Comhairle Contae Chill Dara

Tuarascáil Mhíosúil Bhainistíochta an Phríomhfheidhmeannaigh

Lúil 2026

Kildare County Council

Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report – July 2026













News Items

EU Presidency Marked with Flag Raising Ceremony at Áras Chill Dara

Kildare County Council marked the beginning of Ireland's Presidency of the Council of the European Union with a flag raising ceremony at Áras Chill Dara, Naas (see page 8).

Energy Performance Contract

Kildare County Council signed a contract appointing Lawler Sustainability as the Energy Services Company to deliver an Energy Performance Contract for Áras Chill Dara, K Leisure Athy and K Leisure Naas (see page 10).

Register of Electors - Voter.ie Implementation Update

The Register of Electors Team is currently undertaking testing and validation activities for the new Voter.ie national electoral registration system as part of the Local Government Electoral Registration System (LGERS) project (see page 11).

Ár n-oidhreacht Ghaelach logainmneacha á cosaint agus ag cur léi

Tá ár nOifigeach Gaeilge, Muireann Ní Bheaglaoich, ag comhoibriú go leanúnach le haos taighde in Ollscoil Chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath a bhfuil ceartfhoirmeacha Gaeilge sráidainmneacha á n-aithint agus á ndeimhniú acu, le tacaíocht ón mBrainse Logainmneacha, lena bhfoilsiú ar www.sráidainm.ie - Bunachar Sráidainmneacha na hÉireann (see page 12).

Kildare Libraries 100 - The Story of Us

Kildare Library Service celebrated its one hundredth birthday on Saturday, 04 July across the county with cake and selfie frames and a smile on its collective face. Naas Library and Cultural Centre hosted the formal launch by Cathaoirleach, Councillor Tim Durkan (see page 13).

Innovation Recognition

Three Kildare County Council projects have been shortlisted as finalists in the eGovernment Awards 2026, recognising the innovation, collaboration and dedication of teams across the organization (see page 21).

Housing - Tenant Induction Video

The Housing Department, in collaboration with the Innovation and Communications Teams, has developed a tenant support video. This is available on the website and the Kildare Council Youtube channel (see page 23).

Local Authority Home Loan (LAHL)

On 08 July 2026, Mycoco.ie and Kildare County Council (KCC) launched an online portal for applications for the LAHL. Applicants can now apply on the housing loan portal for the LAHL available on the Council website (see page 23).

Mulch Collection Day

The mulch collection day took place on Saturday, 20 June at the Celbridge Interchange Yard. On the day up to 80 cars collected mulch for both home and community projects. The mulch was generated from the Council's Christmas tree recycling initiative which ran in January (see page 70).

Pay-Parking

An Expression of Interest was recently advertised for land in Kildare town for use as public carpark in advance of the public consultation process on update parking bye-laws (see page 74).

Slovenian Ambassador visit - MERITS

The Local Enterprise Office was delighted to welcome the Slovenian Ambassador to Ireland, His Excellency Matej Marn along with his wife, Mrs Ajda Marn and Honorary Consul for Slovenia in the Republic of Ireland, Mr Liam Moloney to MERITS in Naas, following a meeting with the Chief Executive and Cathaoirleach in Áras Chill Dara (see pages 91-92).

Diary/Calendar

LEADER

Work continues to promote and support applications for LEADER funding. A targeted call for projects from social, community and co-operative enterprises is currently open for applications. A budget of €175,000 is available and expressions of interest will be sought for eligible projects from €5,000 to €87,500 with a closing date of 31 July 2026 (see pages 59-60).

SíOL Scheme – Community Development

The SÍOL Programme is a new scheme where all state agencies work together to implement community development and town centre rejuvenation. Athy has been designated as a SÍOL area. The eligible electoral divisions are: Athy West Urban and Athy East Urban. Submission deadline for applications is Friday, 14 August 2026. Local Authorities will be permitted to submit a minimum of three and a maximum of seven projects for consideration on an annual basis (see pages 63-64).

M4 Eastbound Bus Priority Scheme

Transport Infrastructure Ireland intend to open the M4 Eastbound Bus Priority Measures Pilot between Celbridge and Leixlip (Junction 6 to Junction 5 Eastbound) in September 2026 (see page 72)

Kildare Heritage Plan Launch

Kildare Heritage Plan Launch – Tuesday,18 August 2026 in Naas Library. Heritage Week is taking place between 15-23 August 2026 (see page 82)

Into Kildare - Taste of Kildare

Taste of Kildare will take place on Saturday,15 and Sunday, 16 August in Naas Racecourse (see page 88)

Tourism Workshop

A Pricing and Profitability Workshop for Tourism businesses will take place in MERITS on 09 September 2026 (see page 90)

September Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
31 Aug	**1 Sept**	2	3	4 10:00 Clane-Maynooth MD Meeting; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar
7	8 15:30 Naas MD Meeting; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar	9	10 15:30 Coiste Gaeilge ; Council Chamber; Members Calendar	11
14	15 14:00 Audit Committee Prep; Boardroom; Members Calendar 14:30 Audit Committee Meeting; Boardroom; Members Calendar	16 10:00 Kildare-Newbridge MD Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar	17	18 10:00 Celbridge-Leixlip MD Meeting; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar
21 10:00 Athy MD Meeting; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar 14:30 CPG September 2026 Meeting; Boardroom; Members Calendar	22	23	24	25
28 15:00 Full Council Meeting; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar	29	30 10:30 County Rural Water Committee; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Committee Room; Members Calendar	**1 Oct** 14:30 LCSP; Council Chamber	2 10:00 Clane-Maynooth MD Meeting; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar

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Corporate, Culture and Emergency Services

Corporate Services

Communications

Local Enhancement Programme 2026



Recipients Announced -Kildare County Council and Kildare Local Community Development Committee announced the successful applicants under the Local Enhancement Programme 2026. A total of sixty-four successful community and voluntary groups and organisations across Kildare will share funding of €246,667.65 to support small scale capital and equipment costs.

Launch of the Climate Innovation Fund 2026



The Council has announced the launch of the Climate Innovation Fund 2026, a grant programme designed to support innovative projects that address climate challenges and inspire new approaches to climate action across County Kildare. The fund is open to community groups, voluntary organisations, businesses, social enterprises, individual applicants and other eligible organisations that live, work or study in the Clane - Maynooth, Celbridge - Leixlip, Athy or Naas Municipal District.

Leading the Way in Raising Awareness of Light Pollution Across Leinster



Following a regional conference held at Maynooth University on 18 June, Kildare County Council highlighted the growing issue of artificial light at night and its impact on wildlife, biodiversity and our ability to enjoy the night sky.

Community Fund to Support Tidy Towns and Local Environmental Action



The Council, in partnership with IPB Insurance and Local Government Ireland Community Fund, launched the Local Environmental Action Fund, also known as LEAF, to support Tidy Towns groups, resident associations and community organisations engaged in environmental and climate action. In County Kildare, €50,000 will be made available to local Tidy Towns groups, resident associations and voluntary community groups registered with the Public Participation Network.

EU Presidency Marked with Flag Raising Ceremony at Áras Chill Dara



The Council marked the beginning of Ireland's Presidency of the Council of the European Union with a flag raising ceremony at Áras Chill Dara, Naas. The ceremony, hosted by Cathaoirleach of the County of Kildare, Councillor Tim Durkan, brought together civic, diplomatic and community representatives to celebrate Ireland's eighth Presidency of the Council of the European Union and to recognise Kildare's connection with Austria through the EU Presidency County Pairings initiative. Kildare County Council was pleased to welcome Her Excellency Melitta Schubert, Ambassador of Austria to Ireland, to Kildare for the occasion.

New Cathaoirleach appointed for Clane/Maynooth



The Clane Maynooth Municipal District Committee appointed Councillor Daragh Fitzpatrick as Cathaoirleach and Councillor Donna Phelan as Leas-Chathaoirleach of the Municipal District Committee, at their annual

meeting, which was held in the Council Chamber, Áras Chill Dara. (Issued bilingually - https://kildarecoco.ie/News/Cathaoirleach,nua,ceaptha,do,Claonadh,,Maigh,Nuad.html)

2025 Annual Report Published



The Council published its Annual Report for 2025, providing an overview of the Council's programme of work delivered last year. The report highlights the council's commitment to enhancing the quality of life for the citizens of Kildare through collaboration, innovation, inclusion, and community engagement. (Issued bilingually - https://kildarecoco.ie/News/Foilsionn,Comhairle,Contae,Chill,Dara,Tuarascail,Bhliantuil,2025.html)

New Cathaoirleach and Leas-Chathaoirleach Appointed



Elected members of Kildare County Council appointed Councillor Tim Durkan and Councillor Tracey O'Dwyer as Cathaoirleach and Leas-Chathaoirleach of the County of Kildare respectively, at the Annual meeting of the County Council which took place on Friday, 26 June 2026 in the Council Chamber, Aras Chill Dara. (Issued bilingually - https://kildarecoco.ie/News/Ceapann,Comhairle,Contae,Chill,Dara,Cathaoirleach,agus,Leas-Chathaoirleach,nua.html)

Slovenian Ambassador Visits Áras Chill Dara



Kildare County Council welcomed the Ambassador of Slovenia to Ireland, His

Excellency Matej Marn and his wife, Mrs Ajda Marn, to Áras Chill Dara for discussions on enterprise, innovation and international cooperation.

Ballitore Papers Unveiled on the 200th Anniversary of Mary Leadbeater's death



The Council's County Archives and Local Studies service unveiled The Ballitore Papers, a new online resource, at Ballitore Community Library on Saturday, 27 June 2026. The collection was officially launched by Cathaoirleach of the Athy Municipal District, Councillor Ivan Keatley.

Energy Performance Contract for Áras Chill Dara, K Leisure Athy and K Leisure Naas



The Council signed a contract appointing Lawler Sustainability as the Energy Services Company to deliver an Energy Performance Contract for Áras Chill Dara, K Leisure Athy and K Leisure Naas. The appointment followed an extensive Competitive Dialogue procurement process alongside Codema Energy Agency and the Mid-East Energy Unit.

Funding Secured for Six Key Housing Activation Projects

The Council secured funding approval for six strategic infrastructure projects under the Housing Infrastructure Investment Fund (HIIF).

Renewable Energy Initiative for 200 Households Across the County



The Council announced a new partnership with EnergyCloud, a charity that uses innovative solutions to divert otherwise wasted renewable energy to homes, and Microsoft to deliver an initiative that will provide 200 households with hot water using

surplus renewable electricity. The scheme, which is being rolled out in County Kildare for the first time, will help reduce renewable energy waste while benefiting approximately 550 people living in the Council's social housing.

Register of Electors

Voter.ie Implementation Update

The Register of Electors Team is currently undertaking testing and validation activities for the new Voter.ie national electoral registration system as part of the Local Government Electoral Registration System (LGERS) project. Voter.ie will replace the existing electoral registration platform and provide a modern, customer-focused online service, including enhanced online registration functionality, improved data quality controls and a single national electoral registration system for all local authorities.

Subject to the successful completion of final migration, validation and sign-off processes, the new system is scheduled to go live in August 2026.

FOI, Data Requests and Ombudsman

	Total received Quarter 1, 2026	Total received Quarter 2, 2026
Freedom of Information Requests	63	67
Freedom of information appeals	2	8
Information Commissioner Appeals	1	4
Data Access Requests	10	5
Ombudsman	7	9

Gaeilge, Teangacha Oifigiúla/ Irish Language, Official Languages



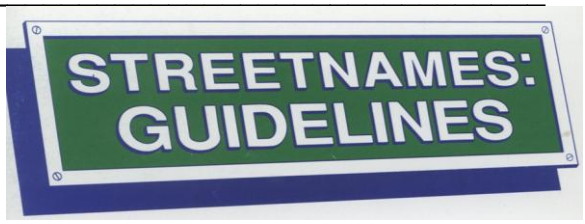
sráidainm.ie

Bunachar Sráidainmneacha na hÉireann

Ár n-oidhreacht Ghaelach logainmneacha á cosaint agus ag cur léi

Tá ár nOifigeach Gaeilge, Muireann Ní Bheaglaoich, ag comhoibriú go leanúnach le haos taighde in Ollscoil Chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath a bhfuil ceartfhoirmeacha Gaeilge sráidainmneacha á n-aithint agus á ndeimhniú acu, le tacaíocht ón mBrainse Logainmneacha, lena bhfoilsiú ar www.sráidainm.ie - Bunachar Sráidainmneacha na hÉireann. Murab ionann is logainmneacha riaracháin an Stáit, is iad na comhairlí áitiúla atá freagrach as a gcuid sráidainmneacha oifigiúla féin a dheimhniú agus a chur ar fáil don phobal.

Tá ár gCoiste Gaeilge ag lorg tuilleadh beart pleanála teanga áitiúil d'fhonn ár n-oidhreacht logainmneacha a chosaint ar bhealach níos fearr, cur leis an inbhuanaitheacht trí thógáil ar oidhreacht luachmhar ár logainmneacha dúchais sna blianta romhainn agus tacú le saoránaigh Chontae Chill Dara a gcuid seoltaí a úsáid as Gaeilge.



sráidainm.ie

Streetnames Database of Ireland

Protecting and building upon our Gaelic place naming heritage

Our Irish Language Officer, Muireann Ní Bheaglaoich, is collaborating on an ongoing basis with researchers at Dublin City University as they establish and validate, with support from the Placenames Branch, the correct Irish forms of street names for publication on www.sráidainm.ie - Street Names Database of Ireland. Unlike the administrative placenames of the State, local authorities are responsible for validating their own official placenames and for making them available to the public.

Our Irish Language Committee, Coiste Gaeilge, is seeking additional local language planning measures to better protect our Gaelic place naming heritage, to increase sustainability through ensuring the valuable heritage of our native Gaelic placenames is built upon in future

years, and to support the people of County Kildare to use their addresses as Gaeilge.

Library and Arts Service

News and Highlights

"The sea is nothing but a library of all the tears in history."

—Lemony Snicket

Kildare Libraries 100 - The Story of Us



Kildare Library Service celebrated its one hundredth birthday on Saturday, 04 July across the county with cake and selfie frames and a smile on its collective face. Naas Library and Cultural Centre hosted the formal launch by Cathaoirleach, Councillor Tim Durkan, of The Story of Us: Census 1926 in partnership with the National Archives of Ireland and featuring living history performances by the Moat Players. There was also a Catalpa 150 and John Devoy exhibition, courtesy of the National Library of Ireland, in the gallery and music by Eoghan Burke, who also performed that evening in the Moat Theatre. The library service produced a commemorative booklet on Devoy and a Catalpa 150 poster with the support of Kildare Co. Council and the Dept. of Culture, Communications and Sport. A truly memorable day.



Joe Boland, Gillian Allen, Cathaoirleach Councillor Tim Durkan, Zoe Reid of the National Archives and Marian Higgins

Mary Leadbeater 200

Cathaoirleach of Athy Municipal District, Councillor Ivan Keatley launched a new online resource, The Ballitore Papers, on 27 June at Ballitore Library and Quaker Museum. That same afternoon novelist and playwright, John MacKenna, launched a new printing of the Annals of Ballitore and conducted a walking tour In the Footsteps of Mary Leadbeater courtesy of Kildare Libraries.

Community groups unveiled a new sign to the Quaker Burial Ground and an exhibition in the Meeting House.

Maynooth Library

To mark the ongoing 'Maynooth 850' celebrations, Kildare Local Studies visited Maynooth Community Library to highlight the many free services provided by Kildare Archives and Local Studies. Attendees were invited to view a sample of rare Maynooth books, periodicals, postcards and photos.

Naas Library

Naas Library hosted a series of screenings featuring films adapted from the works of Irish playwrights and authors. The LAI Rainbow Libraries Network held its first-ever conference in the Chamber, while a Healthy Ireland Roadshow took place in partnership with the Irish Heart Foundation and Hidden Hearing. The Gallery space welcomed two exhibitions, showcasing the work of the Naas Photography Group and artist Anne Deere.

Athy Library

Cruinniú na nOg

It was a busy day in Athy Library for Cruinniú. Starting with Creative Lego Free Play. Later in the morning, the very successful, Toy Library Swap was a collaboration between Kildare Library Service, the Integration Team, and the Climate Team. In the afternoon, our patrons were treated to Music and games with a Music Workshop from ACMA.



Library Staff with members of the Integration Team and Climate Team



Children enjoying the Toy Swap

Astronomy Event with Scoil Mhichil Naofa

Dermot Gannon from the Astronomy Society, very kindly gave up his time (For Free) to give a very exciting talk.

The children from Scoil Mhichil thoroughly enjoyed the session.



Scoil Mhichil Fifth Class

Refugee Week and Pride Month

Two classes from Scoil Phadraig and Kilmeade Schools came to the library to watch Paddington, one of the most famous refugees, for Refugee Week. Two staff members also led a Storytime session in Bert House/De Burgh Manor our local IPAS Centre. For Pride Athy library staff facilitated and Sip'n' Flip – Tea, Coffee and LGBTQ+ books and a Rainbow Storytime and Craft.

Leixlip Library

Leixlip Library celebrated Cruinniú na nÓg with Art Workshops and storytelling with Down to Basics as well as Model building workshops with with CraftTastic.

Leixlip Library also had an African Art Exhibition organised and coordinated by Down to Basics and a Children's Drawing exhibition based on the Ellora McGee books by Sinead O'Hart. Sinead O'Hart visited with junior classes in Leixlip earlier in the week.



Sinead O'Hart Workshop Leixlip

Kildare County Archives and Local Studies

Kildare County Council-Files app

The app is a finalist in the 2026 Ireland eGovernment Awards in the Digital Transformation Project of the year category.

Commemorations

The Story of Us: Census 1926 exhibition, was launched on 04 July in partnership with the National Archives of Ireland. The project included research into individuals living in Co.

Kildare in 1926 for a collaboration with the Moat Players.

An exhibition of facsimiles of photographs and documents relating to John Devoy from the National Library of Ireland's collections is also on display in Naas Library and Cultural Centre in July to commemorate the Catalpa rescue in 1876

From the Plains: The story of John Devoy by Eoghan Burke was performed in the Moat Theatre on 04 July.

A commemorative booklet 'A Forgotten Hero – John Devoy,' (1966), published in 2008, has been expanded with 'Catalpa' related material and notes on the John Devoy statue and chair to commemorate the 150th anniversary of 'The Catalpa Rescue' in 2026. It is freely available along with a commemorative poster in all Kildare libraries.



Kildare Arts Service

Art House Residency project Dreamlands closing was celebrated on Saturday, 04 July

The Dreamlands project led by Art House artist in residence Ali Clarke. Art house is a Creative Places Athy project funded by The Arts Council. For this project Ali developed local stories and memories of the iconic venue on the Kilkenny Road which once played host to the likes of Johnny Cash and Thin Lizzy. The artist collected stories from locals and others connected with the iconic venue as well as an impressive collection of photos and posters from Dreamland's heyday. Inspiration for the project came from Athy locals Sinéad Hearns, Carmel Day and Colm Walsh, who was behind the Made of Athy project.

Limerick Exhibition features Kildare Municipal Art Collection painting

Energy Made Visible Exhibition will run until 05 September 2026, at Ormston House, Limerick curated by Kildare native Padraic E. Moore. This exhibition centres Michael Ashur's 'Galactic Pulsar' (1972) from Kildare's MAC alongside four contemporary Irish artists demonstrating this works enduring legacy and significance. The

temporary removal of Galactic Probe from Kildare Town Library provided an opportunity to re-imagine how the Kildare Municipal Art Collection could be activated through education and participation.

Local Children Reach for the Stars in New Kildare Town Library Display

Local children are taking centre stage at Kildare Town Library this summer, with a new showcase of artworks inspired by space, science and imagination.

Created by pupils from fifth class St. Brigid's National School, Kildare Town, the colorful display was developed through Galactic Probe: Art, Science and Exploration, a project that transformed the temporary absence of a painting from Kildare's Municipal Art Collection into an opportunity for creativity, learning and community pride.

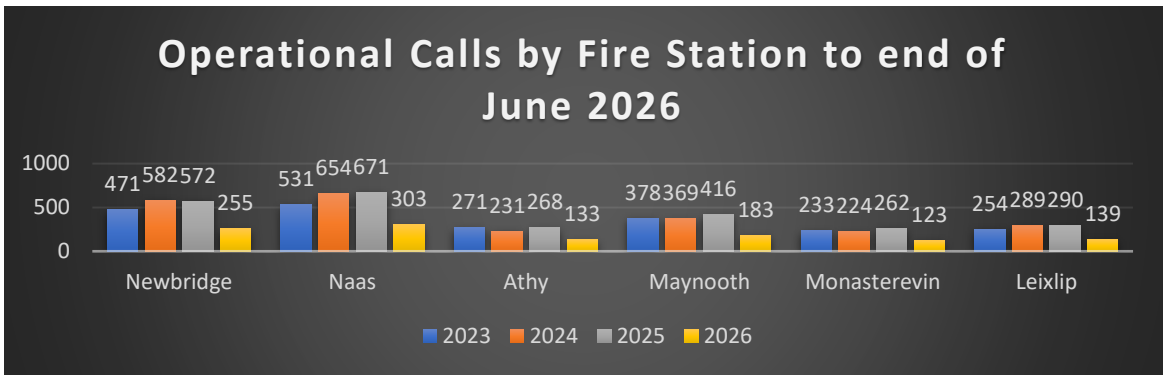
The project was initiated by Kildare County Council Arts Service in response to the loan of Michael Asher's Galactic Probe (1972) to Ormston House, Limerick, where it forms part of Energy Made Visible, the first major exhibition of the artist's work in decades. The exhibition is curated by Ormston House Artistic Director Pádraig E. Moore, who also has Kildare roots.

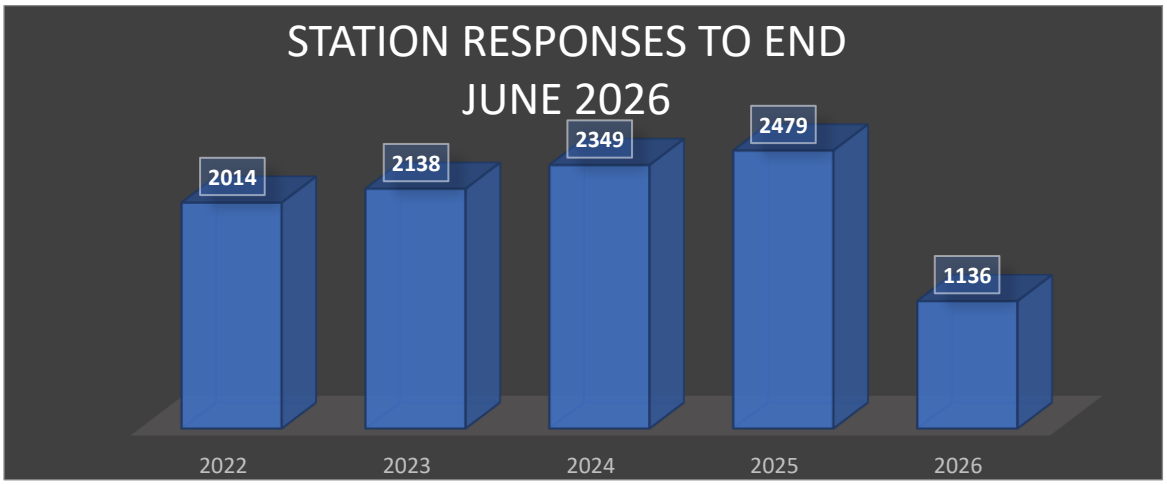


Photo credit: Paul Cregan: Fifth class St. Brigid's National School, Kildare Town discussing Michael Asher's Galactic Probe (1972) at Kildare Library.

Fire Service Operations:

2026 Summary: (Note: Figures for previous years indicate full year statistics)





Fire Safety Certificates

Applications received to the end of June 2026 compared with the totals received in previous years.



Finance, Digital Services and Innovation and Governance

Finance

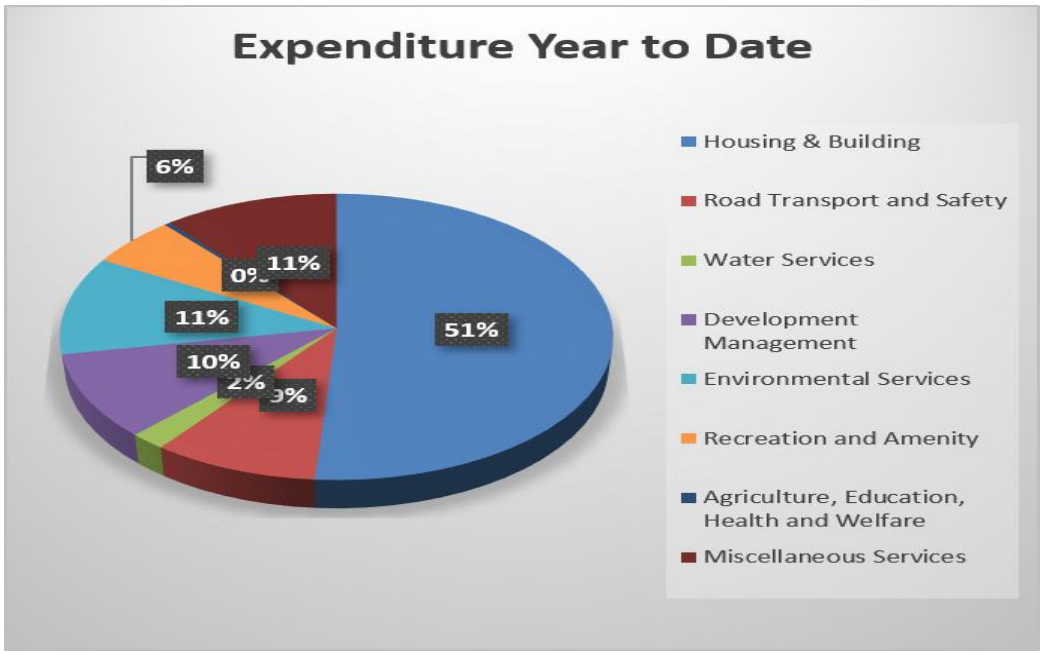
Annual Financial Statement

The Local Government Auditor, Mr Eamon Daly, will commence the audit of the Kildare County Council, Annual Financial Statement for the year ended 31 December 2025 on 24 July 2026 and anticipates having the audit completed in October.

Revenue Account

Kildare County Council
Revenue Account Summary by Service Division to period to 30 June 2026

Division	Expenditure	Budget	% Budget Spend	Budget remaining
	€,000	€,000		€,000
Housing & Building	60,196	115,475	52%	55,279
Road Transport and Safety	10,796	51,384	21%	40,588
Water Services	2,285	9,008	25%	6,723
Development Management	11,523	34,286	34%	22,763
Environmental Services	13,019	29,923	44%	16,904
Recreation and Amenity	6,520	21,437	30%	14,917
Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare	451	1,475	31%	1,024
Miscellaneous Services	12,819	22,676	57%	9,857
Local Property Tax Allocation				-
Rates				
	117,608	285,664	41%	168,056



Kildare County Council
Revenue Account Summary by Service Division to period to 30 June 2026

Division	Income	Budget	% Budget collected	Budget to be collected
	Income			
	€,000	€,000		€,000
Housing & Building	61,341	103,764	59%	42,423
Road Transport and Safety	4,544	25,965	17%	21,421
Water Services	2,139	7,993	27%	5,854
Development Management	5,733	12,365	46%	6,632
Environmental Services	4,328	10,375	42%	6,047
Recreation and Amenity	1,127	2,720	41%	1,593
Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare	233	321	73%	88
Miscellaneous Services	1,586	17,255	9%	15,669
Local Property Tax Allocation	9,097	27,291	33%	18,194
Rates	39,905	77,615	51%	37,710
	130,033	285,664	46%	- 155,631

The revenue expenditure and income for 2026 are on target. The most significant reason for excess expenditure in housing and building is in relation to the social housing leasing programme which is ahead of budget and is fully funded by DHLGH. The roadworks programme is mainly delivered in the summer months, so we anticipate expenditure on road transport and safety being on target at the end of Q3.

Commercial Rates, Rents and Loans Collections

Kildare County Council

Summary of Major Collections to 30 June 2026

	Arrears 01/01/2026	Accrued	Write Off	Waivers	Total for Collection	Collected	Outstanding 30/06/2026
Commercial Rates	5,558,393	78,365,332	121,518	-	83,802,207	58,091,617	25,710,590
Rents & Annuities	1,828,501	12,781,044	- 7,406	-	14,616,951	13,019,022	1,597,929
Housing Loans	1,016,693	1,978,490	- 141	-	2,995,324	1,948,342	1,046,982

Cashflow / Overdraft

Kildare County Council manages its cashflow requirements on a daily basis and did not avail of its overdraft facility during the period 01 January to 30 June 2026.

Risk Management

The second quarterly review of the Corporate Risk Register took place in June. The Head of Internal Audit, Risk and Governance is working with the Sections to complete and document

the actions from the review. The third quarterly review of the Corporate Risk Register is scheduled for September.

Corporate Governance

It is intended to organise training for Members and Senior Management on the Local Authority Code of Governance. The IPA has been contacted, and it is expected that the training sessions will take place in late September, in person, and will be approx. 2.5 hours duration.

An outline of what is covered in the training is below:

- Corporate Governance – what, why, how?
- Backdrop to the Code of Governance for Local Authorities (2024)
- Governing framework for Local Authorities
- Key provisions and application of the principles set out in the Code of Governance for Local Authorities:
- Principle 1 – Leadership
- Principle 2 – Values and Behaviours
- Principle 3 – Structure, Roles, and Functions
- Principle 4 – Capacity and Capability
- Principle 5 – Decision Making – Risk, Finance and Control
- Principle 6 – Stakeholder Engagement and Accountability
- Principle 7 – Sustainability and Climate Action

The Local Government Code of Governance can be found at the below link:
https://assets.gov.ie/static/documents/code-of-corporate-governance-for-local-authorities.pdf

Innovation

Recognition

Three Kildare County Council projects have been shortlisted as finalists in the eGovernment Awards 2026, recognising the innovation, collaboration and dedication of teams across the organisation.

The finalists are:

- Digital Transformation Project of the Year – Files App
- Local Government Award – Onboarding App
- Smart Cities and Urban Development Award – GeoCollect

The winners will be announced at the eGovernment Awards Ceremony on

the 24 September 2026 in O'Reilly Hall, Belfield, Dublin.

Building Skills and Awareness

The Innovation Spotlight Poster Series provides a visible showcase of innovative projects happening across the organisation. The initiative supports awareness, knowledge-sharing and recognition of this work. July's poster features the Vacant Property Grants Portal. An innovative digital portal developed through collaboration between the IT Team and the Vacant Property Grants Team to streamline the management of Vacant Property Grants. The solution centralises information, enhances reporting, and reduces reliance on manual processes.
Each month a different project is featured and is displayed outside the canteen on Level 6 and the Innovation Office on Level 0.

Housing, Regeneration and People

Housing

Social Housing Delivery

Works have recently commenced on the following two sites:

Four units at Newtown House, Leixlip.
39 units at Ardclough Road, Celbridge.

Part 8 launched on 03 June 2026 for six units at former Garda Station, Ballitore.

Summary of Social Housing Assessments 2025

The Summary of Social Housing Assessments 2025 has now been published. Nationally, 61,719 households were assessed as qualified for social housing support as of 03 November 2025. In Kildare, 3,974 households were assessed as qualified, representing an increase of 287 households, or 7.8%, on the 2024 figure. The Kildare profile continues to reflect strong demand from smaller household types, including single-adult households and one-parent households, alongside a broad range of applicants by age, employment status and housing circumstances.
The assessment will continue to inform the Council's housing delivery, allocation planning, homelessness prevention measures and ongoing engagement with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage under national housing delivery programmes.

Tenant Induction Video

Housing, in collaboration with the Innovation and Communications Teams, has developed a tenant support video. This is available on the website and the Kildare Council Youtube channel. Videos are recorded on the following topics: the heating system, windows and doors, heat and smoke alarms, ventilation, shower, shed, the attic, floors, water, electricity, and other services. The videos are available in 185 languages on the Youtube channel which will be an extremely useful resource for new and existing tenants.

Local Authority Home Loan (LAHL)

On 08 July 2026, Mycoco.ie and Kildare County Council (KCC) launched an online portal for applications for the LAHL. Applicants can now apply on the housing loan portal for the LAHL available on the Council website, on the following link https://www.mycoco.ie/lahl. While the new online service is available to applicants, the LAHL team will continue to accept hard copy applications.

Town Regeneration

URDF Call 3:

URDF Call 3 funding support is specifically designed to address long term vacancy and dereliction, reactivate underutilised buildings and increase housing supply / town centre regeneration.

Three properties acquired under the URDF Call 3 Programme are currently advertised for sale.

CPO Activation Programme:

The CPO Activation Programme was launched in April 2023. It provides for a planned, systematic and proactive approach by local authorities to bringing vacant and derelict properties into use. Individual targets are assigned annually for each local authority. Kildare County Council has met or exceeded annual targets set every year and 2026 targets of nine compulsory purchases / compulsory acquisitions to commence, have been met in June 2026.

Expansion of the Buy and Renew Scheme:

The expanded Buy and Renew Scheme allows building contractors to directly acquire and refurbish long-term vacant and derelict properties,

then sell them to local authorities or Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs) for social housing. This contractor-led pathway accelerates the delivery of social homes while actively tackling local dereliction.

Strategic Projects and Public Realm (SPPR)

Shackleton Experience Continues National Success

The Shackleton Experience, Athy continues to receive national recognition following its success at the Irish Building and Design Awards 2026, where the project secured both Leisure, Tourism and Hospitality Project of the Year and Heritage and Conservation Project of the Year (Large). The project remains a flagship example of the successful conservation and adaptive reuse of a significant historic building, enhancing Athy's tourism and cultural offering.

Newbridge Library and County Archives

The project continues to progress following Stage 4 approval. Preparatory works for construction are advancing. The project will deliver a landmark library, archive and cultural facility for County Kildare.

Wonderful Barn

In addition to the previously secured Historic Structures Fund allocation, procurement for the next phase of conservation works continues. Contractor appointment is anticipated in the coming period, supporting the ongoing restoration and enhancement of this nationally important heritage asset.

CLÁR 2026 – Ballitore

Five applications have been submitted to the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht (DRCDG) under the CLÁR 2026 programme, seeking grant support for a range of community and infrastructure projects in Ballitore (location identified by DRCDG for this scheme). Notification of successful applications is anticipated from the Department in November 2026.

Capital Programme

Location	No. of Units	Updated Status
Approval - Stage 4		
Ambassador Site, Kill	33 units	Delivered. Final account being prepared.
Old Greenfield, Maynooth	65 units	All units delivered.
St. Patrick's Park Rathangan Remedial Works (Phases 2 & 3)	Demolition of 15 units, refurb of 25 units, construction of 7 units.	Works progressing on site.
Ardclough Road, Celbridge	39 units	Construction commenced 07.07.2026.
Dispensary Site, Carbury	5 units	Letter of Acceptance issued, Contract signing with building contractor and commencement to site are underway.
Millfield Manor, Newbridge	2 units	Tender report being completed.
Approval – Stage 3		
Ardrew, Athy	73 units + community building	Stage 3 approval received from DHLGH on 18.11.2025. Design & Build tender advertised in December 2025 and currently at Pre-Qual Assessment Stage. Subject to completion of procurement procedures, a contract award is targeted for Q3 2026.
Ardrew Halting Site, Athy	8 units (5 new units, 1 caretaker unit, refurbishment and amalgamation of 4 units into 2)	Construction tenders issued: returns due on 31.07.2026.
St Evin's Park, Monasterevin	13 units	Preparations for contract signing underway.
Craddockstown, Naas	28 units	Letter of acceptance issued.

Approval - Stage 2		
Clane Road, Sallins	4 units	Site previously allocated to The Peter McVerry Trust will now be developed by KCC.
Station Road, Kildare.	29 units	Site clearance and knotweed disposal to be included in main tender. Investigation & Clearance Works at tender stage. Final Design/Tender documents being prepared.

Single Stage Approval		
Shamrock Stores, Athy	6 apartments.	New Single Stage Application being prepared. Refurbishment of existing dwelling not feasible. Revised proposal finalised and issued to internal departments for comment.
Ballitore Garda Station	6 (2 x refurb + 4 new)	Part 8 launched 03.06.2026
Maddenstown Terrace	1	Refurbishment construction tender returns being assessed.
Kilcock Courthouse	5 units	Revised single stage funding application approved by DHLGH. Tenders for consultants underway to proceed to Part 8.
Sarto Road, Naas. BIM Pilot	7 units	Single stage application approved by the DHLGH. Site investigation works complete. Design finalised. Design team being procured
Oldtown Mill, Celbridge	60 units	Examining the transition to D&B Contract, Novation of Technical Advisors and associated programme.
Coolaghknock Glebe, Kildare	99 social units/ 32 affordable	Examining the transition to D&B Contract, Novation of Technical Advisors and associated programme.
Rickardstown, Newbridge	96 social/ 40 affordable units	Examining the transition to D&B Contract, Novation of Technical Advisors and associated programme.
Rathasker Road, Naas	104 units	Examining the transition to D&B Contract, Novation of Technical Advisors and associated programme.

Pre-Approval		
Liffey Lodge	TBC	Preliminary design options being progressed.
Tanyard, Ballitore	4 units	Pre-funding application submitted to DHLGH.
Inniscarra, Athy	5 units	Feasibility report progressing. Preparation of Stage 1 application to the DHLGH is ongoing.
Canalside, Athy	5 units	Single stage funding application being prepared for submission to DHLGH.
Blacklion HS, Maynooth	2-day houses	Single Stage Application proposal submitted to DHLGH and comments received. Consultants appointed. Revised single stage application to be submitted Q3 2026.
Bothar Bui, Athy	8 units	Feasibility underway. Site investigations are being procured. DHLGH reviewing sketch feasibility.
Basin Street, Naas	TBC	Tender for conservation report and structural survey complete. Survey drawings complete. Feasibility report issued to the Planning Section for comment.
Blacklion, Maynooth	80 TBC	Feasibility underway.
Former Fire Station Site, Maynooth	TBC	Feasibility and design ongoing. Consultation with SPPR and Community Section commenced.

Infill Schemes

Location	No. of Units	Updated Status
Newtown House, Leixlip	4 units	Construction commenced 30.06.2026
Glandore, Athy	5 units + 1 refurb	All units completed.
Skenagun, Castledermot	1 major refurb & extension & 1 new build	Stage 3 approval received 18.03.2025.

Type	Approved Housing Body	Location	No. of Units	Updated Status
CAS	Cluid	ESB site, Leixlip	36	Part 8 approved December 2025. Cluid to proceed with amendments to proposal required under conditions of Part 8 approval. Cluid delayed due to change in funding for community element. Works programme to be issued by Cluid.
CAS	Sofia Housing	St. John's Convent, Rathangan	24	Stage 4 approval submitted to DHLGH November 2025. Contractor appointment by AHB to follow. Sophia progressing towards commencement of works on site.
CAS	Cluid	Dominican Lands Athy	34	Cluid progressing towards commencement of works on site.
CAS	Nas Na Riogh	Beaufort, (adj McAuley Place), Naas	44	Part 8 application launched 02.04.2026. Stage 4 approval application submitted to DHLGH.
CAS	Tintean Housing Assoc.	McCauley Court, Athy	Refurb 10 units & communal building	CAS funding approved. Terms of Heads of Agreement have been signed. Legal process for transfer of units to KCC has commenced. Deed of Assurance and pre-Contracts have been received and reviewed
CAS	Homless Care	Jigginstown Phase 2, Naas	10	Stage 2 approval application to be submitted to DHLGH.

Acquisitions

	2025	2026
Housing Acquisitions	23	3
Housing Turnkeys	22	5
Part V Acquisitions	158	40
Total	203	48

Acquisitions and Leasing by Municipal District	Athy	Celbridge-Leixlip	Clane-Maynooth	Kildare-Newbridge	Naas
Acquisitions in 2025	41	21	63	50	28
Acquisitions in 2026	20	0	15	13	0
MTR Delivery 2026 (via CALF and leasing)	0	0	2	0	0
CALF delivery 2026	53	0	24	30	0

Families in PEA including Supported Temporary Accommodations and Family Hubs 30 June 2026

Duration	No. of Households with Dependents	Adults	Dependents
0 - 6 Months	43	60	85
6 - 12 Months	13	18	22
12 - 18 Months	17	26	46
18 - 24 Months	2	3	2
24 - 30 Months	4	6	6
30 – 36 Months	0	0	0
36 Months +	1	3	2
Total	80	116	163

Families in Own Front Door Accommodation 30 June 2026

Duration	No. of Households with Dependents	Adults	Dependents
0 - 6 Months	3	4	10
6 - 12 Months	3	5	13
12 - 18 Months	0	0	0

18 - 24 Months	3	7	7
24 - 30 Months	3	4	4
30 – 36 Months	0	0	0
+ 36 Months	3	8	6
Total	15	28	40

Notices of Termination 30 June 2026

Notices of Termination on hand	Number Overholding	Number expiring 2026	Number Expiring 2027
87	28	58	1

Homeless Presentations with Unique Presentations Breakdown

Year	Total Cases	Unique Households	Of which Unique Adults	Of which Unique Dependents	Repeats Households
2025	2,368	531	558	441	1,837
Q1 2026	955	208	247	190	747
Q2 2026	1,123	199	231	174	924
2026 Total	2,078	403	478	364	1,671

Homeless Exits from Emergency Accommodation

Year	Total No Household Exits from EA	Local Authority Lettings	AHB Letting	Private Rented (HAP and RAS)
2025	48	16	16	14
Q1 2026	13	9	2	2
Q2 2026	11	3	1	7
2026 Total	24	12	3	9

Town Regeneration

Year	CPO Commenced	CPOs awaiting confirmation	CPOs confirmed	CPOs on hold/ Withdrawn	Acquired by agreement	Vacant Property Grant Applications	Vacant Property Grants Approved	Vacant Property Grant payments
2025	11	5	3	2	0	117	94	100
2026	9	9	1	3	2	73	51	32

Year	Vacant Property Inspections	Properties identified as requiring further investigation	Property Owners Engaged with	Pre-CPO Notices Erected	Section 8(2) Derelict Sites Notices Issued	Properties added to the Derelict Sites Register
2025	164	113	146	29	31	10
2026	49	48	28	1	9	4

Town	Update
Castledermot Town Centre First Plan	NbS application to LAWPRO - verbal confirmation received of successful application for the development of a Rainwater Management Plan for Castledermot with exemplar NbS project funded in 2027. Just Transition application for funding submitted to the *Feasibility* strand.
Clane Town Centre First Plan	Project Development Measure 3 funding - GPR and topographical surveys completed. A Habitats and Green Infrastructure survey is completed. Design (in-house) developed further for funding application readiness. Town and Village Renewal Funding (TVRS) - project has commenced and includes refurbishment works to the town centre playground recreational space in Clane. This project was identified as a priority for the community in the Clane TCF Plan.

Kilcullen following completion of TCF Measure 1	Town and Village Renewal Funding (TVRS) - The Town Regeneration team prepared preliminary design drawings and met with the Town Team to review and inform the design development. Design development is ongoing.

Housing Maintenance

Year	Vacant House Turnarounds	New House Purchases Upgrades	Number of Response Maintenance Requests Logged	Number of Response Maintenance Requests Completed
2025	118	13	12,155	9,140
Q1 2026	46	1	3,547	1,423
Q2 2026	24	1	2,869	1,555

Energy Retrofit Programme

This programme continues to deliver energy retrofits to KCCs socia housing stock in accordance with DHLGH circulars. Works completed under the programme can include replacement of fossil fuel heating systems with air to water heat pumps, insulation upgrades, window/door replacements, airtightness and ventilation works, iwth a target post works BER “B2” to be achieved.

Delivery Overview

Department Allocation for 2026: 85 units

Funding allocation for retrofits in 2026: €3,230,000

Funding allocation for Project management in 2026: €170,000

2026 Delivery	Occupied Units	Vacant/Void Units	Delivered and Recouped
Q1	13	9	22
Q2	0	6	6
		Total to Date:	28

Contracts Awarded	Occupied Units	Vacant/Void Units	Units to be Delivered 2026
Castlefen, Sallins & Churchview, Kilmeague	34	0	34
Vacant Units pre-approved	0	4	4
		Expected Delivery:	38
Projects Tendered (T) & Tenders in Preparation (P)	Occupied Units	Vacant/Void Units	Units to be Delivered 2026
Project 2 (T)	12	n/a	12
Project 3 (P)	10	n/a	10
		Expected Delivery:	22

Project 2 – Units at Liffey Court, Ballymore Eustace
Project 3 – Assessing units at Gaelic View, Kill, Chapel View, Kilcock, and Cois na Feadain, Naas

Any retrofits delivered above allocation will be included and added onto the 2026 allocation, or carried forward into KCC's 2027 allocation, in agreement with the Department as the year progresses.

Housing Assistance Payment – HAP

Year	Applications Received	Applications Rejected	Applications Approved
2025	338	9	338
2026	173	0	172

Housing Adaptation Grants

	Housing Adaptation Applications Received	Housing Adaptation Grants Approved	Mobility Aid Applications Received	Mobility Aid Applications Approved	Housing Aid for Older Persons Apps Recd	Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Approved
2025	320	157	21	17	327	322
Q1 2026	111	21	6	1	117	58
Q2 2026	76	154	3	1	53	194

Social Housing Assessments

Period	Existing Housing File Updates	Transfer Requests	New Valid Applications	Mortgage to Rent Apps	Refusals	No. of Households added to List
2025	120	253	1226	11	345	1049
Q1 2026	38	82	433	5	97	187
Q2 2026	36	33	303	3	106	284

Housing Allocations

Period	Total	CBL	Over 65	Disability	Homeless/Homeless Prevention	Refusals
2025	525	169	57	108	117	125
Q1 2026	137	40	22	26	38	52
Q2 2026	232	107	23	38	33	70

Housing Loan Portal went live on KCC website 08 July.2026

Local Authority Home Loan

Year	Approval No.	Approval Amount	Approval Drawdown No	Approval Drawdown Amount	Expired No	Expired Amount
2025	28	€5,809,730	8	1,827,400	11	€2,388,290
Q1 2026	6	€1,177,900	0	0	0	0
Q2 2026	5	€1,102,940	0	0	0	0

Tenant Purchase Scheme

Year	Applications	Ineligible	Letter of Offers	Properties Sold
2025	35	2	33	10
Q1 2026	16	3	0	3 (Applications received in 2025 only sold in 2026)
Q2 2026	7	2	6	2

Rent Assessments

Year	LA Rents	New HAP	HAP Review
2025	1,916	370	405
Q1 2026	518	81	102
Q2 2026	563	72	87
Total	1081	153	189

Public Realm

Capital Works – Strategic Priorities

Municipal District	Project Name	Estimated Value	Funding Awarded	Project Stage	Notes
Countywide	Barrow Blueway	€11,683,034	RRDF €9,007,827	Stage (iv) Construction	Snagging remains to be completed by the contractor.

Municipal District	Project Name	Estimated Value	Funding Awarded	Project Stage	Notes
					Hydroseeding of the embankments requires remediation.
	Barrow Blueway Trail Head	€80,000	€80,000 Community Recognition Fund	Part 8 Planning Process, DAV and Fure	Part 8 Chief Executive's Report has been completed and issued to Municipal District Members. The Municipal District meeting is scheduled to take place on 20 July 2026. Subject to approval of the Part 8, procurement will be required for final design, tender and supervision of the works.
	Greenway – Phase 2 Sallins to Clonkeen	€25,621,000	DoT/TII and Carbon Tax Fund	Part 8 Planning Process, DAV & Fure	**Lock 20 to Shee Bridge Boardwalk and 18th Lock Pedestrian Bridge** Tender pack to be issued for review and upload. **Waterways**

Municipal District	Project Name	Estimated Value	Funding Awarded	Project Stage	Notes
					Ireland, Lock 20 to Offaly Border MOU to be completed with Waterways Ireland, with works to commence Spring 2027. **Waterways Ireland, Healy Bridge to 18th Lock Pedestrian Bridge** MOU to be completed with Waterways Ireland, with works to commence September 2026. A tree survey is to be completed, and the consultant is preparing a package for tree and hedgerow clearance during the hedge-cutting season.
Athy	Ardrew Amenity Lands			Stage (iia) Developed Preliminary Design	Developed preliminary design is progressing. The

Municipal District	Project Name	Estimated Value	Funding Awarded	Project Stage	Notes
					next step is to issue the tender pack to eTenders. Construction funding has not yet been secured.
Celbridge-Leixlip	Wonderful Barn	€23.8m (most recent cost for entire project)		Stage (iic) Detailed Design and Tender Docs	Procurement for the next phase of conservation works is progressing following approval of Historic Structures Fund funding. Costs issued from AECOM for internal barn completion are being reviewed, with a proposal to be brought forward to SMT in relation to funding.
Clane-Maynooth	Maynooth Town Centre Master Plan	€3,438,500	€2,574,375 URDF €858,125 KCC/LPT €1,908,750 URDF approved	Analysis - Masterplan	Draft Masterplan was presented to SMT. Feedback has been collated and issued to the consultant team to inform the

Municipal District	Project Name	Estimated Value	Funding Awarded	Project Stage	Notes
					next revision of the Masterplan.
	Harbourfield, Maynooth	€ 200,000		Stage (iic) Detailed Design and Tender Docs	An Expression of Interest (EOI) has been submitted to the recent round of EU JTF Funding. The next phase will see the construction of the project.
	Clane Library	€3,800,000		Stage (iv) Construction	Works commenced on 24.05.2026 by ML Quinn. Site setup has been completed, and a large extent of the soft strip-out is now complete. The contractor has temporarily demobilised pending receipt of the archaeology licence from the Monuments Service. On approval of the licence, the contractor will remobilise and commence

Municipal District	Project Name	Estimated Value	Funding Awarded	Project Stage	Notes
					removal of the floor slab, peat layer and underpinning where specified.
Kildare-Newbridge	Newbridge Library & County Archives		KCC/ Dept of Housing/ DRCD	Stage (iii) Tender Action, Evaluation, Award	The project continues to progress through the tender and approval process.
	Rathangan Town Renewal Plan		LPT	Analysis - Masterplan	The Draft is in its final stages with urban design elements to be completed.
	Newbridge Town Renewal Plan		LPT	Analysis - Masterplan	KCC is seeking a meeting with DRCDG to follow up on the change of scope submitted on 1 April 2026. Public consultation is to be arranged following SMT consideration.
	Monasterevin Masterplan – sub project Market Square Monasterevin	€204,887	€163,900.00 (RRDF 80% KCC 20%)	Stage (i) Preliminary Design	The funding agreement has been finalised. Procurement of consultancy services to progress the feasibility study

Municipal District	Project Name	Estimated Value	Funding Awarded	Project Stage	Notes
					is being advanced.
	Riverbank Arts Centre			Stage (iib) Planning Preparation	Project is at the planning preparation stage. Part 8 documentation is being progressed.
Naas	Naas Town Centre Masterplan	€4,662,000	€3,500,000 URDF €1,165,000 LPT/KCC	Analysis - Masterplan	Draft Masterplan was presented to SMT. Feedback has been collated and issued to the consultant team to inform revisions to the final Masterplan.
	Naas Canal Quarter Masterplan - URDFKil006			Analysis – Masterplan	Traffic and Infrastructure Assessment is being carried out by AECOM. This will then tie in with the Traffic Impact Assessment and surveys previously completed.
	Sallins Town Renewal Masterplan	€70,000	€70,000 LPT	T&V Renewal Masterplan Preparation	Publication of the Masterplan deferred pending completion of the Sallins Local Area

Municipal District	Project Name	Estimated Value	Funding Awarded	Project Stage	Notes
					Plan/Settlement Plan to ensure alignment between both documents. SPPR continues to work with Forward Planning on the revised programme.

Integration and Strategic Property Management

Integration

LAIT
Foireann Údaráis Áitiúil um Imeascadh
Local Authority Integration Team

General

The Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration has advised that the phased withdrawal of State-provided accommodation for BoTPs who arrived in Ireland before March 2024 has now commenced. The first phase applies to BoTP residents currently accommodated in Citywest Reception Centre. An application process for continued accommodation is now open for Citywest residents only. Residents in other centres should await direct communication from the Department.

Those who get approval for short-term emergency accommodation will be moved to a Designated Accommodation Centre (DAC). There

are four DAC's listed by the Department which include two in County Kildare - Punchestown and Kill Equestrian. Residents in DACs where meals and utilities are provided will move to the BoTP weekly payment of €38.80 per adult and €29.80 per child. Some payments are not impacted, including Child Benefit, Additional Needs Payments, Working Family Payment, Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance, Carer's Support Grant and Free Travel for those aged over 66. Further information is available at www.gov.ie/ukraineupdates

Local authorities may receive queries from Citywest residents or from residents in other centres concerned about future phases. Local authorities are not involved in the assessment of applications or making accommodation decision. Individual accommodation queries should be directed to the Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration. The Local Authority Integration Teams (LAITs) may support by signposting residents to the form, information sessions and relevant contacts.

New Housing Bill to bring greater clarity on eligibility for social housing. This underpins existing policy in relation to residency requirements – that is successful applicants must demonstrate a long-term entitlement to reside in the State. The Bill does introduce a new policy – habitual residency. This is to ensure that social housing support recipients are resident in the State, have close links to the State, and have made Ireland their home.

Who is not entitled to social housing support? As with existing policy, those who have applied for International Protection but have yet to receive a decision; a person who has a deportation or a return order against them where the notification is in force; those with immigration permissions that do not permit them accessing certain social and public services and those on certain temporary permissions, e.g. Temporary Protection. Ukrainian refugees in Ireland reside under the EU Temporary Protection Directive are not regarded as being habitually resident in the State for the purposes of social housing support due to the temporary nature of the permission.

Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT)

The Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT) supports people living in County Kildare who have applied for international protection, people with status, people with temporary protection, and programme refugees. The team helps individuals and families connect with local services and navigate civic systems that may be new to them. LAIT also supports people living in State-contracted accommodation through information clinics. From the beginning of the year to 10 July 2026, the LAIT delivered the following supports:

- Strong reach through clinics: LAIT delivered 88 one-to-one clinics and 25 group clinics, supporting 735 people in State-contracted accommodation centres.
- High level of practical support: The team resolved 833 queries, showing significant demand for information, guidance, advocacy, and navigating services.
- Broad integration and wellbeing activity: LAIT supported 770 people through integration and psychosocial activities, including wellbeing, health, safety, sport, play, and community connection initiatives.
- Information sessions in the community: Two Coffee Mornings were arranged in June to support people with temporary protection living in the community. The sessions provided an opportunity to meet with Kildare LAIT, request information and resolve queries. They were supported by Athy Family Resource Centre and CKLP, with a total of 25 people attending across both sessions.
- Targeted supports for different groups including activities targeted at women, men, children under five, families, people with temporary protection, international protection applicants in IPAS centres, and refugees in the community.
- Effective partnership: Strong collaboration with partners including Athy Family Resource Centre, CKLP, KSP, Swim Ireland, Sanctuary Paddlers, Library Services, Toy Library

Ireland, HSE, and council departments.

Community connection, inclusion and psychosocial activities organised or supported by the LAIT helping people to connect with local services, build community links, and participate in wider community life. Activities in June 2026 include:

- Kildare LAIT in partnership with DotoBa organised a 'Meet and Connect' event in Leixlip Family Resource Centre to mark Refugee Week (15-21 June 2026) on Friday, 19 June. This was an opportunity for refugees living in North Kildare to connect with Kildare LAIT and other migrant-led groups and organisations including Somali Integration Centre, Intercultural Women's Network and DDI Fashionistas. One-to-one information clinics were offered by the LAIT with interpretation onsite.
- The Men's Group in the Gables IPAS Centre, delivered as part of the LAIT Wellbeing Programme, met three times in June. The group also attended June Fest events and took part in a meet-and-greet visit to Newbridge Men's Shed and Newbridge Family Resource Centre on 08 June. Group meetings are paused for the summer period.
- The Kangoo Dance Programme, aimed at improving psychological and cognitive health outcomes for women accommodated in Waterways IPAS Centre, concluded on 11 June, with 17 women participating.
- The Women's Swim Programme in Athy concluded on 22 June with residents of De Burgh Manor IPAS Centre. The programme was delivered by Swim Ireland in collaboration with KSP and funded by LAIT.
- Kayaking Programme for Adults: Run by Sanctuary Paddlers in collaboration with KSP and LAIT, the programme supported six people with temporary protection and international protection applicants living in Athy to participate.
- Dance Workshop for Children Under five: Delivered as part of the Power of Play programme,

this workshop continued in De Burgh Manor and Hazel IPAS centres. It is run by Library Services and funded by the LAIT.

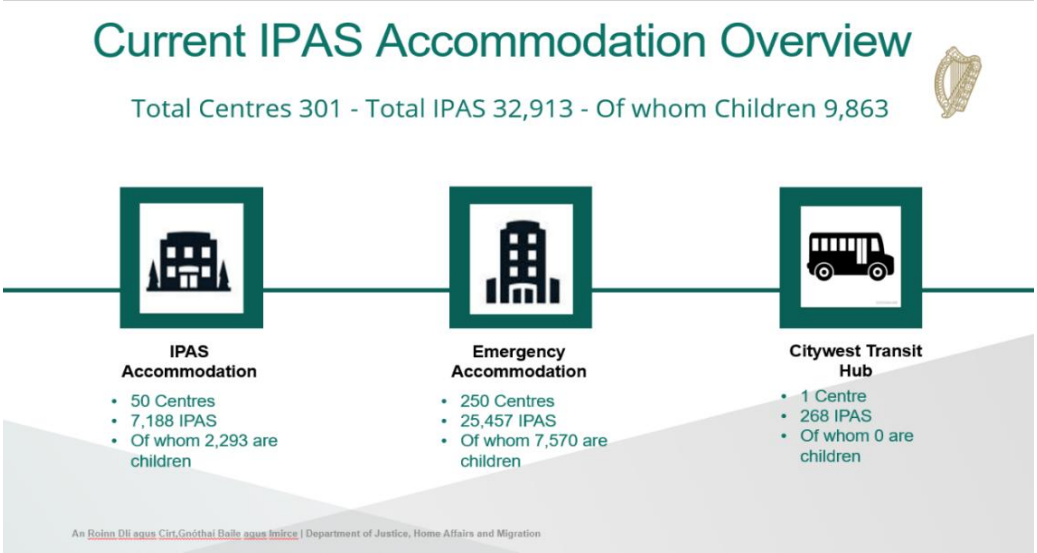
- Water Safety Talk: A Water Safety Talk was organised in De Burgh Manor on 15 June, supported by KSP and delivered by Swim Ireland.
- The eight-week Healthy Living in Ireland programme in Monasterevin concluded on 4 June, with 30 people in IPAS accommodation participating. Delivered in partnership with the HSE, the programme supported participants to better understand the healthcare system in Ireland
- Swap and Play: This family-focused and community event was held at Athy Library on 06 June as part of Cruinniú na nÓg and was facilitated by Toy Library Ireland. Supported by Kildare LAIT, Library Services, and the Environment and Climate Change departments, the event engaged families in the concept of circular play. A total of 78 people attended, and 144 toys were recirculated and given a second life. The event provided an opportunity for families to connect, children to discover new-to-them toys, and the wider community to embrace more sustainable ways to play and share resources.

Kildare LAIT is co-chairing the 'Supporting Young People Working Group' within the Local Authority National Integration Network (LANIN). The LANIN was established by the CCMA to provide a structured and coordinated national framework across LAITs, represented by the ISC across 31 local authorities. The LANIN operates under the oversight of the Integration Oversight Sub-Group, which reports to the CCMA Rural, Community, Culture and Heritage (RCCH) Committee.

The Community Integration Forum convened thematic sessions in late 2025 focused on children and youth, aimed at identifying gaps and opportunities for coordinated responses. Key areas of focus included transitions for young people from Tusla care into IPAS accommodation and the provision of

homework supports for primary school children accommodated by IPAS. Building on this, the LAIT is engaging with CYPSC and In-Sync to align efforts, strengthen collaboration, and identify sustainable supports within existing service frameworks.

According to the Data source Department of Justice, Homeland Affairs and Migration (06 July 2026) there are currently a total of 162 persons with Temporary Protection (Ukraine)117 adults/ 45 children in the four State-contracted accommodation centres in County Kildare.



According to the Department of Justice, Homeland Affairs and Migration (06 July 2026) there are 448 persons who have applied for international protection, 342 adults/ 106 children in the five State-contracted accommodation centres in County Kildare.

Kildare Refugee Resettlement Programme

The Irish Refugee Protection Programme (IRPP) is a national programme established by the Government on 10 September 2015 as part of Ireland's humanitarian response to the migration crisis in Europe. Its purpose is to provide safe and legal pathways for refugees (primarily those identified by the UNHCR) to resettle in Ireland. The IRPP is working with Local Authorities engaged in resettling refugees, following the County and City Management Association's (CCMA) model for distribution for IRPP II, CCMA HBLU IRPP II Model for Distribution. Through this model,

Kildare County Council was allocated a quota of 66 refugees for 2024-26. Kildare County Council was involved in this programme as far back as 2010.

From July 2024 to July 2026, Kildare County Council successfully resettled 68 Syrian and Afghan refugees across five locations in the county. This represents a significant achievement and reflects the strong local coordination, partnership working, and sustained support provided throughout the programme. During this period, Kildare County Council's implementing partner, County Kildare Leader Partnership, employed a Resettlement Worker and an Intercultural Support Worker who supported families throughout the programme. Families received assistance to access housing, health, employment, education, and training supports based on their needs. Independence and self-reliance were fostered by building on existing capacities, including language support through English classes, with interpretation and translation services provided to support communication when accessing services. Families were helped to settle into their new communities and encouraged to participate in community activities and volunteering as ways to foster inclusion and social connections. An end-of-programme celebration took place in Newbridge Town Hall in early July to mark this important milestone. Sincere appreciation is extended to CKLP for the strong collaboration and commitment shown throughout the programme.

While the resettlement programme is concluding, integration remains an ongoing journey. Building a life in a new country takes time and involves achievements, challenges, and many important milestones. The Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT) will continue to be available to provide guidance, link families with relevant services, and support continued integration and participation in community life. This support will be similar to the support provided to LAIT target groups. As part of this transition, four Meet and Greet sessions with the LAIT were arranged in June 2026 to introduce families to the team.

The programme has been supported by an Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG) chaired by the LAIT Coordinator, and at national level by

the LGMA through a Working Group with all the local authorities participating in the IRPP.

Ukraine Services and Accommodation Team Offer a Home Scheme

The Ukraine Services and Accommodation Team manage the Offer a Home Scheme in county Kildare in conjunction with the Irish Red Cross (IRC) and International Organisation for Migration (IOM). The supply of offers for OAH and Pledged accommodation continues to decline. Fortunately, the majority of persons with temporary protection arriving under the new 30-day accommodation protocol have managed to source their own accommodation with very few returning to Citywest to date. Only two people returned to Citywest from Kildare Dac's since the start of 2026.

Offered to date:

- 108 (59 apartments + 49 houses).
- Occupied: 64
- In Progress: 3
- Withdrawn: 41

The Ukraine Services and accommodation team is currently matching properties in rural locations offered by other Local Authority's. The Minister has extended the ARP payment until March 2027 however, the payment will reduce to €400 in October.

Designated Accommodation Centres (DAC's)

Designated Accommodation Centres were established to accommodate persons with temporary protection arriving in the State after 14 March 2024.

There are no 30-day DAC's in operation in Kildare since the last residents left Punchestown on 20 June. The Dept has confirmed that Punchestown and Kill will be used as full board Designated Accommodation Centres for vulnerable people on Temporary Protection who need continued state provided accommodation. We have not been informed yet of a date for the changeover. The application process is currently open for City West residents only before being rolled out nationwide.

The Community Integration Forum

The role of the Community Integration Forum is to enhance information sharing, collaboration and coordination among service providers to maximise integration supports outcomes. Membership includes Kildare County Council (LAIT, Accommodation Team, Community Services/Sport Kildare Partnership, Library Services/Creative Communities); Citizens Information Centre; An Garda Siochana; County Kildare Leader Partnership; Irish Red Cross; Kildare County Childcare Committee; Children and Young People's Services Committees (CYPSC); In Sync; Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board (KWETB); the Regional Education and Learning Team Coordinator (REALT – KWETB); INTREO/Department of Social Welfare; Tusla Prevention, Partnership and Family Support (PPFS); the HSE Social Inclusion Team; and TFI Local Link.

The role of the Community Integration Forum is reflected in the LCDC (Action 1.7.7 KCC-LAIT). The migrant integration strategy is much broader and implemented through local community strategies.

The Community Integration Forum (CIF) meets every two months. The last meeting was held on 09 June.

Health and Safety

1. Update of Accident/Incident Database:
    - Three accidents
    - Eight incidents
2. DSE (Display Screen Ergonomic) assessments including blended working assessments:
    - NRO (new starter)
    - Environment tech team
    - Housing (new starter)
    - Finance (new starter)
    - Housing
3. Site Inspections completed in the following areas:
    - Athy library
    - Timahoe roads depot and yard facility
    - Transportation - Naas area.
    - Community team- Slaintecare community event
    - Transportation- road resurfacing crew.
4. In person induction of summer students (40 attendees)

5. RAMS (Risk Assessment and Method Statement) reviewed and updated:
    - Housing -Camping wardens halting sites.
    - Environment -Discharge License Monitoring.
    - Environment- DWWTS Inspections.
    - Environment -Farm Surveys.
    - Safe use of Road saw - New
    - Timahoe depot, yard, and premises -New
6. Accident and incident investigations.
7. Organised Online training for Proworks Gatekeepers.
8. Health and Safety Committee meeting with Safety Representatives
9. Workshop with Environment, Planning and Fire Service focusing on risks across our roles, particularly in light of recent incidents and to agree on practical measures we can put in place as an organisation
10. Return to work assessment in the following area:
    - Environment
11. Preparations for Annual Health and Safety Conference:
    - Second Speaker sourced
    - Searching for two additional speakers
    - Completion of RFQ process for Audio Visual Services at the Health and Safety Conference, awarded to Coyle Events Ltd.
    - Completion of RFQ process for new Health and Safety logo and conference wrap sign.
    - Ordered Thinking Ahead Packs.

Accessibility:

1. Meetings:
    - Monasterevin Disability Access Group Meeting
    - Maynooth Disability Access Group Meeting
    - Newbridge Disability Access Group Meeting
    - Celbridge Disability Access Group AGM
2. Design of new logos for all seven local access groups
3. Supported in the preparations for Leixlip Disability Access Group re-launch coffee morning at Leixlip Youth and Community Centre.
4. Supported Leixlip Disability Access Group in planning for Picnic in the

Playground at Leixlip Amenities Centre.

5. Arranged production of promotional leaflet for Leixlip Disability Access Group.
6. Supported Maynooth Access Group with preparations for their attendance at the Picnic in the Park event in Maynooth.
7. Completion of RFQ process for branded CKAN gazebo for events.

Climate, Community, Environment and Water

Climate

Climate Action Regional Office (CARO)

The Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) works to support local authorities to drive climate action in their jurisdictions and coordinate activities to promote effective climate action across the local government sector. For more information on the work of the CARO, see our website at www.caro.ie

Kildare County Council is the host local authority for the Eastern and Midlands (EM) CARO, one of four CAROs working as a shared service within local government climate. There are 17 local authorities within the EM CARO region.



The CAROs are funded by the Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment (DCEE) and work through the four lead local authorities by way of a Service Level Agreement (SLA) to mid 2029.

Local Authority Climate Action Training Programme

01 June 2024 marked the start of second phase climate training for the sector. 2026 training programme has planned training under six training pillars with a target of 9,450 over the year. Focus for the year ahead includes:

Online training on climate science, policy and responses to all staff.

- Green Public Procurement
- Nature–based solutions
- Fire services training

Other training targeting specific groups will be planned for delivery also.

Permanency of staff business case

This continues to advance with a specially convened project board convened. The business case is seeking to address the permanency of dedicated resources on climate action within the sector i.e. 17 resources within the CAROs, and three resources within each of the 31 LA (Climate Action Coordinator, Climate Action Officer and Community Climate Action Officer). The proposal as a minimum is seeking to regularise 110 staff positions.

Local Authority Climate Action Plans (LA CAP)

All 31 local authorities have adopted their climate action plans. A review of all LACAPs is complete and findings report is available on CARO website Local Authority Climate Action Plans (LA CAPs) - CARO.



Sub-Regional Energy Projects

The EM CARO is working with local authorities in each of the four sub-regions to develop regional energy units to avail of funding for projects that support the decarbonisation of local authority buildings. The energy units comprise:

- Mid-east (Kildare, Meath, Wicklow, and Louth), delivering projects and accessing Pathfinder support from SEAI.
- Midlands (Laois, Offaly, Westmeath, Longford, Roscommon), have developed their project pipeline and sourced funding to match Pathfinder support and are progressing with projects.
- Border (Cavan, Monaghan, Leitrim) are working with project manager assistance from SEAI and design team to progress projects.
- South-east (Carlow, Kilkenny, Tipperary, Wexford, Waterford City and County) continue to

progress through design stage towards delivery.



Reimagining Local Authority Fleet

The EM CARO supports the reconfigured working group established to explore support and options for local authorities on fleet decarbonisation and is now working to finalise recommendations for the CCMA on support for fleet decarbonisation into the future.

Development of Local Authority Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) on Climate Action



The Climate Action KPI working group continue to work to develop the report for 2025 aiming to publish in August. The report explores a range of data to highlight the sectoral performance of the network of local authorities on climate action. 2024 Report now available at: Climate Action Key Performance Indicators

GAA / CCMA Green Clubs Programme:



GAA Green Club Programme: The EM CARO continues to work with the GAA and expert partners to advance the Green Club Programme. Phase three of the Programme sees c.400 clubs working their way through a range of sustainability and climate action related projects as provided for by Green Club Toolkits covering the five themes of Energy, Water, Waste, Biodiversity and Travel.

Renewed MOU between the CCMA and the GAA signed in February to continue and strengthen the partnership.

Kildare County Council Climate Action Office

Kildare Climate Action Office
Inspiring change, shaping tomorrow

The CARO office provides support to the Climate Action Office (CAO). In turn the CAO assists the functional and operational areas of the council to decarbonise their roles and work through the members of the Climate Action Team and Energy Management Team together with the Senior Management Team.

Community Based Projects:

Maynooth DZ:

Community Climate Action Fund

Formal agreements are being set up with the awardees to enable works to commence as soon as possible. We look forward to seeing the works materialise to showcase climate action in motion locally.

Community Garden Maynooth

Maynooth Tidy Towns were awarded CCAF funding with the first phase of works scheduled for September.

DZ Funding

Funding assigned to DZ's nationally by DCEE. Work is ongoing to provide three meetings in the DZ to inform and activate a larger steering committee for the DZ.

Climate Action Updates:

Climate Action Plan - Progress

MS Lists is being utilised to enable bi-annual reporting on progress. Time required to be given to staff to complete updates. Climate Action Team meeting has been delayed as we review the MS Lists updates and internal review of CAP.

Summer Students

Two students from TU Dublin are working with the energy side of the team, assisting with data collection to inform ISO 50,001 and building inventory requirements in the main.
One student from MU is working on the climate side of the team assisting with mapping council lands onto the Grass to Gas Dashboard for sequestration analysis.
Their work and abilities are truly welcomed by the Climate Action Office as it helps to advance climate action.

Energy Updates:

Energy Performance Contract

The Energy Performance Contract was signed with Lawler Sustainability on Monday, 15 June.

Progress will begin immediately on the Building Surveys and the Detailed Design phase.

Energy Audits / Decarbonisation Projects:

Energy projects advancing across libraries and community facilities, supported by Pathfinder funding.

Leixlip Library: decarbonising works have commenced. Snagging underway.

Athy Library: A trial borehole for ground source heat pump for decarbonisation is completed, and a feasibility study has been completed. We will be issuing a tender in the next few weeks.

We have also applied for START Just Transition Funding and successful projects will be notified in Q3.

Athy Municipal District offices: An Energy Audit has been carried out. Funding will be required to progress this project.

Newbridge Library: trying to secure Pathfinder funding for the Energy Efficiency works to the Protected Structure element of the larger capital project.

Clane Library: Pathfinder funding of 50% of the 75% funding has been received from SEAI for the energy efficiency works – i.e. Heat Pump and PV.

We have also applied for START Just Transition Funding and successful projects will be notified in Q3.

Community Facilities: IES Ltd. has completed an initial draft Energy Audit for Newbridge and Kilcullen Community Youth Facilities and Monread Community Centre. They are currently completing the Old Fire Station in Maynooth. These reports will inform Energy related works.

SEAI Monitoring and Reporting:

SEAI Monitoring and Reporting complete; ISO 50001 annual surveillance audit held on 22 and 23 June 2026 proved successful.

District Heating (DH)

Strategic projects progressing, including Maynooth District Heating and DISCO project.

EV Charging for Kildare County Council Fleet:

CNG powered grab truck delivered to Machinery yard for six month trial courtesy of GNI. 'Renewable Gas in Transport' CARO Webinar on 19 June to show the practical progress being made

ISO 50001 Energy Management:

Surveillance Audit scheduled for June 2026 was completed successful. Next will be scheduled for the late summer or Autumn of 2027.

Critical Success Factors Assessment for 2026

Completed by Alex Hamilton, PSM, on behalf of SEAI. Results show if we can complete the planned projects in Public Lighting, building and fleet decarbonisation we are on Target to meet 2030 Target. However, the UMR for Public Lighting must be updated to reflect savings and the 2050 Net Zero Targets need to be considered in LACAP.

Community

Kildare Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP)

The Community Safety Plan Sub-committee held their first meeting on 17 June and have commenced a procurement process for a consultancy service to develop the Kildare Local Community Safety Plan. The appointed consultant will facilitate public consultation, ensuring that the views, experiences and priorities of communities throughout Kildare form a central part of the development of the plan.

The Kildare Local Community Safety Partnership will continue to meet regularly as the consultation and plan development progress, with a focus on delivering a robust and responsive Community Safety Plan that supports safer, more resilient communities. Further details of Kildare LSCP are available here: Local Community Safety Partnership - Kildare County Council

Kildare Sports Partnership (KSP) 'Moving Forward' Walking Programme with Cuan Mhuire

KSP delivered the 'Moving Forward' Walking Programme with Cuan Mhuire for men and women in addiction recovery. Physical activity has been embedded into the services recovery programme following previous partnership with KSP. There were 42 participants engaged weekly in this

walking programme, with the final session also including water sport activity on the Barrow.

Water Safety Awareness Training

Water Safety Awareness Training was provided by the Swim Activator for up to 880 children across five schools in the county for the month of May. Schools were reached in Athy, Ballyroe, Kilcullen, and Newbridge.

Inclusive Water Sports for St. John of Gods Services

A weekly inclusive water sports programme was delivered over six weeks for service users from St. John of Gods, Maynooth. This was hosted at the inclusive sports hub on the Barrow Blueway with equipment purchased from Dormant Account funding. Eight participants had the opportunity to try water sports, with a majority of the group, it being their first time in kayaks.

Woodlands For Health

Woodlands For Health is now in its sixth year being delivered in Kildare and is recognised by the HSE and Mental Health Ireland as one of the most successful locations in the country. It is a twelve week walking programme for mental health service users who are referred by HSE occupational therapists. Attendees often have challenging mental health needs and very limited previous exposure to physical activity. This programme was held in Mooreabbey Woods, Monasterevin, and had 20 participants attend weekly.

KSP Committee Meeting

KSP hosted its quarterly committee meeting on Thursday, 04 June in Naas Sports Centre. Following the meeting, board members were shown several of the KSP programmes being practically delivered. These activities included Activator Poles sessions, Walking Football for older adults, and motorised units for wheelchairs so the user can be active in the outdoors. This highlighted the impact and importance of KSP's work to a variety of target groups, which was noted by board members.

National Outdoor Recreation Conference

The third annual National Outdoor Recreation Conference was hosted by Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht (DRCDG) and Comhairle na Tuaithe.

KSP Sports Hub Coordinator Eoin Farrell, and SIDO Majella Fennelly, were in attendance on behalf of the Sports Partnership.
The event was opened by Minister Calleary and discussed on the days was the current national outdoor recreation policy, and how a coordinated approach at both local and national level could deliver maximum impact from the significant investment in the sector.

Local Community Development Committee

The last meeting of the LCDC took place on 01 July, 2026.

Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP)

The SICAP programme continues to progress in its work with disadvantaged community groups and individuals across the county.

The mid-year review was submitted by CKLP and approved by the LCDC at the July meeting. This review was also assessed by Pobal. The review highlighted that the KPIs to work with disadvantaged community groups and individuals is well on track to meet its KPIs. Pobal noted the strong collaboration between the SICAP programme, implemented by County Kildare LEADER Partnership and a range of other organisations including KCC, KWETB, DSP, Family Resource Centres.

For further information contact: Linda Walsh, Manager, County Kildare LEADER Partnership
linda@countykildarelp.ie

LEADER

Work continues to promote and support applications for LEADER funding. Sabrina Whelan recently commenced as Acting LEADER Manager, to cover the maternity leave of Maeve Howe.
There were three applications approved for LEADER funding at the last LCDC/LAG meeting totalling €205,500.51:

Promoter Name	Project Description	LEADER Grant Amount Approved
Coill Dubh AFC	Completion of Dressing Rooms	€171,234.14
South Western	Recovery Month	€13,510.12

Regional Drugs and Alcohol Task Force CLG	Festival Supports	
Irish Peatland Conservation Council	Ecotape and LiDAR Hydrological Assessment for Lodge Bog	€20,756.25

A targeted call for projects from social, community and co-operative enterprises is currently open for applications. A budget of €175,000 is available and expressions of interest will be sought for eligible projects from €5,000 to €87,500 with a closing date of 31 July 2026.

A very successful celebration event took take place on 16 June for communities involved in the SMART Villages initiative to highlight the work achieved to date in Rathangan, Carbury-Derrinturn, and Johnstownbridge-Tirmoghan and to launch the SMART Community Strategies for those three localities. The event also promoted the second phase of the training will commence in Prosperous, Coill Dubh-Robertstown, Castledermot-Levitstown, and Suncroft-Nurney commencing in late August. Local leaders, spoke at the event and the three communities worked with to date, have a local plan with clear priorities for their communities.

Turning the Sod | Engage and Transform Now





For further information contact**:**
Sabrina Whelan, Acting Manager,
County Kildare LEADER Partnership
sabrina@countykildarelp.ie

Empowering Communities Programme

Work continues through this programme targeting specific areas in Athy, based in the community house Townspark. A mid-year report was submitted and reviewed by the LCDC. Progress is very positive with a range of actions commenced and many continuing throughout the summer. For further information contact: Linda Walsh, SICAP Manager, County Kildare LEADER Partnership linda@countykildarelp.ie

Local Enhancement Programme

The Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht announced the LEP funding, as approved by the LCDC on 02 July 2026. All applicants were made aware of the decision and work is commencing to transfer funding to successful applicants. LEP_2026.pdf

Sláintecare Healthy Communities

Applications for 2026 Seed Funding have been agreed and submitted to the Department of Health. Applications include the Age Friendly Living Well Initiative, which will deliver Phase Two of the Age Friendly Mile alongside a nine week Food for Thought programme and the installation of age-friendly seating and outdoor exercise equipment. Trauma-Informed Practice will continue to be embedded locally and across the county, building on the outcomes of the Compassion in Action Conference. A Place Standard Assessment will be undertaken in the Woodstock area to inform future planning, while the Athy Local Implementation Group will progress priority actions relating to mental health, transport awareness, and increased uptake of local supports. Delivery will be supported through strong collaboration with key partners including Waterways Ireland, Local Link, the HSE, Kildare County Council, CKLP, and Kildare Sports Partnership. Sláintecare continues to lead the Athy Youth Network, supporting a coordinated approach to youth engagement and promoting positive, pro-social participation. A programme of targeted summer activities is underway, alongside plans for family-focused events in the Woodstock area. The first event, which took place in Castlepark on 26 June, was a significant success, attracting over 100 local community members and providing opportunities for positive

engagement, recreation, and connection.

Progress also continues through the Harbour Apartments Working Group, which is supporting resident-led initiatives to enhance community wellbeing and participation. The first meeting of the newly established Garden Group took place on 25 June, with seven residents in attendance. As part of ongoing environmental improvement works, benches and planters have been installed by Coole Engineering in partnership with Oaklee Housing, creating welcoming outdoor spaces and supporting community gardening and social interaction among residents.



Members of Athy Youth Network along side Councillor Breslin and Councillor Leigh

Healthy Ireland

Funding from Pobal has been received for this year of €75,000. Pobal have confirmed the current Round 4 programme will be extended for yet another year, finishing in 2027. In Kildare this current Round 4 programme supports two outcome areas, 1) Physical Health and 2) Mental Health and Well-being. When the national plan is published, planning and consultation will happen at a local level.

The Healthy Count Co-Ordinator has secured Trauma Informed Training with Connected for Life for October this will provide trauma training for 40 professionals in the county. The Healthy County Co-Ordinator recently attended the launch of 'Turning The Sod' in County Kildare Leader Partnership (CKLP). There is protentional to collaborate with CKLP and some of the communities involved around physical health and well-being outcomes.

After meeting with participants in Cuan Mhuire around the walking recovery programme led by Kildare Sports Partnership, the participants identified a need for more information around mental health and housing. Collaboration took place between Kildare sports partnership, Healthy

Kildare, Mental Health Ireland and the Homeless Team in Kildare to respond to these needs with information sessions on the walk.



Age Friendly

The Athy Age Friendly Mile is moving into Phase 2 of the project a multi-agency initiative and Irelands first. Phase 1 has involved several consultation sessions, an age friendly Walkability audit and the removal of over 68tonnes of illegal dumping including drug litter along the canal walk (river barrow Athy) Harbour apartments entrance in Athy.
Phase 2 will now involve – Replacement fencing, Further consultation regarding Planting, seating, Exercise Equipment, and further community clean ups etc.

Following on from the very successful food for thought pilot programme the need for Health-related information became apparent. Subjects like Sleep, Asthma, Pulmonary function, and bone Health were identified. As a result, KAF collaborated with UPMC Clane who provided consultants Free of Charge and we had 110 older persons in attendance.

SíOL Scheme

Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, Dara Calleary TD, Minister of State with responsibility for Community Development and Charities, Jerry Buttimer TD and Minister of State in the Department of Transport, Seán Canney TD, announced a new capital investment scheme is being introduced that will target Small Areas of disadvantage in towns and cities across the country.

The SÍOL Programme, Scéim Infheistíochta ag Obair Le Chéile – Working Together Investment Scheme, also the Irish for Seed, is a new scheme where all state agencies work together to implement community development and town centre rejuvenation, launched in July 2026 with priority given to urban areas experiencing the highest levels of disadvantage.

- €31.5 million has been secured under the National Development Plan up to 2030, with €5 million available in 2026.
- To improve quality of life in disadvantaged urban communities through projects that:
    - Enhance public spaces and the built environment.
    - Support community safety.
    - Promote health and wellbeing.
    - Increase access to education and training.
- Target areas were selected using data Pobal's deprivation indices, and ESRI analysis to ensure funding reaches the most disadvantaged locations.
- Funding applications are made by eligible local authorities, which submit project proposals on behalf of SÍOL designated areas.
- Submission deadline for applications is 14 August 2026. Local Authorities will be permitted to submit a minimum of three and a maximum of seven projects for consideration on an annual basis.
- The programme aims to deliver supports such as community safety projects, public realms works and projects to support health and wellbeing initiatives

Athy has been designated as a SÍOL area. The eligible electoral divisions are:

- Athy West Urban
- Athy East Urban

An indicative allocation of approximately €335,000 has been assigned in respect of each of the above areas. This allocation is intended as a guide to the approximate level of funding that is available for each area covered by the scheme. The final allocation for each area will be determined based on the number of projects that are submitted to the Department for consideration that meet the qualifying standard.

Environment

Rural Water

The Rural Water Programme, through Exchequer funding, delivers improvements to private domestic water and waste water services in areas of rural Ireland where there are no public (Uisce Éireann) water/waste

water services. The Rural Water Section administers operational and capital funding and grants under the Multi-Annual Rural Water Programme (MARWP), to ensure the delivery of national objectives for drinking water services in rural areas not served by Uisce Éireann.

The Rural Water Section also continues with the compliance monitoring of GWS (Group Water Scheme) and SPS (Small Private Supplies) under the GWS and SPS Monitoring Programme in conjunction with the HSE to ensure that private water supplies meet safe drinking water standards, as required by the European Union (Drinking Water) Regulations.

County Rural Water Monitoring Committee

The County Rural Water Monitoring Committee monitors and advises on the implementation of policy regarding the Rural Water Programme. The first biannual County Rural Water Monitoring Committee meeting for 2026 was held on 25 March 2026. The second Rural Water Monitoring Committee meeting for 2026 will be held in September 2026. The County Rural Water Monitoring Committee is comprised of local authority officials, elected members from each Municipal District and representatives from the private group water scheme sector, the National Federation of Group Water Schemes, rural organizations, HSE.

Water Action Plan 2024 (River Basin Management Plan 2022 – 2027)

The Water Action Plan is Ireland's third River Basin Management Plan and it outlines the measures the Government and other sectors – local authorities, public sector agencies, public and private sector companies, environmental organisations, farm organisations, etc - are taking to improve water quality in Ireland's groundwater, rivers, estuaries and coastal waters.

Draft Local Authority Water Action Work Plans (now referred to as Local Authority Water Action Tracker Work Plans), which are a requirement under the Water Action Plan 2024, have been produced and feedback and comments have been sent back to the Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO). Final Local Authority Water Action Tracker Work Plans will be county-level, public facing work

plans/trackers which will set out the actions taken by a local authority to protect and improve natural water quality. Currently all local authorities are in the process of preparing a county specific Local Authority Water Action Tracker Work Plans and it is expected that these will need to be completed within Q3.

National Agricultural Inspection Programme (NAIP)

NAIP farm inspections which commenced in January continue and details of the Q2 2026 NAIP farm inspections will be submitted to the EPA before the Q2 reporting deadline which is the end of July 2026.

Domestic Wastewater Treatment System National Inspection Plan (DWWTS NIP)

DWWTS Inspections have been taking place in accordance with the EPA's DWWTS National Inspection Plan (NIP) (2022-2026). The next DWWTS NIP for the period 2027-2031 is expected to be published in Q3/Q4 2026. The EPA published the 2025 Domestic Waste Water Treatment System Inspections Annual Report in mid-May. The DWWTS failure rate in County Kildare is 41% while the national failure rate is 59%. 89% of failed DWWTS's in County Kildare have been fixed (the national average is 84%). Kildare County Council had 10 historic open Advisory Notices out of a total of 442 nationally.

National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy

The National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy 2024-2030 sets out a framework for the prevention and management of waste in Ireland for the period up to 2030.

The Plan has reviewed the current waste management situation in Ireland and used key drivers and policy proposals to project future trends to identify a range of challenges to be managed over the lifetime of the Plan. The Plan now sets out policy responses and actions to address the current and future challenges identified and provides a delivery roadmap to help navigate the Plan period

Waste Enforcement

Activities for Focus in 2026 under the National Waste Enforcement Priorities are agreed. The following high-level priorities for 2026-2027 are: ·

- Tackling Illegal Waste Activities and Multi-Agency Sites/Operators of Concern
- Construction and Demolition Material
- Household Waste
- Commercial Waste ·
- Plastics and Producer Responsibility Initiatives (PRIs)

Tidy Towns

Kildare's tidy towns groups performed extremely well in the 2025 National Tidy Towns Competition with 11 towns winning a gold medal and Broadford winning a silver medal. Naas was once again the county winner. While Johnstownbridge was recognised with an endeavour award.

Ireland's Best Kept Towns Competition 2025

Ireland's Best Kept Town is an all-island competition in which some of the best towns in the national Tidy Towns competition compete against their counterparts in Northern Ireland's Best Kept competition.

Naas won the award in the Best Kept Large Urban Centre category and was also crowned the overall winner of Ireland's Best Kept Town competition.

CCTV

The CCTV camera scheme at the recycling banks at Edmund Rice Square in Athy has proven successful in identifying and fining polluters. Public consultations closed on 17 July. Tenders received for the provision of CCTV have been assessed and an award of contract is imminent.

Recycling Facilities

A new Bring Bank Centre is up and running in Allenwood. It's located in the ACDAL Centre on Station Road.



Picker Pals

The Picker Pals programme which is supported by Kildare County Council has been in operation in the region since 2020. In the 2024-25 school year over 67 classrooms were engaged by the programme. To date, the programme has been delivered to 90% of all schools in County Kildare. Funding for the programme has been confirmed by Minister Darragh O'Brien for 2026.

Domestic/Commercial Refuse Collections

Details of approved operators are available via the National Waste Collection Permit Office (NWCPO) website: www.nwcpo.ie

Flood Risk Management Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Study (CFRAMS)

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

Morell Flood Management Scheme

Construction of this scheme is continuing.



Details of the scheme can be found at: https://www.morellfms.ie/

Athy Flood Relief Scheme

RPS Consulting Engineers have been appointed as the design consultants for the Athy FRS.

Naas Flood Relief Scheme

Detailed hydraulic modelling work continues for the Naas FRS. Details of the scheme can be found at: https://www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/naas/home/

Leixlip Flood Relief Scheme

The Council, in partnership with the OPW has begun drafting requirements for the procurement of consultancy services to design a flood relief scheme for Leixlip.

Cemetery Capital Programme

This programme, which includes cemetery extensions, capital type internal improvements and proposals for columbarium walls is currently being reviewed in line with funding availability.

Columbarium Walls

Columbarium walls have been completed in Athy, Leixlip Confey, and St. Conleth's Newbridge cemeteries.

Two new walls have been completed at Monasterevin and Donaghcumper cemeteries.

Grant funding

Applications for grant funding under the Tidy Towns and Cemetery Maintenance grants closed on 30 March. Approximately only 50% of Tidy Towns groups have applied for funding.

Veterinary Services

A new service provider, Midland Animal Care Ltd., has taken on the operation of the dog warden service on behalf of Kildare County Council from 01 January.
A new social media page to assist with the rehoming page has been set up on Facebook and has been advertised.

The Dog Wardens have been proactive in issuing fines to Dog Owners, who do not have a dog licence.

Legislation XL Bully Type dogs

The closing date for receipt of applications for exemption certificates was 31 January, 2025. It is now illegal to own an XL Bully dog without a certificate of exemption.

Dog Breeding Establishments

Inspections, carried out by Department of Agriculture Vets, assisted by the Dog Wardens have commenced. Any resulting enforcement action will be carried out by the Council

Pilot Schools Composting Programme

Kildare County Council rolled out a pilot school composting programme during the 2025/2026 term in conjunction with Composting Ireland. In total, four schools took part and over five workshops the participants learned about waste prevention and how to improve recycling. This included the use of brown bins to recycle biodegradable materials. The pilot will run again in 2026/2027 term with six schools participating.

Green Schools

The Green School awards took place in the Helix Theatre on the 19 May in Dublin. In total, twenty schools were awarded flags in Co. Kildare. The Green-Schools Programme, which is operated by An Taisce encourages long-term, whole-school action for the environment. Schools that receive a Green Flag have successfully completed a process of auditing,

planning, and implementing environmental improvements, all led by student participation. The awards, recognise the exceptional commitment, creativity, and leadership demonstrated by students and teachers in promoting environmental awareness and sustainable practices. From waste reduction and recycling initiatives to biodiversity enhancement and water and energy conservation, Kildare's schools continue to set a powerful example of the importance of protecting the environment.

Mulch Collection Day



The mulch collection day took place on Saturday, 20 June at the Celbridge Interchange Yard. On the day up to 80 cars collected mulch for both home and community projects. The mulch was generated from the Council's Christmas tree recycling initiative which ran in January.

Athy Swap Library



The Toy Library was brought to Athy Library on the 06 June with the support of the LAIT, Library Services, Environment, and Climate Action. The event was a huge success with many families from the locality taking part in swapping toys and having fun, while making a difference to their wallet and the planet. This family-friendly event featured eco-friendly activities, sustainable swaps, and creative fun to help reimagine how we consume and play.

Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces

Transport

Capital Programme

Title	Funding Source	Project Status	Project Tier
Celbridge Hazelhatch Mobility Corridor (CHMC)	HIFF	ACP decision on consent and CPO received on the 3 July. Tender documents for consultancy appointment with HIIF for final review before issuing in July.	Tier 1
Maynooth Eastern Ring Road (MERR)	LIHAF	Construction ongoing. Piling complete to northern abutment. Construction works to embankment ongoing. Drainage and wall construction works ongoing,	Tier 1
Newbridge Southern Ring Road (NSRR)	DOT	Detailed design has commenced for the project. Construction expected to commence in 2027.	Tier 1
Celbridge ABTA	KCC	Works ongoing. Briefing held for the members on the 2nd July.	Tier 1
Exceptional Abnormal Load (EAL), Transport of Transformer to Dunstown Sub Station		Consultant appointed to review structural reports by end of July. Load to be moved at the end of July.	
Athy Main Street Improvement Works	KCC/TII/DOT	Drawings for roundabout and junction changes prepared and going through TII review process.	Tier 2

R448 Moone Timolin Pilot Project	TII	Works followed the RSA ongoing and due to be completed in July.	Tier 2
Junction Programme	KCC/DOT	Contractor appointed to complete Blackwood Cross Phase 1 Works. Tenders ongoing for Allenwood with contractor appointment to follow.	Tier 2
Murtagh's Corner and Corban's Lane	KCC	Detailed design ongoing for Lough Bui and Blessington Road tie-ins. Decision on Towns and Cities application awaited.	Tier 2

National Roads Office

M4 Eastbound Bus Priority Scheme

The construction phase of the M4 Eastbound Bus Priority Measures Pilot Scheme is being completed by the MMaRC contractor appointed by Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII).

The first section to be delivered is between Junction 6 and 5 (Celbridge to Leixlip).

The Required legislation changes for the operation of the Bus Priority Measures have now been signed by the Department of Transport.

Now that the legislation is in place, TII will apply for the speed limit order and will also complete the remaining items such as noise barriers and necessary line marking for Buses. Once these tasks are completed, TII intend to open the M4 Eastbound Bus Priority Measures Pilot between Celbridge and Leixlip (Junction 6 to Junction 5 Eastbound) in September 2026.

M9 Park and Share sites:

Works progresses on the M9 Park and Share sites at Junctions 3,4 and 5.

The Feasibility and Options reports for Junctions 3 and 4 (Athy, Castledermot) submitted to TII. Land valuers are being appointed so the land can be acquired by agreement.

TII have asked Kildare NRO to become involved in seven other proposed Park and Share sites around the country.

N7 Bus Priority Measure (Feasibility Study)

TII have been requested by the NTA to undertake a feasibility study on the

suitability of a Bus Priority Measure Scheme for the N7. TII have engaged the MMaRC to undertake this study looking at the extents from Jn 7 (Kill) to Jn 2 (Kingswood) – inbound only.

Road Safety

Speed Limit Review

Pre-statutory briefings given to all municipal district meetings and engagement carried out with An Garda Siochána, TII and adjoining local authorities.

A comprehensive public consultation process is expected to occur during Q3 2026.

Road Safety Officers Workshop





A Road Safety Officers Workshop was held at the Department of Transport offices in Dublin, bringing together Minister Canney, Local Authority road safety officers, The Road Safety Authority and the Department of Transport.

The workshop provided a valuable forum for collaboration, knowledge sharing, and discussion on current road safety challenges and priorities.

Operations

Department of Transport allocations announced in February. Kildare County Council received a total of €20,014,300 for 2026.



Municipal District engineers have prepared their schedule of works for Restoration Improvement RI) and Restoration Maintenance (RM) programmes for 2026. The total RI allocation is €11,334,000 and RM is €2,678,500, which is in line with the allocation for 2025.

The municipal district offices are working through the design and tendering of the numerous road resurfacing projects for 2026. A number of the schemes are completed or onsite after going through the tendering process.

General Maintenance

Kildare County Council maintains in excess of 3,300 kilometres of National Secondary, Regional and Local roads throughout the county. Included in this work are road surface repairs, footpath repairs, drainage maintenance, sign maintenance, road marking renewals and the delivery of the Road Opening Licence system (ROL).

Public Lighting

Kilaree Lighting Services are the public lighting maintenance contractor. Public lighting faults should be logged on the following website:
www.deadsureapp.com

Surface Dressing

The surface dressing season started on 25 May and is ongoing with a seven week programme of work. The exceptionally hot weather has had an impact on the works which is carried out by by direct labour. This year a new chipping spreader was purchased and can be seen below.

Regional Salt Barn

The yearly review of the Service Level Agreement (SLA) between the Department of Transport and Kildare County Council is currently under way. Upon completion of the review a new SLA will be agreed ahead of the winter maintenance season 2026-27. There are currently over 10,000 tonnes of salt in the salt barn.

Pay-Parking

An Expression of Interest was recently advertised for land in Kildare town for use as public carpark in advance of the public consultation process on update parking bye-laws.

Sustainable Transport

Title	Allocation 2026	Stage	Update
Royal Canal Greenway	€440,000	Defects period	The work on the greenway is substantially complete and the contract is in the defects period, final snagging is currently taking place, and retention will be released subject to this being completed. Final Account agreed with contractor.
Louisa Bridge Leixlip - Royal Canal Greenway Scheme	€160,000	Prelim design	Works on Louisa Bridge at Railway Station to be completed in 2026. Tenders out for consultants for detail design.
Green Lane, Leixlip Active Travel Scheme	€870,000	Detailed Design	Tender for construction delayed due to complex drainage requirements to provide a scheme consistent with Sustainable Drainage System. A decision on the timescale for tendering of the project will be made and communicated.
Naas to Sallins Greenway (Section 2 Naas Harbour – Sallins Village)	€50,000		Meeting to be held with Waterways Ireland to discuss the scope of works and requirements between Osberstown Bridge and Sallins Village.
Sallins Village Active Travel Scheme	€100,000	Consent	Part 8 drawing are currently being finalised. Presentations to MD councillors to follow.
Celbridge Road, Maynooth Active Travel Scheme	€1,000,000	Part 8	Part 8 Public Consultation commenced in June and will run until the 05 August.
Kilcullen Road, Naas Active Travel Scheme	€800,000	Design review	The designers of the scheme have been appointed to examine the independent post opening safety review of the scheme. A briefing with elected members is due in July
Celbridge Active Travel Bridge	€50,000		Land transfer discussions to continue for land required to build the bridge.

Dublin Road, Naas Active Travel Scheme	€1,000,000	Detailed Design	Construction documents are being prepared and tender documents have been finalised. Uisce Eireann are delivering water mains upgrades prior to the commencement ofg the ATS at this location.
Monasterevin Active Travel Scheme	€50,000	Planning	Preparations to commence a Part 8 Public Consultation process are underway and a briefing was held with elected members on this project. Engagement with the NTA ongoing.
Mill Street, Maynooth Active Travel Scheme	€1,700,000	Defects Period	Substantial completion certificate issued and the contractor is completing snags in the 12 month defects period. Final Account being discussed with contractor.
Naas to Kill Active Travel Scheme	€525,000	Detailed Design	Detailed design in progress and specialists have been appointed.
Dublin Road (Naas) Connector Active Travel Scheme	€400,000		Progress on this scheme is tied to resource availability.
Newbridge Main Street	€200,000	Prelim design	Site meeting held with elected members on this project potential options drawing is being progressed ahead of discussions with the National Transport Authority.
Monread Road, Naas Active Travel Scheme	€25,000		Approaches to Sallins Road Roundabout to be examined to prepare an alternative to the zebra crossing across the two-lane width approaches.
SRTS Round 2 - Patrician Primary/St. Conleth's, Newbridge	€150,000	Consent	The design of this safe route to school scheme have been finalised and the Section 38 for the scheme is progressing.
SRTS (R3) - Scoil an Linbh Iosa, Prosperous	€350,000	Construction	The contractor has been appointed, and construction of this scheme commenced.

SRTS Round 2 - Scoil Bhríde/Scoil Phádraig, Clane	€150,000	Prelim design	Scheme due to be implemented in 2026.
SRTS (R4) Ardscoil Rath Iomghain, Rathangan	€20,000	Prelim design	SRTS Delivery Plan to be completed by An Taisce Green Schools.
SRTS (R4) Maynooth Educate Together NS	€20,000	Prelim design	SRTS Delivery Plan completed by An Taisce Green Schools, and initial discussion completed with the school.
SRTS (R4) Scoil Eoin Phoil, Green Lane, Leixlip	€20,000	Prelim design	SRTS Delivery Plan to be completed by An Taisce Green Schools.
SRTS (R4) Scoil Íde Naofa, Kilmead, Athy	€20,000	Prelim design	SRTS Delivery Plan to be completed by An Taisce Green Schools.

Bus Stop Enhancement Programme

Work has commenced on the provision of bus stop infrastructure at Local Link Routes across the county.

New bus shelters have arrived from the National Transport Authority and installation is progressing at a number of locations across the county.

Open Spaces

Title	Project Status
Cherry Avenue Park, Kildare	5 tenders were received for the work and these are currently being assessed.
Sallins Amenity Land	Consultant currently preparing tender documents for the Phase 1a works

Carton Avenue	Tender documents are being prepared to procure a consultant to prepare a conservation and masterplan. It is planned to advertise this in September. A Just Transition Application has been submitted seeking funding for the work.
St Catherine's Park Sensory Garden	Work is continuing on the construction of the garden and is expected to be completed in August.
Bawnogues Sensory Garden, Kilcock	Work is continuing on the construction beside the community centre and playground. It is expected works will be completed in August.
Outdoor Recreational Plan	The preparation of the AA & SEA for the plan is ongoing
The Lakes, Naas	SPPR are preparing a tender for the path improvements in the park.
Kilcullen Skate Park	Preliminary discussions are ongoing in relation to a location for this.
Barrow Blueway Extension – Monasterevin to Portarlington	The final feasibility study is due to be submitted by the consultants the end of July
Moorefield Park Playground	Construction is due to commence in mid-October
Caragh Court Roundabout	Landscaping of the roundabout has been completed.
Tree Works Athy MD	A contractor is currently being appointed to carry out a programme of works. A start date will be confirmed one the appointment is complete.
Lakeside Highfield Dara Park Open Space	A tender to appoint consultants to prepare a masterplan is currently being prepared and is due to be advertised in August.

Ballymore Eustace Looped Walk	Work to tender for route improvements are in progress. It is hoped to tender these by August.
Celbridge Outdoor Teen Facility	A publicity campaign to identify more locations is due to be launched before the end of the month. This will be seeking the public's view on the type and locations for facilities.

Planning, Enterprise and Economic Development

Planning

Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029:

Variations currently underway;

Variation No. 5 – Northwest Quadrant (Naas)

The Public Consultation commenced on the 05 June 2026 and concluded on the 03 July 2026. Eight-seven submissions were received. The Chief Executive Report on Submissions is currently being prepared and due to issue to Members on the 30 July 2026.

Variation No. 6 – Sallins Settlement Plan

The Chief Executive's Report on Submissions received during the Public Consultation was issued on the 16 June 2026. Members Motions on the Chief Executive Report due on the 13 July 2026 by 4.00p.m.

Variation No. 7 – Monasterevin Settlement Plan

Preparation of Draft Variation and supporting documents underway and due for publication Q3 2026

Variation No. 8 – Kilcock Settlement Plan

Preparation of Draft Variation and supporting documents underway and due for publication Q3 2026

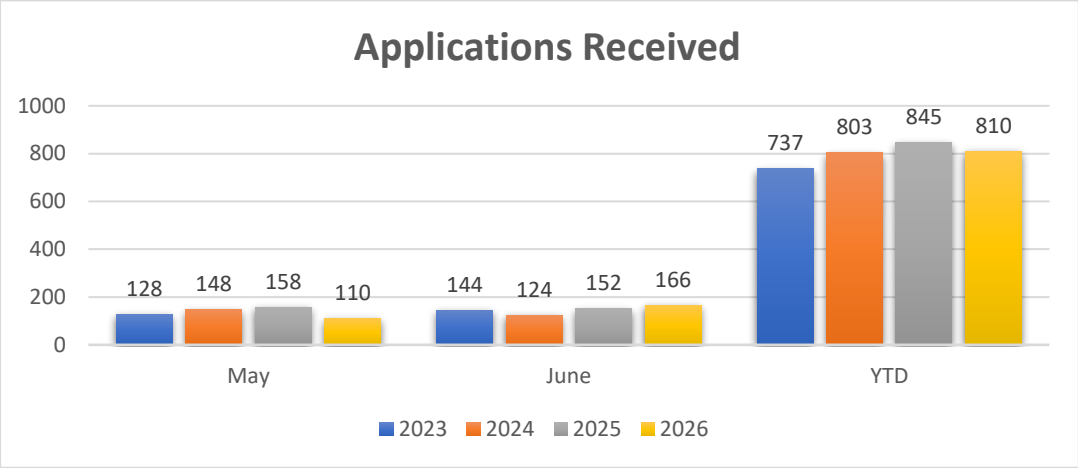
Variation No. 9 – Celbridge Settlement Plan

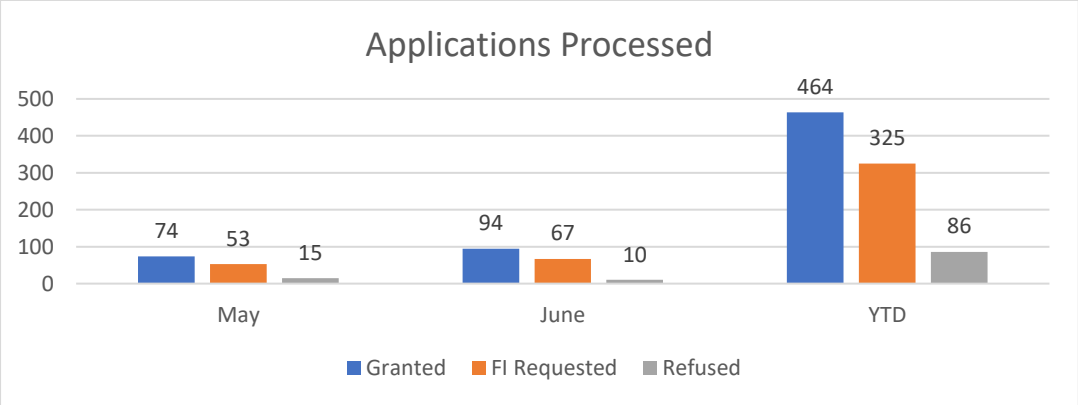
Preparation of Draft Variation and supporting documents underway and due for publication Q4 2026.

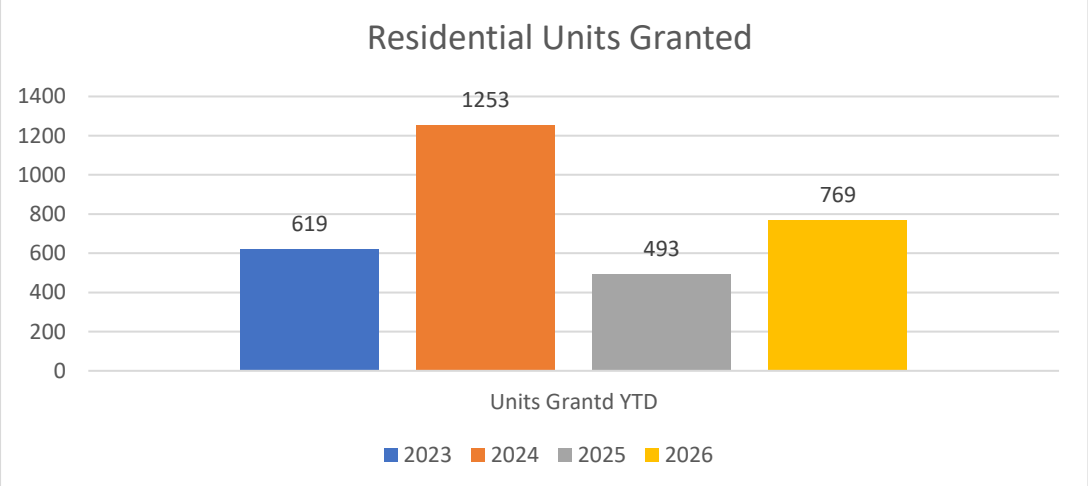
Development Management

ePlanning

In 2025, 89% of all applications received were via the online planning portal, and has been maintained year to date, with 90% of submissions/observations also continuing to be submitted via online ePlanning.







Pre-Planning

30 new Pre-Planning requests were submitted in June, 154 applications received year to date.

Section 5s

Ten new Section 5 Declarations requests received in June, 60 applications received year to date.

Large-scale Residential Development (LRD)

LRD Applications					
Ref No.	Date Received	Applicant	Development Address	Proposed	Decision
2561119	02/10/25	Cozone Ventures Ltd	Railpark, Maynooth	581 Residential Units and Neighbourhood Centre	Granted 07/05/2026 - Appealed
2561468	19/12/25	Maynooth Montane Ltd	Railpark West, Maynooth	139 Residential Units and Creche	Decision Due 19/07/2026
2660381	09/04/26	Andrews Construction	Tea Lane/Church Road, Celbridge	115 Residential Units and Creche	FI Requested 29/05/2026
2660469	29/04/26	Ballymore Development Ltd	Lands west of Naas Racecourse	234 Residential Units and Creche	FI Requested 23/06/2026
2660575	29/05/26	Maynooth Montane Ltd	Maynooth Business Campus	315 Residential Units, Creche, Retail units and Community facility	Decision due 23/07/2026

Strategic Housing Development Applications to An Coimisiún Pleanála (SHD)

Two Strategic Housing Development Applications, lodged between June 2022 – January 2023, remain outstanding with An Coimisiún Pleanála.

Heritage and Nature

A. Biodiversity / Ecology

- Launch of Kildare Biodiversity Action Plan 28 July 2026 in the IPCC Bog of Allen Nature Centre.

B. Heritage and Conservation

- Procurement process for Multi Party Framework No. 1 for smaller scale Architectural and Engineering Conservation Services completed. Framework agreements with the six framework participants to be signed.
    - Funding of 50k awarded from the Heritage Council for Quiet Foundations: Ballitore Heritage-Led Regeneration Plan. Propose engaging Framework participant to progress the project
- Kildare Heritage Plan - Launch – 18 August 2026 in Naas Library.
- Preparations for Heritage Week 15-23 August 2026 are ongoing
- Preparing to publish Multi Party Framework No. 2 for larger conservation projects and plans e.g. St. David's Castle, Moore Abbey.
- Ongoing review of the Record of Protected Structures by ACO and Heritage Intern in preparation of the next County Development Plan.
- Ongoing Heritage Officer and Architectural Conservation Officer support for planning referrals, Settlement Plans, Part 8's.
- Monitoring and progress reporting of CMF, BHIS, CHG funded projects.

Kildare Land Activation Office (KLAO)

Housing Infrastructure Investment Fund (HIFF) - Call 1

Kildare County Council				
HIIFC1-KE-001	Part of Newbridge Southern Outer Orbital Relief Road	Final section of Newbridge Southern Outer Orbital Route (c. 795m road length and bridge over River Liffey). Indicative Cost Band > €20m	The project has benefited from DOT funding support allowing the project to progress to tender stage. UÉ has announced investment of €500m with 30 related projects in the eastern region. ESB is investing in network upgrades in the area. EirGrid is planning to upgrade	Directly unlocks lands for 1,070 residential units and indirectly unlocks a further 808

			the electricity grid in Kildare and Southwest Dublin. The project will include a new 400/220/110 kV substation near the South Dublin/East Kildare border at Steelstown and a new 220/110 kV substation near Hynestown. Newbridge has also benefited from URDF Funding for a cultural and civil quarter.	residential units.
HIIFC1-KE-002	Naas Northwest Quadrant and Canal Quarter Naas	Naas Harbour pedestrian bridge and link to Naas Northwest Quadrant Indicative Cost Band < €10m	The Naas Northwest Quadrant is a new urban district west of Naas that will require cross state investment. The proposed bridge supports some initial phases. NTA is funding several Active Travel projects in Naas. URDF funding allocated for various projects including town centre renewal masterplan, Naas Library and Canal Quarter Masterplan.	Linked to NNWQ with capacity for 4,000.
HIIFC1-KE-003	Naas Inner Relief Road	Road from R445 Dublin Road to R410 Blessington Road (c. 1.6 km length). Indicative Cost Band €10-20 m	NTA is funding several Active Travel projects in Naas. EirGrid's Kildare Dublin Grid Reinforcement Project will improve grid capacity in the area. URDF funding allocated for various projects including town centre renewal masterplan, Naas Library and Canal Quarter Masterplan.	Directly unlocks lands for 850 residential units.

HIIFC1-KE-004	Captains Hill Upgrade Confey Leixlip Co Kildare	Upgrade of Captains Hill. Indicative Cost Band <€10m	Confey is a planned new urban district north of Leixlip that will require cross state investment. The Captain's Hill upgrade will improve connectivity between Confey and the town in conjunction with a planned railway overbridge under DART+ West. The area will be benefit from public transport investment including Dart + West at Confey Station. UÉ investment through the growth and development programme includes Maynooth Transfer Pipeline and Maynooth Water Network Upgrade both currently at construction. The planned Greater Dublin Drainage Project and the Water Supply Project Eastern Midlands Region will benefit capacity in the area. ESB are investing in network upgrades in the area while EirGrid's Kildare Dublin Grid reinforcement project will support increase grid capacity in the area.	Directly unlocks lands for 1,750 residential units and indirectly unlocks a further 1,000 residential units.
HIIFC1-KE-005	Celbridge Hazelhatch Mobility Corridor	Road from Clane Road (R403) to Loughlinstown Road (near Hazelhatch / Celbridge Train Station) connecting with R405 Hazelhatch Road. Road includes a new bridge crossing over the River Liffey and Active Travel	The area will be benefit from public transport investment including Dart + SouthWest at Hazelhatch and Celbridge Station. UÉ have announced investment of €500m with various projects in the eastern region. The planned Greater Dublin Drainage will add much needed wastewater capacity and the Water Supply Project	Directly unlocks lands for 1,719 residential units and indirectly unlocks a further 1,582 residential units.

		infrastructure (2 km road length). Indicative Costs Band > €20 m	Eastern Midlands Region will ensure reliance in water supply. ESB is investing in network upgrades in the area while EirGrid's Kildare Dublin Grid reinforcement project will increase grid capacity in the area.	
HIIFC1-KE-006	Phase 1 MOOR Crewhill Maynooth	Maynooth Outer Orbital Road (MOOR) – Moyglare Road - Crewhill to Kilcock Road. Indicative Cost Band €10 - 20m	The area will be benefit from public transport investment including Dart + West at Maynooth Station and proposed new station west of Maynooth. UÉ has announced investment of €500m with various projects in the eastern region. The planned Greater Dublin Drainage will add much needed wastewater capacity and the Water Supply Project Eastern Midlands Region will ensure reliance in water supply. ESB is investing in network upgrades in the area while EirGrid's Kildare Dublin Grid reinforcement project will increase grid capacity in the area. An earlier phase of the MOOR funded under LIHAF is under construction.	Directly unlocks lands for 1,126 residential units and future phases will unlock a further 3,448 residential units.

Masterplans:

Northwest Quadrant (Naas) Framework Masterplan

The Framework Masterplan has been finalised and is programmed for integration into the statutory planning framework via Variation No.5 of the County Development Plan.

The Delivery Strategy will then be progressed.

Variation No. 5 – Northwest Quadrant (Naas)

The Public Consultation commenced on 05 June 2026 and concluded on 03 July 2026. Eight-seven submissions were received. The Chief Executive Report on Submissions is currently being prepared and due to issue to Members on the 30 July 2026.

Naas Canal Quarter Masterplan

The Masterplan, Infrastructure Assessment and Programme Business Case will be finalised over the next few months in collaboration with SPPR.

Town And City Investment Fund:

KLAO applied on behalf of Kildare County Council to the funding call on 01 May 2026 for a Project Development stream grant to support the council in preparing a Masterplan for the Newbridge Central Settlement Consolidation Site. A masterplan would provide a mechanism to advance the regeneration of this key town centre site with potential to deliver housing at scale. This to be considered with the remediation of the Machinery Yard study.

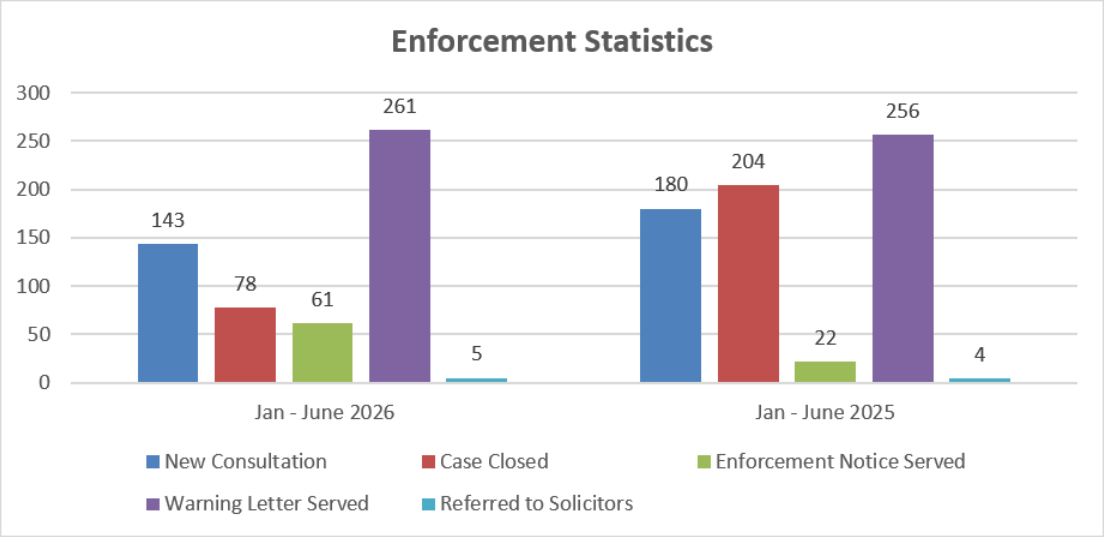
KLAO Steering Committee:

The HIIF Steering group met on Tuesday 30 June 2026 and allocated the successful HIIF Projects as follows:

1. Newbridge Bridge – Transportation
2. Naas Inner Relief Road – Transportation
3. Celbridge Hazelhatch – Transportation
4. Naas Harbour Crossing and Park (NNWQ) – SPPR
5. Maynooth Crewhill and MOOR – KLAO
6. Confey – Captains Hill - KLAO

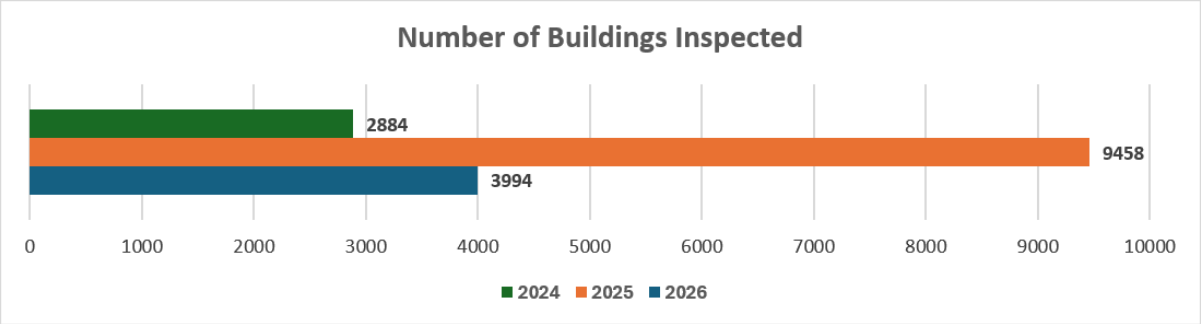
Planning Enforcement Summary for June 2026

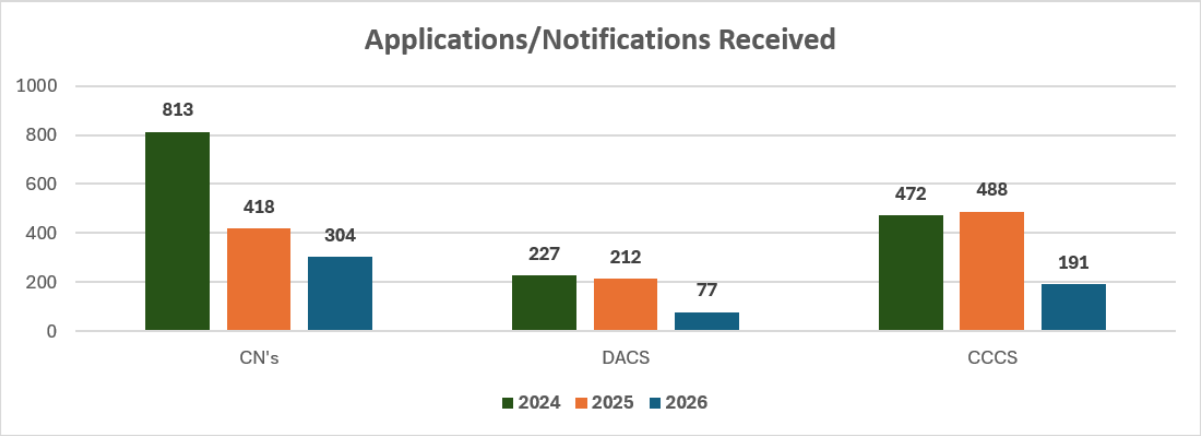
15	New Consultations
37	Cases Closed
12	Enforcement Notices Served
29	Warning Letters Served
0	Cases referred to Solicitors



Building and Development Control

The following figures are cumulative up to end of June 2026 set against full year figures for 2024 and 2025.





Kildare Fáilte - Into Kildare



Key marketing priorities for the coming months include the promotion of Taste of Kildare, seasonal summer experiences across the county and staycation campaigns designed to drive visitor numbers and support local tourism and hospitality businesses. Taste of Kildare will take place on 15 and 16 August at Naas Racecourse.

Enterprise and Economic Development

2026 Financial Supports

Total LEO Financial Supports At 09.07.2026	No. Businesses	Amount Approved (€)
Grow Digital Voucher	15	€34,941
Business Expansion Grant	3	€82,922
Priming Grant	1	€33,022
Feasibility Study Grant	0	€0
Market Explorer Grant	5	€25,345
Gradstart	0	€0
IP Start Grant	2	€4,320
Energy Efficiency Grant	10	€85,723
TOTAL	**36**	266,273

Entrepreneurship Support

Focus on Competitiveness

There are multiple supports available to businesses aimed at increasing productivity and competitiveness:

Green for Business

To support businesses on their sustainability journey.
https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Financial-Supports/Green-for-Business/

Lean for Business

To support businesses in becoming more efficient.
https://www.localenterprise.ie/kildare/financial-supports/lean%20for%20business/

Digital for Business

To support businesses on digital transformation projects. https://www.localenterprise.ie/portal/digital/the-digital-for-business-support.html

Supports to Clients as of 09.07.2026	Target	Applications Approved
Lean for Business	18	20
Green for Business	32	19
Digital for Business	32	46

Focus on Tech

In July, MERITS hosted "DigiTales" Camp in collaboration with Creative Communities, providing young people aged 10–14 with an opportunity to develop digital and creative skills through hands-on workshops in filmmaking, podcasting and digital storytelling. Over four days, participants created and edited their own short films, produced podcasts and explored digital content creation, supporting the development of future digital and creative talent within the county.

Focus On Craft

Kildare has secured a fifth place at the LEO Showcase in the RDS in January:

- Izubee – Mandy Connolly
- Eileen Tan Ltd
- A Little Bit of Scents – Susan Kelly
- Buff Barrier – Robert McNamee
- Collie Flower Design – Sinead Claxton

A new website for the Kildare creative collective – Gather - is underway.

Twenty creative businesses have been selected to exhibit at the Taste of Kildare event at the Naas Racecourse on 15 and 16 August.

Economic Development

Retail Supports

The provision of grant aid and promotional activity to drive business into our towns and villages across the Shopfront, Retail Window and Age-Friendly grants is represented as follows:

MD	Nr. Approved	€ Value Approved
ATHY	22	€41,555.06
CBLX	7	€13,044.74
CLMN	16	€52,504.18
KDNB	20	€38,910.20

NAAS	12	€23,962.50
	77	**€197,686.85**

Tourism

A Pricing and Profitability Workshop for Tourism businesses will take place in MERITS on 09 September 2026.



European Funded Project Repower Regions (Erasmus+)

Kildare County Council continues to lead delivery of the Erasmus+ Repower Regions project, in partnership with 11 European organisations, supporting regional skills development in the heating and cooling sector in line with the Council's economic development and climate action objectives.

Key Achievements

The project has progressed beyond its mid-point, with the draft M18 periodic report now completed and being finalised for submission to the European Commission by 31 July 2026.

Curriculum development across EQF Levels 4, 5 and 6 has been substantially completed, including submission of key elements to the EU portal and application of quality assurance processes across partners.

Regional Industry Alliances have moved into delivery phase, with partner regions actively organising and scheduling their first alliance meetings with employers and stakeholders.

What It Means for Kildare / Municipal Districts

- Supports local enterprise and SMEs by identifying skills needs in low-carbon heating and cooling, helping shape future training provision aligned to industry demand.

- Provides a structured platform for direct engagement with businesses and stakeholders, strengthening regional collaboration and supporting economic development.
- Reinforces Kildare County Council's position as a lead authority in EU-funded skills and innovation projects, delivering reputational and partnership benefits for the county.

Upcoming Priorities / Next Steps

- Finalise and submit the M18 Periodic Report to the European Commission by 31 July 2026.
- Deliver the first Regional Industry Alliance meetings across all partner regions, strengthening employer engagement and validating skills needs.
- Progress online training content and module development as the project moves into the next delivery phase.
- Implement a summer dissemination push, promoting project outputs and stakeholder engagement across partner regions.

Overall, the project continues to demonstrate strong, well-governed delivery of EU funding, with clear benefits for enterprise, workforce skills development and the low-carbon transition, while reinforcing the Council's leadership role in European collaboration.

Further information is available at www.repowerregions.eu.

MERITS

The Local Enterprise Office was delighted to welcome the Slovenian Ambassador to Ireland, His Excellency Matej Marn along with his wife, Mrs Ajda Marn and Honorary Consul for Slovenia in the Republic of Ireland, Mr Liam Moloney to MERITS in Naas, following a meeting with the Chief Executive and Cathaoirleach in Áras Chill Dara.



The Ambassador met with Jacqui McNabb, Head of Enterprise and

Economic Development, Chris Fogarty, Hubs Manager and Michael Timmons, EU Project Coordinator along with a selection of Kildare-based businesses including Tim Farmer, founder of iSquared, Ryan McGloin, founder of Blocshop and Magda Seymour, founder of Pure Oskar. The visit showcased Kildare's enterprise ecosystem in practice, highlighting how local Small and Medium-sized enterprises are supported to scale, innovate and access international markets through initiatives such as the EEN (Enterprise Europe Network), which connects businesses across more than 40 countries.

Athy Enterprise Centre

An additional office was upgraded in June with some remodelling works and furniture fit-out and will be occupied by another growing local business from July onwards.

Circular Economy Hub, Athy

Application was submitted for Phases 2 and 3 of the Circular Economy Hub under the SMART Pobal Fund on 02 June. Structural Construction Tender awarded and works have commenced and 77% complete. All structural door heads with intumescent paint fire protection installed on internal openings. New screed flooring poured. New fire exits construction works (front and rear of site) completed with demolitions and alterations 100% completed. Excavation of external local drainage works at new fire exist and new entrance has completed. Full strip out of redundant heating system and miscellaneous electrical removal works 100% completed. The site is fully secure with 24-hour security surveillance with all prohibited access points removed.



Fashion, Textiles and Design Hub, Monasterevin







93% of construction contract completed. All demolition and Alterations, and substructures 100% completed. Lift installation completed. Ground floor internal works 89% completed consisting of structural steel encasements, ducting conduits installations and electrical first fixing. First floor internal works 96% completed including partition walls, electrical first fixings (100% completed) and silent floor system. Restoration of windows commenced and 100% completed. Installation of steel staircase completed. All critical path milestones on schedule. ESB application reference number for MIC upgrade works received, however delays regarding ESB arrival on site due to current workloads.

Sonya Kavanagh

Chief Executive