



**Chief Executive's Report
February 2019**

THIS MONTH: News and Highlights

Launch of the Mid East Action Plan for Jobs and MERITS Development on 07 February



Date for Local Election 2019

Confirmation has been received that Polling for the Local Elections 2019 and European will take place on Friday 24 May 2019.

Rural Regeneration and Development Fund

Minister Ring announced on 14 February that three applications submitted by Kildare County Council to the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund have been successful in securing funding.

R411 Naas to Ballymore Road Realignment

From 11 February 2019 a full road closure is in place for up to eight weeks in order to allow for the realignment to tie into the existing R411 at each end. Diversions will be in place for the duration of the works.

Newbridge Southern Outer Orbital Route (NSOR)

Full traffic management has been implemented on the R445 Newbridge to Naas Road to allow the contractor to progress with realigning the R445 and to construct two new roundabouts.

Kildare Town Regeneration

A public consultation event took place on 01 February and over 450 submissions have been submitted to date.

Dates for Your Diary

Proposed Reform of the Electoral Registration Process

The closing date for submissions is 15 March 2019.

Newbridge Transport Plan

Representatives from the National Transport Authority will be holding a public consultation exercise on Wednesday 27 February in the Riverbank Theatre Boardroom from 3:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Arts Grants, Bursary Award and Commission Opportunities 2019

The closing date for these awards is Tuesday 19 March 2019, 12 noon (see page 16).



Corporate Services	3
Finance and Information	4
Technology	4
Planning and	4
Strategic Development.....	4
Housing	9
Library and Arts Service.....	13
Water Services	19
Environment	21
Economic Community	24
and Cultural Development.....	24
Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)	26
Parks	28
Roads, Transportation and Public Safety	31
Building and Development Control	36
Local Enterprise	39
Office (LEO)	39



Corporate Services

Local Elections Act 1999 (Disclosure of Donation and Expenditure)

All forms have been returned and are now available for inspection by members of the public. An advertisement was placed in local newspapers informing members of the public that the returns are available for inspection.

Ethics

A reminder that Ethics Declaration forms must be completed and returned to the Ethics Registrar by 28 February 2019.

Local Electoral Area boundary changes

The County of Kildare Local Electoral Areas and Municipal Districts Order 2018 was signed by the Minister of State on 19 December 2018, giving legal effect to the boundary changes.

Maps have been circulated to the members and will be available on the website with the revised Polling Scheme.

Register of Electors

The Live Register 2019/2020 was published on 01 February and comes into force on 15 February. It has been confirmed that Polling Day for the European Parliament and Local Elections 2019 will take place on Friday 24 May 2019.

Proposed Reform of the Electoral Registration Process

Public consultation on proposals to modernise the Electoral Registration Process was launched on 17 December 2018 - details are available on: www.registerreform.gov.ie. The closing date for submissions is 15 March 2019.



Finance and Information Technology

Financial Reports

The Annual Financial Statement for 2018 is currently being prepared.

This will be presented to council once completed. Actual expenditure v budget reports for 2018 will be submitted to council as part of the monthly management report from March onwards.

Planning and Strategic Development

Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES)

Kildare County Council sent its submission to the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly (EMRA) on 23 January 2019.

Planning applications received:			Applications decided: January 2019	
	January	Year	Total Granted:	74
2016:	70	1,376	Retention:	12
2017:	93	1,494	Extension of Duration:	0
2018:	92	1,596	Total Refused:	25
2019:	87	87	Extension of Duration:	0



Significant Planning Applications

19/91 Intel Ireland Limited

An application has been lodged for an extended and revised manufacturing facility at Collinstown, Leixlip.

17/1489 Thomas Waters

Permission has been granted for the renovation of and extensions to protected cottages at Chapel Lane, Kildare Town.

18/250 Elgin Energy Services Limited

10 year permission has been granted to construct a solar farm at Killeenlea, Ardrass Lower and Killadoon, Celbridge.

18/1033 Soreze Developments Limited

Permission has been granted for 73 houses at Loughlion, Kildare Town.

17/1073 Maynooth University

Permission has been granted for phased refurbishment of the existing arts building.

18/94 Renewable Energy Systems Limited

27 year permission has been granted for a 13.6ha ground mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) farm at Ovidstown Development Site, Ballyvoneen, Enfield.

Strategic Infrastructure Development Applications to An Bord Pleanála (SID)

Drehid Waste Management Facility - An oral hearing by An Bord Pleanála began in September 2018 and was adjourned by the Inspector to consider a request by Bord na Móna to prepare a Natura Impact Statement. The date for the resumption of the oral hearing is awaited.

Strategic Housing Development Applications to An Bord Pleanála (SHD)

Since legislation came into effect in July 2017, applications for planning permission for strategic housing developments are made directly to An Bord Pleanála.



Decisions Made

	Developer	Location	Number 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.	Morristownbiller, Newbridge	281	Granted
18-302141	Ardstone	Kilbelin, Newbridge	343	Granted

Application Stage

	Developer	Location	Number of Units	Lodged with ABP	ABP Decision Due
18-302922	Glan Developments	Ballymany, Newbridge	180	02/11/18	06/03/19
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, Roadd, 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	
P82018.13	Libraries	Naas Town Hall	06/11/2018	26/03/2019	
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	



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 is to be prepared for Quarter 1, 2019. 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.

Conservation

Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2019 (BHIS 2019)

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

.

Historic Structures Fund 2019 (HSF 2019)

This scheme replaces the Structures at Risk Scheme and offers funding in 2 streams:

Stream 1 offers grants from €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.

Both schemes operate on a match funding basis and details have been publicised on the council website. The closing date for submission of applications for both the BHIS 2019 and the HSF 2019 was 31 January 2019.



Housing

Capital Programme

Location	No. of Units	Status February 2019
Completed		
The Paddocks, Kilcock	19 units	19 units completed and allocated December 2017/February 2018.
Athgarvan Road, Newbridge	13 units	Works complete and units have been allocated.
In Progress		
Dunmurray Rise Kildare [Phase 3]	32 units	Contractor on site. Expected completion Quarter 3, 2019.
Beechgrove, Rathangan	18 units	Contract awarded on 19 December 2019. Commenced on site 07 January 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): Commenced on site 10 September 2018. Expected completion Quarter 3, 2019
Approval Stage 4		
Anne Street Prosperous	12 units	Tender assessment completed. Stage 4 approval received from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG), savings to be agreed.
Approval Stage 3		
Tankardsgarden, Newbridge	8 units plus caretaker bay	Revised Stage 3 approval received from the DHPLG on 13 September 2018. Tender documents completed. Discussions underway with Irish Water/Water Services regarding works to the adjacent site.
Approval Stage 2		
St. Patrick's Park Rathangan	Demolition of 21 units, refurb of 19	Following feedback from the DHPLG a revised Stage 2 approval request being prepared.



Remedial Works (Phase's 2 & 3)	units, construction of 16 units.	
Rathasker Road, Naas	50 units	Following further site investigations carried out, a revised Stage 2 application will be submitted to the DHPLG Quarter 1, 2019.
Approval Stage 2		Status February 2019
Athgarvan Village	30 units	Part 8 approved at the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District meeting in November 2018. Approval Stage 3 to be submitted to the DHPLG Quarter 1, 2019.
Coill Dubh	10 units	Part 8 approved 19 December 2018. Preparing tender documentation for design team consultants.
Approval Stage 1		
Old Greenfield, Maynooth	Rapid Build 50 units	Design Team appointed February 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. Design team tender to be prepared.
Carbury	2 units	Feasibility study being carried out. Expect to submit Stage 1 approval Quarter 1, 2019.
Former Ambassador Hotel Site, Kill	35 units	Feasibility study being carried out. Expect to submit Stage 1 approval Quarter 1, 2019.
Oldtown Mill, Celbridge.	TBC	Feasibility study being carried out. Expect to submit Stage 1 approval Quarter 1, 2019.



Infill Schemes

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

PPP Schemes

Location	No. of Units	
Craddockstown Road, Naas	74 units	Preferred Consortium Tenderer confirmed. Expect to be onsite March 2019
Nancy's Lane, Clane	77 units	Tender return mid February 2019. Anticipated contract award Quarter 3, 2019.

Approved Housing Body Schemes

Location	No. of Units	Status February 2019
Flinter's Field, Athy	35 units	Respond Housing Association: Part 8 approved at Athy Municipal District meeting on 24 July 2017. Respond expect to be on site in April 2019.
Castlefen, Sallins	28 units	Tuath Housing Association: Part 8 approved at Naas Municipal District meeting on 17 July 2018. At tender stage.
Dominican Lands Athy	25 units	Stage 1 approval received July 2017. Following the assessment of Expressions of Interest received from Approved Housing Bodies, Cluid Housing Association has been nominated to progress the development of the site.
ESB site Leixlip	TBC	Following the assessment of Expressions of Interest received from Approved Housing Bodies, Cluid Housing Association has been nominated to progress the development of the site.
Caragh Road Site	TBC	A feasibility study/economic assessment in relation to



		potential for provision of affordable units on this site was submitted to the DHPLG for consideration.
--	--	--

Approved Housing Body Schemes - Capital Assistance Scheme

Approved Housing Body	No. of Units	
KARE	3 Units	At pre-Part 8 stage. 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. Decision due February 2019.
Homeless Care CLG	12 Apartments at Jigginstown House, Naas	CAS - Stage 3 approval received on 20 July 2018. Planning permission granted 1 May 2018. Tender report submission expected February 2019.

Acquisitions

	Completed Units 2018	Completed Units 2019	In Progress
Housing Acquisitions	186	11	110
Housing Turnkeys	39	0	43
Part V Acquisitions	30	0	198



Library and Arts Service

Launch of THE “Ringing the Ogoni Bells” Exhibition in Athy Library

Mayor of Kildare, Councillor Sean Power officially launched an exhibition in Athy Community Library on Tuesday 22 January. The exhibition is a result of collaboration between Maynooth University Library and Kildare County Council Library Services. Councillor Power welcomed the collaboration and thanked Sister Majella McCarron (OLA) for her involvement in the project and for making the journey to Athy. Maynooth University Library holds the death-row correspondence of Nigerian writer and activist Ken Saro-Wiwa to Sister Majella. The letters were smuggled out of military detention in breadbaskets. This exhibition features a number of letters and poems written by Ken Saro-Wiwa and photographs and panels telling the story of Ken Saro-Wiwa and the Ogoni issues. Helen Fallon, Deputy Librarian at Maynooth University spoke of the content of some of the letters and how the title “Ringing the Ogoni Bells” came about. She welcomed the

opportunity for Maynooth University to collaborate with Kildare Library Services. Sister Majella was the final speaker on the evening and she recounted to the audience her involvement in telling the Ogoni story which dates back more than 20 years. Athy Community Library is the first Irish library to host the exhibition outside of Maynooth University. It has previously been exhibited at Quinnipiac University, in the United States as part of a Maynooth University international collaboration. The exhibition runs in Athy Community Library until 02 March and is free to access with no booking required.

Right to Read

Right to Read is a national programme literacy and reading development for people of all ages and backgrounds. The recent “Family Time at Your Library” national programme, was attended by over 1,100 children and guardians in Kildare, in just over 50



storytelling and literacy support activities across our library network. A series of four talks under the title of “Reading for Pleasure” were hosted in the inclusive environments of Celbridge, Leixlip and Maynooth Community libraries in partnership with Froebel, Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education, Maynooth University and Children’s Books Ireland in December 2018 and January 2019. The lectures were designed to assist parents and guardians in their support of children’s reading for pleasure and education and included time for questions and participative discussion. It was a unique opportunity for parents to avail of the expertise of Maynooth University and Children’s Books Ireland.

Work Matters at the Library 2019

The 2019 programme is taking shape and events will be taking place across the library network from April onwards. Events will cover topics such as digital branding and marketing, presentation skills and interview skills. This year the library service is partnering with the

Local Enterprise Office and Citizen’s Information Service in delivering this programme. Additional funding has been made available from the Department of Rural and Community Development to develop the nation online eBooks an eAudiobook service. As part of this, additional titles will be added to library online collections in support of the aims of the Work Matters at the Library programme.

Irish Language Events 2019

Plans are well underway for Seachtain na Gaeilge. Events will include writing workshops for schools with Richie Conroy, Raidió Rí which will give secondary school children the opportunity to learn and practice radio and television skills and bi-lingual workshops on Climate Change with Enda Reilly. Following on from the success of last year’s programme, the plan is to incorporate the Four Celtic Festivals Imbolc, Bealtaine, Lúnasa and Samhain in this year’s programme.



Parenting Programme

Kildare Library and Arts Service are officially launching our 'Lets talk about Parenting' Programme with a talk by Clinical Psychologist David Coleman in Athy Library on Tuesday 26 February at 7:00 p.m. The title of the talk is 'Scared Kids: Supporting children and teenagers growing up in an uncertain world'. The programme has been developed by Kildare Library and Arts Service with the support of the HSE, Tusla, www.parentingsupport.ie and the Kildare Childcare Committee. There will be 61 free talks taking place in Kildare Library over the course of the year covering topics such as healthy sleep habits, fostering childhood friendships, first aid, raising bilingual children in Ireland, childhood worries, keeping your kids safe online, and combating drugs and alcohol problems in teenagers. The programme is available on www.kildare.ie/library and printed copies of the brochures will be available in libraries soon.

Toys Technology and Training (TTT)

The new series of talks/workshops for 2019 designed to offer support to children and adults with learning difficulties or disabilities was launched on 07 February in Leixlip Community Library with a screening of the documentary "This is Nicholas – Living with ASD". Attendance at this event was full capacity and the film-maker Nicholas Ryan Purcell attended and gave a moving speech following the film and answers audience questions. In all 75 events are planned in this year's programme including ASD friendly storytime, talks on ADHD, Behavioural Therapy, Dyslexia, Dyspraxia and Speech and Language. More information is available from www.kildare.ie/library



**Science Technology Engineering
Arts and Maths (STEAM)
Programme**

The STEAM Programme of events for primary schools in County Kildare has recently been finalised and circulated to schools in the county. The programme will again result in a large range of free workshops taking place in libraries in County Kildare throughout 2019. These workshops provide an opportunity to encourage and inspire Kildare students to take up STEAM subjects, along with providing them with an opportunity to test, explore and engage with topics relevant to science, maths and other related subjects through their local library. The 2019 STEAM Programme will start in early March with a large number of free workshops taking place in Kildare Libraries for Engineers Week 2019. Scribble-Bot workshops, K'NEX workshop and LEGO Further events under the STEAM Programme will take place throughout 2019 for Tech Week, Biodiversity Week, Space Week, Maths Week and Science Week. Engineering events are among the free events taking place. Engineers

Week 2019 is taking place from 02 to 08 March 2019.

Healthy Ireland at Your Library

Kildare Library Services have continued to participate in this national programme. The current series of events ended this month with plans in place for new events later in the year including a potential collaboration between Kildare Library Services and the HSE Oral Health Promotion Unit. Recent school events with boxer Eric Donovan proved very popular with schools around the county. There is an extensive range of resources available including books on topics of health and wellbeing and online resources such as eBooks, eAudiobooks and eMagazines. The top 5 non-fiction books borrowed nationwide in 2018 were from the Healthy Ireland at Your Library collection.



Decade of Commemorations

The 100th Anniversary of the First Dáil was commemorated on 23 January in the Osprey Hotel. The event was introduced by the Mayor of County Kildare, Councillor Seán Power and members of Lord Edward's Own Re-enactment Group were on hand to add some period colour to the evening.

The main event featured Ciara Plunkett, News Editor KFM, in conversation with the Ceann Comhairle, Seán Ó Feargháil and County Kildare Members of the Oireachtas.

The book, "Witness! County Kildare and the 1916 Rising in the words of the participants", compiled and edited by Mario Corrigan Kildare Library Services was also launched.

Also in January, Mario Corrigan gave a presentation to the Association of Local Government on the work of the County Kildare Decade of Commemorations Committee and the upcoming 1500th anniversary of the death of Saint Brigid in 2023.

Creative Ireland

As part of Kildare's 2019 Creative Ireland Programme, applications are invited for bursary awards that will develop bodies of work with a public interface/engagement.

Applications are invited from individuals and groups to creatively explore themes of:

- Well being
- Sense of place
- Heritage (which may include historical exploration)
- Music
- STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics)
- Irish language
- Climate change

Application forms and further information are available from Kildare County Council Creative Ireland programme, Riverbank, Main Street, Newbridge, Co. Kildare.

Email: creativekildare@kildarecoco.ie
www.kildare.ie/artsservice



Arts Grants information sessions

Four sessions on 'how to' apply for arts grants and awards took place in Leixlip, Newbridge and Athy in early February. In total, 76 people attended the sessions and there was robust discussion and conversation. The closing date for the grants is 12noon, Tuesday 19 March 2019.

Made of Athy Music Trail initiative

The plaques for Neil Hannon, lead singer from the Divine Comedy and for photographer John Minihan were unveiled on 09 and 10 February. Both unveilings were well attended and received a warm response from the recipients, the public and local and national media. Hannon's grandfather lived in Athy and owned mills and other business interests in the town, while Minihan spend much of his youth in Athy.

Arts Service Arts Grants, Bursary Award and Commission Opportunities 2019

Artists and arts collectives and community groups may apply for the following grant and award opportunities:

- Arts Act Grant Scheme
- Artist in Schools Residency Bursary Award
- Artistic Entrepreneur Bursary Award with LEO
- 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
- @Platform4 Recording Studio Bursary Award
- Short Grass Short Film Bursary Award
- Short Grass Short Film Commission Award
- Tyrone Guthrie Centre Residency Bursary Award



Youth Arts Residency Bursary Award Information sessions on *'how to apply for an arts award'* will be held in Leixlip, Newbridge and Athy during February 2019.

Application forms and further information are available from

Email: arts@kildarecoco.ie, or
www.kildare.ie/artsservice

The closing date for these awards is Tuesday 19 March 2019, 12 noon.

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)

Murphy International Ltd., on behalf of Lidl, 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

sewer works are well advanced.

Irish Water has notified Roadbridge that it is the preferred tenderer for the scheme. It is expected that the main works contract will be signed in February 2019.

Minor Capital Projects Red Bog Watermain

This project is now complete.

Allenwood to Kilmeague Watermain

The contract is now substantially complete and due to be snagged in February.



Suncroft to Brownstown Watermain Replacement

The contract is now substantially complete. Final road restoration works will be carried out at a later stage.

Newbridge Town Watermain Rehabilitation Works

The design for replacement of watermains in Piercetown, Highfield and Pairc 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

Part 8 approval was received in December 2017. The design can now be progressed further by Irish Water.

Calverstown WWTP Upgrade

Works are now substantially complete. The contractor is now process proving.

Taghadoo to Maynooth Watermain Replacement

The design for this scheme is almost complete. Installation works are due to commence in the coming weeks, once the road opening licence is granted.

Kilmeage WWTP Upgrade

The contractor is now 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 appointed a consultant to prepare the tender documents for this contract. The consultant is currently carrying out survey works and preparing the design.



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 workshop with the OPW to progress the consultants brief for the Naas study has taken place. 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 February, depending on weather conditions.

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 Local Area Plan (LAP) as part of the Dominican Masterplan, subject to the approval of the elected members. A briefing will be given to March meeting of the Athy Municipal District.

Kerdiffstown

The proposed decision of the EPA was to award a Waste Licence which was issued on 06 February 2019. Taking possession of properties under the CPO has commenced. Two advanced



works contracts will be tendered shortly on e-tenders

Cemeteries

Athy Cemetery

A further phase of work (footpath improvements) has been identified for Athy Cemetery, and are likely to take place later in the year.

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 prioritized, and consultants have been appointed.

Columbarium Wall at Laraghbryan

Works have commenced.

Columbarium Wall at Derrinturn

Invitation for tenders is scheduled for February 2019.

Climate Action Team

Two further regional workshops took place in Athlone and Kilkenny. A Regional Steering Group has been formed. Strong relationships have been built 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.



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 now being published.

Dog Pound

Tenders have been received and works are to commence shortly.

Tidy Towns

Ten medals, including five gold, were secured.

Rathangan Public Realm

The Part 8 is to be published in 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. It is proposed to host a public consultation event in conjunction with the National Transport Authority (NTA) on 27 February.



Economic Community and Cultural Development

Minister Ring announced on 14 February that three applications submitted by Kildare County Council to the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund have been successful in securing funding

€2.7 million has been awarded for the comprehensive upgrade of Emily Square in the centre of Athy, and the redevelopment of Athy Heritage Centre to become the Shackleton Museum. This key project will substantially increase the tourism potential of not only Athy, but the county as a whole and will also benefit the community both socially and economically. A further €80,000 in funding has been awarded for the advancement of a Masterplan for the former Dominican lands in Athy.

This Masterplan will act as the catalyst for a significant urban regeneration of Athy town centre as follows:

- Flood defences to be designed in conjunction with the Office of

Public Works (OPW) to protect the lands.

- The creation of a New Dominican Square, urban renewal and regeneration by way of the creation of a new urban edge to the north of The Square.
- New eco-park on the lands at the confluence of the river Barrow and the Grand Canal.
- New Blueway visitor centre to the south of the site.

Funding of €78,000 has also been secured in respect of the development of a Public Realm Plan to shovel ready stage for Monasterevin. As with historic town centres across Ireland however, Monasterevin has faced challenges of sustaining social and economic activity. The result has been a gradual decline in the quality and character of the town centre, with prominent vacant buildings and a dominance of vehicles. This project

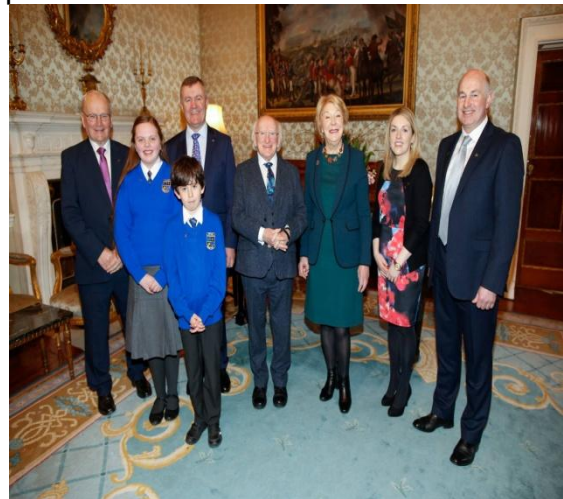


seeks to address these issues through a comprehensive programme of public realm enhancement.

Students of St. Brigid's Primary School travelled to Áras an Uachtaráin

Children from County Kildare travelled to Áras an Uachtaráin on Thursday 01 February as the county celebrated St. Brigid's Day. Sophie Hannon and Oisín Lee presented St. Brigid's Crosses to the President, Michael D Higgins, on St Brigid's Eve to mark the start of a week-long programme of

activities commemorating the life of the Kildare native and Ireland's female patron saint.



Community Grants

Community Grants 2019

All grants schemes were advertised week commencing Monday, 14 January. The closing date for all schemes is Tuesday 12 March.



Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

The last Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) meeting was held on Wednesday 30 January 2019.

Healthy Ireland

The initiatives under Healthy Ireland funding continue to roll out across the county. A leaflet with details was distributed to the members. A meeting to complete the process of Kildare becoming part of the Healthy City and Counties Network took place with the National Co-coordinator. It is expected that this process will be complete in the coming months.

Heads-up (Mojo)

Funding is being secured for Heads-Up 2019. This continues to be a very successful programme with 172 men engaged in programmes across the county in 2018, with very high retention and progression rates. The next programme is being held in Athy

and referrals are currently being sought.

Traveller and Roma Strategy

This collaborative strategy is at final draft stage.

Children and Young Peoples Services Committee (CYPSC)

A presentation was made by the CYPSC Co-ordinator on the themes emerging for the next strategic plan. Feedback was given by the LCDC for consideration in the finalisation of the plan. The need to continue close collaboration to increase services and supports for children and young people in Kildare was agreed.

Age Friendly Programme

A presentation was made by the Age Friendly Co-ordinator on the themes emerging for the next strategic plan. The fridge magnets recently distributed to older people have been a major



success. The new plan is near completion.

Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP)

The end of year review 2018 was approved. All Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) were exceeded. The plan for 2019 was approved. The report is at final draft phase, with a meeting taking place on 06 February 2019.

Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP)

Guidelines for a national review are expected shortly.

The next LCDC meeting will be held on Wednesday 27 January 2019.

Rural Development LEADER

Four projects were approved:

- Cappagh GFC
- Hartwell Creative Retreats
- Monasterevin Community Centre
- Clane United (final approval)

The total funding approved in Kildare under the LEADER programme to date is €1,328,775.38. Applications are sought on a rolling basis for 2019. For further information contact: Brian Kelly, Helen Mulhall or Maeve Howe County Kildare LEADER Partnership - 045 895450.



Parks

Allenwood Playground

A Part 8 for Allenwood Playground (Ref P82019.04) and associated landscaping has been advertised. The development will consist of landscaping and the development of a playground at the entrance to Allenwood Scouts Den and Bright Sparks Childcare Centre. The playground will be developed for 1-12 year old children and will contain a range of equipment suitable for this age group (such as swings, slides, rockers, multi-play units and an adventure trail). Other elements such as seating, a meeting point, a kick-about area, a mini BMX track or mown paths, a wildflower area, earth modelling and outdoor exercise equipment are proposed for the open space outside of the playground. The landscaping will consist of tree planting, hedge planting, low level landscape mounding and wildflower meadows. These elements will also be carried out around the open space surrounding the proposed playground

site. Plans and particulars of the proposed development will be available for inspection or purchase at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy during the period from Tuesday, 22 January 2019 until Friday, 22 February 2019 at: Kildare County Council, Level 7, Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co Kildare. W91 X77F and at Texaco Spar, Allenwood Cross, Allenwood Village, Co Kildare.

Plans and particulars of the proposed development will also be available to view on Kildare County Council's website:

<http://kildare.ie/CountyCouncil/PublicConsultationsPart8Schemes/Community/AllenwoodPlayground/>

Submissions and observations with respect to the proposed development and dealing with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which the development will be situated, may be made by email to parks@kildarecoco.ie or in writing to Simon Wallace, Senior Executive



Parks Superintendent at the address below before 4:00 p.m. Friday, 08 March 2019. Submissions should be clearly headed "Allenwood Community Playground". In accordance with the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) the proposed scheme has undergone Appropriate Assessment Screening. In accordance with Article 120 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 – 2018, Kildare County Council has concluded from a preliminary examination, that there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development and that an Environmental Impact Assessment is not required. Any person may within four weeks from the date of this notice apply to An Bord Pleanála for a screening determination as to whether the proposed development would be likely to have significant effects.

**Newbridge Skatepark,
Moorefield Park**

Work on the completion of the installation of the new paths, resurfacing of the existing paths and

installation of new public lighting in the new skatepark in Moorefield Park, Newbridge is expected to be complete by the end of the month. The final remaining work to complete the project is tree planting to screen the skatepark from the nearby housing. This will be done in March.

Sallins Playground

The construction of Sallins Playground has started. The construction is expected to take 12 weeks.

St. John of God Car Park, Celbridge

Works on landscaping the car park have been completed

**Entrance to Riverforest Estate,
Leixlip**

Landscaping works to improve this entrance have been completed.

Bawnogues. Kilcock

A tender and design to plant the new perimeter walkway around the site has been advertised. This will involve planting approximately 1,500 sapling



trees. The planting will be complete by early April.

Naas Johnstown Roundabout
Replanting of this roundabout at Junction 9 on the N7 has been completed.



Roads, Transportation and Public Safety

Athy Distributor Route

Advance works between Corran Árd and Fortbarrington Road have commenced on site.

M7 Widening, Osberstown Interchange and Sallins Bypass

This project is progressing quite satisfactorily and is on schedule to be completed within the contract dates i.e.

- M7 Widening - April 2019
- Sallins Bypass – Quarter 4, 2019

Maynooth Eastern Ring Road LIHAF Project

The Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department continues to work with Roughan & O'Donovan, Consulting Engineers, in the design of a road scheme in Maynooth which links the R148 Leixlip Road and the R405 Celbridge Road. This scheme

will include the construction of a bridge over the railway and Royal Canal. The ground investigation works have commenced and the Appropriate Assessment screening and Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) screening processes are ongoing. Once these works have been completed the council will be in a position to announce the preferred route option and are aiming to make this announcement in March/April.

Maynooth North - South Corridor, Phase 5 - Leinster Street to Kilcock Road

Final design revisions for Phase 5 of the North South Corridor are being undertaken by the consultant for this scheme. The council intend, that subject to funding approval being granted by the National Transport Authority (NTA), it will go to tender in April/May for a July August construction phase.



**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 will commence quite soon. A construction plan is currently being prepared.

Dublin - Galway Greenway

This project is progressing satisfactorily and the council expect to complete the final design and tender documents by May for the Maynooth to Dublin boundary section.

Kilcock Park and Ride Facility

This new pay by phone and pay and display car park is located in close proximity to the train station and facilitates commuters and long term parking in Kilcock. The signs contractor, under the supervision of the Roads, Transport and Public Safety Department has erected the new parking signs in Kilcock. The implementation of the regulation of parking in Kilcock has had a smooth

transition and is now operational with full enforcement of two hour maximum stay in the town centre.

**R411 Naas to Ballymore Road
Realignment**

Realignment of the R411, Naas to Ballymore Road has been in progress for the past two months. From 11 February 2019, a full road closure is in place for up to eight weeks in order to allow for the realignment to tie into the existing R411 at each end. Diversions will be in place for the duration of the works. The works are being carried out by Cairn Homes as part of the construction of Oak Park Residential Development.

**Coghlanstown, Ballymore Eustace -
Slope Remediation Project**

The statutory Part 8 for the Slope Remediation Project at Coghlanstown, Ballymore Eustace public consultation process commenced on 05 February, 2019. The project documents and drawings will be on display for a period of four weeks from the 05 February, 2019 with the closing date for



submissions not later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, 19 March, 2019. The documents and drawings will be on display on Level 2 in Áras Chill Dara and in the Naas Community Library, Harbour View, Naas, Co. Kildare, W91 A997.

The documents and drawings will be available for viewing on:
<http://kildare.ie/county council/PublicConsultations/Part8Schemes/roadsandtransportation/index.html>

Newbridge Southern Outer Orbital Route (NSOR)

Work on the construction of the NSOR has been ongoing for a number of months and is being delivered by Lidl Ireland as part of the development of their regional distribution centre. Since early January 2019 full traffic management has been implemented on the R445 Newbridge to Naas Road so as to allow the contractor to progress with realigning the R445 and to construct two new roundabouts. The new road will provide a link between the R445 and Greatconnell Road, and

will take all HGV traffic off Greatconnell Road.

Newbridge Transport Plan

Representatives from the National Transport Authority (NTA) will be holding a public consultation exercise on Wednesday 27 February in the Riverbank Theatre, boardroom from 3:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Duty engineers have commenced monitoring temperatures since mid October. All training for the council's response team has been completed.

Severe Weather Assessment Team - Winter Salting Programme

The council has carried out an extensive analysis of their winter salting routes and has determined that existing resources will allow them to increase the routes from nine to ten. The additional route has now commenced. The additional routes, as detailed below are now incorporated into the Salting Programme.

- Kilmeague - Prosperous
- Newbridge - Carragh – Clane



- Athgarvan - Two Mile House - Kill
- Kildangan - Kildare – Newtown

session planned for 19 February in the Heritage Centre, Athy.

Shackleton Museum Athy

The Part 8 was published on 29 January with a closing date for submissions scheduled for 12 March. The first Public Consultation session was held on 31 January with a second

Kildare Civil Defence assisted at the following Events in January 2019

- Operation Transformation 4 kilometre walk in Naas.
- Feile Bhride Event in Kildare Town.

Fire Service

Operational Calls		
Station	Total Calls 2018	Total Calls January 2019
Newbridge	460	42
Naas	503	35
Athy	266	33
Maynooth	322	25
Monasterevin	214	19
Leixlip	245	14
TOTAL	2010	168



	Operational Calls 2019					
Station	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June
Newbridge	42					
Naas	35					
Athy	33					
Maynooth	25					
Monasterevin	19					
Leixlip	14					
TOTAL	168					

Fire Safety

	No. Inspections	No. Premises Inspected
2018	88	85
2019	9	9

	No. Fire Safety Complaints
2018	18
2019	0



	No. Fire Safety Certificates
2018	204
2019	6

	No. Planning File Comments
2018	518
2019	30

Building and Development Control

Building Control

Commencement Notices:	2018	2019 (up to 31/01/2019)
Total Number of Commencement Notices received:	662	54
Number of Valid commencement notices received:	618	52
Number of Invalid commencement notices received:	44	2
No. of Inspections carried out on Commencement Notices	109	20



Certificates of Compliance on Completion:	2018	2019 (up to 31/01/2019)
Total Number of Certificates received:	644	39
Number Valid	629	39
Number Invalid	15	0
Awaiting processing	-	-
Additional Information		
Number of Inspections carried out	23	9

Disability Access Certificates:	2018	2019 (up to 31/01/2019)
Total Number of Disability Access Certificates received:	139	4
Number granted:	130	19
Number refused:	0	0
Number of Inspections carried out	35	1

Building Control Active Sites		2019 (up to 31/01/2019)
Number of units inspected		182



Development Control

Active Sites	2018	2019 (up to 31/01/2019)
Number of Sites with house construction	64	64
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).



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”

Enterprise Support Services:

2019 funding applications received as of 11 Feb 2019:

	Export Marketing Grant	Trading Online Vouchers (TOVs)	Business Expansion Grant	Priming/ START UP Grant	Shop fronts	Total Economic Investment into MD
Athy						
Maynooth	€2,500 €980	€2,500 €1,975		€11,311		€19,266
Celbridge - Leixlip					€3, 828 €2,644	€6,472
Kildare - Newbridge	€1,102	€2,321	€48,500		€4,335	€56,258
Naas		€2,500				€2,500

Entrepreneurship Support Services

Brexit Support for Kildare Businesses (A) Seminar

The Local Enterprise Office in collaboration with the Kildare Chamber of Commerce hosted a Brexit

information seminar in the Osprey Hotel on Thursday 31 January.

The seminar was a success with over 120 business owners in attendance.

Attendees were joined by guest



speakers Lucinda Creighton, Chief Executive Officer of Vulcan Consulting Ltd., Sasha Kerins, Tax Partner at Grant Thornton and Enterprise Ireland representative, Senior Advisor Manus Rooney. The speakers shared an overview of potential risk areas and provided guidelines and strategies in overcoming the challenges posed by Brexit. The audience had the opportunity to engage with the speakers in a questions and answers session.

Ongoing Brexit Supports offered by LEO

Business advisors in the LEO Kildare are facilitating mentoring sessions to help clients address the challenges posed by Brexit. The LEO Kildare also promotes the Customs Insights training course:

www.localenterprise.ie/Portal/Documents-and-Publications/Customs-Insight-Course/Customs-Insight-Course.html and the Brexit Loan Scheme is available to all clients:

www.localenterprise.ie/Portal/News-and-Events/Brexit-Loan-Scheme-Addressing-Challenges-posed-by-Brexit.html

Trading Online Vouchers (TOVs)

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. They are delivered through the Local Enterprise Office. The objective of the scheme is to help small businesses build their brand, grow their sales, exports and ultimately jobs.

A public information session on accessing the Trading Online Voucher Seminar took place on 22 January 2019 at Kildare County Council, and had 33 participants. It was a one evening seminar where local business owners were coached in how to apply for and best utilise their online trading voucher. The next information session will take place on 12 March. You can book for free on our website at:

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/T>



raining-Events/Online-Bookings/Trading-Online-Voucher-Seminar-March-2019.html

Start Your Own Business (SYOB) Course

20 individuals have just completed the first of 12 start your own business programs of 2019. The course ran for four weeks and the next SYOB course takes place in Celbridge on 21 February and will run for eight consecutive Thursday evenings. The course is fully booked with 18 participants scheduled to attend. The next SYOB course is being planned for Newbridge in addition to a partnership with LEADER to support those unemployed considering starting their own business. The LEO continually rotate the programs across the county.

Digital Marketing Course for business

50 businesses have availed of Digital Marketing training since the beginning of January. The next Digital Marketing course will take place in April/May.

Business Network opportunities in association with Kildare Chamber

2019 marks a new business networking initiative “Lunch and Learn.” This is a weekly opportunity for business to gain insight into business issue while networking with peers. It is an opportunity to meet over 120 SME business owners.

Kildare County Council LEO office is now supporting Equine Sector in County Kildare

Kildare County Council’s LEO supported the first Irish Thoroughbred Breeders Association (ITBA) Management Development Programme. The Program was run over six weeks and included group sessions and one to one mentoring. Following consultation with the ITBA, the LEO office developed the program, tailored to 15 breeders in the Irish thoroughbred industry. This pilot is now going to be rolled out nationally



Kildare County Council through the LEO Office have launched the Student Entrepreneurship Challenge 2019 with Maynooth University (MU), €10,000 cash prizes

Ms McNabb, Head of Enterprise, launched this prestigious competition on Monday 11 February at 10:00 a.m. in Maynooth University. “Calling all MU students to come forward and enter! If they have an idea that they think has potential. Then, this is the time to get involved. The LEO will help develop their creative confidence and turn their ideas into action.”

The search is on to find Kildare’s Best Young Entrepreneurs as part of IBYE(Ireland’s Best Young Entrepreneur) who will share in a Local Investment Fund of €50,000 to help their business to start, develop and grow

IBYE is Ireland’s most successful programme to celebrate Ireland’s young entrepreneurs, developed by the Local Enterprise Offices. It is run by Kildare County Council’s Local Enterprise Office with the support of the Department of Business,

Enterprise and Innovation and Enterprise Ireland. Now in its fifth year, the competition, which has an investment fund of €2 million nationally, is open to people between the ages of 18 and 35 with an innovative business idea, new start-up or established business. The closing date to enter this year’s competition is Friday 15 March 2019. Entering is simple, with an online application system through www.ibye.ie . The LEO staff are on hand at the Kildare County Council Local Enterprise Office if assistance is required in completing the application form. In Kildare , the Local Enterprise Office has an investment fund of €50,000 to share between the winners of the Best Business Idea, Best Start-Up and Best Established Business categories. From there, the county winners will go on to compete at regional finals and, if successful, all the way to the National Finals at Google Head Quarters. Matt McCann, Access Earth, Maynooth was a national winner in 2018.



Launch of the Mid East Action Plan for Jobs and MERITS Development

The LEO Kildare team hosted the launch of the Mid East Regional Action Plan for Jobs on 07 February 2019 in Áras Chill Dara. The plan is one of eight regional jobs plans to be published over the coming months, as part of a new regional jobs strategy led by the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation, Minister Heather Humphreys. She was joined at the launch event by the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Michael Ring TD, the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Michael Creed TD, and the Minister of State for Housing and Urban Development, Damien English, TD. The development of the Mid East Action Plan was overseen by the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation, working with stakeholders from the Mid-East region including Meath, Kildare and Wicklow through a committee chaired by Mr Eamonn Sinnott, Vice President and General Manager of Intel Ireland. The Mid East Action Plan identifies four strategic objectives, with actions to: develop the Mid-East as a hub for the screen

content creation sector; create a network of innovative co-working spaces; build an ecosystem framework to support the agri-food sector; and ensure the availability of skills and talent to realise the Mid-East's future economic potential and address up skilling requirements.



Kildare County Council's LEO is driving the development of a network of ten innovative co-working spaces. Minister Humphreys turned the sod on the first of these spaces for the MERITS enterprise innovation hub.



Meeting with Minister Humphreys

Peter Carey, Chief Executive Officer, Sonya Kavanagh, Director of Services, Economic, Community and Cultural Development and Jacqui McNabb, Head of Enterprise met Minister Humphreys to discuss the economic needs of the county. A number of key initiatives the council are trying to progress were discussed including the proposed development of the Model School Athy, MERITS, Naas, the National Stud, Kildare, Advanced Manufacturing, Lexlip and Environmental Innovation, Newbridge.

Boosting Economic Income during 2019 National Ploughing Championships

Ms McNabb spoke to Eileen O'Rourke, Chief Executive Officer, Carlow Tourism who has ultimate responsibility for accommodation for the National Ploughing Association of Ireland (NPA) and requested permission to promote the opportunities around the 2019 ploughing for the Athy area. It has been agreed that interested accommodation providers and home owners in the Athy area could avail of

every opportunity the 2019 ploughing championship might bring.

Accommodation Required for the National Ploughing Championships 17 - 19 September 2019

In September 2019 over 250,000 people will visit Ballinrane, Fenagh, County Carlow for the National Ploughing Championships.

Approx travel Time:

- 17 minutes from Castledermot
- 30 minutes from Athy
- 40 minutes from Newbridge
- 45 minutes from Kildare

While local hotels, self-catering premises and B&B's will cater for many visitors, there is a definite requirement for additional accommodation in the surrounding counties. Anyone interested in providing accommodation at reasonable rates should register their interest at:

carlowtourism.com/submityourproperty
Alternatively, contact Carlow Tourism on 059-9130411 or info@carlowtourism.com for further details.



Peter Carey
Chief Executive