

Tuarascáil Mhíosúil Bhainistíochta an Phríomhfheidhmeannaigh

Chief Executive Management Report

Meán Fómhair 2026

September 2026

Sonya Kavanagh, Chief Executive

Comhairle Contae Chill Dara
Kildare County Council

News Items

Launch of the Corporate Plan Dashboard

The new Public Dashboard presents 120 Performance Indicators aligned with the Council's eight Corporate Plan goals and the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals, strengthening transparency and accountability (see pages 6-9).

€629,600 Secured under the Creative Climate Action Fund III

The funding will support "Not Going It Alone: Ar Scáth a Chéile", a three-year programme embedding creative practice in community-led responses to climate adaptation, biodiversity loss and land-use change (see page 17).

Corporate Governance Training

The Institute of Public Administration will deliver training for elected members and senior management on the Local Authority Code of Governance, covering its seven core principles (see page 26).

Affordable Homes at Barracksfield West, Naas

The development is the first LDA project outside Dublin to directly deliver affordable and social housing on State-owned land. It will provide 219 homes overall, including 25 affordable homes in the current phase (see pages 27-28).

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 (see page 71).

Diary/Calendar

Kildare Readers Festival 2026

The Kildare Readers Festival will take place from Thursday, 01 October to Sunday, 11 October 2026, with a free programme of literary events in venues across the county (see page 10).

Climate Action Fortnight

Climate Action Fortnight will take place during the final two weeks of October, featuring public events, workshops, school initiatives and community activities across the county (see pages 58-59).

Kildare Local Community Safety Partnership Public Meeting

A public meeting will take place on Thursday, 01 October 2026, providing an opportunity for communities to help shape County Kildare's safety priorities (see pages 60-61).

Age Friendly Roadshow

The Age Friendly Roadshow will take place on Monday, 12 October 2026, with information on winter safety, health, independent living, benefits, energy, physical activity and wellbeing (see page 65).

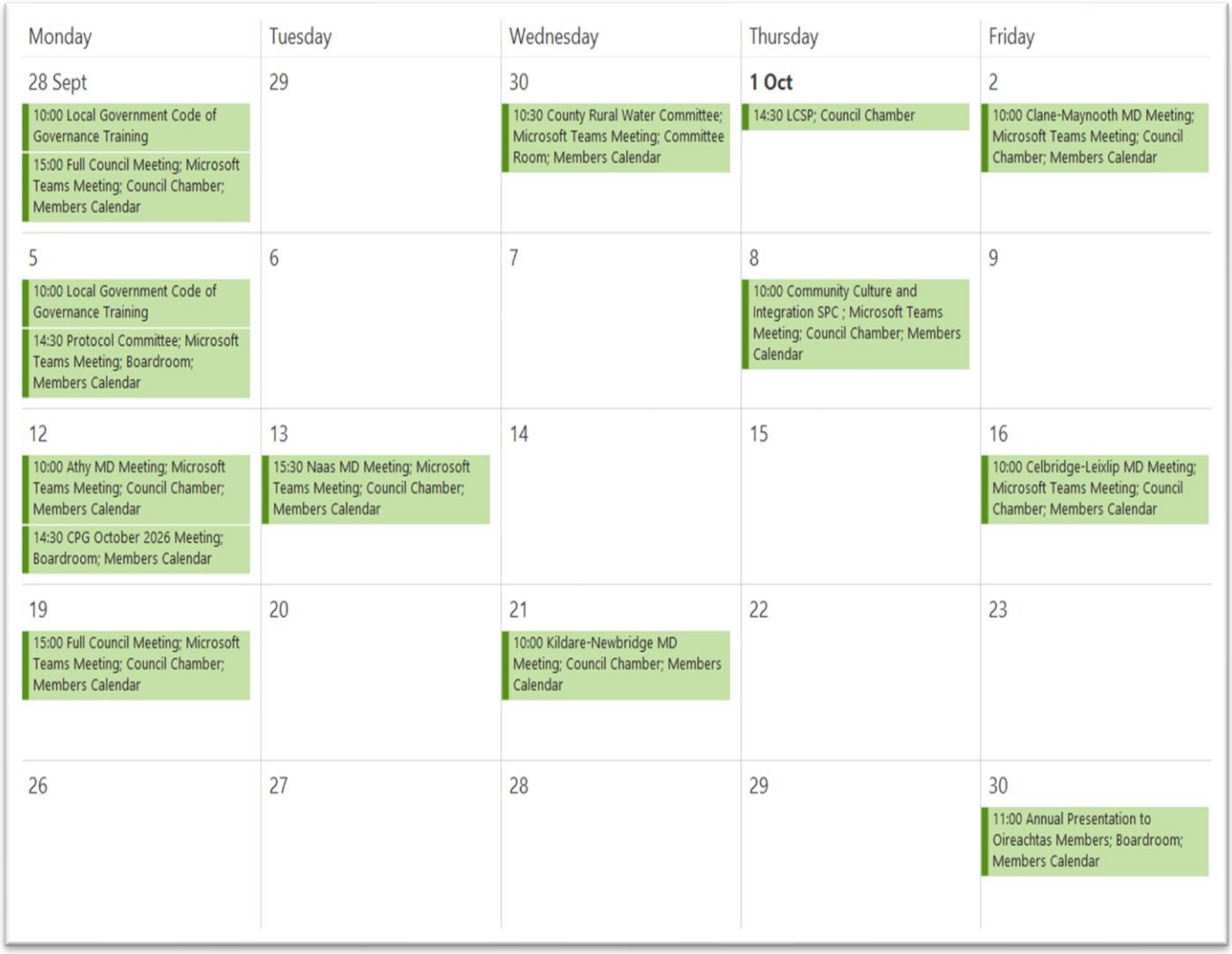
Biodiversity Conference 2026

A two-day Biodiversity Conference will take place on Saturday, 17 and Sunday, 18 October 2026 (see page 87).

National Women's Enterprise Day

National Women's Enterprise Day will take place at the Keadeen Hotel on Thursday, 15 October 2026, providing networking, learning and inspiration for women in business (see page 99).

October Calendar



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
28 Sept 10:00 Local Government Code of Governance Training 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
5 10:00 Local Government Code of Governance Training 14:30 Protocol Committee; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Boardroom; Members Calendar	6	7	8 10:00 Community Culture and Integration SPC ; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar	9
12 10:00 Athy MD Meeting; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar 14:30 CPG October 2026 Meeting; Boardroom; Members Calendar	13 15:30 Naas MD Meeting; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar	14	15	16 10:00 Celbridge-Leixlip MD Meeting; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar
19 15:00 Full Council Meeting; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar	20	21 10:00 Kildare-Newbridge MD Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar	22	23
26	27	28	29	30 11:00 Annual Presentation to Oireachtas Members; Boardroom; Members Calendar

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Corporate, Culture and Emergency Services

Corporate Services

Introducing Kildare County Council's Corporate Plan Dashboard

120	8	17
performance indicators	**Corporate Plan goals**	**UN Sustainable Development Goals**

The new Corporate Plan Dashboard brings key performance information together in a visual and accessible format. It will help citizens, elected members and other stakeholders see how Kildare County Council is progressing its commitments in its Corporate Plan 2025-2029.

The message is simple

Clear information supports stronger accountability, greater transparency and better-informed public discussion. The dashboard makes it easier to see what is being measured, explore reported progress and understand how local services contribute to wider goals.

Why is it being introduced?

- To move away from lengthy tables and information held across separate reports.
- To provide one organised source of performance information.
- To make trends and changes easier to identify where comparable information is available.
- To strengthen how the Council communicates progress to the public.

What will citizens be able to explore?

The dashboard provides two connected views of Council activity. Users can begin with the overall picture and move to the detail behind individual goals and indicators.

Corporate Plan view

Explore performance indicators grouped under the Council's eight strategic goals, as set out in the Corporate Plan 2025-2029, with available filters for reporting periods and other relevant categories.

Sustainable Development Goals view

See how relevant Council activity aligns with the 17 UN goals and contributes to wider social, economic and environmental outcomes.

Accountability and transparency

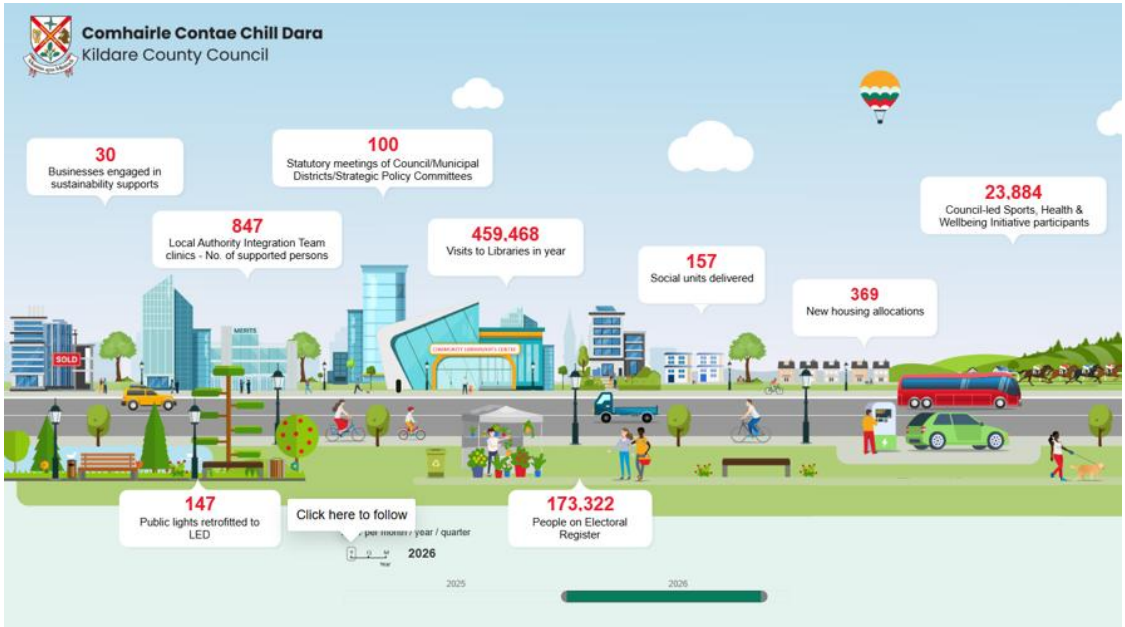
Accountability

- Links reporting to the commitments in the Corporate Plan.
- Provides a clearer basis for questions, review and analysis.
- Supports defined responsibility for supplying and checking information.

Transparency

- Presents information in a visual and navigable format.
- Allows users to move from an overview to individual measures.
- Creates a consistent public location for performance information.

First look at the dashboard

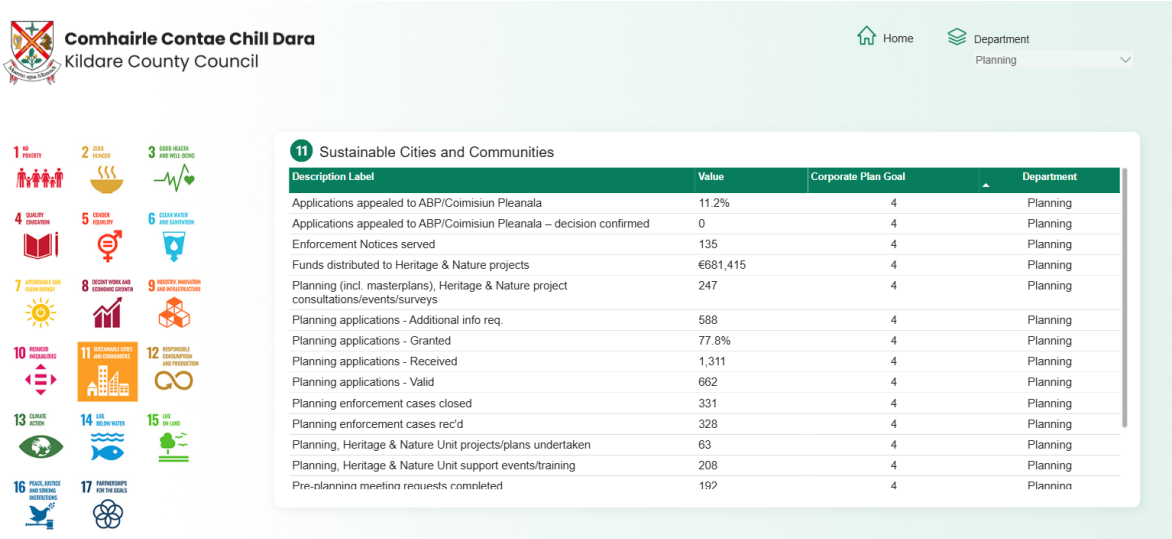


The landing page gives an overview of selected performance information and allows users to explore the Council's Corporate Plan goals.



Users can move from the overall picture to the information available for an individual goal or performance indicator.





Description Label	Value	Corporate Plan Goal	Department
Applications appealed to ABP/Coimisiun Pleanala	11.2%	4	Planning
Applications appealed to ABP/Coimisiun Pleanala – decision confirmed	0	4	Planning
Enforcement Notices served	135	4	Planning
Funds distributed to Heritage & Nature projects	€681,415	4	Planning
Planning (incl. masterplans), Heritage & Nature project consultations/events/surveys	247	4	Planning
Planning applications - Additional info req.	588	4	Planning
Planning applications - Granted	77.8%	4	Planning
Planning applications - Received	1,311	4	Planning
Planning applications - Valid	662	4	Planning
Planning enforcement cases closed	331	4	Planning
Planning enforcement cases rec'd	328	4	Planning
Planning, Heritage & Nature Unit projects/plans undertaken	63	4	Planning
Planning, Heritage & Nature Unit support events/training	208	4	Planning
Pre-planning meeting requests completed	192	4	Planning

The Sustainable Development Goal view connects local Council activity with wider social, economic and environmental goals.

Follow our progress

Kildare County Council invites citizens and stakeholders to explore the new Corporate Plan dashboards using the links below:

- View the Corporate Plan Performance Dashboard → View Dashboard
- View the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Dashboard → View Dashboard

The dashboards provide a clear and accessible view of the Council's performance indicators, the delivery of its eight Corporate Plan goals and the contribution of Council services to the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Their publication represents an important step in strengthening transparency and accountability by making corporate performance information easier to find, understand and explore.

Links to the dashboards will be included in all future Chief Executive's Reports, allowing elected members and citizens to regularly access the latest available information and follow progress throughout the lifetime of the Corporate Plan 2025-2029.

We encourage everyone with an interest in the future of County Kildare to explore the dashboards and learn more about the work being undertaken across Council services.

Communications

Kildare Readers Festival 2026 Announced



Kildare Readers Festival will return from Thursday, 01 October to Sunday, 11 October 2026. This free festival, held in venues across the county, is a vibrant celebration of books and ideas, bringing readers and writers together for inspiring conversations and unforgettable experiences. (Issued bilingually - https://kildarecoco.ie/News/Fograionn,Comhairle,Contae,Chill,Dara,Feile,Leitheoiri,Chill,Dara,2026.html)

Nomad Éire Community Welcomed to MERITS Innovation Thinkspace



Kildare County Council, through the Local Enterprise Office Kildare and MERITS Innovation Thinkspace, welcomed an international community of digital nomads, entrepreneurs, founders and remote professionals to the Nomad Éire Conference, which took place at MERITS Innovation Thinkspace in Naas from 01 to 03 September 2026.

Exciting Line-Up for Culture Night 2026 Launched



The Council announced the programme of events for Culture Night 2026 which took place across County Kildare on Friday, 18 September 2026. Culture Night is an annual, island-wide celebration of culture, creativity and the arts, promoting the rich cultural life that exists in communities across Ireland.

Recipient of Short Grass Film Commission Award 2026 Announced



Kildare County Council Arts Service announced Emma Farrell and Frame It Productions as the recipients of the Short Grass Film Commission Award 2026. The award of €14,000 supports the production of a new short film in County Kildare and aims to encourage the development of film-making talent and film production within the county.

Maynooth Community Climate Action Series Announced



The Council invited the Maynooth community to take part in a new Community Climate Action Series to help shape the future of the Maynooth Decarbonising Zone (DZ) during September and October. The series provides opportunities for residents, community groups, businesses, students, local organisations and other stakeholders to learn more about the Maynooth DZ, share their views and priorities and explore practical ways to support climate action in the town and surrounding area.

Back-to-School Road Safety Campaign Launched



Kildare County Council and An Garda Síochána Kildare urged all road users to take extra care and vigilance around schools as traffic volumes increased and thousands of children returned to their daily journeys to and from school.

Recipient of Castle Park Mural Award Announced-



Acclaimed street artist RICE (Eduard Sacrest) has been announced as the

recipient of the Castle Park Mural Award. Delivered through Kildare's Empowering Communities Programme with Creative Places Athy, the award will see RICE engage with young people in Castle Park, Athy to co-create a community mural within the estate.

Water Users Reminded of Legal Requirements for Abstracting Water from Natural Sources

The Council reminded anyone abstracting water from a natural source of their legal obligations under the Water Environment (Abstractions and Associated Impoundments) Act 2022.

Advice Issued to Tillage Farmers Ahead of Planting Season

As the 2026/2027 planting season got underway, Kildare County Council reminded tillage farmers of the importance of complying with the Good Agricultural Practice for the Protection of Water Regulations 2022, as amended, to protect water quality and the wider environment.

Farm Hazardous Waste Collections 2026



The Council advised farmers of a series of Farm Hazardous Waste Collection events taking place at six locations nationwide, during September and October 2026. The initiative forms part of the National Hazardous Waste Management Plan 2021-2027 and is coordinated by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and the Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders.

Commencement of Summary of Social Housing Assessments (SSHA) 2026



Summary of Social Housing Assessments 2026 has commenced. This is a review of social housing needs in County Kildare and applies to housing applicants who were approved for Social Housing Supports with Kildare County Council, between 01 January 2014 and 31 December 2019, and who have not updated their housing file in the past 12 months.

Kildare Heritage Plan 2026-2031 Launched



Kildare County Council launched the Kildare Heritage Plan 2026–2031, a comprehensive strategy to conserve, promote and celebrate the built, natural and cultural heritage of County Kildare over the next five years. (Issued bilingually - https://kildarecoco.ie/News/,Seolann,Comhairle,Contae,Chill,Dara,Plean,Oidhreachta,Chill,Dara,,2026-2031.html)

International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies

International day of clean air for blue skies took place Monday, 07 September. UN Secretary-General António Guterres called for action to reduce air pollution by, “investing in renewable energy, improving waste management, halting deforestation, including wildfires, and promoting eco-friendly agriculture.”

Nominees for 2026 IPB Pride of Place Competition Announced

The Council announced the two nominees representing Kildare in the 2026 IPB Pride of Place Competition. The national winners of this prestigious competition will be revealed at a Gala Awards ceremony in Dublin this November. The IPB Pride of Place Competition celebrates unsung community heroes and their voluntary work.

National Heritage Week 2026 Launched

Kildare County Council announced the programme for National Heritage Week 2026, which took place from Saturday,15 to Sunday, 23 August.

This year's theme "Heritage at Risk", highlighted the importance of protecting the places, traditions, knowledge and skills that have been passed down through generations and continue to shape our communities today.
(Issued bilingually - https://kildarecoco.ie/News/Clar,na,Seachtaine,Oidhreachta,Naisiunta,Seolta,ag,Comhairle,Contae,Chill,Dara.html)

Former Lord Mayor of Manchester Tommy Judge Visits Athy



Kildare County Council welcomed former Lord Mayor of Manchester, Tommy Judge, to Athy, as part of a visit celebrating the town's rich cultural heritage, its historic links with the Judge family and the growing international profile of the Shackleton Experience.

Householders Advised of the Domestic Well Grant Scheme

Kildare County Council reminded householders of the Domestic Well Grant Scheme, supported by The Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage. The scheme helps households, reliant on a private water supply, to ensure their water is clean and that there is enough to meet the needs of the household. This includes digging a new well, upgrading an existing well or installing a water treatment system.

Domestic Lead Remediation Grant Scheme

The Council encouraged householders to avail of the ongoing Domestic Lead Remediation Grant Scheme, which provides financial assistance for the replacement of lead piping or related fittings within the internal distribution system connected to a domestic water supply.

Clocha Rince Library Shortlisted for National Age Friendly Award



Kildare County Council announced that The Wisdom Club in Clocha Rince Library, located in Clocha Rince National School, was shortlisted for National Age Friendly Recognition and Achievement award. The club will represent Kildare in the national awards ceremony in Limerick this October.

K Leisure Athy and K Leisure Naas Achieve Prestigious PoolMark Award



Kildare County Council announced that both K Leisure Athy and K Leisure Naas were presented with the Pool Water Treatment Advisory Group (PWTAG) PoolMark accredited award. This prestigious award is regarded as the gold standard for swimming pool management, safety, hygiene and water quality.

Newbridge Library, County Archives, Local Studies and Cultural Centre Reaches Major Construction Milestone



The Council welcomed Minister for Agriculture, Food, Fisheries and the Marine, Minister Martin Heydon T.D. and Minister of State at the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht and at the Department of Transport, Jerry Buttimer T.D. to Newbridge to mark the beginning of the construction phase of the new Newbridge Library, County Archives, Local Studies and Cultural Centre.

The new facility will provide a modern public library, a permanent home for Kildare County Archives and Local

Studies, and a wide range of cultural, learning, community and digital services in the heart of Newbridge.

Biodiversity Action Plan 2026–2031 Launched



The Kildare Biodiversity Action Plan 2026–2031 has been launched, setting out an ambitious framework to protect biodiversity and support nature recovery across the county over the next five years. The plan represents the culmination of an extensive consultation process involving council staff, elected members, community groups, farmers, landowners, environmental organisations, state agencies, educational institutions and members of the public.

Civic Honour Conferred on Poet Desmond Egan



The members of Kildare County Council conferred a Civic Honour on internationally recognised Irish poet Mr Desmond Egan, in recognition of his outstanding and enduring contribution to the arts, literature and culture in County Kildare. The honour was presented at the official opening of the 38th Gerard Manley Hopkins International Literary Festival on Friday, 24 July 2026, at Newbridge College Theatre.

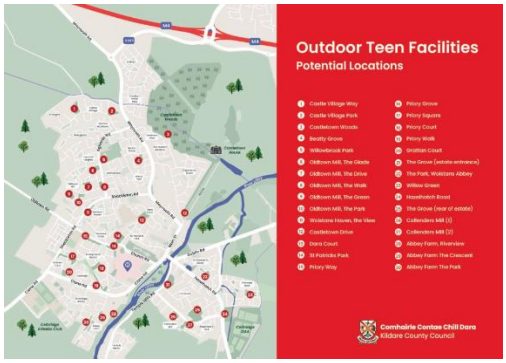
Contracts for Landmark Newbridge Library, County Archives and Cultural Centre Project Signed



Kildare County Council signed a contract with Townlink Construction

Ltd for the delivery of the new Newbridge Library, County Archives and Cultural Centre.

Public Consultation on outdoor teen facilities in Celbridge



Kildare County Council invited people in Celbridge and the surrounding area to take part in a public consultation on possible locations of a new outdoor teen facilities in the town.

Funding Under Creative Climate Action Fund III Secured



Kildare County Council was awarded €629,600 under the Creative Climate Action Fund III for 'Not Going It Alone: Ar Scáth a Chéile', a three-year climate action programme that embeds creative practice within local authority climate governance to support community-led responses to biodiversity loss, climate adaptation and land use change across County Kildare.

Successful Migration to Voter.ie Completed

Kildare County Council successfully migrated to Voter.ie, Ireland's new national electoral registration system, on Wednesday, 19 August.

Key Highlights

- The migration forms part of the national Local Government Electoral Registration System (LGERS) project, delivering a single electoral registration system across local authorities.
- www.checktheregister.ie has now been replaced by www.voter.ie and citizens who access the former website will be redirected to the new national electoral registration portal.
- The new platform provides a more streamlined and customer-focused online

experience for electors seeking to register, update their details or access electoral information.

- For Council staff, Voter.ie introduces enhanced functionality to support register accuracy, including improved management of duplicate and deceased elector records and simplified inter-authority transfer processes.
- The successful migration supports the objectives of the Electoral Reform Act 2022 and contributes to the delivery of a more accurate, comprehensive, and nationally consistent electoral register.

Gaeilge, Teangacha Oifigiúla/ Irish Language, Official Languages

Teastas sa Ghaeilge Ghairmiúil bainte ag fostaithe Chomhairle Contae Chill Dara

Bhí fostaithe de chuid Chomhairle Contae Chill Dara i láthair ag Searmanas Bronnta 2026 d'fhostaithe de chuid na hearnála poiblí agus na státseirbhíse a thug faoi chúrsaí oiliúna gairmiúla le Gaelchultúr san earrach 2026. Bhí an searmanas ar siúl san Óstán Gresham, Baile Átha Cliath ar an Luan, 21 Meán Fómhair 2026.

Bronnadh Teastas sa Ghaeilge Ghairmiúil ag leibhéal 5 (B2) agus 6 (C1) den Chreat Náisiúnta Cáilíochtaí (NFQ) ar fhostaithe Chomhairle Chontae Chill Dara. Ócáid speisialta a bhí ann mar a ndearnadh ceiliúradh ar éachtaí na bhfoghlaimeoirí agus ar an obair atá ar bun acu chun seirbhísí poiblí trí Ghaeilge a neartú agus a fheabhsú.

Comhghairdeas ó chroí le Helen Williams, Rannóg na Seirbhísí Corporáideacha, le Simon Higgins, An Rannóg Pleanála agus le Jean K. Herbert, Seirbhís Leabharlainne Chill Dara ar bronnadh Teastais sa Ghaeilge Ghairmiúil orthu.

Léiriú ar thiomantas Chomhairle Contae Chill Dara maidir le hoiliúint foirne agus neartú na Gaeilge mar theanga san ionad oibre atá sna deiseanna uile a chuirtear ar fáil don fhoireann.

Employees of Kildare County Council obtain Certificate in Professional Irish

Kildare County Council employees attended the 2026 Award Ceremony for public sector and civil service employees who undertook professional training courses with Gaelchultúr in spring 2026. The ceremony took place in the Gresham Hotel, Dublin on Monday, 21 September 2026.

Employees were awarded a Certificate in Professional Irish at levels 5 (B2) and 6 (C1) of the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ). It was special occasion, celebrating the learners' achievements and the meaningful work they do to strengthen and enhance public services through Irish.

Congratulations to Helen Williams, Corporate Services Department, Simon Higgins, Planning Department and Jean K. Herbert, Kildare Library Service who have been awarded Certificates in Professional Irish.

The many Irish language opportunities provided to employees are a testament to Kildare County Council's commitment to staff training and the strengthening of Irish in the workplace.

Library and Arts Service

News and Highlights

"Bad libraries build collections, good libraries build services, great libraries build communities." — R. David Lankes

Athy Library- July and August

Our Harry Potter Day on 31 July was another great success. It was a particular triumph for our excellent, Summer Student, Daniel, who took responsibility for some of the activities on the day. We had 'Pin the Scar' on Harry, a scavenger hunt, a make your own Hedwig, potions workshops and many more activities. We even did an Owl themed Toddler time!



Outreach

In July and August, staff went on Outreach Visits to two ELCs and to Bert House on a number of occasions

as well as welcoming children attending July Provision in Scoil Phadriag, Happy Days and Shining Stars.

Integration

The Leader Partnership Integration Team held some very popular English classes with 16-20 people attending each day.

Health and Wellbeing

The Irish Heart Foundation and Hidden Hearing performed free health checks in August seeing up to 45 people each throughout the day.

Heritage Week

We had lots of activities and talks for Heritage Week, including Ogham Clay Pendant modelling, a census talk, a memoir writing workshop and card making workshop.

Leixlip Library

Leixlip Library celebrated Heritage Week with a visit from Dublin Zoo. They spoke about protecting animals that are at risk. In celebration of the My Little Library initiative we had a visit from author Úna Woods and Niamh Donnellan.



EU Presidency Programme:

Scheduled for August to December. Kildare Library and Arts Service will present an autumn of music, film, literature, folklore and cultural exchange across the county, marking Ireland's Presidency of the Council of the European Union. The county's pairing with Austria provides a special focus for events across its libraries and cultural spaces, exploring historic connections between the two countries through music, film, literature, folklore and art. A second major strand, organised by the Arts Service, Ode to Ballynafagh, will bring communities together through landscape, ecology, walking and music. On 23 October, a special exchange between Leixlip Library and Vienna Public Libraries will connect young readers in Kildare and Austria through folklore. Leixlip's Folklore Friends will introduce families to classic Austrian folktales, while

Bücherei Weimarer Straße in Vienna hosts an Irish folklore storytime. Kildare Reads podcast on 28 August Dermot Bolger in conversation with author Eoin MacNamee (The Bureau) and musician Keith Donald (Music and Mayhem).

Kildare Reads is the perfect place to discover highly recommended, maybe unfamiliar authors and explore a wide range of genres. Every book featured in the podcast is available to borrow from Kildare Libraries.

Kildare Libraries commissioned a short film on Mary Leadbeater to be recorded for Kildare Reader's Festival. The script was provided by well-known author John MacKenna, featuring Mary Linehan, as Mary Leadbeater. It was filmed by FrameIt Productions and will premiere as part of this year's festival.

Heritage Week proved successful across all branches; Ballitore presented talks on Mary Leadbeater and Quakers by Aisling O'Laighléis and Charles Lamb; the Kildare County Council. Heritage Plan was launched in Naas Library and Cultural Centre, while there was an exhibition on the Blessington Steam Railway and talk by Shirley Bowers on her experiences with descendants of Irish slaves transported to Barbados. Maynooth Library hosted craft workshops for children focusing on local landmarks; Kildare Town Library Hosted storytelling and recording of regional myths, yarns, and tall tales; Celbridge Library organized heritage sessions and displays for children and families.

Parenting Programme

A New Parenting Programme for Autumn 2026 was launched at the end of August providing a series of talks offering support for Parents, and CPD opportunities for those working with families in County Kildare. It is organised in association with the Kildare County Childcare Committee and Members of the Parenting Forum for Kildare and West Wicklow. https://kildarecoco.ie/library/media/ParentingBrochureAutumn.pdf

Kildare County Archives and Local Studies Archives

The World War I Graves and Memorials photographic survey

compiled as part of the Kildare Decade of Commemorations programme is now available online here



The service hosted members of the Heritage Forum after the launch of the Heritage Plan for a guided tour of the County Archives and Local Studies collections.

Kildare County Council-Files

Shortlisted in the category Best Use of Cloud in Digital Transformation Award in the Public Sector Digital Transformation Awards.
Overseeing ongoing roll out of Kildare County Council-Files app and review of files in the Cotton Mills Records Store, Áras Chill Dara and NRO.

Local Studies

New Local Studies librarian has been appointed.

Arts Service

Kildare's Empowering Communities Programme and Creative Places Athy announce Castle Park Mural Award artist

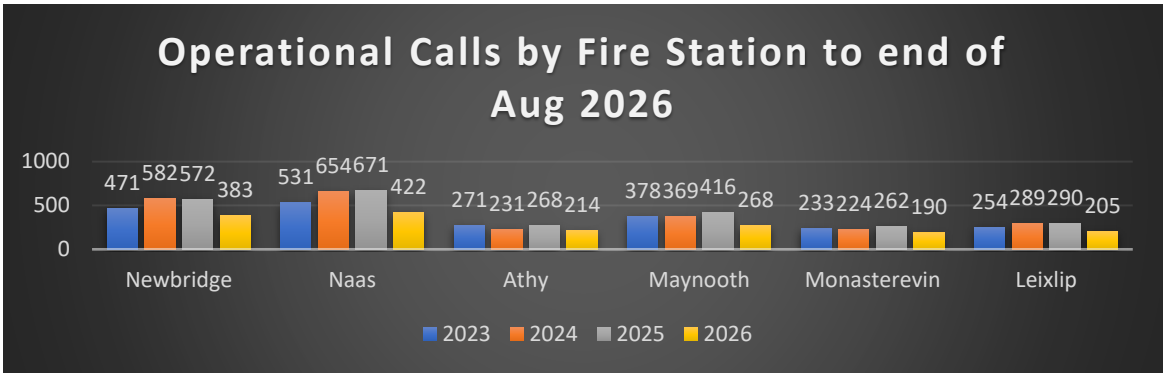


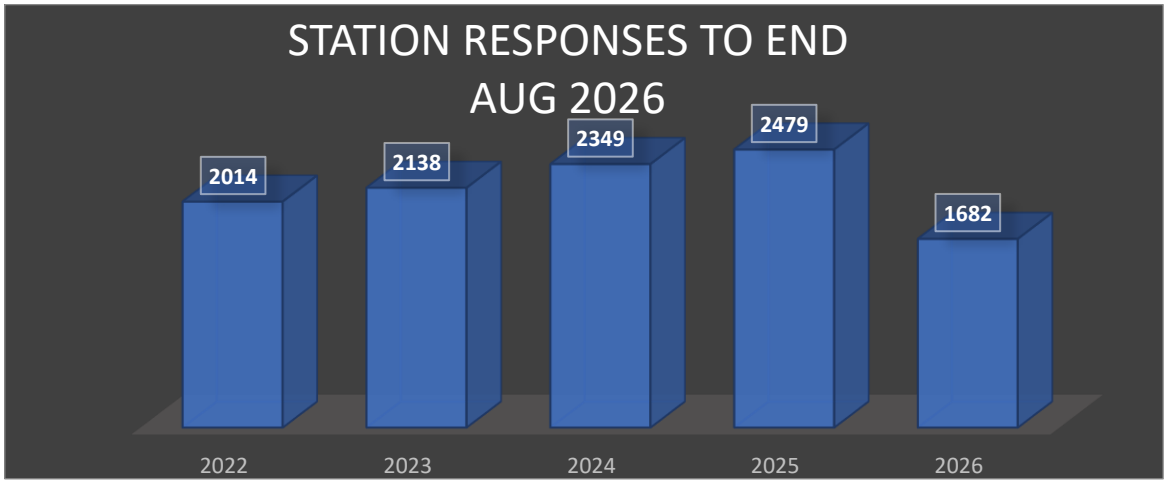
Image: Mercato Metropolitano by Barabas.

Kildare's Empowering Communities Programme with Creative Places Athy is delighted to announce RICE (Eduard Sacrest) as the recipient of the Castle Park Mural Award. RICE will work closely with residents of Castle Park, Athy, with a particular focus on engaging young people, to co-create a community mural within the estate. A series of creative workshops will take place over Halloween providing participants with opportunities to explore themes of identity, community, and belonging, culminating in the creation of the mural.

Fire Service Operations:

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





Fire Safety Certificates

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



Finance, Digital Services and Innovation and Governance

Finance

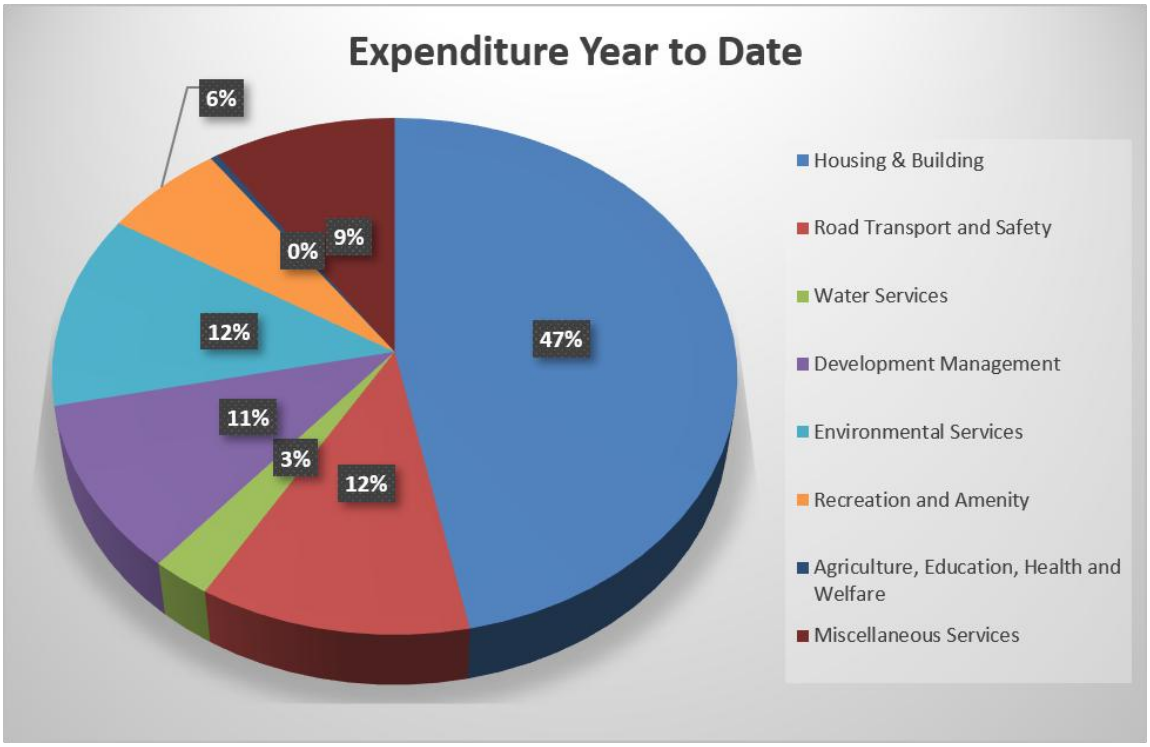
Annual Financial Statement

The Local Government Auditor, Mr Eamon Daly and his team are onsite conducting the audit of the Kildare County Council, Annual Financial Statement for the year ended 31 December 2025 and anticipates having the audit completed in October.

Revenue Account

Kildare County Council
Revenue Account Summary by Service Division to period to 31 August 2026

Division	Expenditure	Budget	% Budget Spend	Budget remaining
	€,000	€,000		€,000
Housing & Building	76,376	115,475	66%	39,099
Road Transport and Safety	19,169	51,384	37%	32,215
Water Services	4,177	9,008	46%	4,831
Development Management	17,268	34,286	50%	17,018
Environmental Services	19,859	29,923	66%	10,064
Recreation and Amenity	10,274	21,437	48%	11,163
Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare	628	1,475	43%	847
Miscellaneous Services	15,472	22,676	68%	7,204
Local Property Tax Allocation				-
Rates				
	163,222	285,664	57%	122,442



Kildare County Council

Revenue Account Summary by Service Division to period to 31 August 2026

Division	Income	Budget	% Budget collected	Budget to be collected
	Income			
	€,000	€,000		€,000
Housing & Building	68,910	103,764	66%	34,854
Road Transport and Safety	10,467	25,965	40%	15,498
Water Services	3,556	7,993	44%	4,437
Development Management	7,081	12,365	57%	5,284
Environmental Services	6,266	10,375	60%	4,109
Recreation and Amenity	1,804	2,720	66%	916
Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare	291	321	91%	30
Miscellaneous Services	10,460	17,255	61%	6,795
Local Property Tax Allocation	13,645	27,291	50%	13,646
Rates	40,229	77,615	52%	37,386
	162,708	285,664	57%	- 122,956

The revenue expenditure and income for 2026 are on target.

Commercial Rates, Rents and Loans Collections

Kildare County Council

Summary of Major Collections to 31 August 2026

	Arrears 01/01/2026	Accrued	Write Off	Waivers	Total for Collection	Collected	Outstanding 31/08/2026
Commercial Rates	5,558,393	78,689,277	152,425	-	84,095,245	63,402,507	20,692,738
Rents & Annuities	1,828,501	17,570,731	- 4,533	-	19,403,765	17,706,261	1,697,504
Housing Loans	1,016,693	2,586,469	819	-	3,602,343	2,605,327	997,016

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 31 August 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 late September.

Corporate Governance

Training for Members and Senior Management on the Local Authority Code of Governance has been arranged for 28 September and 05 October. The Institute of Public Administration will deliver the training. The training sessions will take place in person and will be approx. 2.5 hours in 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

Housing, Regeneration and People

Housing

Delivering Homes, Building Communities: An Action Plan on Housing Supply and Targeting Homelessness

Further to Housing Circular 25/2026 dated 07 July, work has started on preparation of a draft Housing Delivery Action Plan (HDAP) for the period 2027 to 2030. Proposed delivery figures for Kildare must be submitted to the Department by 25 September via an online portal after which workshops will commence to determine the final target figures for Kildare. The process is expected to be completed by the end of November 2026.

Affordable Homes

Barracksfield West, Naas: Phase 2

Barracksfield West is located on John Devoy Road to the southwest of Naas town centre and the development is well serviced by transport links to Dublin city centre and surrounding towns. It is well situated with easy access to the M7 and M9 motorways. Upon completion, the development will include 219 homes, as well as communal open areas, bicycle spaces and a crèche.

This development is the first LDA project outside of Dublin to directly deliver affordable and social homes on state-owned land. This phase includes 25 A Rates homes comprising of:

- Seven three-bed houses with gardens
- Seven two-bed duplexes and

- Eleven one-bed apartments with balconies or terraces.



The homes are built on a State-owned site that was previously part of the former Devoy Barracks complex. The land was made available to the LDA by The Housing Agency.

All the homes in this phase will be made available to eligible buyers through the Local Authority Affordable Purchase Scheme, which is managed jointly by Kildare County Council and the LDA. The portal opened for applications on 26 August and closes at 12.00 noon on Tuesday, 15 September 2026. To date 189 completed applications have been received.

With the application of government supports and equity contributions, prices for the affordable purchase homes start from €243,477 for one-bed apartments; €292,933 for the two-bed duplexes; and from €365,216 for three-bed houses.

The Local Authority Affordable Purchase Scheme enables eligible buyers to bridge the gap between the price of the home and the amount of personal funds and mortgage available to them. The scheme involves a shared equity arrangement, which effectively lowers the upfront cost and enables Kildare County Council to hold an equity interest in the property until it is repaid, or the home is sold.
The remaining homes in the development will be launched later in 2026.

Social Housing Delivery Council Signs Works Contract for Craddockstown Housing Project



Cathaoirleach of the County of Kildare, Councillor Tim Durkan; Annette Aspell, Deputy Chief Executive, Kildare County Council; George Taggart, Construction Director, Cunningham Contracts Ireland Ltd

The Council signed a contract on 30 July 2026 appointing Cunningham Contracts Ireland Ltd. for the Design and Construction of the Craddockstown Housing project located on Craddockstown Road, Naas, Co Kildare.

The Part VIII design was completed by the Kildare County Council Architects Department, in partnership with other design team members including Hayes Higgins Partnership (Civil and Structural Engineer and PSDP), Delap and Waller (Building Services), RMDA (Landscape) and TA group (Assigned Certifier).
The project involves the construction of 28 new social housing units and is funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government, and Heritage through the Social Housing Investment Programme. Construction is scheduled for completion in 2027.

Council Signs Works Contract St. Evins, Monasterevin Housing Project



Cathaoirleach of the County of Kildare, Councillor Tim Durkan; Sonya Kavanagh, Chief Executive, Kildare County Council; Aidan Gallagher, Axis Construction Ltd

The Council signed a contract, 27 August 2026, appointing Axis Construction Ltd. for the Design and Construction of the St. Evins Housing project located on St. Evins Park, Monasterevin, Co Kildare.

The Part VIII design was completed by the Kildare County Council Architects Department, in partnership with other design team members including Donnachadh O' Brien and Associates (Civil and Structural Engineer, Assigned Certifier and PSDP), Hayes Higgins Partnership (Building Services) and Landmark (Landscape).

The project involves the construction of 13 new social housing units and is funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage through the Social Housing Investment Programme. Construction is scheduled for completion in 2027.

Clogherinkoe Serviced Sites

The application portal for the serviced sites in this scheme opened on 12 August, initially for three weeks, this was extended to 31 December. Local clubs and services have been made aware of the scheme and Kildare County Council will run a promotional social media campaign until 31 December 2026. To date there has been a total of 14 applications, including four complete and ten in draft.



Homelessness

On 01 September 2026, a contract was signed for the delivery of a family-supported temporary accommodation service in Celbridge. The facility will provide 62 family bed spaces, increasing the availability of emergency accommodation for families experiencing homelessness.

Homeless Services worked with the Healthy Ireland County Coordinator, Kildare Sports Partnership and the emergency accommodation provider to deliver a physical activity taster morning for families at this location. The event took place on 07 August and was attended by more than 18 children, with strong parental participation.

It promoted physical activity, wellbeing, and community engagement for families experiencing homelessness. The facilitator will continue engaging with the children and support pathways into local sports clubs.

Kildare Sports Partnership provided sports equipment for continued activity on site.

A shared cultural food activity also supported inclusion and community connection.

Following the positive outcomes achieved, opportunities to deliver similar initiatives across other Emergency Accommodation services will be explored.





Regeneration

URDF Call 3:

Four Properties acquired to address town centre dereliction have been marketed for forward sale.

Strategic Projects and Public Realm (SPPR)

Newbridge Town Renewal Plan

Public consultation on the Draft Newbridge Town Renewal Plan commenced on 4 September 2026, with a public consultation event held in Newbridge Town Hall. An online survey remains open until 21 September 2026, and feedback received through the consultation process will inform finalisation of the Masterplan.

Newbridge Library, County Archives, Local Studies and Cultural Centre

Construction commenced in August 2026, and site establishment works are now progressing. An archaeologist has been appointed, and the required excavation licence application has been submitted.

Wonderful Barn

A contractor was appointed in August 2026, and conservation works are due to commence in Autumn 2026.

Capital Programme

Location	No. of Units	Updated Status
Approval - Stage 4		
St. Patrick's Park Rathangan Remedial Works (Phases 2 & 3)	Demolition of 15 units, refurb of 25 units, construction of 7 units.	Works are progressing well on site. The Project completion is anticipated to be extended from December 2026 to March 2027, primarily due to unforeseen underground Electrical and Water Services issues which resulted in the resequencing of the works.
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 received and evaluations are underway.
St Evin's Park, Monasterevin	13 units	Contract signing took place on 27/08/2026
Craddockstown, Naas	28 units	Contract Signing took place on 30/07/2026
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.
Old Caragh Road, Naas	81 Units	Part 8 expected to launch Q4 2026

Single Stage Approval		
Shamrock Stores, Athy	6 apartments.	New Single Stage Application being prepared. Refurbishment of existing dwellings is 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
Skenagun, Castledermot	1 major refurb & extension & 1 new build	Stage 3 approval received 18.03.2025.CPO process has completed. The property vested to KCC in July 2026.

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. Projected mobilisation date 16/09/2026. Cluid will issue a press release next week.
CAS	Nas Na Riogh	Beaufort, (adj McAuley Place), Naas	44	Part 8 application launched 02.04.2026. Stage 4 approval application submitted to DHLGH. The Part 8 meeting to the MD Members was expected in Sept 2026, however this is postponed pending the outcome of a submission to An Coimisiún Pleanála.
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. The legal process to transfer these units to KCC has completed. Tinteán are currently working on a revised CAS application for the refurbishment works.
CAS	O.N.E.	Eyre St/James St Newbridge	Refurb of existing buildings to create 6 units	This project will create 5 units + 1 caretaker unit for ex service men and women. DHLGH has approved the AHB to conduct a Feasibility Study.
CAS	Homeless Care	Jigginstown Phase 2, Naas	10	Stage 2 approval application to be submitted to DHLGH.

Acquisitions

	2025	2026
Housing Acquisitions	23	10
Housing Turnkeys	22	6
Part V Acquisitions	158	59
Total	**203**	**75**

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	29	10	16	18	2
MTR Delivery 2026 (via CALF and leasing)	0	1	4	0	0
CALF delivery 2026	53	0	24	48	0

Homelessness

Families in PEA including Supported Temporary Accomodation and Family Hubs as of 31/08/2026			
Duration	**Number of Households with Dependents**	**Adults**	**Children**
0 – 6 Months	49	70	109
6 - 12 Months	15	20	28
12 - 18 Months	16	24	37
18 - 24 Months	4	7	9
24 - 30 Months	4	6	6
30 - 36 Months	0	0	0
36+ Months	1	3	2
Total	89	130	191

Families in Own Front Door Accommodation as of 31/08/2026

Duration	Number of Households with Dependents	Adults	Children
0 - 6 Months	4	5	10
6 - 12 Months	3	5	13
12 - 18 Months	0	0	0
18 - 24 Months	2	3	6
24 - 30 Months	1	4	1
30 - 36 Months	1	1	0
36+ Months	3	8	6
Total	14	26	36

Notices of Termination on hand	Number Overholding	Number expiring 2026	Number Expiring 2027
89	36	38	15

Town Regeneration

Year	CPOs Commenced	CPOs Awaiting Confirmation	CPOs Confirmed	CPOs Withdrawn/ On Hold	Acquired by Agreement
2025	11	5	3	2	0
2026	9	3	5	1	2

Year	Vacant Property Grant Applications Received	Vacant Property Grant Approved	Vacant Property Grant Paid
2025	117	94	100
2026	96	76	40

Year	Vacant Property Inspections	Properties Requiring Further Investigation	Property Owners Engaged With	Pre-CPO Notices Erected
2025	164	113	146	29

2026	86	78	64	4

Year	Derelict Site Inspections	Section 8 (2) Notices Issued	Sites Added to the Register
2025	46	31	10
2026	19	13	5

URDF

URDF Call 3	• 8 URDF Call 3 approved properties have been acquired by CPO. • 2 properties have been acquired by agreement. • 4 properties have been marketed for forward sale, 2 properties are sale agreed pending Section 183 approval.

Energy Retrofit Programme

Projects being assessed - Suitable Units in Maynooth and Athy Municipal District areas are currently being assessed for possible inclusion and completion under the 2027 programme.

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

Contracts Awarded	Occupied Units	Vacant/Void Units	Units still to be delivered in 2026
Castlefen, Sallins and Churchview, Kilmeague	34	0	34
EERP - Project 2 - 2026	11	n/a	11
EERP - Project 3 - 2026	12	n/a	12

Vacant Units pre-approved	0	4	3 (as 1 vacant unit not expected until 2027)
Expected Delivery for 2026 from contracts currently awarded:			60
Total Expected Delivery for 2026:			**88**

Project 2 – Units at Liffey Court, Ballymore Eustace

Project 3 – Units at Gaelic View, Kill, Chapel View, Kilcock, and Cois na Feadain, Naas

Capital Works – Strategic Priorities

Municipal District	Project Name	Estimated Value	Funding Awarded	Project Stage	Notes
Countywide	Barrow Blueway	€10,102,080	RRDF €9,007,827	Stage (iv) Construction	Works at Rathangan Bridge continue to progress, with snagging works to take place in September. Discussions also continue regarding the future management and

					development of the route.
	Barrow Blueway Trail Head	€80,000	€80,000 Community Recognition Fund	Part 8 Planning Process, DAC, and Fire	Part 8 approval has been received, and Kildare County Council is progressing the appointment of a consultant to complete the detailed design and prepare the construction tender documentation.
	Greenway – Phase 2 Sallins to Clonkeen	€25,621,000	DoT/TII and Carbon Tax Fund	Stage (iii) Tender Action, Evaluation and Award	Design and procurement work continues across several project packages. A tree survey has been completed, and preparatory works are progressing to facilitate future construction phases of the route.

Athy	Ardrew Amenity Lands			Stage (iia) Developed Preliminary Design	The first internal stakeholder meeting was held on 18 August 2026. The design team is progressing the site surveys required to inform development of the project proposals.
Celbridge-Leixlip	Wonderful Barn	€23.8m (most recent cost for entire project)		Stage (iii) Tender Action, Evaluation and Award	A contractor was appointed on 26 August 2026. Conservation works are due to commence in Autumn 2026 and will have a 16-week construction programme.
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	Following consideration by the Senior Management Team, the consultant team continues

					to refine the Draft Masterplan. Kildare County Council is assisting with the information required to complete the strategy and associated projects.
	Harbourfield, Maynooth	€ 200,000		Stage (iic) Detailed Design and Tender Docs	An application for funding has been submitted under the Town Centre First Implementation Fund. The design package is ready to proceed to tender, subject to confirmation of funding.
	Clane Library	€3,760,000		Stage (iv) Construction	Works have recommenced following approval of the archaeological licence. Subfloor

					excavation and roof-stripping works are progressing, with further works to follow the installation of temporary structural supports.
Kildare-Newbridge	Newbridge Library, County Archives, Local Studies and Cultural Centre	€21,000,000	KCC/ Dept of Housing/ DRCD	Stage (iv) Construction	Construction commenced on 17 August 2026. Site establishment works are progressing, and an archaeologist has been appointed. The required excavation licence application has been submitted to the National Monuments Service.
	Rathangan Town Renewal Plan	€70,000	LPT	Analysis - Masterplan	Preparation of the Draft Masterplan is nearing completion

					ahead of submission to the Senior Management Team.
	Newbridge Town Renewal Masterplan	€84,630	LPT	Public Consultation – Masterplan	Public consultation commenced on 4 September 2026 in Newbridge Town Hall. An online survey remains open until 21 September 2026 and feedback received will inform finalisation of the Masterplan.
	Monasterevin Masterplan – sub project Market Square Monasterevin	€204,887	€34,335 Town and Village Renewal funding and €163,910 under RRDF Call 4 Category 2	Stage (i) Preliminary Design	Preparatory work continues towards appointing a consultant design team to undertake the feasibility study. Tender documentation is being prepared.

	Riverbank Arts Centre			Stage (iib) Planning Preparation	The Part 8 public consultation process is under way and remains open for submissions until 22 September 2026.
Naas	Naas Town Centre Masterplan	€4,661,832	€3,500,000 URDF €1,165,000 LPT/KCC	Analysis - Masterplan	Review of the Draft Masterplan continues following its consideration by the Senior Management Team. Kildare County Council is assisting with the information required to progress the next phase.
	Naas Canal Quarter Masterplan - URDFKil006			Analysis – Masterplan	Final drafts of the business case, framework masterplan, masterplan and transport and infrastructure assessment

					are under review. The documentation will return to the Senior Management Team before presentation to the elected members. The proposed pedestrian bridge connecting the Canal Quarter and Naas Northwest Quadrant will progress as part of the Housing Infrastructure Fund project.
	Sallins Town Renewal Masterplan	€70,000	€70,000 LPT	T&V Renewal Masterplan Preparation	The final extract of the Sallins Town Renewal Masterplan is being prepared for submission to the Senior Management Team.

					Publication will remain aligned with completion of the Sallins Settlement Plan.

Integration and Strategic Property Management

Integration

LAIT
Foireann Údaráis Áitiúil um Imeascadh
Local Authority Integration Team

General

Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration withdrawal of State-provided accommodation for BoTPs who arrived in Ireland before March 2024. The first phase of the Self-Declaration process for residents in Citywest Reception Centre closed in July and decision letters issued. Successful applicants (self-declared vulnerable persons and in need of continued State-funded accommodation) are in the process of being transferred to four identified Designated Accommodation Centres, including two in County Kildare: Kill Equestrian DAC and Punchestown DAC. The capacity for both centres is 624 beds. Relocations commenced on the 27 August and will complete by 18 September.

Applications for Self-Declaration for the remaining BoTP's in State (UCTAT) accommodation centres closed on 11 September. BoTP's accommodated in those UCTAT centes will receive decisions on their applications over the coming months. All UCTAT accommodation centres will be closed by mid-March 2027 with any BoTP's declared vulnerable and in need of continued State-funded accommodation relocated to a long-term DAC.

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.

Service Delivery and Integration Supports

(01 January to 07 September 2026)
From the beginning of the year to 07 September 2026, Kildare LAIT delivered a broad range of supports across the county:

- Strong reach through clinics: The LAIT delivered 131 one-to-one clinics and 27 group clinics, supporting 982 individuals living in State-contracted accommodation centres. These clinics provided information, guidance and direct support to assist individuals and families in accessing services and navigating key integration challenges.
- Demand for information and support: The team responded resolved 1,081 queries, the majority of which were received through clinics. Information gathered through clinics and recurring queries continued to inform the design of targeted interventions.
- Outreach to refugees experiencing homelessness: During July and August, the LAIT delivered two information clinics with on-site interpretation services for refugees residing in emergency homeless accommodation in North Kildare. The clinics formed part of two signposting events organised by the Children and Family Support Networks (CFSN/Tusla), helping families access local supports and services. A total of 28 refugee families were supported through this initiative.

- Broad integration activities: The LAIT supported 903 individuals through a range of integration, wellbeing and psychosocial initiatives. These included family-centred and trauma-informed supports delivered in IPAS accommodation centres through InSync FAIM, as well as programmes delivered in partnership with the Kildare County Childcare Committee. One such initiative was a four-week programme for parents of children under five, designed to strengthen parent-child relationships, facilitate peer support, and model positive play and engagement.
- Community information and engagement sessions: In August, the LAIT, in partnership with Athy Family Resource Centre and CKLP, organised a Coffee Afternoon in Athy to provide updates on recent policy developments and information relating to the Self-Declaration Form. The LAIT offered accurate information helping to address misinformation and respond to emerging queries and concerns.
- Strengthening community partnerships: Throughout the summer, the LAIT continued to work closely with local community and voluntary organisations to enhance integration opportunities for LAIT targeted groups. This included collaboration with the Waterways Support Group to support community-based activities aimed at reducing isolation, promoting wellbeing, encouraging social participation and strengthening connections within the local community. Collaboration with statutory agencies continue for the coordination of responses to emerging needs and referrals.

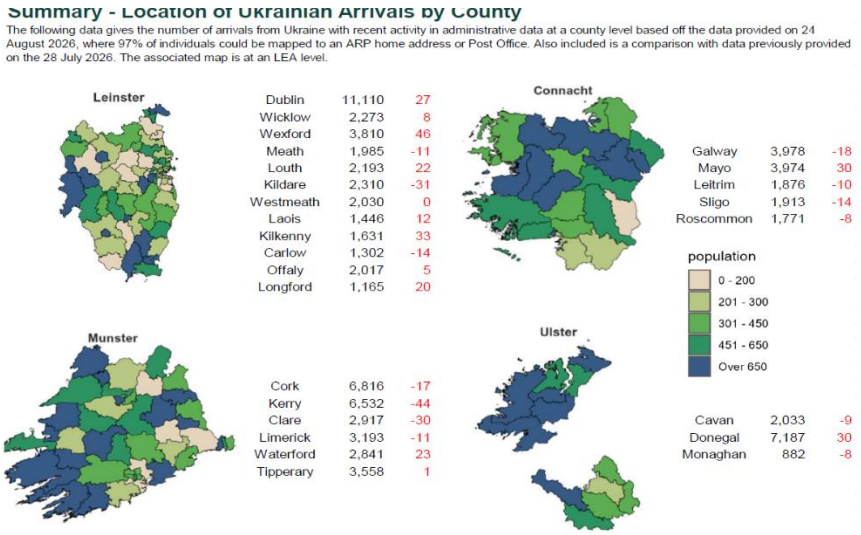
In addition to direct service delivery, the LAIT continued to identify, monitor and escalate recurring barriers affecting integration outcomes through established channels, including the LGMA, UCTAT, IPAS and local inter-agency structures. Issues raised during the reporting period included accommodation suitability, transport, school access, healthcare access, digital exclusion and administrative barriers impacting vulnerable

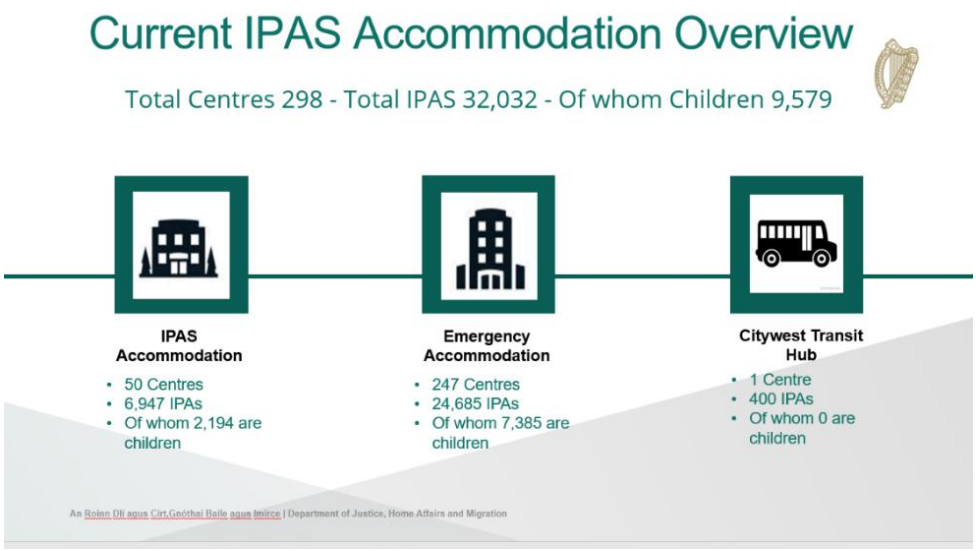
individuals and families. The most significant emerging pressure identified is the establishment of two Designated Accommodation Centres for vulnerable beneficiaries of Temporary Protection. The LAIT has raised concerns with the LGMA regarding the suitability of the accommodation for individuals with health and care needs.

Kildare LAIT is co-chairing the Supporting Young People Working Group within the Local Authority National Integration Network (LANIN). Throughout the summer, the Working Group has focused on identifying the most vulnerable cohorts of young people, mapping existing supports, assessing service gaps, and identifying key priorities, funding requirements, and opportunities to strengthen engagement and outcomes for these groups. LANIN was established by the County and City Management Association (CCMA) to provide a structured and coordinated national framework for Local Authority Integration Teams (LAITs), represented by Integration Support Coordinators (ISCs) across all 31 local authorities. The network operates under the oversight of the Integration Oversight Sub-Group, which reports to the CCMA Rural, Community, Culture and Heritage (RCCH) Committee. In addition, Kildare LAIT actively participates in the LANIN Mid-East Regional Group, which brings together LAITs from Kildare, Louth, Meath and Wicklow to collaborate on shared challenges, exchange best practices, and promote a coordinated regional approach to integration supports.

Statistics

According to the Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration (07 September 2026), there are currently a total of 244 persons with Temporary Protection (Ukraine) 184 adults/ 60 children in the five State-contracted accommodation centres in County Kildare.





There are 437 persons (337 adults/ 100 children) in the five State-contracted accommodation International Protection Accommodation centres in County Kildare.

Kildare Refugee Resettlement Programme

The programme, which commenced in July 2024, formally concluded on 16 July 2026, having successfully resettled 68 Syrian and Afghan refugees across five locations within County Kildare. An end-of-programme gathering was held in Newbridge Town Hall on 08 July 2026 to mark this significant milestone and recognise the achievements of all those involved. Sincere appreciation was extended to County Kildare Leader Partnership (CKLP) for its strong collaboration,

commitment and support throughout the programme.

The programme was supported by a dedicated Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG), which played a key role in ensuring a coordinated and effective response to the needs of participating families. The final IAWG meeting took place on 15 July 2026. Representatives from the Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration (IRPP) expressed their appreciation to Kildare County Council and commended the strong coordination, effective communication, collaborative partnership approach, and ability to adapt quickly to emerging challenges throughout the programme. They highlighted Kildare County Council's delivery model as an example of best practice for other participating local authorities.

Since 17 July 2026, Kildare LAIT has continued to provide support to former participants in line with the approach used for other targeted groups. To support this transition, four Meet and Greet sessions were organised by the LAIT in June 2026, providing families with an opportunity to meet the team and to further learn about available supports.

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. One Offer a Home property was recently offered to Kildare County Council for inspection.

- 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 has reduced to €400 per month. The first of the reduced payments will be received by homeowners 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. Currently, there are no 30-day DAC's in operation in Kildare since the last residents left Punchestown on 20th June.

The Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration confirmed that Punchestown and Kill are now Designated Accommodation Centres for vulnerable people on Temporary Protection who need continued State provided accommodation. Punchestown reopened on 02 September to accommodate vulnerable people from CityWest.

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 08 September. The forum will meet again in November.

Health and Safety

1. Meetings:
    - Celbridge Disability Access Group Meeting
    - Naas Disability Access Group Meeting
2. Meeting with South Dublin Access Officer to share learnings of Kildare Inclusivity Festival.
3. Kildare Inclusivity Festival shortlisted for Festival of the Year Award in Excellence in Local Government Awards 2026 (Chambers Ireland).
4. Picnic in the Playground held on 16 August in Leixlip – in partnership with Leixlip Access Group and Intel.

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

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.

GAA / CCMA Green Clubs 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 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 Garden Maynooth

Maynooth Tidy Towns were awarded CCAF funding. First phase of works scheduled to commence at the end of September start of October.

DemoHouse Maynooth

The Maynooth Demo House has now closed following completion of the demonstration phase. The project provided valuable insights into household energy performance, behavioural change, and community engagement, which will inform future Decarbonising Zone activities. It is hoped that two experimental elements will continue with the future tenants. Sincere thanks to SMT for enabling this project.

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 and create website associated with the DZ mapping climate actions. The first event took place in Manor Mills on the 12 September. Engagement was good and a person volunteered their services to assist Maynooth SEC and DZ.

Climate Action Fortnight 2026

Climate Action Fortnight 2026 will take place during the final two weeks of October. A programme of public events, workshops, school initiatives and community engagement activities

is being delivered across the county. The initiative aims to increase awareness of climate action measures, showcase local projects and encourage behavioural change among households, communities and businesses.

Energy Updates:

Fleet Decarbonisation

Fleet decarbonisation continues through the expansion of electric vehicles and alternative fuel trials, supporting Kildare County Council's emissions reduction targets. A CNG-powered grab truck has been deployed to the Machinery Yard for a six-month trial in partnership with Gas Networks Ireland. The Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) has also published a case study on Kildare's use of Bio-CNG and the Grass to Gas initiative, highlighting the Council's leadership in fleet decarbonisation and renewable gas innovation. Kildare use of Bio-CNG in decarbonising their fleet - CARO

Energy Performance Contract

Building surveys and detailed design activities are progressing under the Energy Performance Contract. Works have also commenced on the installation of actuators to the upper windows as part of the energy efficiency upgrade programme.

Energy Audits / Decarbonisation Projects:

Energy projects advancing across libraries and community facilities, supported by Pathfinder funding.
Leixlip Library: Works completed, library staff delighted with results.
Athy Library: Awaiting results in September of JTF START programme regarding potential funding.
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: Awaiting results of START Just Transition Funding in September to potential assist with funding remaining 50%.
Community Facilities: IES Ltd. has completed the Energy Audit for

Newbridge and Kilcullen Community Youth Facilities, Monread Community Centre and the Old Fire Station in Maynooth. These reports will inform Energy related works.

District Heating (DH)

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

Tetra Tech is contracted to develop tender documents for the physical works associated with the JFT START funding application.

Should JFT START funding be awarded for Maynooth in conjunction with MU location optimisation, drilling and potential heat application can be advanced to decarbonise Maynooth over time.

Grass to Gas

Further works to be undertaken from October to simply for the operator of the system using AI. Will be seeking other LA's to input data to expand where feasible. Seeking European funding Spring 2027 to scale the project further.

Gap to Target Assessment for 2026

Undertake with SEAI, they are satisfied that Kildare County Council will meet and potentially exceed the required target.

Community

Kildare Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP)

The Kildare Local Community Safety Partnership will hold a Public Meeting on Thursday, 01 October 2026. This meeting provides an opportunity for members of the public, community organisations and local stakeholders to learn about the work of the LCSP and contribute to the development of local safety priorities across County Kildare. Full details on how to attend and to make a submission are available here: Local Community Safety Partnership - Kildare County Council

Work is ongoing on 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 Community Safety Plan that supports safer, more resilient communities. Full details on opportunities for consultation will be available on the Kildare County Council website.

Kildare Sports Partnership (KSP) Kerdiffstown Park Physical Activity Showcase

On the 28 July Kildare Sports Partnership hosted a physical activity showcase for members of the public in Kerdiffstown Park. There was a wide range of activities on the day, including; Fitsticks, Petanque, Adapted Bikes for Inclusive Cycling, and Fun/Games from KSP Tutors.
It proved to be a hugely successful event with over 120 people in attendance being exposed to the variety of opportunities that exist in Kerdiffstown Park. Participants utilised the new Fitsticks trail installed in the park, tried pétanque with Griffeen Valley members (a new pétanque terrain has been installed on-site), and got to cycle the adapted bikes. A follow-on from this event is that Variety Ireland who provide mobile inclusive cycling opportunities are linking up with KSP, and Kildare County Council Parks, to visit Kerdiffstown Park once a month moving forward and bring their adapted bikes for people to use.

Naas-Sallins Water Sports Taster Sessions

Kildare Sports Partnership in collaboration with Sallins Scouts Centre, and Canoeing Ireland, have delivered six Kayaking taster sessions on the offshoot of the Grand Canal in late August. These sessions have gained huge local interest, with a combined total of 50 people participating across six events, while another 25 people were on a waiting list to participate. Upon registration all attendees noted having little-to-no experience of Kayaking which shows the demand there is for opportunities such as this in the community.

KSP Website Online Calendar of Events

A new section has been developed and integrated to the KSP website

under the ‘What’s On’ category to display a calendar of all upcoming events. It visually presents what is upcoming in the Sports Partnership to site visitors and provides user-friendly access to programme events/bookings. This will play an important role in simplifying the communications and bookings around KSP events.

Development of Rathangan Parkrun

Kildare Sports Partnership are delighted to be partnering with Parkrun to develop a new group which will be starting soon in Rathangan. Financial and resource support is being provided by KSP to assist the development of this programme to get up and running. This will become the fourth official Parkrun venue in Kildare once started.

Department of an Taoiseach – Child Poverty Summit

KSP Sports Inclusion Disability Officer Majella Fennelly will deliver a short presentation at the upcoming Child Poverty Summit in September. Majella has been asked by Sport Ireland to present on the impact physical activity has on disadvantaged communities and people with additional needs.

Local Community Development Committee

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

SICAP Programme

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

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. It is expected that further projects to support and promote rural development will be approved at the next LCDC/LAG meeting.
The SMART Villages initiative continues with four further communities starting to develop their plans – Castledermot/Levitstown, Nurney/Suncroft

Prosperous
Coill/Dubh/Robertstown
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.
For further information contact: Linda Walsh, SICAP Manager, County Kildare LEADER Partnership
linda@countykildarelp.ie

Local Enhancement Programme

Grant aid approved is being transferred to applicants. Delays occur when groups have not submitted receipts for previous grants issued through Kildare County Council.

Sláintecare Healthy Communities

The summer period has been particularly active for the Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme, with significant progress across community development, partnership initiatives, mental health promotion, and trauma-informed supports.
In Ballyroe, actions under the PSA have continued with the successful installation of a kitchen in the community cabin, enhancing local facilities and community use. Further improvements are planned, with new perimeter fencing scheduled for installation in mid-September.
Harbour Fest, held on 26 August, was a highly successful community event, attracting over 80 local residents. The event was delivered through strong partnership working between SHCP, Oaklee, Kildare Sports Partnership, and the Community Gardaí, demonstrating the value of collaborative approaches to community engagement and wellbeing.
SHCP has also been supporting KTA following the recent tragic events on the M9. Discussions are ongoing with partners regarding the provision of appropriate trauma response and support measures for affected communities.
Mental health remains a key focus area. The SHCP Local Implementation

Group Mental Health Subgroup is currently planning a Mental Health and Wellbeing event in October to mark World Mental Health Day and promote awareness of local supports and positive mental wellbeing. In addition, the Trauma-Informed Practice Training programme scheduled for September has generated significant interest and is now fully subscribed, with 40 professionals from across the south of the county registered to participate. This strong uptake highlights the growing recognition of the importance of trauma-informed approaches in community and professional settings



Harbour Apts residents enjoying the event on newly installed age friendly benches



Local young people engaging in water sports with KSP.

Healthy Ireland

The Healthy County Co-ordinator, met with the Derrinturn/Carbury Turning the Sod group to discuss the development of a community wellbeing garden space. These discussions were positive and involved representatives from LEADER Partnership and SICAP, with the project progressing as a collaborative initiative. Internally, the Climate Action Co-ordinator and Parks Department are being consulted to support the project.

A successful physical literacy event was held at Springfield B&B, Celbridge (homeless accommodation), in collaboration with Kildare Sports Partnership. Over 17 children participated, with adults also actively

engaging and expressing interest in future activities.

Trauma informed Training has been organized by the Healthy County Co-ordinator for 21 and 22 October in the community centre in Kilcock.

The Trauma Informed Conference – 'Compassion in Action' that Healthy Kildare supported has been shortlisted for an Excellence in Local Government Award.

Age Friendly

The Age friendly Roadshow will take place on Monday, 12 October from 9.30 am until 3.00pm. Guest speakers covering a range of wellness topics including –

1. Staying Safe This Winter – Home, Road, Online and personal
2. Winter Health Checks for Older Adults
3. Combating Isolation During the Winter Months
4. Living Well, Living Independently
5. Income Supports and Entitlements for Older People
6. Housing Adaptation Grants / Home Adaptations
7. Keeping Warm and Reducing Energy Costs
8. Keep Moving Through Winter
9. Minding your Mental health
10. Assistive technology

Community Development

The national Pride of place judging took place in County Kildare. Two groups represented the county
Carbury Village in the 0-300 village category
Community Cancer Caregivers in the community Wellbeing Category.
The national awards ceremony will take place on Saturday, 24 October 2026 at the Convention Centre Dublin.

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 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. 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 is scheduled to be held on 30 September 2026.

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.

Local Authorities are currently preparing their Local Authority Water Action Work Plans, as required under the Water Action Plan 2024. These are 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. It is expected that these will

need to be completed by the end of Q3.

National Agricultural Inspection Programme (NAIP)

NAIP Inspections

NAIP farm inspections which commenced in January continue and details of the Q3 2026 NAIP farm inspections will be submitted to the EPA before the Q3 reporting deadline which is the end of October 2026.

Public Engagement

A number of Press Releases have been published in 2026 which are directed at the farming community and provide information and advice at key times of the year as reminders and to promote good practices to reduce negative impacts on water quality and the natural environment.

Domestic Wastewater Treatment System National Inspection Plan (DWWTS NIP)

DWWTS Inspections in accordance with the EPA's DWWTS National Inspection Plan (NIP) (2022-2026) have been completed for 2026. A new DWWTS NIP for the period 2027-2031 is expected to be published in Q3/Q4 2026.

Public Engagement

A newspaper advertisement and a number of Press Releases directed at householders with DWWT's have been published to provide information about this DWWTS inspections being carried out in 2026 under the DWWTS NIP and also to provide householders with information in relation to the DWWTS Septic Tank Grant Scheme.

Water Quality

Rye River Fish Incident

Following a significant pollution incident on the Rye River in late June, which resulted in a significant fish kill, Kildare County Council have been working with Inland Fisheries Ireland and the EPA to investigate the source and cause. As part of this Kildare County Council Environment met with the EPA on 23 July to discuss the incident and to set out the next steps in the investigation and any potential follow up prosecution. The EPA requested a written statement and a water quality monitoring report from the Council staff who were involved in

the incident response and attended the incident location over a number of days. These were sent to the EPA on 07 August on a 'Without Prejudice' basis.

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.

Litter Management Plan

The litter management plan was approved for adoption by the elected members. It covers the period from 2026 - 2028

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 & Demolition Material · Household Waste · Commercial Waste Plastics and Producer Responsibility Initiatives (PRIs)

Regional Waste Planning Office

BnM Resource Recovery Ltd are formally requested the release of the Contingency Capacity of 30,000 tonnes as provided for under planning permission ref ABP-317292-23 and EPA Licence W0201-05 at the Drehid Waste Management Facility.
This will help to alleviate some of the waste treatment capacity short fall that Ireland is now experiencing. Treatment capacity in Ireland and potential export capacity remains very limited for the rest of this year.

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

A new CCTV scheme has been approved, and cameras are operational at Edmund Rice Square. The cameras will be in place for twelve weeks. A second scheme has been approved for Blackwood Bog outside of Athy. The cameras will be installed w/b 21 September and will also be in place for twelve weeks.

Recycling Facilities

Three new recycling banks have opened in Robertstown, Coill Dubh and Castledermot. They are located in the Robertstown Ecopark, Castledermot Community Centre and Dash@Dags carpark.



Mattress Amnesty Day.

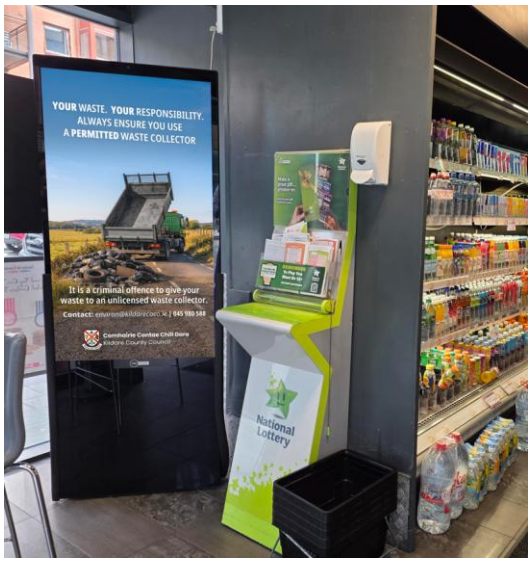
A mattress amnesty day was held on Sunday, 06 September in Sillot Hill and was managed by Bord na Mona. The event is funded from the Circular Economy Fund under the Anti-Dumping initiative.

Campaign raising awareness about Unlicenced Waste Operators

A campaign ran across ten digital displays in retails outlets across Kildare from 13 July to 09 August. The message on the screens read "Your waste, your responsibility. Always ensure you use a permitted waste collector.

It is a criminal offence to give your waste to an unlicenced waste collector"

The message was played a total of 603,010 times during this period.



Pickers 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

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

A third public consultation day was held for the Athy FRS. The preferred design for the scheme was presented and received positive feedback from affected landowners and residents. The EIAR for the scheme is on schedule to be submitted to ACP in Q1 2027.

Naas Flood Relief Scheme

Hydraulic modelling for the Naas FRS is complete. Details of the latest flood mapping 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 and a list of projects for 2027 is currently being compiled.

Columbarium Walls

Two new columbarium walls have been installed in both Monasterevin and Donaghcumper cemeteries and all outstanding snags are now complete.

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.

Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces

Transport

Capital Programme

Title	Funding Source	Project Status	Project Tier
Maynooth Eastern Ring Road (MERR)	LIHAF	Construction ongoing. Bridge beams due to be lifted into position in the middle of October.	Tier 1
Celbridge ABTA	KCC	Works ongoing with draft baseline report received. Traffic surveys due to commence shortly following completion of UE works in Celbridge.	Tier 1
Exceptional Abnormal Load (EAL), Transport of Transformer to Dunstown Sub Station		All works complete as per RW18 circular. Load due to move in late October.	
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 completed onsite.	Tier 2
Junction Programme	KCC/DOT	Contractor has commenced works as part of the Blackwood Cross Phase 1 Works. Contractor appointment for the works at Allenwood ongoing with works to commence there shortly.	Tier 2
Murtagh's Corner & Corban's Lane	KCC	Detailed design ongoing for Lough Bui and Blessington Road tie-ins. Decision on Towns and Cities application awaited.	Tier 2

M4 Footbridge	KCC	Meeting to be arranged with KIC to progress delivery of this project.	

Capdoo Inner Relief Road, Clane

The Capdoo Inner Relief linking the R407 Kilcock Road with the R403 Celbridge Road was officially opened on the 09 September by the Cathaoirleach of County Kildare, Councillor Tim Durkan. The Scheme was delivered by Dunform Properties Limited with co-funding from Kildare County Council. The road is approximately 450 metres in length and involved the construction of a new roundabout, pedestrian crossings, public lighting, drainage infrastructure, cycle tracks and footpaths.



National Roads Office

M4 Eastbound Bus Priority Scheme

The M4 eastbound hard shoulder Bus Priority Measure Pilot Scheme is now in operation between Junction 6 Celbridge and Junction 5 Leixlip on the eastbound carriageway of the M4. The scheme will pave the way for future similar schemes across the country while providing an important link from County Kildare to the Greater Dublin area bus transport network.

New overhead signage and CCTV cameras have been installed to allow full operational control of this section of the M4. The new bus priority measures will operate dynamically. When traffic conditions meet certain criteria, the measures can be activated remotely allowing buses to use the hard shoulder and continue their journeys more efficiently. Once conditions improve, the measures will be deactivated, and the hard shoulder will revert to normal use.

Motorists are asked to pay attention to roadside signage and to familiarise themselves with the new arrangements. Unlike a permanent bus lane, these measures will only operate when traffic conditions require them. Taxis, or other vehicles, are prohibited

from using the bus priority measures at any time.

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) have been 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 Junction 7 (Kill) to Junction 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.

The public consultation has closed and we received 42 submission which are currently being reviewed.

Road Safety Working Together Group

The first meeting of the Road Safety Working Together Group (RSWTG) takes place on Tuesday 15 September. The membership of the RSWTG is; An Garda Siochana (AGS), Road Safety Authority (RSA), Kildare Fire Service, Kildare Ambulance Service, Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII), Department of Transport Support Office (DoTSO) and Kildare County Council.

Back to School Road Safety Campaign



A back-to-school road safety campaign was launched in collaboration with An

Garda Síochána. The campaign featured a week-long series of radio advertisements broadcast in both English and Irish, designed to remind all road users to exercise extreme caution around schools.

Road Safety at National Play Day





As part of National Play Day, the Seatbelt Sheriff from the RSA paid a special visit to local children to share important road safety messages in a fun and engaging way.

Through interactive discussions and activities, children learned about the importance of wearing a seatbelt on every journey and making safe choices when travelling. The visit helped promote road safety awareness while supporting the key National Play Day message of learning through play and participation.

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 have completed approximately 75% of the RI schemes and 95% of the RM schemes. Works are ongoing on completion of the remaining schemes

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). Maintenance works continues across the network with an emphasis on cleaning gullies and sweeping roads during the autumn months.

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 was completed 10 weeks later. This programme is delivered by direct labour. The exceptionally hot weather impacted on the scheduling of work and resulted in works being stood down on two occasions as the road surface temperatures were too high. The crew were redeployed to carry out maintenance on roads showing signs of distress due to the high temperatures.

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. It is hoped the new SLA for 2026-2027 will be agreed in Q3.

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	Detailed Design is nearing completion, this project will progress to tender stage in due course.
Naas to Sallins Greenway (Section 2 Naas Harbour – Sallins Village)	€50,000		Initial meeting 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 close on the 05 August. We received 91 submissions and Part 8 Report is currently being drafted.
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 number of options are under consideration
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 of the ATS at this location. We continue to engage with Uisce Eireann and the appointed contractor.
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 construction of this scheme is complete. Engagement with the school promoting the use of park and stride facilities in the village is ongoing.
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	€20,000	Prelim design	SRTS Delivery Plan to be completed by An Taisce Green Schools.

Phoil, Green Lane, Leixlip			
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

Play Day

Play Day was held on Saturday, 05 September. The event featured over 30 different workshops and activities indoors and outdoors. Indoor activities featured Kite Making, Music Generation, Reptile Zoo, Facepainting, Magician, Puppet Show, Plasticine workshops, Printmaking and storytelling. The Beekeepers Association, Irish Peatland Conservation Council, Cill Dara Le Cheile, Kildare Wicklow Society for Protection of Animals, Kildare Wildlife Rescue and Birdwatch Ireland.

Outside events featured an obstacle course, bouncy castles, a pet farm, soccer skills.



The stage outside featured a variety of teenage bands and the Ballymore Brass Band and One Voice Choir. A sensory area in the Merits Building was set up for children with special needs. This featured a quiet Sensory Play Room, Art Play, a Breast-Feeding Area and Quiet pod. A display of toys suitable for children with sensory issues was run by Library Services.



The day was also held in conjunction with National Services Day. This featured displays from Fire Service, Gardai, Defence Forces, Fire Services, Ambulance Services and Civil Defence. The Gardai also held an event for Little Blue Heros which is a support service for families with children with serious illness. 17 staff from Parks worked on the day to set up, run the event on the day and clean up and return the offices and grounds back to normal for business on Monday. They were assisted by 17 staff from various Departments Councillors and Riverbank Theatre. Kildare Volunteer Bureau also provided twelve volunteers.

Title	Project Status
Cherry Avenue Park, Kildare	Letters of intent have been issued to the tenderers. Once the cooling off period expires it is planned to award the construction contract.
Sallins Amenity Land	Construction tender documents have been received from the consultants. These are being reviewed.
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 complete and the garden is open for use.

Bawnogues Sensory Garden, Kilcock	Work is complete and the garden is open for use.
Outdoor Recreational Plan	The SEA and AA screening reports have been completed and an SEA determination report. his is now being forwarded to the statutory agencies for consideration. The translation of the plan to Irish is also underway.
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 the park.
Barrow Blueway Extension – Monasterevin to Portarlington	The final feasibility has been submitted and is being reviewed.
Moorefield Park Playground	Construction is due to commence in mid-October
Tree Works Athy MD	Work is ongoing on the programme of tree work in the MD.
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 by the end of the month.
Ballymore Eustace Looped Walk	Route improvement work has been tendered and the work awarded.
Celbridge Outdoor Teen Facility	A publicity campaign to identify more locations has been extended to 22nd September. The installation of the teen hangout area at The Slip is due to commence before the end of the month.

St Evins Park	Work on cleaning and levelling the open space at the rear of the estate has been completed and will be made available to Monasterevin FC on a short term basis.

Planning, Enterprise and Economic Development

Planning

Forward Planning

Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029:

Variations currently underway;

- Variation No. 5 – Northwest Quadrant (Naas)

  At a Special Meeting of Council held on 09 September it was agreed that a revised variation would be prepared and published at the earliest practicable opportunity following completion of the required assessments and stakeholder engagement process.
- Variation No. 6 – Sallins Settlement Plan

  The Members considered the Sallins Settlement Plan and the CE report on submissions at a Special Meeting on the 27 July 2026 and agreed to publish the Proposed Material Alterations which went on public from the 04 August until the 01 September 2026. 80 submissions were received. It is anticipated that the Chief Executive's Report on submissions will issue to Members on or before the 28 September 2026.
- Variation No. 7 – Monasterevin Settlement Plan

  The Variation is on public display from the 01 September until the 29 September with submissions invited until 12.00 noon on the 29 September 2026.
- Variation No. 8 – Kilcock Settlement Plan

  Preparation of Draft Variation and supporting documents underway and due for publication Q4 2026
- Variation No. 9 – Celbridge Settlement Plan

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

- Variation No. 10 – Northwest Quadrant (Naas) Revised assessments and reports as per the NTA's submission are required to be completed in advance of a new draft going on public display. Anticipated timeline Q1 2027.

Development Management Part 4 Planning and Development Act 2024 - Progress Update

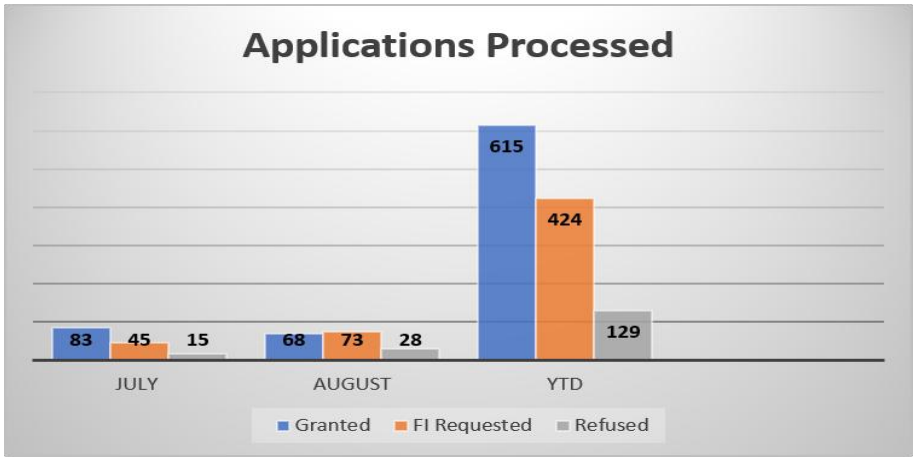
Part 4 of the Planning and Development Act 2024, is due to commence shortly which will introduce an updated development management framework for the planning system, representing a significant reform of planning application procedures, decision making processes, timelines, and associated statutory requirements.

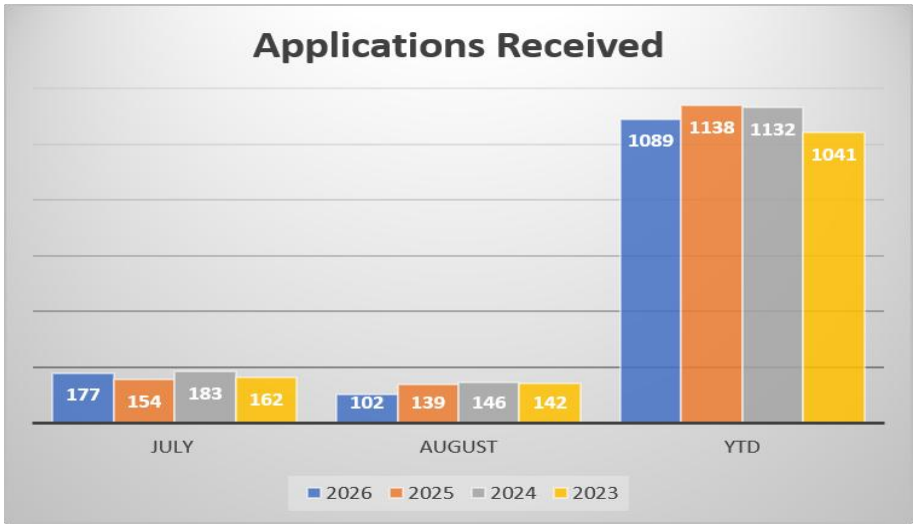
Significant preparatory work has been undertaken to facilitate its commencement, including a comprehensive review and update of Development Management procedures, standard operating processes, workflows, and correspondence to ensure compliance with the new legislative provisions. Ongoing engagement has taken place with the Department of Housing, LGMA, sectoral working groups, and other local authorities to support consistent implementation and interpretation of the new requirements.

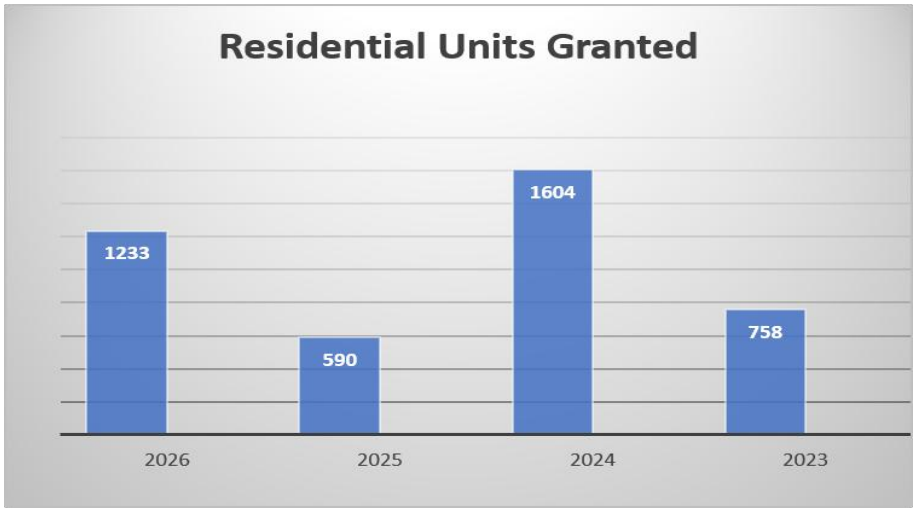
Planning application templates, validations, decision notices, and related communications have been revised to include references to the new Planning and Development Act and Regulations. Testing and process reviews are ongoing to ensure operational readiness and a smooth transition to the new legislative framework.

ePlanning

In 2025, 89% of all applications received were via the online planning portal, and this has increased this year to date, with 91% of submissions/observations also continuing to be submitted via online ePlanning.







Pre-Planning

19 new pre-planning requests were submitted in July and 21 in August. 195 applications received year to date.

Section 5s

16 new Section 5 declaration requests received in July and 6 in August. 92 requests 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 & Neighbourhood Centre	Granted 07/05/2026 - Appealed
2660381	09/04/26	Andrews Construction	Tea Lane/Church Road, Celbridge	115 Residential Units & Creche	Decision due 17/09/2026
2660469	29/04/26	Ballymore Development Ltd	Lands west of Naas Racecourse	234 Residential Units & Creche	Decision due 29/09/2026
2660575	29/05/26	Maynooth Montane Ltd	Maynooth Business Campus	315 Residential Units, Creche, Retail units & Community facility	FI Requested 22/07/2026
2660878	30/07/26	Leixlip and Newbridge SPV Ltd	Confey, Leixlip	125 Residential Units	Decision due 23/09/2026

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

- Habitat Mapping and Green Blue Infrastructure underway in house for Celbridge Settlement Plan.
- Feighcullen Woodland Creation on Public Lands project – final site assessments complete in preparation of planting commencing November/December 2026.
- Biodiversity Conference 2026 (17 and 18 October) preparations underway.
- Ongoing management of Local Biodiversity Action Fund, Heritage Council 2026 funded projects.
- Ongoing ecological support for Red III applications, Part 8s, LRDs and other large planning applications.

B. Heritage and Conservation

- Launch of Kildare Heritage Plan 2026-2031 on 18 August 2026 in Naas Library.
- Heritage Week 15 - 23 August 2026 – over 100 events throughout the County.
- Historic Towns Initiative funded Ballitore Heritage led regeneration plan underway. Public Consultation event one complete.
- Preparing to publish Multi Party Framework two for larger conservation projects and plans e.g. St. David's Castle, Moore Abbey.
- Ongoing management of Historic Structures Fund 2026, Community Heritage Grant Scheme Community Monuments Fund, Heritage Plan Implementation Fund 2026.
- Ongoing Conservation Architect and Archaeological support for Part 8s, LRDs and other planning applications relating to protected structures or located in ACAs, ZAPs.

Kildare Land and Activation Office (KLAO)

Housing Infrastructure Investment Fund (HIFF) - Call 1

Kildare County Council				
HIIFC1-KE-001 **Assigned to Transportation**	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 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.	Directly unlocks lands for 1,070 residential units and indirectly unlocks a further 808 residential units.

HIIFC1-KE-002 **Assigned to SPPR**	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 **Assigned to Transportation**	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 **Assigned to KLAO**	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	Directly unlocks lands for 1,750 residential units and indirectly unlocks a further 1,000 residential units.

			upgrades in the area while EirGrid's Kildare Dublin Grid reinforcement project will support increase grid capacity in the area.	
HIIFC1-KE-005 **Assigned to Transportation**	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 infrastructure (2 km road length). Indicative Costs Band > €20 m	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 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.	Directly unlocks lands for 1,719 residential units and indirectly unlocks a further 1,582 residential units.

HIIFC1-KE-006 **Assigned to KLAO**	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

See forward Planning for update. Activation on hold until new Variation considered (with the exception of the Canal Harbour Project (SPPR).

Naas Canal Quarter Masterplan

The Masterplan, Infrastructure Assessment and Programme Business Case will be finalised over the next few months by SPPR with support from the Kildare Land and Activation

Town And City Investment Fund:

Kildare Land and Activation Office applied on behalf of Kildare County Council to the funding call on 01 May 2026 for a Project Development stream grant to support Kildare County 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.

Kildare Land and Activation Office Steering Committee

Now replaced with the HIIF Steering group chaired by DOS Housing.
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

Confey Progress

Captains Hill HIIF1 Funded

Proposed Captains Hill Active Travel Scheme, Leixlip - Planning Reference: P8_2026.06. Particulars of the proposed scheme were available to view and make submissions on Kildare County Portal: https://consult.kildarecoco.ie. from Saturday, 04 July until 5:00 p.m. Saturday, 15 August 2026.

Captains Hill Part 8 Report for consideration and members agenda for the October MD Meeting (16 October).
Confey Ongar Project (Unfunded) Atkins Realis progressing route selection. Phase 0 complete.

Maynooth Progress

Project Maynooth (MOOR and Maynooth West Masterplan)
Project Maynooth meetings ongoing – latest one on 08/09/26 (KCC, SHAO and landowners / developers). Next meeting (utilities and infrastructure providers) planned for October.

Newbridge SCS

Machinery Yard Remediation Tender ongoing
Masterplan ongoing

Staffing

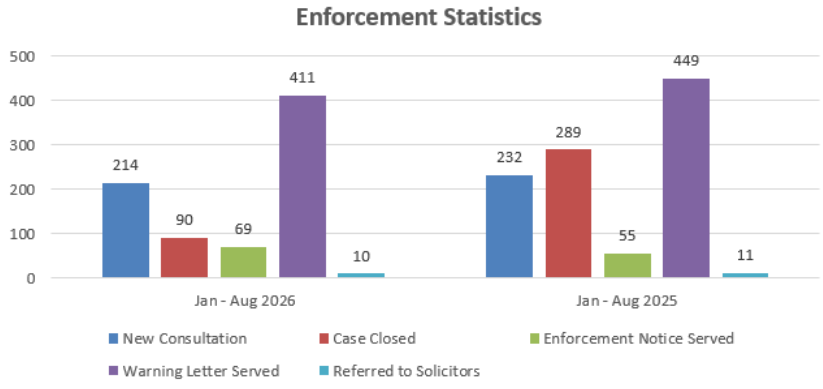
Redeployment ongoing subject to SEE commencing.

- NNWQ – FP (Activation on pause except for Harbour)
- Newbridge – SEP
- Maynooth – SE
- Confey – SEE

SEO commenced 01 September.
SEE commencing 28 September.

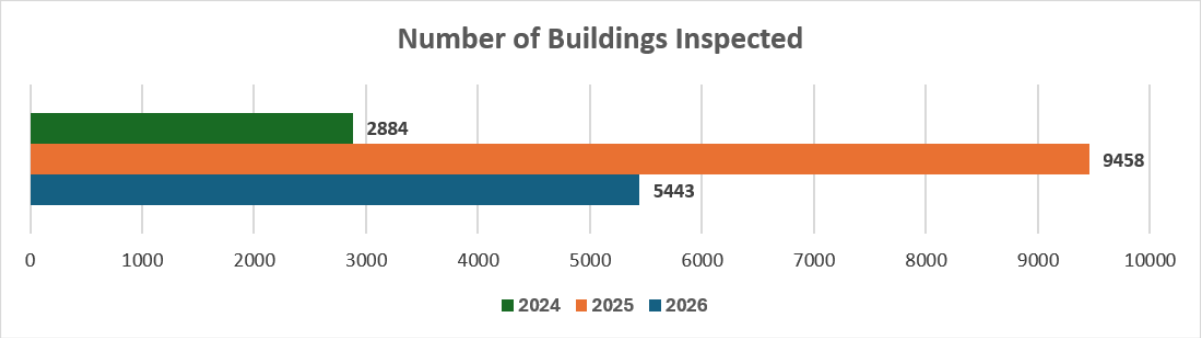
Planning Enforcement Summary for August 2026

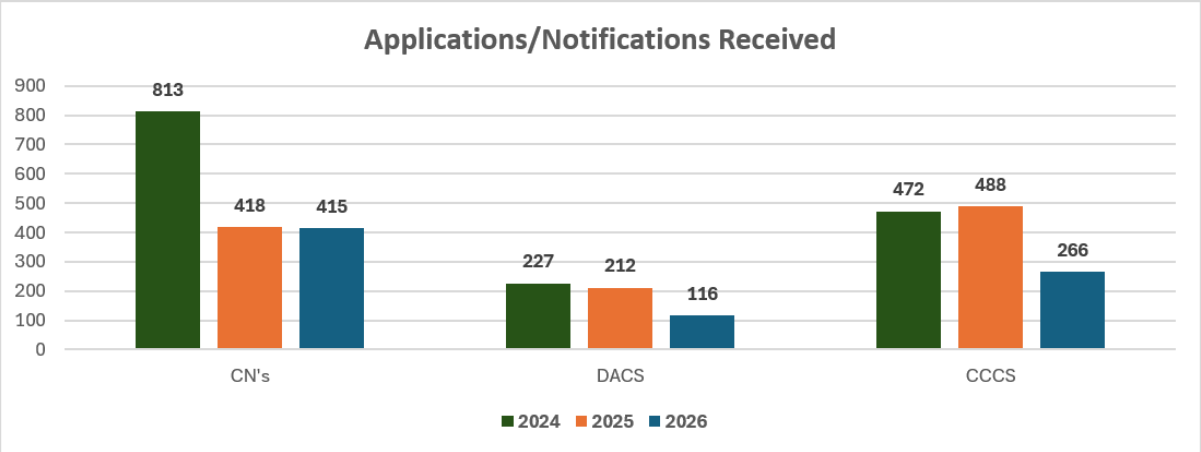
34	New Consultations
2	Cases Closed
8	Enforcement Notices Served
88	Warning Letters Served
4	Cases referred to Solicitors



Building and Development Control

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





Kildare Fáilte - Into Kildare

July and August represented a particularly strong summer for Into Kildare with a busy programme of event activations, destination marketing and digital promotion. Major events, trips and hosted travel journalist visits provided valuable opportunities to showcase County Kildare and support local tourism businesses. This was supported by a wide range of PR and marketing activity, including radio broadcasts, print and digital coverage, social media and content creation. Into Kildare also maintained a strong visitor-facing presence, with County Kildare tourism brochures available in both Terminal 1 and Terminal 2 at Dublin Airport, helping to promote the county to domestic and international visitors.

In July, Into Kildare hosted travel journalist Isabel Conway, a member of

the NUJ and British Guild of Travel Writers, for a dedicated itinerary showcasing Athy during the first summer of the newly opened Shackleton Experience. The strategic visit was organised to support a feature for the British Guild of Travel Writers Tourism Awards, where the Shackleton Experience was subsequently shortlisted in the top five from more than a dozen contenders**.** The visit also provided an opportunity to showcase Athy's wider heritage, tourism and hospitality offering to an international travel audience.



Into Kildare conducted a site visit to Zipit Donadea following the attraction's official opening at Donadea Forest Park in July. This was followed by a programme of PR and marketing activity to promote Kildare's newest visitor attraction, building awareness and encouraging visitors to experience the new offering.



Into Kildare hosted a Taste of Kildare preview event at Fallon's of Kilcullen to build awareness of the upcoming festival and showcase local food and producers. The event provided an opportunity to promote the festival within the local community while highlighting some of the businesses and producers involved in Taste of Kildare.



Taste of Kildare was a major focus of the summer programme, supported by a strong marketing and promotional

campaign across PR, digital advertising, social media, content creation and partner promotion. Into Kildare delivered the fifth Taste of Kildare at Naas Racecourse on 15 and 16 August, marking the biggest festival to date, with approximately 10,000 people attending across the weekend. The two-day event showcased Kildare's food, hospitality, producers and visitor experiences through chef demonstrations, live entertainment, family activities, artisan producers and the Local Enterprise Office 'Flavours of Kildare' market, further strengthening Taste of Kildare as one of the county's key annual tourism events.



In August, Into Kildare attended a MICE sales mission with Moulden Marketing, showcasing County Kildare alongside Into Kildare member Newbridge Silverware. The event provided an opportunity to engage directly with MICE agents and promote Kildare's strategic location, accessibility and strong offering for meetings, conferences and events, while showcasing the range of experiences available to business tourism visitors.



Into Kildare, in collaboration with Kildare County Council, supported the KPMG Women's Irish Open at the Palmer South Course at The K Club. Across the four-day event, the IK stand showcased the county's tourism offering, from accommodation and attractions to activities and visitor experiences. The event provided a valuable opportunity to promote County Kildare to a national and international audience while supporting one of the county's most prestigious golf events and venues.



Enterprise and Economic Development

2026 Financial Supports

Total LEO Financial Supports At 09.09.2026	No. Businesses	Amount Approved (€)
Grow Digital Voucher	22	€48,990
Business Expansion Grant	5	€127,922
Priming Grant	2	€50,858
Feasibility Study Grant	0	€0
Market Explorer Grant	6	€26,662
Gradstart	0	€0
IP Start Grant	5	€10,800
Energy Efficiency Grant	12	€102,483
Micro Finance Ireland Applications submitted by LEO	24	N/a
TOTAL	**76**	**€367,715**

Priming Grants Approved in July:

Glas Equine Limited of Celbridge / Leixlip Municipal District was approved €17,836 to support the employment of one full-time position, capital expenditure and consultancy. The business designs and manufactures equine grooming and show preparation products.

Business Expansion Grants Approved in July:

Face Credit Consulting Limited of Kildare / Newbridge Municipal District was approved €15,000 to support the employment of a new full-time position. Business provides outsourced credit management services tailored for SMEs in domestic and international market.

Fairways and Fundays Limited of Naas Municipal District was approved €30,000 to support the employment of two new full-time positions. Business provide International clients with customised golf tours to Ireland.

Entrepreneurship Support Transition Year Show – National Event Curragh Racecourse

The Local Enterprise Office will exhibit at Ireland's premier Transition Year Show national event taking place at the Curragh Racecourse on 30 September.

National Women's Enterprise Day

Local Enterprise Office Kildare will host its annual National Women's Enterprise Day event on Thursday, 15 October 2026, at the Keadeen Hotel.

This flagship event celebrates the achievements, experiences and ambitions of women in business and entrepreneurship, while providing valuable opportunities for networking, learning and inspiration.
Further event details and registration information are available at: https://www.localenterprise.ie/kildare/training-events/online-bookings/national-women-s-enterprise-day-2026.html

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 to date	Target	Applications Approved
Lean for Business	18	22
Green for Business	32	24
Digital for Business	32	59

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	€51,135.12
CBLX	7	€13,044.74
CLMN	18	€60,394.71
KDNB	25	€54,830.70
NAAS	12	€25,134.40
	84	**€219,189.44**

Tourism

A Pricing and Profitability Workshop for Tourism businesses took place in MERITS on 09 September.

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 District

- 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

Tech Accelerator

Interviews are currently underway for the next cohort of the Tech Pre Accelerator Programme, which will commence in September 2026.

The Tech Pre Accelerator continues to support early-stage technology businesses and entrepreneurs through structured development, mentoring, peer learning and access to the wider Kildare enterprise and innovation ecosystem.

Nomad Éire Conference

MERITS Innovation Thinkspace, welcomed an international community of digital nomads, entrepreneurs, founders and remote professionals to the Nomad Éire Conference, which took place at MERITS Innovation Thinkspace in Naas from 01–03 September 2026.

The three-day conference focused on the changing world of work and the growing number of people choosing to work, travel and build businesses with greater flexibility and independence. Bringing together participants from Ireland and internationally, Nomad Éire provided an opportunity to exchange ideas, build connections, share knowledge and explore opportunities for collaboration.

The conference also showcased Kildare as a place to live, work, connect and do business, highlighting the county's growing enterprise and innovation ecosystem and the role of MERITS in supporting entrepreneurs, start-ups, SMEs and remote professionals.



The Cathaoirleach of the County of Kildare, Councillor Tim Durkan officially welcomed delegates and highlighted the importance of initiatives that bring new people, ideas and entrepreneurial activity into the county.

Hosted at MERITS Innovation Thinkspace, the event further strengthened MERITS' role as a hub for enterprise, innovation, collaboration and international engagement, supported by Kildare County Council and the Local Enterprise Office Kildare.

Play Day 2026

As part of Kildare County Council Play Day 2026, the MERITS building was transformed. The Lonsdale boardroom took on a whole new look as it was transformed into a dedicated sensory room. Meanwhile the animal farm took over the entrance to merits. A fun day had by all that attended.

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 81% complete. New screed flooring poured and protected. New fire exits construction works (front and rear of site) completed with demolitions and alterations 100% completed. All emergency ramps poured and all facade cracking prepared for repair procedures. Structural steel for AOV openings fabricated and installation prepared. Excavation of external local drainage works at new fire exist and new entrance has completed. The site is fully secure with 24-hour security surveillance with all prohibited access points removed.

Fashion, Textiles and Design Hub, Monasterevin

99% of construction contract completed. ESB application reference number for MIC upgrade works received. New fire rated meter cabinet installation required. Site clean-up commenced with removal of scaffolding and preparation of hoarding removal.



Sonya Kavanagh
Chief Executive