



Chief Executive's Management Report – September 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

Launch of Contact Us Portal

A new online contact system has been launched by Kildare County Council (see page 7).

Appointment of Cathaoirligh

The Annual Meetings of the Municipal District Committees took place in July (see page 10).

Launch of Finance Customer Portal and App for Rates and Rent Customers

In July 2021 the Finance Department launched a new customer portal and application for rent and rates customers (see page 13).

Launch of Housing for All

Housing for All, a new Housing Plan for Ireland was launched on the 02 September (see page 14).

Athy Local Area Plan

The Athy Local Area Plan came into effect on 14 September 2021 (see page 24).

Water Services - Infrastructural Projects

The remaining permanent reinstatement works in Pairc Mhuire commenced on Monday 13 September (see page 35).

Guidance for Local Authorities - Preparing Local Authority Climate Action Plans

An expected deadline of the end of October 2021 for completion of the guidelines is anticipated (see page 45).



Athy SDR

Approval to award the construction contract for the Athy Distributor Road (see page 55)

Celbridge to Hazelhatch Link Road

A URDF Call 2 Application for further funding has been successful (see page 56).

Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme

Kildare LCDC was successful in securing Athy as one of 17 areas in the Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme (see page 76)

Appointment of New Chair of LCDC

Councillor Suzanne Doyle is the new Chair of LCDC (see page 77)

Kildare Fáilte/Into Kildare Website

The new Into Kildare website promoting tourism in the county launched on 22 July (see page 79).

Shortlisting for Chambers Award - 'Supporting Families, Sharing the Learning'

Kildare Library Service has been shortlisted for the Chambers Excellence in Local Government Award in the category of Best Library Service for its 'Supporting Families, Sharing the Learning' training initiative (page 81).

Mother and Toddler Group

Newbridge Library were successful in their application for a grant through the Dormant Account funding to start a mother and toddler group with the Eyre Powell direct provision centre (see page 83).

Food, Craft and Women in Business Cluster Groups Launched

On Monday 06 September, Kildare Local Enterprise Office launched networking cluster groups in craft, food and female entrepreneurship (see page 91).



Diary/Calendar

Online Live Panel Event promoting Women and Diversity in Local Government

Takes place on Wednesday 13 October at 11:00am to 12 o'clock (see page 11)

Summary of Social Housing Assessments 2021

The Minister for Housing , Local Government and Heritage has directed that the summary be prepared on 17 November 2021 (see page 15).

Applications under the Self-Help Scheme 2021

Deadline for completion of approved work extended to 31 January 2022 (page 18).

Adoption of the Naas Local Area Plan

A Special Meeting of Full Council is scheduled for 21 October in Newbridge Town Hall to consider adoption of the LAP (see page 25).

Irish Water Councillor Clinics

Schedule of upcoming clinics in 2021 (see page 37).

Economic Opportunities arising from Climate Action

A national conference will take place on 12 and 13 October 2021 (see page 43).

Climate Leadership Training

Training is due to take place in Kildare on Friday 24 September (see page 43).

Social Inclusion Week 2021

County Kildare Social Inclusion Week 27th of September - 1st of October (page 75)

Integration Strategy Launch

Roderic O'Gorman TD to launch the County Kildare Integration strategy 2020-2026 at an online event on Thursday the 30 September at 11:00 am. (see page 78)

Upcoming Innovation Conference - Fueling Small Business Success through Innovation

On Thursday 30 September (9:30 a.m.–1 p.m.), Kildare LEO hosts the National Innovation Conference for Local Enterprise Offices (see page 90).



<div> <div>Today < ></div> <div>October 2021</div> <div> <div>Dublin</div> <div> <div>Today</div> <div>68° F / 59° F</div> </div> <div> <div>Tomorrow</div> <div>61° F / 53° F</div> </div> <div> <div>Saturday</div> <div>60° F / 53° F</div> </div> <div>Month</div> </div> </div>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 Sep	27 15:00 Full Council; Newbridge	28 14:30 Audit committee	29 10:00 LCDC	30	1 Oct 10:00 Clane Maynooth MD Monthly Meeting	2
3	4	5	6	7 11:30 Local Community and Culture SPC	8	9
10	11 13:00 Finance Committee 14:00 CPG	12 15:30 Naas Municipal District Monthly meeting	13	14	15 10:00 Celbridge Leixlip Municipal district Monthly meeting	16
17	18 10:00 Athy Municipal District Monthly meeti.. 15:00 Full Council Monthly Meeting	19	20 10:00 Kildare Newbridge Municipal District Monthly meeting	21 09:00 Twinning Liaison Committee 10:30 Full Council meeting Naas LAP, Ne...	22	23
24	25	26	27 11:30 County Twinning Committee 11.30am	28	29	30
31	1 Nov	2	3	4 14:00 Roads Transportation Public Safety and Emergency Services	5 10:00 Clane Maynooth Municipal District Meetings	6



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Corporate Services

Excellence in Business Award:



Kildare County Council was awarded an 'EXCELLENCE IN BUSINESS AWARD' for excellence in Community Support, by The Public Sector Magazine.

The Excellence in Business Awards are awarded to Local Government and companies who can demonstrate outstanding service, continuity, track record and overall excellence to the Public Sector, Irish Companies and to the people of Ireland.

Kildare County Council's award for supporting local communities recognised the ongoing work in supporting and developing the communities of county Kildare, including initiatives to provide civic leadership and community

engagement opportunities. From community supports and funding to facilitating a wide range of events, initiatives and programmes, the council works to develop, strengthen and empower Kildare communities.

Kildare County Council along with the other award recipients were featured in a special Awards Issue of The Public Sector Magazine published in August.

Customer Services

Customer Service Developments: Launch of Contact Us Portal

Kildare County Council has launched a new Customer Contact Portal which will allow people to contact the council, report an issue or request information quicker and easier than ever.

Accessible via the Kildare County Council website, and supported by a Customer Relationship Management System, the contact portal is part of an ongoing suite of digital developments from Kildare County Council to enable the most efficient delivery of council services and engagement with the citizens of Kildare.

Where to find the Portal

The new contact portal can be accessed by clicking the 'Contact Us'



button anywhere you see it on the Kildare County Council website. This will bring you to the Contact Us page where you will find the link to the [Contact Portal](#).

How to use the Portal:

You can view [this video](#) for an overview of how to use the portal.

Other digital initiatives

The contact portal is the latest in a suite of digital developments by Kildare County Council which include an [online appointments system](#) and [a consultation portal](#) as well as a [new app and portal for rent and rates customers](#).

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.
- People with a physical illness or disability residing in a Nursing

Home, Hospital or similar care facility.

- People 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.

To apply:

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

Completed forms to be returned to Register of Electors at the address below.

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



Members Services

Meetings

Municipal District Committees

The Annual Meetings of the Municipal District Committees took place in July and the following were the last two appointments made:



Athy – The Annual Meeting took on Monday 19 July. Councillor Ivan Keatley was appointed Cathaoirleach, Councillor Brian Dooley was appointed Leas-Cathaoirleach.



Kildare-Newbridge – The Annual Meeting took place on Wednesday 21 July. Councillor Robert Power was appointed Mayor, Councillor Chris Pender was appointed Deputy Mayor.

As is the tradition, there were no statutory meetings held during the month of August, however a number of briefings were arranged for members in relation to MD specific plans.

Municipal District Committee meetings return in September with the decision to meet in person or online being made by each Municipal District Committee.



The September meeting of Full Council will be held on Monday 27 at 3:00pm in Newbridge Town Hall.

Online Panel Event to promote Women and Diversity in Local Government

The Members Services and Communications Team continue to plan and prepare for an online panel event to promote the Government initiative to support Women and Diversity in Local Government. This is an online event, with a live panel, and will take place on Wednesday 13 October at 11:00am to 12 o'clock. Further details will follow.



Chief Executive



Peter Carey retired at the end of August after 7 years as Chief Executive of Kildare County Council and 40 years of local authority service at all levels across a number of County Councils.

Members and staff wished him well on his retirement and thanked him for his enormous contribution to Kildare during his tenure as Chief Executive.

Ms. Sonya Kavanagh has been appointed interim Chief Executive from 1st September, 2021 pending the making of a permanent appointment



Finance and Information Technology

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 till end September 2021.

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

Small Business Assistance Scheme for Covid (SBASC)

As part of the Government's Economic Recovery Plan on 01 June SBASC for Quarter 2 scheme was announced. The scheme went live on the 10 June 2021. The closing date for receipt of applications was 21 July 2021. Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and microenterprises can apply for a

grant of €4,000 for those with turnover above €50,000 and €1,000 for microenterprises with a turnover of between €20,000 and €49,999. This scheme has been extended to include those businesses that are operating from non-rateable premises such as a home office or hot-desk. To date 59 grants of €4,000 have been paid out amounting to €236,000 and 8 grants of €1,000 have been paid out amounting to €8,000. This scheme is now closed.

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, the council 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 045 980 920.

Finance Customer Portal and App for Rates and Rent Customers

In July 2021 the Finance Department launched a new customer portal and application 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/>

Financial Reports

Financial Reports for Quarter 2 2021 have been submitted to the Department are on the September 2021 Full Council agenda.

Monthly Management Reports

Revenue Account Summary (see Appendix 1).



Housing

Housing for All, a new Housing Plan for Ireland was launched on the 02 September. The council awaits specific targets relating to the new plan.

Housing for All provides four pathways to achieving the overarching objective of providing everybody in the state with access to home purchase or rental at an affordable level, built to a high standard and in the right location.

The four pathways are:

- Supporting home ownership and increasing affordability.
- Eradicating homelessness, increasing social housing delivery and supporting social inclusion.
- Increasing new housing supply.
- Addressing vacancy and efficient use of existing stock.

Attached to each pathway are specific objectives, thirty in total.

Housing for All has a budget of €20 billion over a 5-year period, funding will be provided through the Exchequer,

the Land Development Agency and the Housing Finance Agency.

The projected delivery from the period 2022-2030 is:

- Social Homes: 88,400.
- Affordable and Cost Rental Homes: 53,800.
- Private Rental and Home Ownership: 170,550.

Following are the main points from the plan:

- Provision of 4,000 affordable purchase properties per annum.
- A local authority led affordable purchase scheme, targeting prices of €250,000.
- A shared equity scheme for private developments.
- Revised local authority home loan.
- Revisions to Part V – 20% of developments set aside for affordable and home ownership.
- Provision of an average of 2,000 cost rental homes per annum.
- Phasing out of long-term leasing.
- Strengthened mortgage to rent scheme.



- Reformed Tenant Purchase scheme.
- Revision and reform of eligibility for social housing.
- Eradication of homelessness by 2030.
- Increase in Housing First tenancies to 1,200 over five years.
- Ending of Strategic Housing Development planning applications.
- Revised taxation on vacant sites.
- Increasing funding of the Land Development Agency for the development of public lands.
- Planning exemptions for above-the-shop conversions.
- A nationwide local authority led CPO scheme to purchase vacant homes.

Summary of Social Housing Assessments 2021

We have been directed by the Minister for Housing, Local Government, and Heritage under Section 21 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2009, that each housing authority is required to prepare a summary of housing needs of the social housing

assessments carried out in its administrative area. The Minister for Housing, Local Government, and Heritage has directed that the summary be prepared on 17 November 2021. The 2021 summary is the continuation of the process of annual assessments of national housing need, commenced with the 2016 Summary. The applications that require review are Households that are on the waiting list but not reviewed since 30 July 2020.

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

Over the coming weeks the housing department will be making contact with applicants on our housing list from 01



January 2011 to 31 December 2015 to ensure these applicants are compliant with the social housing assessment regulations and are still in need of housing. In the meantime we would encourage housing applicants to ensure that their housing applications are up to date.

Homeless Services

Update from National Homeless Lead Meeting

The National Homeless Lead COVID-19 meeting was held on the 31 August and there are no positive cases of COVID-19 in Homeless Services in the county and while the volume nationally has increased slightly it still remains low. Units reserved for isolation purposes can be considered for general use subject to there being adequate provision should an outbreak occur in the county. It is proposed to put three of the existing seven isolation units back into stock in the coming weeks as it is considered that sufficient capacity is in place to deal with any potential COVID-19 outbreaks in the county.

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage have received advice that new entrants into

emergency accommodation who have not been vaccinated will be required to isolate and to meet with a Medical Practitioner to discuss the Vaccination Programme.

Shared Housing

Expressions of Interest for the provision of supports to three units for shared tenancies was advertised in June 2021. These Expressions were assessed and Teach Íosa have been selected for the operation of the two units in Athy and the Peter McVerry Trust were selected for the unit in Naas. It is anticipated that two of these units will be available for shared tenancies in the coming weeks and work to prepare the remaining unit in Naas for Occupation is currently being planned.

Housing First

There are currently 10 active tenancies for Housing First with further tenancies being considered and properties being prepared for this purpose.

Jigginstown Supported Transitional Accommodation

Six tenancies are now in place in the Jigginstown facility with a further two potential clients being identified. It is expected to have this facility fully



occupied by Quarter 4 and the team continue to work with the service provider Tiglin in ensuring all the relevant supports are in place.

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

Duration	No. of Households with Dependents	Adults	Dependents
0 - 6 Months	10	14	14
6 - 12 Months	5	7	11
12 - 18 Months	10	13	17
18 - 24 Months	3	4	3
24 - 30 Months	7	12	14
36 Months +	4	7	12
	39	57	71

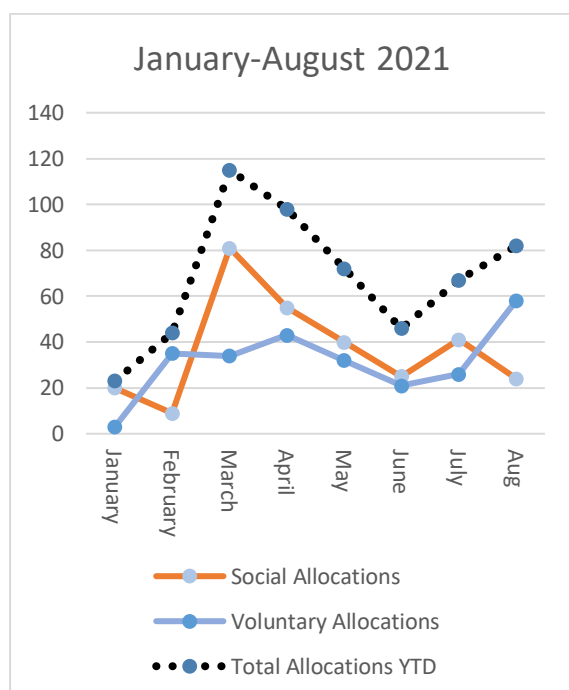
Families in Own Front Door Accommodation as of August 2021

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	6	9
+ 36 Months	5	9	15
	10	17	25



Number of Allocations

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



Inspection of Private Rented Properties

The inspection of private properties has now recommenced. Additional COVID-19 health and safety protocols has resulted in a reduced number of daily inspections.

Private Rented Tenancies

From the 16 July 2021, there is a new method for the calculation of rent in a Rent Pressure Zone whereby rents cannot exceed the rate of inflation as recorded in the Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices. In addition, landlords are only permitted to request a deposit equivalent to one months rent and an advance payment of one months rent. In effect landlords cannot request payments in excess of two months rent to secure a tenancy.

Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) Tenancies

A total of 311 tenancies have been signed up year to date.

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

164 applications were received under this scheme. Of this number, 87



applications were successful and were notified. Due to current COVID-19 related restrictions, the deadline for completion of approved work under the Scheme has been extended to 31

January 2022 and the successful applicants have been notified of this.

Capital Programme

Location	No. of Units	Updated Status
Approval Stage 4		
Athgarvan Village	18 units	The second lowest tenderer advised 09 September 2021 they will not be proceeding to contract and have withdrawn their tender. The Design Team are now assessing the third lowest tender.
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 to be submitted week 13 September 2021 to the Department for approval. Expect to launch Part 8 by end of October.
Coill Dubh	10 units	Stage 3 issued to the Department 13 July 2021. Approval Stage received 28 July 2021 with conditions. Response to conditions currently being prepared before tender will be approved for advertising.
Ardclough Road, Celbridge	39 units	Additional site investigation required on foot of initial site investigation results. Internal technical reviews on going. Social and affordable 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 3 2021. Acoustic consultants currently being procured due to proximity to rail line.



Approval Stage 1		
Old Greenfield, Maynooth	Volumetric Framework 65 units	Design team meetings, surveys and investigation progressing.
Ambassador Site, Kill	33 units	Design team meetings, surveys and investigation progressing. Stage 2 submission nearing completion.
Caragh Road, Naas	73 units	Development of 73 units [to include 15 no. affordable units]. Stage 1 application to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage submitted on 09 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 four dwellings. Revised options to be discussed with consultant engineers.
Glandore, Athy	4 units	Part 8 to launch Quarter 4 2021.
Patrician Ave, Naas	1 new + 1 refurb	Single stage approved 06 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 and ICR funding sought for refurb of existing units.

PPP Schemes

Location	No. of Units	Updated Status
Nancy's Lane, Clane	77 units	Completion expected mid-October 2021. Irish Water have completed wastewater and mains water connections works in Collegewood Manor.
Andrew, Athy	73 Housing units + Community unit.	Pre-Part 8 pack due to Kildare County Council for review in September. Community building added to scheme to provide social infrastructure within the



		development. Part 8 target to launch by end of October.
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Approved Housing Body Schemes

Location	No. of Units	Updated Status
Respond HA Flinter's Field, Athy	35 units	Construction recommenced on site 12 April 2021 and progressing well.
Tuath HA Castlifen, Sallins	28 units	Contractor commenced in March 2020. Completion programmed for March 2022.
Cluid, ESB site Leixlip	27 units	Cluid are finalizing 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, Naa	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 09 March 2021. Awaiting program for Stages 3 and 4 from KARE.
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 reducing to 27
Cluid Dominican Lands Athy	31 units	CAS 2 application received from Cluid – Second review in progress.
The Peter McVerry Trust Sallins	4 units	Revised proposal for four 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	6
Housing Turnkeys	39	81	107	9
Part V Acquisitions	30	67	41	43
Total complete	255	379	187	58

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 ready to issue once query on insurances confirmed.
Ashgrove, Derrinturn	MEERP	21	Phase 2 Ashbrook: Letter of Acceptance ready to issue once query on insurances confirmed.
Bishopsland, Kildare	MEERP	38	Phase 3 Bishopsland/Farrincooley/Dunmurry View: Report on Tenders and Successful/Unsuccessful letter to be issued early week commencing 13 September 2021.
St Evin's Park, Mionasterevin	MEERP	15	Phase 4 St Evins' Park: Report on Tenders and Successful/Unsuccessful letter to be issued week commencing 13 September 2021.
Cill Corban, Naas	EERP	10	First five units contract ready, remaining five units scheduled.
Clonmullion, Athy	EERP	14	Report on Tenders and Successful/Unsuccessful letter to be issued week commencing 13 September 2021.
Loughnamona, Leixlip	EERP	39	Letter of Acceptance ready to issue once query on insurances confirmed.
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.



Rebuilding Ireland Home Loans

	2020	2021 to date
Total Approved	€7,924,618 (includes 2019 applications)	€9,496,659 (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

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

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 is being finalised which will be 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 invited for a Virtual Consultation on the emerging Draft CDP. Closing date 10 September 2021.

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

- (i) Mandatory and non-mandatory objectives from the Planning and Development Act
- (ii) Section 28 Guidelines and SPPRs
- (iii) NPF NPO objectives
- (iv) RSES RPO objectives
- (v) Chief Executive's report
- (vi) Feedback at members workshops
- (vii) Kildare County Council Advisory Group and
- (viii) Chief Executive's report on Members Directions

Early stages of SEA/AA/SFRA 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. A copy of the adopted LAP was issued to the Office of the Planning Regulator (OPR) within five days of its adoption



(as required under the P and D Act).

The OPR has acknowledged the adoption of the LAP and is satisfied that no Ministerial Direction is warranted. Strategic Environmental Assessment, Appropriate Assessment and Strategic Flood Risk Assessment current being completed. The LAP came into effect on 14 September 2021.

Naas

The public consultation on the proposed material alterations to the Draft LAP closed on the 20 August, with ca. 156 submissions received.

The Chief Executive's report on submissions is currently being prepared for submission to the Elected Members on or before 16 September. A Special Meeting of Full Council is scheduled for 21 October in Newbridge Town Hall to consider adoption of the LAP.

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: Jul/Aug 2021
Jul/Aug	Year	No.	Total Granted:	169/124
2019:	126/113	985	1,234	Retention: 13/23
2020:	164/140	999	1,614	Extension of Duration: 6/2
2021:	150/143	1,255	387	Total Refused: 24/33

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	Boycetown, Kilcock	298	25/11/2021
21/311040	3	Glan Dev.	Ballymany, Newbridge	247	25/11/2021
<i>Note: 3 SHDs on Clane-Maynooth September agenda</i>					



Significant Applications				
Ref No	Applicant	Description	Status	Comment
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	Pre-validation	
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	Valid	23/09/2021
21/655	Mulberry Properties	Residential development of 57 dwellings, Station Road, Leixlip	Valid	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	Valid	16/09/2021
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	14/09/2021
21/1033	Thoival Properties	87 houses and creche at Whitesland East, Kildare Town, Co. Kildare.	Valid	07/09/2021
21/1051	St Conleth's Infant school	Special Needs Classroom and Staffroom	Valid	12/09/2021

Section 254 Licences for Outdoor Dining

Licences have been granted to provide 221 tables and 695 chairs for outdoor dining. There are currently applications in progress which could provide up to an additional 115 tables and 423 chairs for outdoor dining.

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.

Heritage Week 2021

45 events occurred online with COVID-19 restrictions both online and some in person.

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. Public campaign began in July 2021.

Know your locality Course

Course 3 will commence in September 2021 and course 4 in October 2021.

In total 60 participants have taken part in the course. Funding was secured for it from Creative Ireland.

Biodiversity Informercials

A series of Biodiversity informercial will run from May to September on a number of biodiversity themes.

Kilkea Stone Table

Conservation Letterfrack has been liaising with owners of Kilkea Castle regarding removal of plinth. The plinth has now been removed to Dublin for conservation and the table has been removed from the National Museum for conservation. The site at Kilkea



Castle was reinstated. All National Museum paperwork regarding licence applications completed.

UNESCO World Heritage

Designation - Royal Sites of Ireland – Dun Ailinne, Kilcullen

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.

Passlands Graveyard - Monasterevin

Assessment of conservation requirements underway. Consultants appointed and work commencing in late September.

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

Concept

Athy - Athy-Athy Public Realm Plan – to commence after the adoption of the Draft Athy LAP.

Kildare-Newbridge - Kildare-St Bridget's Well re-development-Draft concept received. Consultant appointed and hydrological survey report being finalised which will inform design options.

Clane-Maynooth – Maynooth Main Street and Courthouse Square Public Realm Improvements Masterplan- URDF Application successful. Funding terms and conditions received.

Clane-Maynooth - Maynooth-Town Branding and Signage – included in successful URDF application. See above.



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.

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 underway. Temporary closure of Market Square carp ark 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 April 2021. Part 8 approved by Kildare Newbridge Municipal District on 19 May 2021. Detailed design now commencing.

Clane-Maynooth – Maynooth - Harbour Field Development - Part 8 complete and ready for publication in September 2021.

Tender Consultants and Design

Athy/Kildare-Newbridge - Athy-Barrow Blueway - works ongoing.

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.

Athy - Athy - Development of Shackleton Museum-Consultants appointed and detailed design has now commenced.

Celbridge-Leixlip – Ardclough - 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 to commence September 2021.

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 ongoing.



<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 complete. Submissions currently being assessed for incorporation into draft TRP.</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 complete. Submissions currently being assessed for incorporation into draft TRP.</p>
<p>Clane-Maynooth – Derrinturn - Health Check/Urban Design and TRP- Online survey complete. Working document circulated to the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Committee as part of the consultation process. Members briefing held. Public consultation to commence September 2021.</p>
<p>Clane-Maynooth - Johnstown Bridge-Health Check/Urban Design and TRP- Online survey complete. Working document circulated to the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Committee as part of the consultation process. Members briefing held. Public consultation to commence September 2021.</p>
<p>Clane-Maynooth – Kilcock -Town Branding and Signage- Poor response received to public consultation. Additional consultation to be launched.</p>
<p>Clane-Maynooth - Prosperous-Town Branding and Signage -Tender to be issued. .</p>
<p>Clane-Maynooth – Straffan - Health Check/Urban Design Analysis and Town Renewal Plan - Online survey complete. Working document circulated to the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Committee as part of the consultation process. Members briefing held. Public consultation to commence September 2021.</p>
<p>Tender Consultants</p>
<p>Athy - Athy-Public Realm Dominican Lands -Tender for design consultants complete and consultants appointed. Work ongoing on draft Masterplan.</p>
<p>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</p>



commenced with 3,636 online submissions received by deadline. Stakeholder workshops 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 late 2021 and will take nine 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. Works have commenced.
Kildare-Newbridge – Newbridge - Newbridge Library – Design team appointed and Part 8 design has commenced.
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 – Public consultation has complete. Submissions being assessed for incorporation 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. Work has commenced on Part 8 plans for the library element. Feasibility study commissioned for Climate Action Training Centre of Excellence.
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 to be published in September 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. five no. tenders received. Contractor appointed and works are progressing well.
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.
Naas – MERITS – Works complete. Fitout underway.
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.



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 3 2021. 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 3 2021.

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 are preparing to publish a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) for this scheme in the coming weeks 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

This project has been included in the Small Towns and Villages Growth Programme (STVGP) which will be subject to Irish Water approval. Irish Water agreed to the priority list submitted by the council following a workshop held last November. This scheme was ranked high in the council's priority list due to commitment made to locals and public representatives in 2017 and the approval of the planning process for a Part 8.

Irish Water has notified the Director of Services that they will progress this to next stage subject to funding being available after the first priority (Derrinturn) and second priority (Nurney) are progressed.



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 3 of 2021.

Campion Crescent BYSS

Works involved in the decommissioning of the existing cast iron mains were completed in August 2021. This scheme is now fully complete.

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.

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. Social distancing guidelines should be observed when visiting cemeteries.

Environment Complaints

Pollution complaints will be investigated in accordance with national guidelines regarding social distancing and the safety of staff and the public.

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/Spring Clean

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.

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

Over 127 separate Green Kilometres have been established and 44 tonnes of litter and dumped materials were collected to date this year.

This is a huge amount to be gathered by hand and Kildare County Council support these groups by providing clean up equipment and collecting the waste in a timely fashion.

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 September.

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. Flood defence schemes have been classified as essential works by the County and City Management Association (CCMA).

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.



The construction of the site compound is continuing. As can be seen in the photo below, the construction of the ponds are proceeding well.



The construction of the changing rooms has commenced, as can be seen in 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/Visualisation/>

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

Contractor has been appointed for the renovation of the front wall and gates, the removal of the old bunker and the resurfacing of many of the internal

roads and pathways. Works commenced in early January but stepped down due to the level 5 restrictions. Works are due to be completed by the end of September.

Newbridge Cemetery Carpark

Tenders will be advertised by end September.

Newbridge Cemetery Road and Path Resurfacing

Tenders will be advertised for these works within the next month.

Ballymore Eustace Cemetery

New paving works were carried out around the old Alter, and other minor improvement works in the cemetery are expected to be completed by the end of September.

Risk Management

Risk management cycle for 2021 is complete and has been presented to the Audit Committee which will now examine individual departmental risk registers on a rota basis.



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:



This project aims to determine how local government can engage policies and actions to exploit opportunities arising from climate action. Following the successful webinar on this theme which took place on Thursday 20 May 2021, the Steering Group has just completed research into the role of local government internationally; this was compiled by the LGiU and endorsed by the CCMA Business, Enterprise and Innovation Committee. In addition, a national conference

building on the success of the conference on the same theme 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/WN_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 17 local authorities to date, with a further nine scheduled to year end. The remaining six counties will be completed in early 2022. Training under this module is due to take place in Kildare on 24 September. Feedback on this training to date has been excellent.



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 commenced with participants from the Midlands sub-regional counties, moving on to the Atlantic Seaboard North CARO region and has been also completed in the Dublin Metropolitan CARO region. It is scheduled to be rolled to remaining counties (including Kildare), in the Eastern and Midlands CARO and Atlantic Seaboard South CARO regions later this October and

November with registration for this programme currently ongoing across the Climate Action Team in Kildare.



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.



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



Outdoor Staff

Training for outdoor staff has been piloted across five local authorities (Carlow, Kilkenny, Limerick, Tipperary and Waterford), with the aim of ensuring the training is relevant, accessible and user friendly, as well as informing the final course content before rollout to all local authority nominees later this year. The 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 the end of October 2021 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 summer.

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 have 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 Dept. of Transport and the OGP.

As well as realising the vision of this project, the group may also identify areas for further possible interventions at national level to support the transition in local authority fleet, or identify other potential interventions, such as fleet rationalisation and driver behaviour, in support of the transition.

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)

The Climate Action Team (CAT) are the main drivers of action under the CCAS.



Vyra's Zero to Sustainable programme asks participants to engage for five minutes a day to reduce their

carbon footprint by 30kg week through behavioural change in their daily activities. 11 members took part in the two week pilot and saved an estimated 759kg of carbon dioxide equivalent or the same as 12 flights from Dublin to London.

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 are being finalized and it is hoped to have the consultant appointed by mid September. Works on Kildare's SECAP to commence immediately after contract signing.

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.

Climate Action Strategic Policy Committee (SPC)

The committee met on the 08 September and progressed through a full agenda. The highlight was a thought provoking presentation by the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team showing the importance of public realm spaces interlinking with adaptive climate action measures. Updates were given on the background work for Maynooth DZ.

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 joining the Energy Management Team and further reps will be required from Libraries and Leisure Facilities in the near future. The Energy Management Team has received presentations and direction on 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)

A sub-group of the Energy Management Team has put forward a proposal to Senior Management to hold Kildare's first week long climate and energy event in October of this year. The Event Team have now moved to planning and delivery phase of this Event, with 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 main events which will be 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 will be 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 32.7% 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 through Kildare County Council driven largely by the Facilities Team to date.



The final scorecard is to be received by SEAI by mid-September.

Energy Bureau

Progress has slowed on the establishment of the Mid-East Energy Bureau mainly due to summer holidays during July and August. However, meetings are scheduled for September to reinvigorate the formation of the Bureau. It is still the proposal of the Energy Bureau to be established 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. After previous meetings with the four most advanced SEC's and their common requirements for a community engagement piece to be included in their energy master plans, we have met with the consultant to action this piece. 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.



Fleet Electrification



Recently the CCMA has published its Electric Vehicle Guidance Document for Local Authorities; this is welcome guidance and direction for LA's as demand for public EV charging points and Kildare County Council's suitable small vehicle fleet need to be considered for electrification. In communication with Municipal District Engineers in Kildare's municipal district offices there has been agreement with two of the municipal district offices to progress the area of fleet electrification by way of installing EV charging points at Municipal District offices. While there are currently four small EV vans in Kildare County Council's fleet, it is very much hoped to increase the presence of EV's in the fleet in the coming years and by having the infrastructure in place to support fleet electrification this will facilitate such growth.

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, with the respective functional areas of the council being notified of the potential sites being considered in each municipal district. A presentation was made to the management team in July to seek support to advance the establishment of woodlands on public lands in response to the Environment Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) work programme which was approved. 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



**An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara**
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine



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 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.

Graduate LGMA

The Climate Action Office team was strengthened by the arrival of Ciara O'Flynn on the 26 July. Ciara is a graduate appointed under the three year LGMA programme. Ciara's role is to progress climate activation initiatives in the community by assisting communities in their understanding and acting on climate adaptation and mitigation measures.

Ciara has already communicated with various groups and community contacts and has applied for grant funding to embed sustainable climate action and community art under the ESB Brighter Future Ireland Grant in

conjunction with ACDAL and associated local artist.

It is expected introductions will be made to the council representatives and the management team in October.

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. The plan will be presented to the public representatives in October to inform the final document.

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 and Tipperary Councils



have confirmed their partnership. Responses are awaited from two other councils. Irish Water is unable to assist at this time, however, Waterways Ireland has confirmed that they will partner shortly.

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.

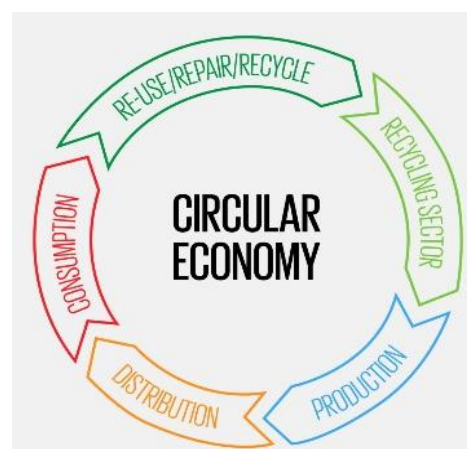


Community Stories is continuing to roll out monthly updates and profile posts of those involved in the background and of the work being undertaken.

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 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.

We would like to thank the Naas area



office for their assistance with the experiments.

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.

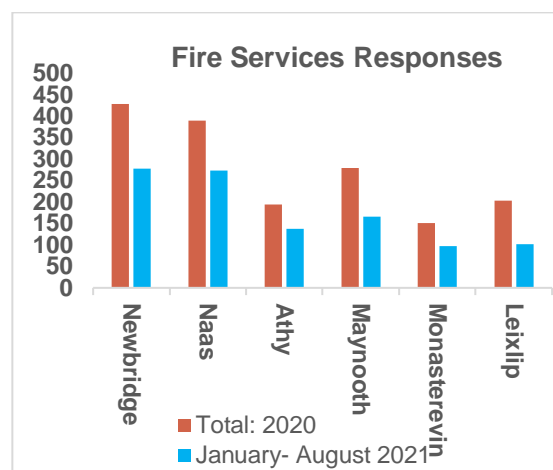
We are working with including planning such as the CDP, community including Age Friendly and Climate Action Plan for Ballymore Eustace, sustainable transport with future community consultation.



Roads, Transportation and Public Safety

Key Highlights

- Approval to award the construction contract for the Athy Distributor Road
- Speed Limit Review Public Consultation completed
- Three Highspeed Public Broadband Connection points in operation
- 100 kilometres of roadway resurfaced
- Climate adaptation and resilience works to improve drainage completed
- 13 NTA-funded Sustainable Transport projects in progress
- 115 active development control sites
- No major Health and Safety incidents
- Fire Services attended 1,054 operational calls year to date



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 Stage 2 tender process is complete with approval to award the construction contract from the Department of Transport and the Minister for Transport.

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 Córás 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

Part 8 approval in respect of the New Machinery Yard and Regional Salt Barn Project was confirmed on the 13 May 2019. The 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 (MERR)

The preferred route option (C), was presented in-committee to the Maynooth Municipal District Committee on 05 April 2019. The Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Committee confirmed approval of the Part 8 in respect of Option C 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 for 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 Local Area Plan 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 twelve months to complete and this will facilitate the



development of the Maynooth Local Area Plan.

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 An Bord Pleanála for an EIAR/NIS approval (as the River Barrow is a Special Area of Conservation) 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 by 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 3



2021, subject to COVID-19 restrictions.

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.

Kildangan Railway Bridge Footpath Scheme

The scheme is now substantially complete, with the footpath is operational.

Maynooth North South Corridor – Phase 6 – Moyglare Road Improvement Scheme.

This scheme is substantially complete, except for snags which are outstanding due to COVID-19 restrictions.

NTA-funded Sustainable Transport Projects Update



Maynooth North-South Corridor (Phase 5)

Designers: AECOM

Land negotiations have concluded along Mill Street, Maynooth. The detailed design of the bus stop infrastructure is being progressed.

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

The scheme is proceeding to consultation as per Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994. Improvements to the traffic signals in the village are being prioritised and implemented at present.

Maynooth Permeability Measures

Designers: O'Connor Sutton Cronin

The preliminary design for the scheme is now substantially complete and is being reviewed by the Municipal District Office.

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 and will take into consideration the "Super Crossing Project" at Maynooth University.

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

Following requests to extend the Kildare County Council Speed Limit Review 2021, the Public Consultation period has been extended beyond the summer holiday period. Any submissions made in response to the notice published on 27 July 2021 remain valid and will inform the next stage of the process. The closing date for submissions was Thursday 16 September 2021.

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

Kildare County Council is progressing the Broadband Connection Points (BCPs) in Kildare. These sites will provide high speed broadband to the

public until the NBI fibre broadband is available:

- Bigstone Community Hall, Castledermot. This site is now live. Contractor has completed works which can provide working desk space.
- Lullymore Heritage Centre –site is now live.
- Crookstown Further Education and Training Centre. Site is now live.

Athy Municipal District September 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. No update.

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 R-417 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.

1. Blackcastle
2. Knocknagee
3. Ballaghmoone
4. Crooket
5. Kildoon
6. Peelhall
7. Nicholastown



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.

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 we are upgrading.

Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District September 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 September 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 St., Kill - Complete
- Elmwood, Naas – Complete



- Osberstown Rd., Sallins – Complete
- Monread Rd., 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 at the following locations (Scheme 1) are all now complete:

- L2022 Eadestown
- L2022 Nunsland
- L6021 Bishopscourt
- 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 St. 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

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
- Turnings, Straffan - Ongoing
- Oldtown Court, Naas - Complete
- Dun na Riogh Green, 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 July and August 2021

The crews have continued with general maintenance over the past two months which included road repairs, drainage maintenance and verge cutting at strategic junctions. The gully



cleaning and maintenance programme will be commencing in the coming month in advance of the winter weather.

Municipal District Road Improvement Works 2021

Since the last update the municipal district office has progressed the agreed roads programme for 2021 as follows.

Restoration Improvement

The following works were undertaken in July and August:

Restoration Improvement (Overlay) – Approximately 1 km

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

- R403 Prosperous Road Clane – GAA Club to Main Street
- R407 Main Street Clane – Prosperous Road to Millicent Road
- R407 Sallins Road Clane – Roundabout to Alexandra Bridge
- L1023 Ballinagappa Road Clane

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

- R403 – Circle K Junction – Ballinagappa Road to Bus Stop
- L80137 – Central Park and Churchfield Clane
- L81263 – Abbey Court Clane

The final agreed project in the Square Kilcock is due for completion in September 2021.

The total costs of the restoration improvement programme are being finalised and it would appear we have achieved savings over the year. We have currently tendered for 2.5 kilometres of recycling works on the L70051 Ballyteigue to Pluckerstown, and subject to available funding this work will be progressed this year.

Restoration Maintenance (Surface Dressing) – Approximately 18km

Round 2 of the surface dressing programme commenced on July 08 and four days surface dressing were undertaken, completing nine projects.

- R414 Lullymore
- L70051 Barrow Way
- Lowtown
- L5026 Killina to Hamilton Bridge
- L5019 Highfield
- L5011 Cadamstown at Graveyard



- L5005 Cadamstown
- L5071 Hodgestown
- L1018 Dunmurraghil

- New Gully Coill Dubh National School
- New Gully Coill Dubh

General Works:

Footpaths

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

- Parklands
- Castleridge
- Moyglare Abbey
- Church Street Kilcock

It is hoped to complete the initial project list in the coming months and identify additional footpaths to progress during Quarter 4 2021.

Drainage

A contract for a number of drainage measures has been awarded and are for completion in Quarter 3 2021.

The following has been completed to date:

- New Gully Kilbrook
- New Gully Abbeyfields, Kilcock
- New Outfall at Larragbryan
- New Gully Kilcock Road
Maynooth
- New Gully Barberstown Road

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. It will hopefully 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.

Safety/Crash Barrier

The Municipal District Office has repaired the crash barrier at the following locations:

- R402 between Carbury and Edenderry
- R415 Bond Bridge
- R148 Kilcock @ M4 interchange



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.

Drainage works have been completed at:

- R402 Kilshanroe
- L5015 Rahan Wood

We are currently finalising tender documents for the following:

- R403 Carbury Road Derrinturn
- L5071 Mill Pond Staplestown

Low Cost Safety Schemes

The tender documents are currently being finalised for the following projects:

- L1019 Mangans Cross
- L2002 Firmount Cross

Public Realm Works

In conjunction with the Public Realm Team the Municipal District Office has

installed six picnic benches in the Harbour Field, Maynooth adjacent to the playgrounds.

Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District September 2021

The Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District has undertaken following works in June 2021:

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 – July and August 2021

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 COVID-19 Support Desk with transport requests for hospital appointments.

Assisted at Irish Blood Transfusion Service Clinics for four days in each of the locations in Naas and Maynooth

Fire Service

Operational Calls		
Station	Total Calls 2020	Total Calls 2021 (to end August)
Newbridge	429	278
Naas	389	274
Athy	194	138
Maynooth	280	166
Monasterevin	151	97
Leixlip	203	101
Total	1,842	1,054



Fire Safety

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

	No. Fire Safety Complaints
2019	16
2020	7
2021	9

	No. Fire Safety Certificates
2019	179
2020	204
2021	177

Building and Development Control

BUILDING CONTROL (figures to end of August 2021)

	2020	2021
Commencement Notices:		
Total Number of Commencement Notices received:	461	396
Number of Valid commencement notices received:	454	388
Number of Invalid commencement notices received:	7	8
No. of inspections carried out on Commencement Notices	199	261



Certificates of Compliance on Completion	2020	2021
Total Number of Certificates received:	426	440
Number Valid	425	440
Number Invalid	1	0
Awaiting processing	0	0
Additional Information		
Number of inspections carried out on Compliance on Completion	196	186

Disability Access Certificates:	2020	2021
Total Number of Disability Access Certificates received:	124	125
Number granted:	137	95
Number refused:	0	0
Number invalid	2	2
Number of inspections carried out on Disability Access Certificates	66	76

Building Control Active Sites:	2020	2021
Number of units inspected	2067	1624

Development Control Active Sites:	2021
Number of Active Sites	115



Health and Safety

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

- 33 COVID-19 Compliance Inspections.
- 3 Pregnancy Risk Assessments
- 38 Online VDU Assessments
- New Chapter 8 Traffic Management Guidance Training
- ISO 45001 Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems Training completed- focus on auditing.
- Meetings:
 - Lead Worker Representative Meeting
 - Staff App Meeting
 - Health and Safety Management Committee Meeting
 - COVID-19 Seniors Meeting
 - Safety Committee Meeting
- Audit completed of Athy Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Liaised with Planning Dept on return to workplace for additional staff to meet current workload

- Accident and Incident Reports and Investigations
- Compilation of data from Remote Working Self Assessments

Accessibility

Meetings:

Local Access Groups:

- Athy Access Group Meeting held
- Naas Access Group Meeting held
- Newbridge Access Group Meeting held
- Celbridge Access Group Meeting

County Kildare Access Network (CKAN):

- County Kildare Access Network (CKAN) Meeting

National:

- National Access for All Meeting with Disability Federation of Ireland (DFI)

Training:

- Disability Awareness Training as per National Disability Inclusion Strategy delivered to councillors- two sessions held with one additional to be held to capture those who could not attend.



Additional:

- Attended COVID Community Response Forum
- Working with IT on updating Accessibility Section of the council website
- Meeting with Parks Department re: Sensory Garden, St Catherine's Park Leixlip
- Access Network Group Workshop on advanced digital skills
- Meeting with NOW Org on the implementation of JAM (Just a Minute) Card to the council

JAM Card allows people with a learning difficulty, autism or communication barrier tell others they need 'Just A Minute' discreetly and easily.



Economic, Community and Cultural Development

Community Grants

All Grants Awarded 2021		
Type	No.	Amount
Community Grants	117	€172,250
Festival Grants	56	€42,955
Local Property Tax	305	€533,715
Private Estates Res. Assoc.	300	€111,517
Local Authority Res. Assoc.	71	€44,573
Drehid Grants	28	€201,697
Community Enhancement Programme	0	€0
Education Bursaries	0	€0
Total	877	€1,106,707

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 the municipal districts and community section staff are processing relevant awards or mini-schemes as required. Grants awarded to date are as above.

Education Bursaries

This scheme has closed and applications will be assessed in September.

Social Inclusion Week

County Kildare Social Inclusion Week 2021 takes place between Monday the 27 September and Friday 01 October 2021. Social Inclusion Week is an annual event running since 2017, an important event catering for the needs of many in the community. It is a fun packed, educational, and insightful week with opportunities for services, organisations, community groups and educators from right across the County to showcase the work that they do. Kildare has many initiatives that support individuals and communities affected by issues which can lead to social exclusion. Issues such as poverty, unemployment, homelessness, disabilities, and



migrant re-location. It is imperative that these services have an opportunity to promote how they can support and engage people so that prospective clients are aware of the services available and how to access them.

Local Community

Development Committee

August and September 2021

The last meeting of the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) meeting was held via Microsoft Teams on 07 July 2021. Councillor Suzanne Doyle was elected as Chair to replace Mr. Peter Carey Chief Executive.

Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme.

Kildare LCDC was successful in securing Athy as one of 17 areas in the Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme. This means intensive health and wellbeing supports and programmes focussing on Athy through the HSE, and other agencies. Kildare County Council will employ a dedicated worker to ensure a collaborative approach is taken to co-ordinate activities under this programme. This post will be part of and will report to Kildare LCDC. Work

is commencing to sanction this post and recruitment will follow. The HSE have committed dedicated posts and programmes in line with the programme nationally. The Healthy Communities Programme is a very positive opportunity for Athy.

COVID-19 Community Response Forum

The Kildare COVID-19 Community Response Forum have had 27 meetings to date via Teams. The last meeting took place on 03 September chaired by Ms Sonya Kavanagh, Interim Chief Executive. The purpose of the Response Forum is to lead the co-ordination of COVID-19 community supports and resilience. A dedicated COVID-19 support helpline was established on the 30 March 2020 by Kildare County Council. The Response Forum has representation from key statutory and voluntary organisations across the county. The last meeting discussed the vaccination roll out and an update on responses from members. It was agreed that due to the current re-opening, low levels of demand for support and calls to the helpline that the Response Forum would not schedule further meetings. A meeting can be scheduled in October if required.



Rural Development LEADER

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.

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

www.countykildarelp.ie or telephone 045-895450

SICAP- Social Inclusion Programme

Work is progressing in 2021 to roll out the national social inclusion programme, SICAP, in Kildare under Level 5 COVID-19 restrictions. County Kildare LEADER Partnership are the programme implementer. This programme targets socially excluded groups and communities across Kildare through a range of programmes and supports.

The Department of Rural and Community Development recently

confirmed that the current contract period will be extended by one year 2018-2023. This is welcomed and is in response to requests to extend the current programme due to COVID-19. 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(HI)Strand 1 Round 3

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.

Community Enhancement Programme 2021

The Community Enhancement Programme 2021 grant scheme closed on 27 August. An evaluation panel, supported by LCDC staff, are currently assessing the applications with recommendations for funding awards being presented to the LCDC at their next meeting. The total funding available under this programme for Kildare is €148,013. This funding is



aimed to support community and voluntary sector groups towards small scale capital projects.

County Kildare Integration Strategy

Kildare County Council along with its partner County Kildare Leader Partnership are happy to announce the launch of County Kildare's second Integration Strategy on Thursday the 30 September at 11:00 am. Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth Roderic O'Gorman TD will official launch the County Kildare Integration strategy 2020-2026 at an online event, all are welcome to attend. Please contact integration@kildarecoco.ie for a link to the event.

The next LCDC meeting will be held on Wednesday 29 September 2021.

Kildare Fáilte

Government guidelines announced in July that indoor dining would be permitted for those who were vaccinated from 26 July. This was a welcome change for hospitality providers and with further amendments to the restrictions

announced for September, the events industry is on the road to recovery.

Fáilte Ireland continue to offer supports to the industry with the Tourism Business Continuity Scheme for both accommodation and activity providers and attractions, which was communicated to the industry in Kildare.

As part of the funding received, via Fáilte Ireland, following the Laois, Offaly, Kildare lockdown, a solo Kildare advertising campaign took place in July over three weeks. Advertising in national and regional press, national and region radio and on social and digital channels supported the on-the-ground activity carried out by Kildare Fáilte.



Plans for promoting Kildare as a destination across all media channels continues and due to commence in October, following the funding Fáilte



Ireland received on behalf of Kildare last August.

We were delighted to be able to host press trips once again and in July welcomed a journalist from Germany who wrote about her experience cycling the Royal Canal Greenway. It was picked up by seven newspapers across Germany. We also hosted a press trip from the Irish Daily Star and from RSVP Magazine. While in August we welcomed Pól O'Conaighle (Irish Independent) who cycled the Royal Canal Greenway and Arlene Harris (Irish Times).



Press releases in July and August secured coverage in the Irish Mirror, Business Post, Gloss Magazine, Xtra.ie, RTE.ie, Leinster Leader and Kildare Nationalist.

Kildare Fáilte was delighted to welcome Ryan Tubridy to the county. As a keen historian, he visited the

Shackleton Museum in Athy and also visited Ballitore. Following his visit, he spoke about his great experience on his radio show several times during the week, in addition to posting video on his social media channels.



In July, Kildare Fáilte held their Annual General Meeting reviewing the year past and KPIs achieved. Marketing plans for the future were also shared with attendees. Insights provided by our guest speaker, Mr Eoghan Corry (travel writer and industry expert), were well received by those in attendance. A presentation was made to outgoing Chief Executive of Kildare County Council Mr Peter Carey, by Chairman of Kildare Fáilte, Mr David Mongey.

The new Into Kildare website promoting tourism in the county launched on 22 July, along with the refreshed logo. To complement this, a new tourism brochure is also in



development for distribution later in the year.



Following consultation with the tourism and hospitality industry regarding measuring visitor numbers across the county, Kildare Fáilte reviewed the feedback presented and the next steps were outlined to progress the project.

The monthly Shackleton Museum Project meeting took place, of which Kildare Fáilte is on the Marketing Steering Group. A workshop also took place.

Kildare Fáilte, in conjunction with Tipperary County Council, visited tourism and hospitality businesses in Tipperary who are part of the steering group for the Thoroughbred Country Visitor Destination Plan. Possible

opportunities for the businesses were explored.

The Royal Canal Greenway Marketing Group, made up of representatives from each county tourism board and Waterways Ireland, met to discuss promotions and activity for the remainder of the year and into 2022 to encourage visitors to use the Greenway. The product is a year round activity, and marketing activity will reflect this. Kildare Fáilte also attended a Barrow Blueway steering group meeting, where work continues to progress.

Kildare Fáilte attended the launch of the Kildare Economic Strategy 2025 and also took part in the Curragh Plains Consultation Workshop.

KPMG Future Analytics, who have been engaged by Kildare Fáilte to develop a tourism strategy for the county, in line with the County Kildare Development Plan, continued on-site interviews with stakeholders and visited key tourism sites throughout the county.

Media coverage in July and August encouraged visitors to take their family



staycation in Kildare this summer and to explore the various events taking place for Heritage Week.

Social media content in July focussed on outdoor dining, family days out, walking trails and couples getaways with golf and spa. While in August posts included Heritage Week events, arts and culture and dining.

Visitor engagement across all social media channels remains strong with users interested in dining inspiration and walks and trails. The Digital Officer highlighted the experiences available by posting content on golf breaks, staycations with the girls and the range of historic sites and activities available. The message, We Care in Kildare, and support local continues to be a key priority.

Library and Arts Service

"I have always imagined that Paradise will be a kind of library." — Jorge Luis Borges.

Shortlisting for Chambers Award

'Supporting Families, Sharing the Learning'

Kildare Library Service has been shortlisted for the Chambers Excellence in Local Government Award in the category of Best Library Service for its 'Supporting Families, Sharing the Learning' training initiative.

This initiative was funded by the Dormant Account Fund to provide library supports for marginalised, socially excluded and disadvantaged communities and is a collaboration between Kildare County Library Service and Kildare Children and Young People's Service Committee (CYPSC). This was an online programme for frontline workers in county Kildare who support families, especially the most vulnerable. The initiative built on partnerships established through our 'Let's talk about Parenting' Programme and our membership on the Kildare and West Wicklow Parenting Forum. It ties in



with the Library Services own High Level Goal 9 (Children and Young People) in Kildare LECP which specifically states supporting CYPSC in achieving their strategic aims, as well as with CYPSC's own three year plan (2019-2021) and their training needs analysis of service providers in Kildare (2020).

Let's talk about Parenting

The Autumn/Winter series of talks has been launched and includes topics such as 'Back to school/Starting school or playschool' 'New Baby? How to prepare siblings', 'Reflexology with your baby or toddler', 'First Aid for Parents', 'Parenting when Separated', 'Fussy Eaters', and many more talks.

Toys, Technology and Training (TTT) Autumn 2021 – talks and workshops supporting those with additional needs

A list of TTT Autumn events and workshops can be accessed through the Eventbrite link below:

[Bookings via Eventbrite](#)

See and Learn Kits – Down Syndrome Ireland

See and Learn Kits now available to borrow via the TTT Collection.

Developed by Down Syndrome Education International to specifically support the learning needs of young children with Down syndrome. Evidence led, structured programmes which help children with Down syndrome develop their speech, language, early literacy, and numeracy skills.

Kits Available:

- See and Learn Vocabulary Kit
- See and Learn Phrases Kit
- See and Learn Sentences Kit
- See and Learn First Counting Kit

Irish Language Classes

Ranganna Gaeilge in conjunction with Cill Dara le Gaeilge and Conradh na Gaeilge are taking place now over eight weeks and are made up of Beginners, Intermediate and Improver sessions.

Science Funding Ireland Discover Week Funding

Kildare Libraries staff were successful in a funding application to Science Foundation Ireland for their annual Discover Programme Science Week Call. The Library Services were awarded €8000 to create a programme of events to promote Science Week across the council's network of library branches and engage and encourage



our communities, particularly those underrepresented in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) or who may not typically be exposed to STEM, to engage in ways that are more relatable and accessible for them. The programme will take place during the first three weeks in November and will see a host of public talks and workshops for all ages including events for local DEIS (Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools) schools.

Mother and Toddler Group

Newbridge Library were successful in their application for a grant through the Dormant Account funding to start a mother and toddler group with the Eyre Powell direct provision centre. As part of this, arts and crafts materials, board games and other equipment were purchased and gifted to the Eyre Powell centre to facilitate the group meeting and enjoying activities in between the monthly sessions coordinated by the library.

Age Friendly Programme

Kildare Libraries Age Friendly Programme has just been launched and includes 'Soap Making', 'Handmade Gifts', 'Weaving' and

'Watercolour Painting'. The September and October workshops will take place in the outdoor spaces under cover. This week Naas Library welcomed Naas Men's Shed for two painting workshops followed by refreshments.

Outdoor Spaces

Funding received from the 'DRCD Healthy Ireland at Your Library 2021' allowed three libraries Naas, Leixlip, Newbridge and Ballitore to furnish outdoor spaces and host some workshops at the end of the summer.

Kildare Library Service had a range of events such as Parent and Child Storytelling and Yoga, Gymboree Music for Toddlers, Weaving, Painting, and a series of Archaeology Workshops. It was wonderful to have patrons back socialising and being active in a healthy, safe setting.

Library IT Projects

Eduroam

Kildare Library Service and IT Department recently piloted with HEAnet the Eduroam service aimed at third level students and institutions. Eduroam (education roaming) is the secure, world-wide roaming access service developed for the international research and education community.



It allows students, researchers and staff from participating institutions to obtain Wi-Fi connectivity and access to campus resources by simply logging on using their credentials.

Since we completed the pilot we have now expanded Eduroam to all 14 library branches and five street Wi-Fi locations. The uptake has been great with up to 300 clients using Eduroam in one location alone.

New Library Website

In another partnership with colleagues in the IT Department, the Library Service has been working on a new library website. A library working group of four people have been working with Dawn Halpin, IT on a brand-new library website Kildare Library Service are very excited with the progress. It is much more visually appealing and user friendly. We are aiming for Autumn launch.

Library Management System (LMS)

As part of a national tender process a new LMS has been acquired for the country. The LMS called Spydus from Civica, is widely used in public and academic libraries throughout the world. The implementation process should take approximately six months,

so we expect to be up and running on it by next Spring.

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 the first meeting of the Project Team took place on 02 September 2021 to get the project underway.

New Clane Library

The tender for the Architect led Design Team is complete. Letter of appointment to successful architect will be sent out in the coming week.

Local Studies, Genealogy and Archives

Access to Collections

The Local Studies Collections and County Archives are currently based in



Kildare Town, to facilitate works to the existing old County Library building in Newbridge. Staff continue to assist researchers, local history groups, school students and others with various research queries. They can be contacted by emailing localhistory@kildarecoco.ie , archives@kildarecoco.ie or phoning 0873611439.

Irish Life and Lore

Podcast/Drummin House

Staff of the Local Studies, Genealogy and Archives Department recently contributed to the Irish Life and Lore Podcast on the recent discovery of letters and material in Drummin House, Derrinturn. The County Archivist is currently assisting with this important collection of historical documents.

Local History Groups and Schools

The Local Studies, Genealogy and Archives Department continue to work closely with local history groups and schools throughout county Kildare. Presentations to school classes and to local history groups are planned for September and October. Kildare Library Service are also working closely with the Federation of Local History Groups on their AGM planned

for late October, including a special project to record the poems of I.R.A. Volunteer Thomas Behan who was killed during the Civil War.

Kildare Decade of Commemorations

John Devoy Seminar 2021

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

Culture Night 2021 – Decade of Commemorations

A talk by local historian Pat Lonergan on interesting stories that featured in the local newspapers in the 1916-23 period was broadcast online as part of the Kildare Decade of Commemorations Programme on Culture Night 2021 (Friday 17 September). It is available to view on the Kildare Decade of Commemorations YouTube Channel.

Kildare Arts Service

Poetry Town Naas

Naas is taking part in Poetry Town, an initiative from Poetry Ireland in partnership with Local Authority Arts



Offices. An exciting range of free activities took place around the town and online over nine days from Friday 10 September to Saturday 18 September.

20 towns across the island of Ireland are participating in Poetry Town, a celebration of the pride, strength, and diversity of our towns, with more than 100 free activities lined up across all the towns. Each Poetry Town has a Poet Laureate who has been commissioned to write a poem honouring and reflecting their Poetry Town and its people. Dr Mary O'Donnell, 2021 Poet Laureate for Naas, wrote the poem 'Night Drive to the Harbour in Nás Na Ríogh, specially commissioned for the Poetry Town initiative and inspired by the historic town of Naas. The poem was unveiled at a special online event on Friday 10 September where Mary read her poem with contributions from Dr Catherine Gander, Maynooth University, Cathaoirleach of County Kildare, Councillor Naoise Ó Cearúil, Deputy Mayor of Naas Municipal District, Councillor Evie Sammon and Naas based singer-songwriter Pete Kavanagh.

Naas Poetry Town events included 'Poetry Underfoot' where lines of poetry were drawn on the town's streets, Café and Chemist poems handed out to the public by local businesses, Poetry Nights with local poets, an Open Mic poetry night, an afternoon poetry and music event, a family treasure hunt along the canal and more.

Poetry Town is an initiative of Poetry Ireland in partnership with Local Authority Arts Offices. It is made possible with funding from the Arts Council's Open Call funding and is also supported by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland. The Naas Poetry Town programme is supported by Kildare Library and Arts Services, who actively engage in a wide range of collaborative programming across the cultural realm.

Culture Night Kildare

Culture Night/Oíche Chultúir takes place on Friday 17 September 2021. Kildare Libraries and Arts Services are supporting over 60 events taking place across the county this Culture Night. Doors are opened late and special and unique events are specifically programmed at participating locations thanks to the continued support of the



Arts Council. Culture Night celebrates all that makes up the richness and diversity of culture in Ireland today, connecting people to cultural activities locally and nationally and aims to open pathways to ongoing engagement.

To celebrate Culture Night 2021, in July, Kildare Arts Service launched two innovative opportunities for Kildare-based artists: The Culture Night Mural Project and Culture Night Commissions. Murals by artists Paul Woods, SOLUS and Kildare Art Collective with Holly Pereira at three separate locations in Newbridge promise to add a splash of colour to unexpected places and bring vibrant new public art pieces to the town.

Taking place on Culture Night, there will be several exciting new projects, across the county and across art forms commissioned for Culture Night by Kildare Arts Service: Fizz and Chips Productions will present 'Live in the Garden', an evening of music, comedy and theatre in the Kilcock Community Gardens; a new play by Conor Burke titled 'Absolutely Fabulously Ridiculously Ugly', will be performed in The Moat Theatre and in the foyer of the same venue Conor Walton's

'Portrait Marathon' will provide an opportunity for visitors to have their portraits painted by an internationally-acclaimed Irish artist; 'The Kildare Folklore Pharmacy', by Sheena Malone takes place in Newbridge and looks at folk medicine in Kildare.

Full listings of over 60 events taking place across Kildare this Culture Night are available at culturenight.ie.

Parks

Allenwood Playground

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

Tree Works Programme

Works is commencing this month on the preparation of tree works based on this years requests received in 2021. It is hoped to have all the municipal areas tendered by the end of the year and works to start in early 2022.

Tree Planting Programme

A tender for tree planting is being prepared for the county. This is due to be tendered before the end of September.



Bawnogues Athletic Track

Work is nearing completion on the provision of new synthetic sprint lanes and high jump area, new floodlighting and drainage. It is hoped the works will be complete by the end of September.

Bawnogues Playground

A tender to relocate the playground in the Bawnogues while the new community centre is being constructed has been completed. Hawthorn Heights are company appointed to the works and they plan to have the playground installed by the end of the year.



Local Enterprise Office (LEO)

Funding Applications Awarded From January – 14 September 2021		
	No. Businesses	Amount Received
Web Development Grant	95	€166,382
Shopfront Grant *Remainder of funds per MD see page 2	57	€115,517
Outdoor Seating and Accessories Grant	97	€268 876
Export Marketing Grant	14	€22425
Start-up/ Expansion/ Priming/ Export Marketing Grants	41	€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/113>

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	€14,922
Naas	€384
Clane-Maynooth	€22,343
Celbridge-Lexlip	€26,939



Town Village Renewal - Street Enhancement Scheme

	No.	Value
Completed Applications	3	€20,501
Draft Applications	11	€15,600

LEO Launches Autumn Schedule of Training and Development Programmes

Kildare LEO provide an extensive range of training programmes for business owners and their employees in county Kildare. Each programme is lead by an industry expert, ensuring exceptional content and expertise.

Significantly subsidised, Kildare LEO launched the Autumn 2021 schedule of courses on Monday 06 September 2021.

Please advise constituents that new programmes can be accessed here:
<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/>

*NEW Applications close for Outdoor Seating and Accessories for Tourism and Hospitality Businesses

On Thursday 09 September, the Outdoor Seating and Accessories

Grant Scheme closed for NEW applications.

The scheme provided support to 97 individual independent hospitality and tourism businesses in Kildare towards the cost of equipment to provide additional outdoor seating and facilitate these individual independent businesses to increase their outdoor dining capacity for the summer of 2021.

Upcoming Innovation Conference - Fueling Small Business Success through Innovation

On Thursday 30 September (9:30 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.), Kildare Local Enterprise Office will host the National Innovation Conference for the Local Enterprise Offices.

Businesses all over the Country are being offered a unique opportunity to improve competitive edge with the online event.

The webinar comes 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.

Please advise constituents that bookings can be made for the online event at:

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/INNOVATION-WEBINAR-2021-.html>

Start Your Own Business on the Blueway

On Monday 13 September, 12 new businesses began the 8-week 'Start Your Own Business on the Blueway' course.

Following plans to upgrade the Barrow Canal towpath 46 kilometres Blueway as a major economic boom for local communities, Kildare Local Enterprise Office are provide the Start Your Own Business on the Blueway programme to potential new businesses in the tourism, recreation and hospitality sectors.

This is the third series of this course.

Food, Craft and Women in Business Cluster Groups Launched

On Monday 06 September, Kildare Local Enterprise Office launched

networking cluster groups in craft, food and female entrepreneurship to harness the power of the collective and provide a space for collaboration, development and business opportunities.

The series features sector-specific monthly networking meetups with a focus on upskilling.

Please advise constituents of opportunity here:

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/News/Kildare-Clusters-Craft-Food-and-Women-in-Business.html>

€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.

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

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



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



Equine Tech Innovation Hub

Construction commenced on site on the 31 May at the Irish National Stud. It is expected that the programme of works will be completed in September.

Athy Food, Drink and Skills Innovation Hub

The design team have also submitted the Fire Safety and Disability Access certificate applications and a decision on those will be made in August both now approved. The team 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.

K-Hub Network

Hosted by Kildare County Council the public and private co working and innovation space owners/managers have been meeting on a monthly basis

and have formed the K-Hub network. The network leverage economies of scale in research, collaboration, training and funding applications and is supported by the economic development unit in Kildare County Council.

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 Ireland Business Continuity grant or other direct	Small Business Assistance Scheme for Covid [SBASC]	https://kildare.ie/countycouncil/YourCouncil/Finance/CommercialRates/



sectoral grant schemes.		
Immediate Cashflow	MFI COVID-19 Business loan – The first 6 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	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-



Supports and services as well as support documents and publications		Enterprise-Updates.html 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