



Chief Executive's Management Report – October 2021

Kildare County Council Services and Arrangements



Access to Public Offices

The Council's COVID-19 Team working with the Council's Business Continuity Group continue to support Management Team to apply the relevant public health advice in relation to the management of COVID-19 in our workplaces while continuing service delivery in a safe and sustainable manner across Council facilities/premises.

As outlined in *Reframing the Challenge: Continuing our Recovery and Reconnecting*, important and necessary public health guidance will remain in place after the 20 September and until the 22 October, 2021. This includes the requirement for physical distancing, the wearing of masks and appropriate ventilation along with the continued requirement for self-isolation / restricted movements for those with symptoms. These requirements remain as a core component of our response to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The situation will be reviewed in line with decisions of government and public health advice post 22 October 2021.

With restrictions and remote working continuing through the current phase of *Reframing the Challenge: Continuing our Recovery and Reconnecting* access to our public offices is by appointment only.

Members of the public continue to pre-book appointments with relevant services either online at www.kildare.ie/countycouncil/OnlineBookingSystem/ or by phone to 045 980 200. An appointment based approach is assisting in managing attendance at the offices in a safe way.



Motor Tax transactions should continue to be made online or by post as there are a limited number of in person appointments available. Applications received by post in Aras Chill Dara are being returned (on average) within three working days.

Appointments where necessary will be facilitated but must be made in advance at <http://kildare.ie/countycouncil/OnlineBookingSystem/>

You can continue to conduct business online at www.kildarecoco.ie or email customerservice@kildarecoco.ie or Phone 045 980 200.

Please do not attend our offices without an appointment. Your co-operation is appreciated.

Where Meetings of Kildare County Council are taking place on-line Members of the public and the press may request to attend these meetings by emailing meetings@kildarecoco.ie.

Kildare Community Call Helpline Freephone 1800 300 174

Email covidsupport@kildarecoco.ie.

Text KILDARE to 50555.

Community calls are handled by Customer Services.

Current opening hours are

8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. 7 days a week.

Kildare County Council's out of hours service provider has taken up calls outside normal work hours Monday to Friday and at weekends.



News Items

NOAC Performance Indicators Report 2020

The NOAC performance indicators report was published on 30th September 2021 (see page 10)

Housing for All - Social Housing Delivery Targets

By letter dated 20 September 2021, the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage confirmed the targets for social housing delivery for Kildare for the period 2022 to 2026 (see page 14).

Approved Housing Bodies Regulatory Authority (AHBRA)

The Approved Housing Bodies Regulatory Authority published 'draft standards' in line with the Housing Act 2019 on Friday 01 October (see page 15).

Green Kilometre Scheme

This scheme continues to grow. Over 130 separate Green Kilometres have been established (see page 41).

Maynooth Transport Strategy

The first public consultation is to commence on the 06 October and run for six weeks (see page 59).

Community Enhancement Programme

€148,013 has been allocated for 27 local projects in Kildare (see page 77).



Kildare Integration Strategy

The Kildare Integration Strategy was launched on 30 September by Minister Roderic O Gorman (see page 77).

Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC)

Two local partnership projects have received national recognition (see page 78).

LEADER Programme

Two projects were approved by the LCDC/LAG on 29 September for LEADER grant aid totaling €46,902.33 (See page 79).

Kildare Library Services - Easing of Restrictions

From 20 September there was an easing of restrictions in all libraries (see page 83).

Kildare Readers Festival 2021

Kildare Readers Festival is brought to you every year in October by Kildare County Library and Arts Service (see page 83).

€100,000 Green for Micro' Funding Initiative

Kildare Local Enterprise Office continues to provide support for businesses across County Kildare (see page 92).



Diary/Calendar

Online Panel Event - Women and Diversity in Local Government

This event will take place on Wednesday 13 October at 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (see page 10).

Budget 2022 Briefing

The budget briefing for members is scheduled for Monday 15 November 2021 at 3:00 p.m. on TEAMS (see page 12).

Budget 2022 Meeting

The Statutory Budget Meeting is scheduled for Monday 22 November 2021 at 3:00 p.m. in Newbridge Town Hall (see page 12).

Adoption of the Naas Local Area Plan

A Special Meeting of Full Council is scheduled for Thursday 21 October in Newbridge Town Hall to consider adoption of the Naas LAP (see page 27).

Irish Water Councillor Clinics

Schedule of upcoming clinics in 2021 (see page 39).

Economic Opportunities arising from Climate Action

The second national conference to discuss the economic opportunities arising from climate action will take place on 12 and 13 October 2021 (page 45).



Guidance for Local Authorities – Preparing Local Authority Climate Action Plans

An expected deadline of 05 November for completion of the guidelines is anticipated (see page 48).

Kildare Climate and Energy Week (26 October to 29 October)

The Event Team have now moved to planning and delivery phase (see page 51).

Social Enterprise Community Grant Scheme

Social Enterprise Community Grant Scheme funding was recently announced to support small capital projects. The closing date for receipt of applications is 15 October at 5:00 p.m. (see page 79).

Information Day at the Hazel Hotel, Monasterevin, Saturday 09 October 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Residents of the Direct Provision Centre, Hazel Hotel, Monasterevin are invited to an open information day on local activities and services (see page 85).

Old Ireland in Colour

Authors of the best-selling Old Ireland In Colour books, Dr Sarah-Anne Buckley, and Dr John Breslin, will be appearing online at the Kildare Readers Festival at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday 16 October (see page 87).



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
31 Oct	1 Nov	2	3	4 14:00 Roads Transportation Public Safety and Emergency Services	5 10:00 Clane Maynooth Municipal District Meetings
7	8 14:00 Protocol Committee	9	10	11	12
14	15 10:00 Athy Municipal District Monthly Meeti. 13:00 Finance Committee 15:00 Budget Briefing Online; Microsoft Tea.	16 10:00 Naas Municipal District Monthly meeting	17 10:00 Kildare Newbridge Municipal District Monthly meeting	18	19 10:00 Celbridge Leixlip Municipal District Monthly meeting 15:00 Decade of commemoration
21	22 00:00 CPG 15:00 Budget Meeting ; Newbridge Town Hall	23	24 10:00 LCDC	25	26
28	29 15:00 Full Council	30	1 Dec 10:00 Climate Action SPC 14:00 Environmental and Water Services SPC	2 10:30 LTACC	3 10:00 Clane Maynooth MD



INDEX

News Items	2
Diary/Calendar	4
Corporate Services.....	8
Finance and Information Technology	12
Housing	14
Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm	26
Water Services	36
Environment Services	40
Roads, Transportation and Public Safety	56
Building and Development Control	75
Economic Community and Cultural Development	76
Local Community Development Committee October 2021	77
Kildare Fáilte	80
Library and Arts Service	83
Parks	89
Local Enterprise Office (LEO)	89



Corporate Services

Customer Services

Register of Electors

Your vote is your voice - Register to Vote

Draft Register of Electors 2022/2023

Are you registered to vote?	Check the register today.
Are your details correct on the Register?	Online www.checktheregister.ie
Have you turned 18 recently?	Email register@kildarecoco.ie
Have you changed your address?	Phone 045 980 201
Have you changed citizenship?	By appointment in Council Offices or libraries.
Are you seeking a postal or special vote?	At your local Garda Station or Post Office.

Kildare County Council is currently preparing the Draft Register of Electors for 2022/2023. This Register of Electors will come into effect as the Live Register of Electors on Tuesday, 15 February 2022 and is used at every election and referendum held during the following 12 months.

Persons aged 18 or over on Monday 15 February 2022 and ordinarily resident in the constituency on 01

September 2021 are entitled to be included on the Register.

In addition, the following categories of persons may apply for registration as postal or special voters:

- Studying full time at an educational institution in Ireland, which is away from your home address where you are registered.
- A member of the Garda Síochána.



- A whole-time member of the Defence Forces.
- Diplomats and their spouses.
- Electors with a physical illness or disability residing in a Nursing Home, Hospital or similar care facility.
- Electors with a physical illness or disability residing at home but unable to go to a polling station.
- Unable to vote at your polling station because of your job or service.
- Unable to vote at your polling station because you are in prison as a result of an order of a court.

Relevant forms are available at www.checktheregister.ie or Kildare County Councils website - www.kildare.ie/countycouncil

The Draft Register of Electors 2022/2023 will be published on Monday 01 November 2021

Freedom of Information

Data Requests and Ombudsman

	Total received Quarter 1, 2021	Total received Quarter 2, 2021	Total received Quarter 3, 2021	Total 2021
Freedom of Information requests	35	40	50	125
Freedom of Information appeals	0	0	1	1
Information Commissioner Appeals	0	0	0	0
Data Access Requests	8	5	18	31
Ombudsman	5	5	16	26



NOAC

The NOAC service indicators report for 2020 was published on the 30 September, 2021 and circulated to members. The report presents the 2020 performance indicators for the local authority sector in Ireland. The performance indicators deliver a uniform approach to measurement and benchmarking and the availability of the information is intended to support all local authorities to improve the services they provide to local communities.

A copy is available on the MIP and the NOAC website <https://noac.ie/>

Members Services

Meetings

Municipal District Committees

Municipal District Committee meetings returned in September after the break in August, with two of the five MDs meeting in person in the Council Chamber.

The October meeting of Full Council will be held on Monday 18 October at 3:00 p.m. in Newbridge Town Hall. It

is a week earlier than usual due to the October Bank Holiday.

Update on events to date under Women and Diversity in Local Government initiative

Community Engagement

8 week Community Development course completed, concentrating on Gender roles, Active citizenship and Diversity

Civic Engagement course for Women in Direct Provision which has begun and is currently on week four with 15 participants all living in Newbridge and Monasterevin

Voter Registration

We have successfully collaborated with the Voter Registration section providing relevant information in different languages to engage and encourage all citizens that are eligible to vote, to register to vote.

Online Panel Event

The Members Services and Communications Team continue to



prepare for our online panel event to promote this initiative to support Women and Diversity in Local Government. This event will take place on Wednesday 13 October at 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.





Finance and Information Technology

Budget 2022 Meeting

A members budget briefing session is set for Monday 15 November 2021 at 3:00 p.m. This is an online briefing. The Statutory Budget Meeting is set for Monday 22 November 2021 at 3:00 p.m. This will be in Newbridge Town Hall.

Finance will attend all October municipal district meetings for the municipal allocations.

Commercial Rates Waiver for Quarters 1, 2 and 3 of 2021

On 30 December 2020, the Government announced a waiver of Commercial Rates for certain businesses, for the first quarter of 2021. This exemption was extended in February for the second quarter until the end of June 2021. As part of the Government's Economic Recovery Plan on 01 June the rates waiver was extended for a third quarter until the end of September 2021.

Kildare County Council has applied this nine-month waiver to 2,421 properties in the county totalling €13.6m.

2020 Audit

The Local Government Auditor is currently auditing the 2020 Annual Financial Statements.

Motor Tax

Customers are encouraged to use the online motor tax facility at www.motortax.ie. If they are not in a position to use the online facility, Motor Tax accept and continue to process postal applications or an appointment can be booked online or by telephone on 045 980 920.

Most customer queries regarding motor tax matters can be found by visiting www.motortax.ie. Alternatively customers can email motortax@kildarecoco.ie or contact the office by telephone on 045 980920.



Finance Customer Portal and App for Rates and Rent Customers

In July 2021 the Finance Department launched a new customer portal and app for Rent and Rates Customers. These new services allow rates and rent customers to make payments and view their account information online via their smartphone, tablet or PC.

There are currently 1,700 rent customers and 750 rates customers signed up for the service. Over €200,000 of payments have been processed through the service since it's launch just over a month ago.

The link to this portal is on <https://kildare.ie/countycouncil/YourCouncil/Finance/LocalAuthorityCustomerPortal/>

Monthly Management Reports

Revenue Account Summary (see Appendix 1).



Housing

Housing for All: A new Housing Plan for Ireland

Social Housing Delivery Targets

By letter dated 20 September 2021, the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage confirmed the targets for social housing delivery for Kildare for the period 2022 to 2026 as follows:

Year	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Total
Build	370	400	409	440	449	2068
Long-Term Leasing	262	86				348
Total	632	486	409	440	449	2416

“Build” includes delivery under the various local authority and approved housing body build schemes, in addition to all Part V delivery.

For comparison the council targets for the period 2018 to 2021 under the Rebuilding Ireland: Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness were as follows: Build/Acquisition/Leasing Target = 2,426

Build Target = 1,626

Note: On target to exceed the council’s overall target for 2018-2021 by 240 plus [est.] units.

Some initial points to note:

- Social housing delivery targets are focussed on new build.

Note: meeting this target for new build will be challenging for Kildare given the limited land available in our land bank that is suitable for social housing delivery and the difficulties competing in a strong market to acquire additional lands.



- No targets for acquisitions under Housing for All; social housing acquisitions capped at 200 per annum nationally.
- Long-term leasing will be ended under Housing for All by 2025; provision for 200 short-term leases per annum.
- Targets awaited for affordable housing delivery.
- Resourcing of housing delivery teams to meet the demands of Housing for All is currently under review by the Department for Housing, Local Government and Heritage. Note: further details awaited.

Each local authority to prepare a Housing Delivery Action Plan by December 2021.

Approved Housing Bodies Regulatory Authority (AHBRA)

The Approved Housing Bodies Regulatory Authority published 'draft standards' in line with the Housing (Regulation of Approved Housing Bodies) Act 2019 on Friday 01 October.

The Act provides for the regulation of Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs) for the purposes of protecting housing assets provided or managed by such bodies. It seeks to support stronger governance, financial management and reporting, property and asset management, and tenancy management by AHBs, with a focus on safeguarding the significant public investment being made in the delivery of social housing by AHBs.

Link to AHBRA website:

[Draft Standards - Approved Housing Bodies Regulatory Authority \(ahbregulator.ie\)](https://ahbregulator.ie)

The deadline for submitting written representations to AHBRA is 5:00 p.m. on Friday 29 October 2021.

Homeless Services

Homeless presentations remain high with increased presentations from families.

Update from National Homeless Leads Meeting

The National Homeless Leads COVID-19 meeting was held on the 28



September and there continues to be no positive cases of COVID-19 in Homeless Services in the county.

Tenancy Support

There are currently 42 active tenancy support cases in the county with 10 new cases taken on in September 2021. 15 Families having received tenancy supports have moved on from this service.

Homeless HAP (HHAP)

There were seven new HHAP tenancies for the month of September. HHAP Officer has been in contact with 36 families who have been served with Notices to Quit however there has been a significant slow down in the availability of properties for HHAP.

Kildare County Council Homeless Outreach

The Outreach team have recently engaged in the integrated services approach to homelessness.

This model uses a collective solution focused approach to addressing homelessness and focuses on building skills required to sustain a

tenancy with supports from required agencies.

This engagement has taken place in the Athy, Kildare-Newbridge and Naas Municipal Districts to date and it is intended to extend this to the remaining municipal districts in the coming months. It is anticipated that this will have a positive impact on reducing rough sleeper numbers and on reducing single adults entering homeless services in Kildare.

Family Hub Events

A series of family events for children residing in emergency accommodation is commencing this week with crafts and storytelling for pre-school children in our family hubs. There are six events including two outdoor events in gardens at family hubs in Athy and Prosperous, weather permitting. This is a collaborative approach involving staff from the Homeless Team, Library Services and PMcVT. At present there are 15 children of pre-school age in the family hubs and a safe space will be created for everyone to engage and participate. Each family will attend indoor events in their own bubbles.



As the demographic of the families within the hubs is quite fluid, events will be curated in consultation with the families and case workers in the hubs on an ongoing basis to tailor events to a family's needs.

Families in PEA including Supported Temporary Accommodations and Family Hubs as of 30 September 2021

Duration	No. of Households with Dependents	Adults	Dependents
0 - 6 Months	12	17	19
6 - 12 Months	5	6	8
12 - 18 Months	9	13	16
18 - 24 Months	2	2	2
24 - 30 Months	5	7	10
36 Months +	6	12	14
	39	57	69

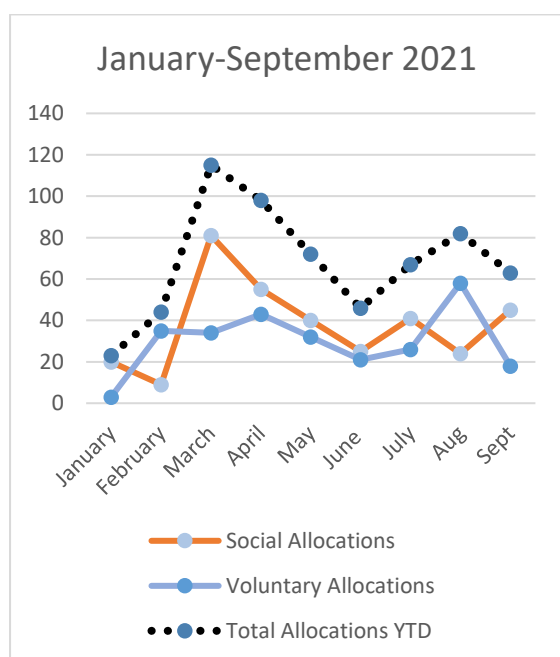
Families in Own Front Door Accommodation as of August 2021

Duration	No. of Households with Dependents	Adults	Dependents
0 - 6 Months	1	2	1
6 - 12 Months	0	0	0
12 - 18 Months	0	0	0
18 - 24 Months	0	0	0
24 - 30 Months	4	5	8
+ 36 Months	5	9	15
	10	16	24



Number of Allocations

Allocations continued in September and included allocations to Kildare County Council and Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs) units. Allocations were made to Whitewell and Barnhall and several transfers were also facilitated. All allocations took place within the controls and restrictions of COVID-19.



Traveller Community

Traveller accommodation continues to demand resources in terms of both the halting sites and roadside encampments. Demands on the council's social work service is high and the team are maintaining daily contact with traveller families, particularly those who may be at risk or vulnerable.

Applications under the Self-Help Scheme 2021

87 applications were successful and were notified. Due to current Covid related restrictions, the deadline for completion of approved work under the Scheme has been extended to 31st January 2022 and the successful applicants have been notified of this.

Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) Tenancies

A total of 363 tenancies have been signed up this year to end of September.



Capital Programme

Location	No. of Units	Updated Status
Approval Stage 4		
Athgarvan Village	18 units	The sixth Lowest Tenderer has now withdrawn their tender. We expect there will be no option but to retender. We will confirm with the Department prior to proceeding to retender.
Approval Stage 2		
St. Patrick's Park Rathangan Remedial Works (Phase's 2 and 3)	Demolition of 15 units, refurb of 25 units, construction of 7 units.	Stage 2 ready for issue. To be reviewed with Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage at Quarter 3 meeting in October.
Coill Dubh	10 units	Approval Stage received July 2021 with conditions. Response to conditions issued to Department on 1st October for approval before tender will be approved for advertising.
Ardclough Road, Celbridge	39 units	Additional site investigation completed and results to follow. Social and affordable (11) units to be developed on this site.
Dispensary Site Carbury	5 units	Stage 1 approval received. Consultants tender being prepared to advance scheme to Part 8.
Oldtown Mill, Celbridge	57 units	Stage 2 and Design Team tender documentation in preparation.
St Evin's Park Monasterevin	16 units	Stage 2 application for approval for submission to Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage Quarter 4 2021. Acoustic consultants currently being appointed to conduct acoustic report and recommendation on current design proposal.
Approval Stage 1		
Old Greenfield, Maynooth	Volumetric Framework 64 units	Stage 2 submission for the end of October. Part 8 submission Quarter 4 2021
Ambassador Site, Kill	33 units	Stage 2 submitted to Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
Caragh Road, Naas	73 units	Development of 73 units [to include 15no. affordable units]. Stage 1 application submitted to Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage August



		2021. Preparation of design team tender documentation commenced in anticipation of Stage 1 approval.
Andrew, Athy	8 units	Traveller Accommodation Programme Stage 1 approval received with a number of conditions regarding costs. Review of approval ongoing.

Infill Schemes

Location	No. of Units	Updated Status
Newtown House, Leixlip	4 units	Part 8 to launch Quarter 1 2022.
Narraghmore	4 units	Part 8 withdrawn due to lack of wastewater capacity. Site Investigation report complete. Site has insufficient capacity for 4 dwellings. Revised options to be discussed with consultant engineers.
Glandore, Athy	4 units	Part 8 to launch Quarter 4 2021.
Patrician Ave, Naas	2 new + 1 refurb	Single stage approval received July 2021. Preparation of Part 8 progressing in-house. Preparation of tender for Architect Lead Design Team progressing in-house.
Shamrock Stores, Athy	1 new unit + refurb of 2 existing units	Application for single stage approval for new unit being prepared for submission to Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

PPP Schemes

Location	No. of Units	Updated Status
Nancy's Lane, Clane	77 units	Completion expected early November 2021. Irish Water have completed wastewater and mains water connection works in Collegewood Manor.
Andrew, Athy	73 Housing units + Community unit.	Pre-Part 8 pack received 24 September and currently being reviewed. Community building added to scheme to provide social infrastructure within the development. Part 8 target to launch early November 2021.

Approved Housing Body Schemes

Location	No. of Units	Updated Status
Respond HA Flinter's Field, Athy	35 units	Expected completion mid-June 2022.
Tuath HA Castlifen, Sallins	28 units	Completion programmed for March 2022.



Cluid, ESB site Leixlip	27 units	Cluid are finalising a Design Team Tender for an Architect Lead Design Team. Site excludes footprint of ESB mast site. Discussions regarding relocation of mast ongoing.
Cluid Rathasker Road, Naas	70-100 units (depending on final agreement with AHB and Planning Department)	Significant site remediation cost identified. Architects Services and Cluid investigating potential for funding site remediation costs.

Approved Housing Body Schemes - Capital Assistance Scheme

Approved Housing Body	No. of Units	Updated Status
KARE Craddockstown	3 units	Part 8 agreed by Naas Municipal District Committee at their meeting on 9 March 2021. Stage 3 information submitted by KARE currently under review by Kildare County Council.
Camphill Communities of Ireland, Kilcullen	4 units	Planning application approved. Stage 3 being prepared.
Sofia Housing St. John's Convent Rathangan	27 units	Meeting held with Sophia at end of August. Proposed unit numbers reduced to 27.
Cluid Dominican Lands Athy	31 units	Finalising CAS 2 application. Submission to follow.
The Peter McVerry Trust Sallins	4 units	Revised proposal for 4 units submitted for review in March 2021 and discussed with Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage technical staff. Pre-planning meeting held. Combined stage 1 and 2 CAS application to be submitted and approved prior to any planning application.

Acquisitions

	Completed Units 2018	Completed Units 2019	Completed units 2020	Completed 2021
Housing Acquisitions	186	231	39	11
Housing Turnkeys	39	81	107	22
Part V Acquisitions	30	67	41	66
Total complete	255	379	187	99



Acquisitions and Leasing by Municipal District	Athy	Celbridge-Leixlip	Clane-Maynooth	Kildare-Newbridge	Naas
Acquisitions in 2021	0	21	47	14	17
Properties Leased Year to Date (includes AHB leasing and MTR Leasing)	9	62	2	11	110

Midlands Energy Efficiency Retrofitting and

National Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Programme

Location	Programme	No. of Units	Updated Status
Beechgrove, Rathangan	MEERP	14	Phase 1 Beechgrove: Letter of Acceptance issued. Expect to commence works Mid October 21
Ashgrove, Derrinturn	MEERP	21	Phase 2 Ashbrook: Works commencing week 4/10/21
Bishopsland, Kildare	MEERP	38	Phase 3 Bishopsland/Farrincooley/Dunmurry: Letter of Acceptance to.
St Evin's Park, Mionasterevin	MEERP	15	Phase 4 St Evins' Park: Letter of Acceptance to issue.
Cill Corban, Naas	EERP	10	First five units contract ready, remaining five units scheduled.
Clonmullion, Athy	EERP	14	Letter of Acceptance to issue.
Loughnamona, Leixlip	EERP	39	Letter of Acceptance to issue.
Vacants	MEERP/EERP	24	A number of vacant units will be included as part of the Retrofit Programme. These units are presently being assessed and scheduled.



Homeless Presentations 2021

2020	Cases	Unique	Repeats
Total	1179	348	831
2021	Total Cases	Unique	Repeats
Quarter 1	204	83	121
Quarter 2	121	73	48
Quarter 3	122	61	61
Quarter 4			
Total	447	217	230

Homeless Presentations: Unique Presentations Breakdown

2020	Adults	Dependents
Total	390	316
2021	Adults	Dependents
Quarter 1	93	62
Quarter 2	87	77
Quarter 3	76	75
Quarter 4		
Total	256	214

Social Housing Applications

2020	Existing Housing file updates	Transfer Requests	New valid Applications	Mortgage to Rent Apps	Refusals
Total	237	75	705	8	171
2021	Existing Housing file updates	Transfer Requests	New valid Applications	Mortgage to Rent Apps	Refusals
Q1 2021	18	17	181	2	26
Q2 2021	39	24	241	1	31
Q3 2021	17	26	103	1	50



Differential Rents Assessments Undertaken

Year	LA Rents	LA HAP	LA HAP Review
2020	1078	607	562
2021 – Q1	184	143	107
2021 - Q2	300	108	84
2021 – Q3	264	140	151

Grants

	Housing Adaptation Apps Recd	Housing Adaptation Grants Approved	Mobility Aids Apps Recd	Mobility Aids Grants Approved	Housing Aid for Older Persons Apps Recd	Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Approved
2020	410	254	0	0	320	209
2021- Q1	96	78	0	0	109	71
2021- Q2	109	84	0	0	88	68
2021- Q3	121	108	0	0	68	60

Tenant Purchase Scheme

2020	Applications Received	Ineligible	Approvals Issued
TOTAL	33	6	5
2021	Applications Received	Ineligible	Approvals Issued
Q1	10	0	0
Q2	12	0	8
Q3	15	1	11



Rebuilding Ireland Home Loans

	2020	2021 to date
Total Approved	€10,340,718 (includes 2019 applications)	€10,058,356 (includes 2020 applications)
Total Drawn Down	€2,951,978 (includes 2019 approvals)	€2,543,545 (€2,022,045 from 2019 and 2020 approvals. €521,500 from 2021 approvals)

2021	Approval No.	Approval Amount	Approval Drawdown No (2021 apps)	Approval Drawdown Amount (2021 apps)	Expired No (2021 apps)	Expired Amount (2021 apps)
Jan	0	0	0	0	0	0
Feb	4	€787,300	0	0	0	0
Mar	9	€1,895,600	0	0	0	0
Apr	5	€869,200	0	0	0	0
May	13	€2,956,589	0	0	0	0
June	9	€1,994,070	2	€350,500	0	0
August	0	0	0	0	1	€288,000
Sep	3	€561,697	0	0	3	€651,100

Housing Maintenance

2020	Vacant House Turnarounds	New House Purchases Upgrades	Number of Response Maintenance Requests Logged	Number of Response Maintenance Requests Completed	Number of Self Help Grants Offered
Total	97	108	6,939	6,733	80
2021	Vacant House Turnarounds	New House Purchases Upgrades	Number of Response Maintenance Requests Logged	Number of Response Maintenance Requests Completed	Number of Self Help Grants Offered
Quarter 1	29	29	2,109	1,660	0
Quarter 2	18	7	1,940	1,883	87
Quarter 3 to date	17	6	1,232	1,209	0
Total	64	42	5,281	4,752	87



Planning and Strategic Development

County Development Plan (CDP)

Work is ongoing with respect to the Functional Urban Area Analysis/Rural Housing Report, Housing Needs Demand Assessment with the support of AIRO in Maynooth University.

Survey work has now been completed for all non LAP small towns, villages, rural settlements and nodes (56 in total) to inform the county's settlement hierarchy in accordance with NPO 18b of the NPF, which will in turn inform the review of the CDP.

The Rural Housing Design Guidance document has been finalised and presented to the SPC. The draft Wind Energy Strategy was also presented to the SPC.

Open Space and Outdoor Recreation Strategy 2021-2031

Work is on-going in the preparation of the final strategy, which will inform the review of the County Development Plan 2023-2029.

Tenders have been received and are being reviewed with respect to Virtual Consultation on the emerging Draft CDP.

Work is progressing on the drafting of a number of Draft CDP chapters. The following will inform the drafting of each chapter;

Mandatory and non-mandatory objectives from the Planning and Development Act

- (i) Section 28 Guidelines and SPPRs
- (ii) NPF NPO objectives
- (iii) RSES RPO objectives
- (iv) Chief Executive report
- (v) Feedback at members workshops
- (vi) Kildare County Council Advisory Group and
- (vii) Chief Executive report on Members Directions

Early stages of SEA/AA/SFRA are also underway.



Local Area Plans (LAP)

Athy

The Athy Local Area Plan was adopted at a Special Meeting of the Athy Municipal District on the 03 August and came into effect on the 13 September 2021.

Elected Members on the 16

September 2021. A Special Meeting of Full Council is taking place on the 21 October in Newbridge Town Hall for consideration of the adoption of the LAP.

Naas

The Chief Executive's Report on submissions received to the Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Local Area Plan was circulated to the

Maynooth

Background work for the Maynooth LAP is currently underway with various environmental and infrastructural assessment being prepared to inform that Draft LAP.

Planning applications received:			Residential Units Granted	Applications decided: September
September	Year	No.	Total Granted:	83
2019: 107	1,092	1,234	Retention:	14
2020: 142	1,141	1,614	Extension of Duration:	2
2021: 151	1,406	573	Total Refused:	19

Strategic Housing Development Applications to An Bord Pleanála (SHD)

SHD Applications					
Ref No.	Stage	Developer	Location	No of Units	ABP Decision Due
21/309954	3	Land Dev Agency	Devoy, Naas	221	Refused
21/310865	3	Cairn Homes	Dunboyne Rd, Maynooth	194	04/11/2021
21/310892	3	Debussy	Millicent, Clane	192	09/11/2021
21/310912	3	Briargate	Ballymany, Newbridge	336	10/11/2021
21/311037	3	T. Monaghan	Boyctown, Kilcock	298	25/11/2021
21/311040	3	Glan Dev.	Ballymany, Newbridge	247	25/11/2021
21	2				



Significant Applications				
Ref No	Applicant	Description	Status	Comment
191138	Keegan Quarries	Develop 1.05ha for readymix batching plant, block yard and associated works at Ballyonan, Broadford. EIAR and AA accompanied application	Valid	09/11/2021
211286	Kyrie Therapeutic Farm	Therapeutic farm for use as a step down health facility at former Portree Stables, Boston, Straffan	Valid	04/11/2021
21/1276	Tony Vaughan	Development of 31 residential units, new vehicular and pedestrian access from adjoining estates at lands between Sallins Wharf, Osberstown Drive and Sallins Pier.	Valid	01/11/2021
21/1256	Power Capital Renewable Energy	Construction of a Solar PV farm with a 35 year operating life; 75,984 ground mounted PV panels on c44.21 hectares at Griffinrath, Celbridge	Valid	27/10/2021
21/1248	Barola Capital DAC	Distribution Warehouse, Office Accommodation and Buildings of c.64,550 sqm south of the Newbridge South Orbital Relief Road	Valid	25/10/2021
20/1146	Authorized Property Co Ltd	Construction of 16 guest bedrooms (690m ²) at (new) third floor level located at Glenroyal Hotel, Straffan Road, Maynooth	Valid	26/09/2021
21/1108	Heathcote Holdings Ltd	Construction of 40 No. houses and 36 No. apartments, 1 No. vehicular link with the approved Maynooth Eastern Ring, Parklands Grove, Railpark, Maynooth	Further Information	22/09/2021
21/655	Mulberry Properties	Residential development of 57 dwellings, Station Road, Leixlip	Clarification of FI	23/09/2021
20/1397	Tim Flood and Niall Langton	38 no. residential units, refurbishment of the Protected Structure (RPS Ref:AY058) to include change of use of ground floor, 58-67 Leinster Street and Nelson's Yard and Mount Hawkins, Athy	Publication Required	
21/1068	Curragh Property DAC	Construction of a Centre of Excellence for Care for the Older Persons consisting of the construction of 2 No. buildings, between 3-4 storeys in height, Naas Road, Kilcullen, Co. Kildare.	Withdrawn	
21/1033	Thoval Properties	87 houses and creche at Whitesland East, Kildare Town, Co. Kildare.	FI Requested	02/09/2021
21/1051	St Conleth's Infant school	Special Needs Classroom and Staffroom	Grant	12/09/2021
21/1175	Eirgrid Plc.	EirGrid Plc. with the consent and approval of the Electricity Supply Board	valid	07/10/2021



		(ESB), intend to apply for permission for development on lands to the west of the Dunnstown 400 kV substation within the townland of Dunnstown (Td), Brannockstown, Naas, Co. Kildare. The proposed development will consist of an extension to the western boundary of the existing Dunnstown 400 kV substation to allow connection of series compensation equipment to the Dunnstown-Moneypoint 400 kV circuit. The extension will measure approximately 154m by 138m		
21/1145	Custom Wood Ltd.	change of use from existing light industrial/manufacturing and retail warehousing use to Retail Class 1 use; alterations to the front/south façade at Cutlery Road, Newbridge	valid	03/10/2021

Section 254 Licences for Outdoor

Dining

64 licences for outdoor dining (tables and chairs etc) received to date. Five refused. 39 in progress.

Four licences issued to National Broadband Ireland (Overground electronic communications infrastructure) for the Athy, Kildare Newbridge and Naas Municipal District areas.

Conservation Update

An offer of appointment has now been made, and accepted, to fill the currently vacant Architectural Conservation Officer post. HR is following up with respect to start dates.

Heritage Projects

Geophysical survey of Old Kilcullen

Project has not commenced.

Online biodiversity

workshops/mentoring and pollinator and Citizen Science workshops

Project has not commenced.

Kildare Invasive Species Actions 2021 (American Skunk Cabbage control) with UCD

- a) American Skunk Cabbage control) with UCD

Control is almost completed.

Consultants will begin to develop management procedure and



educational video over the coming months.

- b) Himalayan Balsam survey of the River Liffey banks in Kildare with UCD

Survey work has commenced.

Community eradication project being developed.

Local Biodiversity Action Plans

Expressions of interest from 11 towns and villages have been received.

Plans will commence Quarter 4 2021.

Irish Walled Town Network

Funding secured for two interpretation projects in Castledermot and Kildare.

Holy Wells of County Kildare Audit

Archaeology Plan have been appointed to conduct the survey on holy wells in Kildare. Research has been completed. Database generation has commenced.

Know Your Locality Course

Course 3 completed in September 2021 and course 4 in October 2021.

In total 60 participants have taken part

in the course. Funding was secured from Creative Ireland.

Biodiversity Informercials

A series of biodiversity informercial ran from May to September on a number of biodiversity themes.

Kilkea Stone Table

Conservation of Letterfrack is progressing on conservation of the Table.

UNESCO World Heritage

Designation - Royal Sites of Ireland – Dun Ailinne, Kilcullen

An application for inclusion on the Irish Tentative list has been made to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage with five other local authorities. A decision from the Department is awaited.

Passlands Graveyard - Monasterevin

Conservation work has commenced and was expected to be completed by 01 October.



Open Space and Outdoor

Recreation Strategy 2021-2031

Work is on-going in the preparation of the final strategy, which will inform the review of the County Development Plan 2023-2029.

Public Realm

Public Realm Funding Applications and other items

Town and Village Renewal Scheme (Accelerated Measure in Response to COVID-19) Round 2

The following are complete;

Location	Proposal	Total Project Cost	Grant Awarded
Ballymore Eustace	Cycle Cafe	€27,500.00	€25,000.00
Punchestown, Eadestown	Cycle Cafe	€27,500.00	€25,000.00
Castledermot	Cycle Cafe	€27,500.00	€25,000.00

Town and Village Renewal Scheme (Accelerated Measure in Response to COVID-19) Round 3

Works are ongoing on the following projects:

Location	Total estimated project cost	Amount of T and V grant funding requested for this project
Leixlip Town Centre	€45,000	€40,000
Celbridge Town Centre	€45,000	€40,000
Newbridge Town Hall environs and Georges Street	€45,000	€40,000
Main Street, Naas and environs	€60,000	€40,000



Main Street, Maynooth and environs	€45,000	€40,000
Broadband Officer, Kildare County Council	€11,000	€10,000

The following applications have been successful under the main Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2020:

Location	Proposal	Total Project Cost	Funding Requested	Comments
Ardclough	Heritage Centre Phase 2	€97,000	€87,300	Ardclough Heritage Centre providing match funding
Clane	Main Street and Clane Abbey Community Centre	€250,000	€200,000	Clane Maynooth LPT match funding
Athy	Enterprise Centre improvements	€99,000	€89,100	Enterprise Centre to provide match funding
Sallins	Healthcheck and Town Renewal Plan	€70,000	€63,000	Naas LPT match funding

The following public realm applications to Call 2 of the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund were successful and funding terms and conditions have been received with a return date of 17 September:

Location	Proposal	Total Project Cost	Funding Awarded	Comments
Naas	Town centre Masterplan and Cultural Quarter.	€4,662,000	€3,490,000	Consultant to be procured.
Maynooth	Town Centre Masterplan to include Main Street and adjoining laneways, Carton Avenue, Courthouse Square, Harbourfield and environs.	€2,545,000	€1,900,000	Consultant to be procured.



SPECIAL PROJECTS and PUBLIC REALM TEAM
Updates in GREEN

Concept

Athy - Athy-Athy Public Realm Plan – to commence within 12 months of the adoption of the Draft Athy LAP .

Kildare-Newbridge - Kildare-St Bridget's Well re-development-Draft concept received. Hydrological survey complete. Wet ground conditions likely due to blocked or damaged pipe on site. CCTV survey to be arranged.

Clane-Maynooth – Maynooth Main Street and Courthouse Square Public Realm Improvements Masterplan and Branding- URDF Application successful. Financial Projections submitted.

Naas - Sallins-Health Check/Urban Design - Funding under Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2020 secured. Design has commenced on NTA funded interim traffic management measures which will be rolled out in November 2021. Tender for consultant to work on healthcheck with Public Realm team being published October 2021.

Part 8

Kildare-Newbridge – Kilcullen - Market Square redevelopment – Part 8 to be published October 2021.

Kildare-Newbridge - Kildare-Market Square redevelopment - Part 8 documents being prepared. Topographical Survey of Market Square, adjoining laneways and associated carparking complete. Temporary closure of Market Square carpark being piloted to allow businesses on the square to place table and chairs outside to increase capacity and allow for social distancing. Works commenced on 17 August on a temporary pilot closure.

Kildare-Newbridge – Rathangan - Market Square redevelopment - Part 8 published 26 January 2021 and public consultation extended to 13.04.2021. Part 8 approved by Kildare Newbridge Municipal District on 19 May 2021. Detailed design will now progress.

Clane-Maynooth – Maynooth - Harbour Field Development - Part 8 was published on 05 October 2021.

Tender Consultants and Design

Athy/Kildare-Newbridge - Athy-Barrow Blueway - works ongoing and progressing well. 16km of 36km towpath works complete with another 5km under construction. Project will be complete early 2023.



<p>Athy – Castledermot - Health Check/Urban Design and TRP- Online survey complete. Working document circulated to the Athy Municipal District Committee as part of the consultation process. Public consultation to commence October 2021.</p>
<p>Athy - Athy - Development of Shackleton Museum-Consultants appointed and detailed design has now commenced.</p>
<p>Celbridge-Leixlip – Ardclough - Health Check/Urban Design and TRP- Online survey complete. Draft Town Renewal Plan briefing given to the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Committee as part of the consultation process. Public consultation launched September 2021.</p>
<p>Celbridge-Leixlip - Celbridge-Health Check/Urban Design and TRP- Online survey complete. Working document circulated to the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Committee as part of the consultation process. Members briefing held. Public consultation completed 27 September 2021.</p>
<p>Celbridge-Leixlip - Leixlip-Health Check/Urban Design and TRP- Online survey complete. Working document circulated to the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Committee as part of the consultation process. Members briefing held. Public consultation closed and submissions received being incorporated into Draft Town Renewal Plan.</p>
<p>Kildare-Newbridge – Athgarvan - Health Check/Urban Design and Town Renewal Plan - Online survey complete. Working document circulated to the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District Committee as part of the consultation process. Members briefing held. Public consultation closed and submissions received being incorporated into Draft Town Renewal Plan.</p>
<p>Clane-Maynooth – Derrinturn - Health Check/Urban Design and TRP- Online survey complete. . Draft Town Renewal Plan briefing given to the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Committee as part of the consultation process. Public consultation launched September 2021.</p>
<p>Clane-Maynooth - Johnstown Bridge-Health Check/Urban Design and TRP- Online survey complete. Draft Town Renewal Plan briefing given to the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Committee as part of the consultation process. Public consultation launched September 2021.</p>
<p>Clane-Maynooth – Kilcock -Town Branding and Signage. Public consultation launched but response rate was very poor. Additional consultation to now take place with youth groups and primary schools.</p>
<p>Clane-Maynooth - Prosperous-Town Branding and Signage. Tender for Consultant to be drafted in conjunction with Clane Town Branding and Signage in Quarter 4 2021.</p>
<p>Clane-Maynooth – Straffan - Health Check/Urban Design Analysis and Town Renewal Plan - Online survey complete. Draft Town Renewal Plan briefing given to the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Committee as part of the consultation process. Public consultation launched September 2021.</p>



Tender Consultants
Athy - Athy-Public Realm Dominican Lands -Tender for design consultants complete and consultants appointed. Initial draft findings being reviewed by Public Realm team.
Kildare-Newbridge – Kildare - Curragh Plains - Develop Plan -Tender being prepared for: Conservation, Management and Interpretation Plan-Branding and Visitor Positioning Process - Orientation, Wayfinding and Interpretation Strategy. Public consultation commenced with 3,636 online submissions received by deadline. Second phase of consultation being launched with the formation of Focus Group Workshops comprising of various stakeholders to consider key findings of online consultation ongoing.
Naas - Grand Canal Greenway-Alymer Bridge to Sallins - €3 million funding approval in place which represents 100% of the project cost. Tender assessed and detailed design has commenced. Tender package being finalised for trailheads and crossings. Works will commence in Quarter 4 2021 and will take 9 months to complete.
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.
Tender Works
Athy – Athy - Upgrade to public realm Emily Square -Tender documents for construction work almost finalised.
Kildare-Newbridge – Kildangan - Community Hall Upgrade-Awarded €92,000 funding under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme. Contractor appointed.
Kildare-Newbridge – Newbridge - Newbridge Library – Design team appointed and work underway on Part 8.
Design
Athy - Athy-Edmund Rice Square - Scope and extent of the project to be agreed in collaboration with various stakeholders.
Kildare-Newbridge – Kildare - Town Renewal Plan - Feedback being reviewed for incorporation into final plans.
Kildare-Newbridge – Monasterevin - Healthcheck and Urban Design and Masterplan – Consultation on draft Masterplan complete and submissions being incorporated into draft Masterplan.
Kildare-Newbridge - Newbridge-Creation Cultural Quarter - to include Part 8's for library redevelopment, St Conleth's Square including 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. Library design tender being assessed. Feasibility Study commissioned and work progressing.
Kildare-Newbridge - Newbridge-Town Renewal Plan - Feedback being reviewed for incorporation into the Town Renewal Plan. Consultation workshops to be organised.
Clane-Maynooth - Clane-Main Street - Accessibility Improvements - Town and Village funding application successful. Project kick off meeting to be scheduled.
Clane-Maynooth – Maynooth - Harbour Field Works - Detailed design to commence after Part 8 approval. Part 8 was published on 05 October 2021. Included in successful URDF application.
Detailed Design
Kildare-Newbridge – Kildare - Cherry Avenue - development of a town park - Tender documents to be prepared for LA led design team in collaboration with the Parks Section to develop the design post Part 8 to shovel ready stage for new RRDF application.
Clane-Maynooth - Kilcock-Community Centre. Works commenced 08 June 2021. Playground will be temporarily relocated to outside Primary Care Centre.
On Hold
Clane-Maynooth - Clane-Town Branding and Signage – LPT funding secured. Will commence with Prosperous town branding project in Autumn 2021.
Construction
Naas - Ballymore Eustace - Looped Walk - works complete and looped walk open.
Naas – MERITS – Works complete. Final fit out nearing completion.
Complete
Athy - Narraghamore-Socila Enterprise Community Shop - Completed.
Celbridge-Leixlip – Ardclough - Community Facility – Completed.
Clane-Maynooth – Robertstown - Masterplan - Plan finalised and complete.
Clane-Maynooth – Prosperous Town Park complete and open to the Public since Wednesday 04 December.

Short Term Letting

Work is ongoing to identify properties which may be in breach of planning legislation. To date 24 files have been referred for enforcement, of these 12

have been issued with warning letters with additional letters to be issued in the coming weeks.



Water Services, Environment and Climate Action

Water Services

Infrastructural Projects

Contract 2A (Newbridge Eastern Interceptor Sewer)

These works were completed and commissioned in 2020. The sewerage network is due to be handed over to Irish Water/Kildare County Council Operations by the end of Quarter 4 2021 pending all operation outstanding issues and HSQE issues are addressed.

The pumping stations are being operated by the contractor for a 12-month proving period before being handed over to Irish Water/Kildare County Council Operations in the Autumn of 2021.

Contract 2B (Network)

Works commenced on site in September 2019 and are advancing well. The major pipeline improvement works carried out in Clane and Newbridge are substantially complete.

The remaining permanent reinstatement works in Pairc Mhuire commenced on Monday 13 September. Pipelaying works in this area were only completed in May of this year and hence the permanent reinstatement works are actually planned to be carried out ahead of time in this instance. Coffey's have engaged a sub-contractor to carry out these works and the intention is that all of the reinstatement will be carried out together including the green area.

Some pipeline works continue in Naas off the Monread Road. Permanent road reinstatement has commenced in Clane town centre. Upgrade and improvement works are continuing at Clane, Monread and Sallins pumping stations.

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

Veolia Water Ireland advanced works on this variation to the Design Build Operate (DBO) contract and completed these works in Quarter 4, 2020. Operational commissioning of the Thermal Hydrolysis Process Plant is continuing. The Exelys Thermal



Hydrolysis Process (THP) is intended to be fully operational by end of Quarter 4 2021 pending all operation outstanding issues and HSQE issues are addressed.

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 detailed design stage.

Irish Water and its representatives are currently negotiating with affected landowners and Irish Water have published a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) for this scheme in late September as option agreements have not been reached with all landowners.

Capital Projects

Allenwood Sewerage Network (Vacuum System) Modification

While funding constraints have emerged on the part of Irish Water in light of the current COVID-19 crisis, the council continues to work with the utility to progress a temporary solution.

This involves laying new pipe, land acquisition and temporary pumping arrangements to transfer sewage from the buffer tank to the public gravity sewerage system and on to the Allenwood Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) for treatment and disposal.

It is hoped that the land acquisition can be completed reasonably quickly so that these temporary works can be arranged and completed in 2021. Consultants have been appointed to progress the longer-term pumping solution at the buffer tank site.

Timolin Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) Upgrade

Irish Water confirmed that the green light has been given for the upgrade of Timolin Wastewater Treatment Plant as part of the Small Towns and Villages Growth Programme. This will unlock growth and development by ensuring the treatment infrastructure is in place to meet the needs of the community. There is no time line available at this stage. This follows the announcement of the upgrade of



Derrinturn Wastewater Treatment Plant already this year.

Water Networks Management Projects

Kildare Town Watermain Rehabilitation Works -

Lourdesville BYSS (Back Yard Services scheme)

All public and private side watermain installation works have now been completed as part of this scheme. Prior to the decommissioning of the existing cast iron watermain throughout Lourdesville, further investigational works are required to ensure all properties are connected to the new supply. It is now expected that these works will be completed in Quarter 4 of 2021.

Assumpta Villas BYSS

There are currently two premises remaining whereby customer consent has not yet been obtained throughout Assumpta Villas. Private side service connection works have still to be completed at each of the remaining properties prior to decommissioning

the final sections of existing mains within Assumpta Villas.

Rowanville BYSS

There is currently one property remaining within this scheme whereby customer consent has not yet been obtained. Decommissioning works have yet to commence. This work will commence once consent from the final customer has been provided and the properties service connection is installed.

Irish Water Councillor Clinics

Irish Water quarterly Councillor Clinics are held online for approximately one hour. The next scheduled clinic in 2021 is as follows:

29 November – 1.00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Irish Water will contact members regarding details of this clinic.



Environment

Pre-Draft Notice of Preparation of the “National Waste Management Plan for the Circular Economy”

The three Regional Waste Management Planning Offices have given notice of intention to commence preparation of the “National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy” to replace the existing Regional Waste Management Plans. The current plans are available on www.mywaste.ie

Civic Amenity Facilities

The two civic amenity sites continue to operate as normal.

Recycling Banks

Tonnages at recycling banks continue to reduce in line with recent trends. In September 2020, 427 tonnes of glass and cans were recycled at the recycling banks. In 2021, this reduced to 368 tonnes, in line with previous years. All the recycling banks sites were cleaned this month by a specialist contractor with further works planned to improve signage, landscaping etc.

Enforcement Priorities 2021

In consultation with the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications and the EPA, the Environmental Enforcement Priorities for 2021 are as follows:

- Waste Enforcement
 - Illegal waste activities,
 - C and D Activity,
 - ELV and Waste Metal, and
 - Household and commercial waste.
- Water Priorities
 - WFD Monitoring,
 - Private water supplies,
 - Farm inspections,
 - Septic tank inspections,
 - Section 4 license compliance,
 - River Basin Management Plans consultation.
- Air Priorities
 - Build capacity with local groups,
 - Promote compliance,
 - Solid fuel regulations,
 - Air monitoring prog,
 - Noise directive,
 - Air / noise complaints



Burial Grounds

All the council's cemeteries remain open to the public.

Environment Complaints

Pollution complaints will be investigated in accordance with national guidelines.

Domestic/Commercial Refuse Collections

Domestic and commercial waste collections are continuing as normal. Domestic waste collectors have however been granted permission by the National Waste Collection Permit Office (NWCPO) to carry out collections outside of their conditioned waste collection hours due to COVID-19 restrictions. For details of approved operators, check the NWCPO website: www.nwcpo.ie

National Tidy Towns

The National Tidy Towns competition will proceed this year, with the adjudication being done remotely. The Environment Department is supporting the entrants by providing grants to facilitate works, as well as

offering advice on the wide range of areas covered by the competition.

There are 41 groups in County Kildare and 32 of them have entered the Supervalu Tidy Towns competition.

Grants are currently being processed.

Anti-Dog Fouling Initiative

An anti-dog fouling initiative was carried out in each of the five municipal district areas. The wardens and staff from the Environment Department met with councillors in Naas, Athy, Kildare, Maynooth and Celbridge to hand out dog waste bags/dispensers to passing walkers. Stencils and an audio message reminding them to dispose of the waste were placed in each of these areas. There are plans to continue the scheme in several other areas suggested by the Community Wardens.

Green Kilometre Scheme

The Kildare Green Kilometres has been shortlisted for the Chambers Ireland Local Authority Awards under the Sustainability category. Kildare



County Council continues to support these groups by providing clean up equipment and collecting the waste in a timely fashion. Over 130 kilometres registered and well over 50 tonnes of waste gathered in the year to date.

Environmental Education

In line with Government guidelines, all in-person 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. The Green Schools programme has continued in a number of schools and online assessments are now taking place in order to award the green flag. While the number of flags awarded will be substantially down on previous years, many schools are organising themselves to participate over the coming year. Information at: <http://kildare.ie/CountyCouncil/Environment/EnvironmentalEducation/>

New Initiatives

Civic Amenity Site North – Near Celbridge

Consultants have been appointed to progress this project to the next stage

which will involve seeking expressions of interest from the market.

Anti-Dumping Campaign and Litter Initiatives

The national “My Country/County/Town/Village My Waste” campaign was promoted locally through print and social media.



This campaign is to highlight the consequences of dumping on the wider community.

Anti-Dumping Initiative funding secured from the Department of the Environment, Communication and Climate to the tune of €69,440 for seven separate projects county-wide. These projects are all in progress with the majority scheduled to be completed by end October 2021. A free Mattress and Couches recycling day was successfully held at Silliot Hill Civic Amenity Site on Sunday 03 October 2021. The event was very successful and exceeded the volume of waste taken in during the same event in 2020.



Catchment Flooding

Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Study (CFRAMS)

A steering group with the Office of Public Works (OPW) has been established to progress the consultant's brief for schemes within Kildare. The municipal districts will be briefed as schemes from the Catchment Flood Risk Assessment Management (CFRAM's) Programme commence

Morell Flood Management Scheme

Construction of this scheme is continuing, with embankments and walls in the Tuckmilltown and Turnings areas nearing completion and further works in Tuckmilltown, Killeen and Killeenmore commencing. Further details of the scheme can be found at: <https://www.morellfms.ie/>

Athy Flood Relief Scheme

The Kildare County Council and OPW Steering Group has commenced developing the scope of the Athy Flood Relief Scheme. The first stage will be the procurement of consultants to carry out the design of the scheme and

documentation to advance this is being currently being drafted.

Naas Flood Relief Scheme

The contract for consultancy services for the Naas Flood Relief Scheme has been awarded to ARUP. The first stage of the scheme will be a review of the existing hydrology and mapping. Topographical and drainage surveys to facilitate this has just been completed. Further details of the scheme can be found at:

<https://www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/naas/home/>

Kerdiffstown

Wills Bros Ltd was appointed in October 2020 for the remediation of the landfill and the construction of the park.

The capping of the site is progressing well. Most of the internal movement of waste is now complete, with Zone 1 lined and now receiving subsoil and topsoil capping, as seen below.





The construction of the site compound is continuing, with Mechanical and Electric works commencing. The ponds in Zone 4 are now lined and covered with soil, as can be seen in the photo below.



The changing rooms walls construction has just commenced, as per the photo below



The community is being kept informed through the Community Liaison Group (CLG) meetings and the wider public will have access to updates on the council website:

<http://kildare.ie/CountyCouncil/KerdiffstownPark>

Monitoring of the gas and groundwater boreholes as well as the management of the leachate and gas continues, in accordance with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Licence. This will continue through the works.

The 3D Visualisation Model of the proposed park can be viewed at home on Kildare County Council's website at:

<http://kildare.ie/CountyCouncil/KerdiffstownPark/KerdiffstownParkVisualisation/>

Cemetery Capital Programme

This programme, which includes cemetery extensions, capital type internal improvements and proposals for columbarium walls is currently being reviewed and is likely to be intensified.

Kildare Town Cemetery

Works on significant improvement work to the St. Conleth's Cemetery were completed in September 2021. Some additional work is being planned to aid with waste management.



Newbridge Cemetery Carpark

Tenders will be advertised by end October 2021 for the resurfacing of the carpark, together with new boundary fencing and barrier system. It is proposed to also proceed with the installation of a pedestrian crossing as part of these works in conjunction with the Roads Department.

Newbridge Cemetery Road and Path Resurfacing

Tenders have been advertised for some footpath and roadway improvement works and it is proposed to commence the works during November 2021.

Ballymore Eustace Cemetery

New paving works were carried out around the old Altar and other minor improvement works in the cemetery are completed.

Cemetery Maintenance Grants

Cemetery Maintenance Grants, to assist local groups with the maintenance of cemeteries, are currently being processed.

Risk Management

2021 cycle is now complete and presentations are being made to Audit Committee on a rota basis of departmental risk registers, commencing with Water/Environment/Climate and Corporate Services.



The Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) works to support its constituent local authorities to drive climate action projects in their counties, with particular focus on implementing actions contained within climate adaptation strategies. A number of projects are ongoing across the Eastern and Midlands Region:

Economic Opportunities arising from Climate Action



The second national conference to discuss the economic opportunities



arising from climate action will take place on 12 and 13 October 2021.

Attendees to the conference can register, free of charge, at this link:
https://ims.zoom.us/webinar/register/W_N_xN5VVrPQSSeRnAWDJKYneg

Capacity Building



The CARO continues to work with its strategic training partners, to implement on behalf of the local government sector, a national training programme for all elected members and local authority staff. The training programme, which includes six pillars and has received CPD accreditation from a number of bodies (Engineers Ireland, Irish Planning Institute, CIWEM), are available to all local authorities:



Elected Members/Senior Staff

The Climate Leadership training for senior staff and elected members has been delivered to a total of 632

participants in 19 local authorities to date, with a further six scheduled to year end. The remaining six counties will be completed in early 2022. To date, in excess of 700 senior staff and elected members have completed this module.



Climate Action Teams

This highly collaborative programme, with contributions from Met Éireann, Climate Ireland, the CAROs, the SEAI, the AIEI (Association of Irish Energy Agencies) and the IPA, is aimed at members of local authority Climate Action Teams. It is scheduled to be rolled out to remaining counties (including Kildare), in the Eastern and Midlands CARO in October c. 220 people have already registered.



Online Training

The rollout of the Raising Awareness online training programme is ongoing;



To date, a total of 6,563 staff at Grade 7, Grade 6, Grade 5 and technical equivalent level have completed this programme across each of the 31 local authorities. The programme has recently been rolled out to Grade 4's and their technical equivalent and this means that a further 2,997 people have been enrolled in the training.

- Impact of Climate Change on Flood and Water Management. Pilot training was held on 27 September.
- Older Persons Council on raising awareness on climate change and climate action.



Thematic Training

In the first training course of the Actioning Policy training pillar, the Planning for Climate Change training has been rolled out to 291 local authority planners of all disciplines.

Other training courses falling under the Actioning Policy pillar are at various stages of design and progression towards delivery:

- Procurement Officers on promoting green procurement through supply chains. Tender process for trainers underway.



Outdoor Staff

LASNTG are currently recruiting an in-house trainer to deliver this programme to outdoor staff on a county by county basis.



Frontline Staff

Training for front line or community engagement staff remains under design and development with the Institute of Public Administration with pilot training scheduled for December this year.



Guidance for Local Authorities – Preparing Local Authority Climate Action Plans

The Eastern and Midland CARO working in partnership with the EPA / Climate Ireland have recently commenced work on the development of Guidelines for Local Authorities on preparing their Local Authority Climate Action Plans. An expected deadline of 05 November for completion of the guidelines is anticipated. As per the provisions of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Bill 2021, each local authority will be required to prepare and make a Climate Action Plan containing mitigation measures and adaptation measures, to be adopted by the local authority. The guidelines are an expressed provision of the Amendment Bill also. These guidelines will support local authorities in terms of both the content and the process of making their own Climate Action Plans and will be ready for submission to the Minister for the Environment,

Communications and Climate in early November.



Sub-Regional Energy Projects

The CARO are working with local authorities in each of the four sub-regions to develop regional energy bureaux or regional energy efficiency projects.

In the Mid-East (Kildare, Meath, Wicklow, Louth): A position paper for pathfinder support has been developed and is currently under review by SEAI. The three local authorities involved (Kildare, Meath, Wicklow) are meeting regularly and it is hoped to progress this further before the end of the 2021.

In the Border sub-region (Cavan, Monaghan, Leitrim): A public building energy efficiency report for the three local authorities went to tender, with Codex Energy being appointed.

CARO has been successful in receiving funding from the SEAI



Project Assistance Grant (PAG)

Programme for the respective local authorities and this grant may cover up to 50% of the costs of the report.



Decarbonising Fleet:

The vision of this project is to develop a pathway for decarbonizing local authority fleet with a view to realizing emission reduction and energy efficiency targets. A working group is being established under the stewardship of the CCMA Climate Change, Transport and Networks Committee and will include representatives from the CCMA Committee, the LGMA, the Eastern and Midlands and Atlantic Seaboard South CAROs, the SEAI and Local Authority representatives from counties Cork, Kilkenny, Dublin City and Donegal, as well as the Department of Transport and the Office of Government Procurement.

Coastal Erosion Challenges for Local Authorities:

The Eastern and Midlands CARO, in collaboration with the Atlantic Seaboard South CARO are currently establishing a sectoral level working group to identify the various challenges and opportunities for local authorities in dealing with coastal erosion issues in their jurisdiction. This working group will ultimately support the development of guidelines for council engineers and planners.

Kildare County Council Climate Action



Corporate Plan, Climate Change Adaptation Strategy, Covenant of Mayors, Climate Action Charter, Climate Bill and Climate Action Strategic Policy Committee (SPC)



Climate Change Adaption Strategy (CCAS)

CCAS Action Reporting is being finalised for the country by Eastern and Midlands CARO with input from the individual county's Climate Action Teams. The number of actions being undertaken and completed by Kildare continue to increase with the final data to be released.

Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP)/Climate Action Plan (CAP)

It is a requirement under the Covenant of Mayors and will be a requirement of the amended Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Bill that Kildare County Council prepare a five-year Sustainable Energy Climate Action Plan/Climate Action Plan (SECAP/CAP). The successful tenderer has been identified and initial meetings have taken place between Kildare County Council and the consultant. Contract terms and conditions have just concluded and works on SECAP/ CAP are to commence immediately.

Decarbonising Zone – Maynooth Nominee



The Climate Action Office, while awaiting the guidelines from the Department, is progressing the likely needs of the challenge ahead to decarbonize by 7% per annum between 2021 and 2030. To this end the team is aligning collaborations within and outside the council, is progressing funding opportunities for the local community and council, developing linkages to create a steering group and sub groups with stakeholders, seeking business opportunities, policies and projects established or in development, developing methods of citizen engagement and researching findings from other initiatives. It is envisaged this background work through the lens of climate action will inform the implementation plan and potential actions to create a proactive and achievable approach. The Climate



Action SPC is being made aware of progress to inform its work.

Energy

Energy Management Team

Kildare County Council's Energy Management Team has been meeting monthly since its re-establishment in February 2021. The Energy Management Team is currently progressing several key areas, including the development of Kildare's register of opportunities (projects, initiatives for energy savings), analysis of Kildare's top twenty energy users and potential areas for reducing their energy consumption. The Energy Management Team has strengthened its membership with a representative from Fire Services and Libraries. It is hoped to have a representative from Leisure Facilities in the near future. The Energy Management Team is evaluating the benefits of applying for ISO 5001; this being a recognised energy management standard being adopted by many local authorities and other public bodies to assist in reducing energy consumption in a standardized manner.

Kildare Climate and Energy Week (26 October to 29 October)

The Event Team have now moved to planning and delivery phase, with the key direction on the event being to demystify climate and energy topics and mainstream awareness through engaging and interactive events. The Event will also host a mix of in-person and online platforms.

The event itself will be targeted at both the internal workings, staff of Kildare County Council and outward looking to the wider communities within the county.

There is a comprehensive communications plan for the Event to ensure maximum exposure through local media and online social media sources. The Event is also being supported by SEAI and Creative Ireland.





Energy Usage Monitoring and Reporting (M and R)

Kildare County Council continues to make good progress on reducing its energy usage across the council. Our provisional scorecard for energy usage in 2020 shows a 33.3% energy reduction against its baseline year of 2009, which is significant progress from the 2019 figure of 24%. Although this is a provisional figure from Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) it shows continued progress on energy efficiencies and also meets the National target of 33% reduction by 2020.

Mid-East Energy Bureau

Kildare County Council is engaged in a process with other local authorities to form an Energy Bureau to drive energy efficiencies at a regional level. It is proposed to establish the Bureau with the assistance of SEAI's pathfinder program which will assist with funding towards energy related projects across the region and also funding for the Bureau establishment and staffing needs over a fixed period of time. Currently Kildare, Wicklow and Meath Local Authorities are partnered to

deliver this initiative, with support from CARO. Kildare's Energy Efficiency Officer is also assisting with a sub-group of the Bureau establishment Team to develop tender documentation to procure a suitable consultant to drive this project.

Sustainable Energy Communities (SEC's)



Kildare County Council continues to make good progress on Sustainable Energy Communities in the county. There are currently 22 SEAI registered SEC's in County Kildare, with four of these nearing the end of their energy master plan stage which will allow them to move to the action phase. Further strengthening of the Energy Master Plan process has been developed by SEAI, which now includes greater structure and guidelines to ensure quality standardized Energy Master Plans are



delivered. Kildare County Council can now also utilize a EMP delivery framework structure established by CODEMA.

It is expected that three other established SEC's in Kildare are considering applying to Kildare County Council for support in delivering their energy master plan.

The Climate Action Office is considering working with Codema to streamline the administration of the system for all parties involved.

Fleet Electrification



The CCMA has recently published its Electric Vehicle Guidance Document for Local Authorities; this is a welcome development which gives direction for LA's as demand for public EV charging and fleet electrification grows. Kildare County Council's suitable small vehicle fleet can also be considered for electrification. We currently have four EV vans in our fleet but there is growing interest in the electrification of other suitable vehicles in the fleet. Some Municipal District Offices have

also expressed interest installing electric vehicle charging points in their depots to facilitate EV charging. As fleet electrification starts to embed in Kildare County Council through infrastructural changes and greater awareness of EV's it will also be key to facilitate specific EV driving training for all drivers of fleet vehicles to ensure potential EV drivers are fully informed and upskilled in this area.

Forestry

The finalised document 'Woodland Creation on Public Lands Scheme' was released on 28 May 2021.

The project is being advanced by a subgroup of the CAT called, Coillteach Chill Dara. Potential sites are being investigated with the relevant functional areas. Template tender documents for procuring the different elements of this scheme are currently being drawn up by a CARO Working Group and these will be available for use by all local authorities. The CARO is seeking clarifications to inform the application process.



Ezine



ISSUE 2

14.06.21

A quarterly update from the Kildare County Council Climate Office

The Climate Action Office will publish its third edition of the year during the first week of October with a view to circulating widely as a mainstreaming tool.

The edition will have items of relevance to council staff with a sprinkling of fun.

Just Transition

The municipal districts of Athy, Clane-Maynooth and Kildare-Newbridge have generously contributed €15,000 per municipal district to establish a fund to engage a consultant to develop and prepare a 'Local Just Transition Plan for West Kildare'. Urban Regeneration Limited are working in earnest to finalise the plan by late November and have undertaken consultation with stakeholders of varying backgrounds. Consultation with public representatives is being organised presently.

Alternatives to Herbicides Project

The Parks/Climate Action Office's project including scientific research together with practical assessment in the field (Kildare County Council Parks Department and National University of Ireland, Maynooth) is designed to produce a practical maintenance guide for public open spaces.

Cork City, Galway City, Meath, Kilkenny, Westmeath, Roscommon Fingal, Offaly Tipperary and South Dublin Councils have confirmed their partnership. Waterways Ireland has confirmed that they will partner shortly and have already worked with us on trials on pavement cleaning.

Sophia Couchman, Masters student, has since June, undertaken field data collection from the research sites, citizen science initiatives, commenced desktop research and initial baseline experiments have taken place on the Millenium Link Road in Naas. During October Maynooth University, Trinity College, NBDC, Teagasc and Kildare County Council are reviewing the data collected to date. Together the potential experiments and follow up research items will be designed to



inform the scientific and practical process during 2022.



Community Stories is continuing to roll out monthly updates and profile posts of those involved in the background and of the work being undertaken.

Work on a circular economy model with regard to disposal of grass not suitable for use as fodder is well advanced with material being sent to Green Generation in late September and October to ascertain it's potential use to create bio-energy. The results of the experiment when known will have the potential to reduce the carbon footprint of maintenance and disposal works.



Council Policy Documents and

Initiatives

The Climate Action Office is delighted to be working with various functional areas to enhance their work through a Climate Action lens.

We are working with planning to inform the CDP, community including Age Friendly and Climate Action Plan for Ballymore Eustace, sustainable transport with future community consultation. The Climate Action Office were delighted to be part of the Kildare Town 'Hear my Voice' Community Roadshow Wednesday 29 September to create awareness of Climate Action in the community.



Roads, Transportation and Public Safety

Key Highlights

- **23 NTA-funded Sustainable Transport projects in progress**
- **118 active Development Control sites**
- **No major Health and Safety incidents**

Projects Update

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.

TII deliverables for Phase 1 are now complete and signed off by both

Kildare County Council and Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII). The scheme has now moved to Phase 2 Option Selection. The scheme 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.

Athy Distributor Road

The letter of acceptance is to be issued to the preferred tenderer in the coming week. 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 Córas Iompair Éireann (CIE) lands have been secured from trespassers. The CIE/IE Bridge Agreement has been signed by both parties and the Waterways Ireland Licence is being finalised. Compensation for compulsory land acquisition is ongoing. The resident engineering (RE) team is currently being procured.



It is expected to have a contractor on site by Quarter 4 2021.

New Machinery Yard Relocation and Regional Salt Barn

The Part 8 approved development will replace the existing Machinery Yard in Newbridge and will include a new Regional Salt Barn. This barn will provide storage for approximately 22,500 tonnes of salt for use by Kildare County Council and a number of other local authorities in the region.

The Enabling Works Contract undertaken by Clonmel Enterprises Ltd. has now been completed. The design and tender documents for the main contract are being progressed by Kilgallen and Partners Consulting Engineers. The equipment contract tender analysis has been completed and the preferred tenderer will be novated into the main contract. The main contract is due to go to tender in October 2021.

It is expected to have a main contractor on site for Quarter 4 2021.

Maynooth Eastern Ring Road

The Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Committee confirmed approval of the Part 8 in respect of Option C, the preferred route, on the 29 July 2019.

Kildare County Council is currently endeavouring to gain control of the lands (identified under the Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund (LIHAF) Scheme) as a prerequisite to the CPO going ahead.

Valuers have been appointed.

Discussions with Waterways Ireland, Iarnród Éireann and CIE are ongoing in relation to the design of the bridge structure which will span the Royal Canal and Dublin/Sligo railway line. Agreement has been reached with Irish Water on the servicing of the lands associated with the MERR LIHAF project. Detailed design of the scheme, including drainage design, is at an advanced stage.

Arrangements are being made for funding discussions with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (LIHAF), the Department of Transport and the National Transport Authority.



Celbridge to Hazelhatch Link Road

Engineering Consultants RPS have been engaged for the Celbridge to Hazelhatch Link Road Project. Kildare County Council was successful in securing funding under Call 1 of the Urban Regeneration Development Fund (URDF). The scheme, which will connect Celbridge Town and the Hazelhatch Train Station, will include a second bridge over the River Liffey. The project is currently at Route Selection stage. A four-week virtual Public Consultation on the route corridor options has been completed and submissions have been compiled.

A URDF Call 2 Application for further funding has been successful with Kildare County Council receiving €10,237,500 for this project (75% funding - Kildare County Council to contribute 25%). This will facilitate the development of this project to construction stage.

A public consultation associated with the emerging preferred route will commence in Quarter 4 2021.

Newhall Junction Improvement

Newhall Crossroads is located on the R445 dual carriageway between Naas and Newbridge. It is the junction of three roads: the R445 the L2031 local road and the L6064 local road. The existing junction is considered unsafe as it is a cross-roads junction on a busy dual carriageway.

A preliminary design for a new roundabout at Newhall has been developed. The Part 8 process has been completed with approval to proceed with the project confirmed at the July municipal district meeting.

Affected landowners are being consulted at present and a decision on whether to proceed with a CPO (rather than by agreement) will be confirmed in early October.

Naas to Sallins Greenway

Kildare County Council are currently engaging with the National Transport Authority on this project and have secured funding to bring this scheme to Part 8. Consultants (ATKINS) have been recently appointed. It is



expected to proceed to Part 8 in Quarter 4 2021.

Naas/Sallins Transport Strategy

The Naas/Sallins Transport Strategy has been completed and published.

Athy Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA)

The Athy Area Based Transport Assessment has recently been completed and the Planning Department have included it in the Draft Athy LAP Process.

Kildare Town Transport Strategy

The Kildare Town Transport Strategy is currently at draft stage. Meetings with the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District councillors were held on the 07 April 2021 and the 26 April 2021. The non-statutory public consultation was completed in August 2021. It is expected to have a final document available in October.

Maynooth Transport Strategy

AECOM Consultants have been appointed to the develop of the Maynooth Transport Strategy. It is

expected to take 12 months to complete and this will facilitate the development of the Maynooth LAP. The first public consultation is to commence on the 06 October and run for six weeks.

Bridge Rehabilitation Programme

Kildare County Council received funding for 2021 from the Department of Transport for bridge rehabilitation works.

The Monasterevin Bridge has significant structural issues in two centre-pier cutwaters. Emergency works are not deemed necessary at this stage. An application to ABP for an EIAR/NIS approval (as the river Barrow is a SAC) has been approved subject to conditions. It is anticipated that rehabilitation works will be undertaken in Quarter 3 2021.

Four bridge projects funded by the Department of Transport for 2021 have been awarded to TRUIR and are to be completed by Quarter 4 2021.

Brook bridge has commenced the approval process with An Bord



Pleanála and it is proposed to proceed to construction stage Quarter 3 2022.

Newbridge Southern Relief Road / Second Bridge Crossing

The section of the Newbridge Southern Relief Road (NSRR) between the Newbridge to Naas dual carriageway (R445) and the Great Connell road is now substantially complete and the Roads Planning Section is currently engaging with the developer on the completion of snags, the transfer of lands and the submission of the taking in charge documentation.

Following the unsuccessful application for funding under URDF Call 2, the Project Team has commenced the tender process for the appointment of consultants to progress the project to stage 4 of the TII Project Management Guidelines (Planning Stage). It is expected to award the contract in October 2021.

Maynooth Inner Relief Street

This road with signalised junctions and a new bridge over the Lyreen River has been substantially completed by Cairn Developments Plc. The Roads

Planning Section is engaging with the developer on the opening of the street to traffic, pedestrians and cyclists. The road safety audit stage 3 is being carried out on the completed works. It is proposed to be opened in Quarter 4 2021.

Kildare Town Northern Link Road and South Green Area Access Improvement Scheme

The Route Selection Report is substantially complete. This project will not proceed further until the Kildare Town Transport Strategy is completed.

Royal Canal Greenway – Maynooth to Moyvalley

The Greenway from Maynooth to Moyvalley is now substantially complete and operational. A stage 4 safety audit and snags are now being completed for this project.

NTA-funded Sustainable Transport Projects Update



Maynooth North-South Corridor (Phase 5)



Designers: AECOM

Land negotiations have concluded along Mill Street, Maynooth.

Consultancy services for the detailed design of the bus stop infrastructure is being procured.

Royal Canal Greenway (Maynooth-Leixlip)

Designers: WS Atkins Ireland Limited
The scheme has been tendered for construction.

Naas to Kill Cycle Route

Designers: Tenders Invited

The scheme has been tendered for redesign following a review undertaken by the National Transport Authority's Cycle Design Office. A revised Part 8 Process will follow.

Easton Road/Green Lane Cycle Route, Leixlip

Designers: WSP Ireland Consulting

The scheme is at preliminary design stage.

Celbridge Bridge

Designers: National Transport Authority

The NTA's consultants are completing their works on the proposed pedestrian improvements across the bridge.

Sallins Village Traffic Management Measures

Designers: Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team

A public consultation process has commenced (Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994). Improvements to the traffic signals in the village are complete.

Maynooth Permeability Measures

Designers: O'Connor Sutton Cronin

The tender process for the construction of permeability measures in Maynooth is complete and being reviewed.

Meadowbrook Road Cycle Route, Maynooth

Designers: WS Atkins Ireland Limited



The scheme is at preliminary design stage.

Celbridge Road Cycle Route, Maynooth

Designers: J.B. Barry Transportation

The scheme is at preliminary design stage.

Kilcock Road Cycle Route, Maynooth

Designers: J.B. Barry Transportation

The scheme is at preliminary design stage. The tender process for the construction of the “Super Crossing Project” at Maynooth University is complete and bring reviewed.

Safe Routes to School Programme

Designers: Kilgallen and Partners

Proposed Part 8 drawings for the scheme are being developed.

Kilcullen Road Cycle Route, Naas

Designers: WS Atkins Ireland Limited

The approved Part 8 of the scheme is being reviewed as part of the detailed design phase.

R445/R416 Junction Improvement, Newbridge

Designers: Inhouse

Preparation of civil engineering and traffic signalling works requirement is underway.

Kildare County Council Speed Limit Review

The closing date for submissions was Thursday 16 September 2021 and 291 are being reviewed.

NBI Fibre Broadband Rollout

Kildare County Council has granted the first Section 254 licence in the Athy Municipal District which will allow NBI install poles and overhead fibre near Castledermot.

Three further Section 254 licences for Naas, Kildare-Newbridge and Athy Municipal Districts are currently being progressed. These licences are for new poles and overhead fibre installation.

Broadband Connection Points

Three sites will provide high speed broadband to the public at the following locations:



- Bigstone Community Hall, Castledermot
- Lullymore Heritage Centre
- Crookstown Further Education and Training Centre.

Athy Municipal District October 2021

National Transport Authority (NTA) – Active Travel Measures Updates

- Moone School works.
Preparatory drainage works are complete. Phase 1 of works are complete. Lining of the car parking outside school has been completed. Surveys being carried out at the present time with a view to a complete design for the villages. Area outside the Piers Café has been granted permission to use the section of new footpath for tables/chairs for outdoor dining.
- Castledermot School works
Phase 1 are complete.
Preparatory drainage works are complete. Lining outside school, including red thermoplastic colouring on ramps has been completed.

Survey being carried out at the present time with a view to a complete design for the village. Looking into linkage between new playground and footpath infrastructure.

- Crookstown School works
phase 1 are complete.
Preparatory drainage works are complete. Lining outside school, including red thermoplastic colouring on ramps has been completed.
Survey being carried out at the present time with a view to a complete design for the village.
- In the above cases we are liaising the Public Realm Team to see if there are any areas of mutual interest. In Castledermot we are liaising with Parks Department with a view to upgrading playground project and provide continuity of services in the vicinity of the works.

Department of Transport – Climate Adaptation Projects

An allocation has been received from the Department of Transport to raise



the R417 at Maganey. The Regional road at this location is adjacent to the Barrow flood plain.

Bus Shelters

Funding has been allocated to Athy Municipal District for two bus shelters in Castledermot for 2021. Athy Municipal District is engaging with the Local Link Team to discuss bus shelters in addition to bus stops along the new routes. Provisional meetings have been held with business owners.

Municipal District Road Improvement Works and Restoration Improvement Works 2021

Surfacing and pad coating of the following Local Schemes has been completed.

- Blackcastle
- Knocknagee
- Ballaghmoone
- Crooket
- Kildoon
- Peelhall
- Nicholastown

- Gotham
- Kildoon Ironhills
- Beaconstown
- Sills Cross
- Kilberry R417

HRA surfacing of the following Regional roads has been completed:

- Ardscull R-418
- Castlemitchell R-428

Local Property Tax (LPT)/Carpark Funded Works 2021

- Footpaths in housing estates throughout Athy – replacement of damaged sections
- McDonnell Drive
- Greenhills
- St.Dominic's Park

Restoration Maintenance Surfacing works

There is a comprehensive surface dressing program in the Athy Municipal District.

- L8073 Russellstown Inch
- L8016 Rathsillagh Narraghmore



- L8007 Ballyshannon
Calverstown
- L8026 Broomfield Snipestown
- L4011 Woodlands
- L4010 Newtown allen
- L4012 Prumplestown
- L4009 Castledermot
- L7071 Kildoon Ironhills
- L8040 Peelhall
- L8078 Nicholastown
- L8087 Blackcastle
- L8090 Knocknagee
- L80901 Oak Park
- L8089 Lisbush Knocknagee
- L8091 Crooket
- L8086 Sills Cross
- L8087 Beaconstown
- L8018 Kilcrow
- L80012 Pit Lane
- L80491 Belan Lane
- L8082 Ballybough Lane
- R427 Cloney
- R417 Kilberry Cloney
- R415 Walterstown
- R414 Mylerstown

Local Improvement Schemes

- Goulyduff
- Hughstown
- Calverstown

- Pullagh
- Killeen East

Community Involvement Schemes

- L80011 Ball Alley Lane
- L80972 Carrigeen Lane
- L70651 Rickardstown Lane
- L8064 Rosbran Lane
- Killeen East Lane

Signage works

Athy Municipal District in the process of upgrading signage on Regional road junctions with local roads, this includes Junction Delineator Posts, etc. Athy Municipal District is upgrading signposting at junctions where the council are upgrading.

Road Markings

Junctions have been identified where lining is faded and needs replacing. Relining to all roads surfaced, where appropriate, including placing of “cats eyes”. This has been assigned to the contractor and the works have commenced.



Public Realm Works

In conjunction with the Public Realm team the Municipal District Office has installed five picnic benches in Athy at Barrow Quay adjacent to the River Barrow.

Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District October 2021

Municipal District Road

Improvement Works 2021

The 2021 program of works is now underway and the following the following re-surfacing works have been completed:

- L70721 Eascanrath Lane
- L6047 Coughlanstown
- L6045 Flemingstown
- L6068 Green Avenue
- L-7089 Raheens, Caragh
- L-7027 Loughbrown
- L-7038 Roseberry
- Bracknagh Road, Rathangan
- L-7087 Blacktrench to Paddy's Bridge

Surface Dressing Works

Our Surface Dressing Programme has commenced. Phase 1 will see the

below named roads receive a surface dressing over a period of two weeks

- L7012 Ballykelly Cross
- L7001 Rathangan
- L7006 Punchersgrange
- L7032 Pollardstown
- L7023 Pollardstown
- R414 Rathangan to Shee Bridge

Local Property Tax (LPT)/Carpark Funded Works 2020

Works in Pairc Mhuire – Completed
Logstown – Footpaths and Road resurfacing

Footpath works in Avondale commenced

Low Cost Accident Schemes:

There are three Low Cost Accident schemes programmed for 2021 and designs will be developed in due course.

Miscellaneous Works:

Verge cutting across all areas of the municipal district underway

Footpath repairs in Newbridge and Kildangan



Pothole repairs across the Municipal District

General Maintenance – Water cuts, patching and gully cleaning

Naas Municipal District October 2021

Cycleway works/Pedestrian Works:

The Naas Municipal District is continuing footpath improvement works (FP3) from 2020. These works had been delayed as a result of COVID-19 restrictions.

- Roseville, Naas – Awaiting Contractor Availability
- St. Martins Avenue, Naas – Complete
- Woodlands, Naas – Works Nearing Completion
- Friary Road, Naas – Awaiting Contractor Availability
- Swans to Patrician Avenue, Naas – Awaiting Contractor Availability

The Naas Municipal District is currently at construction stage for footpath improvement works (Naas Municipal District Footpath and Civil Works

Scheme 1 – 2021). These works were on hold as a result of COVID-19 restrictions but have now commenced. The locations are as follows:

- Main Street., Kill - Complete
- Elmwood, Naas – Complete
- Osberstown Road., Sallins – Complete
- Monread Road., Naas – On hold pending completion of Irish Water works

Construction of a Toucan Crossing in Kill was completed in April.

Bus Shelters

Construction works and installation of bus shelters has been completed at the following locations:

- Kill Village – Main Street
- Sallins – R407 opposite Chapel Lane
- Naas – Dublin Road – Odeon Cinema

Naas Municipal District Road Improvement Works 2021

Works are the following locations (Scheme 1) are all now complete:

- L2022 Eadestown
- L2022 Nunsland
- L6021 Bishops court



- L6026 Coolahocka
- L6029 Cupidstownhill
- L6054 Tipperkevin

Works at the following location (Scheme 2) is now complete:

- L6030 Hempstown (Slate Quarries)

Naas Municipal District Restoration Improvement Works (Scheme 3) – 2021

A tender has issued for works at the following location:

- L2019 Arthurstown

Naas Municipal District Restoration Improvement Works (Scheme 4) – 2021

A tender has issued for works at the following locations:

- L60671 Street. Michaels Terrace Naas
- L2993 Railway Terrace Naas
- L3012 / L29937 Monread Rd. / Monread Avenue Junction

Surface Dressing Works

Surface Dressing works were completed in June at the following locations:

- R410 Blessington Rd. (Naas to Beggar's End)
- R411 Naas to Ballymore Eustace
- L2026 Ardinode to Perrystreet Cross
- L5043 Broadleas
- L2010 Bodenstown
- L60161 Killeenmore

Surface Dressing continued in July at the following locations:

- L6011 Sherlockstown
- L6021 Blackchurch / Castlewarden
- L2014 Kill Interchange to Blackchurch
- L6047 Coughlanstown
- L6051 Dowdenstown

Naas Municipal District Footpath Works

Work has commenced on LPT/Paid Parking Funded Works at the following locations:

- Woodlands, Naas (footpath upgrades) –Nearing Completion



- Elmwood, Naas (footpath upgrades) – Complete
- Morell Avenue (raised uncontrolled crossing) – Complete

- Turnings, Straffan - Ongoing
- Oldtown Court, Naas - Complete
- Dun na Riogh Green, Naas – Complete

Design and tenders continue to be prepared for works at other locations

Low Cost Accident Schemes 2021

There are two Low Cost Accident Schemes programmed for 2021 at the following locations:

- L2007/L2008 Clownings
- L2026/L6059 Kerrys Cross (Ballymore Eustace)

Designs for works at these locations are currently being developed.

Drainage

Naas Municipal District Drainage Works Scheme 1 – 2021

Works have commenced at the following locations:

- Mountain View, Naas - Complete
- Johnstown - Ongoing
- Esmondale, Naas - Complete

Local Improvement Scheme (LIS)

A tender has issued for road resurfacing works at the following locations under the Local Improvement Scheme (LIS):

- Kill Celtic, Kill
- Haynestown

Clane-Maynooth Municipal District October 2021

Road Improvement Works

The crews have continued with general maintenance over the past month which included road repairs, drainage maintenance, verge cutting at strategic junctions, road lining reinstatement at junctions and ramps and sign replacement. The gully cleaning and maintenance programme has commenced month in advance of the winter weather.



Restoration Improvement

The following works were undertaken in September:

Restoration Improvement (Overlay) – Approximately 1.5 km

Additional Overlay in Clane (part of the Irish Water reinstatement works)

- R148/R125/L50392 The Square Kilcock

Additional Overlay in Clane as part of the Irish Water

- R403 – Circle K Junction – Ballinagappa Road to Bus Stop

Other works planned in Clane as part of the Irish Water reinstatement works includes:

- L80137 – Central Park and Churchfield Clane
- L81263 – Abbey Court Clane

The total costs of the restoration improvement programme are being finalised and we have achieved savings over the year. We have awarded a contract for 2.5 km of recycling works on the L70051

Ballyteague to Pluckerstown, this is expected to start in the coming weeks.

Restoration Maintenance (Surface Dressing)

All Complete

General Works:

Footpaths

The Municipal District Office is progressing the identified footpath repair projects. The following works have been completed.

- Church View Lawns, Prosperous – Footpath Repairs
- Corrachoill park, Prosperous – Footpath repairs
- Wood View, Clogherinka – Footpath repairs
- Kilmurray Brook, Kilshanroe
- Mill Race, Broadford
- Grattan Park, Derrinturn
- Newbury Park , Derrinturn
- Trinity Cresnet, Derrinturn
- Drenane Park, Derrinturn

It is hoped to complete the initial project list in the coming months and



identify additional footpaths to progress during Quarter 4 2021.

Drainage

New gulleys and outfalls have been completed at the following locations in the past month:

- L5043 Coonagh
- R403 Derrinturn
- L7080 Mylerstown
- R403 Clane (at Lidl) and footpath repair
- L6002 Goretti Terrace, Prosperous and additional landscaping

Lining

A list of junctions, safety measures and ramps have been identified where lining is faded and needs replacing.

This has been assigned to the contractor and the works have commenced and anticipated to be completed in the coming month.

Subject to available funding, this will be a multi annual programme.

Signage

The Municipal District Office has purchased over 400 signs for replacement, these will be installed during Quarter 4 2021. Subject to available funding this will be a multi annual programme.

LPT Funding

The Municipal District Office is currently examining the LPT projects with an intention to progress these projects during Quarter 4 2021.

Climate Adaptation and Resilience

The Municipal District Office was successful in securing funding for climate adaptation and resilience measures.

- R403 Carbury Road Derrinturn
– Works commenced

Tenders have been published for the following project:

- L5071 Mill Pond Staplestown

Low Cost Safety Schemes

Tenders have been published for the following projects:



- L1019 Mangans Cross
- L2002 Firmount Cross

Other

- Installation of bollards to protect Cyclist in Maynooth
- Walls Repairs on Parsons Street

Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District October 2021

The following works are ongoing in the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District:

Cycleway works/Pedestrian Works

The Royal Canal Greenway design is being finalised and it is planned to go to tender in the coming weeks. The final detailed design drawings are with the NTA and Waterways Ireland awaiting approval to tender the works.

Municipal District Road Improvement Works 2020/2021

The Department of Transport funding allocation for 2021 has been received and it is planned to resurface the following roads during 2021

- R403 Youngs Cross, Celbridge (Completed)

- R148 Maynooth Road, Leixlip (Galvins Cross) (Start date 05 July)
- L1016 Kearneystown Upper to Newtown (Completed)
- L 5056 Green Lane, Leixlip (Completed)
- L1015 Shaughlens Glen, Leixlip (Contract awarded provisional start date 03 August)

Surface Dressing Works

The following roads have been surface dressed :

- L6018 Pluckstown, Ardclough
- L5067 Ardrass, Straffan

Local Property Tax (LPT)/Carpark Funded Works 2021

Design and tendering works on further footpath and roads improvements in the municipal district are ongoing.

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 Defence's ability and training to deliver.

- Assisted at Irish Blood Transfusions Service Clinic in Clane.
- Attended 3 First Aid Events at Naas Racecourse
- Provided First Aid Cover for 10K and 5K Event in Naas.
- Provided assistance to Dublin Civil Defence with Event in the Aviva.
- Attended Rest Centre Evacuation Exercise in Tallaght with Dublin Civil Defence with Catering Unit.

3. Business Continuity Meeting

4. LASOG with LGMA

5. Seniors Meeting

6. FORSA meeting

- Preparation for Health and Safety Week in October (25 to 31 October) underway
- Provided advice and guidance to the community team on event management at Kildare housing estate- review of RAMS etc- follow up and final check

Health and Safety

No accidents or incidents occurred during the month of September. The Health and Safety Section carried out the following:

- 21 COVID-19 Compliance Inspections completed
- 27 online assessments completed
- Meetings attended :
 1. Lead Worker Representative Meeting
 2. Staff App Meeting

Accessibility

- JAM CARD Launched and eLearning program commenced
- CKAN Meeting
- Meeting with Access for All - Louth Disability Group- support given on development of Access Strategy
- Newbridge Access Group Meeting
- Athy Age Friendly Implementation Team Meeting
- Launch of Kildare Inclusion in Schools Project. This initiative is a partnership between DESSA,



CKAN and Kildare County Council.

amongst children and young people.

The aim of the project is to:

- Create positive understanding and awareness of disability and disability equality

Provide students with practical skills and ensuring their school is accessible to all with particular reference to physical accessibility and inclusive communications.

Fire Service

Operational Calls		
Station	Total Calls 2020	Total Calls 2021 (to end September)
Newbridge	429	313
Naas	389	318
Athy	194	160
Maynooth	280	191
Monasterevin	151	120
Leixlip	203	123
Total	1,842	1,255

Fire Safety

	No. Inspections	No. Premises Inspected
2019	75	72
2020	33	31
2021	6	5



	No. Fire Safety Complaints
2019	16
2020	7
2021	9

	No. Fire Safety Certificates
2019	179
2020	204
2021	204

Building and Development Control

BUILDING CONTROL (figures to end of August 2021)

	2020	2021
Commencement Notices:		
Total Number of Commencement Notices received:	461	465
Number of Valid commencement notices received:	454	451
Number of Invalid commencement notices received:	7	9
No. of inspections carried out on Commencement Notices	199	299

	2020	2021
Certificates of Compliance on Completion		
Total Number of Certificates received:	426	483
Number Valid	425	483
Number Invalid	1	0
Awaiting processing	0	0
Additional Information		
Number of inspections carried out on Compliance on Completion	196	191



Disability Access Certificates:	2020	2021
Total Number of Disability Access Certificates received:	124	144
Number granted:	137	124
Number refused:	0	0
Number invalid	2	2
Number of inspections carried out on Disability Access Certificates	66	93

Building Control Active Sites:	2020	2021
Number of units inspected	2067	2313

Development Control Active Sites:	2021
Number of Active Sites	118

Economic, Community and Cultural Development

Community Grants

All Grants Awarded 2021		
Type	No.	Amount
Community Grants	127	€192,311
Festival Grants	56	€42,955
Local Property Tax	306	€536,715
Private Estates Res. Assoc.	300	€111,517
Local Authority Res. Assoc.	71	€44,573
Drehid Grants	28	€201,697
Community Enhancement Programme	27	€148,013
Education Bursaries	35	€24,750
Total	950	€1,302,531



Details of all grants awarded to date in 2021 listed above.

2021 Grants Schemes

Community, festival and residents' associations grants have been assessed. Award letters have issued to successful applicants and payments are being processed.

Local Property Tax Grants

Lists have been advised from municipal districts and community section staff are processing relevant awards or mini-schemes as required. Grants awarded to date are as above.

Community Enhancement Programme

€148,013 has been allocated for 27 local projects in Kildare ranging from €1,000 to €10,000. The funding will support capital projects/equipment to enhance facilities and to assist with costs associated with reopening or sustainability of facilities impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Education Bursaries

Applications were assessed in September. 35 awards have been made.

Local Community Development Committee October 2021

The last meeting of the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) meeting was held via Microsoft Teams on 29 September 2021.

Kildare Integration Strategy

The Kildare Integration Strategy was launched on 30 September by Minister Roderic O Gorman. This is a very important strategy for the county and is a key part of the SICAP plan 2020/2021.

Athy Creative Places

Following the recruitment campaign for a Creative Places Co-ordinator for Athy, it is anticipated that the successful candidate will commence in the role shortly.



Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP)

It is anticipated the guidelines for the Local Economic Development Plan will be available from the Department of Rural and Community Development shortly.

Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC)

Two local partnership projects have received national recognition

- a) Supporting Families Sharing the Learning - a project between Kildare CYPSC and Kildare Library Service has been shortlisted for the Chamber Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards
- b) Minding Me: Supporting Expectant and new mothers in Kildare West Wicklow was shortlisted for the HSE Excellence Awards
- Work is continuing to progress an Outdoor Teen Space for young people in Celbridge
- Work continues to develop the Newbridge Forum

- The inaugural meeting of the Domestic Violence Network for Kildare took place in July.

Targeted Youth Application

Lorraine Flynn, the ETB Youth Officer for Kildare, presented an overview of KWETB's New Site Submission 2022-2023 to the LCDC on 'UBU Your Place Your Space Youth Funding Scheme'.

The submission is for a targeted youth project in Celbridge to provide out-of-school supports to young people. The outcome from the application will be known shortly.

Kildare Town Community School

Mr John Hayes, Principal, Kildare Town Community School made a presentation to the LCDC on work taking place within the school to address literacy/numeracy issues through innovative programmes. These programmes are based on US and UK models.

Sláintecare

Athy is one of 19 successful towns selected to be part of the National Healthy Communities initiative. This



will mean greater resources and opportunities for Athy as a healthy town. A dedicated co-ordinator will be employed and work to co-ordinate approaches between Kildare County Council, HSE and Tusla is agreed.

Community Enhancement Programme 2021

The Department of Rural and Community Development announced Community Enhancement Programme funding of €148,013 for Kildare. There were 32 applications received with 27 approved for funding by the LCDC.

Social Enterprise Community Grant Scheme

Social Enterprise Community Grant Scheme funding was recently announced to support small capital projects. The funding available under this grant scheme in Kildare is €35,053.13. The closing date for receipt of applications is 15 October at 5:00 p.m., in line with national guidelines. See below for the online application link.

<https://kildare.ie/CountyCouncil/AllServices/Community/CommunityGrants/SocialEnterpriseCapitalGrantsScheme/>

LEADER Programme

Applications are now being sought from individuals, businesses and community groups/organisations seeking grant aid to progress enterprise, community development and environmental initiatives.

The LCDC/LAG have agreed priorities for funding. Applications are invited for grants ranging from €15,000 to €100,000. There are strict criteria and priorities for the funding.

Two projects were approved by the LCDC/LAG on 29 September for LEADER grant aid totaling €46,902.33

1. JF Waterbikes Ltd were grant aided €25,149.78 towards 12 new water-bikes, a new website for the business and 24 life-vests as part of a start-up business in Sallins. This business will offer a new and unique waterbike experience rental business based on the Grand Canal in Sallins.
2. Kilcullen Community Action CLG was grant aided €21,752.55 towards a Town Design Statement for Kilcullen.



Contracts are currently being signed to finalise the process.

County Kildare LEADER Partnership (CKLP) can be contacted for detailed information and support:

www.countykildarelp.ie or telephone 045-895450

SICAP- Social Inclusion Programme

SICAP is on track to fully deliver its targets in 2021. The programme has been extended by a further year until 2023. Following the mid-term review, Pobal are very satisfied with progress.

The Minister is requesting a short Mid Programme Review linked to the planning process for 2022.

LCDC will work with CKLP to agree the priorities for 2022/2023 in the coming weeks.

For further information on the programmes and supports on offer please contact: County Kildare LEADER Partnership – www.countykildarelp.ie, or telephone 045-895450

Healthy Ireland Strand 1 Round 3

Ms Laura Kelly recently started in the post of Healthy Ireland Co-ordinator. She will oversee the implementation of the projects funded under HI3. This programme concludes at the end of the year and information is awaited regarding HI Round 4.

A Healthy Kildare Planning process is commencing shortly.

The next LCDC meeting will be held on Wednesday 24 November 2021.

Kildare Fáilte

At the end of August, the plan for the easing of restrictions was announced starting with the return of live music and outdoor sporting events in September. This was celebrated by many tourism and hospitality providers as they welcomed more people back for live events. This was just in time for Culture Night which was supported by Kildare Fáilte across social media and the Into Kildare website.

Fáilte Ireland continue to offer supports to the tourism industry and



hosted the first in-person business tourism industry briefing in Dublin since the easing of restrictions which was attended by Kildare Fáilte. The shoulder season webinar by Ireland's Ancient East was also attended by Kildare Fáilte, which highlighted how tourism businesses can be supported in the shoulder season. A Fáilte Ireland Keep Discovering Toolkit was shared. Kildare Fáilte attended the Tourism Ireland industry briefing webinar on their new Push the Green Button Campaign to encourage visitors to push the button and book now.



Kildare Fáilte were delighted to continue to host press trips in September and welcomed travel writer Michelle Jackson who experienced the luxury of Kildare and will share her experience in the Irish Independent and the Irish Daily Mail. Further press trips will take place in October.



Kildare Fáilte participated in a workshop with Fáilte Ireland and Repucon Consulting regarding the Shackleton Museum project. Fáilte Ireland shared feedback from their site visit to the museum and an interactive discussion was held to map out the next steps for the business plan.

The Kildare Fáilte team were invited on a guided walk of the De Burgh Woodland with Councillor Seamie Moore where he shared insights and history on the site with hopes of it opening to the public in the near future.



Councillor Seamie Moore, Áine Mangan of Into Kildare and guests.

Kildare Fáilte presented to new tourism businesses setting up on the Barrow Blueway as part of the Local Enterprise Office Start Your Business program. The Royal Canal visitor experience workshop was attended for a review of a report carried out by Sport Ireland. This included putting itineraries in place for journalists and influencers visiting in the coming weeks. Filming took place in Maynooth to create content for the Royal Canal Greenway Autumn campaign 'Your Path to...'.

Media coverage in September encouraged visitors to explore the hidden parts of Kildare they may not have visited before which included magical places to stay in Kildare and

outdoor walks to embark on this Autumn.

The Kildare campaign will take place from 27 September as part of the Keep Discovering campaign using the additional funds secured from Fáilte Ireland last August and will run for four weeks across national press and radio. Several Kildare properties also featured in House and Home at the beginning of September in an article featuring 25 of Irelands best design hotspots.

Social media content in September also focussed on hidden gems to visit. Kildare Fáilte supported September, National Bike Week and National Walking Day which encouraged locals to walk and cycle in Kildare. Live music and events were promoted as businesses could welcome audiences back again across all social media channels.

Visitor engagement on all social media channels remains strong with users interested in posts inspiring where to visit this Autumn with places to eat, walk and go with family being the most popular. The message, We Care in Kildare, and support local continues to be a key priority.



Library and Arts Service

To build up a library is to create a life.
It's never just a random collection of books.

Easing of Restrictions

From 20 September there was an easing of restrictions in all libraries. Public computers are now available, along with print, scan and copy services. Browsing times have been increased to one hour and a higher volume of visits are being accommodated per hour. Remaining restrictions are expected to be lifted in late October.

Kildare Readers Festival 2021

Kildare Readers Festival is brought to you every year in October by Kildare County Library and Arts Service. The festival brings the very best from the world of literature to our audiences through the provision of exciting, innovative, and accessible events. Since its inception in 2010, the festival audiences have continued to grow. This year's festival is a hybrid mix of some live events, some online live events, and some recorded online events. As always, the events are free but do require advance booking,

especially the live events being held in the Riverbank Arts Centre.

There is a host of amazing authors and artists lined up between 26 September and 17 October, with festival favourites such as Ten Books and Sunday Sessions making their return. With a shared love of history and debate John Bowman and Abie Philbin Bowman are ideal interviewer and interviewee as they discuss John's book Ireland the Autobiography: One Hundred Years in the Life of the Nation, Told by its People. On Saturday night Luke Cassidy's Iron Annie Cabaret is a celebration of music, theatre and literature based on his debut novel Iron Annie. On the Sunday the Kildare Readers Festival welcome writer and artist Sara Baume covering wide ground in the spellbinding audio-visual essay, The Alphabet of Birds, a show about our obsessions and passions. With 24 events to choose from, there is something for everyone. Check out kildarereadersfestival.ie for more information.

Children's Book Festival 2021

The annual Children's Book Festival helps spread the enjoyment of books and reading among children and



families, authors and illustrators, teachers, and librarians all over Ireland. The further promotion and support of the Children's Book Festival is a central tenet of the Right to Read initiative.

This year Kildare Libraries will hold 14 public events and 25 school events across the month of October to celebrate Children's Book Festivals. Authors involved include Helen Corcoran, Kieran Fanning, Paddy Donnelly, and Carmel Uí Cheallaigh as well as some exciting literary based cookery and writing workshops. This year also will include a talk with the Dyslexia Association of Ireland for parents and caregivers on how to best support young people in celebration of Dyslexia Awareness Month.

Reader Services

Kildare Libraries have purchased copies of the Children's Books Ireland annual reading guide, this year entitled 'Free to be me'. This themed reading guide highlights books that celebrate diversity, representation and inclusion for children and young people aged 0–18. The Free to Be Me reading guide promotes equity and visibility of diverse stories in both school and

public libraries, bookshops, and shelves in the home. Every child has the right to be free to be themselves. The guide is available in all Kildare Libraries.

Dormant Account Funding

An application to run a programme of events for Deis schools was successful under the Dormant Account Funding scheme. The programme called "Stories and Science", combines Storytime, Art and Science inspired by Roald Dahl books. The workshops were completed in September to eight classes, each class participating in a story workshop and it's associated science workshop. The result of the workshops was children either making glue or a wormery with plenty of fun, discussion, stories, and science along the way. The feedback was very positive, and the workshops were described as "The quality of teaching and learning was exceptional."

Keep Safe Campaign

Keeping Active – Final Phase

Kildare Library Service in conjunction with Kildare Sports Partnership organised online talks for secondary



schools to focus on keeping well, physically and mentally.

Dr Mary O’Kane spoke on anxiety, it’s effects and how young people can take control, Jennifer Ryan spoke on communication and its role in improving relationships and Eric Donovan spoke on Motivation and Resilience discussing his own life and adversity with motivational tips. 11 talks were delivered to four secondary schools reaching 1200 students. The final four talks are scheduled to take place in October.

Library IT Projects

New Library Management System

Civica are the company contracted to supply the new national Library Management System (LMS) which Kildare Library Service hope will go live in March 2022. The new LMS, called Spydus, is an improvement on our current LMS as it is web based and much more user friendly. Kildare Library Service have already begun our engagement with Civica which is going very well with 30 hours of preparatory workshops delivered so far. For the library user Kildare Library Service expect a lot more integrated experience with eServices such as

eBooks accessible from library user accounts as well as the Borrowbox app. Kildare will have its own unique library catalogue as well as a shared Libraries Ireland catalogue.

Age Friendly Programme

Age and Opportunity are working on an Arts and Creative Charter for Older People. Part of the charter is a survey that began Monday 27 October and closes on Monday 08 November. Naas Library delivered 10 copies of the survey to each of the large branches and seven copies to the smaller branches. Included with the survey was: A letter outlining details of the pack including the survey website link, A Poster, Draft Laminated Charter. The libraries will play a big part in getting this survey completed.

Information Day at the Hazel Hotel, Monasterevin, Saturday 09 October 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Residents of the Direct Provision Centre, Hazel Hotel, Monasterevin are invited to an open information day on local activities and services. Supported by Kildare Leader Partnership, InSync, Tusla, Kildare Sports Partnership and Kildare Library and Arts Service.



Refreshments and fun and games for the children.

Capital Projects

Naas Library and Cultural Centre

Duggan Lynch, main contractor for Naas Library and Cultural Centre Capital Project are progressing works as per contract programme.

County Library, Archives and Cultural Centre

This Capital Project received Urban Regeneration Development Funding (URDF) under Category B as part of the Newbridge Cultural and Civic Quarter. Metropolitan Workshop Architects have been appointed as the Design Team lead and are working with the Public Realm and Special Projects Team and the Library Service on the design in advance of the Part 8 Planning process.

New Clane Library

The tender for the Architect led Design Team is complete and successful architect will be appointed in the coming weeks.

Local Studies, Genealogy and Archives (LSG&A)

Access to Collections

Local Studies, Genealogy and Archives are currently based in Kildare Town, to facilitate works to the old county library building in Newbridge. Staff continue to assist researchers, local history groups, and students with research queries. Contact localhistory@kildarecoco.ie or archives@kildarecoco.ie or 087 3611439.

Local History Groups and Schools

The LSG&A Department continues to work with local history groups and schools throughout the county. Presentations to schools and local history groups are continuing. Kildare Library Service are also working with the Federation of Local History Groups on its AGM planned for late October, at which we will launch audio recordings of the poems of Thomas Behan who was killed during the Civil War. These recordings of over 15 local historians took place on 11 September.

Archives

Processing of archival material is ongoing, including the Medicott Family



papers and the Drummin House archive. Kildare Library Service also received some smaller deposits of archival material.

Work is continuing the development of a Records Management policy and procedures for Kildare County Council. A conservator from Muckross House, Killarney, visited LSG&A to assess some of our material and give advice on possible conservation needed.

Newbridge Library, Archives and Local Studies Capital project

Work on the design of the above has commenced and LSG&A facilitated site visits to the collections and visited Wicklow County Library and Archives to view its newly opened premises.

Kildare Decade of Commemorations

John Devoy Seminar 2021

The John Devoy Seminar took place online on Saturday 18 September. American historian Frances Christ gave a fascinating talk on 'Kildare's Forgotten Fenian' John Kenny from Kilcock who worked with John Devoy for many years. Historian and author, Liz Gillis, also gave a talk on the Customs House attack of 1921. These

are now available to view on the County Kildare Decade of Commemorations Facebook page and YouTube Channel.

Culture Night 2021

Pat Lonergan delivered an online presentation 'In Other News' Behind the newspaper headlines, 1916-1923, supported by the County Kildare Decade of Commemorations Committee.

Old Ireland in Colour – Kildare Readers Festival 2021

Authors of the best-selling Old Ireland In Colour books, Dr Sarah-Anne Buckley, and Dr John Breslin, will be appearing online at the Kildare Readers Festival at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday 16 October, to discuss their work and the process of colourisation of historical photographs. This event is supported by County Kildare Decade of Commemorations. Bookings can be made through <http://www.kildarereadersfestival.ie/>

History Ireland Hedge School

Podcast – Prisoners and Prisoners

The Committee commissioned a podcast, featuring historians James



Durney, William Murphy, Mary McAuliffe, and Liam Ó Duibhir on the topic of prisons and prisoners during the War of Independence.

The Great Escape, the Curragh, 1921

A video was produced by the LSG&A team to mark the centenary of the famous escape of prisoners from the Rath Internment Camp on the Curragh in September 1921 with original music and images. Staff were interviewed on KFM to mark this centenary.

Decade of Commemorations Plans

Preparatory work on the Decade of Commemorations Programme for 2022 is underway. Feedback has been provided to the Department, which will be issuing its community strand guidelines shortly. A major commemorative event to mark the centenary of the arrival, training, and subsequent mutiny of the Civic Guards in Kildare Town, will take in April 2022, while the centenary of the foundation of the Civic Guard, later An Garda Síochána, is being planned for May 2022. Activities to mark the centenary of the Treaty, the death of Ernest

Shackleton and the outbreak of the Civil War will also take place.

Kildare Arts Service

Culture Night Kildare

Culture Night / Oíche Chultúir took place on Friday 17 September 2021. Almost 60 free arts and cultural events took place across the county organised by individuals, community groups and arts organisations and supported by Kildare Library and Arts Services. Registration for all events was free and this year most events took place in person, in adherence with government guidelines. For 2021 Kildare Arts Service commissioned Culture Night Murals by artists Paul Woods, SOLUS and Kildare Art Collective with Holly Pereira at three locations in Newbridge. The murals can be viewed at the Kildare County Council Machinery Yard (Paul Woods), George's Street (SOLUS) and Abbins House, Eyre Street (Holly Pereira).

In addition, the Arts Service commissioned new arts projects supporting artists working in various artforms across the county: Fizz and Chips Productions' 'Live in the Garden', an evening of music, comedy



and theatre (Kilcock Community Gardens); 'Absolutely Fabulously Ridiculously Ugly' a new play by Conor Burke (The Moat Theatre, Naas), Conor Walton's 'Portrait Marathon' (The Moat Theatre, Naas); 'The Kildare Folklore Pharmacy' by Sheena Malone (Main Street, Newbridge). Click [here for full listings](#) of all Culture Night Kildare events.

Come Back Festival

The Come Back Festival produced by Kildare Culture is supported by Kildare County Council and produced by Davis Events. The festival which includes in person live and streamed online events, is funded under the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media's Local Live Performance Programming Scheme.

In late September, as part of the Come Back Festival, Christy Moore was announced to play an exclusive intimate 120 person show at the Moat Theatre Naas on 10 October, with tickets selling out in a matter of minutes. Christy Moore joins a line-up that includes Bell X 1, Paddy Casey, Arlene Bailey, Amy Rowlett, Tebi Rex, JyellowL, Sive and Megan O'Neil for

this festival of live music culture showcasing Kildare's finest talent. The public can register online for the online concerts which begin on 07 October until 16 October. Free tickets are available through kildareculture.com

Parks

Allenwood Playground

Further to previous reports the objective is to have a tender ready by the end of the year and for construction to take place in 2022.

Sallins Amenity Land

The masterplan for Sallins Amenity Land is nearing completion and it is hoped to have the Part 8 advertised for it before the end of November.

Local Enterprise Office (LEO)

Funding Applications Awarded From January – 14 September 2021		
	No. Businesses	Amount Received
Web Development Grant	105	€185,640



Shopfront Grant		
*Remainder of funds per MD see pg2	62	€ 121,455
Outdoor Seating and Accessories Grant	97	€380,646
Export Marketing Grant	14	€22,425
Start-up/ Expansion/Priming/ Export Marketing Grants	47	€765,451
Agile Innovation Fund	2	€112,087

Elected members are asked to advise constituents that Kildare LEO is always open to discuss business needs or grant availability, and weekly business advice clinics are available.

Immediate business support:

To access a business advisor or mentor, email

localenterprise@kildarecoco.ie

Register query or request to speak to an advisor:

<https://leokildare.submit.com//show/11>

3

For Brexit and Export support, email afrese@kildarecoco.ie

For all other queries email localenterprise@kildarecoco.ie or call 045980838.

For continued updates please follow Kildare County Council's LEO on social media.

Shopfront Grant Budget Remaining

Kildare-Newbridge	€645
Athy	€17,545
Naas	€384
Clane-Maynooth	€20,632
Celbridge Lexlip	€25,789

Applications closed for the Town and Village Renewal Streetscape Enhancement Scheme 2021

The aim of the scheme is to enhance the streetscape environment of towns by encouraging and supporting owners of premises to improve their individual building facades.



It was intended that the scheme will result in a more attractive environment that residents, visitors, shoppers and businesses can enjoy. It is also envisaged that this scheme will assist in promoting towns in Kildare as attractive places for social and business interaction thereby increasing the vitality and viability of towns, with positive benefits for all.

Kildare County Council received 10 completed applications from the following areas:

Location	Number of Applications
Monasterevin	4
Rathangan	2
Sallins	3
Ballitore	1
Total	10

Applications closed for Fáilte Ireland Outdoor Seating and Accessories for Tourism and Hospitality Businesses

The scheme was administrated through the Economic Development Department. It provided support to 128 independent hospitality and

tourism businesses in Kildare. It provided support towards the cost of equipment to provide additional outdoor seating and facilitate these independent businesses to increase their outdoor dining capacity for the summer of 2021.

Innovation Conference - Fueling Small Business Success through Innovation – Launch of Can Do Innovate Challenge

On Thursday 30 September (9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.), the Kildare Local Enterprise Office hosted the National Innovation Conference for the Local Enterprise Offices to over 85 clients. Businesses all over the country were offered a unique opportunity to improve competitive edge with the online event.

The webinar came as part of a wider initiative of Kildare Local Enterprise Office with support from Enterprise Ireland to help small businesses finance research and innovation projects. The initiative features Innovation Vouchers worth €5,000 to assist a companies in exploring new business opportunities with a registered knowledge provider.



Over 145 clients registered their attendance at the conference. The CAN DO Innovate Challenge was launched which encourages clients to contact LEO Kildare are avail of supports.

E-Tenders and Tendering - Understanding and Accessing the Public Procurement Processes

On Wednesday 06 October a number of Kildare businesses participated in an introductory programme on public procurement and the processes involved. The programme was an online interactive workshop that would equip participants with the tools to navigate the public sector marketing place and to understand the process of how to bid effectively for public sector opportunities. The objective of the programme was to demystify the tendering process and help businesses to write better bids to improve their chances of winning more contracts.

€100,000 Green for Micro' Funding Initiative

Kildare Local Enterprise Office continues to provide support for

businesses across county Kildare to prepare for the low-carbon economy. Businesses in county Kildare can avail of two full days of consultancy costs worth €1,800, a unique opportunity to cut harmful emissions and make significant energy, waste, water and other savings through this programme. Over 50 clients have availed of the Green for Micro Programme in 2021.

Please advise constituents that applications are open for the Green for Micro Programme at:

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Financial-Supports/Green-for-Micro/>

LEO Mentor Support Programme

The LEO mentoring programme is available. This support is free of charge. Over 500 clients have availed of Mentoring in 2021 thus far.

Please advise constituents that applications are open for the Green for Micro Programme at:

<https://leokildare.submit.com/show/17>

Export Support for Kildare SMEs

Enterprise Ireland are hosting a free webinar series for all micro and SME



companies who are looking to take the first step into exporting or to diversify into new markets.

Please advise constituents of this opportunity here:

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/News/The-Export-Compass-series.html>

Economic Support Services

MERITS – Innovation and Incubation Centre

The Practical Completion Certificate has been issued for the building. Internal furnishing and ICT fit out are now underway with a view to opening the building in October. Applications for tenancy within the MERITS building has been steady and the evaluation process is well underway. The team recently announced its Autumn schedule of programmes with media coverage across social media, local print media and on KFM. The two leo funded Programmes, TechHatch for early-stage businesses and GoGlobal for more developed companies that are revenue-generating, will commence this month and run for

the next two months, leading to a public Demo-Day and Investor pitch day respectively.



National Equine Innovation Centre

The programme of works will be completed in early October and the marketing and promotion of the NEIC will commence to attract equine innovation companies from Kildare to locate there.

Athy Food, Drink and Skills Innovation Hub

Now almost ready for Construction Tendering the Economic Development Team in Kildare County Council submitted a funding application for under RRDF Category 1 to the Department of Rural and Community Development to provide for construction works associated with the renovation of the hub however the application was not successful. The team will be pursuing other funding



streams once they reopen in the coming weeks.

Kildare Hub Strategy

Kildare County Council Economic Development Team appointed a consultant, PMG Consult, in July to develop a hub strategy that carries out a critical piece of analysis for the county to ensure its future growth and to align its approach and hub development strategy with regional

and national policy. A consultation phase has taken place with over 25 stakeholders and a draft strategy was presented to the Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning SPC for consideration on Thursday 23 September the draft was fully supported and work to finalise the report for the end of October is on track. It is intended that the final strategy will be published before the end of 2021.

Appendix: COVID-19 Business Supports

Please advise your constituents of the following business supports available in response to COVID-19.

All COVID-19 Business Supports Available from All Government Bodies Outlined on the Kildare LEO Website:

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Financial-Supports/Covid-19-Supports/Covid-Business-Supports-National-Lockdown-October-2020.html>

Objective	Support	Link
Financial		
Funding to businesses who are not eligible for the Government's COVID Restrictions Support Scheme (CRSS), the Fáilte	Small Business Assistance Scheme for Covid [SBASC]	https://kildare.ie/countycouncil/YourCouncil/Finance/CommercialRates/



Ireland Business Continuity grant or other direct sectoral grant schemes.		
Immediate Cashflow	MFI COVID-19 Business loan – The first six months is interest and repayment free, a reduced rate of 4.5%, a LEO mentor assigned to complete the loan application form.	https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/News/Microfinance-Ireland-COVID-19-Business-Loan.html
Generate Revenue with Online Sales	Shop County Kildare – 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	https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/News/Introducing-Shop-County-Kildare!.html
	Trading Online - Please encourage constituents to submit completed application forms to the LEO at localenterprise@kildarecoco.ie .	https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Financial-Supports/Online-Trading-Vouchers/
Upgrade Shopfronts and Implement Outdoor COVID-19 Signage	Kildare Shopfront Grant Scheme	https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Start-or-Grow-your-Business/Supports-by-Sector/Retail-/Kildare-County-Council-Shop-Front-Accessibility-Grant-Scheme.html
Advisory:		
Expert Strategic Mentoring	Free of charge 1:1 mentoring programme with panel of specialist mentors	https://www.localenterprise.ie/!KHSQYE



Health and Safety Guidance	Free of charge 1:1 mentoring with specialist to ensure businesses have tools and knowledge to implement Health and Safety measures in line with Government Guidelines to allow them open as soon as possible	https://www.localenterprise.ie/!KHSQYE
Managing Employees in line with Government 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 bringing staff back to work in line with Government Guidelines to allow them open as soon as possible	https://www.localenterprise.ie/!KHSQYE
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	Email localenterprise@kildarecoco.ie to apply
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	https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/
Communications:		
Frequent Updates Regarding the Evolving Situation, Notification of Upcoming Supports and	The LEO website, newsletter, social media, the Head of Enterprise Update, online knowledge hubs.	Head of Enterprise Note: https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/News/Head-of-Enterprise-Updates.html



services as well as support documents and publications		Sign up to newsletter: https://localenterprise.us8.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=8fc2c8db27df60c85a7f58de8&id=87063fc48c
Access to LEO team and specialists	The LEO mailbox, direct and personal phone contact and ability to speak to specialist within 24 hours of enquiry	localenterprise@kildarecoco.ie 045980838

Sonya Kavanagh
Interim Chief Executive