



KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT 2020



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**Joint Foreword by Peter Carey,
Chief Executive and Councillor
Mark Stafford, Cathaoirleach,
Kildare County Council**



2020 and the emergence of the Coronavirus pandemic across the globe saw every aspect of society and people’s lives impacted and completely altered, in a way that has never been experienced before.

The sudden introduction and sustained implementation of restrictions and shutting down of business and society from March 2020 was unprecedented but necessary, in an effort to protect people and save lives.

Kildare County Council needed to be agile, resilient and determined, not only to ensure vital services were maintained, but also to provide much needed additional supports and resources for the individuals, communities and businesses of Kildare, to navigate a pathway through these challenges.

Every department within Kildare County Council adapted their plans for 2020 to ensure the immediate and changing needs for our services were met.

While the offices of Áras Chill Dara were closed to the public in March 2020, service provision continued with the development of online and digital resources. Our Customer Services section adapted operations to ensure services were maintained and accessible for all.

Working closely with other agencies across Kildare the Covid 19 Community Response Forum was established and coordinated community supports. Kildare County Council created a dedicated Community Call Helpline to assist older and vulnerable people, all with the aim of leading and supporting our residents and communities.

Many businesses in Kildare faced critical challenges and an uncertain future in 2020. Kildare County Council responded with supports and initiatives to lead businesses through this uncertainty. Over €1m was invested in Covid 19 business continuity support, helping over 700 businesses, along with other supports such as mentoring, workshops, and access to other funding opportunities. Kildare County Council is determined to support Kildare businesses through these challenges to ensure that the local economy emerges from the crisis.

Despite the challenge of construction site closures during the year, Kildare County Council made good progress in its build, acquisition, leasing and HAP/RAS. The delivery of housing units including new builds, refurbishments, infill schemes and others progressed throughout the county.

The Strategic Projects and Public Realm team delivered a number of pilot schemes, adapting outdoor urban spaces including Market Square, Kildare Town and Poplar Square, Naas and creating suitable outdoor space for safe outdoor dining and social gatherings during the pandemic.

Finally, we would like to thank the elected members and the staff of Kildare County Council for their ongoing co-operation and support and their commitment to serve the people of County Kildare, particularly in this most challenging year.

Chief Executive

Peter Carey

Cathaoirleach

Cllr Mark Stafford

Kildare County Council Elected Members

The following members were elected or co-opted to Kildare County Council and are members of the Municipal Districts set out below. Cllr. Noel Connolly, Cllr. Mark Leigh and Cllr. Colm Kenny were co-opted during 2020 to replace Patricia Ryan TD, Senator Mark Wall and Senator Vincent P. Martin.

Athy Municipal District



Councillor
Veralouise Behan
Fianna Fáil



Councillor Aoife
Breslin
Labour Party



Councillor Brian
Dooley
Fianna Fáil



Councillor Ivan
Keatley
Fine Gael



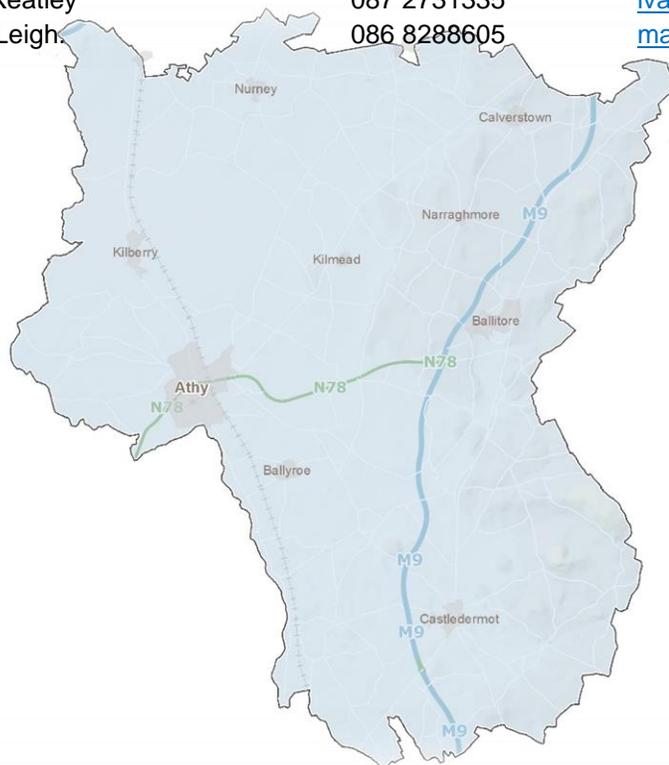
Councillor Mark
Leigh
Labour Party

Party & Name

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FF	Brian Dooley	086 1715290	kccdocker@gmail.com
FG	Ivan Keatley	087 2731335	ivankeatley@gmail.com
LP	Mark Leigh	086 8288605	markleighathy@gmail.com



Celbridge - Leixlip Municipal District



Councillor Bernard Caldwell
Fianna Fáil



Councillor Michael Coleman
Fianna Fáil



Councillor Íde Cussen
Non-Party



Councillor Ciara Galvin
Labour Party



Councillor Nuala Killeen
Social Democrats



Councillor Vanessa Liston
Green Party



Councillor Joe Neville
Fine Gael



Party & Name

FF Bernard Caldwell
FF Michael Coleman
NP Íde Cussen
LP Ciara Galvin
SD Nuala Killeen
GP Vanessa Liston
FG Joe Neville

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Clane – Maynooth Municipal District



Councillor Tim Durkan
Fine Gael



Councillor Aidan Farrelly
Social Democrats



Councillor Angela Feeney
The Labour Party



Councillor Daragh Fitzpatrick
Fianna Fáil



Councillor Peter Hamilton
Green Party



Councillor Padraig McEvoy
Non Party



Councillor Naoise Ó'Ceairúil.
Fine Fáil



Councillor Paul Ward
Fine Fáil



Councillor Brendan Weld
Fine Gael



Councillor Brendan Wyse
Fine Gael

Party & Name

FG Tim Durkan
SD Aidan Farrelly
LB Angela Feeney
FF Daragh Fitzpatrick
GP Peter Hamilton
NP Padraig McEvoy
FF Naoise Ó'Ceairúil
FF Paul Ward
FG Brendan Weld
FG Brendan Wyse

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Kildare - Newbridge Municipal District



Councillor Anne
Connolly
Fianna Fáil



Councillor
Suzanne Doyle
Fianna Fáil



Councillor Kevin
Duffy
Fine Gael



Councillor Noel
Heavey
Fianna Fáil



Councillor Fiona
McLoughlin Healy
Non-Party



Councillor Peggy
O'Dwyer
Fianna Gael



Councillor Tracey
O'Dwyer
Fine Gael



Councillor Chris
Pender
Social Democrats



Councillor Robert
Power
Fianna Fáil



Councillor Noel
Connolly
Sinn Féin



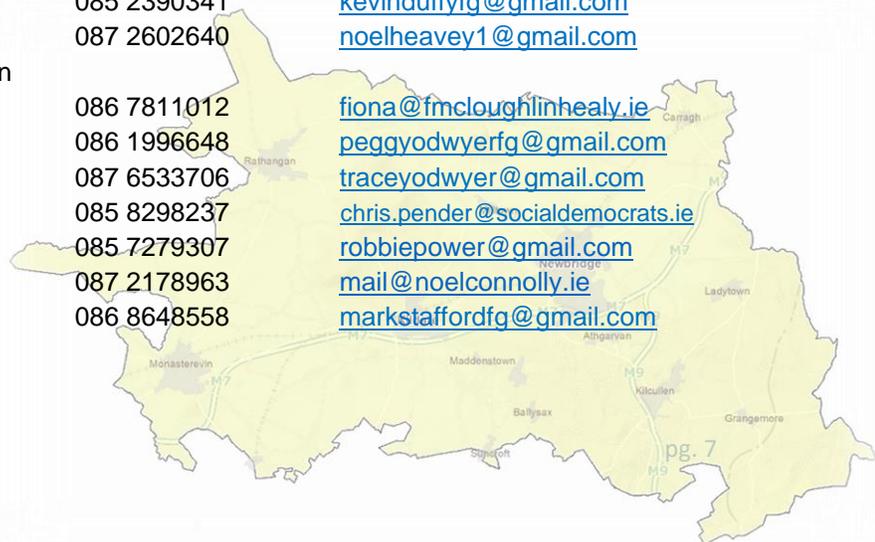
Councillor Mark
Stafford
Fine Gael

Party & name
FF Anne Connolly
FF Suzanne Doyle
FG Kevin Duffy
FF Noel Heavey
NP Fiona McLoughlin Healy
FG Peggy O'Dwyer
FG Tracey O'Dwyer
SD Chris Pender
FF Robert Power
SF Noel Connolly
FG Mark Stafford

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Naas Municipal District



Councillor Anne Breen
The Labour Party



Councillor Fintan Brett
Fine Gael



Councillor Bill Clear
Social Democrats



Councillor Carmel Kelly
Fianna Fáil



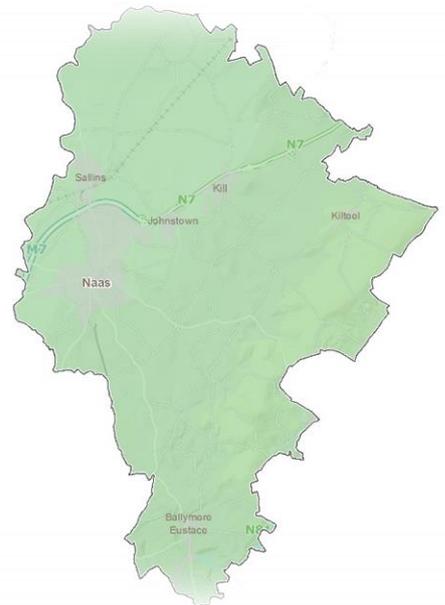
Councillor Colm Kenny
Green Party



Councillor Seamie Moore
Non-Party



Councillor Evie Sammon
Fine Gael



Party & Name

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FG Fintan Brett
SD Bill Clear
FF Carmel Kelly
GP Colm Kenny
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Response to the Covid 19 Pandemic

The first case of Covid 19 was confirmed in Ireland on 29th February 2020.

On 12th March it was announced that all schools, colleges and childcare facilities were to close for a two-week period. By the end of March, all non-essential businesses were closed; and people were told to stay at home as case numbers escalated and deaths unfortunately occurred from the virus.

Ireland's public health response has been led by the Department of Health and the Health Service Executive. The National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHET) was set up to advise Government on the public health aspects of the response to Covid 19.

Kildare County Council have at all times during 2020 worked on the basis of adherence to the public health advice. Local Authorities have been deemed an essential service throughout the pandemic and elected members and staff have worked continuously to support local democracy and maintain service delivery and business continuity.

Kildare County Council's Crisis Management Team met initially to identify how the organisation would manage the response to the pandemic. A Covid-19 Senior Management Forum which included the Cathaoirleach of the Council was established and met 28 times in 2020. A Business Continuity Group was established to look at how Kildare County Council would continue to deliver services and this group met over 25 times in 2020 and provided advice and support to the Management Team and the Covid 19 Senior Management Forum.

At a regional level the Eastern Regional Steering Group and the Eastern Regional Working Groups were formed and these groups met on a weekly basis during 'level 4' restrictions. They each met in excess of 25 times during 2020.

The local government response to covid 19 can be categorised into 5 broad areas:

- Maintaining service delivery and business continuity

- Coordinating community supports
- Reopening society and supporting local economies
- Operating in a system of multi-level governance
- Maintaining local democracy

Kildare County Council continued to operate services based on the nationally agreed framework for essential service delivery during the varying Covid 19 restriction levels, in line with public health, health and safety and standard operating guidelines developed in response to the pandemic.

The following chapters will outline the various initiatives undertaken by Kildare County Council departments in response to service delivery requirements during the pandemic which include the following:

- Restart grants for business
- Commercial rates waivers
- Community Call helpline
- Community response forum
- Increased provision of online services
- Communications campaigns
- Widescale adaptations to Library services
- Online meetings and briefings
- Provision of online training
- Remote working
- Range of IT supports to enable business continuity
- Appointment based system for customers who must attend for services
- Work Safely Protocol
- Development and operation of Standing Operating Guidelines for continued safe service provision
- Reorganisation of offices, signage, safety measures, cleaning regimes and provision of PPE
- Public Realm works
- Monitoring and review of operations by senior management on weekly basis
- Emergency management support at regional and national level
- Civil Defence mobilisation to support HSE testing and vaccination programme



Corporate Services



Corporate Services

Corporate Services interacts with and provides support to all departments and has general responsibility for the Cathaoirleach and elected members, communications, customer services, register of electors, freedom of information, data protection and facilities management.

Members Services

The Members Services unit continued to ensure the efficient and effective running of meetings of council through 2020 and assisted the elected members in every way possible.

The review of standing orders for plenary council meetings initiated by the protocol and procedures committee was approved by full council in June 2020.

An alternative meeting venue for the plenary council and different methods for holding meetings had to be addressed in response to changes in legislation and the Covid 19 public health guidance. During 2020 meetings of full council were held in a socially distanced space in Newbridge Town Hall with press and public in attendance. Municipal District meetings were held in a socially distanced space in the council chamber, Aras Chill Dara.

Revised standing orders were adopted by full council in November 2020 to facilitate remote statutory meetings of the council and municipal district committees.

These revisions took into account the guidelines from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for standing orders regulating the proceedings of meetings of the council in relation to remote attendance. The guidance follows on from the Civil Law and Criminal Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2020 (Section 29) (Local Authorities) (Designation) Order 2020 (S.I. No. 445 of 2020).

The first ever remote meeting of Kildare County Council took place on 21 December 2020, chaired by the Cathaoirleach, Councillor Mark Stafford. Measures were put in place to allow members of the public and the press to

attend remote meetings. It was agreed at this meeting that all statutory meetings of the council and its committees would be held remotely while restrictions were in place.



Cllr. M. Stafford, Cathaoirleach Kildare County Council 21.12.2020

Number of Meetings 2020

Meetings 2020	No. of Meetings
Full Council	15
Municipal Districts	51
Corporate Policy Group	10
Strategic Policy Committee	20
Audit Committee	3
Other Committees	20
Total No. of meetings	119*

***Note:** Due to Covid 19 restrictions in place from March to May 2020, a reduced number of statutory meetings were held during this period.

The external pillar nominees to the council's six strategic policy committees were approved at the January 2020 meeting of full council. A total of 20 SPC meetings took place in 2020 with the option for remote attendance facilitated also. The protocol and procedures committee commenced a review of standing orders for SPCs in July 2020.

Customer Relationship Management(CRM) System

Throughout 2020 elected representative and customer interactions were logged onto the CRM system, which provides insights into customer priority service areas. In 2020, a total

of 19,887 cases were created on CRM, an increase of 20% on 2019. 91% of cases were resolved. Elected members and TD reps represent about 26% of all CRM cases recorded in the last 12 months.

The top 5 services on CRM for 2020 were as follows:

Section	Total
Housing	6118
Transport	3133
Planning	2737
Environment	2290
Corporate Services	2242

The process of procuring and designing a new CRM system, along with online contact portals for customers and councillors began in 2020.

Appointments System

An online appointments system went live in June 2020 to facilitate access to council services. This was supported by an awareness campaign including radio adverts during June and July. Over 28,000 appointments were facilitated by year end.

Customers can book appointments online for public counters and libraries and on confirming booking they receive:

- Booking text/email confirmations with links to privacy statement and local COVID-19 guidelines
- Facility to cancel or reschedule appointments
- Directions to attend the specific location of their appointment (to avoid queuing)
- A reminder text/email the day before their appointment

A facility to make bookings by phone was established through the council's customer care centre.



Online Booking System

Athy Customer Service Point

Based at its offices in Rathstewart, Monasterevin Road the Athy Customer Service Point continued to provide key services locally in 2020:

- 1,605 non-principal private residence (NPPR) customer cases processed
- Almost 8,300 customer interactions by phone and in person



Customer service

Fix Your Street

In 2020, the council responded to 918 cases. All fix your street issues are processed through the CRM system and are responded to within 10 working days.

Protected Disclosures

No disclosures were received by the designated officer for protected disclosures during 2020.

Legal Services

In 2020, approximately 873 cases were created and referred to solicitors.

Press/Media 2020

In 2020, 239 press queries were received and processed with more than 130 press releases issued relating to a wide range of council initiatives.

Social Media

Kildare County Council operates three primary social media pages:

Facebook 15,081 which is an increase of 16% on 2019

Twitter 8,520 which is an increase of 10% on 2019

Instagram 1,579 which is an increase of 56% on 2019

Register of Electors

The number of people on the 2020/2021 Register of Electors, which came into force on 15 February 2020, was 151,751.

General Election 2020

The 8th February General Election was based upon the live register 2019-2020 and approximately 4,000 supplementary voters were added up to the deadline of 22 January 2020. Opening hours were extended and applications accepted in Naas, Athy and Leixlip to facilitate those wishing to register.

In addition, the council implemented a communications plan in the period from the calling of the election up to and including polling day, activities included:

- Press releases and adverts in local media comprising information on extended opening hours and how to register
- Closing dates for registration
- Polling card use and delivery dates
- Election information posters
- Changes of address and voting locations
- Disabled voter applications
- How to vote on election day
- Extensive social media campaign

Over 700 email enquiries from customers regarding the election were resolved and several thousand phone calls processed.

On polling day council staff worked with the returning officer to assist at the busiest polling stations across the county and the register of electors team operated a helpline from 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. on polling day to assist polling staff and members of the public with enquiries.

Customer Complaints received in 2020

18 – Formal complaints

11 – Informal complaints

1 – Appeal

Bye Laws

On 30 November 2020 Kildare County Council adopted county-wide bye laws to control the consumption and possession of alcohol in all public places. The bye laws are enforced by An Garda Síochána and came into effect on 30 December 2020.

A review of Casual Trading Bye Laws also commenced in 2020 and is scheduled to progress in three municipal districts during 2021.

Corporate Publications

Annual Report 2019
Annual Service Delivery Plan 2020
Corporate Plan Progress Report 2019
Annual Service Delivery Plan Progress Report 2019
Corporate Plan 2019-2024

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee is a statutory committee of the council appointed under Section 59 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014. The committee's role is to provide an independent view of

- the budgetary and financial reporting processes;
- the internal controls and the internal audit function;
- efficiency and value for money; and
- the management of risks

During 2020, the Audit Committee met 4 times. In 2020, the committee was briefed and updated on the following areas which were identified as areas of priority:

- Departmental Risk Registers
- Covid-19 risk assessment

- Annual Financial Statement 2019
- Public Spending Code Audit Report 2019 – revenue and capital projects
- National service indicators – NOAC Performance Indicator Report 2019
- Local Government auditor’s report on the 2019 Annual Financial Statement.

Freedom of information

Requests were processed as follows:

- 152 requests in 2020
- 50 requests granted
- 36 part granted
- 52 refusals
- 14 withdrawn

Requests were received from the following sources:

Journalists	25
Business	20
Oireachtas	6
Staff	9
Clients	89
Others	3

Data Protection

A dedicated online area exists for customers regarding data privacy rights, forms and processes.

The council’s Data Protection Officer (DPO) continued to provide GDPR awareness to staff and to advise staff and management on compliance measures as required.

Policy and procedure documents are reviewed and published on a central intranet location to ensure a consistent level of compliance across the council.

The council’s DPO oversees the management of access requests from subjects, and CCTV requests from An Garda Síochána, with 183

data access requests (including CCTV requests) received in 2020.

Ombudsman

17 cases were received from the Ombudsman office, 9 were closed.

Facilities

The facilities management section is responsible for the operation and maintenance of our offices at Áras Chill Dara, together with other buildings in the ownership of the council. In recent years the facilities section has been modernised to encompass disciplines in business strategy and the building sciences, contributing greater value to the organisation.

The key focus for 2020 was in re-organising the workplace to mitigate the effects of Covid-19 including:

- Changes to internal office layouts and protective screens, designed in-house, installed on all desks, to ensure social distancing
- Bespoke screens for all public counters
- Signage procured and installed
- PPE purchased and facilities acted as a supply hub for all local authorities with regard to PPE
- New cleaning regimes implemented
- Hand sanitizing stations installed throughout council buildings
- Existing catering contract renegotiated

Work by the facilities management section includes operation maintenance and upgrading as follows:

- EV Chargers installed at Áras Chill Dara in 2020 and are operational
- Project to upgrade community buildings is ongoing
- Work programme to upgrade library facilities continues
- Improvements to energy management is an ongoing project.

Facilities also provide support to the Major Emergency Management Committee, Severe Weather Assessment Team, Procurement and Health and Safety committees in addition to sitting on the OGP and LGMA national committee for facilities management.



Ofigeach Gaeilge

During 2020, the Irish Language Officer and staff in Corporate Services continued to oversee the implementation of the Irish Language Scheme throughout the organization, which included:

- Advice and assistance in complying with the obligations imposed by the Official Languages Act 2003, associated legislation and Kildare County Council' Irish Language Scheme
- Provision of translations for signage and public notices
- Sourcing or providing translations for application forms
- Providing assistance in relation to correspondence with members of the public who wished to transact business with Kildare County Council through Irish
- Corresponding on behalf of Kildare County Council with An Coimisinéir Teanga, government departments and other organisations and individuals as required.

The Irish language section on our website has been maintained and includes the following information:

- Councillor details
- Contact details

- Customer care
- Freedom of Information
- Kildare County Council's Irish Language Scheme
- Online comment card
- A selection of application forms for various services provided by Kildare County Council.

Coiste Gaeilge

Kildare County Council's Irish Language Committee met on three occasions in 2020. In October 2020, the Coiste Gaeilge discussed the draft Irish Language Scheme 2021- 2024 presented by Corporate Services and made a group submission to the draft Irish Scheme consultation process.

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, Gaeltacht courses in 2020 were cancelled so it was not possible to offer the Gaeltacht scholarships from Gael Linn which had been offered in the past.

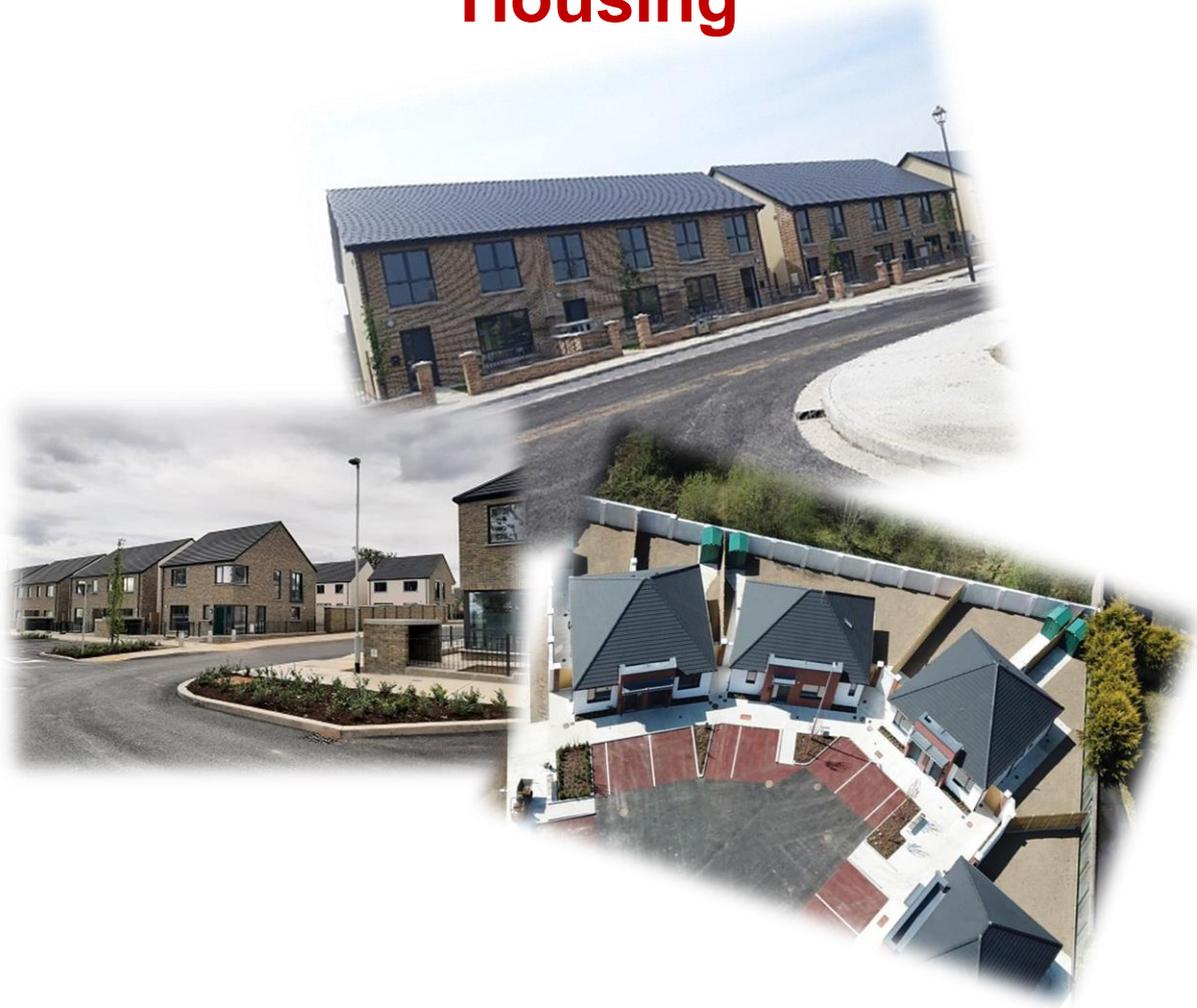
Irish Language Scheme 2021-2024

In 2020, Kildare County Council commenced a review and public consultation process regarding the development of an Irish Language Scheme for the period 2021-2024.

The consultation and review process incorporated the following:

- Bilingual advertisements in local press
- Social media campaign in English and Irish including through Public Participation Network (PPN)
- Advertisement on www.tuairisc.ie
- Local radio interview
- Bi-lingual press release to local and national media and public representatives.
- Online survey with staff
- Publication on Kildare.ie
- Reporting to the Local Culture and Community SPC
- Engagement with Municipal Districts
- Inclusion in November CE report.

Housing



Housing Department

The Housing Department aims to provide social housing support to persons who are unable to meet their housing need through their own resources. In 2020, there was a significant demand for social housing supports, and other related supports such as housing loans and grants.

Rebuilding Ireland: Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness

Funding for the delivery of the Rebuilding Ireland programme comes from both the capital and current expenditure programmes, with units being delivered through the Construction and Acquisition Programme (including approved housing bodies), Part V, Housing Assistance Payment (HAP), Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) and Leasing. While no 2020 targets were received due to Covid-19 related

challenges and the temporary closure of construction sites, progress on the overall 3-year Rebuilding Ireland targets for Kildare of 2,426 units is set out below.

The delivery figures below include both capital and current expenditure programmes (including units delivered with Capital Advance Leasing Facility, CALF, provided to approved housing bodies by local authorities to facilitate the funding of construction, acquisition or refurbishment of new social housing units).

Despite the challenge of construction site closures over the year, Kildare County Council made good progress with its build, acquisition and leasing programmes and with HAP/RAS.

	Build	Acquisition	Leasing	HAP & RAS	Total
Delivered	379	97	64	682	1,222

Capital Programme

A significant programme of work to deliver housing units progressed in 2020 at a number of locations throughout the county. This programme included new builds, refurbishments, infill schemes, work with AHBs and public private partnerships.

Location	No. of Units	Status December 2020
Athgarvan Road Newbridge	13 units	Works completed and units allocated
St. Patrick's Park Rathangan Remedial Works (Phase 1)	Refurbishment of 34 units (23 social and 11 private)	Lot 1 (6 units) completed Lots 2 - 5 (28 units) completed
Beechgrove, Rathangan	18 units	Completed April 2020
Anne Street Prosperous	12 units	Completed June 2020
Tankardsgarden, Newbridge	1 unit plus caretaker bay	One family was accommodated on this site following minor works

Athgarvan Village	18 units	Contract re-tendered in late 2020 due to Covid 19 and planned commencement in Q2 2021
St. Patrick's Park Rathangan Remedial Works (Phases 2 and 3)	Demolition of 15 units, refurbishment of 25 units (7 occupied and 18 vacant), construction of 7 new units	Revised Stage 2 option agreed in principal at Q4, 2019 meeting with the DHPLG. Presentation to Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District Committee held in early 2020. Workshop meetings held with residents of St. Patrick's Park over 2 days in Rathangan Library. Comments from meetings assessed, discussed with Housing and amendments agreed.
Rathasker Road Naas	70-100 units (subject to final agreement with AHB and Planning Department)	A joint proposal incorporating the adjacent site under the control of AHB is incorporated to maximise the potential of both sites, offset remediation costs, and to provide a greater range of unit types included older person specific accommodation. Draft proposals received from Cluid and feedback given by internal section of Kildare County Council. Cluid progressing to conduct site investigation works and procure a design team.
Coill Dubh	10 units	Civil/structural consultant and building services consultant appointed and scheme being developed to Stage 3 (approval to issue main contract tender).
Old Greenfield Maynooth	Rapid build 65 units	Positive engagement with DHLGH in Q2 2020 leading to agreement in principle for 65 units to be developed to stage 2. Revised design team tender conducted.
Ardclough Road Celbridge	39 units	A Serviced Site Funding (SSF) application has been approved to provide roads infrastructure for this site. Positive engagement with DHLGH in Q2/Q3 2020 leading to agreement in principle for 39 units to be developed to stage 2. This includes an allowance for 10 affordable units. Procurement of the design team was initiated.
Carbury	4 units	Engagement and agreement on the proposed development progressed in 2020, facilitating the preparation of a stage 1 application to DHPLG.
Former Ambassador Hotel Site, Kill	33 units	Higher density was agreed with the Planning Department in December 2019. Positive engagement with DHLGH in Q2 2020 leading to agreement in principle for 39 units to be developed to stage 2. Procurement of the design team initiated
Oldtown Mill Celbridge	57 units	Draft stage 1 proposal agreed with Planning Department in December 2019. Positive engagement with DHLGH in Q2 2020 leading to agreement in principle for 57 units to be developed to stage 2. Stage 2 approval received in November 2020.
Old Caragh Road, Naas	73 units	Positive engagement with DHLGH in Q2/Q3 2020 leading to agreement in principle for 73 units to be developed to stage 1. This includes an allowance for 15 affordable units.

Infill Housing Schemes	No. Of Units	Status December 2020
Newtown House, Leixlip	4 units	Stage 1 approval received. Engagement undertaken with internal section in Kildare County Council in preparation for stage 2 approval and Part 8.
Narraghmore	4 units	Stage 1 approval received. Engagement undertaken with internal section in Kildare County Council in preparation for stage 2 approval and Part 8.
Glandore, Athy	4 units	Stage 1 approval received. Engagement undertaken with internal section in Kildare County Council in preparation for stage 2 approval and Part 8.



Anne Street, Prosperous



Beechgrove, Rathangan

Approved Housing Body (AHB) Schemes	No. Of Units	Status December 2020
Flinter's Field	35 units	Respond Scheme. Contract awarded in December 2020 and commencement notice lodged but contractor unable to commence on site due to Covid 19 Restrictions. Scheme now commenced.
Castlefen, Sallins	28 units	Tuath scheme. Works commenced in March 2020 but Covid 19 restrictions and construction lockdown have impeded progress.
Dominican Lands Athy	29 units	Cluid scheme. Initial proposal submitted to Kildare County Council and site investigation works commenced.
ESB Site Leixlip	24 units	Cluid scheme. Initial proposal submitted to Kildare County Council

Approved Housing Body Schemes - Capital Assistance

Approved Housing Body	No. of Units	Status December 2020
KARE, Naas	3 units	Engagement with the AHB progressed and finalised, facilitating preparation for commencement of the required Part 8 process.
Camphill Communities of Ireland (CCI)	4 units at The Bridge, Kilcullen	Planning application approved in August 2019. Further progress on this scheme under consideration by CCI
Homeless Care CLG	12 Apartments at Jigginstown House, Naas	The construction of this development progressed well in 2020 and anticipated completion on target for Q1 of 2021.

PPP Schemes	No. of units	Status December 2020
Craddockstown Road, Naas (Bundle 1)	74	Scheme completed in 2020
Nancy's Lane, Clane (Bundle 2)	77	Commenced on site November 2019. Works ongoing and due to complete in phases up to end of July 2021.
Ardrew, Athy (Bundle 3)	74	Included in PPP Bundle 3 (2020). Design brief finalised, design team appointed and initial design proposals prepared.



Minister for Housing, Darragh O'Brien, TD, visited the Eustace Demense PPP housing development in Naas on Friday November 27th, 2020. The 74 units have been delivered the scheme is now fully occupied with one unit undergoing modification works.

L to R: Mr. Peter Carey, Chief Executive, Councillor Mark Stafford, Cathaoirleach of Kildare County Council, Minister for Housing Mr. Darragh O'Brien, TD, Councillor Fintan Brett, Cathaoirleach of Naas Municipal District, and Ms. Annette Aspell, Director of Housing and Corporate Service

Approved Housing Body Delivery

Availing of Capital Advance and Leasing Facility funding, approved housing bodies delivered 169 units in 2020.

Leasing

The council delivered 64 leased units in 2020, this includes approved housing body and home for life mortgage to rent cases.

Social Housing Applications

2020	Existing housing file updates	Transfer requests	New valid applications	Mortgage to rent applications	Refusals
Total	237	75	705	8	171

Housing Allocations

Choice Based Letting was introduced in December 2018 and was implemented successfully in 2020 with the allocation of 73 properties in the five municipal districts. This represents a 33% increase in properties allocated using CBL compared to 2019.

Housing Needs Assessment 2020

The Social Housing Needs Assessment (HNA) was carried out to count the number of households qualified for social housing support. The assessment was recently published by the Housing Agency on housingagency.ie

In Kildare a total of 3,104 households were assessed as qualified for housing support in 2020, a decrease of 282 (8%) compared to 2019.

Housing Needs Assessments	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Qualified Households	5,572	5,103	3,962	3,386	3,104

Housing Assistance Payment

Kildare County Council has continued the successful delivery of the Housing Assistance Payment (HAP). HAP is a replacement for the Rent Supplement Scheme. At the end of 2020, a total of 2,398 households in the county were in receipt of HAP support, an increase of 682 since 2019. The following is the breakdown of HAP applications in 2020:

2020	Applications received	Applications rejected	Applications approved
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Total	586	134	682
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Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)

The total number of RAS properties at year end was 357.

Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan

December 2020	Approval No.	Approval Amount	Approval Drawdown No.	Expired No.	Expired Amount
2020	49	€10,340,718	5	2	€533,000

Total Approved in 2020

€10,340,718

Total Drawn down to 30/04/21 from 2020 approvals:

€1,588,968

Total Expired to 30/04/21 from 2020 approvals:

€533,000

Total committed to 30/04/21 in 2020 loan offers:

€8,218,750

Housing Grants

Housing Adaptation Grants, Housing Aid for Older People Grants and Mobility Aid Grants contribute to meeting housing needs by adapting existing homes to meet the need of the occupant. The following is a breakdown of housing grant applications received and approved in 2020:

	Adaptation Applications Received	Adaptation Grants Approved	Mobility Aids Applications Received	Mobility Aids Grants Approved	Housing Aid for Older Persons Applications Received	Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Approved
Total	410	320	0	0	254	209

Rents

In 2020 the following number of rent reviews were calculated in accordance with the council's Differential Rent Scheme.

2020	LA Rents	LA HAP	LA HAP Review
Total	1078	607	562

Tenant Purchase Scheme

A breakdown of Tenant Purchase Scheme is set out below:

December 2020	Applications Received	Ineligible	Approvals Issued
Total	35	7	16

Traveller Accommodation

In September 2019 Kildare County Council formally adopted the 2019 – 2024 Traveller Accommodation Programme which sets out to accommodate 73 traveller families through both standard and traveller specific accommodation. Preparation of the programme included a review of the previous programme, a needs analysis and a comprehensive consultation strategy. Each of these processes combined to establish the targets contained within the new programme.

The Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee (LTACC) met four times in 2020. The main areas of work included capital delivery of traveller specific housing and the management and maintenance of traveller halting sites. The LTACC also considers the quarterly reports on accommodation targets and social work updates in relation to numbers of families on the roadside, in homelessness and in accommodation

In 2020, 20 Traveller families were accommodated, again exceeding the annual target. The mobile home replacement programme resulted in four families being

supported to upgrade their mobiles on site, while improvement works on halting sites included general management and maintenance works, improvement works to public areas and enhancement of bays where required. The social work team continued to support traveller families living on sites, roadsides and within housing estates.

Kildare County Council implemented a number of measures on halting sites and to support the traveller community during the Covid19 pandemic. Housing staff have engaged with the HSE's public health team for advice and assistance as Covid related issues arose.

Collaboration with Kildare Traveller Action (KTA) is an important part of services to the traveller community and KTA continued to support traveller representatives on the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee as well as working collaboratively with Kildare County Council on housing workshops and the development of the Kildare Interagency Traveller Strategy

Housing Maintenance

Kildare County Council's Housing Maintenance department is responsible for the maintenance of a housing stock of 4,816 units with a total budget allocation in excess of €7.6 million.

2020	Vacant House Turnarounds	New House Purchase Upgrades	Response Maintenance Requests Logged	Response Maintenance Requests Completed	No. of Self Help Grants Offered
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Total	96	108	6,942	6,769	80
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Planned Maintenance

A programme of planned maintenance was carried out in 2020. Under the void programme, 9 properties requiring significant repair were returned to stock. The self-help grant provided for the replacement of windows and doors, the installation of stoves and the upgrade of kitchens.

Homeless Services

Kildare County Council is the lead authority for the Mid-East Region for homeless services, comprising Kildare, Meath and Wicklow, and reports to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government on homeless presentations and numbers of individuals and families in emergency/transition accommodation across the region. As the lead authority, Kildare is responsible for the regional budget allocation from the Department. In 2020, regional expenditure on homeless services was €9.7m of which €4.7m was spent in Kildare.

Homeless Presentations

2020	Total Cases	Unique	Repeats
Total	1,198	355	843

At local level, there were 1,198 cases (individuals and family units) presenting as homeless in 2020. The primary reasons for homeless presentations related to family circumstances, impact of Covid-19, prison and hospital releases and unaffordable rents.

Unique presentations breakdown was as follows:

2020	Adults	Dependents
Total	400	329

Families in PEA including Supported Temporary Accommodations and Family Hubs as of 31 December 2020

Duration	No. of Households with Dependents	Adults	Dependents
0 - 6 Months	24	35	41
6 - 12 Months	7	8	9
12 - 18 Months	12	18	18
18 - 24 Months	8	14	20
24 - 30 Months	5	9	11
Total	56	84	99

Accommodation Service in Kildare

Kildare County Council operate family hubs in Athy and Prosperous in conjunction with The Peter McVerry Trust, providing supported temporary accommodation (STA) for 11 families. In conjunction with The Peter McVerry Trust, Michael Garry House (STA) was in operation in Newbridge. In conjunction with Dublin City Council and The Peter McVerry Trust, Kildare County Council provided 25 beds for single males. This facility also provided 24 cold weather beds in 2020. The cold weather initiative operated in conjunction with The Peter McVerry Trust in order to prevent rough sleeping throughout the winter period.

An out of hours service was provided throughout 2020 with 3,044 calls recorded and 3,235 placements provided over the 12-month period. The service is available as follows:

Monday – Friday: 5pm-9pm
Saturday – Sunday: Noon-5pm
Contact Number: 1 800 804 307

Threshold Tenancy Protection Service (TPS) continues to be available in Kildare.

In addition, 7 isolation units were available throughout 2020 for use in the event of a requirement for individuals or families in emergency accommodation to self-isolate due to Covid-19. These units were provided by Kildare County Council from the main housing stock and will continue to be available for the foreseeable future.

Housing First

The Housing First National Implementation Plan 2018-2021 was published in September 2018 as a means to address homelessness, in particular focusing on persistent rough sleepers and long-term homeless households. The commitment to deliver Housing First is a key action of the Mid East Region Homelessness Action Plan 2018-2020. Kildare County Council, as the lead authority for the Mid-East Region Homelessness Forum, with the local authorities of Meath and Wicklow, and in partnership with the Health Service Executive, has established a regional Housing First service. The service is co-

funded by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government and the Department of Health. The Mid-East Homeless Forum is advised by a multi-agency group including non-governmental organisations in the sector and other relevant statutory agencies.

Following a tender process in 2019, The Peter McVerry Trust awarded the tender to deliver Housing First across the Mid-East Region. The Housing First model is a participant-centered approach that focuses on ending homelessness for people with high and complex needs who have been rough sleeping or using emergency homeless accommodation for long periods of time. This is achieved by providing the individual with direct access to secure, independent housing without preconditions and this is accompanied by intensive wraparound housing and health supports.

The coordinated service is now available in Kildare, Meath and Wicklow with the purpose of providing tenancies in self-contained independent housing units, with the combined services of the Health Service Executive's primary care, mental health and substance misuse teams, working in collaboration with TUSLA, the Gardaí and other voluntary agencies, managed by The Peter McVerry Trust.

There were 6 Housing First placements in Co. Kildare in 2020 and further placements planned for 2021.



March 2020 – signing of the Housing First contract for Mid-East Region

Private Rented Inspections

A total of 972 private rented inspections were carried out in 2020, in-line with the Covid 19 restrictions that were in place.

Community & Culture



Community

Community services develop and lead initiatives aimed at providing civic leadership and opportunities for community engagement. 2020 was challenging for all communities due to the impact of Covid 19 and many initiatives were adapted or curtailed.

Community Grants

<i>All Grants Awarded 2020</i>		
Type	No.	Amount
<i>Community Grants</i>	179	€281,233
<i>Festival Grants</i>	49	€28,225
<i>Local Property Tax</i>	235	€923,257
<i>Private Estates Residents Associations</i>	264	€213,842
<i>Local Authority Residents Associations</i>	78	€63,956
<i>Drehid Grants</i>	31	€217,581
<i>Community Enhancement Programme</i>	32	€287,800
<i>Community Mental Health Fund</i>	9	€35,800
<i>Education Bursaries</i>	37	€21,750
<i>Covid 19 Emergency Fund</i>	67	€94,390
Total	981	€2,167,834

Covid 19 Community Response Forum

The Kildare Covid 19 Community Response Forum includes over a dozen agencies and organisations with the purpose of leading the co-ordination of Covid 19 community supports and resilience throughout the pandemic. 18 meetings of the forum were held in 2020.

Community Call Helpline

A dedicated Covid 19 Community Call Helpline was established by Kildare County Council to assist older and vulnerable people to receive support during national restrictions on movement. The helpline dealt with requests such as transport, shopping and collection of prescriptions. The helpline dealt with 1,494 requests in 2020.



Housebound service delivery during Covid 19 restrictions



Community Call Helpline

Keep Well Campaign

The Keep Well campaign was set up to support people and communities in being resilient through minding their physical and mental health and wellbeing throughout the pandemic.

Significant progress to implement Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) – a snapshot of 2020:

Increased Services

A Youth Mental Health proposal was adopted by the LCDC with recommendations for a range of supports targeting young people. This proposal was developed with Kildare Children and Young Peoples Services Committee

Covid 19 Response

Kildare LCDC members formed the basis of the Community Response Forum, developed to respond to issues experienced in Kildare due to the Covid 19 pandemic. The LCDC informed and supported the establishment of the Community Response Helpline.

Healthy Ireland

Healthy Ireland in Kildare was launched as part of the Kildare Sports Partnership “Back to Basics” seminar and focused on the barriers and challenges of engaging teenage girls in sport.

The LCDC approved €35,800 under the Community Mental Health Grant Scheme which prioritised applications for low/no cost counselling particularly from the North and North West of the county. There were nine successful applications each receiving funding of between €3,000 - €5,000.

Community Enhancement Programme (CEP)

The LCDC approved 32 applications for the CEP 2020. 63 applications worth €824,626.88 were received.

Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP)

The social inclusion programme SICAP worked with 67 community groups and 706 individuals in 2020. This exceeded the national targets set. The SICAP budget for 2020 was €1,092,867.

Heads-up

Demand for the programme remains very high and remote engagement continued during Covid 19 restrictions. Increasing referral levels were experienced in 2020.

LEADER

32 projects approved at the LCDC/Local Action Group (LAC) worth €1,628,095.

Parks & Playgrounds

A programme of works to improve and add to the existing parks and open spaces continued in 2020. The impact of Covid-19 saw a marked increase in the use of recreational amenities throughout the county. To assist with use of the parks designated hours for cocooners was implemented in parks during certain levels of Covid 19 restrictions. One-way walking systems were also implemented in some parks to assist with social distancing.



Castledermot Playground in Progress

Castledermot Playground It was planned that the playground would be completed by the end of the year. However, due to weather conditions this was not possible. It is now anticipated the works will be completed in January 2021

<i>Allenwood Playground</i>	Plans and particulars of the proposed development were advertised for public consultation
<i>Sallins Amenity Land</i>	Completion of a tender to appoint consultants to prepare a masterplan
<i>Medieval Garden, Kildare Town</i>	A detail design for the retaining wall as part of the plans for the medieval garden completed. Initial Archaeology work was completed on the site to facilitate construction of the retaining wall and proposed landscaping
<i>Bawnogues Athletics Track</i>	Preferred tender has been selected to carry out improvement works. Works commenced in November and should be complete by the end of 2021.
<i>The Lakes, Naas</i>	Work is ongoing on the installation of two accessible chess tables for The Lakes. Works include paving.
<i>Landscaping Caragh Court, Roundabout Naas</i>	Architect appointed to complete a design and prepare tender documents to tender for the implementation of the landscape plan



Spring Bulbs in Flower – Sallins Road Roundabout Naas

Play Day

Play day took place in July with the theme of ‘Playful communities, playful homes.’ 800 play packs were distributed in lieu of the major public event that usually takes place.

Anti-dumping Initiative

Applications to carry out clean ups at Woodstock Castle in Athy and Silleachain Lane in Leixlip both received funding of €15,000 to facilitate the clean-up of these locations.

Twinning

We held our twinning networking event at the start of the year and at it launched our new Kildare County Twinning website. Covid 19 restrictions severely restricted our ability to meet our twins but communications were kept open online. We also joined with the Taste of Kildare festival to help connect with our twins and sent them hampers of the finest Kildare produce (*see Tourism section for more details on Taste of Kildare Festival*).

Joint Policing Committee

County Kildare Joint Policing Committee (JPC) aims to develop greater consultation, co-operation and synergy on policing and crime issues between An Garda Síochána, Local Authorities, elected local representatives and relevant agencies. The committee facilitates the participation of the community/voluntary sectors in this regard through its membership profile. The JPC held three meetings during 2020. The meetings were restricted due to Public Health measures.

County Kildare Library Service

“A library is not a luxury but one of the necessities of life.” – Henry Ward Beecher

All public libraries closed on Friday 13 March as the first Covid- 19 restrictions were introduced. In response to the challenges and in order to keep vital library services operational, online library services remained open 24/7, including eBook, eMagazine, eComic, and eAudiobook lending, music streaming, online education courses and language learning, with an investment of €200,000 to support the provision of these

services. Library staff also worked on the Community Call helpline providing support to vulnerable people cocooning at home.

In response to Covid-19 restrictions throughout 2020 the Library Service:

- streamlined online membership processes
- introduced a housebound service for older/vulnerable patrons
- developed an online booking system and a new library app
- moved workshops, festivals and all events online
- introduced a new vimeo channel for library content
- developed a new library service blog
- continued to deliver an inclusive and accessible library service



Kildare Libraries contact and collect service during Covid 19 restrictions

Kildare County Library Services 2020

	2019	2020
Items borrowed	782,947	266,766
Footfall	725,883	225,918
Events	7,345	2,222
Public internet/wifi sessions	90,623	14,195
E-issues	77,060	265,874
Online universal class courses	22,686	76,908

Library Social Media 2020

Twitter followers	3,236
Facebook followers	58,097
Instagram followers	1,620
Total blog views	11,055

120 Years of Local Government Mobile Exhibition

This national exhibition curated by the Local Authority Archivist's Group and was displayed in Áras Chill Dara before travelling to Leixlip Library.

STEAM 2020 – Biodiversity Week

Almost 90 children attended Birdwatching talks online as part of STEAM 2020 programme for primary school children.

(Face) Book Club

The online Book Club via Facebook was set up in April 2020 after the libraries had closed to the public and regular book clubs could not meet. Every month the group chooses an eBook from the titles on Borrow Box and meet online. They have also participated in some special events throughout the year including linking in with Kildare Readers Festival. The book club now has 206 members and had 10 book club meetings in 2020.

Cruinniú na nÓg

Ireland's national day of free creativity for children and young people was celebrated in June. It was celebrated very differently due to Covid-19. All events were hosted virtually through the Kildare Arts YouTube channel. Kildare's overall virtual audience for Cruinniú na nÓg reached a staggering 4,063.

Below are just a few of the events showcased on the day:

- Athy Sing and Sign videos
- Online children's traditional song 'The Song of Brigid's Cloak' workshop presented by Aileen Lambert
- Anyone 4 Science how to make ice cream

- 'Hold your Horses' – environmentally themed visual arts workshop by Audrey Walsh

ISL Visual Art and Visual ISL Festival Athy

The festival was reimagined into a visual and virtual festival in 2020. A new mural, by acclaimed street artist Solus Art, Derek O'Sullivan was installed in Athy.

Kildare Readers Festival 2020

Kildare Readers Festival was streamed daily on Kildare library's Vimeo channel between 12 – 18 October. Events were free to attend and there were over 1,600 views of the 13 events over the course of the week. Participants included Dermot Bolger, Abie Philbin Bowman, Patrick Chapman, Edel Coffey, Marita Conlon-McKenna, Oein DeBharduin and many more.

Children's Book Festival (CBF) 2020

CBF was reimagined into an online festival for 2020 and run by libraries all over Ireland. The festival helps spread the enjoyment of books and reading. Kildare Library service hosted 36 live and interactive events online with 848 attendees. 24 events took place for schools and 12 for families to log on from home.

Summer Stars Reading Challenge

The programme of events and workshops for the national Summer Stars Reading Challenge was run entirely online in 2020, the Library services hosted a broad range of workshops including coding camps, creative writing, music exploration, podcasting camps, screenwriting and much more. In total there were 53 workshops and 194 participants. In addition, there were over 23,000 views of storytelling, arts and crafts and creative writing prompt videos created for Summer Stars by library staff on social media.

Age Friendly Digital Ambassadors Programme

Age Friendly Ireland in partnership with the LGMA Libraries Development Unit partnered to support older people to access online library resources. 14 staff from Kildare Libraries

begun training older people from all over Kildare online or by phone. Participants are delighted with the chance to gain training face to face and improve their I.T. skills. This training will be a lifeline for many older people to connect with others and improve digital literacy skills.

Kildare Library Service Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths (STEAM) Programme for Primary Schools

The STEAM programme offers fun and engaging workshops for primary school children through our network of library branches. In 2020 the workshops were adapted for online delivery. The workshops included the following:

- Rock Detective workshops with Dr Anthea Lacchia from the Irish Centre for Research in Applied Geosciences in University College Dublin exploring Ireland's rocks and the creatures that lived on our planet millions of years ago.
- Imagination Exploration workshops with Brilliant Events combining magic and imagination to encourage children to develop their critical thinking skills.
- Pedal Power Lab workshops with Paul Finch exploring energy creation and looking at the laws of physics and science.
- Bog workshops with the Irish Peatland Conservation Council.
- Maths Secrets workshops with the Adapt Centre in DCU all about solving puzzles and cracking codes.

STEAM 2020 was a huge success with 110 live events being held and a total of 2,831 attendees. Facilitators also created educational videos on the topics of gardening and biodiversity that were added to our social media channels (Facebook, Instagram and Vimeo) and had a total of 4,582 views.



My Place in Space – school workshop

Dormant Account Funding for programmes to work with socially excluded, disadvantaged and marginalised communities

Kildare Library Service successfully applied for funding for 5 separate projects under the scheme receiving €59,000. The projects involved inter-agency work between the library service, Kildare Children and Young People’s Services Committee (CYPSC), the Curragh Girl’s School, Newbridge Family Resource Centre, Kildare Arts Service and St John of Gods.

Irish Language Online Workshops for Primary Schools

A series of online workshops for the local schools were held in November in order to support both Irish language and other areas of the curriculum. Events included:

- A Star Wars themed workshop as *gaeilge* exploring the history of Sceilig Mhíchil and the men and women who lived there
- A workshop with Sadhbh Devlin author of Irish language picture book *Geansaí Ottó*
- A Drama workshop as *gaeilge* with Clíona de Brí

Schools

Newbridge library was delighted to support the Curragh Girl’s School in celebrating the students who had participated in a literacy camp. The library service organised the

storyteller Wayne O’Connor to deliver an interactive story time to students.

Heritage Week 15 – 23 August “Heritage and Education – Learning from our Heritage”

The Local Studies department compiled an online exhibition highlighting the proud heritage of education in Kildare. Libraries provided grab and go bags for children with heritage-themed books and crafts.

Capital Projects

Castledermot Library Upgrade Works & Refurbishment

Members of the public were invited to the re-opening of Castledermot library on Saturday, 29 February. The opening of the redeveloped library coincided with National Public Library Day. The extensive upgrade works were part funded by Local Property Tax from the Athy Municipal District. The works included restoration of the beautiful stained glass, a full internal fit-out, energy efficient upgrade, internal and external decoration, new computers and laptops and a new book collection.



Castledermot Library Refurbishment

Naas Library & Cultural Centre

The development of a new Library and Cultural Centre in the historic Town Hall will be a sustainable driver of heritage, cultural and amenity pursuits in a welcoming and attractive space at the heart of the town. The project costs are €5.9m including the design, construction, fit-out and purchase of the library collections. 75% of the funding has been

granted under the URDF. The remaining funding will be provided by Kildare County Council as part of the Capital Development Plan 2019-2021. Construction began in December 2020 and the project has a timeline of 14 months.



Contract signing for Naas Library & Cultural Centre

Clane Library

Design for a new library and preparation for Part 8 Planning is now underway. The new Clane Library will be 500m² of open plan space, which will provide accessible diverse community services including meeting space, a digital hub and maker space, study space, collections and cultural community space.

Healthy Ireland

Kildare Keep Well 'Switching Off and Being Creative'

This programme and resources were developed to support local wellbeing and to assist Kildare's citizens to get through the Covid-19 crisis. Individuals and organisations were invited via a public call out to submit proposals to deliver online programmes with a public engagement element. Applications were invited for bursary awards to deliver projects. Successful projects included:

- A live broadcast of Monasterevin Gospel Choir
- Bespoke choral performances to nursing homes
- Online drawing and sewing workshops
- Online monthly gardening, nature and climate workshops and tutorials
- 'Storywalks', an audio drama series

Kildare Arts & Culture

Kildare Arts Act Grants 2020

Over 86 arts grants and bursary awards were made in 2020, representing a significant investment in local artists and arts organisations severely impacted by Covid 19.

Support for Arts Resource Organisations

Arts Resource Organisations provide the backbone for arts development in the county and are supported by the Arts Service with grant aid and other resources. They include Play Acting Youth Theatre, Kildare Youth Theatre, Griese Youth Theatre, Leinster Printmaking Studio, Co Kildare Orchestra, Moat Theatre, Athy Community Arts Centre, Run of the Mill Inclusive Theatre.

Riverbank Arts Centre

In the first quarter of 2020, Riverbank Arts Centre presented 54 events & workshops, which were attended by 3172 people - highlights included The Lonsdale Project, a co-production of a new play about the Newbridge-born scientist, a visit/workshop by writer Roddy Doyle as part of Fighting Words Programme and Fold/Unfold an exhibition by Vanya Lambrecht Ward.

Riverbank Arts Centre focused on artist support and online activities which included:

- Presenting 60+ online events including live broadcasts, workshops, online exhibitions & theatre, music, literary and family events which reached approx. 15,000 people
- Creating an innovative, interactive Whiteboard Programme for schools which 2,200 Kildare primary school children took part in
- Supporting 21 artists as part of a residency programme, ranging from multi-annual residencies to short term development residencies.



The Lonsdale Project

Arts, Health & Wellbeing Choirs – Staying Connected

Past Times choir and Voices of Spring choirs for older people, including those living with dementia stayed connected with online sing along, led by choir director Sabhdh O’Sullivan and Sharon Murphy.

Short Grass Film Festival

An action-packed programme of 25 short films commissioned and funded by Kildare County Council took place in Riverbank Arts Centre, Newbridge in March 2020. The programme featured documentaries, experimental, drama, comedy and animation with 5 premiere screenings. Many of the films have received awards nationally and internationally.

Writer in Residence

The Writer in Residence programme is designed to support writers in the community, and to connect accomplished artists with students and the greater public.

The Writers in Residence for 2020/21 are Dr. Nathan O’Donnell and Susan Tomaselli, who will work with students in the university and the community, with innovative ideas on writing and publishing.

Culture Night

A unique Culture Night programme took place across Kildare in September with many local artists, venues and community groups taking part. From music gigs to visual art exhibitions,

craft workshops and theatre plays, over 40 free online and offline events took place, with 6,000 engagements. Highlights included

- Covid- 19 Hero Portrait Project – series of 10 portraits of local heroes who have played a significant role during covid
- The premiere online screening of ‘The Covid Diaries’ documentary film
- On Culture Night Athy Sing & Sign celebrated a new mural of a ballerina, with a hearing aid and the word ‘strong’ in ISL by Solus Art in Athy, with the screening of a short film where ISL Athy members signed the song ‘There’s Something Inside So Strong’ by Labi Siffre. Culture Night competitions named the ballerina ISLA and invited the public to Strike a Pose.



Strike a Pose – ISL Mural, Culture Night 2020



Lockdown Diaries – RTE News

Kildare Young Filmmakers Award

Continued success and national recognition for the work of Kildare Young Filmmakers. Witch Hunt won the ‘Best Group Film’ award at this year’s prestigious Fresh International Film Festival.

Kildare Music Generation

Kildare County Council, with our partners KWETB and the Department of Music, Maynooth University supported the development of Kildare Music Generation towards full roll out across the 5 Municipal Districts in the coming years, with the recruitment of a Music Development Officer and administrator. A panel of over 35 musician educators with expertise across music genres from rock, music production, brass and wind concert bands, classical, traditional music and choral work were recruited and trained to deliver the programme. An introductory music production course took place in December 2020. An extensive Music Instrument Bank was initiated with 1,300 items.

Christmas Recording, St Brigid’s National School Kildare Town

The Arts Service supported the production of a school Christmas CD and in so doing, raised the spirits of the 1,000 families who have children attending St Brigid’s Primary School, Kildare Town

Maynooth Film for All

Engaged audiences at home with monthly access cinema at home film screenings, with online conversations, in partnership with Departments of English and Media Studies, Maynooth University

International Women’s Day 2020 – Lunchtime talk with Sue Rainsford

Maynooth University and Kildare County Council Writer in Residence 2019/20, Sue Rainsford held a lunchtime talk for IWD 2020 discussing the exhibition, Glimpses of Escape: your monochrome, my technicolour, an exhibition of artworks from female artists in the Kildare Municipal Collection.

Decade of Commemorations Programme Highlights 2020

As a consequence of Covid- 19, the Decade of Commemorations Programme for 2020 was re-oriented to ensure all activities followed public health guidelines. Among the highlights during 2020:

- Brigid 1500 – Abrata Heritage awarded the tender to develop a heritage audit, cultural strategy and business plan to progress the commemoration of the death of St Brigid
- Irish Military Seminar 2020 – online interviews included Liz Gillis on Irish Revolutionary Women, James Durney on the Curragh Internment Camps, Michael Murphy on Terror in Kildare
- Covid Notebook project – a major legacy project to document the social stories of Kildare people through Covid-19. RTE supporting the Arts and Creative Ireland commissioned an edited version of the Kildare Covid-19 diaries documentary film for screening across RTE Digital channels in November
- Chambers Ireland Local Government Award – Kildare Decade of Commemoration nominated in 2020 for its work on the 1919 All-Ireland Football Final
- Digitisation of Kildare County Council Minute Books (1899-1924) – the early volume of Kildare County Council for throughout the decade of commemorations period were digitised to facilitate access and ensure long-term preservation.

- Centenary of Bloody Sunday – Marked the centenary with a particular focus on incident, the Kill Ambush and subsequent reprisals in Naas by Crown Forces



Tourism

The Covid 19 pandemic had a significant impact on Kildare's tourism market in 2020. The ban on international travel and fluctuation of local restrictions impacted on domestic tourism and provided a significant challenge.

Kildare Destination Recovery Task Force was established and held weekly meetings to update and communicate with businesses during Covid 19. Kildare Fáilte worked closely with other local and national tourism bodies to support all aspects of Kildare's tourism offering.

Following a meeting with Minister Catherine Martin, a further €177m was secured through Fáilte Ireland to promote Kildare.

Campaigns

PR & media activations secured pieces in national radio, press and TV

- St Brigid's Day & Féile Bríd – promotion on the Late Late Show
- Make a Break for Kildare – Fáilte Ireland Campaign
- Autumn Campaign: Let's Walk Kildare, Feast on the Tastes of Kildare, Visit our Towns & Villages
- Be a Tourist in your own County

- We Care in Kildare – reassuring visitors that Kildare is a safe place to visit



Taste of Kildare

- Hampers launched to support the tourism and hospitality businesses with a selection of products produced in Kildare, and businesses encouraged to create their own hampers
- Film shoots – Taste of Kildare @ Christmas. Virtual event with host Rachel Allen featuring cooking demonstrations etc.
- Twinning groups in Kildare shared messages to their counterparts overseas instilling a great sense of community spirit

Workshops & Seminars

- Destination Newbridge – stakeholder consultation workshop
- Cluster meeting for tourism and hospitality providers
- Canal Greenway, Barrow Blueway & Grand Canal Greenway
- Destination Town Workshop – Fáilte Ireland
- Sport of Kings Workshop
- Sustainability in a post-Covid 19 world: Building the Business Case of the Tourism Industry
- Maximizing your Destination Town Project
- Networking events for the tourism & hospitality industry with guest speakers including David McWilliams (Chief Economist) & Eoghan Corry (travel trade expert)

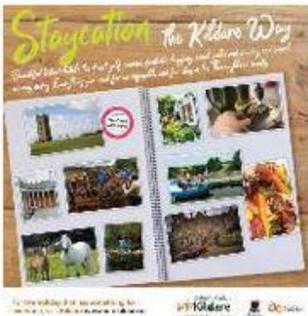
Tourism / County Promotion

St Brigid's Day

Featured on the Late Late Show, Media Value €30k



Tattersalls Gold Cup at the Curragh Racecourse



Taste of Kildare at Christmas

Virtual Event



Enterprise & Economic Development



Enterprise & Economic Development



The Business Support Unit of Kildare County Council incorporates the Local Enterprise Office and the Economic Development Team.

The unit serves as a 'first-stop shop' to provide support and services to start, grow and develop micro and small

businesses in each Kildare.

One of Kildare County Council's Strategic Objectives is to optimize the potential of Kildare and its businesses to innovate, invest, promote and sustain growth and employment across our county and throughout our community. The Business Support Unit works to facilitate growth and economic activity and provide a high quality of life for our citizens.

Capital Projects – MERITS

The completion of the MERITS building will realise a vision to serve the emerging technology sector by connecting organisations and people and acting as a centre of excellence in supporting innovative companies across the county and wider region.

Status of building

A revised construction programme has been developed with the key stakeholders. Once the site can reopen after COVID restrictions the main contractor (Duggan Lynch) has a further 2 months on site to complete their scope of works.

Status of recruitment

Despite construction delays, the Kildare County Council Economic Development department decided to proceed with running MERITS first programmes on a virtual basis. The following programmes were delivered:

Global Ambition Programme – tech accelerator programme

Tech Hatch – Pre-accelerator programme

Online webinars –

Climate Action (October 2021),

Future of the workplace (December 2021).

Both included attendance of 90+ each.

Other relevant developments in 2020

- Construction commenced (due to be completed 2021)
- General Manager recruited
- Programme Manager recruited
- Branding established and marketing campaign launched
- Client recruitment commenced
- Accelerator Programme and events launched



MERITS building under construction during 2020

Shop County Kildare

Over 300+ Kildare Businesses signed up to the new online ecommerce platform providing Kildare businesses with the opportunity to make the move to online sales in a free of charge quick and user-friendly model.

www.shopcountykildare.ie

EDEN Student Entrepreneurship Challenge with Maynooth University

EDEN Student Entrepreneurship Challenge in association with LEO and Maynooth University.

34 teams of 3rd level students competed in the innovation challenge in association with Maynooth university for a prize pot of €10,000



Local Enterprise Week

Thousands of attendees attended over 300 events across Kildare during the week, aimed at supporting small businesses and fostering entrepreneurship.

Supporting Women in Business (Network Ireland, Kildare Branch)

LEO sponsorship of Women's Network. Provided sponsored membership to clients, delivering Female Entrepreneurship Programmes to 36 businesses, featured at 2 events and hosted a pop-up at the Network Ireland meeting highlighting the range of supports available to the group of female entrepreneurs.

Export Programme with North Eastern University Boston

10 Kildare businesses embarked on a new 10-month pilot programme with the North Eastern University Boston, MA and Kildare County Council's LEO to enter the coveted North American market.

National Enterprise Awards

Leixlip Tech Company QPQ, who are supported by Kildare LEO were top winners at the National Enterprise Awards 2020. The

awards took place virtually and were broadcast online from the Mansion House in Dublin.



Student Enterprise Awards

21 secondary schools in Student Enterprise Program with 1,504 students participating.

Overall County Winner, 'The Learning Lads', Salesian College Celbridge (pictured).



Showcase Ireland 2020

Three LEO supported clients showcased their businesses at Ireland's biggest creative exhibition. Pebble & Twigs, Leixlip, Johnny Magory Books, Naas and Dink Studio, Kildare Town.

Covid 19 Pandemic 2020 – Supporting Kildare Businesses

The Covid 19 pandemic left many businesses in Kildare facing into an uncertain future. In 2020 many businesses faced critical challenges, including temporary ceasing of trading, cash flow and financial difficulties, critical staff continuity options and an uncertain future.

Kildare County Council worked with all sectors of the business community in response to the Covid 19 challenges, through the following phase



Phase 1: REACT

- First LEO in the country to provide 'Leading your business through COVID-19'
- 904 businesses availed of expert mentoring in financial management and marketing.
- Supporting mental health of the business community. 466 businesses attended weekly virtual coffee networking mornings gaining support and guidance through phases of crisis and gaining peer support.
- The Mindfulness Business Series Programme

Phase 2: RESILIENCE

- €1 million invested in COVID-19 Business Continuity Support, helping over 700 businesses in Kildare
- Over 570 businesses brought online with €1.32 million investment in eCommerce funding



Phase 3: REOPEN

- Sector specific COVID-19 programmes e.g. beauty and hairdressing, hospitality, retail, professional services

- 250 businesses attended COVID-19 supports webinar in August 2020 following local lockdown
- 3,425 businesses completed training programmes to combat COVID-19 business challenges

Bringing Back the High Street



Total Investment up to December 2020 of €233.3K includes:

- Developing and managing the shared ecommerce website 'Shop County Kildare'
- 300+ Kildare retailers registered on the Kildare County Council Shop County Kildare website
- 92 Kildare businesses received funding to improve shopfronts to the value of €133,107
- Bespoke Retail Mentorship programmes with expert retail consultants
- Marketing Campaign – Shop Local: aim of the campaign to champion small, local businesses, educate on importance of and encourage local community to shop local.
- An additional €1.32 million investment in eCommerce funding

Kildare LEO Supporting Businesses in 2020

Kildare LEO Supporting Businesses in 2020

€847.8k investment in start-up expansion grants

3,784 businesses availed of online training

€1.75m investment in Covid 19 business continuity support

€6.8k invested in Micro Enterprise Assistance Funding

46 businesses received LEO direct grant funding of €1.2m to start and grow their business

285 new jobs created by client companies

724 established companies in the last year

241 embarked on first Start your own business journey

Equine Industry

Development of an equine strategy and signed lease with National Stud. Secured €87,000 funding for the development of an Equine Innovation Hub.

Food Industry

Secured €480,000 funding under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund to advance Food Innovation Hub. 28 Kildare food businesses availed of 'Opportunities for Food Producers during Covid 19' support. Delivery of Athy Food, Drink and Skills Innovation Hub progressing, design team appointed. Funding application under the RRDF submitted for construction works.

CALLING ALL FOOD ENTREPRENEURS

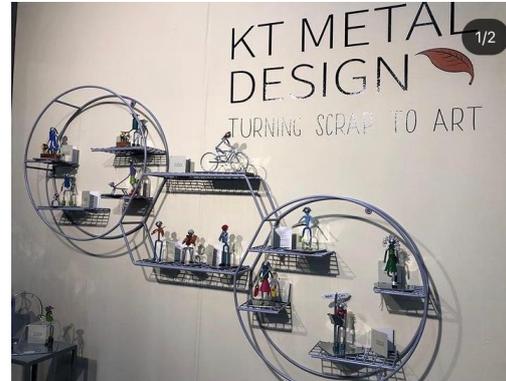
Join other local food entrepreneurs to create Kildare's first food network

Apply now at localenterprise.ie/kildare



Craft Sector

Original Kildare Craft Network was launched. Kildare clients participated in the National Design Challenge with the Design and Crafts Council Ireland.



Brexit Support

- 139 businesses accessed customs and excise supports
- Kildare County Council LEO hosted 2 online Brexit events
- Kildare County Council LEO continues to run the 'Change is Coming' Brexit campaign locally
- Launch of the Going for Growth in Boston Program in Collaboration with NE university Boston



Human Resources



Human Resources

During 2020 the HR department adjusted many processes due to the pandemic, to ensure consistent service and support for staff. The main changes were the introduction of remote working across the organisation and the use of online platforms to deliver training and carry out interviews.

Despite the pandemic, recruitment campaigns continued throughout 2020 to ensure that all available posts were filled, as required.

The HR department processed applications in relation to 30 competitions that were held during the year. From the 951 applications received, 488 were male and 463 were female.

As a result of the competitions held for the posts, 246 applicants were deemed qualified and placed on panels, 107 male, and 139 female.

Training and Development

656 staff completed classroom-based training in 2020. The training programme was also adapted for delivery online and the following was delivered:

1,150 staff completed training online covering various areas:

- Covid 19 induction
- Agresso
- Lunch & Learn CPD Talks
- Health & Safety induction
- Conferences/Seminars
- First Aid Response Covid19 update
- First Aid Response refreshers
- EAP Launch Sessions
- Excel basic & intermediate
- Freedom of Information
- Minute-taking
- Customer Care
- PSDP
- Irish Language
- Mental Health training for local authority staff

20 staff members completed the IPA Certificate in Local Government, 10 staff members completed the Diploma in Local Government Studies, 2 staff members

completed the Bridging Course for the IPA Degree in Local Government, 1 staff member completed the IPA Degree in Local Government in 2020. The Leadership in Local Government Programme did not proceed in 2020 as the IPA could not hold this course online.

16 staff members were approved under the 2019 Scheme of Assistance for other courses of further education.

Employee Assistance Programme (EAP)

Spectrum.Life are the current providers of the EAP. Staff can access a wide variety of information including 24/7 mental wellbeing support programme through the app or online.

Core Staff	No.	Whole Time Equivalent
Managerial	7	6.8
Clerical/Administrative	456	425.54
Professional/Technical	209	205.1
Outdoor	350	291.15
Total Core Staff	1022	928.59
Other Staff	No.	
Contract/temp/Seasonal	42	42
Retained Fire Fighters	62	N/A
Non DoEC&LG	7	5
Total Other posts	111	47

Planning & Strategic Development



Planning, Strategic Development & Public Realm

The Planning Authority seeks to facilitate the social and economic needs of the county while promoting sustainability, social inclusion, equality and quality of life in our communities. Forward Planning, Development Management and Enforcement sections play a vital role in achieving this objective and promoting the development of the county at a local, regional and national level in a socially inclusive and sustainable manner.

Development within the county is encouraged and guided by the County Development Plan and Local Area Plans through land use zoning, policies, objectives, standards and guidelines.

Implementation of the aspirations set out in these strategic and statutory plans is achieved through the Development Management and Enforcement process to ensure the necessary social, economic and physical infrastructure is facilitated and encouraged within the county in the interests of proper planning and sustainable development to provide for the needs of our youthful and growing population whilst protecting our natural and built environment.

The public health restrictions introduced to address the global Covid 19 pandemic throughout 2020 undoubtedly had an adverse impact on planning in Ireland. Notwithstanding this, the year on year increase in planning applications for county Kildare continued. Furthermore, there was a significant number of Strategic Housing Development applications lodged with An Bord Pleanála during the year in respect of large housing schemes.

The Strategic Projects & Public Realm team (SPPR) which was formed in 2019 is a multidisciplinary team with Architectural, Urban Design, Engineering and Town Planning expertise.

The SPPR team develops key strategic projects from concept through planning approval stage, detailed design and construction, while also leveraging funding for the delivery of these projects through various funding streams such as the Urban Regeneration & Development Fund, Rural

Regeneration & Development Fund, Greenways Fund, Carbon Tax Fund and the Town & Village Renewal Scheme.

County Development Plan

Following the publication of the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES), Kildare County Council commenced preparation of a statutory variation to the Kildare County Development Plan (KCDP) to align same with the National Planning Framework and Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy for the Eastern Midlands region. The variation was placed on public display on 9th of January 2020 for a period of 4 weeks. The council published the draft variation on the consultation portal and invited submissions and observations with respect to same.

- Variation No. 1 of the KCDP 2017-2023 was adopted on the 9th of June & came into effect immediately
- The preparation and consultation on the Kildare Open Space and Recreational Strategy began in 2020 and same will be completed in 2021 and will inform the review of the Kildare County Development Plan
- A review of the Kildare Rural Housing Design Guide began in 2020 and same will be completed in 2021 and will inform the review of the Kildare County Development Plan

Local Area Plans (LAP)

Athy: Draft LAP and associated supporting documents (including Area Based Transport Assessment, Social Infrastructure Audit, Urban Regeneration Framework, Architectural Conservation Area Statement of Character and Sustainable Planning and Infrastructural Assessment) prepared during 2020 and published on 17 December 2020

Naas: Draft LAP and associated supporting documents (including Social Infrastructure Audit, Urban Regeneration Strategy, Architectural Conservation Area Statement of Character and Sustainable Planning and Infrastructural Assessment) prepared during 2020 and published on the 9th of March 2021

Leixlip: adopted December 2019, came into effect February 2020

Vacant Sites

- Site surveys undertaken in Q2 & Q3 of 2020
- 223 sites were surveyed throughout the county in 2020 in Leixlip (10); Kildare (32); Maynooth (21); Newbridge (29); Sallins (12); Celbridge (13); Monasterevin (16); Clane (17); Kilcock (8); Kilcullen (10); Naas (33) and Athy (22)
- The process of valuations for 7 sites is underway
- A further 8 sites are the subject of appeals to An Bord Pleanála and an additional 14 sites have been identified for issuing of Section 7 (1) notices

Strategic Projects & Public Realm

Barrow Blueway

- Work commenced on 48 km Barrow Blueway from Lowtown to Athy by the Strategic Projects & Public Realm team in 2020 in collaboration with Waterways Ireland and Laois County Council after securing funding of €5,000,000 under the RRDF “Shovel Ready” category 1.



During 2020, the Strategic Projects and Public Realm team were successful in obtaining the following funding:

Funding Stream	Project Location	Project Description	Funding Awarded	Total Project Cost
Carbon Tax Fund	Sallins to Clonkeen (Offaly border)	Detailed design, detailed business case, Total Scheme Budget (TSB) and enabling procurement for a 38.5km section in county Kildare (11km of which has already received funding) from Sallins to Clonkeen on the Offaly border	€213,000	€213,000
Town & Village Renewal Scheme Accelerated Measure in response to Covid-19	Kildare	Removal of existing car-parking spaces in the Market Square to facilitate social distancing, recreational use by the community and outdoor eating and queuing of patrons for businesses on the square	€40,000	€47,500
Town & Village Renewal Scheme Accelerated Measure in response to Covid-19	Athy	School Street pilot scheme	€25,000	€29,000
	Monasterevin	School Street pilot scheme	€25,000	€29,000
	Lowtown	Cycle Cafe	€25,000	€29,000
	Sallins	Cycle Café	€25,000	€28,500
	Ballymore Eustace	Cycle Café	€21,600	€27,500
	Punchestown	Cycle Café	€21,600	€27,500
	Castledermot	Cycle Café	€21,600	€27,500
	Leixlip	Accelerated Covid-19 measures	€40,000	€45,000
	Celbridge	Accelerated Covid-19 measures	€40,000	€45,000
	Maynooth	Accelerated Covid-19 measures	€40,000	€45,000
	Naas	Accelerated Covid-19 measures	€40,000	€60,000
	Newbridge	Accelerated Covid-19 measures	€40,000	€45,000
Rural Regeneration and Development Fund	Kildare	Preparation of plans and detailed design for the redevelopment of the Market Square Phase 2, and the detailed design for a new street scape and pedestrian link from Kildare Village to the town centre.	€1,750,000	€2,333,333

Prosperous Town Park & Market Square, Kildare Town

Additionally, during 2020 the Strategic Projects and Public Realm team delivered Prosperous Town Park and a temporary pilot scheme in Market Square, Kildare Town as a covid-19 accelerated measure.



Prosperous Town Park – before



Prosperous Town Park – After



Before – Kildare Market Square showing use as a carpark



After – Kildare Market Square showing temporary pilot scheme



Poplar Square – Tactile Urbanism Project delivery

Development Management

Planning Applications	Received
2020	1,627
(2019)	(1,452)

Year	No. of Houses	No. of Apartments (includes Ancillary Family Accommodation)	Total No. of Units
2020	3,445	877	4,322 (includes SHDs)

Strategic Housing Developments

Year	Granted	Apartments	Houses	Total
2020	7	1705	1,316	2,021

Note – does not include SHD lodged in 2020 but granted in 2021

Planning Decisions reversed by An Bord Pleanála

	2020	%	2019	%	2018	%	2017	%
No. of Decisions confirmed	65	79%	61	81%	62	85%	60	80%
No. where LA decision reversed	17	21%	13	20%	11	15%	12	20%

Heritage: Built, Natural and Cultural Heritage Plan Projects

Kildare County Council, through its Heritage and Conservation Office, continued to develop its role in the protection and promotion of the built and natural heritage resources of the county throughout 2020. This was achieved by providing advice on aspects of Kildare's heritage and by developing policies and priorities for the identification, protection, preservation and enhancement of the county's heritage.

Heritage

The Heritage Office implements the County Heritage Plan and County Biodiversity Plan through a series of annual actions. The actions implemented under these plans in 2020 include the following:

Collection of Heritage data

- **Turas Columbanus** - an evaluation of the role of Turas Columbanus in county Kildare was conducted. This is a joint project with other Local Authorities
- **County Biodiversity Action** - (National Biodiversity Action Plan Fund) Ecological Audits of 6 Kildare County Council parks with recommendations

Raising Heritage awareness

- **River Liffey Stories** - a joint local authority project with Wicklow County Council. Over 18 videos have been developed to promote the history and heritage of the river Liffey
- **Kildare Decade of Commemorations** - Continued implementation of the Decade of Commemorations (2013-2023) programme
- **County Biodiversity Action** (National Biodiversity Action Plan Fund) - preparation of video on maintenance of wildflower meadows (with NBDC, Wicklow & Kilkenny County Councils).
- **Tidy Towns LA Pollinator Award** with the Heritage Officer Network, the Heritage Officer

developed the Tidy Towns Local Authority Pollinator Awards

- **Heritage Week 2020** - 40 online events organised
- **Biodiversity Week 2020** -12 weeks of biodiversity infomercials were run on KFM. Kildare County Council sponsored 3 Biodiversity podcasts on local biodiversity
- **Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2020** - 58 projects were supported. The Heritage Officer assisted groups in applying for funding, researching and developing and implementing their community heritage project, including assistance in liaising with heritage experts.

Policy and Advice

- Heritage Officer provides support to the Development Management, Enforcement and Forward Planning functions of the Planning Dept
- Kildare County Council Pollinator Action Plan 2019-2023 was prepared and adopted. Kildare County Council signed up as a partner to the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan.
- **UNESCO site Designation- Dun Ailinne** – Heritage Officer contributed to the preparation of application for the Tentative World Heritage list for Dun Ailinne.

Promotion of Best Practice

- Preparation of 10 Local Biodiversity Action Plans (with LEADER)
- **Community Monuments Fund 2020-DHLGH:** Whites Castle (Conservation Management Plan); St Johns Graveyard Johnstown (Conservation works)
- **Creative Ireland- Funding from DCHG** - Maudlins Pyramidal Mausolea Restoration project. Creative Ireland bursaries - Art, Community and Heritage projects. Training for heritage groups on new technology to develop online content
- **Kilkea Stone Table** - consultants appointed to commence restoration of this artifact

- **Walled Towns Network** – Kildare County Council managed the membership of three towns in this network (Kildare, Athy and Castledermot). Funding was secured for three Projects in Castledermot and Kildare

Deletions to RPS pursuant to Section 55 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 (as amended)

- B22-25 French Furze, Kildare Town

Conservation

Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2020

Kildare County Council was awarded a total of €79,000.

Location/Structure	Amount
Cock Bridge Thatched Cottage, Donore	€11,600
Carbury Church	€10,252
Thatch House, Thomastown	€13,574
7 Canning Place, Newbridge	€15,000
Mausoleum at Maudlins, Naas	€15,000
Church of the Holy Trinity, Moone	€13,574

Historic Structures Fund 2020

Location/Structure	Amount
Donadea Castle Tower House	€32,330
Newbridge College	€15,000

Additions to RPS pursuant to Section 55 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 (as amended)

- 2 no. pyramid Mausolea, Maudlins Cemetery, Dublin Road, Naas, Co. Kildare
- 31 & 33 Main Street, Leixlip, Co. Kildare
- Kildare Castle Gatehouse, Kildare Town
- New Abbey House, Gate Lodge and Demesne, Kilcullen, Co. Kildare
- Thatched Cottage, Carnalway, Kilcullen, Co. Kildare
- Yew Cottage, Mountrice, Monasterevin, Co. Kildare

Roads, Transportation & Public Safety



Roads, Transportation & Public Safety

Overview of the Directorate

- Roads Section
- National Road Design Office
- Department of Transport Advisory Service
- Fire Service
- Civil Defence
- Major Emergency Management
- Severe Weather Assessment Team
- Health & Safety for Kildare County Council
- Access & Disability
- Broadband and Telecommunications Coordination
- Development Control and Building Control

County Kildare - Public Roads		
Motorway		128 km
National Primary		19 km
National Secondary		17 km
Regional		487 km
Local Roads (Total)		2,009 km
Local Primary	359 km	
Local Secondary	1,041 km	
Local Tertiary	609 km	
Total		2,660 km



Road Design & Construction

Athy Distributor Road

- Advance works completed
- 6 contractors short listed
- Stage 2 tender process ongoing
- Construction to commence Q4 2021, subject to approvals

Maynooth Eastern Ring Road

- South Eastern section of the Maynooth Outer Orbital Route including bridge over the Royal Canal & rail line
- CPO due to commence in Q4 2021
- Detailed design ongoing

New Machinery Yard and Regional Salt Barn

- Relocation of machinery yard from Newbridge to Naas. Planning approval in place
- Enabling works contract ongoing
- Main contract tender to issue Q3 2021
- Construction to commence Q4 2021 subject to approvals

Celbridge Hazelhatch Link Road

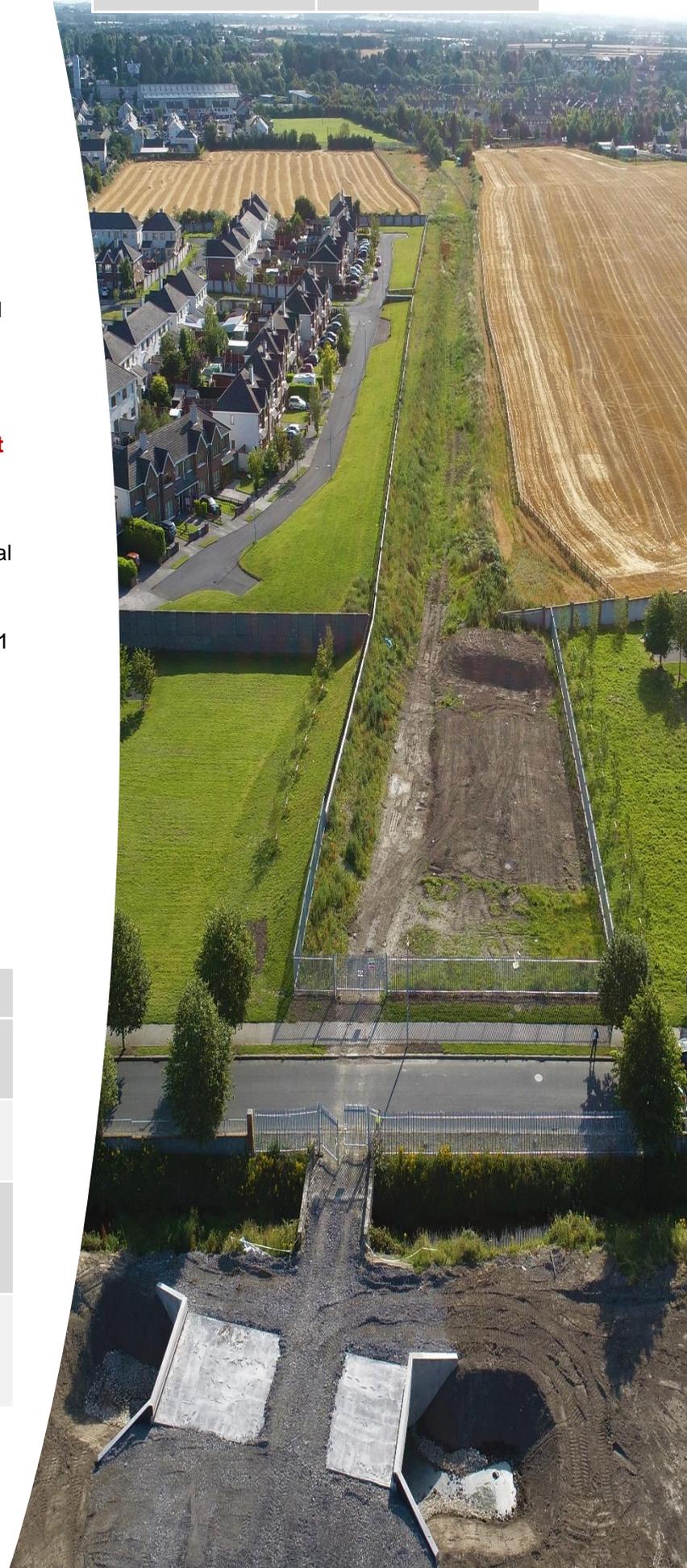
- Route selection stage ongoing
- Public consultation complete
- Emerging preferred route Q4 2021

Coughlanstown Road Restoration Project

Ballymore Eustace	Complete
Kildangan Bridge footpath	Complete
Naas Transport Strategy	Complete
Kildare Transport Strategy	Due to go to public consultation in Q2 2021
Athy Area Based Transport Assessment	Complete

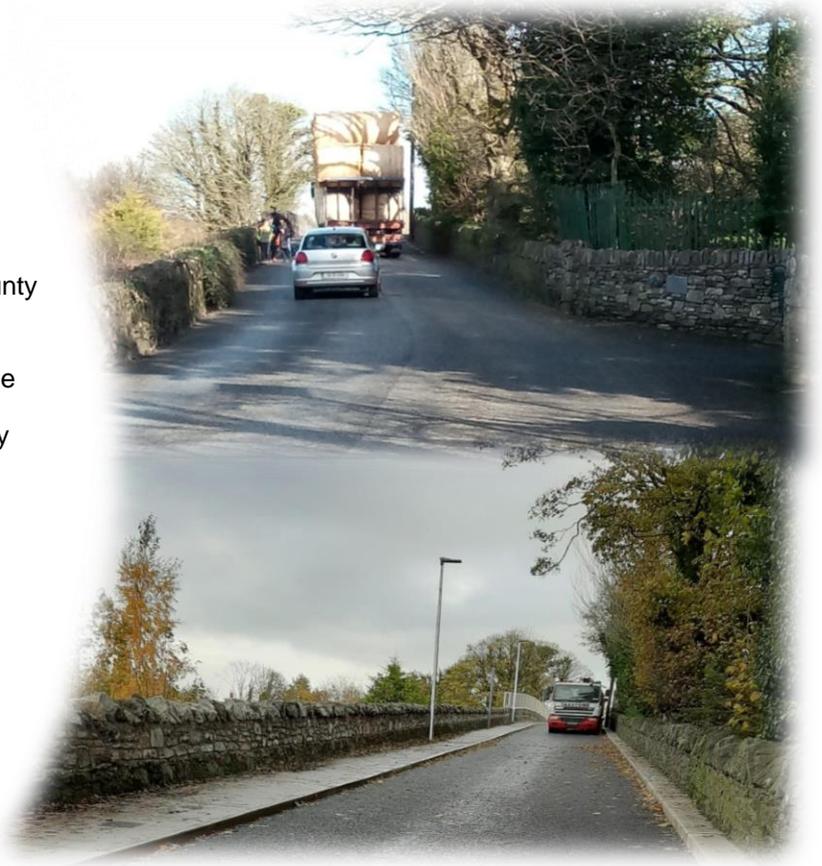
Newbridge
Transport Strategy

To commence in
Q4 2021



Priority Roads Projects- other delivery methods

- Maynooth Outer Orbital Route (Moyglare Road to Dunboyne Road section)
 - New Part 8 to be approved
 - Being advanced by Meath County Council
- Celbridge Bridge Improvement Scheme
 - Awaiting completion of EIAR by the NTA
 - Being advanced by the NTA
 - Dublin to Galway Greenway
 - Maynooth to Dublin Boundary Section
- County Speed Limit Review
 - Progressing - Workshops with Members held Nov/Dec 2020



Priority Developer Roads Projects

Maynooth Inner Relief Street

Moyglare Road to Dunboyne Road Maynooth to be open by Q3 2021

Newbridge Southern Relief Road

First section from Newbridge Road to Great Connell Road completed in 2020

Naas

Devoy Park Link Road complete

Kildare Town

Southern Internal Link Road complete

Clane Road (Capdoo)

Discussions ongoing with developer to complete the Ring Road





Winter Maintenance

- Weather Maintenance season commenced 14th October
- Temperatures monitored on a 24 hour/7-day basis by MD Engineers
- 10 routes now salted (increased from 9 in February 2019)
- 26.6% of our non-national roads are salt treated
- 25 drivers in total – 10 drivers per salt run; rotated weekly
- Total budget allocated by Kildare County Council - €690,000 PA
- Salt run details, maps, etc. – available on Kildare County Council website



Developer Provided Infrastructure

Application submitted 18th September 2019 for inclusion in this fund.

Systems that can be connected to mains will receive priority.

First 3 on list below can be connected to main system

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------|
| 1. Allen Court, Allen | WWTP |
| 3. Lios An Ri, Clogharinka | WTP |
| 4. Moorhill Wood, Brannockstown | WWTP |
| 5. Mountrice Mill, Monasterevin | WWTP |
| 6. Red Hills Park, Ellistown | WWTP |
| 7. Kilmurray Brook, Johnstownbridge | WWTP |
| 8. The Close, Tiermoghgan | WWTP |
| 9. Ballagh Wood, Donadea | WWTP |
| 10. The Village, Moone | WWTP |

Building and Development Control

Kildare County Council is a Building Control Authority and has powers of inspection, enforcement, and prosecution where breaches of the building regulations occur.

Designers, Builders and Building owners are required to submit, through the National Building Control Management System (BCMS), Commencement Notices (CN) in advance of beginning works and Certificates of Compliance on Completion (CCC) before the finished works are occupied.

Commencement Notices	2019	2020
Total Received	611	461
Of which valid	596	454
Of which invalid	15	7
Inspections of buildings with valid Commencement Notices	211	199

Certificates of compliance on completion	2019	2020
Total Received	646	461
Of which valid	645	454
Of which invalid	1	7
Inspections of buildings with valid Certificate of Compliance on completion	139	196

Disability Access Certificates (DAC) may be required in respect of works to buildings other than dwellings (but including apartment buildings), and this is also a function of the Building Control section. Applications are also submitted and managed through the

National Building Control Management System (BCMS).

Disability Access Certificates	2019	2020
Total received	122	124
Granted	131	137
Refused	0	0
Number invalid	0	2
Inspections carried out on Disability Access Certificates	21	66

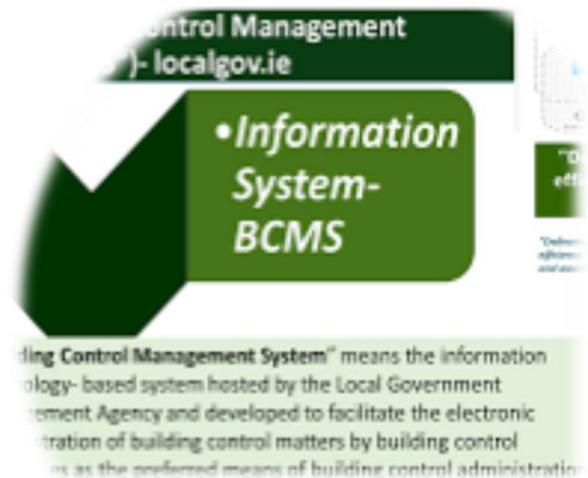
The Building Control Section also monitors compliance with The European Communities (Energy Performance of Buildings) Regulations 2006 – 2008, which require a Building Energy Rating (BER) to be provided when a building is constructed, sold, or let, and these ratings must also be displayed when advertising such a building for sale or rent. 1043 BER's were received through BCMS for buildings where Commencement Notices or Certificates of Completion on Compliance were received during 2020. Also, 15 estate agents were inspected for compliance with legislation in respect of the display of BER ratings.

Development Control

Residential developments consisting of two or more dwellings which have been granted planning permission may be eligible for taking in charge (depending on conditions of the grant of planning permission). The taking in charge of residential estates by local authorities is provided for under Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and procedures for this are initiated under Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993. The taking in charge of residential estates is a reserved function of the elected members.

Under Section 180 Kildare County Council is obliged to initiate taking in charge procedures where requested by either the developer or by the majority of owners of the dwellings. However, this is subject to the development being completed to the satisfaction of the council and in accordance with the planning permission and any conditions.

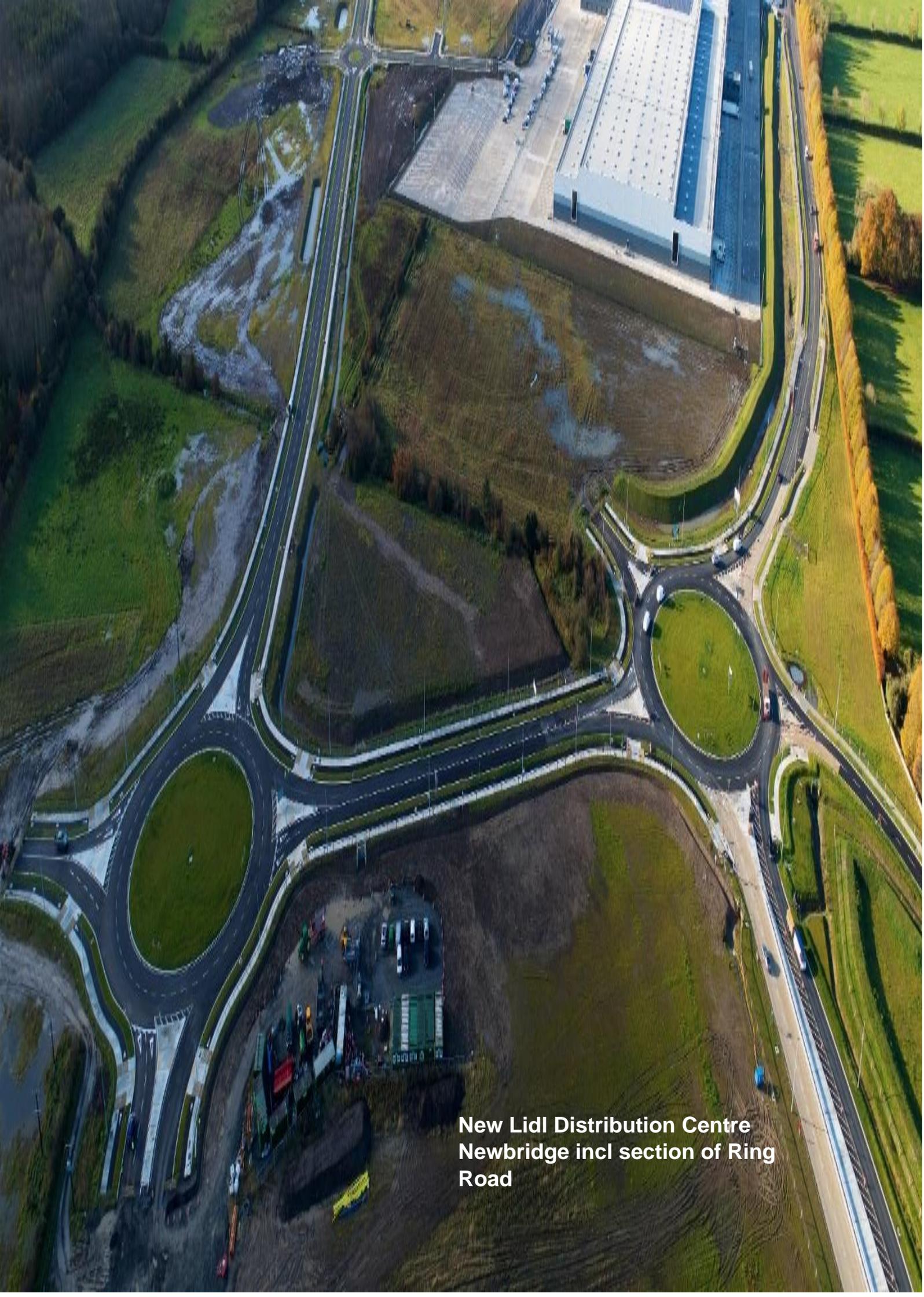
The primary activity of the Development Control section is to monitor ongoing development in conventional housing estates with the intention that, once a residential estate is complete to standard, the council (if requested) will take in charge the roads and footpaths, public lighting and open spaces. Where work has not been completed to satisfactory standards, there can be a delay in this process as enforcement proceedings including invocation of bonds may be progressed. Irish Water is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the water services infrastructure of a residential estate from the date of the taking in charge of the estate by the Council and must be consulted during the taking in charge process.



During 2020 the Development Control section recommended the taking in charge of the following 10 estates to the elected members, all of which were agreed:

Central Park Avenue and Central Park Way, Clane
Chelmsford Manor, Celbridge
Curragh Grange, Newbridge (except 1-12 The Park)
Earls Court, Kill
Furness Wood, Johnstown
Grangemore Manor, Brannockstown
Monread Close, Naas
Straffan Way, Sallins
The Maudlings, Naas
The Mews, Whitethorn Grove, Kill

In December 2020 a report was presented to the elected members showing the level of activity across the county and highlighting some of the ongoing issues. It included finished, unfinished and residential estates currently under construction, and estates which were Taken in Charge since 2012.



**New Lidl Distribution Centre
Newbridge incl section of Ring
Road**

Road Safety, Cycling and Sustainable Transport

- Installation of 12 Cycle Cafés
- Public surveys for two 'School Street' pilot schemes
- School visits on road safety and cycling education
- Bike Week, EU Mobility Week and Road Safety Week
- Joint regional and national campaigns
- School travel and mobility campaigns with An Taisce
- Engaged with school Principals/BoM to provide safer routes to school
- Engaged with resident associations to create walking routes within estates during Covid19 lockdown and promote local cycling and walking routes/initiatives
- Installed bike shelters and cycle racks in two primary and one post-primary schools as part of cycle and mobility campaigns to encourage cycling to school
- Promoted road safety and cycling initiatives on the council's social media platforms
- Joint awareness campaign between Kildare County Council, An Garda Síochána and Irish Rail for 'Lock it – Lose it' crime prevention campaign for cyclists.



Kildare National Roads Office

Current Major Projects

- M7 Naas Newbridge By-pass Upgrade
- M7 Osberstown Interchange and R407 Sallins Bypass
- M4 Maynooth to Leixlip upgrade
- National/Regional management office for TII National Roads
- Network Operations
- Leinster Bridge Maintenance
- Minor Road Improvement Schemes
- National Winter salt provisions
- Misc services to DoT
- Junction 4 – Junction 14 N11/M11 Upgrade Scheme
- N11 Kilmacanoge Parallel Service Road



- Capital Funding required to fund new HQ

Kildare Fire Service

Operational calls 2020

Newbridge	442
Naas	435
Athy	223
Maynooth	321
Monasterevin	181
Leixlip	179
TOTAL	1,842
Total at 31st December 2020	1,357

Civil Defence

- Civil Defence budget 2020 - €173,434 – CDO and 53 volunteers
- Community events participation ceased in March 2020 due to Covid19
- Supporting HSE
 - Assisted with transportation of HSE personnel and with transportation of public to testing centres
 - Assisting blood transfusion service with management of donation centres
 - Received 4x4 Jeep supported by the Dormant Accounts Fund



- Located new temporary premises in Newbridge for Civil Defence HQ

Major Emergency Management

Major Emergency Management Committee meet every 2 months

Annual meet and greet held with Principal Response Agencies

- Local co-ordination due to restrictions

Exercises and training at local and regional level are held each year

- Ongoing use of the framework co-ordination structures

Ongoing training of relevant staff in Kildare County Council

Continual review of Major Emergency Plan and all Sub Plans

Regional interagency approach to collaborate response to Covid19

- Consistent approach to communications
- Assisting other agencies as necessary

Business Continuity

- Early establishment of BCM Sub-Group reporting to Management Team
- Engagement with LGMA on production of sectoral guidance
- SOGs and Back to Work Protocols
- Appointment system to facilitate public access
- IT supports to home working
 - Laptops, VPN, DocuSign, Rainbow
- Lead worker engagement
- Ongoing revision and updating as levels change
- Statutory Meetings

Climate Action and Energy Reduction

- Cycling Schemes delivered and planned
- Segregated cycling lanes on all new roads e.g. Devoy Road, Naas
- Public Lighting Retrofit programme (€0.5m energy cost saving PA approx.)
- New machinery yard Naas
- Recycling of pavement materials
- New Roads Depot at Gallowshill Athy
- Supporting the Cycling Forum
- Purchased two new electric vehicles
- Severe Weather Assessment Team – Climate adaptation preparation
- Development of new bus routes, stops and shelters throughout the county in partnership with Kildare South Dublin Local Link e.g. Athy to Newbridge Route
- Fire Station programme of energy upgrades across all six stations, insulation, heating systems upgrade, solar panel installation, lighting systems. Expected cost of €250,000 approx. with payback time ranging up to 8 years

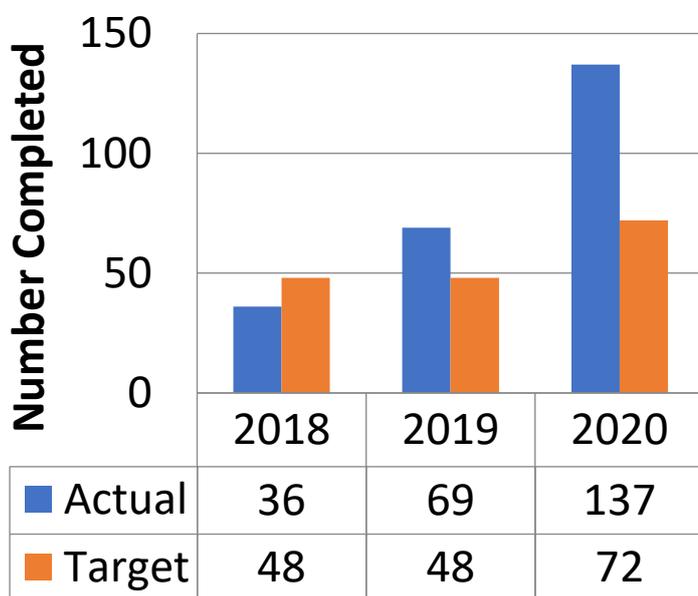


Health and Safety

Continuous improvement of our Health and Safety Management System and adherence to legislation

- Dedicated H&S resource per directorate
- Review of 64 national guidelines
- Update of documentation in line with legislative requirements

Safety Inspections



Access and Disability 2020

- Launch of the County Kildare Access Strategy – A Universal Access Approach 2020-2022
- Awareness campaigns Make Way Day, International Day of Persons with Disabilities
- Winner of IPB & LAMA All Ireland Community & Council Award
 - Access and Inclusion Award
 - Grand Prix Award



Covid-19 Safety Measures

- Employee Health and Wellbeing programme
- Return to work protocol
- Return to work induction
- Remote working policy and working from home guidelines
- COVID specific risk assessments
- Standard operating guidelines



Environment, Water & Climate Action



Water and Environmental Services

Water Services

Major Capital Projects

- **Osberstown WWTP** (€30m) (80 – 130,000 PE) – Completed early 2020
- **Osberstown Sludge Treatment Facility** (€10m) – Substantially complete and to be fully operational Q2 2021
- **Contract 2A** (Newbridge Interceptor Sewer €30m) – Works now commissioned, and contract has entered the operation phase
- **Contract 2B** (€30m Osberstown Networks-Monread/Sallins/Clane/Kill) – progressing well for completion by end 2021
- **Maynooth Transfer Pipeline** – Upgrade of Maynooth Sewerage Pump Station and construction of a new sewerage pipeline to Leixlip WWTP. Project currently at planning and detailed design stage. Currently negotiating with landowners. It's expected that the scheme will be completed in Q1 2026
- **Barrow Water Supply Scheme Extension** – Scheme commenced in June 2020 and expected to be commissioned in July 2021 with an operation phase to end of October before it's handed over to water operations
- **Celbridge Local Network Re-enforcement** (divert flows from Celbridge to Lucan) – Tendering process is ongoing for the works contract. It is hoped that the construction work will begin Q3/Q4 2021.
- **Lower Liffey Valley Drainage Area Plan** (general strategic overview of NE Kildare catchment) – ongoing – hydraulic models and growth assessments
- **Leixlip Transfer Pipeline** (divert industrial flows from Leixlip WWTP to Blanchardstown €35m) – Irish Water

awarded the contract to BAM Civil Ltd in February 2020. Works have commenced on site and are due to last 24 months in total.

Minor Capital Projects – addressing issues of water quality, availability, environmental compliance, leakage and asset performance

Flood Risk Management

The main objective of the Flood Risk Management Section is to progress flood relief schemes within the county in conjunction with the Office of Public Works (OPW).

Schemes have been prioritised from the OPW Flood Risk Management Plans, which were adopted by the Council in July 2018.

Ongoing schemes include:

- Morell Flood Risk Management Scheme (at construction stage)
- Naas Flood Relief Scheme (at preliminary Design Stage)
- Leixlip and Athy have been prioritised
- Drainage channel maintenance is provided across the drainage districts within Kildare through a multi-annual programme of works.

Environmental Services

Burial Grounds

The Council manages over 30 active cemeteries in the county.

Grant support for the upkeep of cemeteries is provided to local committees in the county.

A programme of cemetery works has been undertaken by the Council over recent years. Works are continuing at a number of locations to improve facilities at the cemeteries. This has included:

- Athy: Road and path improvement works
- Ballymore Eustace: Paving improvement works

- Donaghcomper: New caretaker facilities
- Churchtown: Public lighting
- Kildare St. Conleths: Works commenced on resurfacing, bunker improvement, boundary improvement, signage improvement, delayed due to covid 19 restrictions
- Kilcock Boycetown: Tree pruning, surface water improvements
- Maynooth Laraghbryan: Pathway resurfacing

Waste Management

Two Civic Amenity Sites operational at Athy and Kilcullen.

Funding issues to be addressed in respect of proposed North Kildare Civic Amenity Site.

Kerdiffstown Landfill Remediation Project

A number of advance works contracts, (including the realignment of the L2005 road), were completed during 2020. Main Works contract awarded in Q4 2020 with initial remediation works commenced by year end.



Legacy Landfills

There are 28 legacy sites in county Kildare classified as follows:-

- 7 Class A, 11 Class B and 10 Class C.
- Regional Waste Management Plan calls for remediation programme and this has commenced
- Kildare County Council currently working at 6 of the Class A sites, certificates of authorisation applied for or granted for 5 and awaiting application on the 6th. 100% funding approval granted by the Department

Waste Collection Permits

The processing of applications is carried out by the National Waste Collection Permit Office in Offaly County Council.

There are 116 waste collection permit holders authorised to operate in County Kildare. There are also 25 Waste Facility Permits and 8 Certificates of Registration.

Monitoring and inspection is carried out by Kildare County Council Staff.



Litter Management

- 1,931 complaints logged in 2020
- 258 fines issued
- 39 Bring banks operated (a number of bring-bank sites were temporarily inaccessible during 2020 due to Covid 19 restrictions)
- 58 tonnes of aluminium/steel cans recycled
- 4,100 tonnes of glass recycled
- 18 'Green Kilometre' local environmental enhancement projects

Support for Green Flag Schools Project continued

- Street sweeping, Fly-tipping, wardens – €4m per annum

Anti-Dumping Initiative (ADI) – 8 projects supported.

National Spring Clean did not take place due to Covid 19 restrictions.

42 Tidy Towns groups grant aided in 2020.

National Tidy Towns competition cancelled due to Covid 19 restrictions.



Climate Action Regional Office (CARO)

Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (CCAS) “Climate Resilient Kildare”- 73.3% of all actions were completed or ongoing

Energy Efficiency Officer appointed to oversee achieving its targets

Climate Action Officer appointed

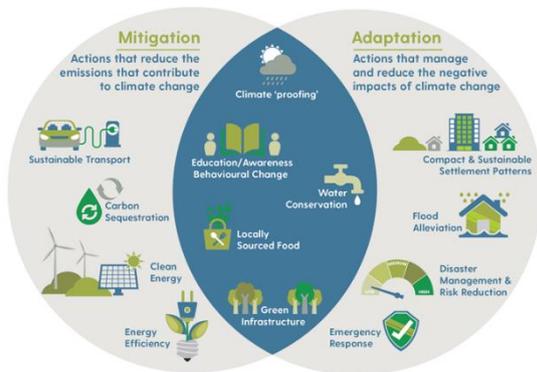
Climate Action SPC established and meeting regularly. Strategic Workplan agreed

Budget 2020/21 – Climate related activity identified and approved in budget

Standing item on Senior Management Team and CPG Agenda



Just Transition process started to explore potential training and funding programmes for those effected by the closure of Bord na Mona plants in West Kildare as part of the JTF received by the CARO.

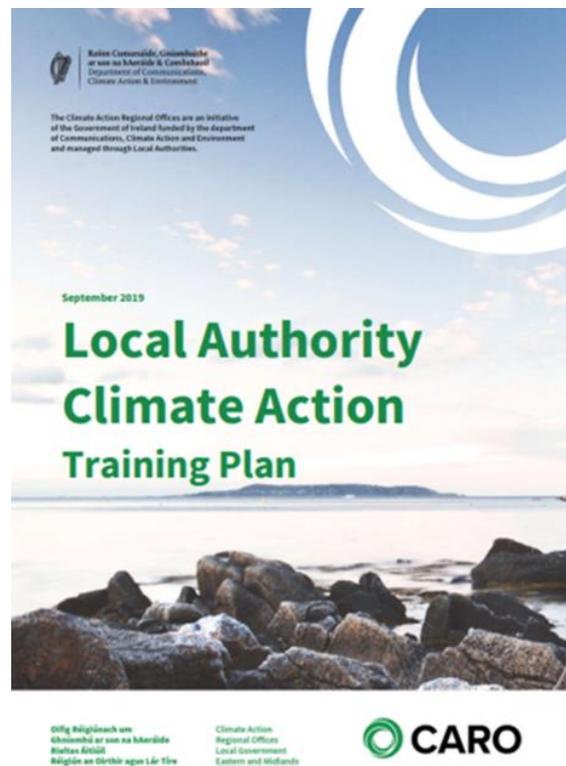


The Local Authority Climate Action Progress Reporting Template was developed by the CAROs to enable all Local Authorities to report

on progress made on the implementation of actions in the Climate Change Adaptation Strategies / Climate Action Plans. Local Authorities reported, as a sector, on the progress made in October 2020 and will continue to do so on an annual basis. The reporting template is also being used by Local Authorities to report on progress to their own councils and SPCs.

KPI's being developed nationally to measure progress of local authorities on Climate Action as part of EM CARO.

Climate Amendment Bill 2020 awaiting enactment, and this has expanded role for the Climate Change Advisory Council as well as introducing decarbonising ranges for all sectors.



The Local Authority Climate Action Training Programme has been devised to activate the CCMA endorsed Local Authority Climate

Action Training Plan 2019. The training programme provides a framework from which Local Authority 'climate action leadership and capacities' is supported and enhanced, in response and fulfilment of Action 150 of the Climate Action Plan 2019. The roll-out of the training programme to Local Authority staff commenced in late 2020.

Mainstreaming of Climate Mitigation and Resilience continues across functional areas and reserved functions.

Climate Innovation Fund was conceived under the Celbridge Leixlip MD to enable creative & innovative local action on climate change.

21 Registered Sustainable Energy Communities (SECs) in Co. Kildare. Four of the SEC's nearing the end of their Energy Master Plan stage, and once concluded will move to action phase.

Energy Management Team proposal being developed to re-establish Kildare County Council's Energy Management Team to reduce energy usage across the Council

SECAP Tender being prepared for the delivery of Kildare's Sustainable Energy & Climate Action Plan, as required by the Covenant of Mayors movement.

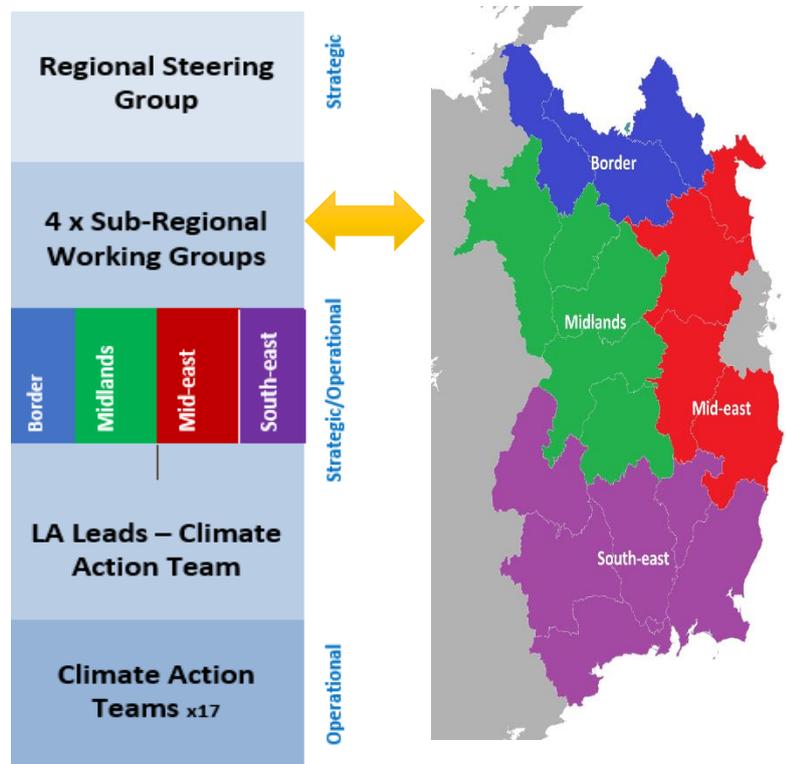
Fleet Electrification - 2 electric vehicles in fleet, a third vehicle ordered, and further proposals being developed to increase electric vehicle numbers.

Energy Usage Monitoring and Reporting (M&R) - Kildare County Council continues to make good progress on reducing its energy usage across the Council. Latest information for year ending 2020 would suggest Kildare is now at 32.7% energy reduction against its baseline year of 2009, which is significant progress from our 2019 figure of 24%. Although this is a provisional figure from SEAI it shows continued progress on energy efficiencies through our council driven largely by the Facilities team to date. It must also be taken into account the impact Covid 19 restrictions would have on energy reduction in 2020 with remote working and reduced services.

Car charging units have been installed in the Aras Chill Dara car park for use by staff.

Electric Vehicle Charging Points - Review of current public EV CP infrastructure in place and identification of solutions to match future demands for public EV CP's

Collaboration with GAA - Cappagh GAA in Kildare have been selected as one of the Pilot GAA clubs in developing a National Sustainable Club and Community Programme.



ICT



ICT

The Covid-19 pandemic created a particularly challenging environment for the Information Systems department. We needed to build a new remote working infrastructure for our staff while maintaining existing services for both citizens and our council members.

ICT achievements for 2020

For our citizens and customers, we

- Redeveloped the Kildare County Council website offering enhanced usability through responsible design, security, search capability and accessibility
- Completed implementation of the consultation portal
- Went to tender and selected a vendor to help replace our existing CRM solution with a plan for full implementation of a Microsoft Dynamics solution in Q1 2021
- Built an IT environment to support the 'Community Call' to support citizens during the pandemic
- Put in place business applications to support the restart grant applications process for SME's.

For our council members, we

- Supported and enabled both statutory and non-statutory meetings using Microsoft TEAMS
- Provided further technology supports around mobility and access for members

Enabling staff to work remotely in a safe secure and efficient manner was achieved by;

- Procuring, configuring, and deploying up to 500 laptops for staff
- Configuring and deploying a secure VPN solution to allow remote working
- Configuring and deploying Microsoft TEAMS to enable staff collaboration
- Enabling solutions for remote working such as on-line web forms, electronic

signature, extending our phone system to remote workers

IT Continued to:

- Provide quality support to users through the Helpdesk function but with the extra challenge of supporting a large number of remote workers
- Develop and improve the GIS online digitizing solution to capture and display special data
- Monitor and manage ICT security and implemented solutions to protect council assets and employees
- Manage all of Kildare County Council's ICT hardware and software infrastructure. This infrastructure is spread across approx. 40 locations and is utilised by close to 950 users using 900 desktops, 600 mobiles, 100 servers in a virtualized SAN environment.



Finance



Finance

To assist businesses during the pandemic the Government introduced two schemes that Kildare County Council's Finance department administered. They are:

1. Restart Grant – which was a grant for eligible businesses based on previous year's rates bills that was given in order to help businesses deal with the costs of re-opening their business due to Covid 19. There were two restart

grant schemes for 2020 and two top-up schemes which meant most businesses received more than 3 separate grant payments

2. Rates Waiver Scheme was a 9 month waiver for eligible businesses from their rates bills for 2020.

Approximately 38% of Kildare rate payers received restart grants totalling €25.5m. The amount of restart grant payments made by Kildare County Council for 2020 is as follows:

Demand 2020		Ratepayers that received grants		% of Demand	
No.	€	No.	€	No.	€
5,092	61,599,171	1,918	25,448,466	37.67%	41.31%

Approximately 80% of Kildare ratepayers had a 9 months rates waiver applied to their rate account totalling €22m. Between both

schemes approx. €47.5m has been processed to assist Kildare ratepayers.

The amount of Rates Waivers made by Kildare County Council for 2020 is as follows:

Demand 2020		9 Month Waiver Applied 2020		% of Demand	
No.	€	No.	€	No.	€
5,092	61,599,171	4,055	22,056,388	79.63%	35.81%

Financial Statement

Year ended 31 December 2020

(with comparative revenue account figures for previous years)

REVENUE ACCOUNT

Expenditure	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
	€	€	€	€	€
Housing and Building	53,767,101	43,971,729	39,962,253	36,731,251	34,639,737
Road Transportation and Safety	38,027,548	35,236,022	34,788,880	32,370,045	30,326,849
Water Supply and Sewerage	9,979,748	10,002,878	10,429,704	10,093,142	11,077,177
Development Incentives and Controls	45,028,845	17,684,483	15,499,350	14,474,331	11,788,167
Environmental Protection	18,587,183	19,082,892	17,387,255	29,759,112	30,983,692
Recreation and Amenity	11,065,823	11,025,364	11,017,421	10,242,692	8,861,033
Agriculture and Education	1,129,509	1,053,015	1,308,089	1,359,621	1,142,623
Miscellaneous Services	39,882,802	18,032,354	13,399,207	14,005,006	13,373,486
Total	217,468,559	156,088,737	143,792,159	149,035,200	142,192,764
Receipts (Grants, Goods and Services)					
Housing and Building	49,057,850	38,975,186	34,706,815	35,244,200	30,785,748

Road Transportation and Safety	17,713,271	17,088,302	17,507,137	14,019,308	12,745,732
Water Supply and Sewerage	9,707,935	9,662,709	10,354,821	10,471,990	11,511,754
Development Incentives and Controls	33,757,955	6,694,954	5,588,001	5,580,827	3,795,991
Environmental Protection	6,163,298	6,869,610	4,680,982	17,979,449	19,787,593
Recreation and Amenity	1,340,180	1,214,379	2,092,080	1,653,565	1,209,506
Agriculture and Education	499,215	311,427	382,255	420,165	421,877
Miscellaneous Services	31,102,895	6,979,877	7,339,445	5,580,156	6,576,211
<i>Sub-Total</i>	149,342,599	87,796,444	82,651,536	90,949,660	86,834,412
Urban Authority Accounts	0	0	0	0	0
Pension Related Deductions	0	0	0	0	1,529,668
Local Government Fund/LPT	17,731,578	16,090,559	16,079,635	16,058,831	12,462,107
County Rates	60,785,745	58,840,323	59,047,321	58,125,047	57,555,963
Total	227,859,922	162,727,326	157,778,492	165,133,538	158,382,150
Transfers to/from Reserves	-10,227,999	-6,468,164	-13,755,158	-15,875,691	-15,948,864
Surplus/Deficit for year	163,364	170,425	231,175	222,647	240,522
Opening Balance	-334,804	-505,228	-736,403	-959,050	-1,199,572
Closing Balance	-171,440	-334,803	-505,228	-736,403	-959,050

CAPITAL INVESTMENT	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
	€	€	€	€	€
Housing and Building	87,252,732	113,579,281	87,205,755	48,109,084	34,593,273

Road Transportation and Safety	39,123,894	53,958,525	48,323,573	28,530,804	23,745,128
Water Supply and Sewerage	1,010,062	1,481,472	1,483,156	1,133,043	17,855,243
Development Incentives and Controls	790,072	3,629,727	-726,170	-10,256,136	-15,647,624
Environmental Protection	7,400,637	5,290,086	3,454,727	4,013,356	4,214,571
Recreation and Amenity	2,036,884	2,370,754	2,774,181	2,783,289	1,815,253
Agriculture and Education	0	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous Services	131,568	817,250	1,369,543	90,897	-1,113,155
Total	137,745,849	181,127,095	143,884,765	74,404,337	65,462,689

Schedule of Municipal District Works 2020

*retained LPT

	Athy	Celbridge - Leixlip	Kildare - Newbridge	Clane - Maynooth	Naas
Roads, Transport & Safety	214,646	322,000	175,000	510,500	70,059
Community & Enterprise	381,898	233,584	512,579	157,300	389,037
Environmental Services	18,000	80,000	111,000	64,000	73,800
Library and Arts	53,569	25,656	32,000	55,288	13,000
Economic Development	71,394	3,000	338,000	166,000	370,844
Recreation & Amenity	55,000	252,500	-	147,000	-
Pay Parking Surplus	87,048	2,729	353,093	187,072	553,941
*LPT 2020	794,508	916,740	1,161,204	1,100,088	916,740
Total	881,556	919,469	1,514,297	1,287,160	1,470,681

Note:
LPT

allocated on the basis of 50% of funding equally divided between Municipal Districts and 50% of funding allocated based on the number of Councillors in each Municipal District.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Strategic Policy Committee Scheme 2019 – 2024

In January 2020, the external pillar representatives to the Strategic Policy Committees (SPC) were approved by full council. A facility to enable SPC committee members attend meetings remotely was subsequently put in place due to the pandemic.

Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning SPC

Name	Sectoral Interest
Councillor Ivan Keatley [Chair]	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Robert Power	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Michael Coleman	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Kevin Duffy	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Peggy O'Dwyer	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Pdraig McEvoy	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Seamie Moore	Member of Kildare County Council
Gerry Prendergast	Business/ Commercial
Majella O'Keefe	PPN Social Inclusion
Evonne Boland	PPN Environment/ Conservation
Nominee awaited	Development/ Construction

- Monitoring of National Planning Framework (NPF), the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) and objectives for the Dublin Metropolitan Area Spatial Plan (MASP)
- Preparation of the County Development Plan Issues Paper
- Review of the Rural Housing Design Guide/Rural Housing Policy to include a policy/implementation strategy on cluster developments in rural areas
- Review of the county wide open space and recreation strategy
- Kildare Pollinator Plan
- Pilot Public Participation process
- To consider motions referred by council

The Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee met to consider the following issues:

- Economic Development Strategy for the county

Transportation, Safety and Emergency Services SPC

Name	Sectoral Interest
Councillor Joe Neville [Chair]	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Angela Feeney	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Anne Connolly	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Mark Stafford	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Colm Kenny	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Nuala Killeen	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Paul Ward	Member of Kildare County Council
Cormac Browne	Agriculture/Farming
Brian Purcell	Business/Commercial
Gerry Dornan	PPN Community/Voluntary
Nominee awaited	Development/Construction

The Transportation, Safety and Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee met to consider the following

- Electric Vehicles – Policy on Electric Vehicles in relation to free parking
- Rural Public Lighting- Rural Public Lighting Scheme
- Access & Disability – Development of accessible public realm streetscapes
- Policy on the installation of traffic calming measures for the county, and permeability in estates

- Transport links - policy and planning on effective transport links across towns in Kildare
- Rail Network- policy on integrating rail planning into developments and planning including appropriate park and ride
- Bus Services – policy on increasing capacity and identifying express bus routes
- Review policies around public parking in the context of urban renewal, cycling and pedestrian amenity with associated benefits
- Cycle and walking signage
- Naming of roundabouts policy
- To consider motions referred by council

Local Community and Cultural SPC

Name	Sectoral Interest
Councillor Aoife Breslin [Chair]	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Carmel Kelly	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Bernard Caldwell	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Noel Heavey	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Tracey O'Dwyer	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Evie Sammon	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Aidan Farrelly	Member of Kildare County Council
Ashleigh Connors	PPN Environmental/Conservation
Maureen Bergin	Business/Commercial
Vivien Kelly-Keane	PPN Community/Voluntary
<i>Nominee awaited</i>	<i>PPN Social Inclusion</i>

The Local Community and Cultural Strategic Policy Committee met to consider initiatives under the following headings:

- Age Friendly
- Libraries
- Parks
- Twinning/Integration/Roma Traveller Strategy/Community Development
- Community Administration
- Arts Services
- Local Community Development Committee
- Sports Partnership
- To consider motions referred by council

Environmental Services and Water SPC

Name	Sectoral Interest
Councillor Suzanne Doyle [Chair]	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Brian Dooley	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Íde Cussen	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Brendan Wyse	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Vanessa Liston	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Anne Breen	Member of Kildare County Council
Emer Conway	PPN Environmental/Conservation
Evan Arkwright	Business/Commercial
Padraic O'Lunaigh	PPN Community/Voluntary
Nominee awaited	Agriculture/Farming

The Environmental Services and Water Strategic Policy Committee met to consider the following issues:

- To consider flood alleviation programme
- To review policies relating to derelict sites

- To examine policies/programmes relating to river/surface water quality
- To consider waste reduction initiatives
- To consider green procurement/green finance
- To examine new models relating to public markets
- To consider feasibility of possible roll out of drinking water dispensers
- To assist with roll out of native woodlands initiative
- To focus on air quality policies/issues
- To progress roll out of policies relating to biodiversity particularly in a community/tidy towns context
- To consider issues relating to compacting bins (possible partnership with businesses)
- To review the Litter Management Plan
- To consider motions referred by council

Housing SPC

Name	Sectoral Interest
Councillor Brendan Weld [Chair]	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Daragh Fitzpatrick	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Veralouise Behan	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Tim Durkan	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Chris Pender	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Noel Connolly	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Mark Leigh	Member of Kildare County Council
John McLoughlin	Social Inclusion
Tom O'Malley	PPN Community/Voluntary
Billy Wall	Trade Union
<i>Nominee awaited</i>	<i>Development Construction</i>

The Housing Strategic Policy Committee met to consider the following issues:

- Review of Mid-East Region Homelessness Action Plan
- Review of Kildare Council's Strategic Plan for Housing Persons with a Disability
- Review of Scheme of Priority for Affordable Purchase Arrangements
- Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy
- Rebuilding Ireland
- Choice Based Lettings
- To consider motions referred by council

Note: Former Councillor Mark Wall was Chair of the Housing SPC from January to June 2020 until his election to Seanad Éireann when Councillor Mark Leigh replaced him.

Former Councillor Patricia Ryan was a member of the Housing SPC until her election to Dáil Éireann in February 2020 when Councillor Noel Connolly replaced her.

Climate Action SPC

Name	Sectoral Interest
Councillor Peter Hamilton [Chair]	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Bill Clear	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Fintan Brett	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Ciara Galvin	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Naoise Ó'Cearúil	Member of Kildare County Council
Councillor Fiona McLoughlin Healy	Member of Kildare County Council
Ali Sheridan	PPN Environment/Commercial
Judith Brown	PPN Community/Voluntary
Allan Shine	Business/Commercial

Thomas Malone

Agriculture/Farming

In January 2020, the Chairperson and elected members to the newly formed Climate Action SPC were approved by full council.

The Climate Action Strategic Policy Committee met to consider the following issues:

- To discuss and consider policies relating to the 'Just Transition'
- To examine templates/good practice for community initiatives
- To develop the climate action 'business opportunities' agenda
- To enhance policies relating to modal shift in transport, particularly walking and cycling
- To input into policies relating to the all-Ireland pollinator plan
- To build on existing community inputs such as green schools, green fora, carbon-neutral towns
- To focus on mitigation policies and related initiatives
- To focus on policies relating to the limiting of plastic
- To influence policies at regional and national level
- To increase community awareness and participation in climate action issues
- To input into training/capacity building initiatives
- To consider motions as referred by council

Note: Former Councillor Vincent P Martin was Chair of the Climate Action SPC from January to June 2020 until his appointment to Seanad Éireann. He was replaced on the council by Councillor Colm Kenny who was appointed to the Transportation, Safety and Emergency Services SPC, while Councillor Peter Hamilton moved to Chair the Climate Action SPC.

Appendix 2 - Committees of the Council 2020

Note: The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Mark Stafford, is an ex officio member of all committees and is included on all agenda/agenda reports circulation lists.

Name of Committee	Members
Witness to Affixing of Seal	All Council Members
Audit Committee	Councillors Nuala Killeen, Mark Stafford, Seamie Moore
Finance Committee	Councillors Kevin Duffy, Ivan Keatley, Joe Neville, Angela Feeney, Carmel Kelly
Local Rural Water Monitoring Committee	Councillors Mark Leigh, Vanessa Liston, Brendan Wyse, Fintan Brett, Noel Connolly
Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee	Councillors Aoife Breslin, Nuala Killeen, Daragh Fitzpatrick Peggy O'Dwyer, Anne Breen
Protocol and Procedures Committee	Councillors Aoife Breslin, Vanessa Liston, Pdraig McEvoy, Chris Pender, Fintan Brett, Vera Louise Behan, Michael Coleman, Tim Durkan, Mark Stafford, Carmel Kelly
Corporate Policy Group	Councillors Suzanne Doyle, Ivan Keatley, Aoife Breslin, Joe Neville, Mark Stafford, Brendan Weld, Peter Hamilton, Fintan Brett.
County Kildare Twinning Committee	Councillors Aoife Breslin, Bernard Caldwell, Brendan Weld, Noel Heavey, Fintan Brett
Coiste Gaeilge	Councillors Aoife Breslin, Íde Cussen, Naoise Ó'Cearúil, Noel Heavey, Anne Breen
Decade of Commemoration Committee	Councillors Ciara Galvin, Nuala Killeen, Brendan Weld, Peggy O'Dwyer, Veralouise Behan, Pdraig McEvoy, Noel Connolly
Twining Liaison Committee	Councillors Aoife Breslin, Vanessa Liston, Angela Feeney, Tracey O'Dwyer, Carmel Kelly

Appendix 3 – Membership of External Bodies 2020

External Body	Members
Association of Irish Local Government	Councillors Bill Clear, Fintan Brett, Carmel Kelly
Athy Heritage Company Ltd	Councillors Aoife Breslin, Ivan Keatley, Brian Dooley
Athy Community Enterprise Company CLG	Councillor Brian Dooley
County Joint Policing Committee	Councillors Aoife Breslin, Ivan Keatley, Brian Dooley, Ciara Galvin, Nuala Killeen, Bernard Caldwell, Pdraig McEvoy, Tim Durkan, Naoise Ó’Cearúil, Chris Pender, Fiona McLoughlin Healy, Anne Connolly, Bill Clear, Vincent P Martin (see Note 1), Fintan Brett, Colm Kenny
County Kildare Fáilte	Councillor Suzanne Doyle
Drehid Community Liaison Committee	Councillors Daragh Fitzpatrick, Brendan Wyse
Dublin Mid-Leinster Regional Health Forum	Councillors Mark Wall, Vanessa Liston, Peter Hamilton, Peggy O’Dwyer, <i>Vacancy</i>
Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurance	Councillor Naoise Ó’Cearúil
Kildare Community Network Company	Councillors Rob Power, Brendan Wyse, Seamie Moore
Kildare Heritage Forum	Councillors Vincent P Martin (see Note 1), Noel Heavey, Carmel Kelly, Colm Kenny
Kildare Town Heritage Company CLG	Councillors Suzanne Doyle, Mark Stafford, Patricia Ryan (see Note 2), Noel Connolly
Kildare Sports and Leisure Facilities Ltd	Councillors Anne Breen, Brian Dooley
Kildare Wicklow Education and Training Board	Councillors Angela Feeney, Evie Sammon, Kevin Duffy, Daragh Fitzpatrick, Bernard Caldwell, Peter Hamilton, Íde Cussen
Leixlip Amenities Centre	Councillors Bernard Caldwell, Joe Neville
Local Authorities Members Association	Councillor Joe Neville
Local Community Development Committee	Councillors Aidan Farrelly, Suzanne Doyle, Tracey O’Dwyer
Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly	Councillors Pdraig McEvoy, Fintan Brett, Rob Power
County Kildare LEADER Partnership	Councillors Anne Breen, Evie Sammon, Anne Connolly, Fiona McLoughlin Healy
Monread Community Centre	Councillors Vincent P Martin (see Note 1), Seamie Moore, Colm Kenny
South Western Regional Drugs and Alcohol Taskforce	Councillor Chris Pender

Note 1 - Following his appointment to Seanad Éireann in June 2020, former Councillor Vincent P Martin was replaced by Councillor Colm Kenny on the County Joint Policing Committee, the Kildare Heritage Forum and the Monread Community Centre.

Note 2 – Following her election to Dáil Éireann in February 2020, former Councillor Patricia Ryan was replaced by Councillor Noel Connolly on the Kildare Town Heritage Company CLG.

Appendix 4 – Conferences Attended in 2020

Date	Conference Details	No. of Members Attended
26 November 2020	CMG Urban Development Conference	6

Appendix 5 – Training Attended in 2020

Date	Training Details	No. of Members Attended
13 February 2020	AILG Module 2 Training Eastern Region	2
4 th & 5 th March 2020	AILG Annual Conference	3
12 November 2020	IPA "Introduction to Fraud and Control in Organisations" - Online	1
12 November 2020	IPA "Introduction to Data Protection and GDPR" - Online	1
17 November 2020	IPA " Understanding the Financial Reports of Public Bodies" - Online	2
1 December 2020	IPA "Understanding Local Government Finance " - Online	2

Appendix 6 – Councillors Meeting Attendance in 2020

* indicates member who was elected to Dáil Éireann following the general election in February 2020

**indicates members who were elected or appointed to Seanad Éireann in 2020.

Councillor Name	Total No. of Meetings	No. of Meetings Attended	Total % Rate of Attendance
Aidan Farrelly	29	27	93%
Angela Feeney	34	34	100%
Anne Breen	32	31	97%
Anne Connolly	29	26	90%
Aoife Breslin	48	41	85%
Bernard Caldwell	29	26	90%
Bill Clear	30	25	83%
Brendan Weld	38	37	97%
Brendan Wyse	31	29	94%
Brian Dooley	31	27	87%
Carmel Kelly	37	34	92%
Chris Pender	33	30	91%
Ciara Galvin	30	24	80%
Colm Kenny	10	10	100%

Daragh Fitzpatrick	34	23	68%
Evie Sammon	27	26	96%
Fintan Brett	40	37	93%
Fiona McLoughlin Healy	30	27	90%
Íde Cussen	28	28	100%
Ivan Keatley	44	37	84%
Joe Neville	40	36	90%
Kevin Duffy	33	31	94%
Mark Stafford	43	43	100%
Mark Leigh	17	17	100%
Mark Wall**	9	8	89%
Michael Coleman	33	27	82%
Naoise Ó Cearúil	32	23	72%
Noel Connolly	20	19	95%
Noel Heavey	29	25	86%
Nuala Killeen	36	33	92%
Padraig McEvoy	37	33	89%
Patricia Ryan*	2	2	100%
Paul Ward	29	23	79%
Peggy O Dwyer	32	29	91%
Peter Hamilton	32	31	97%
Robert Power	28	24	86%
Seamie Moore	31	29	94%
Suzanne Doyle	36	33	92%

Tim Durkan	35	31	89%
Tracey O Dwyer	27	26	96%
Vanessa Liston	34	33	97%
Veralouise Behan	33	26	79%
Vincent P Martin**	15	12	80%

Appendix 7 – Councillor Expenses 2020

First Name	Surname	Annual Expenses paid to Councillor €	Mobile Phone Allowance €	Vouched Expenses €	Area Committee Allowance €	SPC Chair Allowance €	Mayor & Deputy Mayor's Allowance €	Conferences €	Training €	Municipal District Chairperson €	Members Annual Allowance €	Membership of outside Bodies €
Behan	Veralouise	8,525.82	219.13		996.58						17,388.22	
Breen	Anne	5,410.55	328.61		996.58						17,388.22	
Breslin	Aoife	7,332.84	329.47		996.58	5,980.00				4,507.32	17,388.22	959.18
Brett	Fintan	5,410.55	328.61		996.58				117.35	5,486.96	17,388.22	566.33
Caldwell	Bernard	7,058.02	90.40		996.58				204.29		17,388.22	336.90
Clear	Bill	5,412.58	90.40		996.58						17,388.22	
Coleman	Michael	4,868.28			996.58					6,439.18	17,388.22	
Connolly	Anne	6,145.14	256.84		996.58						17,388.22	
Connolly	Noel	3,297.95	90.40	4,644.91	858.59						14,992.96	
Cussen	Ide	5,868.28	328.61		996.58					5,565.28	17,388.22	1,040.00
Dooley	Brian	7,424.22	90.40		996.58						17,388.22	
Doyle	Suzanne	6,234.09	278.82		996.58	5,174.55	14,488.23				17,388.22	
Duffy	Kevin	6,813.91	128.73		996.58					5,657.26	17,388.22	
Durkan	Tim	6,326.00			996.58		3,104.60				17,388.22	
Farrelly	Aidan	3,562.78	79.89		996.58						17,388.22	
Feeney	Angela	5,957.90	128.73		996.58						17,388.22	792.67
Fitzpatrick	Daragh	5,410.55			996.58						17,388.22	682.00
Galvin	Ciara	5,870.58	54.24		996.58						17,388.22	
Hamilton	Peter	6,236.52			996.58	1,724.85					17,388.22	
Heavey	Noel	5,412.71			996.58				206.78		17,388.22	
Keatley	Ivan	5,417.19	328.61		996.58	5,980.00					17,388.22	
Kelly	Carmel	5,410.55	90.40		996.58					6,577.14	17,388.22	
Killeen	Nuala	3,007.98	90.40		996.58						17,388.22	
Leigh	Mark	3,806.73									9,071.35	

Liston	Vanessa	3,832.18		4,520.73	996.58						17,388.22	
Martin	Vincent P	2,781.97			498.29	2,990.00					8,649.55	
McEvoy	Pádraig	5,410.55	328.61		996.58						17,388.22	761.41
McLoughlin He	Fiona	5,439.25			996.58						17,388.22	
Moore	Seamie	5,410.55	278.82		996.58		2,897.62				17,388.22	
Neville	Joe	6,875.12	278.82		996.58	5,980.00			183.64		17,388.22	
Ó Cearúil	Naoise	5,915.96			996.58						17,388.22	
O'Dwyer	Peggy	5,412.71	164.89		996.58						17,388.22	
O'Dwyer	Tracey	5,412.71	128.73		996.58						17,388.22	
Pender	Chris	3,007.98	90.40	4,672.22	996.58						17,388.22	
Power	Robert	5,301.05			996.58						17,388.22	486.41
Ryan	Patricia	750.72			114.99						1,996.05	
Sammon	Evie	5,412.71	128.73		996.58						17,388.22	1,950.00
Stafford	Mark	4,471.32	90.40		996.58		15,523.12			5,749.26	17,388.22	
Wall	Mark	1,715.54		457.73	268.31	1,609.86				1,609.79	4,657.45	
Ward	Paul	5,544.08			996.58					3,012.47	17,388.22	
Weld	Brendan	6,051.19	328.61		996.58	3,104.73				2,988.18	17,388.22	
Wyse	Brendan	5,779.06	128.73		996.58						17,388.22	
Kenny	Colm	1,533.75	72.32		287.48						5,079.25	

Appendix 8 - Corporate Plan Progress Report 2020

Functional Area	Corporate Plan	Performance Goals	Supporting Programme	Measurement Methodology	Actual Current Operational Baseline (2018 data unless otherwise stated)	2020 Progress Update (2020 data unless otherwise stated)
Arts Service	4.7 Continue to improve the well-being, learning, recreation and cultural needs of our community through participation in and development of our library, arts, heritage and culture services and programmes	To further develop an Arts Service for Kildare County Council which supports a vibrant arts infrastructure that reaffirms the intrinsic value of the arts, enables public engagement and nurtures the artist	Arts Council Strategy (2016–2025) Making Great Art Work - leading the development of the Arts in Ireland Short Grass Stories An Arts Strategy for Kildare County Council 2018-2022	No. of arts grants and bursary awards	70 grants annually	86 grants and bursary awards
				No. of artists, community groups and arts organisations supported	300	200
				No. of artists on professional development, mentoring and training programmes	120	130
				No. of members of the public attending events	20,000	1,500 including online events
				No. of social media followers and hits on social media links	6,000	Kildare Arts Service Youtube: 12,185 views; Arts in Co Kildare Facebook: 2,608 followers, 8.9k people reached; Kildare Arts Service Instagram: 287 followers; Kildare Arts Service Twitter: 552 followers, 84.9k impressions

Community Services	4.1 Enhance social inclusion, community participation and development through training, awareness, capacity building, community grants and awards in collaboration with the PPN and LCDC	Work to enhance community participation and achieve citizenship through capacity building and training in conjunction with the PPN	Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP), Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) and Public Participation Network (PPN)	No. of PPN Members	934	1080
		To promote consultation and communication through partnership with employees and citizens	Kildare Local Development Strategy 2014-2020	No. of PPN representatives to Kildare County Council & related structures	19	22
		To develop the community leadership role of the council through the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)		No. of events in Social Inclusion Week	19	9 (online due to Covid 19 restrictions)
		To support the work of the Strategic Policy Committees		No. of PPN Information sessions regarding supports available	8	9
				Sustain the current no. of meetings annually by LCDC and its supporting sub-committees	18	23
				No. of policies, strategies and schemes reviewed and developed by Strategic Policy Committee	Reporting to commence in 2020, following formation of new SPCs	5
		Residents Associations: To continue to work with		No. Resident Association Groups	111	342

		existing community residents' associations and support the development of new residents' associations.				
	4.0 To empower all citizens to participate in safe and inclusive communities and access services and supports that make a positive difference in their lives	Continue to promote social inclusion and community development as good practice in all project estates.	Use AIRO data to identify project estates and develop needs analysis.	Kildare County Council priority project estates supported.	10	10
		Support groups to participate in local and national award competitions to highlight best practice and encourage participation	Identify estates, encourage and support participation in Pride of Place	Over 30 groups participate in the annual Pride in your Place Competition.	30	23
			Coordinate youth workers in priority project estates with Kildare Youth Service	Over 10 young people participate in the Youth Endeavour Awards.	10	2
	4.1 Enhance social inclusion, community participation and development through training, awareness, capacity building, community grants and awards in collaboration with the PPN and LCDC	Supports in the preparation of project proposals/accessing grants/funds for identified projects, e.g. community, festival, LPT etc		74 applications for LARA Open Space Grant	74	78
			235 Community/Festival Grant applications from targeted estates	235	215	

	4.8 Oversee and collaborate with partner agencies in the LCDC to implement a joined up, cross sectoral approach to local and community development programming, particularly targeting the most excluded.	To continue to focus on social inclusion as a means of tackling poverty and disadvantage	Regular meetings and ongoing multi-agency coordination	At least 4 meetings per year	4	6
		Multi-Agency group established for targeted estates in the County to highlight gaps in service provision	Funding and scale of groups assisted through SICAP, LEADER.	Scale of annual funding	€1m	SICAP spent all of its allocated budget of €1,092,867. LEADER allocated €1,607,870 in 2020. SICAP worked with 706 individuals as part of its' annual plan 32 projects worth €1,607,870 were funded under LEADER. SICAP worked with 67 local community groups through its' work in line with the agreed annual plan
				No. of persons supported annually	800	
No. of groups supported annually	60					
			Ensure monitoring and review of SICAP to maximise impacts	Bi-monthly LCDC reports	Yes	Yes bi-monthly (6) SICAP sub group meetings with reports to the board. In addition, 1 meeting with Pobal liaison officer

				Annual review complete Yes/No		Yes - mid year and end of year review 2020 completed and approved by LCDC
4.2 Collaborate with relevant agencies to support the development of children and young people through accessible youth-specific facilities, childcare, recreation, sports, education and health services	To continue to support the work of Comhairle na nOg under the national policy framework "Better Outcomes Brighter Futures 2014-2020"	Kildare County Council continues to support the development of Comhairle na nOg overseeing the service level agreement with Kildare Youth Service	No. of Second-level schools participated in Comhairle	34	58	
4.11 Promote and recognise cultural differences in planning and decision making by understanding needs, agreeing actions and including more diversity in decision making structures	To continue to develop a more inclusive and inter-cultural society in the county through the implementation of the Co Kildare Integration Strategy 2019-2024	Continue to run a number of events and develop strategies to promote diversity and a more inclusive county	Successful Africa Day, Inter-cultural event held in Athy, May 2019	Reporting to commence in 2020, following development of an adoption of new integration strategy	Currently in consultation phase for new integration strategy	
			Develop and implement a Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy to support communities	Strategy adopted in 2019	Implementation worker appointed and implementation committee in place	
2.7 Develop and leverage opportunities for community, cultural and economic	Twinning: Strengthen and develop Kildare cultural relationships across the world.	10-member Committee meeting	No. of active twinning groups in County	17	17 (website developed www.kildaretwinning.ie)	

			enhance towns, housing estates and amenities in the county			awarded €35,800 to 9 groups
			Annual county-wide information sessions across the county to inform community of grants available and application guidance	No. of information sessions	8	2
	4.4 To facilitate the provision of recreation, sports and open space facilities in the County and educate and build the capacity of the entire community to participate in healthier lifestyles	To promote access to community-based sports and recreational opportunities	Five new playgrounds will be established in Kildare in line with Kildare Play Strategy 2018-2028	Cumulative total of playgrounds/skateparks/outdoor gyms facilitated and/or maintained by the Council	Playgrounds – 30 Outdoor gyms – 11 Skateparks - 3	Playgrounds - 27 Outdoor Gyms - 10 Skateparks – 3 Construction works started on a new Playground in Castledermot and preparation of a planning application for Allenwood playground. Addition of equipment to Celbridge Abbey

						playground planned also
	To seek the delivery of physical and community infrastructure in conjunction with high quality residential developments to create quality living conditions	Annual 'Play Day' held annually since 2015 circa 3,000 children	Cumulative attendance at Annual Play Day over Corporate Plan lifetime	3,000	No event held in 2020 due to Covid 19 restrictions. 800 play packs distributed as an alternative	
		Continue to support Kildare Sports Partnership and in particular the Sports Inclusion and Disability Programme to increase participation	Annual participation in Kildare residents engaged in sports and physical activities.	30,000	26,000	
	To support the development and enhancement of local sports, leisure, recreational and arts facilities	Development of amenity lands at following locations: The Bawnogues, Kilcock, Lough na Mona, Cherry Avenue, Kildare Town.	Castledermot Allenwood Prosperous	Castledermot – Part 8 approved Construction to start 2020 in Allenwood Prosperous Part 8 approved tender for	Construction started Site of playground had to be changed. New part 8 prepared and advertised Playground completed and opened	

			Commencement of plans for three additional playgrounds		design and construction in progress	
	1.7 Continue to improve and maintain the appearance of our County with the cooperation of our communities	To enhance and develop the appearance and environment of Kildare	Delivery of annual Parks Section works programme	Landscaping schemes carried out on Roundabouts Villages and estates	28 Roundabouts landscaped. 12 other small-scale projects carried out 2019. 18 planned for progress in 2020	15 small scale landscape works projects completed in 2020.
				Annual Funding for tree surgery, planting, summer bedding etc	€580,500 (2019)	€580,500
	1.1 To protect, conserve and promote our County's natural and built heritage & identify and support biodiversity for the benefit of our policies, people and our environment	To protect and maintain the natural environment of Kildare and change management of amenity & recreation areas to mitigate and adapt to climate change and benefit biodiversity, subject to funding and resources	Conduct baseline assessment of potential Pollinator Friendly sites and introduction of further wildflower areas to parks and open spaces	Existing Wildflower areas in parks	6	Pilot scheme of 20 Different locations chosen for reduced mowing to assist pollinators

			Introduction of pollinator friendly actions to parks and open spaces in the County.	Implement the actions for County Councils identified in the All Ireland Pollinator Plan 2015-2020	Reporting due in 2020	As above, and Kilcullen roundabout, Naas planted with pollinator friendly plants
			Conservation works in Leixlip Spa.	Conservation of Spa Well to be progressed in 2020	Reporting due in 2020	Annual programme of grassland meadow and wetland areas maintenance complete
			4.3 Continue to support the active inclusion of people through the delivery of Age Friendly Programmes in partnership with the National Shared Services Centre	To lead and support the Kildare Age - Friendly County Programme (and act as regional lead for South East region) which is being developed and overseen by the Kildare Age Friendly Alliance supported by Age Friendly Ireland	<p>Celbridge established Age Friendly Town. Kildare Older Persons Council established and supported</p> <p>KCC will lead the South East Regional Programme as part of its' shared service function</p>	<p>No. of roadshows</p> <p>Attendance at events</p>

						Annual Report published identifying progress on key objectives from the Kildare strategy. Support given to national shared service centre and SE continues as agreed with Age Friendly Ireland
Corporate Services	6.10 Improve visibility and awareness of the Council by effectively promoting our role and our achievements in the delivery of projects and services	To increase the use of social media by the council and enhance community awareness	Putting People First and Council Communications Strategy	No. of followers on social media channels	34,608	49,395 (2019 NOAC). Kildare County Council central channels end 2020: FB 15,081; Twitter 8,520; Instagram 1,516
	6.7 Continue to support strong audit, financial, risk, data and corporate governance and reporting systems to build public confidence, maximise	To ensure transparency is upheld and that the FOI Act 2014 is complied with.	Freedom of Information Act 2014	Average no. of days for FOI decisions made (statutory requirement is 20 working days)	18.9 Days	24 days
				Annual training on FOI delivered to Decision Makers Yes/No	Yes	Yes
6.4 Utilise ICT to reduce costs, improve operational efficiency,	To ensure ICT is used to track and	Maximising use of CRM for managing	No. of customer cases processed annually within	9400	14,334	

	expand online and Cloud enabled services to make it easier for customers to access services and information	effectively manage customer interactions	customer cases	the Customer Relation Management System		
	6.4 Support local democracy and the interests of the community by assisting the role of elected representatives and by growing voter registration	To ensure ICT is used to track and effectively support the elected members role	Maximising use of CRM for managing customer cases	No. of representations from elected members processed annually	4787	5,106
		To grow awareness and participation in the electoral process	Putting People First and Local Government Reform Act	No. on Draft register of Electors	150,556	151,751
	1.3 Ensure over the lifetime of the Corporate Plan that climate action is mainstreamed into the Council's policies, buildings, infrastructure and operations to reduce energy demand	To ensure that all non-domestic local authority owned premises comply with sustainability requirements by undergoing energy audits to identify ways to improve energy efficiency.	Kildare County Council Climate Change Adaptation Strategy	Cumulative no. (and type) of non-domestic local authority owned premises where an energy audit has been carried out at end 2018	6 Libraries 2 Office Buildings (including head office Aras Chill Dara)	9 energy audits completed in 2020 6 Fire Stations 2 Libraries 1 Aras Chill Dara

Economic Development	2.1 Grow employment by supporting existing SME's growth and innovation plans, while maintaining a supportive environment that attracts and supports entrepreneurship	To strengthen the enterprise base and encourage job creation activities Promote entrepreneurship & provide an integrated support structure conducive to enterprise start up and growth	Local Economic & Community Plan. Local Enterprise Office SLA with Enterprise Ireland Enterprise 2025. Kildare Annual Enterprise Plan	Number of jobs created Financial Activity No. of grants approved. No. of training participants on training courses No. of mentoring sessions No. of online trading vouchers approved	285 68 grants approved 1,653 421 40	252 created, loss of 263, net loss of 11 jobs from LEO portfolio 555 grants approved 3,612 1,088 632
	2.10 Support creativity, innovation and enterprise in Kildare through effective stimuli for local entrepreneurship to leverage the innovative capacity of the County and retain talented people	Promote and assist access to the agile and Innovation funds across all industry sectors		No. of Innovation vouchers availed of & € value of funds accessed by Kildare Based Companies	Reporting to commence in 2020	Reporting to commence in 2021
	2.2 Work with strategic partners to deliver infrastructure and promotional campaigns to attract, sustain and expand foreign direct	Promote Kildare as location of choice for FDI Investment & support existing FDI companies in sustaining and	Kildare County Councils FDI strategy in association with Chamber, IDA, MUI to attract FDI.	No. of FDI companies in Kildare No. employed in the equine industry. No. of visitors related	28 Reporting to commence in 2020	29 4,735 direct, indirect & secondary employment

	investment and major indigenous companies	expanding their business.					
	2.3 Support and promote growth opportunities for the equine industry in recognition of its central place as a unique feature of Kildare's identity	Promote Kildare as 'The Thoroughbred County'	Kildare County Council Economic Strategy and supporting strategies in Tourism, Equine and Retail	No. of training participants in Equine related programs	Reporting to commence in 2020	26	
		Pursue planning policies which protect the environmental qualities which have led to the development of Kildare as the centre of the equine industry in Ireland		No. of start-ups in Equine Tech Hub		Reporting to commence in 2021	
	2.5 Consult with communities and collaborate with partners to enhance the public realm and design of our towns and villages and deliver projects and programmes that revitalise the local retail economy and rural hinterlands	Facilitate and support the expansion and sustainment of the retail offering in County Kildare		Completion of an Equine Asset map of the County	Reporting to commence in 2021	Reporting to commence in 2021	
				Establishment of an Equine Industry Forum		Reporting to commence in 2021	
				No. of retail Outlets in the County		Reporting to commence in 2020	Reporting to commence in 2021
				No. of Shops opting to use Shop Front Grant Scheme		33 shop front grants approved	93
				No. of entrants in pride of place Shop Front Competition.		Reporting to commence in 2020	n/a postponed in 2020 due to Covid 19 pandemic
		No. of retailers engaging with Age Friendly Business Recognition Scheme	Reporting to commence in 2020	17 – training (developing an age-friendly digital strategy).			
		No. of MD'S Developing and promoting initiative Purple brigade	Reporting to commence in 2020	Reporting to commence in 2021			

				No. of MD'S Developing and promoting Enterprise Town initiatives	Reporting to commence in 2020	Reporting to commence in 2021
				No. of retail adopting online amongst our bricks and mortar retailers	Reporting to commence in 2020	632
	2.4 Collaborate with local providers, communities and strategic agencies to develop, package and promote our tourism offering and leverage our location as part of Ireland's Ancient East, located on Dublin's Doorstep.	Support, co-ordinate and optimize the visitor experience potential and reinforcing a positive image encompassing, Equine, history, culture, food, retail and natural and built environment.		Completion of an Asset Map across the county	Reporting to commence in 2020	Reporting postponed in 2020 due to Covid 19
		Support the expansion/improvement of existing network of facilities in Tourism, Hospitality & Leisure Industry.		Increased No. employed in the sectors associated with visitor experience No. of visitors as well as FDI and business start-ups in the County	Reporting to commence in 2020 Reporting to commence in 2020	Reporting postponed in 2020 due to Covid 19 Reporting postponed in 2020 due to Covid 19
	2.8 Continue to work with partner agencies to support rural communities through skills development, enabling broadband delivery and supporting employment opportunities aligned	Increase economic activity and build sustainability into the rural economy Support increase development of rural enterprises particular in renewable energy	Kildare Leader Programme National Tourism Strategy	Increased No. of rural enterprise and diversification initiatives Development of Agrifood – Science network Development of Agrifood - Hub	Reporting to commence in 2020	Reporting postponed in 2020 due to Covid 19

	to a rural lifestyle and setting	and Green technology Encourage and support start up enterprises along the blueway and greenways				
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	<p>2.9 Working in collaboration with all education stakeholders, encourage and support skill development and talent retention required by employers in all sectors</p>	<p>Encourage and support upskilling job mobility and enterprise creation management</p>	<p>Kildare Economic Enterprise and training strategy</p> <p>Mid-East Enterprise plan 2020 in association with South East regional Skills Forum</p> <p>Innovative Enterprise liaison Strategies between Kildare LEO, KWETB and sectorial business networks</p> <p>Mid-East Enterprise Plan 2020</p> <p>Kildare County Council Economic Forum</p>	<p>No. of people engaged in upskilling and training in business sector</p>	<p>Reporting to commence in 2020</p>	<p>3,784</p> <p>The Mid-East Regional Enterprise Plan 2020 in association with the Mid-East Regional Skills Forum is complete. A new plan 2021 – 2024 is being prepared and is due to be published in Q3 2021.</p> <p>Reporting to commence in 2021</p> <p>Kildare County Council’s Economic Development Strategy – Kildare 2025 has been adopted by council members and</p>
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			Strategy with South East regional Skills Forum			will be implemented throughout 2021 - 5
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	<p>2.0 To optimise the potential of Kildare and its businesses to innovate, invest, promote and sustain growth and employment, across our County and throughout our community.”</p>	<p>Contribute to the growth of the region and expand international reach</p>	<p>Mid-East Enterprise Plan 2020</p>	<p>No. of client companies exporting</p> <p>No. of clients accessing TAME vouchers</p>	<p>Reporting to commence in 2020</p>	<p>250</p> <p>International travel impacted due to Covid 19</p>
			<p>Kildare County Council Economic Strategy</p>	<p>No. of innovation hubs developed in the County and Region</p> <p>No. of HPSU start-ups transferred to Enterprise Ireland</p> <p>No. of start-ups on Global ambition programme</p> <p>No. of attendees at regional conference on innovation</p>	<p>Reporting to commence in 2020</p>	<p>3</p> <p>2</p> <p>15</p> <p>Innovations Conference (in-person) Oct 2019 – 60+ participants. Dec 2020 Workplace of the Future (digital seminar) – 216 registered participants</p>
			<p>ERDF and Regional Economic Strategy and Kildare County Council Climate Change Adaptation Strategy</p>	<p>% occupancy of MERITS</p>	<p>Measurement to commence on delivery of MERITS project</p>	<p>Hosted x2 innovation events.</p> <p>x10 businesses committed to Innovate Kildare Programme with Carlow IT.</p>
<p>1.9 Promote key aspects of the Green Economy including the adoption of appropriate alternative, sustainable and smart energy solutions including co-working hubs</p>	<p>To provide opportunities to reduce car-based commuting out of the County, through high quality co-working hubs enabling people to work remotely, temporarily or permanently</p>					

Environment Services / Water & Climate Change	1.6 Ensure continued robust enforcement, licensing, certification and regulation in environmental protection, planning, building control, fire safety and public health and safety in order to support our citizen's quality of life and the built and natural environment.	Ensure a high-quality environment through effective environmental enforcement activities	1992 EPA Act	No. of complaints logged on the KCC Pollution Complaints Portal (across all environmental categories)	2,100	1,931 – total complaints
				No. of complaints lodged with EPA	50	
			No. of complaints lodged with Office of Environmental Enforcement (OEE)	20	No. of litter fines issued	340
		Ensure the protection of rivers and public waterways and use enforcement legislation where necessary to prevent pollution	The Water Framework Directive	RMCEI – Recommended minimum criteria for Environment Inspection – samples taken	318	636
	1.5 Drive climate change action and environmental protection through organisational and community awareness, supports, research and facilities	Provide for the maintenance of existing Civic Amenity Sites to encourage the recycling of waste and forward plan for new Civic Amenity Sites where deemed	Easter Midlands Region Waste Management Plan 2015 – 2-21	No. of managed civic amenity facilities in the county	2	2

		necessary and funding available				
	1.6 Ensure continued robust enforcement, licensing, certification and regulation in environmental protection, planning, building control, fire safety and public health and safety in order to support our citizen's quality of life and the built and natural environment.	Oversee the provision of waste collection on a County-wide basis, both domestically and commercially; and take enforcement action where necessary. Plan for long-term cemetery needs of the county and maintain existing cemeteries	Waste Management Act 1986 (as amended) and operation of relevant waste management bye laws Public Health Acts and local Bye-Laws	No. of notices issued regarding potential infringements No. of spot checks for compliance Management and enforcement where necessary of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste facility permits • Certificates of registration • Waste collection permit holders Funding for cemetery maintenance, improvement and expansion programme	Reporting to commence in 2020 Reporting to commence in 2020 22 4 137	Reporting to commence in 2021 Reporting to commence in 2021 24 8 116 Funding for cemetery maintenance, improvement and expansion programme
	1.10 Support and incentivise positive community actions that improve our environment and mitigate climate change	Support and recognize environmental protection through community awareness, supports, incentives and facilities	National Litter Pollution Monitoring Scheme	National Tidy Towns results IBAL survey results	10 medals 'Clean to European Norms' 130	No competition in 2020 Maynooth 10 th – 'Clean to European Norms' Newbridge 9 th – 'Clean to European Norms' 33

				No. of Green Flag schools participating	40	39
				No. of glass recycling facilities		
1.6 Ensure continued robust enforcement, licensing, certification and regulation in environmental protection, planning, building control, fire safety and public health and safety in order to support our citizen's quality of life and the built and natural environment.	Ensure the control of dogs	Control of Dogs Act	No. of dog licences issued	4,587	5,909	
	Ensure the protection of the general public against dangerous structures and derelict sites	Derelict Sites Act Sanitary services Act (Dangerous Structures)	No. of dogs rehomed/reclaimed/transferred to welfare groups	158	74	
	Ensure the food safety standards monitored and enforced	Public Health Act, 1878 and Council Bye-Laws	No. of entries in Derelict Sites register	15	2	
			No. of dangerous structures cases	3	5	
			No. of Food Safety Authority of Ireland inspections of abattoirs	Monthly at all facilities	Monthly facility inspections	
1.3 Ensure over the lifetime of the Corporate Plan that climate action is mainstreamed into the Council's policies, buildings, infrastructure and operations to reduce energy demand	To support the implementation of the All of Government Climate Action Plan (Note: all of Government Climate Action Plan requires reduction in CO2 eq emissions by 30% by 2030)	Sectoral reporting and monitoring structure in place	Engage with and implement the reporting and monitoring structure to be implemented for Local Government Sector		SECAP to align with requirements of Climate Action Plan which will be prepared following enactment of the new Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2020	

		To sign and commence implementation of the local authority sector climate charger	To establish reporting structures to monitor implementation of the Climate Charter	Annual reporting on progression of actions contained within Climate Charter		To have SECAP in place by end Sept 2021 which will establish a pathway for achieving the 2030 Covenant of Mayors targets
	6.7 Continue to support strong audit, financial, risk, data and corporate governance, transparency and reporting systems to build public confidence, transparency, maximise efficiency and ensure compliance with our obligations	Ensure the public's right of access to environmental information (AIE)	European Communities (Access to Information on the Environment) Regulations	No. of access to information on the environment requests	13	7
Environment (Historic Landfills)	1.6 To protect, conserve and promote our County's natural and built heritage & identify and support biodiversity for the benefit of our policies, people and our environment	Kerdiffstown Remediation project management and remediation of former landfill site	DCCAE funded project Memorandum of Understanding (DCCAE)	Phased delivery of a remediated landfill and conversation to public amenity land acquisition	Programme of works agreed, tender assessment ongoing CPO approved, lands being acquired	Main works contractor appointed in October 2020 with initial remediation works underway on site by the end of the year. Significant progress with acquisition of relevant lands arising out of CPO process

				Planning approval received & EPA Licence	Compliance with licence	
Water Services	1.8 To protect and improve water quality through implementing River Basin Management Plans and supporting the Multi Annual Rural Water Programme for the County	Rural Water Provision of support/advice to Group Water schemes and small private supplies through Govt grants and liaison with Irish Water.	Dept of Housing Planning Local Government – Rural Water Multi-Annual Programme 2019-2021 Compliance with EU Drinking Water Regulation	Actual spend under Rural Water Multi Annual Programme 2019-2021 HSE record of water sampling results No. of well grant applications processed	Allocation for life of programme €414,000 2 samples per year per private supply 47 (Sept 2019)	Total spend to date €49,744 102 samples 43
Finance	6.7 Continue to support strong audit, financial, risk, data and corporate governance and reporting systems to build public confidence, maximise efficiency and ensure compliance with our obligations	To ensure that the Council's Revenue account is in balance over medium term	Improve Rates Income Collection	Collection level for rates Collection level for rents and amenities	82% 89% 51%	As a result of the Covid Pandemic the Department paid a 9 months rates waiver and as this was not treated as cash the 2020 Rates Collection Rate is 70%. However, if the waiver had been treated as cash the 2020 Rates Collection rate would have been 80% 92% 62%

				Collection level of housing loans Annual Financial Statement	Annually - March	2020 Annual Financial Statement sent to Dept March 2021
			Budget as adopted to be sufficient to meet the expenditure arising in the year	Revenue expenditure per capita	€646.25	€978.21
	1.3 Ensure over the lifetime of the Corporate Plan that climate action is mainstreamed into the Council's policies, buildings, infrastructure and operations to reduce energy demand	To enhance the competency of staff in Green Procurement practices.	Climate Action Plan	No. of relevant staff attending Green Procurement briefings/training	Reporting to commence in 2020	N/A
Fire Services & Emergency Management	4.9 To protect our citizens from fire through an efficient and effective Fire Service that co-ordinates with other response services when emergencies occur	To protect communities from fire and other emergencies, working with partner agencies and in accordance with national policies	To identify and manage risk and to prepare to respond to emergencies in accordance with the framework for Major	Cost of Fire service per capita Average time taken to mobilise fire brigades % of cases in respect of fire/other emergency incidents in which first	€30.48 6.33 minutes (2018 data) 10 Minutes Fire incidents: 21.17% Other: 17.10%	€32.00 6.53 minutes Fire incidents: 20.20% Other: 14.62%

Housing Supply	3.1 To increase and maintain housing provision in Kildare in line with the national objectives of “Rebuilding Ireland: Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness” and to strive to achieve social housing targets and delivery of affordable housing.	<p>Deliver new local authority social housing units across the following programmes: Construction, Turnkey, Acquisition, Housing Assistance Payment, Rental Accommodation Scheme, Leasing [including Repair and Lease Scheme], Buy and Renew Scheme, Public Private Partnerships, Part V, Land Acquisition, Affordable Housing.</p> <p>To pursue opportunities for joint venture initiatives.</p> <p>To support approved housing bodies to deliver social housing units across the following programmes: Capital Advance Leasing Facility, Capital Assistance Scheme, Social Leasing Scheme</p>	<p>Rebuilding Ireland - Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness .</p> <p>Note: all new social housing where a part 8 has been published after 31 October 2019 and where the dwelling is not substantially complete before 31 October 2020 will comply with Near Zero Energy Building (NZEB) requirements</p> <p>National Vacant Housing Reuse Strategy 2018 – 2021</p>	<p>Combined number of units delivered across the different streams DHPLG annual targets.</p> <p>Targets for HAP and RAS delivery</p>	<p>Delivery across all schemes: Housing Assistance Payment (HAP): 706</p> <p>Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS): 4</p> <p>Construction: 26</p> <p>Acquisition: 225</p> <p>Leasing (CALF): 20</p> <p>Parv V: 30</p> <p>Leasing: 12</p> <p>Capital Acquisition Scheme: 28</p>	<p>682</p> <p>360 active tenancies</p> <p>200 including turnkey</p> <p>97</p> <p>169</p> <p>41</p> <p>54</p> <p>39</p> <p>3 CPOs commenced</p>
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			Kildare County Council Vacant Homes Action Plan 2018 – 2021			
	3.2 Implement the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024 and support members of the Travelling community, who have been approved for social housing, to access and maintain housing supports including culturally appropriate housing	Support members of the Travelling Community to access social housing support.	Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024.	No. Traveller specific units delivered under Traveller Accommodation Plan 2014-2018	71	20 allocations
	3.3 Continue to work with regional and sectoral partners to	Continue the roll out of the HAP Homeless Placefinder Service	Mid-East Region Homelessness	No. of Housing First tenancies supported	10 (based on 2018 returns to DHPLG)	6 tenancies established 8

	<p>reduce the numbers of people who need to be placed in emergency accommodation, by increasing availability of housing stock and working closely with approved housing bodies and advocacy groups to reduce the numbers who find themselves homeless or at risk of being homeless, and enable people to sustain their tenancies</p>	<p>Introduce and deliver Housing First in the county in conjunction with our partners – The Peter McVerry Trust</p> <p>Pursue innovative solutions to address homelessness in the county</p> <p><i>Note: Kildare County Council is the lead authority for the Mid-East Region (Kildare, Meath, Wicklow) and as such, has a key role in relation to the implementation of the regional action plan and Housing First implementation, in addition to reporting responsibilities to Dept of Housing, Planning and Local Government</i></p>	<p>Action Plan 2018 – 2020</p> <p>Housing First Implementation Plan 2018 – 2021</p>	<p>No. of mortgage rent cases concluded</p>	
	<p>3.4 To maximise availability and utilisation of housing through repair/refurbishment of vacant units</p>	<p>Utilisation of Existing Housing Stock</p> <p>Greater utilisation and improvement of existing social and</p>	<p>Kildare County Council Implementation Plan for the Inspection of</p>	<p>No. of units acquired/leased.</p> <p>No. of maintenance repairs</p>	<p>225 units acquired/18 leased</p> <p>6,733 repairs completed</p> <p>See section 3.1 above</p>

	private housing stock to increase the availability of social housing	Rental Properties	Expenditure on planned/response maintenance	5.311 housing repairs carried out	€3,141,840 spent on maintenance of stock including planned maintenance
			No. of private units inspected	€3,600,345 spent on planned maintenance	972
				462 private rented properties inspected	
3.5 To provide suitable, accessible social housing and housing supports for older persons and people with a disability and to support homeowners to carry out necessary adaptations/improvements to enable them to continue residing in their home	Provision of Housing Support to Persons with a Disability	National Guidelines for the Assessment and Allocation Process for Social Housing Provision for People with a Disability.	Achieve targets for the provision of suitable housing.	10% of acquisitions (depending on market availability) + 12% of new builds suitable for a person with a disability.	10% acquisition target achieved
	Deliver and adapt appropriate housing for disabled persons and provide grand funding	Kildare County Council Strategic Plan for Housing Persons with Disabilities Kildare County Council	No. of grants paid	438 grants paid	493
			No. of Capital Assistance Scheme units delivered	28 new CAS households created (2018 full year figure)	39 CAS

			Housing and Disability Steering Group			
			Capital Assistance Scheme			
	3.7 Facilitate access to social housing, and other supports, where applicants have demonstrated eligibility with the necessary criteria	<p>Support to Customers and Tenants Provide eligible persons with access to social housing supports, engage with and support existing tenants.</p> <p>Support eligible persons to access Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan funding</p>	<p>Social Housing Assessment Regulations 2011 Allocation Scheme for Social Housing</p> <p>Anti-social Behaviour Strategy</p> <p>Kildare County Council Tenant Handbook</p>	<p>No. of allocations to social houses</p> <p>Housing applications processed within permitted time frame</p> <p>Undertake an annual housing needs assessment in accordance with departmental guidelines</p> <p>No. of loans approved</p>	<p>546 allocations (2018)</p> <p>All housing applications processed within the permitted timeframe (952 in 2018)</p> <p>Annual housing needs assessment (1 per annum) completed within the permitted timeframe</p> <p>63 (April – Dec 2018)</p>	<p>757</p> <p>705 new applications processed</p> <p>Needs assessment completed</p> <p>49 loans (approvals in principle)</p>

	1.3 Ensure over the lifetime of the Corporate Plan that climate action is mainstreamed into the Council's policies, buildings, infrastructure and operations to reduce energy demand	<p>To continue to encourage energy efficiency and environmental awareness by incorporating a module in the tenancy induction programme.</p> <p>To implement a programme of retrofitting Council houses to increase energy efficiency and reduce carbon usage, subject to available resources</p>	Climate Action Plan	<p>Review of relevant content during 2020</p> <p>No. of tenants receiving revised tenant handbook</p> <p>Measurement methodology to be determined</p>	Measurement commencing in 2020	<p>200 A-Rated units constructed including turnkey units.</p> <p>41 A-Rated Part V units acquired</p> <p>90 open flues for burning of solid fuel blocked up</p> <p>167 units constructed with air to water heat pumps for primary heating (includes Part V and Turnkey units)</p>
Human Resources Department	6.3 Support organisational effectiveness, training and continuous professional development, staff well-being, innovation, Flexibility and performance by implementing the sectoral people strategy	Build organisational competence to effectively deliver on our current and future services through creating a culture of training excellence and continuous learning and development	Implementation of People Strategy	<p>No. of average training days per staff member (2018)</p> <p>No. of training courses/seminars delivered (2018)</p> <p>No. of staff attending training</p>	<p>3.06</p> <p>427</p> <p>952</p>	<p>1.94</p> <p>319</p> <p>926</p>
ICT Services	6.4 Utilise ICT to reduce costs, improve operational efficiency, expand online and Cloud enabled	Support the functions of Kildare County Council through innovative ICT solutions	Kildare County Council IT Strategy	<p>Overall cost of ICT provision per WTE</p> <p>No. of page views on LA website</p>	<p>€2,541.51</p> <p>2,400,420</p>	<p>€2,929,733</p> <p>1,947,672</p>

	services to make it easier for customers to access services and information.			% of Motor Tax transaction completed online	82.72%	91.21%
Planning	5. "Continue to plan, deliver and maintain key infrastructure in our County that sustains mobility and access and positions Kildare to achieve sustainable growth."	To ensure effective, proper planning and sustainable, balanced development of urban and rural areas	<p>Adopt and implement quality development plans consistent with regional and national policies</p> <p>Manage submissions on compliance with conditions associated with grants of planning permission and compliance with conditions</p>	<p>Variation of Kildare County Development Plan</p> <p>Local Area Plans: Naas, Athy, Kildare Town, Maynooth, Celbridge, Newbridge, Kilcock, Monasterevin, Clane, Sallins, Kilcullen</p> <p>Review of Kildare County Development Plan</p>	<p>Complete by 31/12/20</p> <p>Complete by 01/02/23 Rolling programme 2019 – 2024</p> <p>New to 2020</p>	<p>Completed and adopted 09/06/2020</p> <p>Draft Athy LAP to be considered at Special Meeting 23/04/2021. Draft Naas LAP on public consultation 09/03/2021 - 21/04/2021. Background papers and assessments being compiled for Kildare Town and Maynooth</p> <p>Pre-draft issues paper published 11 Jan 21. 2x online public consultations held in addition to other stakeholder/state agency engagement. Additional background work to inform CDP underway</p>
				Processing of planning applications	1,596 applications	1,627 applications

					1,288 decisions issued	1,170 decisions issued
	<p>1.6 Ensure continued robust enforcement, licensing, certification and regulation in environmental protection, planning management and control, building control, fire safety and public health and safety in order to support our citizen's quality of life and the build and natural environment</p>	To ensure effective, proper planning and sustainable, balanced development of urban and rural areas	National Planning Framework under Project Ireland 2040. Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2019 - 2031	<p>% of Planning enforcement cases closed (against no. of cases that were investigated)</p> <p>% of applications where the decision was confirmed (with or without variation) by An Bord Pleanála</p> <p>Buildings inspected as a % of new buildings notified to the local authority</p>	<p>49.2% (2018).</p> <p>84.93% (2018)</p> <p>17.89% (2018)</p>	<p>48.72% (2020)</p> <p>73.85% (2020)</p> <p>16.8% (2020)</p>
	<p>5.6 To ensure planning policy and development management support consolidated urban development and the reuse and regeneration of land and buildings in order to make the provision of key public services sustainable</p>	To ensure effective, proper planning and sustainable, balanced development of urban and rural areas	Manage submissions on compliance with conditions associated with grants of planning permission	<p>Cost of the planning service per capita</p> <p>Pre-planning meetings</p>	<p>€35.44 per person (2018)</p> <p>222 commercial meetings 143 one-off housing meetings 10 pre-planning clinics</p>	<p>€35.09 per person (2020)</p> <p>127 commercial meetings 108 one-off housing meetings 2 pre-planning clinics; remainder by phone/email consultation due to Covid 19 restrictions</p>

				Section 5 (exempt development) declarations	36 decisions issued	29 decisions issued
Building Control	3.8 Facilitate and promote excellence in architectural and urban design and maintain development controls to support sustainable and quality built environments	To ensure safe and sustainable buildings in urban and rural areas	Monitor compliance with building control	No. of inspections	153	2067
Planning – Building Control	1.6 Ensure continued robust enforcement, licensing, certification and regulation in environmental protection, planning, building control, fire safety and public health and safety in order to support our citizen’s quality of life and the built and natural environment	To ensure safe and sustainable buildings in urban and rural areas	Monitor compliance with building control regulations, energy performance of buildings directive, construction products regulation National building control	No. of commencement notices received No. of valid commencement notices received No. of inspections carried out on commencement notices No. of certificates of compliance received No. of disability certificates received	662 618 109 644 139 130	461 454 199 426 124 137

			management system	No. of disability certs granted		
Planning Strategic Projects & Public Realm	2.5 Consult with communities and collaborate with partners to enhance the public realm and design of our towns and villages and deliver projects that revitalise the local economy and rural hinterlands.	<p>To conduct a “health check”/ urban design analysis of settlements and develop an associated Town/ Village Renewal Plan in line with the County Development Plan and an agreed programme across Municipal Districts</p> <p>To actively pursue funding opportunities for projects that revitalise the county’s towns & villages</p> <p>To maximise public participation and collaboration in informing design and project proposals for each town and village</p>	Town and Village Renewal Scheme, Rural Regeneration and Development Fund, Urban Regeneration and Development Fund	<p>No. of settlements reviewed per year in line with agreed programme</p> <p>Total value of funding approvals annually</p> <p>No. of public consultation events held per year and No. of associated submissions received</p>	<p>Reporting to commence in 2020</p> <p>€5m being sought over 2 RRDF applications in 2020</p> <p>17 planned for 2020</p>	<p>10 in progress during 2020</p> <p>€3,490,000 awarded for Naas Town Centre plan & cultural quarter. €1,900,000 awarded for Maynooth Town Centre plan</p> <p>10 progressed online in 2020 due to Covid 19 restrictions</p>
	5.2 Promote and support the use, development and maintenance of sustainable transport	To deliver projects that revitalise the local economy and rural hinterlands of the County’s Towns	Town and Village Renewal Scheme	Funding per annum on completed projects	Reporting to commence in 2020	€750,000 spent on completing Prosperous Town Park in 2020. €40,000 spent on completion of

	alternatives including walking, cycling and public transport in collaboration with key transport stakeholders and agencies	and Villages, including greenway and blueway projects. To create an increased sense of place, where sustainable transport and modal shift is prioritised.	Rural Regeneration and Development Fund Urban Regeneration and Development Fund	Value of active projects on hand at year end		Roberstown Amenity Lands Masterplan €36,033,278 at end of 2020.
Roads, Transportati on and Public Safety	5.1 Optimise connectivity and ease of access within and through the County through planning, development, maintenance, upgrade and management of a safe road network	Deliver a Multi Annual Road Improvement and Restoration Programme for the regional and local road network, in accordance with DTTaS funding allocation. Continue to update the Map Road database to maximise the annual allocation of funding Continue to identify safety improvement schemes to reduce the incidents of road traffic collisions	Pavement Surface Condition Index (PSCI) ratings for regional, local, primary, and local roads Annual funding from Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport DTTaS policy and circulars on safety improvement schemes Transport Infrastructure	Current ratings provided in the Pavement Surface Condition Index (PSCI) at www.noac.ie Annual Roadworks Programme	2,528 KM of road €37.9m	2,520 KM of road (2020) with an additional 71KM added to Map Road in 2020 from estates taken in charge. 61KM of road improved (RI) 104KM of road maintained (RM) €50.5m

	<p>Survey all bridges on local roads to establish a risk register based on vulnerability to failure</p> <p>Support the Kildare National Roads office to deliver improvements and upgrades to the national road network</p> <p>Operate an effective road licensing system and management of road openings in a coordinated way</p>	<p>Ireland Transport 21 National Development Plan</p> <p>Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport Roads Programme</p>	<p>Annual % of surveys of bridges by Kildare County Council on national database (Baseline No. of bridges – 2,000)</p> <p>Annual spend on National Road Network</p> <p>No. of road opening licences processed</p>	<p>Reporting to commence in 2020</p> <p>1,260</p>	<p>Reporting to commence in 2021 due to Covid 19 restrictions</p> <p>€1.3m. 14KM of national road delivered in 2020</p> <p>1,177</p>	
	<p>1.2 Collaborate with agencies to strengthen our ability sustain responsive and effective operations and services to reduce the impacts of extreme weather conditions and climate related emergencies.</p>	<p>Deliver the Annual Winter Maintenance Programme</p> <p>Implement the Severe Weather Plan as required</p>	<p>Purple Book (DTTaS)</p> <p>Kildare Sever Weather Plan</p> <p>National Major Emergency Plan</p> <p>Kildare Major Emergency Management Plan</p>	<p>No. of routes serviced</p> <p>KM of roadway salted</p> <p>Ensure effective planning and coordination to deliver an efficient response when emergencies arise</p>	<p>10 winter salting routes</p> <p>620KM of roadway salted.</p> <p>1x inter-agency meeting per year</p> <p>6 MEMC meetings per year</p>	<p>10 winter salting routes</p> <p>678KM of roadway salted</p> <p>1x inter-agency meeting per year</p> <p>1x MEMC (2020) with other groups formed under MEM</p>

	<p>5.2 Promote and support the use, development and maintenance of sustainable transport alternatives including walking, cycling and public transport in collaboration with key transport stakeholders and agencies</p>	<p>Promote and support the development and maintenance of walking/cycling routes within the County in conjunction with other Agencies</p>	<p>National Strategy for the Development of National and Regional Greenways</p>	<p>No. of cycleway Schemes delivered each year</p>	<p>Reporting to commence in 2020</p>	<p>Projects for delivery in 2021 were outlined to elected members in Nov 2020</p>
	<p>5.2 Promote and support the use, development and maintenance of sustainable transport alternatives including walking, cycling and public transport in collaboration with key transport stakeholders and agencies</p>	<p>To deliver the Greater Dublin Area Cycling Network for Kildare in accordance with NTA annual funding allocations</p> <p>To ensure our services, projects and programmes promote the Climate Action Plan for County Kildare</p> <p>Optimise sustainable alternatives, LocalLink and public transport to the use of motorised vehicles</p>	<p>National Transport Authority (NTA) Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area</p> <p>Kildare Climate Action Strategy</p> <p>National Sustainable Development Plan</p> <p>NTA BusConnects Strategic Plan</p>	<p>No. of NTA funded projects ongoing at year end. (end 2018)</p> <p>Cumulative No. of new park and ride spaces and bicycle facilities provided</p> <p>No. of new rural bus routes – LocalLink routes</p>	<p>8 projects. 60 park and ride. 12 bicycle lockers</p> <p>Reporting to commence in 2020</p>	<p>Pedestrian/Cycling facilities provided countywide under the NTA Active Travel Measures 2020</p> <p>30 new upgrade bike parking/standing facilities provided</p> <p>0 new services provided. 37 existing routes</p>

		Support BusConnects		Cumulative No. of bus stops and related infrastructure provided		10 additional bus stops provided
	5 “Continue to plan, deliver and maintain key infrastructure in our County that sustains mobility and access and positions Kildare to achieve sustainable growth”	Deliver major capital infrastructure project Deliver local traffic management projects to support mobility and ease congestion	County Development Plan 2020 – 2024 KCC Capital Programme 2018 – 2021 (end 2018)	3-year Capital Programme	€111m	The Roads Project Team continue to progress projects through the design, planning and construction phases, delivering infrastructure that will benefit pedestrian, cyclists and all road users
	5.1 Optimise connectivity and ease of access within and through the County through planning, development, maintenance, upgrade and management of a safe road network.	Deliver local traffic management projects to support mobility and ease congestion Ensure the continued safety of vulnerable road users Develop and publish a Road Safety Plan Complete the County Speed Limit review Promote road safety with the Road Safety Authority, An Garda Síochána and other	Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport Road Safety Authority National Road Safety Plan Roads Act 1993 Kildare Speed Limit Bye Laws – completion yes/no	Cumulative No. of Signalised junctions, pedestrian crossings and traffic cameras School flashing display signs Electronic speed display sites Road Safety Working Together Group (RSWTG) Published Bye Laws as approved by elected members	84 - Signalised junctions 128 pedestrian crossings 80 traffic cameras 48 school flashing display signs 31 electronic speed display sites	88 signalised junctions 137 pedestrian crossings 110 traffic cameras 48 school flashing display signs 56 electronic speed display sites 0 meetings held in 2020. Warden duties

		key stakeholders in promoting and improving road safety in the County			4 RSWTG meetings per year	restricted in line with school openings
					Completion of a 5-year plan for 2020 – 2024	Awaiting completion of revised RSA plan
					Publication of County Speed Limit Bye Laws	County Speed Limit Review continues to progress with timelines impacted by Covid 19 restrictions
	5.3 Continue to provide infrastructure and facilities including car parking solutions, that support accessibility, commuters and the economic life of our towns and villages.	<p>Manage parking to optimize parking spaces and support businesses and users</p> <p>Provide user friendly option to pay for parking (discs and park by phone) as well as the management of on-street parking. Continue to administer and enforce pay parking</p>	Kildare County Parking Policy 2016	No. of towns and villages with pay parking	7	<p>10 (2020)</p> <p>The development of the on-line permit applications and processes commenced in 2020</p> <p>The parking unit continues to administer, improve and regulate pay parking and illegal parking across the county in accordance with the Road Traffic Act and the Parking</p>

		and associated bye laws Manage enforcement system				Bye-Laws as adopted by the Elected Members The Enforcement System was managed by the Staff of the Parking Unit
	5.4 Support the development of a Digital Strategy that enhances our County's economy by enabling rollout of broadband and telecommunications infrastructure by relevant providers	Support the installation of services and rollout of broadband services by relevant providers	National Digital Strategy	No. of road opening licences for telecommunications companies	Reporting to commence in 2020	230
	1.3 Ensure over the lifetime of the Corporate Plan that climate action is mainstreamed into the Council's policies, buildings, infrastructure and operations to reduce energy demand	Implement the National Public Lighting Upgrade Project to improve energy efficiency and the safety of the County road network	Climate Action Plan - National Public Lighting Upgrade Project	% of public street lighting infrastructure that is low energy (baseline stock 28,000 public lights Sept 2019)	Measurement commencing when Project commences in County Kildare. Regional Project, led by Kilkenny County Council	Measurement commencing when Project commences in County Kildare. Regional Project, led by Kilkenny County Council

Annual Service Delivery Plan 2020 Progress Report



Kildare County Council

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Introduction

Section 50 of the Local Government Reform Act, 2014 requires the local authority to prepare a document called an Annual Service Delivery Plan. The purpose of the plan is to provide a corporate document that sets out the objectives for service delivery and performance standards to be achieved in 2020. It takes account of and is consistent with Budget 2020 which was adopted by the members of 18 November 2019.

In preparing the document, Kildare County Council takes account of all plans, statements and strategies that set out policies and objectives for all of its functional programmes having full regard to its Corporate Plan in which the council's vision is:

“Kildare – Living; growing; leading.

Working together towards an inclusive and sustainable County”.

A wide range of other local, regional and national plans, statements and strategies inform and guide the council's work, and the provisions of these plans have been considered, reference has been made to the following documents in preparing the 2020 Annual Service Delivery Plan:

- Legislative requirement of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 and other relevant legislation/regulation
- National Government Policy
- Kildare County Council Corporate Plan 2019-2024
- Kildare County Development Plan 2017-2023
- Local Economic and Community Plan 2016 – 2021
- Service Level Agreement with Irish Water

The sections in this plan set out the high-level objectives of each service area for 2019 together with the desired performance standard. They have been compiled having regard to the Strategic Objectives agreed in Kildare County Council's Corporate Plan 2019-2024 and the funding allocated to the services divisions in 2019 detailed as follows:

Service Division	Expenditure Approved
Housing and Building	€47,923,621
Road Transport & Safety	€36,592,223
Water Services	€10,192,607
Development Management	€19,138,645
Environmental Services	€19,882,263
Recreation and Amenity	€11,054,078
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	€1,184,366
Miscellaneous Services	€18,122,854
Total Budget	€164,090,656

The performance of Kildare County Council will be measured across the standards set out in this document and an assessment of service delivery performance will be included in our Annual Report.

This plan provides a clear focus to enable the elected members and staff of Kildare County Council to work together to develop and improve the services that we deliver to our citizens.

Department/Service Area: Transportation and Public Safety incorporating Building and Development Control

The Roads Transportation and Public Safety Directorate Integrated Building and Development Control into the Directorate in early 2018, streamlining and rationalising services, with the objective of improving regulatory compliance and customer services in these areas. With responsibility for over 2,500 kilometers of roadway in County Kildare, the Directorate completes an annual road improvement and restorative maintenance Programme. Major capital infrastructure projects are managed and delivered with annual funding provided by Government Departments and related Agencies, and direct funding from Kildare County Council.

The combined technical and administrative workforce ensures the safety of vehicles and vulnerable road users through the operation of an extensive traffic management system and a network of pedestrian crossings supported by 28 school wardens. Parking in the seven main towns in the County is regulated by local Bye Laws, while enforcement is provided through a combination of a private contracted service (APCOA) and KCC community wardens.

Fire Services are provided from six strategically located retained Fire Stations across the county. The Engineer, Educate, enforce paradigm is used in the Fire Safety Section to enhance the fire safety in the built environment including the Emergency Management and Special Projects Section which co-ordinates emergency management preparation across the council.

The Road Safety, Cycling and Sustainable Transport role continue to develop and deliver roads safety measures and activities in the areas of *Education, Engineering, Enforcement and Evaluation*. This includes supporting Mobility Management Initiatives and other initiatives which support greater use of walking, cycling and public transport including Bike Week, European Mobility Week and other related promotions.

The Department also plays a key role in the area of access and disability. We have appointed an access officer who is responsible for providing or arranging for, and co-ordinating assistance and guidance to persons with disabilities accessing our services.

The access officer also assists the various departments in meeting their requirements under the Disability Act 2005, and in turn therefore making Kildare County Council and its services "accessible for all".

Kildare is to the forefront of the delivery of housing developments. Our Building and Development Control section monitors the quality of these developments via a schedule of targeted inspections.

Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5-year Objective as per Corporate Plan	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance Indicators	Covid 19 contextual note where relevant
1.2 Collaborate with agencies to strengthen our ability sustain responsive and effective operations and services to reduce the impacts of extreme weather conditions and climate related emergencies.	Deliver the Annual Winter Maintenance Programme		No. of routes serviced	10 Winter Salting Routes (total 678km) (2019)	
	To implement the Severe Weather Plan as required.	To implement the Severe Weather Plan as required	No. of winter salting events	82 (2020)	
		To respond to Major Emergencies as required	No. of weather-related alerts via MapAlerter	1 weather event alert issued	
	Appropriate and timely response to Major Emergencies		Ensure effective planning and co-ordination to deliver an efficient response when emergencies arise.	1 MEMC (2020) with other groups formed under MEM	Due to Covid 19 regular meetings of the MEMC and MEM training were postponed. The Kildare County Council Crisis Management Team met initially to identify how the organisation would manage the response to the pandemic. A Covid-19 Seniors management forum was established and met 28 times in 2020. A Business Continuity Group was established to look at how Kildare County Council would continue to deliver services and this group met over 25 times in 2020. At a regional level the Eastern Regional Steering Group and the Eastern Regional Working Groups have been formed and these groups meet on a weekly basis during level 5. They have each met in excess of 25 times during 2020.

Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5-year objective as per corporate Plan	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance Indicators	Covid contextual note where relevant
1.3 Ensure over the lifetime of the Corporate Plan that climate action is mainstreamed into the Council's policies, buildings, infrastructure and operations to reduce energy demand	Implement the National Public Lighting Upgrade Project to improve energy efficiency and the safety of the county road network	To deliver the Kildare Capital Programme	% of public street lighting infrastructure that is low energy (baseline stock c28,000 public lights Sept 2019)	Measurement commencing when project commences in County Kildare. Regional Project, led by Kilkenny County Council	
5 "Continue to plan, deliver and maintain key infrastructure in our County that sustains mobility and access and positions Kildare to achieve sustainable growth."	Deliver major capital infrastructure projects		3-year Capital Programme	The Roads Project team continue to progress projects through the design planning and construction phases, delivering infrastructure that will benefit pedestrians, cyclists and all road users.	Some construction works have been delayed due to Covid 19 (Salt Barn/Machinery Yard advance works and the bridge improvement projects).
Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5-year objective as per corporate Plan	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance Indicators	Covid 19 contextual note where relevant

<p>5.1 Optimise connectivity and ease of access within and through the County through planning, development, maintenance, upgrade and management of a safe road network.</p>	<p>Deliver a multi-annual Road Improvement and Restoration Programme for the regional and local road network, in accordance with DTTaS funding allocation</p>	<p>To deliver annual road improvement and restoration works in accordance with DTTaS funding allocation.</p>	<p>Current ratings provided in the pavement surface condition</p>	<p>61km of road improved (RI) 104km of road maintained (RM)</p>	<p>Productivity less efficient due to compliance with protocols</p>
			<p>Index (PSCI) at www.noac.ie</p>	<p>2520km of road (2020) additional 71km added to map road in 2020 from estates TIC</p>	<p>Lack of ongoing routine maintenance - restrictions in March/April 2020 would mean ordinary routine maintenance patching and drainage works were only done in emergency situations. This would have adverse effects on quality of road surface and drainage infrastructure etc.</p>
	<p>Continue to update the Map Road database to maximize the annual allocation of funding</p>	<p>To review and update MapRoad on an annual basis to maximize funding and secure annual funding for Safety Improvement Schemes.</p>	<p>Annual Roadworks Programme</p>	<p>€51.8M</p>	<p>Extra Cost of 13 Vehicles & Fuel etc - €105,000 The restrictions in place for March/April and some of May 2020 meant that ordinary routine maintenance patching and drainage works were only carried out in emergency situations. This would have adverse effects on quality of Road surface and drainage infrastructure</p>
	<p>Continue to identify Safety Improvement Schemes to reduce the incidents of road traffic collisions.</p>				
	<p>Survey all bridges on local roads and establish a Risk Register based on vulnerability to failure</p>	<p>To deliver an annual programme of bridge repairs in accordance with DTTaS funding allocation</p>	<p>Annual % of surveys of bridges by Kildare County Council on national database (Baseline no of bridges 2,000)</p>	<p>Reporting to commence in 2021</p>	<p>Covid 19 restrictions mean in 2020 the reporting will now not commence until 2021</p>

	Support the Kildare National Road Office to deliver improvements and upgrades to the National road network	To deliver TII annual programme of road improvements and upgrades	Annual spend on National Road Network	14 km of national road delivered in 2020	
5.1 Optimise connectivity and ease of access within and through the County through planning, development, maintenance, upgrade and management of a safe road network.	Operate an effective road licensing system and management of road openings in a coordinated way	To issue road opening licences as required	No. of road opening licenses processed	1,177	
	Deliver local traffic management projects to support mobility and ease congestion	To provide new pedestrian crossings	Cumulative no. of signalised junctions	5	
			Pedestrian crossings	9	Some additional crossings provided with the assistance of July stimulus package funding. Warrants assessments impacted due to reduction pedestrian/vehicular volumes during level 5 restrictions.

		To provide traffic cameras	Traffic cameras	14	
	Ensure the continued safety of vulnerable road users	To provide and maintain appropriate measures to protect vulnerable road users	School flashing display signs		
Electronic speed display sites			9		
5.1 Optimise connectivity and ease of access within and through the County through planning, development, maintenance, upgrade and management of a safe road network.	Promote road safety with the Road Safety Authority, An Garda Síochána and other key stakeholders in promoting and improving road safety in the County	To publish a Kildare Road Safety Plan	Road Safety Working Together Group (RSWTG)		Commencement delayed due to Covid 19 restrictions
			RSTWG Meetings per year	0	0 meetings were held in 2020. Wardens were restricted in line with school opening times. Training was provided only in essential circumstances; this is not essential training but refresher training.
	Promote and support the development and maintenance of walking/cycling routes within the county in conjunction with other agencies.	To publish the county speed limit Bye Laws	Published Bye Laws as approved by elected members		County Speed Limit review continues to progress with timelines impacted by Covid 19 restrictions in 2020
			To deliver the Greater Dublin Area Cycling Network for Kildare in accordance with NTA annual funding allocations	No. of cycleway schemes delivered each year	2021 plan outlined to Elected Members in November 2020 for delivery in 2021

Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5-year objective as per corporate Plan	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance Indicators	Covid 19 contextual note where relevant
	To ensure our services, projects and programmes promote the Climate Action Plan for County Kildare.	Optimise sustainable alternatives to the use of motorized vehicles - Local link and public transport	Cumulative no. of new park and ride spaces and bicycle facilities provided	30 new/upgrade bike parking/standing facilities provided	
		Support BusConnects	No. of new and existing rural bus routes - LocalLink Routes	0 new services provided	Unfortunately, we would have seen a reduction in services provided on behalf of third-party organisations in 2020, due to COVID 19 implications. There was no reduction in open public transport services in 2020.
			Cumulative no. of bus stops and related infrastructure provided	Additional 10 provided	
			To provide electronic signage	10 RTPI provided	

Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5-year objective as per corporate Plan	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance Indicators	Covid 19 contextual note where relevant
5.3 Continue to provide infrastructure and facilities including car parking solutions, that support accessibility, commuters and the economic life of our towns and villages.	Manage parking to optimize parking spaces and support businesses and users	To implement Pay Parking Bye Laws	No. of towns and villages with pay parking	During Covid-19 parking spaces were re-designated as Public Realm in Naas, Maynooth & Kildare Town to assist with social distancing and support businesses.	No parking bye-law reviews commenced due to Covid-19 and other resource issues
	Provide user friendly options to pay for parking (discs and Park by Phone) as well as the management of on-street parking			The development of on-line permit applications and processes commenced in 2020 and is currently in progress.	No parking bye-law reviews commenced due to Covid-19 and other resource issues
5.3 Continue to provide infrastructure and facilities including car parking solutions, that support accessibility, commuters and the economic life of our towns and villages.	Continue to administer and enforce pay parking and associated Bye Laws Manage Enforcement System				
	Manage Enforcement System			The Enforcement System was managed by the Staff of the Parking Unit.	

Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5-year objective as per corporate Plan	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance Indicators	Covid 19 contextual note where relevant
5.4 Support the development of a Digital Strategy that enhances our County's economy by enabling rollout of broadband and telecommunications infrastructure by relevant providers	Support the installation of services and rollout of broadband services by relevant providers.	To support the development of a digital strategy	No. of road opening licences for telecommunications companies	230	

Department/Service Area: Health & Safety

Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5 year objective (As per corporate Plan)	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance Indicators	Covid 19 contextual note where relevant
6.1 Provide a best practice health and safety culture through staff training and proactive monitoring and reporting	Drive health and safety best practice through staff consultation, communication, and proactive monitoring	Prepare and hold Annual Health & Safety Conference	No. of attendees at 2019 Health and Safety Conference	0	No conference was held in 2020 due to the pandemic. Staff communication was through the H&S Portal and through a dedicated external webpage which was created specifically for communication during the pandemic.
		Continue to review and improve the organisation's Health and Safety Management System	Annual target of 48 safety inspections to be completed by Health and Safety Section – No. of inspections ytd (End Sept 2019)	18 site inspections complete and 133 Covid 19 compliance inspections completed.	

Department/Service Area: Building & Development Control

Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5-year objective as per corporate Plan	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance Indicators	Covid 19 contextual note where relevant
1.6 Ensure continued robust enforcement, licensing, certification and regulation in environmental protection, planning, building control, fire safety and public health and safety in order to support our citizen's quality of life and the built and natural environment.	To ensure safe and sustainable buildings in urban and rural areas	Monitor compliance with the Building Regulations and the Building Control Regulations	Total no. of new buildings notified to Building Control Authority	1816	
			No. of new buildings notified that were subject to at least one inspection	305	
			P1 no. of buildings inspected as a percentage of new buildings notified to the local authority (Minimum Target 15%)	16.80%	
			Total no. of inspections	2067	
			Total no. of Commencement Notices received	461	
			No. of Valid Commencement Notices Received	454	
			No. of Certificates of Compliance received	426	
			No. of Valid Certificates of Compliance received	425	
			Number of Disability Access Applications received	124	
			No. of BER Certificates received	1043 BERs received through BCMS for buildings where	

			Commencement Notices or Certificates of Compliance on Completion were received during 2020	
			15 Agents inspected during 2020 for compliance with legislation in respect of displaying of BER ratings.	
	Monitor performance with the Construction Products Directive	Ongoing review of construction products and CE markings as part of site inspections	Currently no relevant metric	

Department/Service Area: Fire Service

Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5-year objective as per corporate Plan	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance Indicators	Covid 19 contextual note where relevant
1.6 Ensure continued robust enforcement, licensing, certification and regulation in environmental protection, planning, building control, fire safety and public health and safety in order to support our citizen's quality of life and the built and natural Environmen	To ensure safe and sustainable buildings in urban and rural areas	Enforce fire safety legislation in premises through a programme of inspections, licencing and enforcement, prioritized based on risk	The no. of premises inspected (in accordance with the schedule set out in the Fire Safety Business Plan)	34 inspections of 32 premises	No. of inspections reduced due to impact of Covid19 pandemic. No access to hotels, nursing homes and other premises in general
		Support the legislated Fire Safety requirements of the Building Control Act, through providing an efficient Fire Safety Certification Process	P5: A. % of applications for fire safety certificates received that were decided (granted or refused) within two months of their receipt	72%	
			P5: B - %of applications for fire safety certificates received that were decided (granted or refused) within an extended period agreed with the applicant	27%	
1.6 Ensure continued robust enforcement, licensing, certification and regulation in environmental protection,	To ensure safe and sustainable buildings in urban and rural areas	Promote fire safety via the "Schools Programme"	No. of National School Third classes visited as a percentage of the total number of classes in the county	0%	All schools closed from March 2020. No access in Sept - Dec period owing to continued Covid19 concerns
		Improve fire safety in vulnerable communities	No. of Home Fire Safety Checks	0	Home fire safety checks suspended in March 2020 due to Covid19. These checks are

<p>planning, building control, fire safety and public health and safety in order to support our citizen's quality of life and the built and natural Environment</p>		<p>through the promotion and implementation of Home Fire Safety Checks</p>			<p>predominantly carried out in homes of elderly members of society.</p>
<p>4.9 To protect our citizens from fire through an efficient and effective Fire Service that co-ordinates with other response services when emergencies occur</p>	<p>To protect communities from fire and other emergencies, working with partner agencies and in accordance with national policies</p>	<p>Maintain operational readiness and capability to deliver an appropriate response to Fire Service Incidents</p>	<p>F2: Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise the fire brigades in respect of fire</p>	<p>6.75</p>	
			<p>F2: Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in respect of all other (non-fire) emergency incidents</p>	<p>6.53</p>	

Department/Service Area: Housing

The Housing Department aims to provide social housing support to persons who are unable to meet their housing need through their own resources. During 2020 the Housing Department focused on housing delivery, having regard to Rebuilding Ireland: Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness. The Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government set targets for each local authority for the period 2017 to 2021; the target for delivery in Kildare is 2,603 units. This is the number of social housing homes for delivery via build, acquisition and leasing arrangements under specific programmes. In addition, we continue to work to deliver social housing through the Housing Assistance Payment and Rental Accommodation Schemes.

As Lead Authority for the Mid-East Region Homeless Action Plan 2018-2020, the prevention of homelessness, provision of services to address the needs of homeless households and effective coordination of activities and services remained a priority in 2020.

Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5-year objective (As per corporate Plan)	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance Indicators	Covid 19 contextual note as required
1.3 Ensure over the lifetime of the Corporate Plan that climate action is mainstreamed into the Council's policies, buildings, infrastructure and operations to reduce energy demand	To continue to encourage energy efficiency and environmental awareness by incorporating a module in the tenancy induction programme	Amend Tenancy Induction Handbook to reflect new heating/ventilation systems installed in new and refurbished units	Review of relevant content during 2020 No. of tenants receiving revised tenant handbook		Housing was identified as a critical service throughout the pandemic and services continued to be provided in 2020 in compliance with all Government protocols and guidelines.

	To implement a programme of retrofitting council houses to increase energy efficiency and reduce carbon usage, subject to available resources	Implement a planned energy efficiency programme in existing Housing stock	Measurement methodology to be determined.	80 houses identified for retrofit works to improve BER ratings - metrics to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insulation to Walls, Ceilings, Roofs • Replacement of Windows and Doors • Airtightness works • Blocking up and filling Chimneys • Replacement of Fossil Fuel Heating Systems (Stoves) with Air to Water Heating Systems • LED Lighting 	The Retrofit programme was delayed due to restrictions/access to occupied properties and contractor availability
Housing Supply					
3.1 To increase and maintain housing provision in Kildare in line with the national objectives of “Rebuilding Ireland: Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness” and to strive to achieve social	Deliver new local authority social housing units across the following programmes: Construction, Turnkey, Acquisition, Housing Assistance Payment, Rental Accommodation Scheme, Leasing	Acquire additional lands for social housing. Pursue opportunities for turnkey developments. Actively monitor Part V delivery programmes. Support Vacant Homes Strategy.	Combined number of units delivered across the different streams DHPLG annual	Delivery across all schemes: Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) - 682 Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) – 360 Active Tenancies Construction - 200	Construction works continued on specific sites as identified in accordance with Government requirements

housing targets and delivery of affordable housing 3.9 Plan for the needs of our growing population by identifying strategic sites and supporting sufficient supplies of zoned serviced land to deliver sustainable communities.	[including Repair and Lease Scheme], Buy and Renew Scheme, Public Private Partnerships, Part V, Land Acquisition, Affordable Housing.	Use OGP Rapid Build Framework as appropriate. Monitor Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) and Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS). Implement affordable purchase arrangements as appropriate having regard to economic assessments.	targets. Targets for HAP	Including Turnkey Acquisition - 97 Leasing (CALF) – 169 Part V - 41 Leasing - 54 Capital Acquisition Scheme - 39	
	To support approved housing bodies to deliver social housing units across the following programmes: Capital Advance	Develop joint projects with Approved Housing Bodies. Support Approved Housing Bodies in the delivery of social housing by means of CALF, CAS and Leasing.		169 units delivered under CALF 39 bed spaces delivered under CAS 54 Leased units 421 inspections of leased units	

	Leasing Facility, Capital Assistance Scheme, Social Leasing Scheme.	Complete annual summary of Housing Needs Assessment (SSHNA) and manage the assessment of social housing applications	Assessment completed	SSHNA published by Housing Agency: 3,104 households qualified in Kildare for social housing support	
3.2 Implement the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024 and support members of the Travelling community, who have been approved for social housing, to access and maintain housing supports including culturally appropriate housing	Support members of the Travelling Community to access social housing support	Implement and monitor the Traveller Accommodation Programme. Maintain and manage existing halting sites. Complete Annual Traveller Census/Count	No. Traveller specific units delivered under Traveller Accommodation Plan 2019-2024	20 allocations	
3.3 Continue to work with regional and sectoral partners to reduce	Continue the roll out of the HAP Homeless Placefinder Service	Implement Mid East Regional Homeless Action Plan 2018-2020 and pursue innovative	No. of Homeless HAP placements secured	246 Homeless HAP tenancies secured	Placements continued throughout Covid-19 pandemic

<p>the numbers of people who need to be placed in emergency accommodation, by increasing availability of housing stock and working closely with approved housing bodies and advocacy groups to reduce the numbers who find themselves homeless or at risk of being homeless, and enable people to sustain their tenancies</p>		<p>solutions as appropriate.</p> <p>Secure the required HAP placements</p>			
	<p>Deliver Housing First in the county in conjunction with our partners The Peter McVerry Trust</p>	<p>Implement the Housing First Plan 2018-2020.</p>	<p>No. of Housing First tenancies supported</p>	<p>6 tenancies established</p>	
	<p>Pursue innovative solutions to address homelessness in the county.</p>	<p>Exit strategies to be put in place at the point of entry into emergency accommodation.</p> <p>Review Mid East Regional Homeless Action Plan 2018-2020</p>	<p>No. of Mortgage to Rent cases concluded.</p> <p>No. of exits from emergency accommodation</p>	<p>8</p>	
		<p>Implement a planned maintenance programme.</p> <p>Continue to refurbish vacant/derelict units in accordance with funding and resource provision</p>	<p>No. of units acquired/leased</p>	<p>See section 3.1 above</p>	

3.4 To maximise availability and utilisation of housing through repair/refurbishment of vacant units	Greater utilisation and improvement of existing social and private housing stock to increase the availability of social housing	Provide a response maintenance services	No. of maintenance repairs	6,733 repairs completed	Essential repairs continued during pandemic period in accordance with safety protocols
		Deliver Self Help Tenant Support Scheme	Expenditure on planned/response maintenance.	€3,141,840 spent on maintenance of stock including planned maintenance	
		Continue inspections of private rented dwellings	No. of private units inspected	972	Virtual inspections carried out throughout pandemic
3.5 To provide suitable, accessible social housing and housing supports for older persons and people with a disability and to support homeowners to carry out necessary	Deliver and adapt appropriate housing for people with a disability and older people and provide grant funding.	Consider housing for the elderly in the context of the social housing delivery programme	No. of units built/adapted	10% acquisition target achieved	
		Provide housing units and design input to new schemes to meet targets			
		Manage Housing Adaptation Grants programme for social and private housing. Assess applications received in accordance	No. of grants paid	493	Applications continued to be received

adaptations/improvements to enable them to continue residing in their home.		with Annual Funding Allocation			
		Assess applications received for CAS funding	No. of Capital Assistance Scheme units delivered	39 bed spaces	
3.6 Implement our anti-social behaviour strategy in order to prevent the occurrence of anti-social behaviour, by encouraging tenant participation in estate management and fostering the development of balanced communities	Provide eligible persons with access to social housing supports, engage with and support existing tenants.	Allocate social houses as delivered	No. of allocations to social houses	757	Allocations continued in accordance with safety protocols
		Process Housing Applications within 12-week statutory timeframe. Monitor estate management and issues of anti-social behaviour having regard to our policies and procedures.	Housing applications processed within permitted time frame.	705 new applications processed	Investigation of serious ASB continued
		Assess applications received in accordance with Annual Funding Allocation	No. of loans approved	49 loans (approvals in principle)	
3.7 Facilitate access to social housing, and other supports, where applicants have					

demonstrated eligibility with the necessary criteria					
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Department/Service Area: Corporate Services

The Corporate Services Departments core activities include providing first point of contact customer service management via email, post phone and in person, providing support services for the elected members, servicing council meetings, maintaining the register of electors, dealing with freedom of information/data protection and Facilities Management and corporate wide service support.

To meet the needs of all customers the dedicated Customer Service Units located at Level 1, Áras Chill Dara and Athy Customer Service Point continues to provide information on services and deal with customer enquiries in an efficient and courteous manner. Similarly, Members Services provide a comprehensive and accessible service to the 40 elected members of Kildare County Council across the 5 Municipal Districts.

A key focus in 2020 was the continued delivery of quality services to both members and customers in a safe manner with adherence to Public Health guidelines during the challenges of Covid 19 and national restrictions.

Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5-year objective (As per corporate Plan)	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance Indicators	Covid contextual note where relevant
1.3 Ensure over the lifetime of the Corporate Plan that climate action is mainstreamed into the Council's policies, buildings, infrastructure and operations to reduce energy demand	To ensure that all non-domestic local authority owned premises comply with sustainability requirements by undergoing energy audits to identify ways improve energy efficiency.	Co-ordinate a corporate estates management and maintenance programme	Ensure that relevant SLAs and service contracts are adhered to in order to provide safe, suitable, accessible facilities for customers and staff	Energy usage in Aras Chill Dara reduced by 2%	

			Cumulative no. (and type) of non-domestic local authority owned premises where an energy audit has been carried out	9 energy audits completed in 2020 (6 fire stations, 2 libraries, 1 Aras Chill Dara)	
6.4 Utilise ICT to reduce costs, improve operational efficiency, expand online and Cloud enabled services to make it easier for customers to access services and information	To ensure ICT is used to track and effectively manage customer interactions	Procure and complete pilot for new CRM during 2020 in conjunction with IT Dept	No. of customer cases processed annually within the Customer Relation Management System	17996	Includes cases from elected representatives.
			New CRM solution to be in place by end 2020	Procurement initiated July 2020, project scheduled to complete Spring 2021	Procurement delayed due to IT Dept focus on online services and remote working due to Covid 19
6.9 Review and improve our communications channels to deliver timely and useful information that makes it easier for customers to access services and information		Quarterly review of the Customer Services Centre	Completion of ongoing reviews with related metrics	17,996	

<p>6.5 Support local democracy and the interests of the community by assisting the role of elected representatives and by growing voter registration</p>		Review and improve support services for elected members	Explore use of IT solutions to manage Council meetings during 2020		
	<p>To ensure ICT is used to track representations and effectively support the elected members role</p>	<p>To review and improve service to meetings of council – Full Council, MD's, CPG and Protocol</p>	<p>No. of statutory meetings annually serviced.</p> <p>Complete review of Standing Orders in 2020</p> <p>Oversee formation of new SPC Scheme</p>	<p>59 - (Full council and MD only)</p> <p>Full council standing orders adopted in June 2020 further updated in November 2020 to facilitate remote attendance</p> <p>Adopted by council in December 2019 External nominees appointed in January 2020 Online training for SPC members took place in May 2020</p>	<p>Statutory meetings of full council and the 5 MDs did not take place in March, April and May due to pandemic</p> <p>Priority afforded to full council standing orders, which had to be amended due to Covid requirements. MD standing orders to be amended similarly and will come before the MDs in 2021</p> <p>Training for members of SPC members moved online</p>
<p>6.5 Support local democracy and the interests of the</p>					

community by assisting the role of elected representatives and by growing voter registration					
	To ensure ICT is used to track representations and effectively support the elected members role	Further develop and integrate CRM system to record and monitor members and TD reps	No. of representations from elected members processed annually	5046	New Members Reps Portal, initiated late 2020, scheduled to complete Spring 2021. Procurement delayed due to IT Dept focus on online services and remote working due to Covid 19
	To grow awareness and participation in the electoral process	Maintain register for General Election 8 Feb 2020	Publish Supplementary Register on 29th January 2020 to facilitate General Election	Register published on time	
		Publish and maintain Live Register in line with statutory deadlines		No. of electors on Register	150,679 (2021-22)
Publication of 2020/2021 Register on 15th Feb. 2020.	Published online - Checktheregister.ie				
To ensure efficiency, transparency and	Monitor delivery of the Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024	Ensure annual progress reporting including updated	Approved by members June 2020	Delayed due to suspension of in person Council	

<p>6.7 Continue to support strong audit, financial, risk, data and corporate governance and reporting systems to build public confidence, maximise efficiency and ensure compliance with our obligations.</p> <p>6.7 Continue to support strong audit, financial, risk, data and corporate governance and reporting systems to build public confidence, maximise efficiency and ensure compliance with our obligations.</p>	<p>accountability is upheld in monitoring, reporting and meeting statutory requirements corporately</p>		<p>local metrics (By 30.6.2020 each year)</p>		<p>meetings during Covid 19 lockdown</p>
	<p>To ensure efficiency, transparency and accountability is upheld in monitoring, reporting and meeting statutory requirements corporately</p>	<p>Publish the organisation's Annual Report by 30.06.2020</p>	<p>By 30.06.2020</p>	<p>Approved by members June 2020</p>	<p>Delayed due to suspension of in person Council meetings during Covid 19 lockdown</p>
		<p>Complete Annual Service Delivery Plan by 31.03.2020</p>	<p>By 31.03.2020</p>	<p>Approved by members June 2020</p>	
		<p>Ensure completion of Annual Ethics Declarations</p>	<p>By 28/02/2020</p>	<p>95% returned on time</p>	
		<p>Monitor implementation of Lobbying Act 2015</p>	<p>Ongoing oversight</p>	<p>Ongoing oversight and updating of information.</p>	
		<p>Monitor compliance with the Protected Disclosure Policy</p>	<p>Ongoing oversight</p>	<p>Annual Report 30/6/20 published</p>	
		<p>Monitor compliance with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)</p>	<p>No. of staff taking up employment each year attending induction/staff awareness training</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>No induction training sessions held in 2020 due to COVID</p>

<p>6.7 Continue to support strong audit, financial, risk, data and corporate governance and reporting systems to build public confidence, maximise efficiency and ensure compliance with our obligations</p> <p>6.7 Continue to support strong audit, financial, risk, data and corporate</p>					restrictions. A New cloud based cyber security and awareness solution procured at the end of 2020, which includes a GDPR awareness module. System is to be rolled out to all staff with access to email in early 2021.
		To ensure that that the FOI Act 2014 is complied with.	Average no. of days for FOI decisions made (statutory requirement is 20 working days).	24 days (2020	
		To ensure that that the FOI Act 2014 is complied with.	Annual FOI Training to FOI Decision Makers (Yes/No).	Yes	Online training due to Covid 19
		To establish and manage a Legal Services Framework	To implement new Framework during 2020	60% of lots retendered and awarded	*National Framework expired, awaiting OGP to form framework to enable council to complete a new competition for Code Enforcement
		To conduct Qtrly Budgetary reviews	% spend vs budget ongoing	Ongoing	

governance and reporting systems to build public confidence, maximise efficiency and ensure compliance with our obligations		To support the work of the Audit Committee	No. of meetings supported annually	4	
		Complete document management policy, progress implementation and progress Records Management Centre	Adoption of Records Management Policy by Information Management Committee during 2020	Draft prepared, needs input from IMC	Due to COVID 19 work on the Records Management Centre has stalled.
			Stage in project implementation - Records Management Centre	Part 8 ongoing	delays due to COVID
6.8 To work alongside key partners to strategically use data to make informed, transparent and evidence led decisions, to inform service and infrastructure needs and advocate for our county from a strong evidence base		To oversee the reporting of 2019 Performance Indicators to NOAC within statutory deadlines		Submitted on 24.7.20	Deadline date amended due to Covid 19
6.10 Improve visibility and awareness of the Council by effectively	To increase the use of social media and other communications	Appoint Communications Officer	To have new position filled in 2020	Communications Officer recruitment completed by end of 2020. Strategy	Recruitment of Communications Team delayed due to Covid 19. Review to

<p>promoting our role and our achievements in the delivery of projects and services</p>	<p>tools by the Council and enhance community awareness</p>	<p>Review communications strategy 2016-2019</p>	<p>To have reviewed the Communications Strategy as ongoing or completed during 2020</p>	<p>review deferred to 2021.</p>	<p>be carried out by new comms team</p>
		<p>Increase usage on social media pages</p>	<p>No. of followers on social media pages</p>	<p>49,395 (NOAC 2019) - 16 Social media accounts</p> <p>3 managed by Comms team</p> <p>Figures for end 2020 FB - 15,081 Twitter - 8,520 Insta - 1,516</p>	
		<p>Review and expand use of Mapalerter and other IT customer information systems</p>	<p>No. of registers users of MapAlerter system</p>	<p>1657</p>	

New Actions due to Covid-19					
6.4 Utilise ICT to reduce costs, improve operational efficiency, expand online and Cloud enabled services to make it easier for customers to access services and information. operational eff Cloud enabled services to make it easier for customers to access services and information	To ensure ICT is used to track and effectively manage customer interactions	Introduce new online services to facilitate safe access to Council facilities	Develop, test, and implement a phone and online appointments booking service for customers to safely access council facilities	28,000	New action - Covid 19 response. 28,000 appointments facilitated June 2020 - Dec 2020
		Introduce new services to facilitate safe access to community supports for cocooners	Maintain and promote the Community Call phone service	162 calls October - December	New action - Covid 19 response. 162 cases dealt with via phone Oct 2020 - end 2020 (Community Dept operated service to Oct 2020)
6.5 Support local democracy and the interests of the community by assisting the role of elected representatives and by growing voter registration	To ensure ICT is used to track representations and effectively support the elected members role	Test and provide online Council, CPG and Protocol Committee Meetings with supporting standing orders	No. of virtual statutory meetings provided during 2020	1 - December full council, following the adoption of amended standing orders in November 2020 to facilitate remote statutory meetings.	New action - Covid 19 response
	To increase the use of social media and	Implement a Covid 19 specific	Development of web pages and	Dedicated pages live April 2020	Covid 19 specific response

6.10 Improve visibility and awareness of the Council by effectively promoting our role and our achievements in the delivery of projects and services	other communications tools by the Council and enhance community awareness	communications plan	supporting SM activity		
		Introduce new online tools to facilitate public engagement online	Upscale the online consultation portal pilot to expand for use by all Council Departments	25 surveys - 8574 responses	Pilot project accelerated due to Covid 19.
2. Enabling Business and sustaining growth “To optimise the potential of Kildare and its businesses to innovate, invest, promote and sustain growth and employment, across our County and throughout our community.”	Consult with communities and collaborate with partners to enhance the public realm and design of our towns and villages and deliver projects and programmes that revitalise the local retail economy and rural hinterlands.	Review Casual Trading Bye Laws to comply with new regulations and address growing demand for outdoor trading in the public realm	No. of MDs that bye law reviews have been initiated in 2020	60%	Arising from Covid-19 effects on economy and consumers activity, there was an increased demand for Casual Trading areas arising in 2020 that has necessitated the prioritisation of revised bye laws for MDs.
6.9 Review and improve our communications channels to deliver timely and useful information that makes it easier for customers to access services and information	To support Irish language and culture through implementing our Irish Language Scheme and related events and supports	Review 2018 Scheme and create 2021 Scheme	Commence and complete development of Irish Language Scheme	Scheme scheduled for submission to Minister for approval Jan 2021	Function assigned to Corporate Services during 2020. 2018-21 remains legally in place until Ministerial decision.

Department/Service Area: Human Resources

The Human Resources Department's core activities include recruitment, staff training and development, staff welfare, industrial relations and superannuation.

During 2020 the department continued to promote staff training and development, good attendance, a safe and healthy work environment and stable industrial relations. Recruitment campaigns continued throughout the year to ensure that all available posts are filled as required.

Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5-year objective (As per corporate Plan)	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance indicator	Covid 19 contextual note where relevant
6.3 Support organisational effectiveness, training and continuous professional development, staff well-being, innovation, flexibility and performance by implementing the sectoral People Strategy	Build organisational competence to effectively deliver on our current and future services through creating a culture of	To ensure best recruitment practice is followed and that the human resource needs of the organisation are met	Responsive, effective and flexible recruitment programme in place to meet organisational needs	30 competitions completed	New procedures and arrangements put in place to carry out interviews online. Backlog in recruitment competitions @ 31.12.20 due to COVID.
		Progress staff training and development through implementation of Training Plan 2020 to include where possible the training needs as identified through PMDS process	Implementation of Training Plan 2020	No. of average training days per staff member (2020) - 1.94 No. of training courses/seminars delivered (2020) - 319 No. of staff attending training (2020) - 926	Due to Covid it was not possible to provide classroom based training for much of the year. Online training courses and seminars were utilised. 733 staff completed Covid 19 Induction training

	training excellence and continuous learning and development	To support and monitor the operation of PMDS and continue the implementation of the competency framework	PMDS implemented, i.e. Team Plans and PDPs completed and reviewed throughout the organisation	Ongoing	
		To ensure management and staff are supported so that the organisation is best placed to meet current workloads, deadlines, change management and future challenges in a healthy and safe working environment.	Provision of Employee Assistance Programme. Ongoing supports as required	New service provider appointed	Additional supports introduced taking account of pressures and stresses staff are experiencing relating to the pandemic and also to support staff in relation to remote working
		To continue to promote positive employee relations and engagement and good industrial relations	Ongoing engagement and regular meetings with all trade unions	Meetings continued online	

Department/Service Area: Finance

The Finance Department, under the management of the Head of Finance, has primary responsibility for a range of functions including

- Budgets
- Financial management and reporting
- Accounting
- Payments
- Revenue collection (including rates, rents, housing loans)
- Treasury management
- Development contribution collection
- Motor Tax

Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5-year objective (As per corporate Plan)	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report Performance Indicator	Covid 19 contextual note where relevant
1.3 Ensure over the lifetime of the Corporate Plan that climate action is mainstreamed into the Council's policies, buildings, infrastructure and operations to reduce energy demand	To enhance the competency of staff in Green Procurement practices	Procurement to liaise with Climate Action Team to increase staff awareness of Green Procurement options	No. of relevant staff attending Green Procurement briefings/training		Dublin CARO are taking the lead on training on Green Procurement. As a result of the Covid 19 pandemic the roll out of this training has been delayed; it is now expected to commence in 2021.
6.7 Continue to support strong audit, financial, risk, data and corporate governance and reporting systems to build public confidence, maximise efficiency and ensure	To ensure that the Council's Revenue account is in balance over medium term	Continue to maintain, and where possible increase, collection rates	Collection level for Rates	70% (2020) **	* **As a result of the Covid Pandemic the Government paid a 9 months rates waiver and as this was not treated as cash the 2020 Rates Collection Rate is 70%. However,
			Collection level for rents and Annuities	92% (2020)	
			Collection level of Housing Loans	62% (2020)	

compliance with our obligations		AFS to be submitted to the DoHPLG within statutory timeframe	Annual Financial Statement	2020 Annual Financial Statement sent to Dept March 2021	if the waiver had been treated as cash the 2020 Rates Collection rate would have been 80%
			Revenue expenditure per capita	€978.21 (2020)	
		To assist business during the pandemic the Government introduced to schemes that Kildare County Council's Finance Department administered.	Restart Grant Payments	Approx 38% of Kildare ratepayers received restart grants totalling €25.5m.	** Between both schemes approx. €47.5m has been processed to assist Kildare ratepayers in response to the Covid 19 Pandemic
			Rates Waivers	Approx 80% of Kildare ratepayers had a 9 months rates waiver applied to their rate account totalling €22m.	

Department/Service Area: Information Systems

The principal focus for I.T. in 2020 was the protection of council information assets. Primarily I.T. looked to protect the organisation against a cyber security incident e.g. ransom ware. Compliance with GDPR and the provision of robust and resilient information management systems and solutions to protect the council in the event of an infrastructural failure is included in this area. An initiative, termed a 'Disaster Recovery' or DR solution is an ongoing project over several years to include technologies such as virtualization, resilient links, off-site data storage and the use of the Cloud where appropriate. The second area of focus is in assisting service delivery sections to examine current work practices and to look for ways to improve the flow of work thereby reducing delivery times and improving customer services. This initiative involves the development of customer service channels via web and mobile. The deployment of a new Council's Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system will provide the opportunity streamline existing processes and introduce a platform for the new technology solutions. Finally, in 2020 I.T. continued to provide excellent levels of technical support service to staff and to members, was responsive to organisational needs and sought maximum up-time on all hardware and software in use in the council.

Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5-year objective as per corporate Plan	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance Indicators	Covid 19 contextual note where relevant
6.4 Utilise ICT to reduce costs, improve operational efficiency, expand online and Cloud enabled services to make it easier for customers to access services and information		Cyber Security - Implement systems and technologies to protect council assets and organise ongoing training programs for staff awareness to the dangers of cybercrime.	Run staff IT security training	0.00	Because of Covid the traditional methods of delivering training courses were suspended, rolling this training out now using on-line training platform in early 2021
			Change IT password policy	Not rolled out	Due to the large number of people enabled to work remotely and difficulties encountered this initiative was delayed
			Get third party to perform IT security risk assessment	Completed in Q3 2020	Focus by IT in Q2 & Q3 was enabling 500 staff to work remotely - we took this assessment on in Q3
		Services to the Public - Develop a new public facing website for public interaction with the council to include public consultations, transaction processing and GIS.	Launch new 'look and feel' council website	Completed by Q4 2020	Website development resources had to be re-allocated to support the development and distribution of on-line Covid information for both staff and the public
		Data Management - Deliver resilient systems that will assist the organisation to store, manage and process data in a compliant and effective manner.	Full deployment of 365 Teams	Teams available to all staff	Teams available to all staff
			Deployment of a new resilient SAN solution	97% of all physical servers virtualized by Q4 2020 and hosted on resilient SAN environment. Work started in Q1 2021 on backing up to Cloud	We needed to perform an upgrade on the SAN to facilitate the backup to the cloud functionality, this was only completed in Jan 2021 but work on cloud backup ongoing

Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5-year objective as per corporate Plan	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance Indicators	Covid 19 contextual note where relevant
			Data Governance	Started initial work on investigating data audit and creation of a data catalogue process, engaged vendor to produce quote	Progress slower on this initiative than planned
			Virtualization of all servers and fully hosted on resilient SAN environment	97% of All physical servers virtualized by Q4 2020 and hosted on resilient SAN environment	Some legacy physical admin servers that need to be virtualized - low priority with pandemic tasks
		Deliver Internal Efficiencies - Continue to work closely with service delivery sections to improve information and transaction workflow.	Continue to use Business Process Improvement	Continued focus on key processes supporting Housing, Planning and Finance	Continued focus on key processes supporting Housing, Planning and Finance
			Implementation of new CRM solution	Deployment of new CRM to start in Q1 2021 (Project started in Q3 2020)	Lost about 2 months in the CRM tender process due to Covid
			Development of an Enterprise reporting strategy	All new reports developed using Power BI	All new reports developed using Power BI

New Actions due to Covid-19					
Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5-year objective as per corporate Plan	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance Indicators	Covid 19 contextual note where relevant
6.4 Utilise ICT to reduce costs, improve operational efficiency, expand online and Cloud enabled services to make it easier for customers to access services and information	Support the functions of Kildare County Council through innovative ICT solutions	Introduce new online services to facilitate safe access to Council facilities	Using the existing SuperSaas solution we reconfigured this solution to support on-line appointments service for customers to safely access Council facilities	28,000 Appointments facilitated June 2020 - Dec 2020	New service developed in response to Covid 19. Not planned at start 2020.
		Introduce VPN (Virtual Private Network) which allows remote users access their desktops or the council network remotely	Using the existing Sophus firewall solution, we introduced a new VPN solution - this allows us to free up citrix licenses which could be used for non-KCC laptops	Allow up to 500 staff work remotely - this supported	New service developed in response to Covid 19. Not planned at start 2020.
		Expand the use of TEAMS to the members	In order to support both statutory and non-statutory meetings all members had to be enabled in TEAMS and provided with a Kildare coco email address	Allows 40 members meet through teams also brings the members onto the o365 environment	New service developed in response to Covid 19. Not planned at start 2020.
		Procure, configure and deploy 500 staff laptops	To support remote workers over 500 laptops had to be procured, configured and deployed	Allows over 500 staff to work remotely and maintain the services provided by Kildare county council	New service developed in response to Covid 19. Not planned at start 2020.
		Procure, configure and deploy 600 headsets	Procured 600 headsets	Allows over 600 staff to work remotely and take part in training, calls and meetings remotely or at their office desk	New service developed in response to Covid 19. Not planned at start 2020.

	Deploy the Alcatel Rainbow solution allowing staff to use their office phone extension remotely	Procured 200 licenses	Allows up to 200 staff who don't have KCC mobiles and who work remotely to take and make calls using their office extension	New service developed in response to Covid 19. Not planned at start 2020.
	Roll out electronic signature using DOCUSIGN	Procured 500 envelopes	Allows staff to sign documents electronically and enables processes to be automated using pre-defines templates (envelopes)	New service developed in response to Covid 19. Not planned at start 2020.
	Configure on-line web-based forms with workflow using the SUBMIT.COM application	LEO procured a licence to support business supports, Community developing on-line forms for community-based applications	Allows the public to apply on-line for various services, on the back end is a workflow process which allows review and decision and subsequent payment if required	New service developed in response to Covid 19. Not planned at start 2020.

Department/Service Area: Library and Arts Service

Several key actions from Ideas Realised: Spreading the Word... Library Services Development Plan 2015 – 2019 and Arts Strategy 2018-2022 progressed in 2020, including a review of the Library Services Development Plan.

The Library and Arts Service deliver a high-quality range of learning, literacy, reader development, cultural, arts and heritage programming through the County Programming Team while also delivering on relevant elements of the Decade of Commemorations Programme and Kildare’s Creative Ireland Strategy.

Priority areas for 2020 included Children and Young People, to includes support for Music Generation, carrying out a review, audit and plan for the further development of Kildare County Council’s Municipal Art Collection. ‘Kildare Short Grass Film’ Festival took place, showcasing the support that Kildare County Council has provided over the last decade.

Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5-year objective (As per corporate Plan)	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance Indicators	Covid 19 contextual note where relevant
4.6 Continue to improve the well-being, learning, recreation and cultural needs of our community through participation in and development of our library, arts, heritage and culture services and programmes	To Deliver a library service which meets the information, learning, recreational and cultural needs of the community.	Support the Implementation of Arts, Heritage and Library Strategies		Continued to support implementation by moving services online as much as possible.	
		Review Library Development Plan		Recover, Refocus, Re-Energise Kildare Library Service Interim Development Plan 2020 - 2022 approved by Kildare County Council Full Council Jan 2021	

<p>4.6 Continue to improve the well-being, learning, recreation and cultural needs of our community through participation in and development of our library, arts, heritage and culture services and programmes</p>	<p>To Deliver a library service which meets the information, learning, recreational and cultural needs of the community</p>	<p>Implement National Public Library Policy</p>	<p>Average weekly opening hours</p>	<p>501hrs 45 minutes library service per week across 16 service points (2020)</p>	<p>Libraries were closed during the initial lockdown and opening hours and numbers visiting libraries were dependant on Level Restrictions throughout the year. Methods of service delivery were adapted to include Online Services, Housebound Delivery Service and Contact and Collect. However membership, issues and visit numbers were all negatively impacted as a result of Covid.</p>
			<p>Active Membership</p>	<p>23, 747</p>	
			<p>No. Visits to Libraries per head of population</p>	<p>1.025</p>	
			<p>No. of Issues per head of population</p>	<p>1.2* *based on circulation of 266,766 and population of 222,504</p>	
		<p>Tender for design led team to progress Kildare County Library and Archive Facility as part of Urban grant application process</p>	<p>Working with Public Realm Team to progress (2020)</p>		
		<p>Progress remedial works to preserve the Local Studies building</p>	<p>Plans underway as part of Phase 1 of County Library, Archives and Cultural Centre Capital Project to move Local Studies and Archives temporarily and begin digitisation and cataloguing.</p>		

<p>4.6 Continue to improve the well-being, learning, recreation and cultural needs of our community through participation in and development of our library, arts, heritage and culture services and programmes</p>	<p>To Deliver a library service which meets the information, learning, recreational and cultural needs of the community.</p>	<p>Redevelop Castledermot Community Library.</p>		<p>Completed and re-opened to public in February 2020</p>	
		<p>Respond to outcomes of National LMS / eServices Tenders and develop libraryapp.</p>		<p>eServices Tender complete and implemented 2020 LibraryApp, delivered 2020 and in final stage of tender process to deliver new Library Mgt System</p>	<p>National LMS tender delayed due to Covid</p>
		<p>Embed Library Workforce Plan, recruitment, training and integration of new staff</p>	<p>No. of Wifi and Public Access PC sessions</p>	<p>23,168</p>	<p>Closures during lockdown and limited access for public during Covid Level Restrictions impacted negatively on PC and Wifi usage</p>
			<p>No. of social media followers across all platforms</p>	<p>9,976 totals for Facebook, Twitter, Instagram</p>	
		<p>Action Marketing Plan 2020</p>	<p>No. of uses of online services</p>	<p>265, 874 (245% increase from 2019)</p>	<p>245% increase a result of move to online services throughout Covid restrictions</p>
		<p>Implement a Community Digital Training Awareness Programme</p>			

4.6 Continue to improve the well-being, learning, recreation and cultural needs of our community through participation in and development of our library, arts, heritage and culture services and programmes		Deliver educational awareness programming on Climate and Energy Conservation		40 libraries, online and outreach events in 2020	
	To Deliver a library service which meets the information, learning, recreational and cultural needs of the community	Programme reader development events such as Kildare Readers Festival		13 online events with over 1,600 attendees (same number attending as 2019 Festival)	All programmed events impacted by Covid restrictions and adapted to online events where possible
		Continue to work with communities to provide a high-quality range of cultural, heritage and arts programming across the county via the County Programming Committee.	No. of events including outreach	2107	
To Deliver a library service which meets the information, learning, recreational and cultural needs of the community.	Deliver on Decade of Commemoration Programme – 1920/2020	No. of events	5 Irish Military Seminar videos (1738 views on YouTube channel) and 1 public talk in February (15 in attendance). There were 27 Decade of Commemorations posts on www.kildare.ie/ehistory . Decade of Commemorations Facebook page has 1070 likes and @cilldara2016 Twitter has 530 followers.		

<p>4.6 Continue to improve the well-being, learning, recreation and cultural needs of our community through participation in and development of our library, arts, heritage and culture services and programmes</p>	<p>To Deliver a library service which meets the information, learning, recreational and cultural needs of the community.</p>			Content digitised such as the minute books and core centenary material.	
		Support the Government's Creative Ireland Cultural Strategy	No. of bursaries awarded	25 Bursaries awarded in 2020	Additional programming and funding provided to deliver documentary of Covid notebooks, climate event and 'Get Well Switching Off' Programme
		Deliver on Kildare's Creative Ireland Strategy	No. of participants	Additional programming and funding provided to deliver documentary of Covid notebooks, climate event and 'Get Well Switching Off' Programme	
		Deliver Cruinniú na nÓg Programme of creativity for young people	No. of participants	10 online events with a virtual audience of 4,063 (2020)	All programmed events impacted by Covid restrictions and adapted to online events where possible
		Support and facilitate the delivery of major library capital projects in the County in Clane and Naas	Project Status		

		Progress to construction phase Capital Project for library services in Naas.		Construction began December 2020 - completion expected in 18 months	Progress on project impacted due to Construction Closures under Level 5 Restrictions
		Tender for design led team for Clane Capital Project, Part 8 and tender for contractor	Project Status	Additional Unit purchased in 2020 Work began with Architects on Design Tender December 2020	Progress on project impacted due to Covid
4.10 To support Irish language and culture through implementing our Irish Language Scheme and related events and supports		Promote and facilitate Irish language engagement opportunities		140 events in 2020 plus an additional 120 Irish language classes online	All programmed events impacted by Covid restrictions and adapted to online events where possible
New Actions due to Covid-19					
6.4 Utilise ICT to reduce costs, improve operational efficiency, expand online and Cloud enabled services to make it easier for customers to access services and information		Introduce new online booking system to facilitate safe access to Libraries	Develop, test and implement online appointments service for patrons to safely access Libraries	32,690 appointment bookings from June - Dec 2020	New service developed in response to Covid 19. Not planned at start 2020.

<p>4.1 Building Communities through empowerment and inclusion "To empower all citizens to participate in safe and inclusive communities and access services and supports that make a positive difference in their lives."</p>		<p>Community Call Helpline & Library Housebound Service</p>	<p>Library Team worked with Community and IT to set up administrative system for Community Call helpline service, manned phoneline 12 hours per day, 7 days per week from March - June and set up housebound delivery service initially delivered through the helpline</p>	<p>32,690 appointment bookings from June - Dec 2020</p>	<p>New service developed in response to Covid 19. Not planned at start 2020.</p>
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Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5 year objective (As per corporate Plan)	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance Indicators	Covid 19 contextual note where relevant
<p>4.6 Continue to improve the well-being, learning, recreation and cultural needs of our community through participation in and development of our library, arts, heritage and culture services and programmes</p>	<p>To further develop an Arts Service for Kildare County Council which supports a vibrant arts infrastructure that reaffirms the intrinsic value of the arts, enables public engagement, and nurtures the artist</p>	<p>6.17 Support the Implementation of Arts, Heritage and Library Strategies</p>	<p>No. of arts grants and bursary awards</p>	<p>Arts Act Grants (€43,624) and bursary awards (€39,350) were made to 59 individuals and groups</p>	<p>Online grant application system created for 2021 to assist in the management of grants, working remotely. Information sessions delivered online</p>
		<p>With the KWETB, support the development of Music Generation, a music education programme for children and young people</p>	<p>No. of artists, community groups and arts organisations supported</p>	<p>39 music educator panel recruited and trained. Significant instrument bank developed.</p>	<p>Music Generation roll out to schools and youth groups delayed.</p>
		<p>To further promote Kildare as a 'film friendly' county and to support artists working in film</p>	<p>No. of artists on professional development, mentoring and training programmes</p>	<p>Festival took place 7th March 2020, Riverbank Arts Centre, with 25 films screened. 37 films supported by KCC catalogued</p>	

		To bring the Municipal Art Collection to more audiences and develop the collection, supporting artists	No. of members of the public attending events	Curated exhibition of female artists in the Collection in Aras, March 2020, led by artist Vera Mc Evoy	Review and audit deferred until 2021
		Through the Dance Summer School and seminar, provide a professional development opportunity for dancers and community practitioners, especially those working in Dance and Health	No. of social media followers and hits on social media links		

Department/Service Area: Economic Development

The Business Support Unit of Kildare County Council incorporates the Local Enterprise Office and the Economic Development Team to form a central point of contact for all businesses in County Kildare. It nurtures a pro-business environment working with local businesses, key stakeholders and enterprise support organisations. The Business Unit in Kildare County Council works to make County Kildare an attractive and competitive location for setting up and doing business; thus, creating a strong and sustainable county economy with a strong focus on employment creation and on accessing external international markets.

If a business is relocating or expanding, or where an entrepreneur is starting a new enterprise, the Business Support Unit will be available to effectively guide and facilitate them through their journey.

Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5 year objective (As per corporate Plan)	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance Indicators	Covid 19 contextual note where relevant
2.1 Grow employment by supporting existing SME's growth and innovation plans, while maintaining a supportive environment that attracts and supports entrepreneurship	To strengthen the enterprise base and encourage job creation activities Promote entrepreneurship & provide an integrated support structure conducive to enterprise start up and growth	Increase the number of jobs created in Kildare through upskilling from training courses, financial assistance through LEO grant schemes & MFI loans, attracting & supporting new and existing businesses to/in Kildare	No. of jobs created.	1149	

		Increase the number of Grant Applications both Received & Approved.	Financial Activity Number of grants approved.	555 approved out of a total of 700+ received	
		Increase the number of training courses and to develop programmes specific to entrepreneurs' current needs	No. training participants on training courses	3,612	
		Maintain the number of Mentoring sessions to assist develop entrepreneur's business needs	No. of mentoring sessions	1088	
		Increase the number of applications received and approved for online trading vouchers	No of online trading vouchers approved	632	
2.10 Support creativity, innovation and enterprise in Kildare through effective stimuli for local entrepreneurship to leverage the innovative capacity of the County and	Promote and assist access to the agile and Innovation funds across all industry sectors	Increase awareness of the agile and innovation funds through LEO Kildare's communication and promotion channels.	No. of Innovation Vouchers availed of & value of funds accessed by Kildare based companies	Reporting to commence in 2021	

<p>retain talented people.</p>					
<p>2.2 Work with strategic partners to deliver infrastructure and promotional campaigns to attract, sustain and expand foreign direct investment and major indigenous companies</p>	<p>Promote Kildare as location of choice for FDI Investment & support existing FDI companies in sustaining and expanding their business.</p>	<p>Support County Kildare to showcase the attractions of the county and to demonstrate that it is an outstanding area to establish and develop a modern business. The new gains will come from expansions of the existing base of foreign companies as well as new arrivals.</p>	<p>No. of FDI companies in Kildare</p>	<p>29</p>	
<p>2.3 Support and promote growth opportunities for the equine industry in recognition of its central place as a unique feature of Kildare's identity</p>	<p>Promote Kildare as "The Thoroughbred County" Pursue planning policies which protect the environmental qualities which have led to the development of Kildare as the centre of the equine industry in Ireland</p>	<p>To establish County Kildare as the "Centre of excellence for the bloodstock industry in Ireland. To discover, share and apply new knowledge that will enhance the health, performance and management of horses commensurate with the signature status</p>	<p>No. employed in the Equine industry No. visitors related No. training participants in Equine related programs No. Start-ups in</p>	<p>4,735 Direct, Indirect and secondary employment 229, 682 26</p>	<p>Reporting postponed due to Covid19 and</p>

<p>2.5 Consult with communities and collaborate with partners to enhance the public realm and design of our towns and villages and deliver projects and programmes that revitalise the local retail economy and rural hinterlands.</p>		of Kildare's equine industry.	Equine Tech Hub Completion of an Equine Asset map of the County Establishment of an EQUINE Industry Forum	Reporting to commence in 2021	immediate need to support Kildare businesses
	Facilitate and support the expansion and sustainment of the retail offering in County Kildare.	Successfully run a Retail Conference in 2019 to support retailers in Co. Kildare	No. of retail Outlets in the County	Reporting to commence in 2021	Reporting postponed due to Covid19 and immediate need to support Kildare businesses
		Increase number of applications for Shop Front grant Scheme	No. of Shops opting to use Shop Front grant Scheme	93	
		Increase number of applications for Shop Front Competition	No. of entrants in pride of place Shop Front Competition.		Competition Postponed due to Covid19 and immediate need to support Kildare businesses
		Increase number of retailers engaging with Age Friendly Business Recognition Scheme	No. of retailers engaging with Age Friendly Business Recognition Scheme	17 – Training (Developing an Age Friendly Digital Strategy) 93 – Shopfronts	
	Increase awareness of initiative Purple brigade	No of MD'S Developing and promoting initiative Purple brigade	Recommence in 2021	Reporting postponed due to Covid19	

		Increase awareness of Enterprise Town initiatives	No. of MD'S Developing and promoting Enterprise Town initiatives	Reporting to commence in 2021	
		Increase targeted promotion to grow take up of online retailing	No. of retail adopting online amongst our bricks and mortar retailers	632	
2.4 Collaborate with local providers, communities and strategic agencies to develop, package and promote our tourism offering and leverage our location as part of Ireland's Ancient East, located on Dublin's Doorstep.	Support, co-ordinate and optimize the visitor experience potential and reinforcing a positive image encompassing, Equine, history, culture, food, retail and natural and built environment. Support the expansion/improvement of existing network of facilities in Tourism, Hospitality & Leisure Industry.	Manage and update asset map of Kildare on a quarterly basis	Completion of an Asset Map across the county		Reporting postponed due to Covid19 and immediate need to support Kildare businesses
		Increase promotion of jobs opportunities through Kildare Economic Job Opportunities Database	Increased no. employed in the sectors associated with visitor experience	Reporting to commence in 2021	
		Increase number of courses, initiatives and events specifically related to Tourism, FDI & Equine.	No. of visitors as well as FDI and business start-ups in the county		

<p>2.8 Continue to work with partner agencies to support rural communities through skills development, enabling broadband delivery and supporting employment opportunities aligned to a rural lifestyle and setting.</p> <p>2.6 Support and promote growth opportunities from the Agri-food & drinks sector in recognition of its strength as a key economic drive in County Kildare</p>	<p>Increase economic activity and build sustainability into the rural economy</p> <p>Support increase development of rural enterprises in renewable energy and Green technology</p> <p>Encourage and support start up enterprises along the Blueway and greenways</p>	<p>Successfully run a Green & Sustainability Conference in 2020, specifically aimed at businesses in Kildare.</p> <p>Run a Green for Micro courses for LEO clients/ businesses in Kildare to adopt green processes within their operations</p>	<p>Increased numbers of rural enterprise and diversification initiatives</p> <p>Development of Agri-food – science network</p> <p>Development Agri-food –Hub</p>	<p>Reporting to commence in 2021</p>	<p>Reporting postponed due to Covid19 and immediate need to support Kildare businesses</p>
<p>2.9 Working in collaboration with all education stakeholders, encourage and support skill development and talent retention required by employers in all sectors</p>	<p>Encourage and support upskilling, job mobility and enterprise creation management</p>	<p>Run courses & initiatives specifically aimed current demands to support upskilling, job mobility and enterprise creation management</p>	<p>No. of people engaged in upskilling and training in business sector</p>	<p>3,784</p>	

<p>2.0 To optimise the potential of Kildare and its businesses to innovate, invest, promote and sustain growth and employment, across our County and throughout our community.”</p>	<p>Contribute to the growth of the region and expand international reach</p>	<p>Identify and encourage new businesses which have the potential to develop and grow employment and export. Increase the progression of companies exporting through Export Enterprise Development Programmes, Technical Assistance for Micro Exporters Grant. Running a Innovation Conference for the Mid-East region to support growth within business. Increase awareness of High Potential or Export related initiatives.</p>	<p>No. client companies exporting</p>	<p>250</p>	
			<p>No. of clients accessing TAME vouchers</p>	<p>3</p>	
			<p>No. of innovation hubs developed in the County and Region</p>	<p>2</p>	
			<p>No of hpsu startups transferred to Enterprise Ireland</p>	<p>15</p>	
			<p>No. of Start-ups on Global ambition program</p>	<p>Innovation conferences: Oct 2020 60+</p>	
			<p>No. of attendees at Regional Conference on INNOVATION.</p>	<p>Dec 2020 - Workplace of the Future Digital Seminar (MERTS) = 216 registered participants - 102 registered participants</p>	

<p>2.11 Promote key aspects of the Green Economy including the adoption of appropriate alternative, sustainable and smart energy solutions including co-working hubs.</p>	<p>To provide opportunities to reduce car-based commuting out of the County, through high quality co-working hubs enabling people to work remotely, temporarily or permanently</p>	<p>Create clusters of Innovation hubs in the County. Open the Mid-Eastern Region Innovation Think Space (MERITS) building to provide co-working incubation and accelerator space for technology entrepreneurs and technology businesses</p>	<p>% occupancy of MERITS</p>	<p>Measurement to commence on delivery of MERITS project</p>	
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Department/Service Area: Environmental & Water Services

The availability of quality environmental services is critical to securing economic investment, creating sustainable and attractive places, in ensuring health and wellbeing and in safeguarding the environment.

The Environment Department functions and objectives are managed in a sustainable manner in line with national and regional policies. Kildare is one of 12 counties which operate within the Eastern Midlands Region Waste Management Plan 2015-2021. The priorities for the region in 2020 address waste reduction programmes, illegal activity and unaccounted for waste, construction and demolition waste and capacity challenges and dealing with sites with illegally deposited waste.

Kildare continues to carry out its functions in accordance with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) 'Recommended Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections' (RMCEI Plan) 2019. The plan identifies and prioritises enforcement activities.

Whilst actively working towards a more environmentally sustainable County, the department also educates citizens of all ages through school education programmes, through communication campaigns, and by working in partnership with neighbourhood improvement groups like Tidy Towns.

Water and wastewater functions are provided by Kildare County Council on behalf of Irish Water under the terms of a Service Level Agreement (SLA).

Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5 year objective (As per corporate Plan)	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance Indicators	Covid 19 contextual note where relevant
1.5 Drive climate change action and environmental protection through organisational and community awareness, supports, research and facilities	Provide for the maintenance of existing Civic Amenity sites to encourage the recycling of waste, and forward plan for new CAS's where deemed necessary and funding available.	Continue servicing of existing civic amenity and bring bank sites.	No. of civic amenity sites.	2	A number of bring bank sites were inaccessible during 2020 due to Covid restrictions
		Seek to increase number of bring banks via appropriate planning permissions.	No. of bring bank sites	39	
1.6 Ensure continued robust enforcement, licensing, certification and regulation in environmental protection, planning, building control, fire safety and public health and safety in order to support our citizen's quality of life and the built and natural environment.	Ensure a high-quality environment through effective environmental enforcement activities.	Deliver revised Litter Management Plan.	New LMP agreed and in place.	Plan to be presented to full council in Q1 2021.	
		Continue programme of litter inspections/ pollution surveys.	No. of litter inspections completed	1486	
		Implement Waste Management Byelaws	No. of spot checks to support and facilitate the separation of waste at source	17	No. Of C&D Waste Inspections in 2020.
	1.6 Ensure continued robust enforcement,	Ensure the protection of rivers and public waterways and use enforcement legislation where necessary to prevent pollution.	To continue to use enforcement legislation where necessary to prevent pollution.	No. of complaints received in reporting year. No. of complaints investigated in reporting year.	109 109

licensing, certification and regulation in environmental protection, planning, building control, fire safety and public health and safety in order to support our citizen's quality of life and the built and natural environment.			No. of complaints resolved / closed in reporting year.	109	
	Oversee the provision of waste collection on a County-wide basis, both domestically and commercially; and take enforcement action where necessary.	Maintain and improve number of households using authorised waste services. To continue monitoring and enforcement of waste permits / waste facility permits.	Percentage of households who avail of a waste collection service	91.35	
			No. of spot checks for compliance.	57	
	Plan for long-term cemetery needs of the county and maintain existing cemeteries	To continue to provide funding for cemetery maintenance, improvement and expansion programme.	No. of burial grounds being maintained.	32	Works restricted due to Covid
			No. of burial grounds with improvement works completed	Ongoing	
	Ensure the control of dogs.	To administer council's obligations under the control of horses and dog's legislation. To promote the requirement to hold a dog license.	Work on dog pound extension complete.	Completed in 2020.	
			No. dog licences issued/ renewed.	5909	
	Ensure the protection of the general public against derelict sites.	To maintain the derelict sites, register and implement the provisions of the Derelict Sites Act.	No. of entries in Derelict Sites Register	16	
No. of statutory notices served			14		
1.6 Ensure continued robust enforcement,					

<p>licensing, certification and regulation in environmental protection, planning, building control, fire safety and public health and safety in order to support our citizen's quality of life and the built and natural environment</p>	<p>Kerdiffstown Remediation Project - Management and Remediation of former landfill site.</p>	<p>To continue to progress the development of the Kerdiffstown site as a public park</p>	<p>Programme of works agreed and being implemented</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Main works contract commenced in Q4 2020</p>
<p>1.10 Support and incentivise positive community actions that improve our environment and mitigate climate change</p>	<p>Support and recognize environmental protection through community awareness, supports, incentives and facilities</p>	<p>To continue to support greater environmental awareness through school's education and awareness programmes, neighbourhood improvement programmes such as Tidy Towns, Community Clean-Ups, and the provision of promotional material and support.</p>	<p>No. of participants in Tidy Towns Network.</p> <p>No. of schools participating in environmental campaigns (e.g. Green schools)</p>	<p>42</p> <p>33</p>	<p>Schools closed at time of Certification</p>
		<p>To trial a reverse vending scheme for plastic beverage bottles</p>	<p>Pilot scheme in operation</p>	<p>Scheme being progressed by MD members with local business</p>	

<p>6.7 Continue to support strong audit, financial, risk, data and corporate governance, transparency and reporting systems to build public confidence, transparency, maximise efficiency and ensure compliance with our obligations</p>	<p>Ensure the public's right of access to environmental information (AIE)</p>		<p>No. of Access to Information on the Environment requests</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>No. of requests dependent on public</p>
<p>1.8 To protect and improve water quality through implementing River Basin Management Plans and supporting the Multi Annual Rural Water Programme for the County</p>	<p><u>Rural Water</u> Provision of Support/Advice to Group Water schemes and small private supplies through Govt grants and Liaison with Irish Water.</p>		<p>Level of Spend under Rural Water Multi Annual Programme 2019-2021</p>	<p>Allocation of €414,000 for life of programme</p>	
			<p>No. of well grant applications processed</p>	<p>43</p>	

<p>5.5 Facilitate and support Irish Water in their Delivery of significant capital investments in the County</p>	<p>Provide Water and wastewater functions on behalf of Irish Water under the terms of a Service Level Agreement (SLA).</p>	<p>Continue to provide Water and wastewater functions on behalf of Irish Water under the terms of a Service Level Agreement (SLA).</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>	
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Department/Service Area: Planning and Strategic Development

The Kildare County Development Plan (CDP) was adopted in 2017 and underwent a two-year review during 2019. Following on from the adoption of the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) by the Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly during 2019, the council is currently preparing a variation (Variation No.1) to the CDP to incorporate the required changes to the Core Strategy and to the Population Projections contained within the CDP.

The Public Realm and Strategic Projects Team joined the Planning and Strategic Department in December 2019. Through evidence-based data and urban design analysis, the team in collaboration with Communities develop transformative Public Realm/ Urban Design solutions to create more vibrant and livable town and village centers from concept right through to construction. With several successful applications already made to the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund and the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund, these projects are being progressed to construction stage, with additional applications to both the RRDF and URDF submitted in 2020.

The Planning Department continues to deal with planning applications of varying sizes and levels of complexity. Pre-planning meetings are designed to deal with prospective applicants for large scale residential or commercial developments, and the department will continue to facilitate pre-planning meetings.

Applications for Strategic Housing Developments are made directly to An Bord Pleanála, and the department will continue to engage with the Board on such developments.

Reports of unauthorized development are pursued, and appropriate enforcement action taken. Where necessary, cases are referred for legal action.

A County Heritage Plan was completed during 2019. The Heritage Officer continues to implement actions arising from this Plan. The Conservation Officer continues to facilitate the roll-out of the Built Heritage Investment Scheme and Structures at Risk Schemes as approved by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

Local heritage and conservation is promoted to ensure that they receive due consideration at local level.

Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5-year objective as per corporate Plan	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance Indicators	Covid 19 contextual note where relevant
5. "Continue to plan, deliver and maintain key infrastructure in our County that sustains mobility and access and positions Kildare to achieve sustainable growth."	To ensure effective, proper planning and sustainable, balanced development of urban and rural areas	To progress all statutory forward planning processes in line with statutory deadlines and the County Development Plan	Variation of Kildare County Development Plan	Complete and adopted 09/06/2020	
			Review of Kildare County Development Plan	Work commenced in 2020 with Issues paper published 11/01/2021	Consultation now taking place on-line.
			Local Area Plans Naas Athy Kildare Town Maynooth	Draft Athy LAP published 17/12/2020 with work commenced on Draft Naas LAP which will be published in March 2021	Consultation now taking place on-line.
5.6 To ensure planning policy and development management support consolidated urban development and the reuse and regeneration of land and buildings in order to make making the provision of key public services sustainable		To initiate a review of the Development Contribution Scheme during 2020	Review of Development Contribution Scheme 2015-2022	Initial research commenced 2020	
				1,627 applications	
			Processing of Planning applications	1,170 decisions issued	

Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5-year objective as per corporate Plan	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance Indicators	Covid 19 contextual note where relevant
1.6 Ensure continued robust enforcement, licensing, certification and regulation in environmental protection, planning management and control, building control, fire safety and public health and safety in order to support our citizen's quality of life and the built and natural environment	To ensure effective development management and development control activities to support the ongoing proper planning and sustainable development of the County	To ensure effective development management and development control activities to support the ongoing proper planning and sustainable development of the County	% of Planning enforcement cases closed against no. of cases that were investigated)	48.72%	
			% of applications where the decision was confirmed (with or without variation) by an Bord Pleanala	73.85%	
			Buildings inspected as a percentage of new buildings notified to the local authority	16.80%	
			Cost of the Planning service per capita	€37.60 per person (2019). Finance to update 2020 figures once AFS is finalised.	
			Pre-planning meetings	127 commercial meetings	
				108 one-off housing meetings	
				2 pre-planning clinics; remainder by telephone/email consultation due to Covid 19 restrictions	Preplanning meetings now held by telephone/ email/ MS Teams consultation due to Covid 19 restrictions.
Section 5 (exempt Development) declarations	56 decisions issued				

Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5-year objective as per corporate Plan	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance Indicators	Covid 19 contextual note where relevant
2.5 Consult with communities and collaborate with partners to enhance the public realm and design of our towns and villages and deliver projects that revitalise the local economy and rural hinterlands.	To conduct a "health check"/ urban design analysis of settlements and develop an associated Town/ Village Renewal Plan in line with the County Development Plan and an agreed programme across Municipal Districts	To progress reviews of settlements (towns and villages) throughout the County during 2020	No. of settlements reviewed per year in line with agreed programme.	10 progressed in 2020 but not completed	Covid restrictions have delayed site surveys, site visits and public consultation workshops.
5.2 Promote and support the use, development and maintenance of sustainable transport alternatives including walking, cycling and public transport in collaboration with key transport stakeholders and agencies	To maximise public participation and collaboration in informing design and project proposals for each Town and Village	To progress extensive public consultations during 2020 to maximise the relevance, quality and impact of projects in addressing the needs of towns and villages	No of public consultation events held per year and no of associated submissions received,	17 progressed but not concluded in 2020 due to Covid restrictions.	Covid restrictions have delayed public consultation workshops. Some online consultation has taken place with more to be rolled out in 2021 as public meetings cannot take place.
	To actively pursue funding opportunities for projects that revitalise the County's towns and villages	To submit further funding applications to expand the programme of approved projects under the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Programme beyond 2020	Total value of funding approvals annually.	Both RRDF applications submitted in 2020 were successful, with an additional 2 applications submitted to the URDF at a value of €10m. A decision is awaited on these applications.	Decision on URDF applications submitted in 2020 is delayed to 2021

Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5-year objective as per corporate Plan	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance Indicators	Covid 19 contextual note where relevant
5.2 Promote and support the use, development and maintenance of sustainable transport alternatives including walking, cycling and public transport in collaboration with key transport stakeholders and agencies	To deliver projects that revitalise the local economy and rural hinterlands of the County's Towns and Villages, including greenway and blueway projects. To create an increased sense of place, where sustainable transport and modal shift is prioritised.	To progress delivery of programme of approved funded projects under the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Programme	Funding spend per annum on completed projects Value of active projects on hand at year end.	Prosperous Town Park completed in 2020 at a cost of €657,000.	Progress on the completion of other projects delayed during 2020 due to Covid Restrictions.

Department/Service Area: Community Services

Community and Cultural services develop, and lead initiatives aimed at providing civic leadership and opportunities for community engagement. Community & Cultural Services section continues to support community leadership and engagement through Community grants, Community Development supports, Comhairle na nÓg and the Kildare Age Friendly County Programme, in addition to co-ordinating the participation of Kildare Sports Partnership, Parks and Landscaping, Tourism promotion, Joint Policing Committee, Integration Strategy, Public Participation Network and others.

Kildare Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) aims to achieve a more strategic, joined-up approach to local and community development. The Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) which was completed in December 2015, provides the framework for community and economic development for the county. Work is commencing to review the actions of this plan. Kildare LCDC continues to provide oversight and leadership to the implementation of two national programmes a) Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) b) Rural Development LEADER Programme and emerging funding streams such as Healthy Ireland, Community Enhancement Programme.

The Parks Department provides Kildare County Council's landscaping service. This section also delivers a wide range of work across the county related to provision, design and maintenance of recreation and amenity facilities. The main priorities for 2020 were:

- Delivery of playgrounds in Castledermot & Allenwood
- Commence preparation of masterplan for amenity lands in Sallins and Carton Avenue, Maynooth
- Design for Boardwalk in Newbridge
- Commence detail design for Cherry Avenue Park
- Pilot scheme for reduction of glyphosate
- Develop a monastic garden in Kildare Town
- Develop a sensory garden in St Catherine's Park

The Community Development Team actively engages with communities to identify needs source funding and build capacity to enable those communities to meet their needs. The team works from a social inclusion perspective and is involved in the following key activities

- Community workers assigned to identify local authority estates under a social inclusion remit.
- Age Friendly Programme
- Athy Community Enterprise Centre
- Kildare County Pride of Place

Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5-year objective as per corporate Plan	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance Indicators	Add brief Covid contextual note if relevant
4.1 Enhance social inclusion, community participation and development through training, awareness, capacity building, community grants and awards in collaboration with the PPN and LCDC.	To work to enhance community participation and achieve citizenship through capacity building and training in conjunction with the PPN	Promote increased participation	No. of PPN Members	1080	
		Encourage representation	No of PPN representatives to KCC & related structures	22	
	To Promote consultation and communication through partnership with employees and citizens	Arrange social events	No of events in Social Inclusion Week	9	
		Arrange information sessions	No of PPN Information Sessions regarding supports available	9	all online due to covid
	To develop the community leadership role of the council through the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)	To ensure that Kildare LCDC continues to run effectively and efficiently	Sustain the current no of meetings annually by LCDC and its supporting sub-committees (3-4)	23 meetings of the LCDC and sub structures took place in 2020	The meetings initially took place via teleconference, moving to TEAMS. Restrictions have impacted on the way of working and in particular getting to know newer members. However, all of the business of LCDC continued and in many respects an increased workload under LCDC due to COVID was experienced e.g. establishing the Communtiy Response Forum, playing a lead role in data gathering for the telephone line etc.
Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5-year objective as per corporate Plan	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance Indicators	Add brief Covid contextual note if relevant

4.0 To empower all citizens to participate in safe and inclusive communities and access services and supports that make a positive difference in their lives	To support the work of the Strategic Policy Committees	Areas for attention will be identified in the 2020 Work Plan at the inaugural meeting of the new committee in March.	No of policies, strategies and schemes reviewed and developed by Strategic Policy Committee	SPCs meetings of the new committee have continued since June 2020. Full membership in place. Sectional work plans have been circulated and approved. A number of policies have been approved for CPG.	
	Residents		No. Resident Association		
	Associations: To continue to work with existing community residents' associations and support the development of new residents' associations.	Residents' Associations grants scheme will be run for local authority and private estates in 2020.	Groups applications	342 RA grants approved in 2020.	
	Continue to promote social inclusion and community development as good practice in all Project estates.	Continue promotion	KCC priority project estates supported.	10	
4.0 To empower all citizens to participate in safe and inclusive communities and access services and supports that make	Support groups to participate in local and national award competitions to highlight best practice and encourage participation.	Continue to support participation	Over 30 groups participate in the annual Pride in your Place Competition.	23	

a positive difference in their lives.					
		Continue to support participation	Over 20 gardens qualified for the Best Kept Garden Competition.	18	
		Continue to support participation	Over 10 young people participate in the Youth Endeavour Awards.	2	
4.1 Enhance social inclusion, community participation and development through training, awareness, capacity building, community grants and awards in collaboration with the PPN and LCDC.	Supports in the preparation of project proposals/accessing grants/funds for identified projects. E.g. community festival LPT etc..	Continue to support and promote participation	No of applications for LARA grants	78	
4.8 Oversee and collaborate with partner agencies in the LCDC to implement a joined up, cross sectoral approach to local and community development programming,	Multi Agency Group established for targeted estates in the County to highlight gaps in service provision	Continue to work with targeted estates	At least 4 meetings per year.	2	Covid restrictions reduced targets.

particularly targeting the most excluded.					
	To continue to focus on social inclusion as a means of tackling poverty and disadvantage	To ensure that the Kildare SICAP programme is delivered in line with the agreed plan 2020	No of persons supported annually	The LCDC SICAP sub group met bimonthly . Targets were revised nationally: Groups: 59 – achieved 67 Individuals 703-achieved 706	
			No of groups supported annually		Targets were revised nationally, both were exceeded. Issues of poverty escalated- food, fuel, unemployment. Working remotely v difficult with most vulnerable
			Bimonthly LCDC Reports Annual review complete Yes/No		
6.11 Facilitate youth participation in policy development through Comhairle na nOg.	To continue to support the work of Comhairle na nOg under the national policy framework “Better Outcomes Brighter Futures 2014-2020”	Continue support	No of Second-level schools participated in Comhairle	58 students engaged with CNN from all across the county	
4.11 Promote and recognise cultural differences in planning and decision making by understanding	To continue to develop a more inclusive and inter-cultural society in the county through the implementation of the Co Kildare Integration Strategy 2019-2024	Implement new strategy	Successful Africa Day, Inter-cultural event held in Athy May 2019	Currently in the consultation phase for our new Integration Strategy	

needs, agreeing actions and including more diversity in decision making structures.					
		Implement strategy	Develop and implement a Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy to support communities.	Implementation worker appointed and implementation committee in place. Meeting regularly	
2.7 Develop and leverage opportunities for community, cultural and economic developments through Twinning and strategic engagement with our Diaspora	Twinning: Strengthen and develop Kildare cultural relationships across the world. Providing support to twinning throughout the County. Continued implementation of the twinning policy and committee oversight.	Develop website	No of active twinning groups in County	Website developed www.kildaretwinning.ie 17	
2.8 Continue to work with partner agencies to support rural communities through skills development, enabling broadband delivery and supporting employment opportunities aligned to a rural lifestyle and setting.	To support and facilitate existing and alternative agricultural and rural based economic activities	To ensure that the LEADER programme is delivered in line with the Local Development Strategy and priorities for 2020	Leader Projects supported:	33 projects were approved for funding in 2020.	The next EU programme has been delayed due to COVID and Brexit. A transitional programme 2021 will be implemented however the focus of the next LEADER programme is not yet clear

Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5-year objective as per corporate Plan	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance Indicators	Covid 19 contextual note where relevant
4.4 To facilitate the provision of recreation, sports and open space facilities in the County and educate and build the capacity of the entire community to participate in healthier lifestyles	To promote access to community-based sports and recreational opportunities	Continue to promote opportunities	Cumulative total of playgrounds/skateparks/ outdoor gyms facilitated and/or maintained by the Council	new playground in Prosperous and another under construction in Castledermot	Completion of Castledermot delayed due to Covid restrictions
		Organise and hold annual playday event	Cumulative attendance at Annual Play Day over Corporate Plan lifetime	800 play packs distributed	The annual day had to be cancelled play packs were distributed instead
		Continue to promote participation	Annual participation in Kildare residents engaged in sports and physical activities.	26,000	COVID-19 had a negative impact on our engagement with many of our participants, particularly the Older Adult and Disability groups and this is reflected in our participation numbers for 2020
		Continue to provide upskilling	No. of volunteers receiving upskilling annually	5850	The increase in the numbers receiving education and training was mainly due to our development of a COVID-19 E-learning resource to upskill parents, teachers and coaches, helping clubs and groups return to play after lockdown.
		Upgrade St Cocoa Athletic Track in Bawnogues	Appoint contractor to complete works	Works underway due to be completed in 2021	Works delayed due to Covid work restrictions
4.1 Enhance social inclusion and community participation and development through	To support the development of sustainable communities through active	Community and festival grants schemes will be run in 2020.	No. of individual grants awarded	981 grants under all headings approved in 2020 (includes RAs).+32 Community Enhancement	A significant number of community and festival projects did not proceed or have been delayed/amended due to Covid restrictions.

training, awareness, capacity building, community grants and awards in collaboration with the PPN and LCDC	intervention in facilitating community lead projects			Programme grants + 7 Community Mental Health Funding grants+66 Covid Emergency Funding Grants	This may have implications for the ability of some groups to undertake projects in 2021. The Community Enhancement grants were oversubscribed due to an inability for groups to fundraise.
	Grants information nights will be organised through PPN.	No. of information sessions		Two meetings held in 2020. New online grants system planned for 2021 will required increased number of remote meetings/tutorials.	
4.4 To facilitate the provision of recreation, sports and open space facilities in the County and educate and build the capacity of the entire community to participate in healthier lifestyles	To support the development and enhancement of local sports, leisure, recreational and arts facilities	Support ongoing programme for delivery maintenance and management of playgrounds	Construct Castledermot & Prosperous Playground. Complete Part 8 and tender for construction of Allenwood, Tender for upgrade to St John of God Playground. Commence redesign of Leixlip Playground. Install CCTV in Newbridge skatepark	Castledermot under construction, Prosperous is complete. Tender awarded for St John of God Playground. Redesign of Leixlip Playground to commence in 2021. CCTV on hold due to GDPR.	
		Implement the adopted the Play Policy for the County	Develop design guidelines for playgrounds in residential developments	Draft guidelines under preparation	
1.7 Continue to improve and maintain the	To enhance and develop the appearance	Develop a Parks and Open Spaces Strategy for the County including best	Complete tender for consultants to develop strategy. Liaise with	Strategy under development in conjunction	

appearance of our County with the cooperation of our communities.	and environment of Kildare	use of recreational facilities	Planning and Sports Partnership re requirements for strategy	with Planning. Consultation, mapping and open space audits complete. Draft to be ready by June 2021	
		Carry out a Tree Works Programme for the county	Tender for works	Works completed	
		Prepare Masterplans for Carton Avenue, Maynooth, Sallins Amenity Land & Monread Park, Naas	Tender for consultants to prepare the masterplan	Tender for Framework of Landscape Architects completed.	
		Implement masterplan for Cherry Avenue Park, Kildare	Tender for consultants to prepare detail design	No progress	
		Develop a community tree planting initiative	Identify pilot sites	Pilot sites identified	Planting delayed due to Covid Restrictions
		Continue grass maintenance of approach roads and open spaces in the county	Maintain grass contract areas across the county	Completed	
1.7 Continue to improve and maintain the appearance of our County with the cooperation of our communities.	To enhance and develop the appearance and environment of Kildare		Landscape Caragh Court Roundabout and replant Kilcullen & Monasterevin Roundabouts, Summer Bedding Leixlip, Design for amenity land in Athgarvan, Install Monastic Garden in Kildare Town, Landscaping works at Moate of Ardscull, Design for Newbridge Boardwalk	Landscape Architect appointed to design Caragh Court Roundabout, Kilcullen Roundabout replanted, Summer Bedding in Leixlip completed. No progress on	

				Athgarvan Amenity Land, Engineering Design and Archaeology work carried out to facilitate installing Monastic Garden, Landscaping works commenced in Moat of Ardscull, No progress on Newbridge Boardwalk	
	To enhance and regenerate Kildare's towns and villages by improving streetscapes and public realm and creating urban places and spaces.	Reinstate Riverforest Bowl,	Complete		
		St Catherine's Parks - upgrade seating & complete Sensory Garden	Detail Design and Bill of Quantities completed		

Corporate Plan Supporting Strategy	5-year objective as per corporate Plan	2020 Objective	Performance Standard	2020 Progress Report - Performance Indicators	Covid contextual note where relevant
1.1 To protect, conserve and promote our County's natural and built heritage & identify and support biodiversity for the benefit of our policies, people and environment	To protect and maintain the natural environment of Kildare and change management of amenity& recreation areas to mitigate and adapt to climate change and benefit biodiversity, subject to funding and resources	Develop a community tree planting initiative	Identify pilot sites	Pilot sites identified	Planting delayed due to Covid Restrictions
		Continue conservation of key sites within the county	Conservation of Spa Well to be progressed in 2020.	Completed	
	Prepare Conservation Plan for Oldtown Gardens, Naas and Castletown Woods, Celbridge		Work on Oldtown started, no progress on Castletown Woods		
	Update conservation plan for the Wonderful Barn		Completed		
	To protect and maintain the natural environment of Kildare and change management of amenity& recreation areas to mitigate and adapt to climate change and benefit biodiversity, subject to funding and resources		Design of Tree Planting Pits in Pairc Mhuire	No progress	
			Install pilot public water point in Lourdesville Playground	Contractor in place to fit water point and and water point purchased	Installation work delayed due to Covid 19 lockdowns
			Develop standard Signage Scheme for Liffey Linear Park	No progress	
	1.11 Develop and incorporate a programme to	To protect and maintain the natural	Pilot areas for reduced application of Glyphosate and change	Identify pilot sites and implement and monitor results	Pilot study completed

<p>increase management of amenity areas to mitigate and adapt to climate change and benefit biodiversity subject to funding and resources</p>	<p>environment of Kildare and change management of amenity& recreation areas to mitigate and adapt to climate change and benefit biodiversity, subject to funding and resources</p>	<p>in grass cutting methods and frequency</p>			
<p>4.3 Continue to support the active inclusion of people through the delivery of Age Friendly Programmes in partnership with the National Shared Services Centre</p>	<p>To lead and support the Kildare Age Friendly County Programme (and act as regional lead for South East region) which is being developed and overseen by the Kildare Age Friendly Alliance supported by Age Friendly Ireland</p>	<p>To continue to monitor and support the implementation of the Kildare Age Friendly County Strategy 2019-2021 and to work closely with Age Friendly Ireland as the South East regional lead.</p>	<p>Continue to support Kildare Alliance and agree 6 monthly work programmes. Annual report published identifying progress in key objectives from the Kildare strategy. Support given to national shared service centre and SE counties as agreed with Age Friendly Ireland</p>	<p>Work programmes implemented. Annual Report published and distributed.</p>	<p>Alliance meetings x 2 held socially distanced Kildare Older Persons Council Executive x 6 held on zoom.</p> <p>Difficulty contacting older people in general due to digital poverty.</p>

New actions due to Covid-19

***The Community Response forum was established in March 2020 to bring together over 20 different agencies to assist in providing much needed services to communities affected by the restrictions imposed due to the Covid pandemic. The group met monthly and quickly became a very effective means of sharing information and raising awareness.

The forum will continue into 2021.

The Community Call helpline was set up in March 2020 in a response to assist older and vulnerable people to receive services as a result of national restrictions on movement. The helpline generally dealt with transport, shopping and collection of prescription requests but also had assistance from the library service for the provision of homebound book deliveries. The helpline dealt with 1494 requests in 2020.

Appendix 10 – Performance Indicators 2020

NOAC Performance Indicators for 2020 will be included when published

Appendix 11 – Glossary of Terms

Area of Further Assessment	AFA	Joint Policing Committee	JPC
Approved Housing Body	AHB		
Capital Assistance Programme	CAP	Kildare County Council	KCC
Catchment Flooding Risk Assessment Management	CFRAM	Kildare Sports Partnership	KSP
City and County Management Association	CCMA	Local Area Plan	LAP
Commission for Energy Regulation	CER	Local Authority	LA
Customer Relations System	CRM	Local Community Development Committee	LCDC
Department of Environment, Climate and Communications	DECC	Local Enterprise Office	LEO
		Population Equivalent	PE
Department of Transport	DoT	Service Level Agreement	SLA
Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media	DTCAGSM	Department of Rural and Community Development	DRCD
Educational Training Board	ETB	Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme	SICAP
Environmental Protection Agency	EPA	Strategic Policy Committee	SPC
Health Service Executive	HSE	Sustainable Urban Drainage System	SUDS
Industrial Development Authority	IDA	Radio Frequency Identification	RFID
Integrated Services Programme	ISP	Toys, Technology and Training	TTT
Information Communications Technology	ICT	Upper Liffey Valley Regional Sewerage Scheme	ULVRSS
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage	DHLGH	Wastewater Treatment Plant	WWTP
Community Enhancement Programme	CEP	Local Action Group	LAC