate Inspections 2021	1202
EM/ASB Inspections 2022	168
EM/ASB Inspections 2021	3117



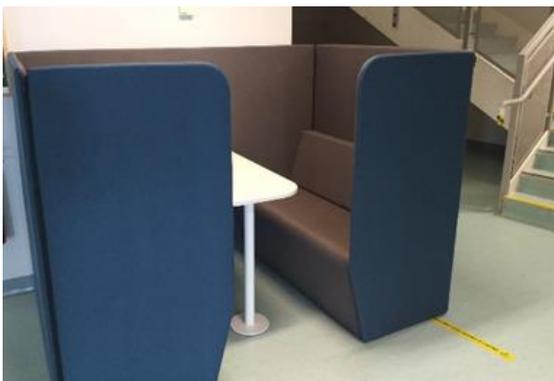
Mural created by local youths in collaboration with Foróige/Community Department/Estate Management – Racecourse Commons, Lusk

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

<p>Community Development Office Facilities Dublin 15 Community Office North County Community Office</p> <p>Interagency Planet Youth Implementation group</p> <p>Strategic Fingal Public Participation Network Fingal Comhairle na nÓg</p> <p>Integration Winter Pride</p> <p>Age Friendly Older People – Peer to Peer Teaching</p>	<p>Funding Period Poverty Pilot Project 2021 Community Amenities Grant Funding Report Sports Equipment Funding</p> <p>Age Friendly Intergenerational Activities Age & Opportunity Active National Grant Scheme 2022 Fingal Older Person Council</p> <p>Sports Office Nutrition Webinars KickFit Inclusion Couch to 3k</p>
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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Facilities



Meeting Pod at Applewood Community Centre

Connected Hubs in Community Centres

Facilities across Fingal were invited to apply for funding under the Connected Hubs Fund. The fund is

intended to develop and leverage the capacity and quality of **existing remote working facilities & Broadband Connection Points (BCPs)** in support of the National Hub Network initiative.

Four community facilities were successful in securing funding as part of the Connected Hubs Fund in 2021. Applewood Community Centre, Liam Rodgers Community Centre, Luttrellstown Community Centre and Tyrrellstown Community Centre were the four centres selected. They received a combined total of €40,000 from the community development office.

This project was developed to provide remote working spaces in the heart of the local community and work has commenced to install a range of digital media equipment, including large tv screens, that will

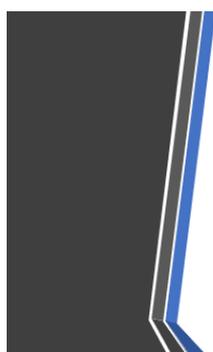
support remote working. As well as enabling facilitating online meetings the pods offer a great opportunity for people to have physical meetings and with the improved Internet access also supports a range on community training initiatives.

Workspaces are available in designated meeting rooms and pods are available for information meetings. Members of the public can book a slot at their local community centre.

The Community Office is currently exploring the installation of an enclosed meeting pod that will provide a soundproofed meeting / workspace. It is proposed to install this unit in Castlelands Community Centre to facilitate group meetings as well as remote working and smaller one to one meetings.

DUBLIN 15 COMMUNITY OFFICE

Fingal LCDC Communities Activities Funding CAF Information Evening



Community Activities
Funding CAF Scheme

Information Session

26th January 2022
(7.30pm)

Sinead Wiley, Snr
Community Officer

Over 100 groups attended the Fingal LCDC Community Activities Funding Scheme Information session organised by the Community Development Office held Wednesday 26th January. This session provided an opportunity for community and

voluntary groups across Fingal to learn about the funding scheme, understand criteria and eligibility and acquire key practical skills to making an application.

Churchfield Development and East Linear Park Development Local Awareness Initiative



The Community Development Office arranged for the **Churchfield Development and East Linear Park Development plan** to be displayed the Mulhuddart Community Centre throughout Dec & Jan 2022. This initiative supplemented the existing public consultation process to inform an extended reach out into the local community.

The initiative was supported by the Housing and Architects Departments

2022 Summer Project Expressions of Interest

Fingal County Council's Summer Project funding is administered by the Community Development Office. In 2022 €70,000 funding will be made available to groups within the community and voluntary sector to provide a supervised programme of recreational and educational activities for young people. The maximum funding available to groups will be €2,000.

From the 27th January, community and voluntary groups are invited to register their interest to host a Summer Project. Closing date for this Expression of Interest is the 28th February – click here to register <https://consult.fingal.ie/en/content/fingal-county-council-2022-summer-project-expression-interest-form>

Groups that do not register will not be eligible for the grant

NORTH COUNTY COMMUNITY OFFICE

Sister Shed Baldoyle

Sister Shed Baldoyle is a new initiative in co-operation with Baldoyle Family Resource service and the FCC community development office. The group is supporting women of all ages and backgrounds to meet to work together on community projects in the area. The group will be based in the Baldoyle family resource centre. An initial meeting has taken place. The community development office is exploring the possibility of the group hosting a local event to celebrate international women's day on 8th March.

Meakstown

The community development office is working with several groups in Meakstown area, as the development of the new community centre continues to progress. We have met with two new groups, *Sunshiny Days Voluntary Youth Club and the Mayeston Green resident's group* and have provided them with information. The newly reformed Meakstown tidy towns group has also received support on the

development of their workplan for 2022 and Meakstown Community Council is receiving support in their application for funding for a community day in Summer 2022, following on the highly successful Christmas celebration, which included the first FCC supplied Christmas tree for the area. Ongoing work with the Finglas community safety forum provides a channel for communication between local group and An Garda Síochána.

Lusk community engagement initiative

Following on from the very successful sports programme and family day in 2021, the Community Development Office have continued to support residents of Racecourse Green & Place with the set up of their Residents Association. The initial meeting took place on 31st January. Graffiti Art mural boards that were created by the children on the family day are now pride of place in the centre of the green creating a great sense of pride in the community.



Oldtown community council Celebrates 75th Anniversary

Saturday 15th January 2022 marked the 75th anniversary of Oldtown being the 1st rural village in

Ireland to be electrified. The night of 15th January 1947 changed rural Ireland forever.

The Community Department will be supporting Oldtown Community Council in the hosting of a number of planned events during the year to mark this significant anniversary. For more information on this remarkable event, see the ESB archives on their website: <https://esbarchives.ie/rural-electrification/> <https://esbarchives.ie/2017/04/11/how-you-can-get-electricity-to-your-rural-home/>

Check out this great video on Youtube which features a minute on Oldtown (22 minutes into the video) <https://esbarchives.ie/2018/11/14/death-of-the-banshee-1996/>



First pole at Kilsallaghan 5 November 1946
Photo Credit: ESB Archives



First Rural Customer White's Spirit Grocery 1947 – now Oldtown House
Photo Credit: ESB Archives

Balbriggan Baking Social Group supporting community in Reducing Isolation

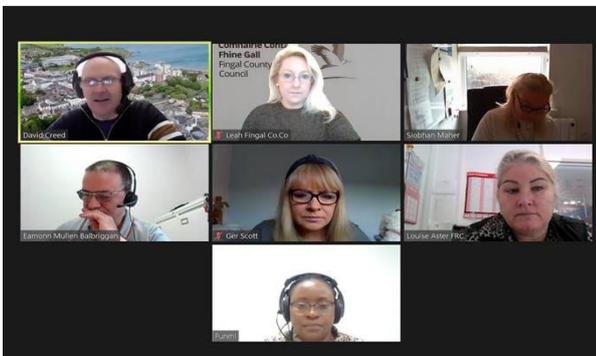
On Wednesday the 19th of January 2022 Fingal Community Office supported Balbriggan Baking Social Group to meet for the first face to face meeting in Flemington community centre. The multicultural group took a hybrid approach in order to allow for those still in isolation to participate in the group discussions. The group have been meeting online over the past year sharing their experiences through baking recipes. The group was formed with the aim of reducing isolation and safely linking with other members of the community in Balbriggan who share baking as an interest.

The Community Officer in Balbriggan met the group to welcome them to the Flemington Community Centre and to help them to develop their constitution prior to registering on the County Register as an established group. The group hope to support local charities at events in Balbriggan throughout the year by supplying baked goods and in turn supporting the development of a stronger volunteering culture built on their goodwill. The group come under the Community Office Hub approach and are a very welcome addition to the community centre.



Interagency

Planet Youth Implementation group



On the 28 of January 2022 Fingal Community Office in association with Planet Youth Balbriggan Implementation group met for the first time to discuss an interagency collaboration around the data collected from local schools across Balbriggan relating to youth ages 14-16. The implementation group consists of Fingal County Council Community Office, HSE, Foroige, Fingal Families, Aster Family Resource Centre and Crosscare.

Planet Youth is an international evidence-informed primary prevention model. It was initially developed in order to reduce substance use rates amongst young people.

The model uses a whole population approach and offers the opportunity to improve health and life outcomes for young people in Balbriggan.

STRATEGIC

FINGAL PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NETWORK

Online Training for Stakeholders of the Public Participation Networks



The Department of Rural and Community Development have commissioned Social Justice Ireland with the support of Waterford Institute of Technology to develop a comprehensive training course for PPN Stakeholders. Participants from Fingal PPN have been invited to take part in the second iteration of this training course from January to March. Six participants from Fingal PPN will join Laois, Kildare, South County Dublin, DLR and Dublin City PPNs in this training programme called 'Creating Capable Communities.' Feedback from the first round of participants has been positive. It is anticipated that there will be five rounds of this training.

PPN Linkage Group Meetings Round 1 2022



The PPN is delighted to confirm that round one of Linkage Groups will commence on 3rd February. Linkage Groups are an opportunity for community

organisations from across Fingal to meet in networks, to highlight issues or concern and organise collective advocacy campaigns. Any community organisation who is a member of the PPN can participate. For more see www.fingalppn.ie.

FINGAL COMHAIRLE NA NÓG

Fingal Comhairle na nÓg have secured a researcher to compile a piece of research examining barriers to participation and engagement with Fingal Comhairle na nÓg, and the development of a Stakeholder Engagement Plan. The research will particularly focus on reaching out to young people from seldom heard and hard to reach backgrounds, looking at ways to ensure these voices are heard. This research piece is due for completion in March 2022.

A Comhairle na nÓg survey on Mental Health during Covid 19 which was completed in 2021 is currently being compiled into report format.

Fingal Comhairle na nÓg have assigned member roles for the coming year and their upcoming first meeting of 2022 will see them make their final decision on the topics for 2022.

INTEGRATION

Winter Pride



Following the success of its inaugural Pride Festival earlier this year, the Community Office are now planning to host a series of events over the winter months with the launch of Fingal Winter Pride.

The events have been organised to support LGBTQ+ community, friends and allies across Fingal. It will showcase the journey of pride and provide support through the provision of information at what is recognised as a particularly isolating time of year.

A highlight of Winter Pride will be the unveiling of the National Library's photographic exhibition Living with Pride.

The exhibition will be on display in County Hall Swords followed by Blanchardstown Library and Balbriggan Library on the first leg of a national tour.

A series of awareness raising LGBTeas will also take place in the Cottage Community Centre, Lusk on the 8th February, Swords Library on 15th February and Blanchardstown Library on 22nd February.



AGE FRIENDLY

Intergenerational Initiatives



Intergenerational practice *“aims to bring people together in purposeful, mutually beneficial activities which promote greater understanding and respect between generations and contributes to building more cohesive communities”* (Beth Johnson Foundation, 2011). However, it is more than just bringing younger and older people together, it is a systemic approach to community development and wellbeing that recognises and values the contribution of all generations who live in the community. A programme of Fingal intergenerational initiatives for 2022 is being developed.

Intergenerational Environmental Project, Baldoyle. Progress has been made on developing an Intergenerational environmental project with St. Laurence National School, Baldoyle and older users of Baldoyle Community Centre. The project is in development stage but is expected to commence in the first quarter of 2022.

Cricket4All: Intergenerational Multi-ability Cricket

Initiative. Funding from Disability Participation and Awareness Fund 2021 was awarded in December 2021 for this collaboration between the Community Department and Cricket Leinster. Cricket Leinster have advertised for a Project Co-Ordinator and progress has been made on identifying suitable venues in Balbriggan and Skerries. The recruitment of participants is ongoing.

Physical Activities for Older People

Physical Activity Leaders (PALs) Training: Age & Opportunity have, in partnership with the Sports Department, agreed to run PALs training in Dublin 15 in March/April 2022. PALs (Physical Activity Leaders) is an initiative which trains older people in leading sport and activity sessions such as short exercise routines, fun games and simple dances and sports, like pitch and toss and bowling. It is aimed at Active Retirement and community groups, as well as local sports clubs or community centres. Recruitment for participants will focus initially on Fingal Community Facilities in Dublin 15.

AGE & OPPORTUNITY ACTIVE NATIONAL GRANT SCHEME 2022

This grant is aimed at encouraging older people back to participating in physical activities in their clubs. Groups and community centres are being encouraged/supported by the community office in completing applications. The closing date for applications is Friday 25th February 2022.

FINGAL OLDER PERSONS COUNCIL



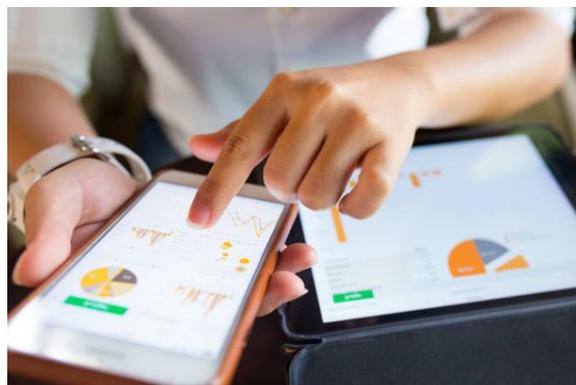
The Fingal Older Persons Council held their first in-person meeting since the pandemic began in January. The group, who have been meeting on zoom throughout the pandemic were delighted to meet face to face again and the meeting was a great success.

Fingal's OPC is the voice of the Older Age citizens living in Fingal. It is made up of representatives of community groups from across the county and the work they do form an integral part of the decision and policy making for council activities, initiatives and service improvements for Fingal's older citizens.

The group meet on the 1st Tuesday of every month to discuss issues and seek resolutions through engagement with the Council to challenges facing the older aged living in Fingal.

Fingal's OPC is currently seeking new members who would like to make a positive difference to aging well in Fingal. For more information email the Fingal Age Friendly Programme manager tricia.matthews@fingal.ie

FUNDING



Period Poverty Pilot Project Funding

The Community Department has been successful in its funding application for participation in the Government's Period Poverty Pilot Project. The funding received will be available to provide free period products in the bathrooms of several Fingal Community Facilities. The funding application also included the potential to collaborate on the pilot with an organisation in Fingal working with vulnerable groups.

2021 Community Amenities Grant Funding Report

In 2021, the Community Development Office received a total of 90 funding applications under the Community Activities Funding Scheme. 75 applications were processed and successfully received funding to the value of €95,511. Of the remaining 15 applications, 9 were withdrawn by the group and 6 are currently being processed. Approximal 40% of groups that received funding were from the Swords/Howth/ Malahide, 35% of groups were from the Castleknock/Mulhuddart and 25% of group were from the Balbriggan area.

Sports Equipment Funding

In 2021, the Sport Office received a total of 70 funding applications under the Community Activities Funding Scheme. 59 applications were processed and successfully received funding to the value of €106,959.97. Of the remaining 11 applications, 9 were withdrawn by the group and 2 are currently being processed. Approximal 29% of groups that received funding were from the Swords/Howth/ Malahide, 26% of groups were from the Castleknock/Mulhuddart and 55% of group were from the Balbriggan area.

Summer Project Funding

In 2021, the Community Development Office received a total of 6 funding applications under the Summer Project Funding Scheme. 34 applications were processed and successfully received funding to the value of €34,120.67. Of the remaining 2 applications, 1 was withdrawn by the group and 1 was not processed due to eligibility. Approximal 8% of groups that received funding were from the Swords/Howth/ Malahide, 73% of groups were from the Castleknock/Mulhuddart and 9% of group were from the Balbriggan area.

Youth Sports

In 2021, the Sport Office received a total of 50 funding applications under the Youth Sport Funding Scheme. 45 applications were processed and successfully received funding to the value of €19,125. Of the remaining 5 applications, 2 were withdrawn by the

group and 3 were not processed due to eligibility. Approximal 46% of groups that received funding were from the Swords/Howth/ Malahide, 25% of groups were from the Castleknock/Mulhuddart and 29% of group were from the Balbriggan area.

SPORTS OFFICE

Nutrition Webinars

During the month of January the Sports Office held online Nutrition Webinars with Bridge Nutrition which focused on Eating Well in the Winter months, Nutrition as we Age, Eating for Mental Health and The importance of Nutrition in maintaining Gut Health. The Sessions went out live on Mondays at 8pm with the recordings released the following Wednesday, over 200 people signed up for the Webinars.



NUTRITION AS WE AGE – WHAT CHANGES?

- Our bodies burn less calories at rest – combined with reduced movement and excess calories, may result in 'middle age spread'
- Risk of Sarcopenia - muscle wastage as we age
- Reduced requirement for sleep
- Bones reduce in size



KickFit Inclusion

The Kickfit Inclusion Programme in partnership with the FAI has just started in Liam Rogers Community Centre, Swords with Prosper Fingal. The programme encourages people with additional needs to keep fit through exercise and football and will also be delivered in Skerries and Balbriggan during February.

Older Adult Programmes

The Sports Office is collaborating with DDLETB and FCC Community Centres to deliver exercise programmes for Older Adults in St. Maccullin's Church in Lusk and Balbriggan Sports Centre. The classes are led by a qualified instructor sourced from the Sports Office's coaching panel and are being run on a pilot basis to promote the facilities and to encourage older adults to engage with in-person activity.

Couch to 3k

The Couch to 3K programme is a 6-week online training programme that will help participants steadily progress to 3K through a walking and jogging interval style training plan and is open to all.



ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE ACTION & ACTIVE TRAVEL

Contents

Active Travel
Climate Action
Circular Economy
Bring Centres
Litter Management
Water Quality Protection
Waste Enforcement

Active Travel

On the 24th January, 2022, the Minister for Transport Eamon Ryan confirmed that the National Transport Authority (NTA) has allocated funds to Ireland's local authorities with a view to spending €289 million on walking and cycling infrastructure in 2022.

The Allocation to FCC's Active Travel Projects is listed in the table which is Appendix 1 of this report. This includes projects being managed by two departments – Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Dept and by the Environment, Climate Action & Active Travel Dept.

Secure bicycle stand Infrastructure



Howth Summit Carpark & Howth Summit Inn



Burrow Beach

Strategic Planning:

The Active Travel team has engaged consultants to prepare an Active Travel Strategy. We are currently engaging with the Strategic Planning unit in this regard and are providing input to the draft County Development Plan 2023-2029 in the context of the strong promotion of Active Travel.

The Active Travel unit is engaged with our colleagues in other departments on other important strategic projects such as Our Balbriggan and Sustainable Swords projects.

Cycle Protected Lanes:

Baldoyle-Howth Protected Cycle Lane Scheme:

Works are progressing on Howth Road regarding bollard installation. Minor line marking works remain to be completed on Howth Road. Line marking and bollard installation to move to Dublin Road next and is projected to start in February. Epoxy resin works are projected to start in March for all roads – weather permitting.



Baldoyle –Howth Protected Cycle Lane: Bollard install works on Howth Road

Towns & Villages

Works are ongoing in the development of a brief for some of our Towns & Villages. A brief is being developed by our Active Travel Team for Balrothery Village to look at the scope of works required to be delivered under our Active Travel pillars. This scope

will form the basis of a similar study to be conducted for Skerries. Once these briefs are fully developed we will procure and engage with a consultant to carry out the required overall studies of these areas.

Connectivity/Permeability

We are continuing to receive various requests for Permeability and Connectivity improvements from various stakeholders across the county. These requests are being recorded in detail for evaluation and if appropriate identification of a means of delivery on the ground.

Where there are other projects being progressed in the area at either design or construction stage we endeavour to include these Connectivity and Permeability improvements within those projects.

A number of the requests that have been received, evaluated are being developed within a brief to go out to consultants in the first quarter of 2022. This will allow the projects to be developed to detailed design for implementation. Once these are further developed, we will make available to the members.

Greenway connectivity support teams have been convened to review, design, and deliver active travel infrastructure that will enhance accessibility between the proposed strategic greenways and residential, educational, amenity and commercial zones. These support projects have been set up for Fingal Coastal Way, Broadmeadow Way/Sutton to Malahide Greenway and Royal Canal Greenway. This will help to optimise the use of the proposed greenway by both leisure and commuter users.

Road Safety

The RSA (Road Safety Authority) recently published some interesting statistics for 2021:

- * A total of 134 people lost their lives on our roads in 2021 – down by 12 compared to 2020
- * In 2021, there were 99 males and 35 females who lost their lives on our roads
- * 49% of fatalities occurred between 2pm and 10pm
- * Tuesday was the most dangerous day of the week with 24 fatalities

- * 28% of all drivers and passengers killed were NOT wearing a seatbelt
- * There was a decrease in pedestrian and cyclist fatalities and an increase in motorcyclists' fatalities
- * 21% of fatalities were aged between 16-25 years compared to 13% in 2020
- * 37% of fatalities occurred on 80 km/h roads

In Fingal, the Road Safety Section will continue to promote Road Safety throughout 2022 through various online awareness campaigns and school engagement through the Axa Road Safe Roadshow and the 'Your Life, Your Choice' VR Headset campaign. We remain focused on achieving 'Vision Zero' which means no road deaths or serious fatalities by 2050.

The provision of the School Warden service to keep some of our most vulnerable road -users safe, remains a priority.

Mobility

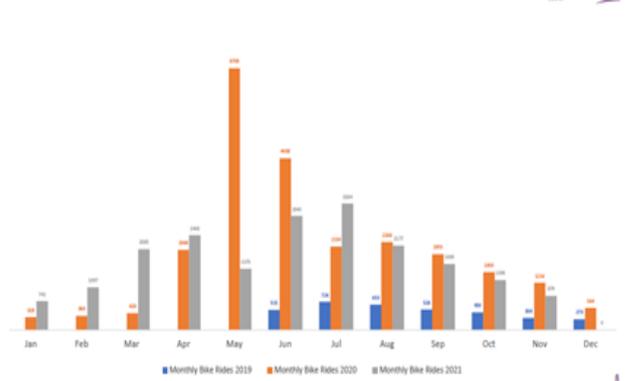
Bleeper Bikes

December Stats – Bike Share Countywide:

662 bike journeys started within Fingal operating zone in December, down from 879 in November.
685 bike journeys ended within existing Fingal operating zone in December (excess bikes are collected by Bleeper and returned to city centre).
Highest usage recorded on Fridays with 19.78% followed by Sundays with 15.86%.
Blanchardstown shopping centre was the most popular location in December
Average number of 136 bikes in Fingal (SLA = 120) available for hire each day of the month.



Fingal Bike Share – Monthly Bike Rides started in Fingal



We will continue to promote usage of Bleeper through our social media platforms. All Fingal staff and Elected Members can avail of free bleeper bike hire. Contact active.travel@fingal.ie for more information

Bike Week 2022

The Active Travel Team have commenced preparations for Bike Week 2022 which will be held from Saturday 14th to Sunday 22nd May 2022. An application for funding has been submitted to the NTA to support our events and activities throughout the week.

A total of 108 people replied to a recent public survey where we sought feedback on the 2021 Bike Week events and welcomed new suggestions for 2022. We received some good suggestions to include desired locations and timing of events being held. We have taken this feedback on board and are currently preparing a draft schedule for Bike Week which will include a wide range of events and activities across the county for people of all ages and abilities to participate and enjoy such as Community Cycles, Adult Cycle Training, Cycle Treasure Hunt, 'Cycle to' Movie day and much more. We will share the Bike Week Schedule once it is finalised.

Climate Action

Weather Station for Schools Project

42 applications to the Chief Executive's Innovation Fund were received from which 16 Champion primary schools were selected across Fingal County Council's seven Local Electoral Areas to receive automatic weather stations. These stations produce real time information about rainfall, temperature, wind speed, wind direction, humidity, pressure and dew point temperature.

The 16 Champion primary schools have now received the automatic weather stations. 7 schools are currently live on Met Eireann at <https://wow.met.ie> they are Rush and Lusk ETNS, Naul National School, St Patricks SNS Skerries, Holy Family Swords, Thornleigh ETNS Swords, St Luke's Tyrrelstown and St Patricks Diswellstown, Castleknock. The remaining schools are due to go live before Easter on the Met Eireann website.

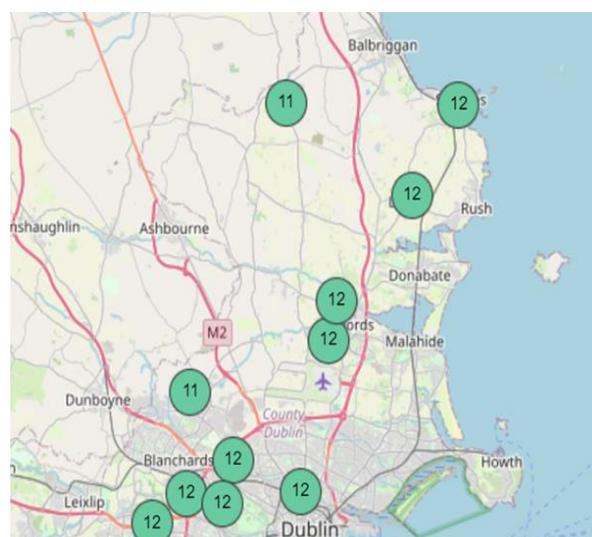
The next phase is the outdoor air quality monitors this will record particulate matter (PM). Lusk and Rush ETNS is the first school in Fingal to record real time data on PM 1, PM 2.5 and PM 10. Dust, smoke and

soot are examples of particulate matter. 16 air quality monitors have recently been procured for the Champion schools. This real time information is available on <https://www.weatherlink.com/map>

The Weather Station for Schools project has been nominated for two LAMA Community and Council awards.

Background Information

Weather Station For Schools



<https://wow.met.ie>

St Luke's National School, Tyrrelstown. Fingal County Council.

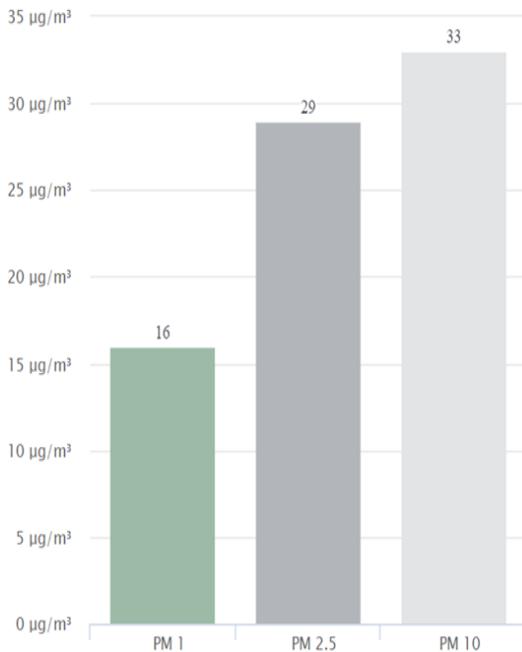
15:45 21/01/2022

Summary	Forecast	
Temperature	6.2	°C
Humidity	76	%
Rainfall Accumulation	-	mm
Pressure (MSLP)	1038.6	hPa
Wind Speed	1.7	knots
Wind Speed	3	km/h
Wind Direction	310	deg
Wind Direction	NW	compass
Dew-Point Temperature	2.2	°C

[VIEW FULL OBSERVATION](#)

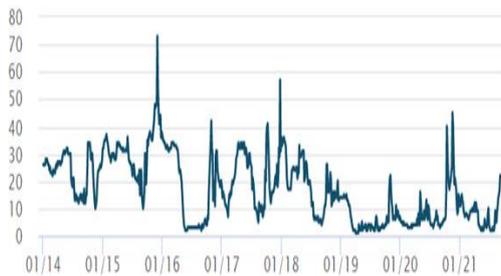
Air Quality

Rush and Lusk ETNS



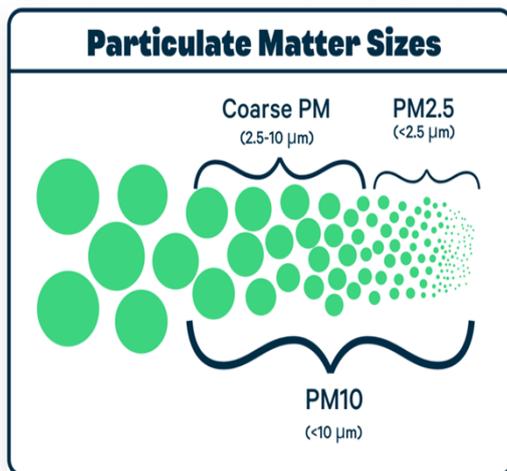
7 Day Air Quality Index

Rush and Lusk ETNS



Index: EU European

Based on PM 2.5 calculations only



The 16 Champion Schools are:

Balbriggan Local Electoral Area

St Patrick's SNS, Skerries
St Oliver Plunkett's, Balrothery

Rush and Lusk Electoral Area

Rush and Lusk Educate Together National School
Naul National School

Howth-Malahide Local Electoral Area

St Marnocks, Portmarnock
Howth Primary School
Oliver Plunkett's Primary School, Malahide

Swords Local Electoral Area

St Colmcille's BNS, Swords
Holy Family SNS, River Valley
Thornleigh Educate Together National School, Applewood

Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart Local Electoral Area

St Luke's National School, Tyrrelstown

Castleknock Local Electoral Area

Scoil Bhríde Cailini/St Brigid's Boy
St Patricks Diswellstown, Carpenterstown, Castleknock
Scoil Oilibheir, Coolmine

Ongar Local Electoral Area

Castaheany Educate Together National School
Hansfield Educate Together National School

Circular Economy

Government launched Ireland's first Whole of Government Circular Economy Strategy

The Minister of State with responsibility for the Circular Economy at the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications, Ossian Smyth TD, launched Ireland's first Whole of Government Circular Economy Strategy in mid-December 2021.

In a circular economy, waste is minimised. Products are kept in use for as long as possible, through design, repair and reuse. When a product has reached the end of its life, its parts are used again and again – to create further useful products.

"The days of extracting virgin natural resources, making things with them and then throwing them away must come to an end. The transition to a circular economy has a key role to play in climate action. 45% of our emissions are directly related to producing goods.

"We all understand how saving energy and being energy efficient are critical for the climate. Now, we need to think this way about our material resources, like food, metals, plastic, concrete. A circular economy shows us how we can do this. This new strategy provides a really important policy.

Minister of State, Ossian Smyth, TD

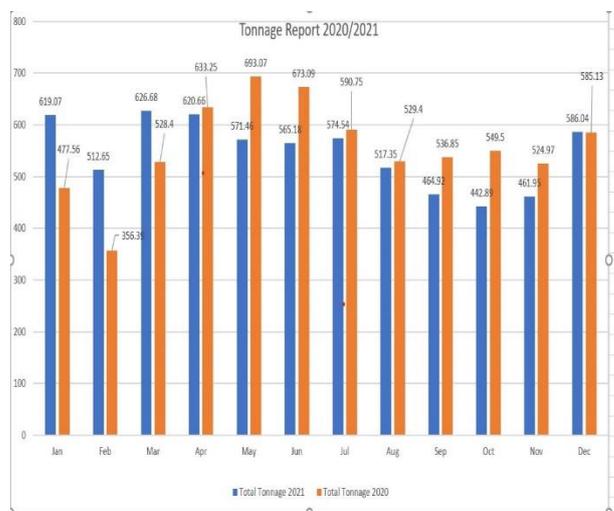
The strategy was the subject of a public consultation early in 2021 – one of a series of consultations undertaken since early 2020 in this area and public feedback was strongly supportive of moving towards a circular economy.

Additionally, the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Environment and Climate Action began its pre-legislative scrutiny of a Circular Economy Bill in October 2021 and a report was published in December. Following consideration of the recommendations of the Committee, the Minister intends to proceed with publication of the Bill early in 2022.

Links to the strategy and to the newly launched EPA Circular Economy Programme 2021-2027 are below:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/16a69-government-launches-irelands-first-whole-of-government-circular-economy-strategy/>
<https://www.epa.ie/publications/circular-economy/resources/the-circular-economy-programme-2021-2027.php>

Bring Centres



The above chart shows the monthly tonnage figures for glass collected for recycling in 2020 and 2021. The yearly figures for 2021 and 2020 were 6563.69 and 6678.36 tons respectively.

In January 2022, up to 26 of January, 490.69 tons of glass was collected.

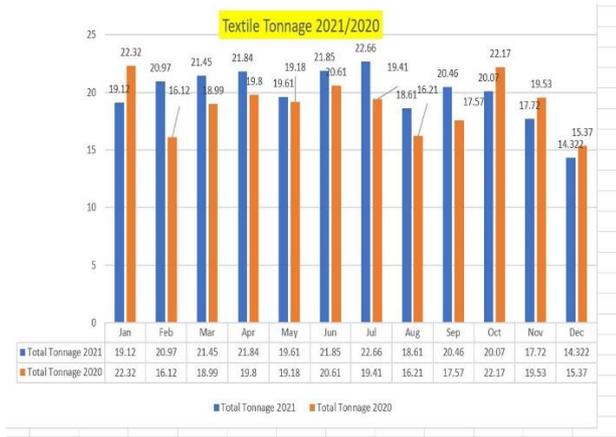
The Environment Department continues to look for new opportunities to expand our network, Painting of botte banks will recommence in February 2022.

Textile Banks



The above image shows our textile banks. All banks will have Fingal logo and details of our charity partner. The monthly tonnages for textiles collected for 2020 and 2021 is shown below.

The yearly figures for 2021 and 2020 were 238.68 and 227.28 tons respectively.



The dog wardens undertake regular patrols throughout Fingal, including Parks and Beaches. New signs have been erected in Fingal Parks giving notice of the park byelaws and also to the Regulations under the Control of Dogs Act 1998.

Litter Management

A total of 300 planned route inspections were carried out by the Litter Wardens in January 2022.

Details of fines and warning notices for January 2022 are shown in the table below.

Month	Fines issued 2021	Warnings Issued 2021	Fines Issued 2022	Warnings Issued 2022
January	3	16	27	85

There were no fines in January relating to dog fouling. In the District Court there were 2 fines successfully prosecuted cases in January.

Dog Warden & Dog Shelter Service

In January a total of nine dogs entered the dog shelter. Two dogs were surrendered, and 7 dogs were strays. No dogs were seized. Of the nine dogs that entered the shelter one dog was reclaimed and four were rehomed to members of the public. Four dogs currently remain at the shelter. A video on the dog shelter has been circulated to the Members and can be viewed on our social media sites and website.



Fines issued under the Control of Dogs Act

Month	Fines	10 Day Notices Issues
January	0	5

You can also use the App below to make a phone call to the National Environmental Complaints Line 1800 365 123. The phone line is open 24hrs a day, 7 days a week and all calls will be answered by dedicated staff. The details of the complaint, such as location, nature of the complaint, will be recorded and passed to the relevant local authority, and followed up by them, the Gardaí or the EPA as appropriate.

Or

Email Fingal's Environment Section on environment@fingal.ie with your water pollution report.

Environmental Inspection Plan (RMCEI) 2022

Work has started for the preparation of the Environmental Inspection Plan 2022 (Recommended Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections), with input from the teams responsible for inspections in the litter, air and noise, water pollution and waste enforcement sections. The plan sets out what inspections are planned for the year ahead, taking into account the various National Enforcement Priorities in Water, Air and Noise and Waste areas for the period 2022-2024.

National Water Priorities

The Department of Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) have set out the following high-level priorities for 2022 to 2024:

- ✓ Pressures from agriculture (slurry soiled water collection and storage)
- ✓ Pressures from agriculture (slurry and fertiliser spreading)
- ✓ Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems (DWWTS) and Septic Tanks
- ✓ Discharge licences and Misconnections
- ✓ Local priorities and water quality monitoring

National Waste Priorities 2022

The Department of Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) have set out the following high-level priorities for 2022 to 2024:

- ✓ Tackling Significant Illegal Waste Activity

- ✓ Construction and Demolition Activity
- ✓ End-of-Life (ELV) Directive & the Waste Metal Industry
- ✓ Waste Collection- Household & Commercial
- ✓ Producer Responsibility Initiatives and Additional Local Priorities

National Air and Noise priorities

- ✓ Solid Fuel
- ✓ Air Quality Monitoring and Data Use
- ✓ Environmental Noise Directive
- ✓ Air and Noise Control (including Planning)
- ✓ Ongoing Air and Noise Enforcement Work

Waste Enforcement

End of Life Vehicle Project

Tackling unauthorised End of Life Vehicle (ELV) sites continues to be a National Waste Enforcement Priority for 2022. Follow-up inspections were carried out in January at suspected illegal car breaking yards. When the ELV project started a total of 63 potential illegal ELV sites were identified which increased to 82 potential sites during 2021. Significant progress has been made to date with over 66 illegal sites cleared of ELVs and closed down and hundreds of ELV's brought to authorised treatment facilities for recovery and disposal. A total of 24 high risk ELV sites were identified in the Fingal area. 10 of these sites have been cleared of ELVs and closed. Additionally, a total of 58 low risk ELV sites were identified in the Fingal area. 56 of these sites have been cleared of ELVs and closed. Higher risk ELV sites require a multi-agency approach with assistance from An Garda Síochána as the individuals operating these illegal car breaking yards can be violent or threatening. A number of legal files have been prepared to tackle the more difficult high risk ELV sites where the operator/landowner is refusing to remove the ELV's.

Complaints

Responding to waste related complaints continues to be a major priority for enforcement officers in 2022. A total of 16 complaints were recorded for the month of January 2022. 63% of complaints recorded in

January relate to household waste/waste presentation complaints including backyard burning. A further 30% of complaints relate to fly tipping or illegal dumping (not including at bottle banks). Awareness and education around the management of domestic waste in a sustainable and environmentally safe manner is crucial to ensure all households participate in waste collection service as per the waste presentation bye-laws and use all three bins (black, green and brown) to manage their waste. A bin service project to identify households who don't currently have a bin collection service in place is proposed for 2022 once GDPR issues have been resolved with the Data Commissioner.

Packaging Regulations

16 companies registered in 2021 with Fingal County Council as self-compliers under the European Union (Packaging) Regulations 2014 have been contacted to remind them that their applications for registration for the year 2022 have to be submitted by 31st January 2022.

FINANCE

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Rates

Making of the Rate

Following determination of the Annual Rate on Valuation by the Members at the Annual Budget Meeting, the rate was made by the Chief Executive on the 24th January 2022. The total amount of current rates assessed for 2022 is €154,432,400. Rates Bills were issued to customers by post in the last week of January 2022.

Financial Reports

Monthly financial reporting of the Revenue/Capital accounts and on Debtors will commence, as normal, from the period ending February 28, 2022 for the March Council meeting.

Appendix 1

Sustainable Transport Measures Grants: 2022 Allocations		
Project Code:	Project Name	2022 Allocation
FCC/19/005	Schools Streets non SRTS	€100,000
FCC/20/000	Bicycle Parking (Covid)	€150,000
FCC/20/0006	Safe Routes to Schools Programme – Infrastructure (with NTA)	€1,500,000
FCC/21/0001	Snugborough Road – NAC to Ongar	€400,000
FCC/21/0002	Baldoyle to Howth	€1,700,000
FCC/21/0002	Baldoyle to Howth Phase 2 (Dublin Road to Dublin Street)	€1,250,000
FCC/21/0006	Clonee to Blanchardstown Shopping Centre	€250,000
FCC/21/0000	FCC Castleknock to Blanchardstown via Farnleigh	€50,000
FCC/22/XXX	St. Cronins Road	€1,750,000
FCC/22/XXX	Hartstown/Huntstown/Mountview Rd D1	€1,100,000
FCC/22/XXX	Rathingle/Rivervalley Rd. Swords	€1,200,000
FCC/22/XXX	R132 Ministers Rd to Blakes Cross + Kilhedge Lane	€550,000

FCC/22/XXX	Seatown Roundabout to Estuary Rd (Swords to Malahide)	€1,225,000
FCC/22/XXX	Donabate to Portrane (R126) - Distributor Road to Portrane Avenue	€1,225,000
FCC/22/XXX	Balbriggan – Coney Hill from Devlin Bridge to Bremore Cottages	€925,000
FCC/22/XXX	Skerries – Harbour Road (footpath build outs)	€925,000
FCC/22/XXX	Rush South Beach (Bawn Rd across carpark and out to South Shore.	€500,000
FCC/22/XXX	New Street Permanent Scheme	€500,000
FCC/22/XXX	Local connections to S2M and Broadmeadow	€200,000
FCC/22/XXX	Data collections traffic air, noise.	€500,000
FCC/22/XXX	Permeability Links North County	€500,000
FCC/22/XXX	Skerries Active Travel Plan	€100,000
FCC/22/XXX	Balbriggan Road Mill Street and Drogheda Street	€100,000
FCC/22/XXX	Castleknock to Dunsink Lane	€150,000
FCC/22/XXX	Strawberry Beds Active Travel Study	€150,000
FCC/22/XXX	Fingal Active Travel Strategy	€40,000

FCC/22/XXX	Balrothery Active Travel Review	€185,000
FCC/22/XXX	Seamount Heights to Old Golf Links Park	€300,000
FCC/22/XXX	Broomfield to Paddy's Hill via Naomh Marnog GAA	€20,000
FCC/22/XXX	Chapel Road to An Teagasc Building	€20,000
FCC/22/XXX	Scoil an Duinninigh to Waterside footpath and cycleway	€20,000
FCC/22/XXX	Royal Canal Greenway Connectivity	€50,000
FCC/22/XXX	Fingal County Council Active Travel Office – Staff Costs	€1,100,000