



## Chief Executive's Management Report - December 2019

### **THIS MONTH: News and Highlights**

#### **Corporate Plan**

The Corporate Plan 2019-2024 was approved by the members at the plenary meeting on 25 November.

#### **International Day of Persons with Disabilities "The Future is Accessible"**

International Day of Persons with Disabilities was held on Tuesday 03 December in Áras Chill Dara (see page 38).

#### **MAKEIT Food and Craft Christmas Fair**

The Local Enterprise Office hosted the annual MAKEIT Food and Craft Christmas Fair on Thursday 28 November at the Kildare County Council Offices (see page 44).

### **Dates for Your Diary**

#### **Historic Structures Fund 2020**

The closing date for all applications is Friday 31 January 2020 (see page 8).

#### **Visual Artists Café Kildare**

A Visual Artists Café will take place on Wednesday, 11 December in the Riverbank Arts Centre (see page 22).

#### **Music and Health - Choral Programme**

Past Times 2019 Christmas Sing-A-Long will be held on Tuesday 10 December from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Voices of Spring Christmas Sing-A-Long will be held on Wednesday 11 December from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (see page 22).



**Wishing the Cathaoirleach and members a Happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year  
from the Chief Executive and staff of Kildare County Council**



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## Corporate Services

### Corporate Plan 2019-2024

The Corporate Plan was approved by the members at the plenary meeting

on 25 November. The plan will be available on the council website and also on the Members Information Portal (MIP).

### Register of Electors

#### Claims Court 2020/2021

The County Registrar will hold an open court to consider claims for correction to the draft register of electors 2020/21 for the five municipal districts of Athy, Celbridge/Leixlip, Clane-Maynooth, Kildare-Newbridge and Naas at Naas

Courthouse, on Wednesday 18 December at 2:15 p.m.

Claims lists are available for inspection at Post Offices, Libraries and Garda Stations in Athy, Castledermot, Celbridge, Kilcock, Kildare, Maynooth, Naas and Newbridge, and at the Franchise Section, Aras Chill Dara

### Members Services

#### 2019 Liam O'Connell Memorial Debate

The Cathaoirleach of Kildare, Councillor Suzanne Doyle in conjunction with the South Western Regional Drug and Alcohol Task Force hosted the 2019 Liam O'Connell Memorial Debate in Áras Chill Dara on Monday 02 December which was chaired by District Court Judge, Mr

Desmond Zaidan. The debate topic was "the legal age for purchasing alcohol was perversely supporting the unhealthy drinking culture in our country" and 21 students representing 7 schools attended with the overall winners being from Pipers Hill College, Naas



### **Statutory Declarations and Ethics Declarations**

Statutory Declarations and Ethics Declarations will be issued to the members in January for completion, relevant deadlines will be advised at a future date.

### **Meetings Calendar**

The members approved the Meetings Calendar 2020 at their last meeting and this is now available on the Members Information Portal (MIP).

### **Oireachtas Members Presentation**

Available on the notice board in the Members Information Portal.

## **Finance and Information Technology**

### **Financial Reports**

Revenue Account Summary

(see Appendix 1).



## Planning and Strategic Development

### **Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES)**

The Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly (EMRA) adopted the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) which came into effect on 28 June 2019. A Draft Ministerial Direction was served on the EMRA on 07 August 2019 concerning aspects of future rail transport. The EMRA held an official launch of the RSES on 13 November 2019 in the Glenroyal Hotel, Maynooth.

### **The Office of the Planning Regulator (OPR)/Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG)**

Separate meetings took place with the OPR and the DHPLG on 15 November. It is understood that additional training for members will take place in 2020.

### **County Development Plan (CDP)**

The Minister and the Office of the Planning Regulator were informed on 26 July 2019 that Kildare County Council will be proceeding with a development plan variation in accordance with the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). The Draft Variation No 1 will go on public display on 09 January 2020.

### **Local Area Plans (LAP's)**

#### **Naas LAP**

The council, at its meeting on 29 July 2019 resolved to not make the Naas Draft LAP under Section 20 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended).

#### **Leixlip LAP**

The Material Alterations to the Draft Leixlip LAP and the Chief Executive's Report on Submissions received will be considered at a special meeting of the plenary council on 16 December.



Planning applications received:		Residential Units Granted	Applications decided: Nov 2019	
Nov	Year	Number	Total Granted:	
2017:	145	1,496	1,148	64
2018:	132	1,601	1,026	Retention: 15
2019:	110	1,334	1,820	Extension of Duration: 13 Total Refused: 26

### Significant Planning Applications, November 2019

#### 19/67 Arkil

Permission for continuance of quarry works on 14 hectares at Drinnanstown, Rathangan has been granted.

#### 19/1097 Kilsaran

Permission has been refused for sand and gravel extraction on 32 hectares at Racefield, Ballyshannon, Kilcullen.

#### 18/1024 Minch Malt

Permission has been granted for a malt production processing building at Minch Malting, Athy.

#### 19/91 Intel Ireland

Permission for an extended and revised manufacturing facility at Collinstown, Leixlip has been appealed to An Bord Pleanála and was granted by the Board on 21 November 2019.

### Strategic Infrastructure

#### Development (SID) Applications to An Bord Pleanála

#### Drehid Waste Management Facility (ABP Ref. 17/300506)

The oral hearing concluded on 13 March 2019 and a decision is awaited from the Board.

#### Application by Bord na Móna Powergen Limited and ESB Wind Development Limited (ABP Ref. 18/303249) for a 110kV onsite Electric Substation at Timahoe East

A decision is awaited from the Board.

An Application by Eirgrid plc (ABP Ref. 19/304862) was lodged with An Bord Pleanála on 08 July 2019 for a substation, underground circuits, etc. in the townlands of Bogganstown, County Meath, and Leixlip, County Kildare connecting the proposed substation with electricity transformers



within the Intel Ireland Facility, Leixlip was granted on 21 November 2019.

### Strategic Housing Development (SHD) Applications to An Bord Pleanála

The Strategic Housing Development (SHD) process was created in 2016 as a fast-track planning mechanism to facilitate the delivery of larger housing projects. The SHD provisions came into effect on 03 July 2017 and apply for an initial period, until the end of 2019. While the process originated as part of the Government's Housing Action Plan Rebuilding Ireland, it also has to be seen in the longer-term

context of the National Planning Framework, which set a target of providing over half a million new homes by 2040. Since the legislation came into effect in July 2017, applications for planning permission for SHD's are made directly to An Bord Pleanála.

Recent Decisions				
	Developer	Location	No of Units	Decision
19/305007	Ballymount Properties Ltd.	Magee Barracks, Kildare	375	Granted

Application Stage					
	Developer	Location	No of Units	Lodged with ABP	ABP Decision Due
19/305416	Resource Five Ltd.	Newtown, Kill	147	13/09/19	19/1/20
19/305701	Cairn Homes Properties Ltd.	Naas West and Jigginstown, Naas	314	16/10/19	TBA
19/305905	Westar	Capdoo, Clane	305	19/11/19	TBA



## Part 8 Developments – Current Decisions/Proposals

Ref	Lead Dept.	Details	Launched	20 wks	Approved
P82019.08	Transport	Maynooth Eastern Ring Road	16/04/19	02/09/19	29/07/19
P82019.09	Community	Community Centre, Kilcock	20/08/19	06/01/20	01/11/19
P82019.11	Environment	Celbridge Civic Amenity Site	16/07/19	02/12/19	15/11/19

### Built Heritage Investment Scheme

#### 2020

The scheme supports small scale, labor intensive conservation projects. The minimum level of funding awarded will be €2,500 up to a maximum of €15,000 per application.

€15,000 - €50,000 aimed at essential repairs and smaller capital works for the refurbishment and conservation of heritage structures. Stream 2 offers a smaller number of grants from €50,000 to €200,000 for larger enhancement, refurbishment or reuse projects involving heritage structures, where a clear community or public benefit is demonstrated. The closing date for all applications is Friday 31 January 2020.

### Historic Structures Fund 2020

This scheme offers funding in 2 streams; Stream 1 offers grants from





## Public Realm Projects

### Successful Urban Regeneration and Development

#### Fund (URDF) Applications

Town	Project	RRDF Funding Sought	Match Funding Amount
Celbridge	Celbridge Relief Road and Second Liffey Crossing	€400,000	€100,000
Naas	Canal Quarter/Abbey Street	€195,000	€65,000
Naas	Town Hall – new library and cultural centre.	€4,445,243	€1,481,748
Newbridge	Town centre – creation of a cultural quarter	€492,309	€164,103



## Successful Rural Regeneration and Development

### Fund (RRDF) Applications

Town	Project	RRDF Funding Sought	Match Funding Amount
Athy	Former Dominican Lands	€80,000	€20,000
Athy	Emily Square – upgrade works and Shackleton Museum	€2,707,500	€902,500
Monasterevin	Public Realm Enhancements	€78,000	€26,400
Barrow Blueway	Blueway trail (48km)	€5,900,000	**€1,600,000

Grand Canal Greenway - €1.7million for 11km – from Newcastle in Dublin to Sallins (Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport (DTTAS)).

\*\* Fully funded by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

### Town and Village Scheme, 2019

There were 11 applications and 4 were successful:

Kildangan	Repair and improve access to Kildangan Village Hall.	€92,164
Kilcock	Enhance Kilcock town gateways on four principal approach roads.	€100,000
Prosperous	Enhance Prosperous town gateways on three principal approach roads.	€100,000
Ballitore	Engage consultants to assess and draft a restoration plan for the second Tanyard building.	€20,000
	Kildare Total	€312,164



## Housing

### Housing Report December 2019

#### Capital Programme

Location	No. of Units	Status December 2019
<b>Completed</b>		
The Paddocks, Kilcock	19 units	19 units completed and allocated December 2017/February 2018. Defects liability period to conclude shortly.
Athgarvan Road, Newbridge	13 units	Works complete and units have been allocated. Final account and post project review being prepared.
St. Patrick's Park Rathangan, Remedial Works (Phase 1)	Refurb of 34 Units (23 social and 11 private)	Lot 1 (6 units): completed Lots 2 - 5 (28 units) completed
Dunmurray Rise Kildare [Phase 3]	32 units	Units completed 25 October 2019.
<b>In Progress</b>		
<b>Status December 2019</b>		
Beechgrove, Rathangan	18 units	Contractor on site. Expected completion Quarter, 4 2019 subject to Irish Water connection.
Anne Street Prosperous	12 units	Contractor on site. Expected completion Quarter 1, 2020.
<b>Approval Stage 3</b>		
<b>Status December 2019</b>		
Tankardsgarden, Newbridge	8 units plus caretaker bay	Alternative accommodation being considered for families currently resident in Tankardsgarden.
Athgarvan Village	19 units	Part 8 approved at the Kildare/Newbridge MD meeting in November 2018. Main contract tender issued 18 October 2019. Tender return due 13 December 2019.
<b>Approval Stage 2</b>		
<b>Status December 2019</b>		
St. Patrick's Park Rathangan Remedial Works (Phase's 2 and 3)	Demolition of 21 units, refurb of 19 units, construction of 16 units.	Revised Stage 2 options discussed and agreed in principal with the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG) in mid-October. Revised Stage 2 application to be submitted. Briefing meeting to be arranged with the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District members.
Rathasker Road, Naas	70-100 units (depending on final agreement with AHB and Planning Dept)	Consideration is being given to incorporating the adjacent site under the control of an AHB as a joint proposal to maximise the potential of the site and to offset the cost of remediating the site and to provide a



		greater range of unit types. Proposal received from an AHB currently being assessed.
Coill Dubh	10 units	Part 8 approved on 19 December 2018. Civil/structural tenders received and assessed. Building services tenders due mid-January 2020.
<b>Approval Stage 1</b>		<b>Status December 2019</b>
Old Greenfield, Maynooth	Rapid Build/Volumetric Framework 70/75 units	Design team appointed February 2019. Revised proposal to increase density to 70-75 units under consideration prior to completing Approval Stage 2 - expected Quarter 1, 2020.
Ardclough Road, Celbridge	36 units	A Service Site Funding (SSF) application has been approved. Transportation has advised that infrastructure requirements may now exceed the SSF funding allocation.
Carbury	4 units	A feasibility study is being carried out. Expect to submit Stage 1 approval Quarter 1, 2020.
Former Ambassador Hotel Site, Kill	35 units	Stage 1 approval submitted to the DHPLG Quarter 3, 2019. Revised approval Stage 1 to be submitted based on guidance from the DHPLG.
Oldtown Mill, Celbridge.	55/60 units	A feasibility study is being carried out. Expect to submit Stage 1 approval Quarter 1, 2020.
Caragh Road Site, Naas	TBC	A feasibility study/economic assessment in relation to potential for provision of affordable units was conducted on this site and established that the site is suitable for consideration for an element of affordable housing. Design studies to commence Quarter 4, 2019.

### Infill Schemes

Location	No. of Units	Status December 2019
Newtown House, Leixlip	4 units	Approval Stage 1 received. Proposed Approval Stage 2 Quarter 4, 2019.
Narraghmore	4 units	Approval Stage 1 received from the DHPLG July 2018. Proposed commencement of Part 8 Quarter 4, 2019.
Glandore, Athy	TBC	Stage 1 approval received. Approval Stage 2 proposed Quarter 1, 2020.
Skenagun, Castledermot	1 existing refurb and 1 new-build	Proposed Stage 1 approval submission to the DHPLG to be prepared for submission by the end of Quarter 4, 2019. Proposed commencement of Part 8 Quarter 1, 2020.



## PPP Schemes

Location	No. of Units	Status December 2019
Craddockstown Road, Naas	74 units	Commenced on site March 2019. Expected completion Quarter 2, 2020.
Nancy's Lane, Clane	77 units	Contract awarded November 2019. Commenced on site 28 November 2019.
Ardrew, Athy	TBC	Ardrew site identified as preferred site for PPP Bundle 3.

## Approved Housing Body Schemes

Location	No. of Units	Status December 2019
Respond HA Flinter's Field, Athy	35 units	Part 8 approved at 24 July 2017. Respond have re-tendered for contractors.
Tuath HA Castlefen, Sallins	28 units	Part 8 approved at the Naas Municipal District meeting on 17 July 2018. At tender stage.
Dominican Lands Athy	30 units	Stage 1 approval received July 2017. Cluid nominated to progress the development of the site.
ESB Site Leixlip	24 units	Cluid nominated to progress the development of the site.

## Approved Housing Body Schemes - Capital Assistance Scheme

Approved Housing Body	No. of Units	Status December 2019
KARE	3 Units	Part 8 planning application to be lodged Quarter 1, 2020.
Camphill Communities of Ireland	4 units at The Bridge, Kilcullen	CAS - Stage 2 approval received on 03 October 2017. Planning application approved.
Homeless Care CLG	12 Apartments at Jigginstown House, Naas	CAS – Planning granted May 2018. Homeless Care CLG construction contract awarded November 2019.



## Acquisitions

	Completed Units 2018	Completed Units 2019	In Progress
Housing Acquisitions	186	155	120
Housing Turnkeys	39	70	86
Part V Acquisitions	30	45	222

## Rebuilding Ireland Home Loans

2018	Approval No.	Approval Amount	Approval Drawdown No.	Approval Drawdown Amount	Expired No.	Expired Amount
Total	67	€14,480,997	15	€2,989,150	3	€623,000
2019	Approval No.	Approval Amount	Approval Drawdown No.	Approval Drawdown Amount	Expired No.	Expired Amount
January	1	€270,000	8	€1,920,947	3	€462,500
February	2	€365,600	6	€1,455,055	6	€1,031,200
March	2	€415,800	0	0	1	€288,000
April	0	0	6	€1,240,470	7	€1,665,130
May	0	0	4	€898,050	0	0
June	1	€220,000	2	€415,800	0	0
July	0	€0	3	€605,600	0	0
August	0	€0	2	€449,800	0	0
September	2	€305,000	0	0	1	€226,000
October	6	€1,207,100	0	0	0	0
November	8	€1,336,439	0	0	0	0

**Total Approved to Date: €18,600,936** \*Approvals continuing due to expired loans

Total Drawn down to date: €10,160,922

Total currently committed in loan offers: €3,628,384

Total Expired: €4,811,630

**Total available for lending: €1,210,694**



**Families in Emergency Accommodation [including supported temporary accommodation and family hubs] as at 30 November 2019**

<b>Duration</b>	<b>No. of Households with Dependents</b>	<b>Adults</b>	<b>Dependents</b>
0 - 6 Months	30	49	63
6 - 12 Months	17	28	40
12 - 18 Months	10	16	21
18 - 24 Months	2	2	6
24 - 30 Months	2	2	6
	<b>61</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>136</b>

**Families in Own Front Door  
Accommodation as at 30 November 2019**

<b>Duration</b>	<b>No. of Households with Dependents</b>	<b>Adults</b>	<b>Dependents</b>
0 - 6 Months	2	3	7
6 - 12 Months	1	2	4
12 - 18 Months	4	7	13
18 - 24 Months	1	2	3
24 - 30 Months	4	7	12
	<b>12</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>39</b>



## Library and Arts Service

Libraries allow children to ask questions about the world and find the answers. And the wonderful thing is that once a child learns to use a library, the doors to learning are always open - Laura Bush

### Passport Online

A national campaign is underway directing the public to libraries to avail of enhanced passport online renewal facilities. Internet access is provided free of charge in all Kildare Libraries.

### Laptop and Tablet Lending

Ten Kildare Libraries have commenced laptop and tablet lending this month. Devices can be borrowed free of charge for use in the library.

### Energy Audits

All Kildare Libraries are undertaking energy audits in 2020. The library service will account for energy expenditure through window and boiler upgrades in selected libraries.

### Journals of the County Kildare Archaeological Society

The Journals of the County Kildare Archaeological Society have been fully digitised (for the years 1891-2007) and are now available to view for free anywhere through an arrangement with Irish Newspaper Archives and the County Kildare Archaeological Society. The link to search them is up on [www.kildare.ie/ehistory](http://www.kildare.ie/ehistory)

### Library Ireland Week

Details of Library Ireland Week have been announced. The campaign will run from 01-07 December with the theme **Libraries Inspire**. Kildare Libraries will host events throughout the week

### Castledermot Library Upgrade Works and Refurbishment

Castledermot Library is currently temporarily closed to the public until early 2020 for essential upgrade works. The refurbishment project is now well underway. Library staff have already fully cleared the building and all library stock and IT equipment are in temporary storage.





Extensive conservation works have begun on the original stained-glass windows:

- A full upgrade of the internal lighting system to energy efficient lighting is due to start in the coming days
- Procurement of internal fit-out, decorating and new flooring is underway
- The new layout and design will allow for a community space for talks, workshops and small meetings
- We hope to be ready to re-open early in 2020 once all work is completed

In order to ensure minimum disruption to services the mobile library service will visit Castledermot Community Centre on 04 December and 08 and 29 January from 2:30 p.m-4:00 p.m. In addition, during this period library members can borrow and return to any library in the country. Library members can continue to avail of the online services which include eBooks, eMagazines, music downloads and eAudio books at anytime, anywhere. This service is totally free of charge; fines have been abolished in all library branches. Regular updates on the

project will be communicated via the Library Service social media:

[facebook.com/KildareCountyLibraryService](https://www.facebook.com/KildareCountyLibraryService) and [twitter.com/kildarelibrary](https://twitter.com/kildarelibrary)

### **Naas Library and Cultural Centre**

The tender documents for the second stage of the construction tender for Naas Library have been sent to all the shortlisted contractors. The closing date for the receipt of tenders is Friday 17 January.

### **AsIAm Autism Experience Exhibition**

The AsIAm Autism Experience Exhibition is travelling around the County of Kildare. It came to Áras Chill Dara on 03 December.

Visit the Autism Experience Exhibition where you will travel through a series of interactive experiences which will enable you to “step into the shoes” of a person on the autism spectrum.

### **My First Library Card**

Kildare Library Service is working in conjunction with Wicklow Library Service on a ***Right to Read*** initiative to encourage parents and guardians to sign children up for library membership from birth. Literacy begins with



learning language and looking at books in early infancy. This process continues from birth throughout the early childhood years. Library membership and use can have a big impact on a child's literacy and numeracy levels. The Library Services have worked with author and illustrator Chris Judge (*The Baby Beast, The Snow Beast, The Brave Beast, The Lonely Beast*) on a specially designed **My First Library Card** to be made available in all Kildare and Wicklow Libraries. Brochures to advertise the card are being delivered to Public Health Nurses and childcare facilities throughout the two counties.

### **Kildare Libraries to be drop-off point for donated new books for Christmas**

The Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVP) runs the **WordPower** scheme throughout the year in Dublin, Kildare and Wicklow to provide new books to children in the families they visit. During the pilot period this year a total of 3,099 children received book packs from WordPower. The pilot has been such a success that the project has now been introduced permanently in the region. This Christmas Kildare and Wicklow libraries and KFM in

conjunction with SVP WordPower are collecting new books and book vouchers/tokens for families. KFM will promote the appeal starting this week. Kildare and Wicklow Libraries will be the drop-off locations for the donated books/tokens and SVP will arrange for families to receive the books. Books can be donated until the week of the 16 December.

### **Family Time at Your Library**

**Right to Read** is the national programme to promote literacy and reading development for people of all ages and backgrounds. It currently includes four national programmes designed to promote children's reading and literacy, in addition to local programming. **Family Time at Your Library** events and activities take place in all libraries during the month of December to support a family's focused approach to reading with children and to increase awareness of the benefits of reading and promote reading as a fun, recreational activity for children. Family Time at Your Library events will take place throughout the month of December in all Kildare libraries.



### Better Basics Boosting Reading

The **Better Basics Boosting Reading Programme** is run in Kildare primary schools in conjunction with County Kildare Leader Partnership (CKLP). Children are supported through paired reading to improve their reading skills and develop greater confidence in reading aloud. This programme also creates important links between the school and the library. This year the programme runs from November to March/April and has just begun. Local Studies Section, Newbridge ([localhistory@kildarecoco.ie](mailto:localhistory@kildarecoco.ie))

### Aspects of the Curragh Heritage Seminar

The Local Studies Section of Kildare Library Service co-organised a seminar 'Aspects of the Curragh', in association with the County Kildare Archaeological Society on Saturday 16 November. This event was supported by Creative Ireland with the opening address by Cathaoirleach, Councillor Suzanne Doyle. The event featured a number of distinguished speakers who explored different aspects of the unique heritage of The Curragh.



A new edition of Dr John Feehan's long out of print book on *The Curragh Cuirreach Life* was launched at the event, along with the newly digitised journals of the County Kildare Archaeological Society and the formal launch of the Abarta audioguide to the Curragh.

### Decade of Commemorations Committee [including 120 Years of Local Democracy Exhibition]

The work of the Decade of Commemorations Committee continues apace, with planning for 2020 events already underway. The Irish Military Seminar will again take place in June 2020, while partnerships with local history groups and community groups are again planned for throughout 2020. Key events which took place during 1920 which will be commemorated in 2020 include the Bloody Sunday events in Dublin (including the role of Kildare man Mick Sammon as referee in Croke Park), an ambush in Kill during the War of



Independence and historic local elections held in County Kildare in 1920. An exhibition marking '120 Years of Local Democracy' which details key local government events over the past 120 years is on display in Maynooth Library from 09-20 December. This mobile exhibition, curated by the Local Archivists and Record Managers Group, will subsequently go on display in Monasterevin Library in January and Leixlip Library in February.

### **Local Studies Collections**

The Local Studies Department continues to acquire a wide range of items of historic and contemporary relevance to County Kildare, including postcards, and other rare publications. The Library Service recently acquired a scrapbook associated with the Aylmer Family of Donadea which offers interesting glimpses into the sporting lives of members of the aristocracy in 19<sup>th</sup> Century Kildare. It includes interesting information on tennis and cricket events held in the grounds located in Oldtown Estate. An autograph book from a County Kildare internee in the Curragh Camp (War of Independence period) has also been recently donated to the collections.

The Local Studies are always delighted to receive donations of such valuable historic items to the collections, which are available to be consulted along with being preserved for future generations in our collections in Newbridge.

### **Kildare Arts Service investment in Youth Theatre acknowledged in national research**

At the recent launch of Centre Stage+20, a national youth theatre research project undertaken by Youth Theatre Ireland every ten years, the impact of Kildare Arts Service's sustained investment in Youth Theatre was highlighted. Kildare was highlighted among the top five counties with high provision for youth theatre, having one youth theatre for every 5,434 young people aged 10-19 in the county. The report states that the other counties in the top 5 (Cavan, Leitrim, Laois, Longford) have high provision, they also have low youth populations, whereas Kildare has a high youth population plus a large number of youth theatres. A case study on youth theatre provision in Kildare is highlighted in the research and states: "Autonomous youth theatres and youth theatres run by



theatre companies and amateur drama groups have flourished in Kildare to form a thriving youth theatre community. These youth theatres are between 3 and 22 years old, with a mixture of paid and volunteer youth theatre facilitators delivering activities. Two decades of active youth theatre development has built a strong youth theatre culture in the county. Though Kildare has a high youth population, the number of youth theatres means there is a good ratio of youth theatres to young people. They are mainly located in the north of the county where the youth population is concentrated. Although Kildare Arts Service did not initiate any of these youth theatre groups, its openness to funding youth theatre groups which are not part of its own activity programme has contributed significantly to the sustainability of youth theatre in the county. Kildare Arts Service gives two independent youth theatres the status of regularly funded organisations and assigns them core funding. The county now has a mix of provision including: two large youth theatres (Kildare Youth Theatre and Griese Youth Theatre); a smaller autonomous youth theatre with paid facilitators; two small,

autonomous youth theatres run by volunteers; and one voluntary youth theatre run by an amateur drama group.”

### **Maynooth Film for All – Transit**

Maynooth Film for All will finish off 2019 by showing the French/German co-production *Transit* based off the 1944 novel of the same name. There will also be an introduction by Professor Gerry Kearns from the Department of Geography in Maynooth University.

The Maynooth Film For All Film Club is a partnership between Kildare County Council Library and Arts Service and the English Department and Media Studies at Maynooth University.

### **On a Winters Night – Festive Traditions from Around the World**

“On A Winter’s Night” celebrates Christmas and festive traditions from around the world. In 2018 ‘On A Winters Night’, written by Ms Susan Boyle and Mr Eoghan Doyle, was performed to over 1,800 children throughout schools and libraries in Kildare, with the performances in 2019 likely to exceed this number. Inspired by the highly successful ‘Joy to the





World' exhibition which, since 2007, has been seen by thousands of people in County Kildare, this fun and thoughtful interactive storytelling session is the perfect antidote to Christmas commercialism.

### **Visual Artists Café Kildare**

A Visual Artists Café will take place on Wednesday, 11 December in the Riverbank Arts Centre. The Café is run by Visual Artists Ireland in association with Kildare County Council's Arts Service and is a follow on event to the 3 successful professional development workshops for artists held in Kildare this autumn.

### **Arts and Wellbeing Programme**

#### **Music and Health - Choral Programme**

Both Past Times Community Choir (Naas) and Voices of Spring Community Choir (Celbridge) are celebrating the Christmas Season

with public Sing-A-Long's! All are welcome to join in for these festive performances by our community choirs who support people living with dementia, their families, friends and communities.

Past Times 2019 Christmas Sing-A-Long will be held in the O'Connell Suite, West Grove Hotel, Clane, County Kildare on Tuesday 10 December from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Voices of Spring Christmas Sing-A-Long will be held at Straffan Community Hall, Straffan, County Kildare on Wednesday 11 December. From 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

#### **Music and Health - Hospital Programme**

The Music on the Ward Programme and Day Hospital will have festive performances as part of the Christmas season.



## Water Services

### Infrastructural Projects

#### **Contract 2A (Newbridge Eastern Interceptor Sewer)**

The contract was signed by Irish Water and Roadbridge on 20 February and it has a 24-month construction programme. Work is progressing well on site. Murphy International Ltd., on behalf of Lidl (subject to an Irish Water agreement), is laying part of the Eastern Interceptor Sewer along the route of the Newbridge Outer Orbital Relief Road between the dual carriageway and the Great Connell Road. These works are now well advanced.

#### **Contract 2B (Network)**

The contract was signed by Irish Water and Coffey Construction Ltd On 08 August 2019 and it has a 30-month construction programme. Works commenced on site in September 2019.

#### **Osberstown Sludge Treatment Facility DBO Contract Variation**

Veolia Water Ireland is advancing works on this variation to the DBO contract.

#### **Maynooth Transfer Pipeline**

This project involves the upgrading of the existing Maynooth Sewerage Pumping Station and the construction of a new sewerage pipeline along a new route from the pumping station to the Leixlip Wastewater Treatment Plant. The project is at planning and design stage. Irish Water has commenced engagement with landowners as part of the land and wayleave process.

### Capital Projects

#### **Kilmeague Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) Upgrade**

The plant was commissioned in late September 2019. It is being operated by the contractor for three months during a process proving period before handover to operations in early January 2020.



### **Allenwood Sewerage Network (Vacuum System) Modification**

The legacy land payment is being progressed by Irish Water. Irish Water's consultants are reviewing the Design Review Report and preparing new land acquisition/wayleave maps for the project.

### **Timolin WWTP Upgrade**

This project is being assessed by Irish Water Asset Planning under the National Certificate of Authorisation Programme (NCAP) Process and a site assessment report is being finalised by Irish Water's consultants.

### **Rathangan WWTP Upgrade**

This project will now have to be progressed as a Capital Scheme rather than through operations.

### **Allenwood North WWTP Upgrade**

This work is scheduled for tender in Quarter 4, 2019.

### **Water Networks Projects**

#### **Newbridge Town Watermain Rehabilitation Works**

All works are currently under review for the remainder of 2019 regarding the Water Network Programme Schemes, as Irish Water's targets have been met

and exceeded for this year. As a result, the following projects are now likely to commence in 2020:

- Highfield, Newbridge Back Yard Services (BYS) Scheme.
- Piercetown, Newbridge BYS Scheme
- St. Patricks Terrace, Naas BYS Scheme.
- Dublin Road, Naas Mains Rehabilitation Project

### **Pairc Mhuire, Newbridge BYS scheme**

Works on site resumed in Pairc Mhuire, Newbridge, as of 14 October. A total of 1,230 metres of new HDPE watermain have since been installed as part of this scheme. Customer private side service connection works commenced on 13 November. To date 40 customers have had private side works carried out within their properties as part of the upgrades.

### **Kildare Town Watermain Rehabilitation Works**

Watermains have been laid in Rowanville, Lourdesville, Cleamore Terrace, Assumpta Villas and Campion Crescent. The transfer of





services is ongoing. A number of customers have yet to provide consent to allow for the completion of the private side works so that decommissioning works can be completed in these estates. This work cannot commence until all customers consent has been obtained. There are 16 No customers/premises where consent has not been provided.

### **Taghadoo to Maynooth Watermain Replacment**

Upgrade works and decommissioning works have now been completed. The new section of watermain is now live. Permanent road reinstatement works have yet to be completed as part of this scheme.

### **Suncroft Village – Transfer of Service Connections**

This scheme is now under review and works will now not proceed in 2019.

## **Environment**

### **Catchment Flooding**

#### **Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Study (CFRAMS)**

Meetings have taken place with the Office of Public Works (OPW) regarding the prioritisation of works. A Steering Group with the OPW has been established to progress the consultants brief for the Naas Study and Leixlip Scheme. The municipal districts will be briefed on the emerging CFRAM Programme.

#### **Morell Flood Management Scheme**

A Judicial Review has been lodged against An Bord Pleanála's decision. Kildare County Council, as notice party cannot commence any works until the review is heard or withdrawn. Efforts are ongoing to resolve issues and progress is being made.

#### **Athy Flood Modeling**

Scenarios have been completed meaning that the proposed flood measure can be adopted into the Local Area Plan (LAP) as part of the Dominican Masterplan, subject to the approval of the elected members.



## **Hazelhatch**

The contract for a further hydrological study into flooding at Hazelhatch has been awarded to RPS Ireland. Delivery of revised mapping of the area is scheduled for the end of Quarter 4, 2019, with a preliminary flood risk management options report due in Quarter 1, 2020. The revised mapping will be used by the OPW to update flood extents in the catchment.

## **Kerdiffstown**

Taking possession of properties under the CPO is now complete.

An advanced works contract is near completion in connection with the St Vincent de Paul property.

The L2005 realignment contract has been awarded to David Walsh Civil Engineering and works have commenced. Shortlisting of candidates for the main contract has been completed. Tenders are to be issued before Christmas. A presentation was given to Naas Municipal District Committee on Tuesday 19 November.

## **Cemeteries**

### **Churchtown Cemetery**

Public lighting is to be commissioned with the ESB subject to funding agreement.

### **Kildare Town Cemetery**

The updated design for upgrade works is under consideration. It is anticipated that works will take place in early 2020.

### **Newbridge Cemetery**

Work on the upgrade of the car park is to commence in early 2020.

### **Columbarium Walls**

#### **Derrinturn,**

It is hoped to appoint a contractor to carry the work in 2020 in Derrinturn Cemetery.

#### **Rathangan, Newbridge and Crookstown**

It is hoped to begin construction in Quarter 2/Quarter 3, 2020.



## **Eastern and Midlands Climate Action Regional Office (CARO)**

All governance arrangements are in place. Partnership with Kilkenny County Council was formally signed on 11 October and the regional/sub-regional structure will be further strengthened in the new year following representation to the 17 Chief Executives. A sectoral training plan has been finalised and approved following presentation to the County and City Management Association (CCMA). The training plan was further presented to all local authority Training Officers on Tuesday 05 October. All (17) adaptation plans in the Eastern and Midlands Region have been approved. The CARO's are now developing a strategy for implementation and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for agreement at a national level. The CARO has also commenced working with the constituent local authorities in relation to the actions contained within the Government Climate Action Plan.

## **Kildare Climate Action Team**

The Chief Executive's Report on the draft adaptation strategy was approved at the plenary council meeting on 23 September and the Climate Action

Team will convene soon to commence implementation of the actions emerging from the Adaptation Strategy. A successful climate summer camp for younger people was delivered over the summer in conjunction with the Irish National Stud. The Kildare LEADER 'Communities 4 Climate Action' community training programme has concluded and the group intend to continue networking in order to promote climate action in their communities.

The council will also commence the recruitment process for a Climate Action Officer, at Senior Executive grade, over the coming weeks and this appointment will work closely with the Climate Change Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) and Climate Action Team to deliver on the relevant requirements of the various policy frameworks, not least the council's adaptation strategy, the All of Government Climate Action Plan and



the Climate Action Charter to be signed with the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment.

## New Initiatives

### Countywide Green Kilometer

This scheme is designed to encourage people living in rural areas (and out of Tidy Town areas) to remove litter and improve the biodiversity and heritage of selected rural roads in their area. 19 applications have been received this year from across the county. All participants routinely remove litter and are offered a number of native trees to plant along the roadside. This is a useful way to reward the groups and individuals who participate while also improving Kildare's biodiversity. It is hoped to extend this scheme in 2020.

## General Initiatives

### Any Bag Any Bin

Any Bag Any Bin stencil- painted by Kildare County Council on footpaths in areas where dog walking is popular.



A gentle reminder to clean up after your dog!

### Recycling and Litter Bin, Kilcullen



A recycling and litter bin was installed at a bus stop in Kilcullen to encourage people to segregate their waste into recyclable and non-recyclable before they get on the bus.



### Anti-Dumping Initiative

The Anti-Dumping Initiative is a national scheme to prevent illegal dumping in mainly rural areas which are routinely subjected to it.



Encouraging people to report illegal dumping is an important part of a communities' response to the problem.

### Civic Amenity Site North

The Part 8 was approved by the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Committee. Works are to progress subject to funding approval.

### Dog Pound

Extension works are scheduled to be completed by the end of the year.

### Rathangan Public Realm

The Part 8 is to be published in January 2020.

### Kilcullen Public Realm

A further presentation will be made to the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District Committee on 11 December 2019.

### Monasterevin Public Realm

An early draft will be presented to the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District Committee. It is currently being refined in advance of further consultation.

### Public Realm Upgrade for Kildare Town

A working draft has now been completed and was presented to the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District Committee on 08 October and will now progress to the formal statutory consultation stage work on Part 8 documentation relating to the proposed upgrade of The Square

### Public Realm Upgrade for Newbridge

A working draft has now been completed and was presented to the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District Committee on 16 October and will now progress to the formal statutory consultation stage.

### Management of The Curragh Plains

An agreement has been reached with the Department of Defence and is now progressing to tender stage. Tender documentation will be posted on e-tenders shortly.



## Parks

### **Allenwood Playground**

Work is continuing on the development of a design for the ACDAL campus. It is hoped to have this completed in January and then to advertise the Part 8 for it.

### **Newbridge Skatepark**

Quotations have been sought for contractors to install CCTV. It is hoped to award the work in January.

### **Tree Works Programme**

Tenders are being awarded for tree works in Celbridge /Leixlip and Naas Municipal Districts. It is hoped these

works will commence in early 2020 and be completed by the end of March. The programme of works will be circulated to the elected members of each municipal district before the works commence. Tree works in the Clane-Maynooth, Kildare-Newbridge and Athy Municipal Districts have been tendered and are due back before the end of the year.

### **Wonderful Barn**

Howley Hayes Architects have been appointed to revise and update the Conservation Plan for The Wonderful Barn. The final report will assist with the preparation of a plan to develop the buildings and parklands once completed.





## Economic Community and Cultural Development

### Community Grants

#### Community Grants 2019

The table below outlines the grants awarded to date across the county

under the various grant schemes administered by the Community Department.

Grant Scheme	No. of Grants	Amount Awarded
Community Grant	187	€247,978
Festival Grant	78	€131,656
LPT grants (groups nominated by Councillors)	156	€765,522
Private Residents' Associations	252	€210,553
Local Authority Residents' Associations	74	€67,380
LPT Grants (Sports – Athy Municipal District)	30	€30,000
LPT Grants (Projects- Residents' Associations- Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District)	18	€19,444
Drehid Grants Scheme	32	€236,445
Community Enhancement Programme	5	€149,014
Education Bursaries Scheme	38	€23,200
Mens' Sheds	14	€22,369
	<b>884</b>	<b>€1,903,561</b>



## Kildare Fáilte

### Key activities November 2019

At Naas Working Together pre-Christmas meeting in Lawlors Ms Mangan gave a brief overview of the upcoming CrossFit event and of the opportunity for traders in Naas. The **CrossFit Filthy 150** was held in Punchestown from 22 to 24 November. Kildare Fáilte had close contact with the event organiser prior to and during the event. Kildare Fáilte assisted with sponsorship and arranged for publicity in the locality prior to and during the event. A press release was circulated to 10 local and national papers and to KFM. Kildare Fáilte also sponsored trophies which were presented to winners by Ms Áine Mangan, Chief Executive Officer. This was streamed to over 1 million views worldwide. Following on from the Kildare at the Races event at Windsor Racecourse last month, the Dublin Convention Bureau (DCB) familiarisation trip was conducted on 12 November. We met the teams and had show rounds in the Glenroyal Hotel, Kiltashee Hotel, Punchestown, Newbridge Silverware, Kildare Town Heritage Centre, the Irish National Stud and Killea Castle Hotel.

Many of the venues on the day were not familiar to the DCB team and they seemed genuinely impressed with the quality of facilities, accommodation and attractions the county has to offer. It was a great opportunity for trade/tourism providers to meet the DCB team.

Kildare Fáilte attended Fáilte Ireland's Launch of 2020 plans in Croke Park on 11 November, which included workshops on IAE and business tourism. Minister Shane Ross was present.

Ms Áine Mangan, Chief Executive Officer attended the Food Tourism Strategy meeting in Kildare County Council and the Fáilte Ireland Sport of Kings Workshop in The Curragh Racecourse.

Kildare Fáilte also attended the Fáilte Ireland Greenways Workshop in Dungarvan in advance of planning Greenways and Blueways in County Kildare. Ms Mangan also attended an Eco Tourism Conference in Croke Park, inspiring sustainable tourism. Other meetings and events attended representing tourism in Kildare were





the Twinning meeting in Kildare County Council and the Curragh 2020 launch and Awards night, the Barrow Blueway meeting organised by the Cathaoirleach, Councillor Suzanne Doyle and continue to meet and support tourism providers in the county. Reports were compiled and submitted in respect of Kildare Accommodation Investment Strategy Toolkit, Tourism Baseline Metric and

Kildare Fáilte Annual Oireachtas Presentation for 2019. Ahead of the launch of the Ardclough Village Centre, new tourism signage has been designed and will be in place for the launch of the centre on 06 December.



## Roads, Transportation and Public Safety

### **M7 Widening, Osberstown Interchange and Sallins Bypass Project**

SIAC Construction Ltd/Colas Ltd. is the contractor. The contractor has opened 3 lanes both eastbound and westbound from Junction 8 Johnstown to Junction 11 (M7/M9 merge). As works are continuing in this area an 80kph speed limit is in place.

### **Maynooth Eastern Relief Road and Bridge**

The preferred route option, (C), was presented in committee to the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Committee on 05 April.

The Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Committee confirmed approval of the Part 8 in respect of Option C on 29 July. Detailed design and CPO preparation stages are now underway.

### **Athy Distributor Route**

An Bord Pleanála's approval issued on 11 October, 2017. A Notice of Confirmation for the Athy Distributor Road was published in the Nationalist and Leinster Leader on 28 November 2017. No objections/Judicial Reviews were received by the deadline on 23 January 2018. €3 million was included in the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport (DTTAS) road grants in 2019 for this project. Notices to treat have been issued. Notice of entry on lands has been issued. Advance works between Corran Árd and Fortbarrington Road have been completed. The railway abandonment is complete. The removal of the rails and sleepers will be the next visible sign of works. A further advance contract is under procurement.

### **Maynooth Inner Relief Street**

Moyglare Road to Dunboyne Road – Planning approval was issued by An Bord Pleanála to Cairn Developments Plc. Works are progressing well and the expected completion date is the end of 2019.



### **Newbridge Outer Orbital Route**

Naas Road to Great Connell Road  
Newbridge: Construction has progressed well to date and much of the realignment of the south bound lane of the R445 is complete – underground services, kerbing, footpaths, roundabout, traffic islands, road surfacing, public lighting and line marking. The estimated completion date is Quarter 4, 2019.

### **Northern Link Street and South Green Area Access Improvement Scheme (Kildare Town)**

The route selection process is ongoing and consultation with Iarnrod Éireann has commenced regarding the design of an upgrade/replacement bridge over the railway. A briefing was delivered to the Kildare Newbridge Municipal District Committee on 12 June. A Non-Statutory Public Consultation was held on the 18 June at the Kildare Education Centre. All submissions received will be considered and the Route Selection Process will reach a conclusion in the coming months.

### **Naas Municipal District 2019**

#### **Naas Municipal District Footpath Works**

The Naas Municipal District is at tender/construction stage for improvement works to footpath and associated works at the following locations within the Naas Municipal District:

- The Gables, Kill (footpath improvements) – complete
- The Park, Naas (footpath improvements) – complete
- Sallins Road, Naas (footpath improvement) – complete
- St. Brigid's Avenue, Kilcullen (road and footpath improvements) – complete
- Relocate Bus Stop, Sallins – complete
- Sallins Controlled Pedestrian Crossing improvements – complete
- Newbridge Road, Naas footpath works – complete
- Resurfacing of Abbey Street Car Park, Naas – complete
- Hazlemere road repairs – complete
- Main Street, Naas – construction Stage



- Brannockstown Footpath – complete

### **Naas Municipal District Road Improvement Works 2019**

The first package of works (Works Package 1) is now complete. It includes the following works locations:

- Section A: L6039 Crab Road
- Section B: L20113 Bishopscourt, Kill
- Section C: L20102 Alasty
- Section D: L6012 Sherlockstown, Sallins
- Section E: L60601 McLoughlins Lane, Boleybeg
- Section F: L6035 Naas Rugby Club to the Red House
- Section G: L6043 Craddockstown
- Section H: L2004 Digby Bridge

The second package of road improvement projects (Works Package 2) is now complete. It includes the following works locations:

- Section A: L6011 Turnings, Sherlockstown-Daars
- Section B: L20042 Blackhall, Clane

- Section C: R407 Bodenstown-Clane
- Section D: L6076 Castlefish (Nicholastown)
- Section E: Bishopshill, Ballymore Eustace
- Section F: Dunshane
- Section G: Walterstown, Sallins
- Section H: L2023 Punchestown, Naas
- Section I: L200610 Osberstown Cottages, Sallins

The third package of road improvement projects (Works Package 3) is at construction stage. It includes the following works locations:

- Section A: Main Street, Ballymore Eustace
- Section B: Tipper Road, Naas
- Section C: Abbey Bridge, Naas

The fourth package of road improvement projects (Works Package 4) is at tender stage. It includes the following works locations:

- Section A: R407, Sallins



### Emergency Drainage Works

The Naas Municipal District has carried out the following drainage works:

- Main Street, Sallins – repairs to the drainage system at the shops/apartments on the R407 opposite Sallins Bridge. This work is now complete.
- Lakelands, Naas - Repairs to the collapsed pipe exiting the lakes and the removal of trees causing the problem (root ingress). This work is now complete.

### Surface Dressing Works

The Naas Municipal District have recently completed the surface dressing works programme for 2019 in the Naas Municipal District including:

- R412 – Dunlavin Road (south of Brannockstown)
- L2023 – Punchestown Road (Between Beggars end and Watchouse Cross)
- L2009/L2018/L2019/L2021 – Boston Hill, Tuckmilltown, Oughterard
- L2020 – Military Road

- L2018 – Killeel
- L6038 – Rathmore to Redbog

### Local Property Tax (LPT)/Carpark Funded Works 2019

The LPT/Carpark funded works programme for 2019 has been agreed by the Naas Municipal District Committee. The Naas Municipal District is delivering the road and footpath improvement elements of this programme on an ongoing basis.

### The Low Cost Safety Scheme

The Low Cost Safety Improvement Scheme for Corbally Crossroads is at construction stage. It is proposed to complete the works by the end of the year.



## Road Safety

### European Road Safety Summer School Road Safety

The following is a summary of works carried out by Road Safety in October 2019.

- Cycle safety initiatives
- School visits on road safety and cycling
- RSA/Garda/RSO Conference, Athlone
- Local Authority Road Safety Officers (RSO's) receive 15 virtual reality goggles from Aviva Insurance Road Safety Unit
- Road Safety Week
- Annual Road Safety Academic Lecture
- AXA Road Safety Roadshow
- School visits on road safety and cycling
- 'Get a Grip' - Tyre Safety Campaign
- Project EDWARD

## International Day of Persons with Disabilities

### "The Future is Accessible"



International Day of Persons with Disabilities was held on Tuesday 03 December in Áras Chill Dara. Its aim is to promote the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities in all spheres of society and development, and to increase awareness of the situation of persons with disabilities in every aspect of political, social, economic and cultural life.

### Kildare Civil Defence assisted at the following events in October 2019

- Tony Donoghue Memorial Run - Moone/ Timolin
- Lions Club Sponsored Walk – The Curragh
- Barretstown – St. Kevin's Way Challenge – Assisting Dublin and Wicklow



## Fire Service

Up to 30 November Kildare Fire Service responded to 1,383 operational incidents which resulted in

1,690 station responses (see breakdown below). Some incident types required more than one station to respond.

<b>Operational Calls</b>		
<b>Station</b>	<b>Total Calls 2018</b>	<b>Total Calls November 2019</b>
Newbridge	460	409
Naas	503	400
Athy	266	199
Maynooth	322	292
Monasterevin	214	168
Leixlip	245	222
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>1690</b>

## Fire Safety

	<b>No. Inspections</b>	<b>No. Premises Inspected</b>
2018	88	85
2019	73	70

	<b>No. Fire Safety Complaints</b>
2018	18
2019	13



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	<b>No. Fire Safety Certificates</b>
2018	204
2019	163

	<b>No. Planning File Comments</b>
2018	518
2019	415





## Building and Development Control

The following figures are cumulative up to 30 November 2019

### Building Control (figures to end of November 2019)

	2018	2019
<b>Commencement Notices</b>		
Total number of Commencement Notices received:	662	588
Number of valid Commencement Notices received:	618	573
Number of invalid Commencement Notices received:	44	15

	2018	2019
<b>Certificate of Compliance on Completion</b>		
Total number of certificates received:	644	566
Number valid	629	565
Number Invalid	15	1
Awaiting processing	-	-
Additional Information		
<b>Disability Access Certificates</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
Total number of Disability Access Certificates received:	139	111
Number granted:	130	121
Number refused:	0	0



## Development Control

<b>Active Sites</b>	<b>At 31/12/2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
Number of sites with house construction	64	84
Number of sites where all units complete but snag lists not complete	36	36

<b>Estates that Require Monitoring/Maintenance</b>	19 (Ballintine Park – Waste Water Treatment Plant up and running)
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## Local Enterprise Office (LEO)

Elected members please advise your constituents that the LEO Office is always open to discuss their idea, business needs

or grant availability, weekly business advice clinics continue across the county in 2019:

email [localenterprise@kildarecoco.ie](mailto:localenterprise@kildarecoco.ie)

### Funding Applications Awarded 2019 Per Municipal District *(Final figures avail 04 Dec)*

	Athy	Maynooth	Celbridge /Leixlip	Kildare-Newbridge	Naas
<b>€ Amount</b>	€159,603	€251,560	€115,855	€197,842	€210,832
<b># Clients</b>	22	24	13	22	38

### Entrepreneurship Support Services - Summary 2019:

- **12 Start your own business** programs provided for **180 entrepreneurs** (including first global growth program)
- **1880** business people upskilled.
- **214** walk in **business advice** sessions facilitated
- **22 secondary schools** (+ 2 from 2018) in **Student Enterprise Program**, **1800** students participating
- **60 Third level students** competed in the Innovation challenge in association with **Maynooth university/prize fund €10,000**
- **57** Entrepreneurs completed the **IBYE** (under 35) program, 3 shared a prize fund of €45,000
- **National finalist** in the **Best Start Up** Category – Pierce Dargan of Equine MediRecord
- **80** businesses received funding
- **285 new jobs** created by client companies
- Client company **Pestle and Mortar win National Enterprise awards. Second win** in consecutive years for Kildare
- **Largest Female Entrepreneur gathering** in the Country during Women in Enterprise Day
- **50** Businesses accessed **Customs and Excess Training**
- **21** companies supported financially to explore alternative markets
- **13** Companies were facilitated on **trade Mission to Boston**



- **30** Companies supported on **client sites** over a 6-month period to create a strategic competitiveness plan

## Local Enterprise Development Services

### MAKEIT Food and Craft Christmas Fair

The Local Enterprise Office hosted the annual MAKEIT Food and Craft Christmas Fair on Thursday 28 November in Áras, Chill Dara, Council Offices.



This initiative comes as part of the LEO's aim to encourage consumers to shop local and support Kildare businesses. Now in its third year, MAKEIT supported over 50 Kildare businesses and attracted over 1,000 customers from across the county, each collecting unique handmade stocking fillers and sampling festive treats from Kildare's leading food and craft producers.



The evening also featured a performance from the Kildare County Council Choir and a live feed with KFM and a visit from Mr and Mrs Clause.



### Brexit Supports

Brexit remains very high on the agenda and a series of interventions have been put in place.

Please encourage SME owners in your municipal district to fill out the Brexit Scorecard to assess exposure.

#### Brexit Scorecard:

<https://prepareforbrexit.virtual-adviser.com/>



**Full list of Brexit supports:**

<https://mailchi.mp/69ab763db83d/brexit-is-coming-and-were-here-to-help-2918709>

**Financial Supports:**

If your constituents are interested in any of the grant aid below, please advise them to contact the LEO on 045 98096 or [localenterprise@kildarecoco.ie](mailto:localenterprise@kildarecoco.ie)

**Voucher to improve online trading capabilities** – Trading online vouchers are available to the value of €2,500 (*50% of eligible costs up to the maximum of €2,500*) Available to any business with less than 10 employees.

**Voucher to explore new export markets** – This grant can part-fund the costs that you will incur in investigating and researching export markets. Grant covers 50% of eligible costs (subject to a maximum of €2,500 per company in any one calendar year) Available to any business with less than 10 employees.

**Business Priming and Expansion Grants** – Up to 50% of the investment or €150,000 Available to any business with less than 10 employees in the manufacturing sector or internationally traded services.

**Grants for improving shopfronts** – to assist and support independent business owners to improve the appearance of their shop fronts/commercial properties. Grants are given for €5,000 or up to 75% of costs Open to all businesses.

**Small Business Loans with Micro Finance Ireland** – works with small businesses with fewer than 10 employees and turnover up to €2 million, by providing unsecured business loans of €2,000 to €25,000 for commercially viable proposals. Available to any business with less than 10 employees.

**Business Advice Clinics**

If your constituents are interested in booking a Business Advice Clinic, please advise them to contact the LEO on 045 980967, or [localenterprise@kildarecoco.ie](mailto:localenterprise@kildarecoco.ie)

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**Peter Carey**  
**Chief Executive**