



Chief Executive's Report April 2019

THIS MONTH: News and Highlights

Joint Annual LAI/ CILIP Ireland Conference

Kildare Library Service was very proud to host this prestigious international two day conference in Naas.

Work Matters at the Library 2019

The Work Matters Programme 2019 is now complete and copies of the brochure are available from local libraries.

Arts Grants and Award Opportunities

Reports have been issued to the five Municipal District Committee at the April meetings with recommendations on the awarding of Arts Act Grants and other award schemes 2019.

Kildare Age Friendly County Strategy 2019-2021

Kildare Age Friendly County Alliance was delighted to launch the "Kildare Age Friendly County Strategy 2019-2021" on Wednesday 10 April 2019.

National Enterprise Awards

Sonia Deasey of Pestle and Mortar will represent Kildare at the regional final of the National Enterprise Awards 2019.

Launch of Athy, Food, Drink and Skills Innovation Hub

Minister Humphreys joined Kildare County Council on 18 April to launch the Athy, Food, Drink and Skills Innovation Hub to promote creative learning and local development

Official opening of Skateboard Park in Moorefield Park, Newbridge

The Deputy Mayor of Kildare, Councillor Robert Power officially opened the skateboard park at Moorefield Park, Newbridge, on Saturday 13 April.

Eadestown Playground

Construction on Eadestown Playground is expected to be complete by the end of the month. An opening date will be announced once works are nearer completion.

Dates for Your Diary

Young Readers Festival

The Young Readers Festival will take place between the 08 and 22 June 2019.

AsIAm Autism Experience Exhibition

Leixlip Library will host Autism Experience Exhibition on Saturday 27 April 2019.

Made of Athy Music Trail project on Nationwide

The Made of Athy Music Trail project will be featured on RTE1's Nationwide at 7:00p.m. on Friday 12 April.



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Corporate Services

Members Services

Presentation to Sr. Consilio to honour her work in Kildare is taking place in the council chamber on Tuesday 23 April at 7:00 p.m.

Customer Services

#YourCouncilDay or #dolásachomhairle took place on Friday 12 April 2019 and was a great success with many sections getting involved in the campaign to promote local authority services.

Register of Electors

The Register of Electors team have put together Local Elections 2019 Candidate Information packs to include Notice of Election, Guidelines for Candidates on the Disclosure of Donations and Expenditure, Spending Limits and Political Donation Accounts at the Local Elections, Form LE1A Statutory Declaration by Assertors to Nomination of Candidates, Nomination Paper 5 and Certificate of Political affiliation.

The pack also includes key information in relation to the elections, the election posters (time limits) and details of election information that is available on the council website.

Supplement to the Register

The closing date for the Supplement to the Register is Tuesday 7 May 2019. The closing date for the Supplement to the Postal and Special Voters List is Sunday 28 April 2019.

Finance and Information Technology

Financial Reports

Annual Financial Statement

The Annual Financial Statement for year ended 31 December 2018 has been finalised and submitted to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG) in accordance with the required accounting code of practice and regulations before 31 March 2019. It is listed on the agenda for noting at the April council meeting and has been circulated with the agenda.



Revenue Account Summary (see Appendix 1).

Planning and Strategic Development

Office of the Planning Regulator

The Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government has signed the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2018 (Commencement) Order 2019 which brings certain provisions of the 2018 Act, specifically those providing for the establishment of the Office of the Planning Regulator, into effect from 3 April 2019. The Planning Regulator will enhance oversight of the planning system with three main functions:

- Independent assessment of all local authority statutory plans and strategies
- Review and examine the organisation and systems and procedures used by planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála

- Driving national research, training, education and public information programmes in relation to planning

Regional Spatial and

Economic Strategy (RSES)

The Report of the Director of the Eastern and Midlands Regional Assembly (EMRA) on submissions was received by Kildare County Council on 18 February 2019. The closing date for submission of submissions/observations on same to the EMRA was 12 April 2019.

Kildare County Development Plan 2017-2023:

A 2 year progress report on the Kildare County Development Plan is being prepared and it is intended to circulate this to the members for the May council meeting.



Local Area Plans (LAP's)

Leixlip LAP

Ministerial Direction issued in March 2018 confirming that the Leixlip LAP is not in compliance with the requirements of the Planning and Development Act. A new LAP will be prepared shortly. In January 2019 public consultation took place regarding existing social infrastructure and future requirements.

Naas LAP

It is anticipated that a Draft Naas LAP will be published and put on public display early in 2019.

Athy LAP

Work on the preparation of the Draft Athy LAP is ongoing

Planning applications received:			Applications decided: March 2019	
March Year			Total Granted:	79
2016:	142	1,376	Retention:	11
2017:	136	1,494	Extension of Duration:	2
2018:	143	1,596	Total Refused:	6
2019:	151	338	Extension of Duration:	0

Significant Planning Applications

18/541 Landport Estates Limited

Permission has been granted for 14 houses at Ballintine Park, Allen.

18/883 Blackstand Limited

Permission has been refused for 23 dwellings at Townparks, Athy.



**19/20 Kilcock Car Dismantlers
Recycling Centre**

Permission has been refused for retention as constructed, and 0.76Ha of storage for cars at Kilcock.

18/851 Ultra Dawn

Permission has been granted for 46 dwellings at Cooleragh, Coill Dubh.

Exempt Developments (Quarter 1 2019 Report)

Exempt Developments (Section 5)					
	Received	Decided	Outstanding (Overdue)	Withdrawn	With ABP
2019	26	13	12 (7)	1	0

Strategic Infrastructure

Development Applications to An Bord Pleanála (SID)

Drehid Waste Management Facility (ABP Ref. 18/300558)

The oral hearing by An Bord Pleanála (ABP) which began in September 2018 and adjourned by the Inspector, resumed on 11 March 2019. The oral hearing concluded on 13 March 2019 and a decision is now awaited from ABP.

Application by Bord na Móna Powergen Limited and ESB Wind Development Limited

An application by Bord na Móna Powergen Limited and ESB Wind Development Limited (ABP Ref. 18/303219) for a 110kV onsite Electric Substation at Timahoe East is due to be decided.

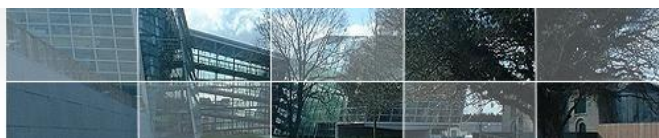


**Strategic Housing Development
(SHD) Applications to An Bord
Pleanála**

Since legislation came into effect in July 2017, applications for planning

permission for Strategic Housing Developments (SHD's) are made directly to An Bord Pleanála.

Decisions Made					
	Developer	Location	No of Units	ABP Decision	
18-300558	McCourt Investments	Kill Hill, Kill	130	Refused	
18-300606	Ardstone	Barnhall, Leixlip	450	Granted	
18-301230	Cairn Homes	Maria Villa, Maynooth	462 + 106 student units	Granted	
18-301371	Ballymount	Magee Barracks, Kildare	264	Refused	
18-301775	Ladas Property	Mill Street, Maynooth	135	Refused	
18-301818	Stennock Ltd.	Morrinstownbillier, Newbridge	281	Granted	
18-302141	Ardstone	Kilbelin, Newbridge	343	Granted	
18-302922	Glan Developments	Ballymany, Newbridge	180	Refused	
Application Stage					
	Developer	Location	No of Units	Lodged with ABP	ABP Decision Due
18-303023	Ardstone	Bluebell, Naas	125	16/11/18	20/03/19
18-303295	O'Flynn Construction	Shackleton Road and Oldtown Road, Celbridge	251	19/12/18	23/04/19
18-303298	McCourt Investments	Kill Hill, and Earl's Court, Kill	136	21/12/18	25/04/19



Part 8 Developments

Ref	Lead Dept.	Details	Launched	20 wks	Decision
P82018.01	Transport	Car Park at Maynooth, Rd, Kilcock	30/01/2018	18/06/2018	Agreed 06/04/2018
P82018.02	Community	Park at Cherry Avenue, Kildare Town	06/02/2018	25/06/2018	Agreed 16/05/2018
P82018.03	Housing	77 social houses at Nancy's Lane, Clane	20/02/2018	09/07/2018	Agreed 04/05/2018
P82018.04	Enterprise	Mid-Eastern Regional Think Space (MERITS), Naas	13/02/2018	02/07/2018	Agreed 17/04/2018
P82018.05	Housing	29 social housing units at Castlefen, Sallins	27/03/2018	13/08/2018	Agreed 17/07/2018
P82018.08	Community	Playground at Eadestown GAA Club	10/07/2018	26/11/2018	
P82018.09	Community	Environmental Improvement Works, Emily Square, Athy	17/07/2018	03/12/2018	Agreed 19/11/2018
P82018.10	Housing	20 residential units at Mountain View, Athgarvan	14/08/2018	01/01/2019	Agreed 21/11/2018
P82018.11	Housing	10 residential units at Coill Dubh	12/09/2018	22/01/2019	Agreed 19/12/2018
P82018.12	Planning	Grand Canal Greenway	28/11/2018	16/04/2019	Agreed 28/03/2019
P82018.13	Libraries	Naas Town Hall	06/11/2018	26/03/2019	
P82019.01	Transport	Machinery Yard & Regional Salt Barn	26/02/2019	15/07/2019	
P82019.02	Community	Playground and Landscaping, Castledermot	08/01/2019	27/05/2019	
P82019.03	Community	Playground at Caragh	08/01/2019	27/05/2019	
P82019.04	Community	Playground, Allenwood	22/01/2019	10/06/2019	
P82019.05	Community	Town Hall, Athy	30/01/2019	18/06/2019	
P82019.06	Transport	Coghlanstown Road upgrade	05/02/2019	24/06/2019	
P82019.07	Transport	Naas Inner Relief Road	26/02/2019	15/07/2019	



Conservation

Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2019 (BHIS 2019)

The Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht approved a total of 13 applications under the Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS) 2019 for the county with an overall total of €79,000.

Historic Structures Fund 2019 (HSF 2019)

The Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht approved 1 grant to the value of €25,000.

Heritage

National Heritage Plan

Kildare County Council and the County Kildare Heritage Forum made a submission to the National Heritage Plan- Heritage Ireland 2030.

The County Kildare Heritage Plan public consultation was conducted during March.

Heritage Plan funding- Heritage Council

Two applications were successful under the Heritage Plan funding scheme.

Community Heritage Grants

64 applications were received under the Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2019 and 58 were deemed eligible. €51,160 was allocated under the Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2019. The total value of the applications seeking funding under the 2019 Grant Scheme is €143,273.

Traditional Building Skills Weekend

Kildare County Council with Irish Georgian Society has secured funding under Creative Ireland for a Traditional Building Skills Weekend in June at Castletown.



Housing

Summary of Social Housing Assessments 2019

The council has been directed by the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government, under Section 21 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2009, that each housing authority is required to prepare a summary of housing needs of the social housing assessments carried out in its administrative area. The Minister has directed that the summary be prepared on 24 June 2019. The 2019 summary is the continuation of the process of annual assessments of the national housing need which commenced with the 2016 summary. The applications that require review are those that have not been assessed for the first time or reviewed since 07 March 2018. A proportion of files will have been reviewed since that date as part of the 2018 summary and these do not need to be reviewed as part of this process.

The key output of the summary remains the net need figure i.e. the number of qualified households on the council's housing list whose housing need has not been met. It is, therefore, essential that all households included on the list of qualified households meet the criteria of eligibility and need set out in the Social Housing Assessment Regulations, and also that the council's total figure does not include certain households, such as those on transfer lists or in accommodation provided under the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) or the Housing Assistance Payment Scheme (HAP).

Over the coming weeks the Housing Department will be making contact with the relevant applicants on the housing list to ensure that all applicants are compliant with the social housing assessment regulations and are still in need of housing. In the meantime the council would encourage housing applicants to



ensure that their housing applications are up to date.

Affordable Housing

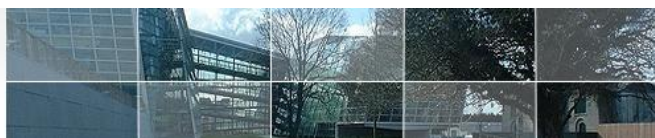
The Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government has recently published Regulations and Guidelines in relation to affordable housing, with further guidelines awaited at time of writing with regard to preparation of a Scheme of Priority for the allocation of affordable units. During the course of 2019 the elected members will consider a Scheme of Priority to allow for the allocation of affordable units.

Inter- Authority Movement - Housing Assistance Payment Scheme (HAP)

The Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG) has recently issued a circular clarifying the position with regard to inter-authority movement of HAP Scheme applicants. The circular outlines that inter-authority HAP can be facilitated in circumstances where both local authorities involved apply the following principles:

1. Verify that the household is below the income limit for the new intended local authority area
2. Agree that the HAP tenant household will continue to be dealt with by their originating local authority (i.e. the local authority where they are currently assessed as having a housing need)
3. The movement of HAP applicants between local authority areas should be facilitated wherever possible. [as per direction issued in 2017, any household with a history of anti-social behavior cannot be considered for inter-authority HAP].

The circular is in line with advice received from the DHPLG during 2018 in relation to the flexibility to be afforded to HAP applicants who source a property in another county.



Housing Quarterly Update - Activity Levels

The following outlines the number of applications processed to the end of

Quarter 1, 2019 in a number of services areas. Details of the previous year is also included for comparison

Social Housing Applications

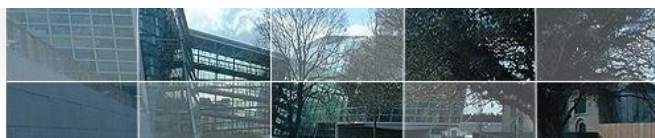
2018	Existing Housing file updates	Transfer Requests	New valid Applications	Mortgage to Rent Apps	Refusals
Total	485	82	929	23	188
2019	Existing Housing file updates	Transfer Requests	New valid Applications	Mortgage to Rent Apps	Refusals
Quarter 1	83	21	229	2	46

HAP Applications

2018	Applications Received	Applications Rejected	Applications Approved
Total	1025	35	706
2019	Applications Received	Applications Rejected	Applications Approved
Quarter 1	204	45	193

Rebuilding Ireland Home Loans

2018	Approval No.	Approval Amount	Approval Drawdown No.	Approval Drawdown Amount	Expired No.	Expired Amount	Remaining Approval No.	Remaining amount approved
Total	67	€14,480,997	15	€2,989,200	3	€623,000	49	€10,868,797
2019	Approval No.	Approval Amount	Approval Drawdown No.	Approval Drawdown Amount	Expired No.	Expired Amount	Remaining Approved No.	Remaining amount approved
January	1	€270,000	8	€1,190,247	6	€1,047,600	36	€8,360,950
February	2	€365,600	6	€1,455,055	2	€332,300	30	€6,207,995
March	2	€415,800	0	0	2	€480,600	30	€5,311,595



Tenant Purchase Scheme 2016

2018	Applications Received	Ineligible	Approvals Issued
Total	29	4	6
2019	Applications Received	Ineligible	Approvals Issued
Quarter 1	12	2	6

Housing Grants

2018	Housing Adaptation Apps Recd	Housing Adaptation Grants Approved	Mobility Aids Apps Recd	Mobility Aids Grants Approved	Housing Aid for Older Persons Apps Recd	Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Approved
Total	434	295	3	0	248	143
2019	Housing Adaptation Apps Recd	Housing Adaptation Grants Approved	Mobility Aids Apps Recd	Mobility Aids Grants Approved	Housing Aid for Older Persons Apps Recd	Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Approved
Quarter 1	119	78	0	0	67	0

Differential Rents Assessments Undertaken

2018	LA Rents	LA HAP	
Total	1321	1163	
2019	LA Rents	LA HAP	LA HAP Review
Quarter 1	246	193	144



Housing Maintenance

2018	Vacant House Turnarounds	New House Purchases Upgrades	Number of Response Maintenance Requests Logged	Number of Response Maintenance requests completed	Number of Self Help Grants Approved
Total	112	104	6,581	5,311	69
2019	Vacant House Turnarounds	New House Purchases Upgrades	Number of Response Maintenance Requests Logged	Number of Response Maintenance Requests Completed	Number of Self Help Grants Offered
Quarter 1	28	21	1739	1669	0

Homeless Presentations

2018	Cases	Adults	Children	Single Parents	Single Males	Single Females	Couples
Total	1211	558	426	114	161	164	94
2019	Cases	Adults	Children	Single Parents	Single Males	Single Females	Couples
Quarter 1	283	128	122	71	38	33	28



Capital Programme

Location	No. of Units	Status April 2019
Completed		
The Paddocks, Kilcock	19 units	19 units completed and allocated December 2017/February 2018.
Athgarvan Road, Newbridge	13 units	Works have been complete and units have been allocated.
In Progress		
Dunmurray Rise Kildare [Phase 3]	32 units	Contractor is on site. Expected completion Quarter 3 2019.
Beechgrove, Rathangan	18 units	Contract awarded on 19 December 2018. Commenced on site 07 January 2019. Expected completion Quarter 1 2020.
Anne Street Prosperous	12 units	Contract signed on 08 March 2019. Works commenced on site 19 March 2019. Expected completion Quarter 1 2020.
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): Works commenced on site 10 September 2018. Expected completion Quarter 3 2019
Approval Stage 4		
Status April 2019		
Approval Stage 3		
Status April 2019		
Tankardsgarden, Newbridge	8 units plus caretaker bay	Revised Stage 3 approval received from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG) on 13 September 2018. Expect to go to tender end of April 2019.
Approval Stage 2		
Status April 2019		
St. Patrick's Park Rathangan Remedial Works	Demolition of 21 units, refurbishment of 19 units,	Following feedback from the DHPLG a revised Stage 2 approval request is being prepared.

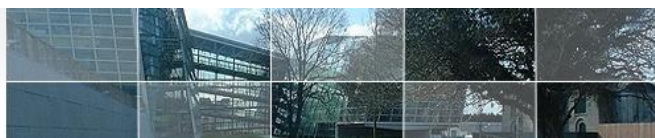


(Phase's 2 and 3)	construction of 16 units.	
Rathasker Road, Naas	50 units	Following further site investigations carried out, a revised Stage 2 application will be submitted to DHPLG Quarter 2 2019.
Athgarvan Village	19 units	Part 8 approved at the Kildare/Newbridge Municipal District meeting in November 2018. Approval Stage 3 to be submitted to the DHPLG Quarter 2 2019.
Coill Dubh	10 units	Part 8 approved 19 December 2018. Preparing Design Team Tender.

		Status April 2019
Approval Stage 1		
Old Greenfield, Maynooth	Rapid Build 50 units	Design Team appointed February 2019. Submission for Approval Stage 2 expected Quarter 2, 2019.
Clogherinkoe	14 units	Preparing Approval Stage 1 submission for the DHPLG for Quarter 1, 2019.
Ardclough Road, Celbridge	30 units	Approval Stage 1 received from the DHPLG on the 27 November 2017. Preparing Design Team Tender.
Carbury	2 units	Feasibility study being carried out. Expect to submit Stage 1 approval Quarter 2, 2019.
Former Ambassador Hotel Site, Kill	35 units	Feasibility study being carried out. Expect to submit Stage 1 approval Quarter 2, 2019.
Oldtown Mill, Celbridge.	TBC	Feasibility study being carried out. Expect to submit Stage 1 approval Quarter 2, 2019.

Infill Schemes

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



Acquisitions

	Completed Units 2018	Completed Units 2019	In Progress
Housing Acquisitions	186	33	113
Housing Turnkeys	39	11	80
Part V Acquisitions	30	7	195

PPP Schemes

Location	No. of Units	Status April 2019
Craddockstown Road, Naas	74 units	Preferred Consortium Tenderer confirmed. Works commenced on site March 2019.
Nancy's Lane, Clane	77 units	Anticipated contract award Quarter 3, 2019.

Approved Housing Body Schemes

Location	No. of Units	Status April 2019
Respond HA Flinter's Field, Athy	35 units	Part 8 approved at 24 July 2017. Respond expect to be on site in April 2019.
Tuath HA Castlefen, Sallins	28 units	Part 8 approved at Naas Municipal District on 17 July 2018. At tender stage.
Dominican Lands Athy	25 units	Stage 1 approval received July 2017. Cluid nominated to progress the development of the site.
ESB site Leixlip	TBC	Cluid nominated to progress the development of the site.
Caragh Road Site	TBC	Feasibility study/economic assessment in relation to potential for provision of affordable units on this site submitted to DHPLG for consideration.



Approved Housing Body Schemes - Capital Assistance Scheme

Approved Housing Body	No. of Units	Status April 2019
KARE	3 Units	Part 8 planning application to be lodged shortly.
Camphill Communities of Ireland	4 units at The Bridge, Kilcullen	CAS - Stage 2 approval received on 03 October 2017. Planning application lodged. Further information requested February 2019.
Homeless Care CLG	12 Apartments at Jigginstown House, Naas	CAS - Stage 3 approval received on 20 July 2018. Planning permission granted on 01 May 2018. Tender report submission expected April 2019.

Library and Arts Service

Joint Annual LA/CILIP Ireland Conference

Kildare Library Service was very proud to host this prestigious international two day conference in Naas. Over 170 delegates took part, representing 70 library organizations working in the areas of academia, health, specialist, corporate and public libraries. Keynote speakers included the senior advisor at the National Library at the Netherlands, Director of Student and Library Services at Teeside University and principal architect with US based architecture firm MSR Design.

eServices

Library eServices in Kildare has experienced a very impressive 67% average increase in usage from 2017-2018. This is a huge success and is all down to the hard work of the council's eServices team. 2018 saw the expansion of the eServices Road show to all library branches including part time branches. It also saw a lot more promotion of eServices by council teams via visits to schools and eService clinics.



Work Matters at the Library 2019

The Work Matters Programme 2019 is now complete and copies of the brochure are available from local libraries. The programme provides supports to those seeking employment, looking to change career or move into entrepreneurship.

Support to Secondary Schools Programme

The Support to Secondary Schools Programme has provided workshops and talks to 2000 students in 16 schools throughout the county since September. In February and March, schools availed of workshops in radio broadcasting, provided by Conradh na Gaeilge's Radió Rí-Rá team. Students conducted and recorded interviews, practicing radio and television skills. Author Sheena Wilkinson visited schools in Athy, Monasterevin and Naas in March, to talk about her book *Star by Star*, set in 1918 and looking at one girl's experience of the Suffragette movement, Spanish Flu and the end of World War 1.

Young Readers Festival

The Young Readers Festival is in its third year, and will take place between the 08 and 22 June 2019. Planning is underway, with the committee organising over 40 events, to take place across all 14 library branches, ranging from author visits and writing workshops, to crafts and kite making inspired by stories.

Toys Training and Technology (TTT)

AsIAm Autism Experience Exhibition

Have you ever wondered what it is like to be autistic? AsIAm, Ireland's National Autism Charity invites you to do just that. Leixlip Library will host Autism Experience Exhibition on Saturday April 27 where patrons travel through a series of interactive experiences that will enable them to 'Step into the Shoes' of a person on the autism spectrum.

Upon leaving, patrons will be encouraged to make one change in their community to help make the world a more neuro-diverse and understanding place.



Writer in Residence in Association with Maynooth University

Creative writing classes have commenced in three libraries for emerging writers of all abilities. A visit to Maynooth Library with award winning writer Donal Ryan will take place on 24 April as part of the programme.

County Kildare Decade of Commemorations and Local Studies

The County Librarian and Local Studies Librarian delivered a presentation on the Kildare programme for Decade of Commemorations in Collins Barracks. A visit by the County Kildare Archaeological Society to Ballitore and Leadbeater Library and Museum was undertaken. Work is underway on the Birth of a nation CD and DVD and promotional flyers and posters for the Irish Military Seminar.

Rathangan

Rathangan Ladies Club completed a fifteen week course in the library as part of the national Aontas Adult Learner Festival supported by the Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board (KWETB). This was then culminated in a presentation on 07 March where the ladies presented their findings on the project.

'Rathangan Women 100 years and the Vote'- 50 people attended this event which was well supported by the local community. The Home School Community Liaison Co-ordinator from Ardscoil Rath Iomghain and Foroige ran a parenting class in Rathangan library over five weeks, consisting of two hours per session every Friday morning.

Let's Talk about Parenting

Over 300 people have attended talks from the 'Let's talk about Parenting' Programme for Kildare Libraries so far this year. Talks which took place during the month of March and April included 'Healthy Sleep Habits in Children and Adults', 'Raising Bilingual Children in Ireland', 'Assisting Career



Planning for your Teen' and 'Keeping your Child safe online'.

The RSVP magazine is also running an article in their 'Spotlight on Kildare' section this month with an accompanying advert regarding the Parenting Programme.

Spring into Storytime

This is the first of the national Right to Read programmes running throughout the month of April. Kildare Libraries will host 43 story time events aimed at children of all ages from babies and toddlers up to story times for older primary school aged children.

Irish Language Events 2019

For Seachtain na Gaeilge a number of events took place including; writing workshops for schools with Richie Conroy, Raidió Rí-Rá which gave students the opportunity to learn and practice radio and television skills. Enda Reilly visited the part-time branches for bilingual workshops on climate change. Sean nós dancing also took place with Mary Beth Taylor in the seven main library branches and

also a traditional music workshop with Rick Epping.

Tech Week 2019, Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEAM) Programme

Following on from a successful programme of events for Engineers Week, Kildare Library Service is hosting a number of free workshops for local primary schools to mark Tech Week 2019. There will be electronics workshops where children attending will create circuits and explore electronics using conductive dough. Other educational workshops will allow children to learn, build and play with motorised LEGO Technic models. These workshops are offered to local primary schools and are aimed at creating an environment for children to explore, test, engage, inspire and increase the uptake of STEAM subjects. Libraries are organising many events with local schools to mark biodiversity Week 2019 in late May.



Primary Debating Festival

This successful alliance between Concern Worldwide, Kildare Education Centre and Kildare Library and Arts Service began in 2015. Approximately 250 schools participate annually at Primary School level. Almost 30 schools took part in the 2018-2019 Primary Debating Festival in the Kildare/West Wicklow region.

The aim is to encourage children to engage in independent self-directed learning and to structure and deliver that learning in a considered manner. The final of the debating festival took place on 29 March in Áras Chill Dara and the theme was “*Irish youth are doing their fair share to end poverty and hunger in the developing world.*”

Arts Grants and Award

Opportunities

Reports have been issued to the five municipal districts at the April meetings with recommendations on the awarding of Arts Act Grants and other award schemes 2019. Independent adjudication panellists for 2019 were Rina Whyte, Declan Gorman, Alan Mc Monagle and Paul Dowling.

80 applications were received under the Arts Act Scheme, with requests of €117,871. Sixty five awards were made to a value of €39,965.

In addition, 70 applications were made and awards were made under the following schemes to a value of €27,850:

- Artist in Schools Residency Bursary Award
- Artistic Entrepreneur Bursary Award
- Dennis O'Driscoll Literary Bursary Award
- Drama League of Ireland Summer School Bursary Award
- Emerging Artist Solo Exhibition Award
- Executive Coaching for Creative Professionals Bursary Award
- Local Publishing Award
- Recording Bursary@Platform4 Recording Studio Bursary Award
- Tyrone Guthrie Centre Residency Bursary Award
- Youth Arts Residency Bursary Award



European Poetry Festival

This major event is took place on Monday 15 April, in the Riverbank Arts Centre, as part of the second European Poetry Festival, showcasing the energy and innovation of 21st European poetry. Featuring renowned poets from across Europe including readings and performances by Serena Braida, Harry Clifton, Jessica Foley, SJ Fowler, Madara Gruntmane, Katharina Maria Kalinowski, Morten Langeland, Christodoulos Makris, Oana Sanziana Marian, Endre Ruset, Damir Sodan, and Sophie-Carolin Wagner. This event was curated and hosted by Christodoulos Makris, Maynooth University and Kildare County Council Library and Arts Service Writer-in-Residence 2018-19, in partnership with European Poetry Festival Director, S. J. Fowler. It was an exciting development for the Writer in Residence Programme.

Teacher/Artist Partnership initiative

The Arts Service is delighted to support the Teacher/Artist Partnership initiative - an opportunity for artists (all art forms) has been announced.

Artists will broaden their practice, receive training and project fees, develop creative partnerships with teachers, and transform the lives of children in every county in Ireland

The Teacher-Artist Partnership Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Programme (T.A.P.) is a Creative Ireland, Department of Education and Skills led and approved summer course offering full paid training and in-school residency opportunities for artists (across all art forms). It is open to artists, working in any art form, who are committed to sharing their practice with children and teachers in a modern primary school environment - specialist, week-long training (01 – 05 July 2019 based in St. Conleth's and St. Mary's National Schools, Newbridge) to prepare the artist for the unique requirements of working harmoniously in partnership with a teacher within the modern Irish classroom.



Under stARTers Orders

The Arts Service are delighted to support 'Under stARTers orders', a unique public arts initiative designed to help raise funds for the vital work of two local charities, Injured Jockeys and Sensational Kids. It is a collection of 21 life size resin horse sculptures, painted and otherwise embellished by artists from County Kildare and beyond. Participating artists include renowned painter Martin Gale and Lynn Kirkham (who made the 'Ghost Horses,' the horses created from shards of bog oak at the Nurney Road roundabout). The finished art works will be on display at Naas Racecourse on Saturday 13 April and thereafter, on public display to form a public art exhibition in and around Kildare in 2019 before being auctioned off after the Dubai Duty Free Irish Derby at The Curragh in order to raise valuable funds for these two local charities. This is an opportunity for corporates, host locations and artists to work with The Curragh, Irish Injured Jockeys and Sensational Kids and enjoy a unique platform to showcase their work.

Made of Athy Music Trail project on Nationwide

The Made of Athy Music Trail project will be featured on RTE1's Nationwide at 7:00p.m. on Friday 12 April.



Water Services

Major Infrastructural Projects

Contract 2B (Network)

Irish Water published confirmation of the CPO in January 2019. Irish Water has notified Coffey Construction that it is the preferred tenderer. It is anticipated that the works contract will be signed in Quarter 2, 2019.

Contract 2A (Newbridge Eastern Interceptor Sewer)

Irish Water and Roadbridge signed Contract 2A on 20 February 2019. The contract has a 24 month construction programme. Work has commenced 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 sewerage works are now well advanced.

Osberstown Sludge Treatment Facility Design Build Operate (DBO) Contract Variation

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

Minor Capital Projects

Allenwood to Kilmeague Watermain

This contract is now complete and snagging is on-going.

Suncroft to Brownstown Watermain Replacement

This contract is now complete

Newbridge Town Watermain Rehabilitation Works

The design for replacement of water mains in Piercetown, Highfield and Páirc Mhuire has commenced.



Kildare Town Watermain Rehabilitation Works

Watermains have been laid in Lourdesville, Claemore Terrace, Assumpta Villas and Campion Crescent. The transfer of services is ongoing.

Timolin Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) Upgrade

The design will be progressed by Irish Water.

Calverstown WWTP Upgrade

This contract is now complete. Kildare County Council is now operating the plant.

Taghadoe to Maynooth Watermain Replacment

Installation works have commenced.

Kilmeague WWTP Upgrade

The contractor is on site and works are progressing well and due for completion in Quarter 2, 2019.

Newbridge Sewer Relining Contract

Irish Water is appointing a contractor to do these works.

Rathangan Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) Upgrade

Irish Water has reviewed the options report prepared by the consultant. They will not be progressing this as a contract, instead they intend to do minor upgrade works through operations.

Environment

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.



Langton Road, Newbridge

This scheme is now substantially complete, with final seeding of the green area to take place in April, depending on weather conditions. The existing road side verge will also be cleaned and planted.

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.

Athy Flood Modeling

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

Kerdiffstown

An Environment Protection Agency (EPA) Licence was granted on 07 March. Taking possession of properties under the CPO has commenced. Once the advanced works contract is out to tender the second contract will be tendered shortly on e-tenders. Shortlisting of candidates for the main contract has commenced.

Cemeteries

Athy Cemetery

A further phase of work (footpath improvements) has been identified for Athy Cemetery, and works are to take place in Quarter 2, 2019.

Churchtown Cemetery

Works are substantially complete.

Rathangan Cemetery

Works have now commenced and are close to finalisation.



Kildare Town Cemetery

The updated design for upgrade works is now in hand and subject to ongoing discussion with the local cemetery committee.

Newbridge Cemetery

Work on the upgrade of the car park has now been prioritised, and consultants have been appointed. Tenders are being invited.

Columbarium Wall at Laraghbryan

Works have commenced.

Columbarium Wall at Derrinturn

An invitation for tenders is scheduled for April/May 2019.

Eastern and Midlands Climate Action Regional Office (CARO)

Governance structures are now in place and meetings of the Regional Steering Group have taken place. Submissions from four local authorities to partner (Kilkenny County Council) with Kildare County Council to deliver this shared service across the region

have been assessed and the partnering local authority will be in place in the coming weeks.

Collaboration is ongoing with third level Institutions, the Office of Public Works (OPW) and the Eastern Midlands Assembly (EMA).

The finalisation of the adaptation strategies has been prioritised across the region and the CARO has supported workshops in each of the constituent local authorities and are actively assisting each county to develop their respective strategies. SEA/AA consultants have been appointed at a regional level and an environmental assessment of the local level strategies has commenced. Focus over the coming couple of months will now turn to public consultation for the plans before final drafting and presentation to the members for adoption.

Kildare Climate Action Team

The Kildare Climate Change Adaption Strategy is at drafting stage and has been environmentally screened. Presentations have been delivered to the Environment AND Water Services



Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) and full council and the strategy is currently with graphic designers prior to launching public consultation.

New Initiatives

Countywide Green Kilometer

Nine applications were received and all groups were rewarded for their participation. It is hoped to host a formal event to acknowledge their efforts.

Civic Amenity Site North

Part 8 documents have now been prepared and are being assessed for publication.

Dog Pound

Tenders have been received and works are to commence shortly.

Tidy Towns

Ballymore Eustace has been selected to participate in Ireland's Best Kept Towns Competition for 2019 in the small town award category.

Rathangan Public Realm

The Part 8 is to be published shortly.

Kilcullen Public Realm

The Part 8 is to be published shortly.

Public Realm Upgrade for Kildare Town

Consultants have been appointed and the consultation process is to commence in the coming weeks.

A public consultation event took place on the 01 February and over 450 submissions were received to date.

Public Realm Upgrade for Newbridge

The consultants have been appointed and a presentation was given to public representatives on work to date and the application for Urban Regeneration Funding. A successful joint workshop was held on the 27 February in conjunction with the National Transport Authority (NTA). The initial assessment of the submissions would suggest very strong support both for the public realm and the traffic



proposals. It is hoped to give a presentation to the Kildare-Newbridge

Municipal District Committee at their May meeting.



Economic Community and Cultural Development

Launch of Athy, Food, Drink and Skills Innovation Hub

Minister Humphreys joined Kildare County Council on 18 April to launch the Athy, Food, Drink and Skills Innovation Hub to promote creative learning and local development.

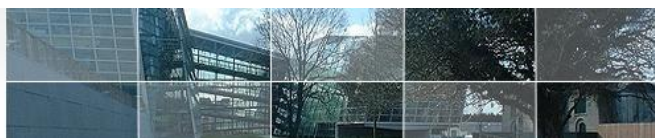
Kildare Age Friendly County Strategy 2019-2021

Kildare Age Friendly County Alliance were delighted to launch the "*Kildare Age Friendly County Strategy 2019-2021*" on Wednesday 10 April 2019. The Kildare County programme is one of 31 programmes which is facilitated by each of the County and City Councils across the country. The programmes are supported by Age Friendly Ireland and hosted as a shared service by Meath County

This is a new initiative led by Kildare Council with support from Coca-Cola which aims to build sustainable food industry opportunities in Athy and surrounding areas. The Hub has the potential to be a transformational catalyst for community regeneration.

Council. The strategy was developed in consultation with the older people of Kildare and over 800 older people were consulted over a period of 2 years. Kildare Older Persons Council also played a pivotal role in helping to identify the needs of the ageing population which fed into the development of the strategy.





Community Grants 2019

The closing date for all schemes was Tuesday, 12 March. Applications received are as set out below.

Grant applications were assessed and proposed awards were considered by all Municipal District Committees in April.

	Community	Festival	Private Estate	L.A. Estate	LPT schemes
Athy	65	26	32	12	30
Celbridge - Leixlip	33	11	36	6	16
Kildare-Newbridge	55	25	44	26	-
Maynooth	44	19	50	13	-
Naas	49	12	86	9	-
TOTAL	246	93	248	66	46

Twinning

Applications for funding from Twinning Groups for 2019 are currently being assessed.

Kildare Fáilte

Key activities March 2019:

- Hosted Into Kildare's AGM, Communication and Networking event at Mondello Park
- Interview with KFM regarding plans for tourism in Kildare, following the AGM
- Attended the Seanie Wallace Social Media Seminar hosted by the Local Enterprise Office (LEO).



-
- Attended Kildare Chamber of Commerce's International Women's Day event in the Keadeen Hotel
 - Submitted LEADER and festival funding applications for Taste of Kildare
 - Member visits: The K Club, Killashee Hotel, Carton House, Cliff at Lyons
 - Attended the Ralph Fienne's seminar hosted by Kildare Chamber of Commerce
 - Arranged an initial brand development meeting with creative agency, Eimage, to discuss the facilitation of a brand workshop for the Into Kildare board of directors
 - Planning office fit out and move
 - AGM and Communications and Networking event preparation and communications
 - Monthly meeting with social media company
 - Meeting with The Curragh to discuss Kildare Derby Festival 2019
 - Attended Cheltenham
 - Represented Kildare alongside members of Kildare County Council at the St Patricks' Day Parade in New York and visited Tourism Ireland, Enterprise Ireland and other key companies during the visit
 - Hosted the first committee meeting for Taste of Kildare 2019 and began preparations for this year's event
 - Grand Canal Greenway meetings and site inspection preparations



-
- Attended the IAGTO Asia Convention in Cambodia
 - Ezine to Into Kildare members regarding upcoming digital marketing workshop hosted by the LEO (taking place in May)
 - Twinning meetings and presentations
 - Board of Directors meeting and monthly update
 - Proposed and secured Kildare as a feature destination in an upcoming series of Celebrity 5 Go (Channel 5 programme). This has since been cancelled but they will be in touch next year due to supplier issues in the UK
 - Updates to layout of IntoKildare.ie homepage, emphasising events happening in the county



Local Community Development Committee

The last Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) meeting was held on Wednesday 27 March 2019.

Healthy Ireland

The initiatives under Healthy Ireland funding continue to roll out across the county. County Kildare Chamber of Commerce held their Health and Wellbeing Symposium with Sir Ranulph Fiennes as keynote speaker on 22 March. This was a very successful event and was widely publicized. A joint committee with the LCDC and the Children and Young People Services Committee (CYPSC) is being established. This will work to prepare the application for the next round of Healthy Ireland funding and to develop Kildare as part of the Healthy City and County Network.

Heads-up (Mojo)

The Mini HeadsUp programme in Newbridge is underway with referrals being taken for the next full programme. The programme in Athy is finishing in the coming weeks.

Tusla

A submission was agreed on behalf of the LCDC as part of the consultation process for Tusla commissioning priorities.

Local Economic Community Plan (LECP)

National guidance in relation to the LECP review is not finalised. It is not clear when they will be available or the timeframe for the review.



AIRO- Maynooth University

Kildare County Council Housing and ICT Departments have completed the collation of Housing Assistance Payment Scheme (HAP) and Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) and social housing data to inform the AIRO analysis of social exclusion across the county. The data provided will enable AIRO to map areas where social housing is provided across the county in a factual and visual way. This will help to determine if there are changes in the areas defined as socially excluded across the county.

Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP)

Work continues to implement the SICAP programme across the county.

Rural Development LEADER

A targeted call for proposals under the Artisan Food theme was recently advertised. LEADER funding is available for applications particularly targeting tourism and the environment. For further information contact Brian Kelly, Helen Mulhall or Maeve Howe County Kildare LEADER Partnership- 045 895450.

The next LCDC meeting will be held on Wednesday 22 May 2019.

Parks

Official opening of the Skateboard Park in Moorefield Park, Newbridge

The Deputy Mayor of Kildare Councillor Robert Power officially opened the skateboard park in Moorefield Park, Newbridge on Saturday 13 April.



Councillor Robert Power, Deputy Mayor for Naaas, Anthony Mockler with his daughter Neala and Mayor of Kildare/Newbridge Councillor Martin Aspell.



Eadestown Playground

Construction on Eadestown Playground is expected to be complete by the end of the month. An opening date will be announced once works are nearer completion.

Maynooth Playground

The resurfacing of the playground has been awarded to Hawthorn Heights Ltd. Who hope to commence the works this month.

Outdoor Gyms

Assessment of tenders for the installation of outdoor gyms in Moone, Harbour Field Maynooth and Lourdesville Playground have been complete and it is hoped to have the preferred contractor in place by the end of the month.

Leixlip Summer Bedding

Quotations for the supply, installation and maintenance of summer bedding in Leixlip Village and also on the roundabouts at Maynooth Road, Celbridge and Clane Road, Kilcock have been assessed. The successful contractor will install the schemes at the end of May.

Replanting of Roundabouts and Approach Roads

Quotations have been sought for the replanting of The Ballymore Road, Kilcullen Road and Newhall Roundabouts in Naas. Quotes for similar works at Buckleys Cross and Athgarvan Road, Newbridge, and the roundabouts at Junction 14 have also been sought. It is planned to have this work complete by early June.



Roads, Transportation and Public Safety

Major Emergency Management – Exercise Tuilte

A major flooding incident involving prolonged heavy rainfall in addition to a release of waters by ESB at Poulaphouca formed the basis of a series of Regional Major Emergency training exercises organised by Kildare County Council during the last four weeks. A series of presentations and discussions took place on 21 March in the Killashee Hotel and was attended by all the Principal Response Agencies and invited organisations which focused on resources and responses that would be available if such a flooding incident occurred.

Over 100 representatives of agencies in Kildare, Wicklow and Dublin attended the event. This event was followed up with a desktop exercise which took place on 11 April in Tallaght Stadium where the focus was a serious flooding event in the Region. The Regional Co-ordination Group (RCG) was convened consisting of all

the local authorities, the HSE and An Garda Síochana from Kildare, Wicklow and Dublin. This group was chaired by Peter Carey, Chief Executive and the group was joined by other invited organisations such as ESB, Met Éireann, the Defence Forces, the National Emergency Co-ordination Group and the Office of Public Works (OPW). In excess of 100 employees from the various organisations and agencies represented on the RCG attended the training event either in a capacity of supporting their representative on the RCG or as an observer. Further training events will now be organised within each organisation.

Naas Inner Relief Road

The Part 8 application for the proposed Naas Inner Relief Road was on display until 26 March. The closing date for submissions was 10 April 2019.

The delivery of a Naas Inner Relief Road has been an objective of Kildare County Council since 1992 and was



granted Part 8 planning approval in February 2006. Due to funding constraints it was not possible to deliver the route at that time and complete the inner relief road. Naas town and environs has undergone a considerable increase in population since 1992, with the population of the urban area now circa 21,000. The Draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (DRSES) (as published by the Eastern and Midlands Regional Assembly (EMRA), 2018), identifies Naas as a key town providing employment with public transport links. The population forecast for Naas is ~30,000 by 2023. More than 17,000 vehicles currently travel through Main Street, Naas on weekdays. Over 90% of Naas households have at least one car while over 94% of households in Sallins have at least one car. Both towns have a high car mode share for work and education trips. Kildare County Council secured Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Funding (LIHAF) of €4,500,000 towards the costs to complete the Naas Inner Relief Road to deliver the following local benefits:

1. Improved access to and a reduction in congestion in Naas Town centre, facilitating public realm improvements in the town, the redesign of Poplar Square, new and improved footpaths and street furniture, and the undergrounding of overhead cables
2. Completion of the Southern Ring Road around Naas diverting heavy good vehicles away from the town centre
3. Improved infrastructure, e.g. footways, cycle tracks, and bus bays for pedestrians and cyclists for the existing/new residential population bordering the roadway
4. Delivery of the “Minor Greenway” as per the Greater Dublin Area (GDA) Cycle Network Plan; improving physical fitness levels and promoting a non-car based future for many of Naas



residents and the business community

5. The new road will facilitate the provision of much needed housing and its lack of delivery would likely restrict further development (beyond already granted planning permissions) in the environs of the Naas Inner Relief Road

In October 2017, Clifton Scannell Emerson Associates (working on behalf of Kildare County Council) undertook a detailed and extensive route selection process. This involved identifying a suitable study area for the examination of alternative routes, the development of feasible route options and the carrying out of a systematic assessment of those options leading to the selection of a preferred route corridor which would form the basis of a follow-on detailed design. This process also involved taking into account the most up to date road design standards and EU regulations. Further to the carrying out of detailed noise modeling, noise barriers (varying

between 1.5 metres and 3.5 metres high), and 2 metres high block walls are proposed at various locations along the preferred route of the Naas Inner Relief Road (Route 2). All surrounding estates will have full access to the proposed road, new cycle tracks and footways.

At Stage 1 of the selection process, eight alternative routes were fully assessed using the TII (Transport Infrastructure Ireland) Project Management Guidelines, based on the criteria of environment, economy and engineering. The result of the Stage 1 analysis was announced to the public at a non-statutory public consultation that was held at Kildare County Council Offices in February 2018. For Stage 2, three routes were selected for a further detailed analysis. In compliance with the Government's Common Appraisal Framework for Transport Projects and Programmes, those routes were examined against the following six multi-criteria categories; economy, safety, physical Activity, Environment, Integration and Accessibility and Social Inclusion.



As part of the analysis, traffic modeling was carried out to determine the best route option. The model was calibrated and validated in line with TII's Project Appraisal Guidelines. Extensive traffic studies were undertaken to take full account of the current traffic volumes throughout Naas. Future traffic growth up to 2,035 was accounted for in the modeling process by generating traffic growth profiles based on the predicted growth in population and employment in Naas in the period 2018 to 2035.

As outlined in Figure 6.2 and Table 6.4 of the Route Selection Report and in accordance with the traffic modeling, the opening year Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) is predicted to be less than 7,500 vehicles (report available at www.kildarecoco.ie/PublicConsultations/Part8Schemes). A maximum AADT of 11,278 vehicles is predicted on the proposed road by 2035.

The submissions received in respect of the Part 8 application are now being assessed and the Chief Executive's Report will be considered by the Naas Municipal District Committee at their meeting scheduled for 14 May.

Maynooth North–South Corridor, Phase 6 - Moyglare Road Improvement Scheme

The contract for the construction of Phase 6 - Moyglare Road Improvement Scheme has been awarded and construction has commenced.

Dublin - Galway Greenway

This scheme will consist of the construction of a cycleway and pedestrian facility along the canal tow path from The Harbour, Maynooth to the Dublin boundary. The scheme is 8.4 kilometres in length and will consist of a 3 metre to 4 metre wide shared walking and cycling facility. The aim is to go to tender later this year.

This scheme is included in the 2019 National Transport Authority (NTA) Programme which will allow the council to proceed to complete design and construction, subject to approval of design and procurement by the NTA.



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) have been completed
- The Park, Naas (footpath improvements) are at construction stage
- Sallins Road, Naas (footpath improvement) has been completed
- St. Brigid's Avenue, Kilcullen (road and footpath improvements) – at tender stage
- Relocate Bus Stop, Sallins is at construction stage
- Sallins Controlled Pedestrian Crossing improvements are at tender stage
- Newbridge Road, Naas footpath works are at construction stage
- Resurfacing of Abbey Street Car Park, Naas is at tender stage
- Hazlemere Road repairs is at tender stage
- Main Street, Naas is at tender stage
- Brannockstown Footpath is at tender stage



Naas Municipal District Road Improvement Works 2019

The first package of works (Works Package 1) is at tender stage with construction to start by the 01 May 2019. 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
- Section I: L200610
Osberstown Cottages, Sallins

The Naas Municipal District expects to be at tender stage in April 2019 for the second package of road improvement projects.

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 nearing completion

Local Property Tax (LPT)/Carpark Funded Works 2019

The LPT/Carpark funded works programme has been agreed by the Naas Municipal District Committee. The Naas Municipal District is developing a works programme to deliver these projects in 2019.



**R411 Naas to Ballymore Road
Realignment**

Realignment of the R411 Naas to Ballymore Eustace road is now completed and reopened to traffic. The work involved the realignment of a dangerous bend and the delivery of a shared pedestrian/cycle path as far as Oak Park residential development (currently under construction) and associated park. Public lighting has also been extended on the R411 as far as Oak Park. The work was delivered by Cairn Homes as part of the construction of the Oak Park residential development.

Road Safety

Road safety education was delivered to the following numbers of students so far in 2019:

Primary	860
Post-Primary	120
Youthreach	30
Novice Cyclists	32

Drive for Work

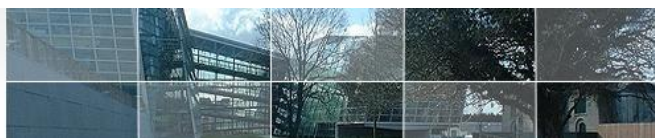
The Road Safety Officer (RSO) delivered a “Drive for Work” Programme to 26 John Paul Construction employees on their site where the new Lidl distribution centre is under construction in Newbridge.

Cycle Safety Skills

The RSO assessed 32 novice cyclists from the Kildare Town Educate Together School on 06 March as part of a funding programme delivered by Kildare County Council. The programmes are accredited by Cycle Right and are delivered by an approved Cycle Right course instructor.

Kildare Civil Defence assisted at the following Events in March 2019:

1. Provided First Aid cover at the Straffan 5K and 10K Road Race
2. Participated at the All Services Exercise in Waterford City



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- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>3. Assisted at the St. Patrick's Day Parades in Newbridge, Monasterevin, Clane and Athy</p> | <p>5. Assisted An Garda Siochána on a Search for Missing Person in Monasterevin</p> |
| <p>4. Assisted An Garda Siochána on Search for Missing Person in Ardclough and Celbridge</p> | <p>6. Provided First Aid at the Celebration 5K and 10K Run in Kilcullen</p> |

Fire Service

Operational Calls		
Station	Total Calls 2018	Total Calls March 2019
Newbridge	460	124
Naas	503	115
Athy	266	66
Maynooth	322	79
Monasterevin	214	52
Leixlip	245	48
TOTAL	2010	484



	Operational Calls 2019					
Station	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June
Newbridge	42	48	34			
Naas	35	38	42			
Athy	33	16	17			
Maynooth	25	25	29			
Monasterevin	19	16	17			
Leixlip	14	14	20			
TOTAL	168	157	159			

Fire Safety

	No. Inspections	No. Premises Inspected
2018	88	85
2019	27	27

	No. Fire Safety Complaints
2018	18
2019	4



	No. Fire Safety Certificates
2018	204
2019	31

	No. Planning File Comments
2018	518
2019	76

Building and Development Control

Building Control

Commencement Notices:	2018	2019
Total Number of Commencement Notices received:	662	150
Number of Valid commencement notices received:	618	146
Number of Invalid commencement notices received:	44	4
No. of Inspections carried out on Commencement Notices	109	43

Certificates of Compliance on Completion:	2018	2019
Total Number of Certificates received:	644	128
Number Valid	629	128
Number Invalid	15	0
Awaiting processing	-	-
Additional Information		
Number of Inspections carried out	23	17



Disability Access Certificates:	2018	2019
Total Number of Disability Access Certificates received:	139	24
Number granted:	130	36
Number refused:	0	0
Number of Inspections carried out	35	4

Building Control Active Sites	2018	2019
Number of units inspected	107	412

Development Control

Active Sites	At 31/12/2018	2019
Number of Sites with house construction	64	72
Number of Sites where all units complete but snags not complete	36	36

Estates that require monitoring/maintenance	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”

2019 Funding Applications received as of 10 April 2019

	Export Marketing Grant	Trading Online Vouchers (TOVs)	Business Expansion Grant	Priming Grant	Shop fronts	Total MD
Athy	€1,500	€2,500			€5,588	€9,588
Maynooth	€6,727	€1,750		€37,098	€3,823	€49,398
Celbridge-Leixlip		€1,000		€72,750	€7,090	€80,840
Kildare - Newbridge	€2,500	€5,847.5	€30,318		€7,323	€45,989
Naas	€2,840	€4,760	€17,983		€7,321	€32,904



**Entrepreneurship
Support Services**

Brexit Supports

Exporting Success Seminar

On Tuesday 02 April, Kildare County Council's Local Enterprise Office, in collaboration with the Kildare Chamber of Commerce welcomed over 50 clients to the Osprey Hotel for 'Exporting Success' - a global exporting seminar with J. P. Kalmeijer, co-founder of Cognegy. Spending only three days in Ireland J.P. Kalmeijer offered a number of 1-1 mentoring sessions to assess export readiness for the USA market and the future Boston Trade Mission due to take place in October 2019.

Brexit Mentoring Clinics

Brexit mentoring clinics continue to take place on a weekly basis to help clients address the challenges posed by Brexit and identify funding options for companies.

Scotland Trade Mission

The Local Enterprise Office (LEO) with support from Kildare Chamber undertook a joint trade mission in Scotland from 03 – 05 April as part of their response to Brexit, bringing local SME's to Scotland to see first-hand the opportunities that exist for them to do business there. Part of the Trade Mission was a meeting with Ivan McKee MSP Scottish Minister for Trade, Investment and Innovation who provided an understanding of any new arrangements being considered for trade between the UK and Ireland. The LEO have been strongly supported in their work in Scotland by the Consul General Mark Hanniffy and his colleagues and they will be linking up with the Consul General's office and the Trade Mission Agencies on the Scottish side who were participating and provided support for our Trade Mission include, Scottish Government, Scottish Development International / Inward Investment and West Lothian County Council. The council's objective in bringing SMES to Edinburgh and its environs are to;



- Provide an understanding of the Post Brexit UK environment
- Provide insights to the opportunities of doing business in the UK
- Provide opportunities through direct networking to meet Scottish SMEs
- Hear what supports are available to Irish SMEs to do business in Scotland / UK
- Visit Scottish Industry and see at first-hand examples of Scottish business success
- Promote Ireland to Scottish Business as a good place to do business and a gateway to the EU.

Other Supports:

Start Your Own Business Course

40 individuals completed the Start Your Own Business course in Celbridge and Naas during the week of 08 April. The next course will take place in Newbridge in addition to a partnership with the leader to support those unemployed consider starting your own business. The LEO continually rotate this programs across the county.

Trading Online Voucher Seminar

The Trading Online Voucher Seminar took place on Tuesday 12 March. The trading online voucher is an initiative which aims to support small Irish businesses to enhance their online trading presence. Trading online vouchers to the value of €2,500 (50% of eligible costs up to the maximum of €2,500) are available through this programme under the National Digital Strategy funded through the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources and delivered through the LEO. The objective of this scheme is to help small businesses build their brand;



grow their sales, exports and ultimately jobs.

Basic Bookkeeping and Taxation

A Basic Bookkeeping and Taxation course took place at Kildare County Council on Tuesday 12 March and there were 12 attendees.

Digital Marketing

30 businesses availed of Digital Marketing training from 26 March to 10 April.

Local Enterprise Development Services

IBYE

62 under 35s who entered the Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur competition were invited to the Enterprise Day held at the Keadeen Hotel on Thursday 21 March. The interactive workshop was delivered by Gavin Duffy of Dragon's Den. From there the shortlisted companies took part in an intensive business boot camp delivered by the Entrepreneurs Academy ahead of the county final, which will take place on 02 May at the Kilashee Hotel. The final of the

competition will be held on May 02 2019.

National Enterprise Awards

The Kildare winner for the National Enterprise Awards was announced on Friday 22 March at the Clanard Hotel. Sonia Deasey of Pestle and Mortar will represent Kildare at the Regional Final of the National Enterprise Awards 2019.

Health and Wellbeing Symposium

The world's most famous living explorer Sir Ranulph Fiennes visited the hometown of another famed adventurer, Ernest Shackleton, when he gave the keynote address at a Health and Wellbeing Conference last week. The event, held at the Clanard Court Hotel, Athy, on Friday 22 March, and attended by some 526 delegates, was hosted by County Kildare Chamber in association with the Kildare Local Enterprise Office.



EDEN Student Entrepreneurship Challenge Final

The final of the EDEN Student Entrepreneurship Challenge which is run by Maynooth University in association with the Local Enterprise Office Kildare took place on Thursday 11 April at the Maynooth University Campus. EDEN is Maynooth University's centre for entrepreneurship, design and innovation. The Local Enterprise Office Kildare provided an investment fund for the competition, mentoring and coaching as well as taking a seat on the judging panel.

Business Network opportunities in association with Kildare Chamber

The Head of Enterprise presented at the Kildare Chamber of Commerce networking event as a guest speaker

at networking events in Clane on the 15 March and in Athy on 26 March.

It was an opportunity to talk to over 30 SME business owners about the supports provided by the LEO. The LEO also sponsored three lunch and learn events with the Kildare Chamber this month, with talks from Sales Performance and Beacon Consultancy.

Local Economic Development Services

Intreo Jobs Fair

On Tuesday 26 March, LEO representatives took part in the Further Education, Training and Employment Fair as part of Intreo Jobs Week 2019, where exposure was gained to over 60 people. There was a high interest the Start Your Own Business courses.



Ongoing Grant Aid

If you are interested in any of the grant aid below,
contact the LEO on 045 98096 or localenterprise@kildarecoco.ie

TOVS – 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.

TAME – This grant can part-fund the costs that you will incur in investigating and researching export markets. The 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.

Priming and Expansion Priming – Up to 50% of the investment or €150,000, available to any business with less than 10 employees in the manufacturing sector.

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

MFI – works with small businesses with less than 10 employees and a turnover up to €2 million, by providing unsecured business loans of €2,000 up to €25,000 for commercially viable proposals. Available to any business with less than 10 employees.



Business Advice Clinics

If you are interested in booking a Business Advice Clinic, contact the LEO on 045 980967, or localenterprise@kildarecoco.ie

Location	When	
Athy	2 nd Wednesday of each month	Library
Newbridge	3 rd Friday of each month	TBC
Maynooth	3 rd Wednesday of each month	Library
Leixlip	Last Wednesday of each month	Library
Naas	Ongoing, by appointment	Kildare County Council

Peter Carey
Chief Executive