



## Chief Executive's Management Report – May 2020

### Kildare County Council Services and Arrangements for Council Meetings During



#### COVID-19

The reopening of services and public access is being dealt with in accordance with the Governments phased return to work roadmap and the roadmap for local authorities set out at national level and changes will happen over the phases in a managed and controlled way with all necessary safeguards in place. It is important to maintain discipline and follow all public health advice.

Outdoor staff returned to work on 18<sup>th</sup> May. A Covid 19 team has been set up made up of safety representatives and led by Michael Hurley, Health & Safety Officer to implement the Return to Work Safety Protocol. The business continuity group is working with all directorates on a Covid 19 recovery plan.

In preparation for a general reopening of council offices to the public on 29<sup>th</sup> June an appointment system is being developed so that members of the public can pre book appointments with relevant services. Public counters in all areas are being adapted to provide a safe environment for customers and staff to conduct business. The appointment system will assist in controlling attendance at the offices in a safe and managed way and guaranteeing the availability of relevant staff for the service area to deal with the public in a timely manner. People will be able to book appointments on line or by phone.

Library services in Leixlip have opened to the public on an appointment system and this will be rolled out across the library service for the 29<sup>th</sup> June.

The June council meeting and AGM will be held in Newbridge Town Hall to facilitate social distancing.



There continues to be interaction between the executive and staff of the council and the Councillors, to ensure that all efforts are on delivering services to our citizens and coordinating the community response. Members receive briefings on activities through the Cathaoirleach, SPC Chairs, and Directors of Services. Members reps continue to be dealt with throughout the revised working arrangements.

The dedicated community support helpline established in Kildare County Council to assist at risk members of the public in accessing non-emergency and non-medical supports and advice during the current public health emergency continues to operate. The confidential phonenumber service established by the new COVID-19 Kildare Community Response Forum includes over a dozen agencies and organisations working with the community. The helpline is focused primarily on ensuring that vulnerable members of the community or those living alone can access deliveries of groceries, medicine and fuels. The role of the Forum is to ensure that there is a coordinated community response and to enable all voluntary statutory agencies to collaborate in support of our communities and particularly of our most vulnerable members

Contact details for the community support line are: **Freephone 1800 300 174 or 045 980 202** or email [covidsupport@kildarecoco.ie](mailto:covidsupport@kildarecoco.ie).

**The revised operating hours of the helpline is 9-5 Monday to Saturday.**

Contact details for general council services are

- **Email:** [customercare@kildarecoco.ie](mailto:customercare@kildarecoco.ie)
- **Post:** Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co Kildare
- **Telephone:** 045 980 200
- **Out of Hours:** 1890 50 03 33
- **Homeless Out of Hours:** 1800 804 307

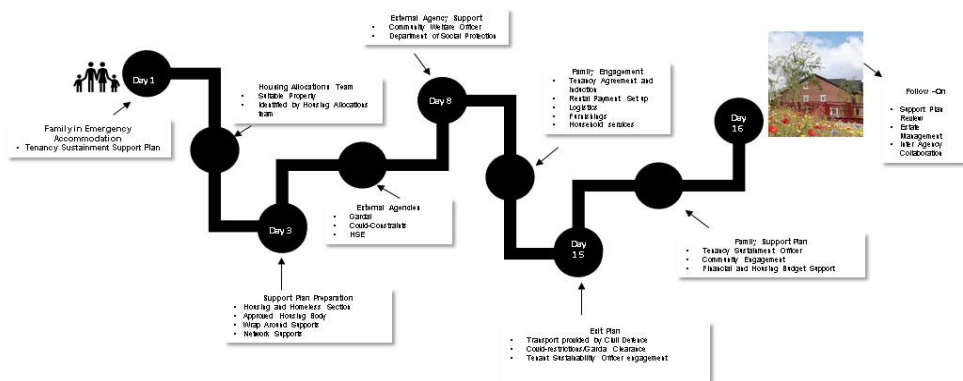
Protection from coronavirus – It's in our hands #ItsInOurHands #Covid19.



## News Item

### Resources Required for dealing with Homeless Family

The graphic below demonstrates the level of resources required from the initial engagement with one family to the final transport to a new home. An extensive number of people from a number of agencies all worked in collaboration to ensure the family were fully supported and the aftercare support is now in place.



### PPP Bundle 1 Site at Craddockstown

The social housing project at Craddockstown, Naas, delivered 36 of the total 74 units in June, with the remaining units to be completed shortly. This project was delivered through a Public Private Partnership model. (See page 18)

Council waive fees for Section 254 Licences



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### **Contact & Collect Service**

All Kildare Libraries have begun a *Contact & Collect Service* for the duration of Phase 2 of the Government's Roadmap for Reopening Society and Business. This phase will run for 3 weeks until Saturday 27 June (see page 42)

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

The route selection process is ongoing and consultation with Iarnród Éireann has commenced regarding the design of an upgrade/replacement bridge over the railway. A briefing was delivered to the Kildare Newbridge Municipal District Committee on 12 June. (See Page )

### **County Development Plan**

The Chief Executive's Report on submissions received on the Draft Variation No 1 was issued to the members. Two informal briefing sessions for the members took place on Microsoft Teams on 12 May 2020. A meeting of council on the Variation, the Chief Executive's Report and members' motions was scheduled for the 8 June 2020 in Newbridge Town Hall.

### **Playgrounds**

All Playgrounds except Newbridge Playground, Celbridge Abbey Playground, St Laurences GAA and Ellistown GAA playground are open for use. Parks department are working to have these remaining playgrounds open as soon as possible

### **Shop County Kildare**

Kildare County Council in association with the Kildare Chamber of Commerce are launching 'Shop County Kildare', an online ecommerce platform providing Kildare businesses the opportunity to make the move to online sales in a free of charge, quick and user-friendly way.



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## Corporate Services



Áras Chill Dara and all other council facilities are currently closed to the public, in the interests of public health.

The council is advising customers and citizens not to physically call to council offices for any reason as they will not be able to gain access.

Council staff are focused on the essential services which must be maintained through this Pandemic and in accordance with the council's Business Continuity Plan.

While the offices are closed council staff are available to deal with queries relating to essential services and members of the public are encouraged to make contact by phone and email. If you need to contact us, please avail of one of the following communication channels:

**Email:** [customercare@kildarecoco.ie](mailto:customercare@kildarecoco.ie)

**Post:** Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park,  
Naas, Co.Kildare

## New COVID-19 and Council Services Webpages

Information on services continue to be updated on the dedicated COVID-19 webpages, which also contain useful links for vulnerable groups, official information sources and links to the new Community Call initiative:

<http://kildare.ie/countycouncil/coronavirusinformation/>

## Meetings of Council

The May meeting of full council took place on Monday 25 May in Áras Chill Dara, with a reduced number of councilors and staff attending due to social distancing requirements. The main purpose of the meeting was to suspend standing orders to allow an alternative location to be agreed for future meetings of full council to enable all members to attend in line with the current public health advice and social distancing requirements.

It was agreed that future meetings of the full council would take place in Newbridge Town Hall.

Councillors and staff were advised that the Municipal District Committee







meetings would recommence in June and would take place in the council chamber in Áras Chill Dara, with the required restrictions in place to ensure compliance with social distancing requirements for members, staff, members of the press and the public.

As seating is now limited at these meetings due to social distancing requirements, members of the press and public have been asked to advise Members Services in advance if they wish to attend. Guidance has issued to all relevant participants in the meetings process, outlining the new restrictions and requirements.

The Corporate Policy Group and the Protocol and Procedures Committee both met on Microsoft teams in May.

Sections within Aras Chill Dara have been reconfigured and safety measures put in place to allow staff to return to work while maintaining social distancing. A number of additional staff have returned to office based work in the last couple of weeks. Staff continue to work remotely either full time or part time as is encouraged by Government. It has been necessary in

order to accommodate all staff to acquire additional office accommodation for approximately 80 staff. A building is being leased in Kildare Town and work is ongoing to make it available for use shortly. All customer facing council services will continue to be provided through Aras Chill Dara and Athy Customer Service point. There will be no public facing services in Kildare.

## Finance Department

### Restart Grant

On 2 May 2020 the Government announced a Restart Fund targeting small businesses that have suffered a dramatic loss of income due to Covid 19. It is intended that this fund will grant aid businesses that have maintained staff and it would also be linked to ongoing employment of those staff. Grants will be the equivalent of the 2019 rates bill, capped at €10,000, but with a minimum grant of €2,000. This Restart Grant went live on Friday 15 May.

As at Friday 15 June of the 5,092 Kildare County Council rates accounts,





724 businesses have applied for this grant and the first tranche of payments issued on Friday 12 June 2020.

The closing date for application for this grant is 31 August 2020 and applications must be made on-line at <http://www.kildare.ie/CountyCouncil/Finance/ReStartGrant/>

### **Budget Position**

The members were e-mailed a Budget Briefing at the beginning of June which

**Revenue Accounts summary –**  
\_see\_Appendix 1

## **Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm**

### **Order under Section 251A of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended.**

The Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government's Order expired on Saturday 23 May 2020.

During the period of the Order (29/03/2020 to 23/05/2020) 184 new

covered the various streams of income and the impact of Covid 19. Until there is clarity around the rates waiver scheme and until direct and indirect Covid related costs have crystallised, the full impact of Covid on Kildare's figures will not be clear. Finance and Management Team will revert to council once there is certainty on the impact.

applications were received and processed, 88 decisions were made and 41 requests for further information issued.

### **County Development Plan**

The Chief Executive's Report on submissions received on the Draft Variation No 1 was issued to the







members. Two informal briefing sessions for the members took place on Microsoft Teams on 12 May 2020.

A meeting of council on the Variation,

the Chief Executive's Report and members' motions is scheduled for the 8 June 2020 in Newbridge Town Hall.

Planning applications received:			Residential Units Granted	Applications decided: May 2020
	May	Year	No.	Total Granted: 34
2018:	150	1,601	1,026	Retention: 4
2019:	146	1,452	1,883	Extension of Duration: 0
2020:	103	552	1,192	Total Refused: 2

#### Significant Planning Applications: May 2020

Ref No	Applicant	Description	Status	Comment
20/48	Killross Properties Ltd.	18 no. warehouse/light industrial units with ancillary office and staff facilities at Moortown, Maynooth Road, Celbridge.	Granted	07/05/20
19/1076	Bernie Gallagher	A) Permission for site layout and development works for 12 serviced sites, entrance and B) Outline Permission for 12 two-storey dwellings at Ballynagappagh, Clane.	Granted	20/05/20
19/664	Liam Fitzpatrick	A two-storey motor sales and service facility (gross floor area of 2,460sqm) on a 2.75-acre site adjacent to the Bundle of Sticks roundabout, at Newhall, Naas.	Granted	21/05/20



19/745	Thoval Properties Ltd.	A) Two-storey mixed use building consisting of 1 shop unit, 1 community use unit and 2 apartments at ground floor level and 1 medical unit, 1 office unit and 4 apartments at first floor level,  B) Public courtyard area, and  C) Demolition of single-storey building facing onto Kilcullen Road at Athgarvan Village, Newbridge.	Granted	27/05/20
19/995	DMCD Developments Ltd.	Demolition of single-storey dwelling and construction of 10 two-storey dwellings at Cornelscourt, Newbridge.	Granted	14/05/20
19/997	Masonbrook Holdings Ltd.	69 two-storey houses at Ferns Bridge, Ferns Green Road and Ballykelly Road, Monasterevin.	Granted	26/05/20
20/97	Glenveagh Homes Ltd.	75 two-storey houses and 20 one-bed maisonette units at Branganstown, Kilcock.	Granted	15/05/20

### **Strategic Infrastructure Development Applications to An Bord Pleanála (SID)**

- Drehid Waste Management Facility (ABP Ref. 17/300506) - The oral hearing concluded on 13 March 2019 and a decision is awaited from the Board. According to the

ABP website, a decision was due by 23 April 2020.

- Application by Bord na Móna Powergen Limited and ESB Wind Development Limited (ABP Ref. 18/303249) for a 110kV onsite Electric Substation at Timahoe East and a decision is awaited from the Board. According to the ABP





website, a decision was due by 13  
March 2020.

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

Application Stage					
	Developer	Location	No of Units	Lodged with ABP	ABP Decision Due
19/305701	Cairn Homes Properties Ltd	Naas West &, Jigginstown, Naas	314	16/10/19	Granted 11/02/20
19/305905	Westar Investments Ltd.	Capdoo, Clane	305	19/11/19	Refused 11/03/20
19/306068	Ladas Property Company Unlimited Company	Mill Street, Maynooth	120	03/12/19	Refused 30/03/20
20/306504	Ardstone Homes Ltd.	Crodaun, Celbridge	372	24/01/20	14/05/20
20/306777	Windlynn Ltd.	Kilmalum Road, Blessington	360	03/03/20	22/06/20
20/306826	Rycroft Homes	Boycetown, Commons West, (adjoining the Brayton Park estate), Kilcock	345	06/03/20	25/06/20
20/307013	McCourt Investments Limited	Kill Hill and Earl's Court, Kill	167	30/03/20	20/07/20



20/307100	Crodaun Development Company Ltd.	Crodaun, Celbridge	467	24/04/20	13/08/20
20/307223	ES Leixlip Greenfields Ltd	Leixlip Gate, Kilmacredock, Leixlip	239	25/05/20	14/09/20
20/307258	Randelswood Holdings	Devoy Quarter, Naas West	152	29/05/20	17/09/20

### **Built Heritage Investment Scheme**

#### **2020**

Applications have been assessed and nominated to the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht for their approval. A decision is awaited.

### **Historic Structures Fund 2020**

Applications have been assessed and nominated to the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht for their approval. A decision is awaited.





## Vacant Sites Update 2020

195 sites are being surveyed for 'Vacant Site Levy' purposes. There is ongoing work to identify other possible vacant sites. The current breakdown is set out below;

<b>Town</b>	<b>Number of sites surveyed</b>
Newbridge	23
Celbridge	9
Kildare	32
Maynooth	21
Kilcock	8
Sallins	12
Monasterevin	16
Leixlip	10
Athy	23
Clane	17
Kilcullen	10
Naas	14



## Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team Update

### Concept

ATHY-Athy-Athy Urban Design analysis and Town Renewal Plan-Not yet commenced

ATHY-Athy-Regeneration Strategy-Ongoing though Athy Town Team.

CBLX-Ardclough-Community Facility Phase 2-

KDNB-Kildare-Laneways Project-Included in RRDF Application submitted.

KDNB-Kildare-St Bridget's Well re-development-Draft concept received.

MAYN-Maynooth -Main St and Courthouse Square Public Realm Improvements Masterplan-URDF application currently being prepared.

MAYN-Maynooth-Town Branding & Signage-On hold until funding source identified.

NAAS-Lantern Building--Yet to commence

NAAS-Sallins-Health Check/Urban Design-Funding source to be identified.

### Part 8

KDNB-Kilcullen-Market Square redevelopment - Draft Part 8 Drawings being finalised

KDNB-Kildare-Market Square redevelopment - Part 8 documents being prepared.

KDNB-Rathangan-Market Square redevelopment - Draft Part 8 Drawings Received.

MAYN-Maynooth-Harbour Field Development-Part 8 documents nearing final draft in preparation for MD briefing prior to Part 8.

### Tender Consultants & Design





ATHY/KDNB-Athy-Barrow Blueway- Tender brief being prepared for detailed design.

ATHY-Athy-Development of Shackleton Museum-Tenders in respect of (i) detailed design and construction supervision currently being assessed and (ii) Interpretative exhibition design has been assessed.

ATHY-Castledermot-Health Check/Urban Design & TRP-Draft working document received.

CBLX-Ardclough-Health Check/Urban Design & TRP- Draft working document received.

CBLX-Celbridge-Health Check/Urban Design & TRP- Draft working document received.

CBLX-Leixlip-Health Check/Urban Design & TRP- Draft working document received.

KDNB-Athgarvan-Health Check/Urban Design & Town Renewal Plan- Draft working document received.

MAYN-Derrinturn-Health Check/Urban Design & TRP- Draft working document received.

MAYN-Johnstown Bridge-Health Check/Urban Design & TRP- Draft working document received.

MAYN-Kilcock-Town Branding & Signage-Tender for detailed design to be issued once funding terms and conditions have been received

MAYN-Prosperous-Town Branding & Signage-Tender for detailed design to be issued once funding terms and conditions have been received

MAYN-Straffan-Health Check/Urban Design Analysis and Town Renewal Plan- Draft working document received.



## **Tender Consultants**

ATHY-Athy-Public Realm Dominican Lands -Tender for design consultants currently being assessed.

KDNB-Kildare-Curragh Plains - Develop Plan-Tender being prepared for: Conservation, Management and Interpretation Plan-Branding and Visitor Positioning Process-Orientation, Wayfinding and Interpretation Strategy. Joint Tender assessment with Dept of Defence completed. MoU between KCC and DoD agreed.

NAAS-Grand Canal Greenway-Alymer Bridge to Sallins-€1.7 million funding approval. Tender advertised.

Athy- Ballitore-Engagement of consultants to assess the building and draw up the plans and drawings required to complete the restoration work on a second building in the Tanyard - Funding terms and conditions received and accepted 02.01.2019

## **Tender Works**

ATHY-Athy-Upgrade to public realm Emily Square-Tender docs for construction work almost finalised.

KDNB-Kildangan-Community Hall Upgrade-Awarded €92k funding under T&V Renewal Scheme

KDNB-Newbridge-Newbridge Library-Advisory role

KDNB-Newbridge-Riverbank-Tender assessment - advisory role

## **Design**

ATHY-Athy-Edmund Rice Square-Scope and extent of the project to be agreed in collaboration with various stakeholders.

KDNB-Kildare-Town Renewal Plan-Feedback being reviewed for incorporation into final plans.



KDNB-Monasterevin-Healthcheck and Urban Design & Masterplan-Work ongoing with Urban Designers.

KDNB-Newbridge-Creation Cultural Qtr - to include Part 8s for Library redevelopment, St Conleth's Square incl new buildings, landmark building on Market Square, and public realm improvement works. Feedback being reviewed for incorporation into final plans which will inform Part 8 designs for each element of the project.

KDNB-Newbridge-Town Renewal Plan-Feedback being reviewed for incorporation into Town Renewal Plan.

MAYN-Maynooth-Harbour Field Works-Detailed design to commence after Part 8 approval. To be included in URDF application to be submitted.

MAYN-Robertstown-Masterplan-Work progressing well with architect in collaboration with RCAA.

### **Detailed Design**

KDNB-Kildare-Cherry Avenue - development of a town park - Tender documents to be prepared for LA led design team in collaboration with parks Dept to develop the design post Part 8 to shovel ready stage for new RRDF application.

MAYN-Kilcock-Community Centre-Pre-qualify main contractors December 2019-February 2020.

### **On Hold**

MAYN-Clane-Main St Accessibility Improvements-On hold until funding source identified.

MAYN-Clane-Town Branding & Signage-On hold until funding source identified.

### **Construction**



MAYN-Prosperous-Landscape enhancement, & Car park -Tender for Construction completed. Tender for Playground equipment currently being assessed.

NAAS-Ballymore Eustace-Looped Walk-works almost complete.

NAAS-MERITS--Duggan Lynch appointed as contractors. Official start date on site November 11, 2019.

### Complete

ATHY-Narraghamore-Complete-Completed

CBLX-Ardclough-Community Facility-Completed

### Advisory

NAAS-Naas Library--Advisory role

**Grand Total - €40,632,290**

**URDF – Deadline 29/05/20 – the following applications were submitted in order of priority:**

**01 Maynooth** – Development of a masterplan to encompass the following areas among others; Harbour Field Park, Main Street and adjoining laneways, Carton Avenue, Courthouse Square and Leinster Street.

**02 Newbridge** – Second River Crossing (detailed design/Part 8)

**03 Naas** – Masterplan to encompass Main Street, St. David's Castle and adjoining areas to create a Cultural Quarter

**04 Celbridge** – Second River Crossing

## Housing UPDATE ON COVID-19 MEASURES



The graphic below demonstrates the level of resources required from the initial engagement with one family to the final transport to a new home. An extensive number of people from a number of agencies all worked in collaboration to ensure the family were fully supported and the aftercare support is now in place.

[illegible]

The Covid emergency has identified Travellers as an at-risk group and additional funding has been made available for the provision of basic welfare services such as water and sanitation. The social work team are maintaining daily contact with Traveller families particularly those who may be at risk or vulnerable.



Traveller accommodation continues to demand significant resources in terms of both the halting sites and the roadside encampments. Demands on our social work service is very high with a notable increase in issues throughout the county.

Covid measures were discussed at the June meeting of the Local Traveller Accommodation Committee (LTACC) and the work to date was acknowledged. The social work team are continuing to link in with vulnerable families and report a marked increase in issues relating to mental health and referrals into the social work service. Analysis of the Traveller Accommodation Programme shows that 8 allocations have been made this year to date. The annual target for 2020 is 18.

The Housing Agency has commissioned an independent review of the role of social workers and personnel employed by Local Authorities specifically to assist travellers with accommodation-related issues. The review will be carried out by University College Dublin by a combination of on-line questionnaires and follow-up interviews.

#### **Other COVID-related Issues:**

**Rent Reviews:** Due to the employment losses and changes in working situations rent reviews are ongoing.

**Rent Supplement:** The Department of Social Protection has provided information to private renters who do not qualify for the housing list, are not in receipt of HAP and are experiencing difficulties meeting rent payments.

**Response Maintenance:** Response Maintenance has now returned to include most response tasks.

**Planned Maintenance:** Works to vacant units recommenced on Monday, 18 May.

**Allocations** are ongoing in relation to new schemes being delivered, vacancies arising, and tenancy transfers.

**AHB Update** Respond completed the purchase of 32 units at the The Vestry, Athy and Cooperative Housing Ireland completed the purchase of 8 apartments in Newbridge. Kildare County Council has nomination rights to both schemes.

#### **Capital Projects COVID Update**

##### **Anne Street, Prosperous**

Following suspension of works due to COVID restrictions, it is now anticipated that the units will be





substantially completed on 25 June, subject to both ESB and Irish Water connections.

### **Mountainview, Athgarvan Village**

Stage 4 approval received from DHPLG for the award of contract for construction of 18 units, but based on recent OGP guidance caution will need to be exercised before the award on any new capital work contract. Notice letters being drafted to successful and unsuccessful tenderers. The tender validity period may have to be extended on this project to allow time to assess the risk associated with the award of this contract.

### **PPP Bundle 1 Site at Craddockstown**

The social housing project at Craddockstown, Naas, delivered 36 of the total 74 units in June, with the remaining units to be completed shortly. This project was delivered through a Public Private Partnership model. The scheme comprises a mix of one, two, three and four-bedroomed A-Rated properties that have been allocated to families and individuals on the Council's social housing list. The scheme will be managed by Choice Services, in conjunction with Oaklee Housing an approved housing body.



### **PPP Bundle 2 Site at Nancy's Lane, Clane**

Works underway following the recent suspension. Original programmed completion date for 77 units was April 2021. No revised programme available as yet.

All other capital projects at design stage are progressing with staff working from home and liaising with

the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government. A number of Stage submissions have been lodged with the Department.

### **Part Vs and Turnkey Developments**

Units in developments which have Irish Water, ESB, and where relevant, Gas connections and only require minor snagging are progressing to



completion with permission from KCC to contractors to complete this work.

### Grants

DPG projects are only progressing where works are necessary to allow a tenant to return home from hospital. Housing Aid Grant inspections have recommenced where these can be conducted externally. Applications continue to be processed and approvals are being provided, this is primarily in cases seeking walk-in

showers and stairlifts. Occupational Therapists are preparing for a return to work in accordance with the Government's roadmap.

### Rents

The national rent freeze remains in place therefore rent increases are not being applied. Work is ongoing on rent reviews for households whose employment status has changed due to the Covid crisis.

## Capital Programme

Location	No. of Units	Status June 2020
<b>Completed</b>		
The Paddocks, Kilcock	19 units	19 units completed and allocated December 2017/February 2018. Defects liability period to conclude shortly.
Athgarvan Road, Newbridge	13 units	Works complete and units have been allocated. Final account and post project review being prepared.
St. Patrick's Park Rathangan, Remedial Works (Phase 1)	Refurb of 34 Units (23 social and 11 private)	Lot 1 (6 units): completed Lots 2 - 5 (28 units) completed
Dunmurray Rise Kildare [Phase 3]	32 units	Units completed 25 October 2019.
Beechgrove, Rathangan	18 units	Reached substantial completion 9 April 2020. Inductions and keys issued to tenants 16 April 2020



<b>In Progress</b>		<b>Status June 2020</b>
Anne Street Prosperous	12 units	Works recommenced on site on 18 May with latest completion date 25 June subject to Irish Water and ESB connections.
<b>Approval Stage 4</b>		<b>Status June 2020</b>
Athgarvan Village	18 units	Stage 4 approval for award on contract received. Notice letters to issue to tenderers. Award on contract on hold. Tender validity period has been extended.



<b>Approval Stage 2</b>		<b>Status June 2020</b>
St. Patrick's Park Rathangan Remedial Works (Phase's 2 & 3)	Demolition of 15 units, refurb of 25 units, construction of 7 units.	Workshop meetings with residents took place 11 and 12 of March 2020. Final amendments agreed with Housing to advance completion of Part 8. Original design team to be re-engaged. Propose to commence Part 8 once Covid-19 restrictions lifted.
Coill Dubh	10 units	Part 8 approved 19 December 2018. Civil/Structural consultants appointed. Building services tenders to commence Q2 2020.
<b>Approval Stage 1</b>		<b>Status June 2020</b>
Old Greenfield, Maynooth	Rapid Build/Volumetric Framework 65 units	Design Team appointed February 2019. Approval in principle received from DHPLG for revised scheme of 65. Approval Stage 2 to DHPLG expected Q3 2020.
Ardclough Road, Celbridge	37 units	Information submitted to DHPLG re SSF application - Q1 2020. Stage 2 Approval for submission to DHPLG Q3 2020.
Carbury	5 units	Revised Stage 1 application for 5 units submitted to DHPLG.
Former Ambassador Hotel Site, Kill	35 units	Revised Stage 1 approval received from DHPLG May 2020. Stage 2 Approval for submission to DHPLG Q3 2020.
Oldtown Mill, Celbridge.	57 units	Revised scheme for 57 units forwarded to DHPLG for consideration. Stage 1 Approval for submission to DHPLG Q2 2020.
Caragh Road Site, Naas	73 units	Stage 1 Approval for submission to DHPLG Q3 2020.
St Evins Park, Monasterevin	16 units	Stage 1 approval received May 2020. Stage 2 Approval for submission to DHPLG Q3 2020.



### Infill Schemes

Location	No. of Units	Status June 2020
Newtown House, Leixlip	4 units	Approval Stage 1 received. Proposed commencement of Part 8 once Covid-19 restrictions lifted.
Narraghmore	4 units	Approval Stage 2 received from DHPLG in September 2019. Proposed commencement of Part 8 once Covid-19 restrictions lifted.
Glandore, Athy	4 units	Stage 1 Approval for submission to DHPLG Q2 2020.

### PPP Schemes

Location	No. of Units	Status June 2020
Craddockstown Road, Naas	74 units	Initial 36 units completed and being tenanted. Completion of remaining 38 units expected on 26 June.
Nancy's Lane, Clane	77 units	Contract awarded November 2019. Commenced on site 28 November 2019. Recommenced on 18 May. Prior to Covid-19 restrictions, due for completion Q2 2021. Revised programme to be updated.
Arcrew, Athy	50/60 units	Confirmation that Arcrew site included in PPP Bundle 3. Design brief for 50-60 units submitted to DCC as lead Authority for Bundle 3 for procurement of design team. Procurement of Design Team has commenced.



### Approved Housing Body Schemes

Location	No. of Units	Status June 2020
Respond HA Flinter's Field, Athy	35 units	Contract Tender being assessed.
Tuath HA Castlefen, Sallins	28 units	Contractor commenced in March 2020.
ESB site Leixlip	24 units	Cluid nominated to progress the development of the site. Feedback on initial proposals sent to Cluid.
Cluid Rathasker Road, Naas	70-100 units (depending on final agreement with AHB and Planning Dept)	Consideration is being given to incorporating the adjacent site under the control of an AHB as a joint proposal to maximise the potential of the site and to offset the cost of remediating the site and to provide a greater range of unit types. Amended proposal awaited from AHB.

### Approved Housing Body Schemes - Capital Assistance Scheme

Approved Housing Body	No. of Units	Status June 2020
KARE	3 Units Craddockstown	Part 8 planning application prepared and will be lodged as soon as Covid-19 restrictions are lifted.
Camphill Communities of Ireland	4 units at The Bridge, Kilcullen	CAS - Stage 2 approval received on 3 October 2017. Planning application approved. Stage 3 being prepared.
Homeless Care CLG	12 Apartments at Jigginstown House, Naas	CAS – Planning granted May 2018. Construction commenced November 2019 and works ongoing.
Sofia Housing	28 units St. John's Convent Rathangan	CAS – Stage 1 Approval. Stage 2 Approval application expected Q3 2020
Cluid	30 units Dominican Lands Athy	CAS – Stage 1 Approval submission to DHPLG Q2 2020
The Peter McVerry Trust	5 units Sallins	CAS – Stage 1 & 2 being assessed by Architects prior to submission to DHPLG





## Acquisitions

	Completed Units 2018	Completed Units 2019	Completed units 2020	In Progress
Housing Acquisitions	186	231	7	25
Housing Turnkeys	39	81	11	89
Part V Acquisitions	30	67	2	182
<b>Tot</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>296</b>

## Rebuilding Ireland Home Loans

2020	Approval No.	Approval Amount	Approval Drawdown No.	Approval Drawdown Amount	Expired No.	Expired Amount
January	1	€165,000	1	€220,000	0	0
February	3	€655,000	1	€170,000	0	0
March	4	€967,900	1	€202,500	0	0
April	0	0	0	0	0	0
May	0	0	1	€237,800	0	0

	2019	2020
<b>Total Approved</b>	<b>€19,692,336</b>	<b>€1,787,900</b>
Total Drawn down	€10,160,922	€830,300 (2019 approvals)
Total currently committed in loan offers	€4,579,784	€1,787,900

**Extensions of 3 months have been granted to loan offers that expire during the Covid crisis with the condition that an up to date payslip and bank statements to be provided prior to drawdown.**

Kildare County Council has received confirmation of the availability of a loan facility of up to €10 million for 2020. All applicants must now complete a declaration of unchanged circumstances prior to final loan offer.



### Social Housing Applications

<b>2019</b>	<b>Existing Housing file updates</b>	<b>Transfer Requests</b>	<b>New valid Applications</b>	<b>Mortgage to Rent Apps</b>	<b>Refusals</b>
Quarter 1	83	21	229	2	46
<b>2020</b>	<b>Existing Housing file updates</b>	<b>Transfer Requests</b>	<b>New valid Applications</b>	<b>Mortgage to Rent Apps</b>	<b>Refusals</b>
Quarter 1	75	15	186	3	75

### HAP Applications

<b>2019</b>	<b>Applications Received</b>	<b>Applications Rejected</b>	<b>Applications Approved</b>
Total	778	200	714
<b>2020</b>	<b>Applications Received</b>	<b>Applications Rejected</b>	<b>Applications Approved</b>
Quarter 1	201	23	196

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



Duration	No. of Households with Dependents	Adults	Dependents
0 - 6 Months	11	14	22
6 - 12 Months	18	30	39
12 - 18 Months	9	15	25
18 - 24 Months	7	12	15
24 - 30 Months	0	0	0
30 – 36 Months	1	1	4
	<b>46</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>105</b>

#### Families in Own Front Door Accommodation as of 31 May 2020

Duration	No. of Households with Dependents	Adults	Dependents
0 - 6 Months	0	0	0
6 - 12 Months	2	4	5
12 - 18 Months	1	2	4
18 - 24 Months	3	6	9
24 - 30 Months	1	2	3
30 – 36 Months	3	5	11
	<b>10</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>32</b>



## Library and Arts Service

### News and Highlights – Library Service

*Everything you need for better future and success has already been written. And guess what? All you must do is go to the library.*

– Henri Frederic Amiel

### Cruinniú na nÓg

Kildare County Council's Creative Ireland team are hosting a range of cultural and creative activities and online events for Cruinniú na nÓg on Saturday 13 June.

Workshops include podcasts, photography, moviemaking and song-writing workshops with Create School, a traditional song workshop with Aileen Lambert, based on the cloak of Bridget of Kildare. An environmentally themed visual arts workshop 'Hold Your Horse' is led by Audrey Walsh, inspired by the Curragh and there is a film showcase by Griesse Youth Theatre 'Let's Keep the Ball Rolling'.

Anyone 4 Science will teach how to make ice-cream and Athy Sing and Sign will have some fun teaching Irish Sign Language (ISL). There is a showcase of textile art created by young people from Rathangan, working with Aideen Cross and a podcast of 'Kildare Speak'

with Eoghan Rua Burke and young people from Clane Tennis Club. There is also a premiere film screening of the 'One Minute-One Take' as well as an on-line check in with the Book Doctor from Children's Books Ireland at Riverbank Arts Centre.

### Contact & Collect Service

All Kildare Libraries have begun a *Contact & Collect Service* for the duration of Phase 2 of the Government's Roadmap for Reopening Society and Business. This phase will run for 3 weeks until Saturday 27 June. Library users contact their local branch via email or telephone to request library materials and then are given a time slot in which to collect their items. It is currently anticipated that libraries will begin welcoming the public back into our buildings from Monday June 29. Significant works are underway since May to ensure that all our libraries have the necessary modifications and procedures in place to ensure that public health advice can be adhered to.



## Housebound Library Service

The housebound service for elderly and vulnerable residents of Kildare who are cocooning due to the Covid-19 emergency has moved from the Community Call Helpline back to the seven main libraries since the 01 June. This service is available to all cocooning residents in the county, young or old, and they do not have to be an existing member of the library to take part. The library service will arrange delivery and collection of library items to the door.

## Further Investment in Library eBooks and eAudiobooks

A further investment of €200,000 to support the provision of additional eBooks and eAudiobooks to meet the significant increase in demand for access to the public library online service during the Covid-19 crisis has been announced. This is in addition to the already allocated €200,000 invested at the beginning of the crisis. Minister Michael Ring has also announced a fund of €20,000 to support the provision of an EasyReader collection of books for emerging adult readers and people with literacy needs.

Since libraries closed on March 12 the levels of usage of online library

services has soared and is at unprecedented levels. Feedback from users continues to be extremely positive and to help boost the online resources, the minister said he was delighted to increase his department's contribution from €200,000 to €400,000.

**Spring into Storytime** was held entirely online this year. Kildare Libraries staff produced online 114 story telling sessions from Monday to Saturday, every week for the months of April and May. There were **18,592** views of our story time sessions.

**Summer Stars**, the annual summer reading challenge will begin on 15<sup>th</sup> June this year. Due to Covid-19 the programme will be delivered at least in part online. Children across Kildare will be able to borrow books from the library through the Contact and Collect Service initially and Borrowbox has a large selection of e-books and e-audiobooks available to borrow. There will be a range of online activities held throughout the summer months which will be advertised through the library service's social media channels.



## **TTT Programme**

Our online programme of events for Leixlip Community Library was adapted to our current restrictions.

For May these included live online exercise classes with Siel Bleu for people of all ability levels, with exercises that can be done using bodyweight and household objects. These sessions took place over five weeks and participation was very strong as were subsequent views of the classes.

The online programme of events also included Art classes with Florence and Milly. Storytime sessions and Arts & Crafts workshops with our library staff members and numerous tutorials on topics such as knitting, crochet and much more.

As part of the Toys, Technology and Training (TTT) Programme 2020, which supports children and adults with learning difficulties, disabilities or more significant needs, facilitators have been using mixed media to deliver their talks/ workshops via our social media platforms.

In May, these included a session on AHD by ADHD Ireland, a talk by counsellor Fiona Hall on Managing Your Mental Health during Covid-19 for Parents of Children with a

Diagnosis. We also had sensory Story time sessions and sensory gardening sessions. More online talks and workshops will follow in the coming months.

## **Let's Talk About Parenting Programme – Online Webinars**

As part of its move to an online format 2 webinars are being provided in June as part of the Library Service Let's Talk About Parenting Programme - Reflective Practice and Trauma informed Practice. These offer Continuous Professional Development opportunities for those working with children, young people and families in County Kildare and are being facilitated by Barnardos in partnership with Kildare Children & Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC).

30 places are available on each webinar and demand has been so high, for the Trauma informed practice workshop, that there has been enough interest to fill a 2nd workshop. In this workshop participants will learn about adverse childhood experiences and how to help foster resilience in children. Booking requests for these workshops have been received from a broad cross sector of professionals -





e.g. Social Workers, Teachers and Principals, Family Resource Centres and Gardai working with young people.

### **Local Studies, Genealogy and Decade of Commemorations Centenary of 1920 Local Elections**

June 2020 is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the historic County Council Elections of 1920. These elections, the first under the proportional representation system, resulted in a republican majority (Sinn Féin and Labour) being elected to Kildare County Council. At the first meeting of the newly elected Council on 21 June 1920, the Council pledged their allegiance to the authority of Dáil Éireann by an overwhelming majority. Domhnall Ua Buachalla was elected Chair at this meeting, with Eamonn Ó Modhráin selected as vice-chair. Content will be added to [www.kildare.ie/ehistory](http://www.kildare.ie/ehistory) and to the Decade of Commemorations social media channels to highlight this important centenary.

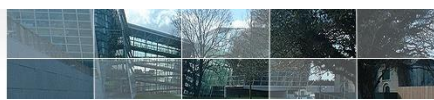
### **Online Eamonn Ó Modhráin Exhibition**

The County Kildare Decade of Commemorations Committee are supporting the publication of an online exhibition featuring the life story and

family memorabilia associated with Eamonn Ó Modhráin who was elected as Vice-Chair at the first meeting of the new Council in June 1920. Originally from Suncroft and an activist in the Gaelic League before being arrested and spending time in Frongoch Internment Camp, Eamonn subsequently became Commdt. Of the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Carlow Brigade of the I.R.A. prior to his election to Kildare County Council. This exhibition will be available to view through a link on [www.kildare.ie/ehistory](http://www.kildare.ie/ehistory)

### **Photographic Archive of Nursing Life**

The County Kildare Decade of Commemorations Committee are seeking photographs in order to create a photographic archive of nursing life in County Kildare over the past one hundred years. The Committee had originally planned to hold an event on 25 April to mark the contribution of nurses, since the foundation of the Irish Nurses Union in 1919. We are encouraging nurses to loan us images from their working life so that a photographic archive can be created. Telephone 045448351 or email [cilldara2016@gmail.com](mailto:cilldara2016@gmail.com) for further details.



## **Local Studies, Genealogy & Archives Department in Newbridge**

The Local Studies, Genealogy & Archives continues to answer research queries and are now back in our premises in Newbridge. Research requests and queries from local historians, research consultants, media companies and the wider community have continued throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. Family history/genealogy queries can be sent to [cilldaragenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:cilldaragenealogy@gmail.com) (or phone 045448350) and local history research queries can be emailed to [localhistory@kildarecoco.ie](mailto:localhistory@kildarecoco.ie) (or phone 045448351). Digital content continues to be added to [www.kildare.ie/ehistory](http://www.kildare.ie/ehistory), with more content planned in the coming weeks and months.

## **Young Readers Festival**

Young Readers Festival took place online this year.

Live online events were attended by 143 participants, including storytelling, yoga, and Harry Potter craft workshops. Pre-recorded videos featuring stories and tutorials were viewed over 3000 times.

Illustrator Tarsila Kruse's four part 'Draw a Dinosaur' tutorial had

combined views of 1,702 on Instagram and Facebook.

We conducted an online survey with parents of attendees, and received 30 responses, the feedback on the live events was very positive:

"It engaged him and allowed him to interact with kids his age and made him feel part of something outside this house and that means a lot to our kids right now."

"We would love more of these events during lockdown. We miss the library! They liked today's teacher."

"They did the Harry potter activity yesterday which was fantastic-they even made another one of their own today!! Really engaged them from start to finish!! Thank you!"

## **STEAM 2020 – Biodiversity Week**

Almost 90 children attended

Birdwatching Talks online via Zoom for Biodiversity Week in May as part of Kildare Libraries STEAM 2020 programme for primary school children. Facilitated by local gardener / garden designer Patrick Hunt, the workshops introduced children to common Irish garden birds from the Blackbird to the House Sparrow to the Goldfinch. Patrick explained how to identify the birds and outlined methods



to entice them into your garden. Curious kids then got to ask lots of question in the separate Q&A session which took place afterwards. All the participants received a poster via email after the talk to help them identify the birds in their back garden while in lock down.

It was full STEAM ahead for Kildare Libraries during May with many of our primary school STEAM programme of science, technology, engineering and arts workshops migrating to online delivery. We hosted a 4-day Python coding workshop for children aged 8-12 years, run by Tech Create and delivered online through Zoom, which was a great success.

### **Kildare Arts Service – Continued success and national recognition for the work of Kildare Young Filmmakers**

Kildare Young Filmmaker's **Witch Hunt** won the BEST GROUP FILM AWARD at this year's Fresh International Film Festival! KYF alumni Craig Johnston Bill O Tle and Amy O'Reilly, who are all studying film at third level, provided key support to members during filming. 3 other films made independently by KYF members and alumni were also nominated for

awards in different categories: Athena Fusciardi's "Why Politics Needs Women", Liam Boland's "Film", and Amy O'Reilly's "The Flag", which won Best Documentary Award.

**When Art is Passion**, made by Kildare Young Filmmakers was also featured on the RTÉ Home School Hub on the 20 of May, which highlighted films made by young people all over Ireland.

### **Recruitment of Musician educators – Music Generation Kildare**

Music Generation is taking a significant step with the recruitment of a team of musician educators to work with children and young people in Kildare. An administrative assistant is also being recruited.

Supported by Kildare County Council and administered by KWETB, applications are invited from musicians for the

Instrumental Music Programme – including, but not only, traditional Irish instruments, strings, brass, woodwind, guitar, percussion, song writing, composition, band facilitation, conducting and music technology. Singing Programme – vocal/choral and/or instrumental musicians with



experience relevant to vocal music-making in group contexts.

Early Years Programme – vocal/choral and/or instrumental musicians with experience relevant to working with the under-7s.

### **Arts Act Scheme 2020**

A report has been prepared for the June meeting of Kildare County Council to approve the Arts Act Grant Scheme 2020. Recommendations for awards of a total of €43,624 will be made. Artists and arts organisations have suffered significantly during the COVID crisis and continued support of Council is important at this time.

### **Culture Night Kildare 2020**

Kildare County Council Arts Service are pleased to confirm that Culture Night will take place on Friday 18th September 2020 from 4pm till late and are looking for expressions of interest to participate. Culture Night is an annual all-island public event that celebrates culture, creativity and the arts. On that night venues and events are available to the public free of charge.

It seems likely that some COVID 19 restrictions will be in place and a re-

imagined Culture Night programme will be offered. We expect that this will take the form of experimental physical events (if and where possible, in line with government guidelines) alongside virtual programming and presentation of artist commissions. Although challenging, we hope Culture Night will offer the opportunity to explore our potential for social and cultural solidarity and also an exercise of re-socializing our audiences, our artists, our hosts, ourselves.

Priority will be given to projects of high artistic ambition, with cognisance for inclusivity, sustainability and accessibility, in line with the Arts Council Equality, Human Rights and Diversity Policy.

### **COVID19 Notebook Project**

Over 130 individual and groups from across Co Kildare have signed up for the COVID19 notebook project, coordinated by the Library and Arts Service, recording their experiences during this time. The project was initially aimed at older people and those cocooning. Members of Naas Day Care Centre, Platinum Clubhouse and KARE are taking the challenges as well as family groups. It is hoped that the notebooks will form part of a



digital archive for Kildare County Council.

### **Kildare Arts Service - COVID19 Creative Responses from our Writers in Residence.**

Kildare County Council continued our Creative responses initiative by inviting

### **Water Services**

#### **Infrastructural Projects**

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

The contract was signed by Irish Water and Roadbridge on 20 February 2019 and it has a 24-month construction programme. Works are progressing well on site. Murphy International Ltd., on behalf of Lidl (subject to an Irish Water agreement), is laying part of the Newbridge Eastern Interceptor Sewer along the route of the Newbridge Outer Orbital Relief Road between the dual carriageway and the Great Connell Road. These works are now substantially complete

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

The contract was signed by Irish Water and Coffey Construction Ltd on 08 August 2019 and it has a 30-month

this year's other Writers in Residence Annemarie Ni Churreain to write an artistic response to the COVID 19 pandemic. Annemarie's piece **Some notes, in a time of lockdown (an excerpt)** featured in our e newsletter at the end of May

construction programme. Works commenced on site in September 2019 and are advancing well

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

Veolia Water Ireland is advancing works on this variation to the Design Build Contract (DBO) contract, with an expected completion date in Quarter 3/4, 2020.–Operational commissioning is continuing on the THP Plant.

#### **Osberstown Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP)**

The upgraded Osberstown WWTP was handed back to Irish Water/Kildare County Council operations in January 2020.

#### **Maynooth Transfer Pipeline**

This project involves the upgrading of the existing Maynooth Sewerage Pumping Station and the construction of a new sewerage pipeline along a



new route from the pumping station to the Leixlip Wastewater Treatment Plant. This project is at planning and design stage. Irish Water has also commenced engagement with landowners as part of the land and wayleave process.

## **Capital Projects**

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

The plant was commissioned in late September 2019. Following completion of the process proving period the plant was handed back to Irish Water/Kildare County Council operations in January 2020.

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

This project involves the replacement of the current overloaded vacuum system buffer tank with a new traditional sewerage pumping station / rising main system which will pump sewerage flows to the gravity network on Station Road.

Irish Water has put this project on hold pending funding being identified to advance the project.

### **Timolin WWTP Upgrade**

This project was being assessed by Irish Water Asset Planning under the National Certificate of Authorisation Programme (NCAP) process by Irish Water's consultants. A funding source still has to be identified..

## **Water Networks Management Projects**

### **Newbridge Town Watermain Rehabilitation Works – Pairc Mhuire, Newbridge Back Yard Services Scheme (BYSS)**

Following the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions for construction workers it is expected that this project will resume – details are awaited.

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

Following the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions for construction workers, it is expected that this project will resume – details are awaited.

### **Taghadoo to Maynooth Watermain Replacement**

Details of recommencement are awaited.

### **Maynooth Bottleneck Mains Scheme**





On the 18 May following the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions for construction workers, works commenced on the Maynooth Bottleneck Mains Scheme involving the installation of 1013m of new 355mm HDPE water mains from the Meadowbrook road to the junction of Moyglare road and Kilcock road. The upgrade of the network along this corridor will form part of the interim solution to supply water to meet the growth and demand to the North of Maynooth town centre. To date, all 1013m of new water main has been installed, and testing, commissioning and reinstatement works are ongoing. It is expected that testing and commissioning of the new section of mains will be completed by the 10 July. It is planned that the permanent reinstatement of the affected roads

## Environment Services

### COVID-19

**With the current COVID-19 restrictions some services will be operating differently to comply with the new restrictions.**

### Civic Amenity Facilities

As a result of an increase in domestic waste and recycling in the county, the council has increased the opening times for the two Civic Amenity Sites . The Athy Civic Amenity, Gallows Hill (Dublin Road) is now open Thursday to Saturday (9am to 3.45pm each day) and the Silliot Hill Civic Amenity, Kilcullen is open Monday to Saturday (8am to 3.45pm).

Members of the public are asked to pay by contactless cards and to exercise social distancing at all times onsite.

<https://www.aesirl.ie/civic-amenities/>

### Recycling Banks

The increase in glass tonnage at recycling banks has continued into May. In May 2019, 318 tonnes of glass were recovered from the recycling banks. This year, the figure is 598 tonnes- an increase of nearly 50%.

Staff and contractors continue to maintain existing sites to an acceptable standard, but the cooperation of the public is vital in this regard. Members of the public can now contact the operator (Glassco) directly (Tel.: 01-6854400 – Option 1 / email [customerservice@glassco.ie](mailto:customerservice@glassco.ie)) to report banks that are full. It is hoped





that when the GAA clubs reopen for the public to exercise etc. that this will reduce pressure on the recycling infrastructure.

### **Burial Grounds**

All the council's cemeteries remain open to the public. The HSE's social distancing guidelines should be observed when visiting cemeteries. Please note that vehicular access may at times be restricted.

### **Environment Complaints**

Pollution complaints (litter, waste and water) should be made by email or writing to the Environment Department. Complaints will be investigated in accordance with the HSE's guidance regarding social distancing and the safety of staff and the public.

### **Domestic/Commercial Refuse Collections**

Domestic and commercial waste collections are continuing as normal. To reduce the potential for cross contamination, customers are asked to follow the advice of their collector when putting out bins for collection. Check their website and social media

for updates. For details of approved operators, check the National Waste Collection Permit Office website [www.nwcpo.ie](http://www.nwcpo.ie)

It has been agreed by the NWCPO that no time limit will apply to the collection of household kerbside waste will apply during the current period to allow for the continuity of refuse services by operators. This is a temporary measure.

### **National Spring Clean/Tidy Towns**

Grant allocations will be considered by each Municipal District Committee in June. The National Tidy Towns competition has been cancelled for 2020.

The Council's 'Lily White Clean Up Day' (National Spring Clean) was postponed due to COVID19. It is intended that this will be rescheduled to take place at a later date, when public health restrictions have been relaxed.

### **Environmental Education**

All educational talks and events are suspended until further notice in the interests of public health and will be rescheduled at a later date where



feasible. Information and services normally provided are referenced at: <http://kildare.ie/CountyCouncil/Environment/EnvironmentalEducation/>

### **Waste Permit/ Water Discharge Licences**

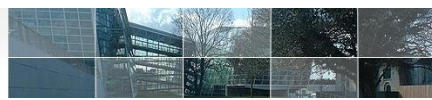
The Environment Department will continue to process applications. These should be submitted by post where possible.

### **Dog Control**

The council's Dog Warden Service is operating subject to the HSE's guidance at this time. The public are not permitted to visit the dog pound without an appointment. Telephone 059 8623388/045 980588 to make an appointment. Dog Licences should be purchased online, where possible [www.licences.ie](http://www.licences.ie)

### **Environment Construction Projects/ Schemes**

All construction schemes have been suspended due to COVID-19 restrictions until further notice



## Roads, Transportation and Public Safety

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

SIAC Construction Ltd/Colas Ltd. is the contractor. The contractor has opened 3 lanes both eastbound and westbound from Junction 8 Johnstown to Junction 11 (M7/M9 merge). Works continued the Newhall and Osberstown Interchanges and the R407 Sallins Bypass until further restrictions were announced by the Taoiseach, Mr Varadkar on 27 March 2020. The site is now closed until further notice and the contractor is maintaining the security and traffic management on the site.

### **M4 Maynooth to Leixlip**

The 'M4 Maynooth to Leixlip' is listed as a section of the transport network to be progressed through pre-appraisal and early planning and prioritised for delivery under the National Development Plan 2018–2027. The aim of the project is to assess the

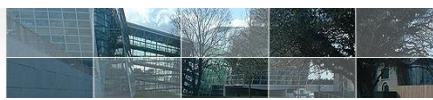
needs of the M4/N4 mainline corridor and junctions from Maynooth to Junction 5 Leixlip in terms of catering for future demand from a capacity, safety and operational perspective.

The project is currently in the early stages of Phase 1, Concept and Feasibility (see image below), Arup have been appointed as technical advisors to support the delivery of the project through Phases 1 to 4. These Phases include:

Phase 1 (Concept and Feasibility) which would determine if an intervention (project) is required and if an intervention is feasible.

Phase 2 (Option Selection) would examine feasible options for intervention that could address the aim of the project.

Phase 3 (Design and Environmental Evaluation) would develop the design of the preferred option from Phase 2 for further assessment including evaluation of environmental



impacts; and Phase 4 (Statutory Processes) would include undertaking the Statutory Processes

As highlighted, the project is currently in the early stages of Phase 1 (Concept and Feasibility) and will take a number of years to pass through the various steps required for Phase 1 (Concept and Feasibility), Phase 2 (Option Selection), Phase 3 (Design and Environmental Evaluation) and Phase 4 (Statutory Processes), provided it successfully progresses through each Phase.

Due to the recent announcements for restricted movements the design team for the N4 Maynooth to Leixlip upgrade scheme have been working remotely and continue to progress Phase 1 of the scheme.

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

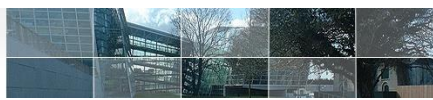
The preferred route option, (C), was presented in committee to the Maynooth Municipal District Committee 05 April 2019. The Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Committee confirmed approval

of the Part 8 in respect of Option C on 29 July. Detailed design and CPO preparation stages are now underway.

The next phase of the project will be the completion of design and procurement of the main contract. However, Kildare County Council is currently endeavoring to gain control of the lands (identified under the Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund (LIHAF) Scheme as a prerequisite to the contract going ahead. The preparation of CPO documentation is near completion and the documentation for the procurement of valuers is under way. Discussions are ongoing with landowners, the LIHAF, Irish Water, Waterways Ireland and Iarnród Éireann. The procurement of a NOBO consultant (an independent consultant to assess adequacy of the proposed design in relation to the EU Interoperability Directive) is currently under way.

### **Athy Distributor Route**

An Bord Pleanála's approval issued on 11 October, 2017. A Notice of Confirmation for the Athy Distributor



Road was published in the Nationalist and Leinster Leader 28 November 2017. No objections/Judicial Reviews were received by the deadline on 23 January 2018. €3 million was included in the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport (DTTAS) road grants 2019 for this project. Notices to treat have been issued. Notice of entry on lands has been issued. Advance works between Corran Árd and Fortbarrington Road have been completed. The railway abandonment is complete. The removal of the rails and sleepers is complete. The Córas Iompair Éireann (CIE) lands have been secured from trespass and the main contract commenced tender on 25 March. The procurement is under the restricted procedure and involves a two-stage process. The first stage return will be due at the end of May. The consultants are currently focused on document preparation for Stage 2 and dealing with queries for stage 1. The agreements with CIE and Waterways Ireland are a necessary pre-requisite to commencement of construction and are being progressed. Land acquisition is also progressing. The team are currently

closing out archaeology before the main contract is awarded. Work to achieve a Bridge Agreement with Iarnród Éireann continues with the submission of various technical reports. The following procurements are currently under way:

- Main Contract,
- Category 3 check by independent consultant

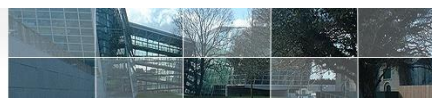
#### **Maynooth Inner Relief Street**

Moyglare Road to Dunboyne Road: Planning approval was issued by An Bord Pleanála to Cairn Developments Plc. Works are progressing well and the road is expected to open in Quarter 2, 2020.

#### **Newbridge Outer Orbital Route**

Naas Road to Great Connell Road Newbridge: Construction has progressed well to date. The estimated completion date is Quarter 2, 2020.

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



The route selection process is ongoing and consultation with Iarnród Éireann has commenced regarding the design of an upgrade/replacement bridge over the railway. A briefing was delivered to the Kildare Newbridge Municipal District Committee on 12 June.

A non- statutory Public Consultation was held on 18 June at the Kildare Education Centre. All submissions received have been considered and the Route Selection process will reach a conclusion in Quarter 2, 2020.

The project is unlikely to proceed to statutory procedures until the Kildare Town Transport Strategy has been completed due to the reservations of Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District Committee.

## **Naas Municipal District 2020**

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

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

- Kilashee footpath extension
- Sarto Park, Naas
- Jigginstown Park, Naas
- Kerdiff Lawns, Naas
- Johnstown Manor, Johnstown
- The Gables Kill
- Glendara Kill

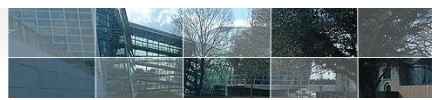
### **Bus Shelters**

The Naas Municipal District is at construction stage with the delivery of 3 bus shelters, one in Johnstown village and two on the Newbridge Road, Naas near Sheehy motors.

### **Naas Municipal District Road Improvement Works 2020**

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

- R411 Ballymore Road
- L2008 Clownings  
(Ardclough)
- L2019 Huttonread/Farmvale
- L6049 Morganstown
- L20221 Athgarrett



- L2019 Beggars End to Arthurstown

The second package of road improvement projects (Works Package 2) is to commence on 15 June. It includes the following works locations:

- L6047 Coughlanstown
- L6048 Mullaboden Road
- L5050 Elverstown/Glenmore

### **Surface Dressing Works**

The Naas Municipal District will commence the surface dressing works programme for 2020 on 29 June, subject to weather. The works will include:

- R411 – Ballymore Eustace Road (south of Watchouse Crossroads)
- L2010 – Sherlockstown to Painstown
- L6056 – Ballymore Eustace towards Blessington

### **Local Property Tax (LPT)/Carpark Funded Works 2020**

The LPT/Carpark funded road works programme for 2020 has been agreed by the Naas MD Councilors. The roads are currently at construction stage.

The LPT/Carpark funded footpath works programme for 2020 is yet to be agreed. Subject to approval, this will be included in the Naas MD programme of works for 2020 and will go to construction in Q3/Q4 2020.

### **Works Ongoing**

The footpath/cycle track extension on the Kilcullen Road, Naas (at Kilashee) to the multi-denominational school is currently at construction stage. This is being funded by LPT monies. The works are substantially complete and contractors are off-site due to the COVID-19 restrictions.

Three bus shelters are being constructed in the Naas Municipal District. One in Johnstown Village and two on the Newbridge Road, Naas (near Sheehy motors). Works commenced but were stopped due to the current COVID-19 restrictions.

A contract has been awarded for footpath improvements to Sarto Park, Naas (Canal Walk). The construction works have not commenced due to the current COVID-19 restrictions.





## Kildare Civil Defence

Kildare Civil Defence as a Voluntary Emergency Service has been working to support the response of the local authority and the HSE as requested and where the requests fall within the Civil Defences ability and training to deliver.

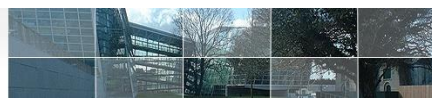
Some of the supports provided to date include food delivery to vulnerable communities and support to the Blood Transfusion Service in their local clinics

## Fire Service

Operational Calls		
Station	Total Calls 2019	Total Calls 2020
Newbridge	422	174
Naas	435	154
Athy	223	93
Maynooth	321	115
Monasterevin	181	78
Leixlip	240	89
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1842</b>	<b>703</b>

## Fire Safety

	No. Inspections	No. Premises Inspected



2019	75	72
2020	19	17

	No. Fire Safety Complaints
2019	16
2020	1

	No. Fire Safety Certificates
2019	179
2020	69

## BUILDING & DEVELOPMENT CONTROL

The following figures are cumulative up to 31 May, 2020.

COMMENCEMENT NOTICES:	2019	2020
Total Number of Commencement Notices received:	611	148
Number of Valid commencement notices received:	596	147
Number of Invalid commencement notices received:	15	1
No. of inspections carried out on Commencement Notices	211	84



CERTIFICATES OF COMPLIANCE ON COMPLETION:	2019	2020
Total Number of Certificates received:	646	138
Number Valid	645	137
Number Invalid	1	1
Awaiting processing		0
Additional Information		
Number of inspections carried out on Compliance on Completion	139	51

DISABILITY ACCESS CERTIFICATES:	2019	2020
Total Number of Disability Access Certificates received:	122	43
Number granted:	131	48
Number refused:	0	0
Number invalid		2
Number of inspections carried out on Disability Access Certificates	21	23

Building Control Active Sites:	2019	2020
Number of units inspected	1881	939



## Health and Safety

During the month of May, the Health and Safety Section carried out the following:

- Finalising a Remote Working Policy
- Finalising a Contact Tracing Log to record all close contacts in the event of someone in the workplace contracting COVID19.
- Meeting with Safety Committee (worker representatives) to communicate work done to date re COVID 19.
- Uploaded 7 new policies under the Policy and Procedures onto H&S Portal
- Placement of 34 RAMS (Risk Assessments/Method Statements) under Wastewater on health and safety portal.
- Supplier sourced and order placed for COVID 19 specific first responders kits (150 for indoor and outdoor)
- COVID 19 checklists for site compliance and office compliance drafted.

## Economic, Community and Cultural Development

### Local Community Development Committee

The last Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) meeting was held via teleconference on Wednesday 27 of May 2020.

### Covid-19 Community Response Forum

The Kildare Covid-19 Community Response Forum have had ten

meetings to date via teleconference.

The purpose of the Forum is to lead the co-ordination of Covid-19

community supports and resilience. A dedicated Covid-19 support helpline was established on the 30 of March by Kildare County Council and operates from 9.00am – 5.00pm Monday to Saturday.



## Healthy Ireland

The Healthy Ireland project partners continue to make great progress given the Covid-19 restrictions they are working under. They continue to run a wide range of online activities from Work Out classes from home to Movement programmes for older people and those with limited mobility. A positive mental health video series is underway, a physical activity booklet for older people and a physical literacy animation video for children is being developed.

Kildare Sports Partnership and Healthy Kildare have launched a 'Play it Safe' training course which over 1,800 participants have completed.

Pobal have announced the allowance of flexibility for change to the original applications in light of Covid-19.

## Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP)

Work is progressing to roll out the SICAP Programme in Kildare under Covid-19 restrictions. County Kildare LEADER Partnership are the programme implementers and they have submitted a SICAP Covid-19

Local Response Plan to the LCDC which they reviewed at their meeting on 27 of May.

## Heads-up (Mojo)

While Heads Up Kildare continue to engage remotely with men, they are preparing for face to face engagement in Athy, Newbridge and Kilcock from 1 July, in line with return to work protocols.

A new intervention is planned for Kildare town in September – following cancellation in March due to Covid-19.

## Rural Development LEADER

Work continues to promote and support applications to the LEADER Programme. Two applications were approved at the last LCDC/LAG meeting. Applications for the next LCDC/LAG meeting will be reviewed by the LCDC LEADER Subgroup via teleconference on 16 June. For further information contact: County Kildare LEADER Partnership- 045 895450.

**The next LCDC meeting will be held on Wednesday 1 July 2020.**

## Parks



## News & Highlights

### Covid-19

All Playground except Newbridge Playground, Celbridge Abbey Playground, St Laurences GAA and Ellistown GAA playground are open for use. Parks department are working to have these remaining playgrounds open as soon as possible. The following guidelines are now in place for use of the playgrounds

Children using this Playground are to be **SUPERVISED by a PARENT or GUARDIAN AT ALL TIMES.**

Parents or Guardians are required

1. To bring their own hand sanitiser for the cleaning of their children's hands before, at regular intervals during and after use of the playground equipment. In the absence of such sanitation parents or guardians are requested to refrain from allowing their children use of the equipment.
2. To ensure physical distancing between children
3. To advise children to avoid touching their face, eyes, nose and mouth.
4. To ensure children under your care have regard to the safe use of equipment and to the safety of others at all times.
5. To adhere to the most up to date health advice.

All Park users are requested to continue to observe the social distancing guidance when accessing Parks and Open Spaces.

Designated hours are still in place for Cocooners. These are from 1.30-3.30pm in our parks around the County.

### Tree Surgery Works

Work has recommenced on completing tree surgery works in the Celbridge / Leixlip, Newbridge/ Kildare, Maynooth and Athy Municipal Areas. It is hoped to have this completed by the end of July.

### Celbridge Abbey Playground

Tenders have been assessed for the addition of playground equipment to Celbridge Abbey Playground. This will include additional swings catering for



universal access and toddlers, a double tower multiplay unit, sand play unit and play panels. Universally accessible picnic benches and seating will also be installed. Progression of the work is subject to a possible prioritization of Capital Projects due to the consequences of Covid-19. A further update on this will be forthcoming in the next few weeks.

### **Castledermot Playground**

Work on phase 1 of the masterplan for the Fairgreen is due to commence the first week of August. This involves some grading of the ground and addition of soil to the site followed by the installation of a paved entrance from Keenans Lane into the Fairgreen and a perimeter path around the playground site. (See attached drawings). This work is being funded from a Leader Grant. A contractor has been appointed to do this and is due to start the first week of August. The construction of the playground will follow this. The playground is mainly being funded from the Capital Programme. Capital Projects across all Departments may have to be

prioritised due to the consequences of Covid-19. Consequently it is not possible to give a precise start date for the playground until this is complete but a further update on this will be forthcoming in the next few weeks.

### **Kilcullen Playground**

Work on the upgrade of the safety surface in Kilcullen Playground under the rotating spinner and multiplay tower unit is due to commence 15<sup>th</sup> June. The works will take one week. The works will replace the existing sand surface with a synthetic surface to increase accessibility of the equipment.

### **Play Day**

Preparations are being made to hold an event for Play Day. The date is proposed for the 04 July. Due to Covid-19 it is planned to arrange for free play packs to be made available to promote the event rather than the annual programme of events organized in our head office. A competition will be held to design a game using the contents of the play pack with prizes awarded for the most innovative games.





## Kildare Fáilte

### Key activities May 2020

Kildare Fáilte continued to organize and facilitate video networking meetings for the hospitality and tourism across the county. There was a great response with each sector sharing ideas and supporting each other through this time. Great feedback was received and these sector group meetings will continue as long as requests are received and the industry re opens to the new normal where we can then meet in person.

A survey was created through SurveyMonkey and distributed to our members to get feedback re support and meetings from Kildare Tourism. The feedback received has been great so far and members have expressed how useful the network is during these challenging times. Travel Trade Expert Eoghan Corry was a guest speaker for one of our group meetings and this proved very popular. He is also on the Government Tourism Task Force.

### Recovery Forum.

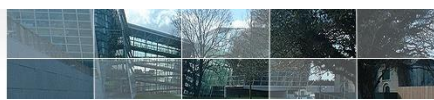
We are in discussion with Fáilte Ireland, Dublin Convention Bureau and industry experts from Italy and the United States for future meet ups.

Taste of Kildare committee have met twice in May through Zoom to discuss alternative festival ideas and the viability of the festival going forward.

We continue to explore different funding opportunities to help support the tourism industry in recovery and marketing and promotion locally and nationally. We are investigating digital options re a directory and a Kildare destination pass promoting clustering of attractions and activities for visitors in our County. We are meeting with a number of companies.

Further training and learning have continued. We also attended two Restart the High Street seminars by LEO, for Athy and Castledermot, and also for Naas. We also became a member of Ireland's Association for Adventure Tourism (IAAT) to share updates regarding COVID-19 that are relevant to our members. We attended a number of seminars and workshops- Travel and Tourism in a post covid society – was of great interest with DIT Dublin University as well as sustainable Tourism-

We are currently preparing a destination marketing campaign in relation to a Health and Safety



Charter for the Destination to prepare to encourage visitors back to our county and to give the consumer confidence. Fáilte Ireland Guidelines were due to be issued so we are holding on this to ensure we comply with all requirements. We are also preparing recovery plans for Tourism for the County.

The CEO represented the county council on the steering group of Community Tourism with Failte Ireland and the Royal Canal Greenway meeting with Waterways Ireland and Fáilte Ireland. We also attended the Shackleton Museum progress meeting through Zoom and compiled a

summary report regarding this project as a result. Podcasts on Shackleton have been a great success during these times and filming also took place with Nationwide regarding these.

Social media activity and channels again received very high engagement in May due to COVID-19 highlighting the outdoors and beautiful scenery of Kildare to keep it at the forefront of people's minds. Also, various blog posts were created to keep people engaged, including 'Cook with Kildare - Recipes from around the County', 'Tour Kildare Online', 'Top 5 Wildlife Nature Trails', and 'Kildare's World-Famous Golf Courses'.

## Local Enterprise Office (LEO)



## **Business Unit Kildare County Council**

<b>Responding to COVID19 – Supporting Kildare Businesses</b>					
Support:	Ecommerce Funding Trading on line	Business Continuity Voucher	Microfinance Ireland Loans	Remote interactive training workshops	Expert Mentoring Support
No. of businesses supported:	160	722	26	1658	288

The ongoing Covid-19 pandemic has left many businesses in Kildare facing into an uncertain future. Many businesses are facing critical challenges, including temporary ceasing of trading, cash flow and financial difficulties, critical staff continuity options and an uncertain future.

We have worked with all sectors of the business community through the following three phases:

- 1. Stabilise, focusing on support for remote working and liquidity into the business**
- 2. Reset, Looking at new ways of operating and funding to take businesses online**
- 3. Restart, Now a lot of our work is around support with**

### **Finance ,Health and Safety and HR**

#### **RECENT UPDATES:**

##### **Shop County Kildare website**

*We have developed a brand-new website to support local retailers and restaurants etc. to allow every busy the opportunity to have a presence online.*

Kildare County Council in association with the Kildare Chamber of Commerce are launching 'Shop County Kildare', an online ecommerce platform providing Kildare businesses the opportunity to make the move to online sales in a free of charge, quick and user-friendly way.

Kildare County Council's mission is to create hubs for local retailers and businesses to reopen their businesses to the local community. This Kildare



hub will curate products and services by town and village.

Kildare County Council is **now calling on Kildare businesses to register for the website before Friday 20 June**. The website will go live for consumers in July.

More information:

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/News/Introducing-Shop-County-Kildare!.html>

### **Trading on line Vouchers**

The Trading Online Voucher Scheme has seen unprecedented levels of demand in its first phase and created a lot of pressure on the office. We had originally 60 vouchers and secured an additional 100 equal to an additional funding of €250,000 last week. We currently have in excess of 200 applications so have been negotiating with the Department to secure a third round of funds to satisfy existing demand. The scheme is funded by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment (DCCAE) and a decision from DCCAE regarding further resourcing is pending.

Pending the opening of the second phase, please encourage constituents to submit completed application forms to us

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

Please note only those applications received complete with 3 quotes will be considered by the board for approval.

Alternatively, as mentioned above, we have developed an initiative that will provide Kildare businesses with the opportunity to make the move to online sales in a free of charge, quick and user-friendly way. Shop County Kildare:

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/News/Introducing-Shop-County-Kildare!.html>

### **Capital Program**

**Equine Tech Hub:** Application has been submitted to LEADER for funding and decision will be made by month end. Construction to begin in Qr 4. Relatively short build (less than 3 months)

**MERITS Naas:** Original timeline of Qr 4 2020 is still in reach but under a different business model. The Head of Enterprise has worked on Covid



operational plans and discussed these with the design team.

Recruitment has recommenced with interviews due to be held remotely in July 2020

**Athy Food Hub:** Awaiting decision on application for Category 2 funding

under RRDF (Decision due) Any application to Category 1 will have to consider available funding from local authority given change in financial circumstances,

Tenders now on-line for design team

## **SUPPORTING KILDARE BUSINESSES THROUGH:**

***Please advise your constituents of the following business supports available in response to COVID19.***

Objective	Support	Link
<b><u>FINANCIAL:</u></b>		
Immediate cashflow	<b>Restart Grant</b> – for registered rate payers. Direct funding relating to rates paid to KCC in 2019 (delivered through KCC Rates Dept.)	<a href="http://www.kildare.ie/CountyCouncil/Finance/RestartGrant/">http://www.kildare.ie/CountyCouncil/Finance/RestartGrant/</a>
	<b>MFI Covid 19 Business loan</b> – first 6 months interest and repayment free, reduced rate of 4.5%, LEO mentor assigned to complete loan application form	<a href="https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/News/Microfinance-Ireland-COVID-19-Business-Loan.html">https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/News/Microfinance-Ireland-COVID-19-Business-Loan.html</a>
Generate revenue with online sales	<b>Shop County Kildare</b> – new online Kildare eCommerce platform providing the opportunity to make the move to online sales in a free of charge, quick and user-friendly way	<a href="https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/News/Introducing-Shop-County-Kildare.html">https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/News/Introducing-Shop-County-Kildare.html</a>



	<p><b>Trading Online</b> - <i>Pending the opening of the second phase</i>, please encourage constituents to submit completed application forms to us to <a href="mailto:localenterprise@kildarecoco.ie">localenterprise@kildarecoco.ie</a>. We have almost 200 applications under review</p>	<a href="https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Financial-Supports/Online-Trading-Vouchers/">https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Financial-Supports/Online-Trading-Vouchers/</a>
Upgrade shopfronts and implement outdoor COVID19 signage	Kildare Shopfront Grant Scheme	<a href="https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Start-or-Grow-your-Business/Supports-by-Sector/Retail-/Kildare-County-Council-Shop-Front-Accessibility-Grant-Scheme.html">https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Start-or-Grow-your-Business/Supports-by-Sector/Retail-/Kildare-County-Council-Shop-Front-Accessibility-Grant-Scheme.html</a>
<b><u>ADVISORY:</u></b>		
Expert Strategic Mentoring	Free of charge 1:1 mentoring programme with panel of specialist mentors	<a href="https://www.localenterprise.ie/IKHSQYE">https://www.localenterprise.ie/IKHSQYE</a>
CLEANPASS Certified Covid-19 Champion Training	Delivered by the hygiene, infection prevention and control specialists at Cleanpass, this programme is designed to help businesses re-open safely during the COVID-19 pandemic. Based on the Government's extensive 'Return to Work' Protocol guidelines and medical-grade hygiene standards.	<a href="https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/Cleanpass-COVID-19-Back-to-Work-Training-Course.html">https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/Cleanpass-COVID-19-Back-to-Work-Training-Course.html</a>
Health and Safety Guidance	Free of charge workshop and 1:1 mentoring with specialist to ensure businesses have tools and knowledge to implement H&S measures in line with gov	<a href="https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/Reopening-your-business-after-COVID-19-Health-Safety-Workshop1111.html">https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/Reopening-your-business-after-COVID-19-Health-Safety-Workshop1111.html</a>



	guidelines to allow them open as soon as possible	
Managing employees in line with gov guidelines	Free of charge workshop and 1:1 mentoring with HR specialist to ensure businesses have knowledge of new policies and procedures with managing and brining staff back to work in line with gov guidelines to allow them open as soon as possible	<a href="https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/HR-Specialist-Consulting-Preparations-to-return-to-work11.html">https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/HR-Specialist-Consulting-Preparations-to-return-to-work11.html</a>
Re-Designing Businesses for Physical Distancing	Re-Designing Businesses Programme - assisting companies in order to operate using Lean Workplace Organisation practices in order to achieve implement physical distancing	<a href="https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/Re-Designing-Your-Business-for-Physical-Distancing-Redesigning-Your-Business-Solution-using-Lean-with-Jigsaw-VAE-Group-2.html">https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/Re-Designing-Your-Business-for-Physical-Distancing-Redesigning-Your-Business-Solution-using-Lean-with-Jigsaw-VAE-Group-2.html</a>
Improving online presence and increasing online sales	Suite of digital marketing training to support businesses in driving traffic to website, communicating with customers and overall keeping the business operating	<a href="https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/">https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/</a>
Retail Support Scheme	Support programme established for retailers across all MDs hosted by retail experts James Burke and Bobby Kerr, <i>(took place week of 25 May)</i> features follow up support	<a href="https://www.localenterprise.ie/!0D4Z5P">https://www.localenterprise.ie/!0D4Z5P</a>





## COMMUNICATIONS:

Frequent updates regarding the evolving situation, notification of upcoming supports and services as well as support documents and publications	LEO website, newsletter, social media, the Head of Enterprise Update, online knowledge hubs	<p>HOE Note:  <a href="https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/News/Head-of-Enterprise-Updates.html">https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/News/Head-of-Enterprise-Updates.html</a></p> <p>Sign up to newsletter:  <a href="https://localenterprise.us8.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=8fc2c8db27df60c85a7f58de8&amp;id=87063fc48c">https://localenterprise.us8.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=8fc2c8db27df60c85a7f58de8&amp;id=87063fc48c</a></p>
24-hour access to LEO team and specialists	LEO mailbox, direct and personal phone contact and ability to speak to specialist within 24 hours of enquiry	<a href="mailto:localenterprise@kildarecoco.ie">localenterprise@kildarecoco.ie</a> 045980838
Free promotion	'Kildare Good News' campaign providing featured businesses with greater exposure	<a href="https://www.localenterprise.ie/!QO65OF">https://www.localenterprise.ie/!QO65OF</a>

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