

Comhairle Contae Chill Dara

Tuarascáil Mhíosúil Bhainistíochta an Phríomhfheidhmeannaigh Bealtaine 2026

Kildare County Council

Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report – May 2026















News Items

Adoption of Variation No. 3 Kildare County Development Plan

Supporting accelerated housing delivery and delivering essential social infrastructure - Kildare County Council formally adopted Variation No. 3 of the Kildare County Development Plan 2023–2029 (as varied) which provides for the delivery of approximately 40,000 new housing units by 2040 (see page 7).

New Maynooth Fire Station

Kildare County Council welcomed the official opening of the new Maynooth Fire Station by the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, James Browne TD and Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science James Lawless TD (see pages 9-10).

Robertstown Eco Park Officially Opened

The Robertstown Eco Park was officially opened on Saturday, 2 May, delivering a high-quality, inclusive community amenity along the Grand Canal. The opening celebration highlighted the park's role in promoting community wellbeing, sustainability and cultural participation, with a strong turnout for family-friendly activities and live local music (see page 23).

Sláintecare Healthy Communities

Sláintecare Healthy Communities co-hosted the first Trauma-Informed Practice Conference in County Kildare on 21 April at the Killashee Hotel. The event attracted over 220 professionals from across the county, representing a broad range of health and wellbeing, community, and statutory services (see pages 55-56).

Community Development

On 24 April, Kildare County Council officially launched the Age Friendly, Climate Friendly Village initiative in Ballymore Eustace. The launch was led by Tánaiste and Minister for Finance Simon Harris TD (see pages 56-58).



Diary/Calendar

Intergration - International Protection Bill

The International Protection Bill was signed into law by the President on 22 April 2026. The new legislation will take effect for all asylum applications made from 12 June 2026 (see page 40)

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

The next meeting of Kildare LCDC is on 27 May 2026 (see page 54)

Kildare Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP)

The Community Safety Fund 2026 is open for applications. Funded through proceeds of crime seized by CAB and An Garda Síochána, €4.75 million is available nationwide to support projects. Applications to be submitted by 18 May 2026 at 5.00pm. www.gov.ie/communitysafety (see pages 52-53)

Bike Week 2026 Launch – 09 to 17 May

Celebrating Cycling Across County Kildare - Kildare County Council, in collaboration with Kildare Sports Partnership, and supported by An Garda Síochána and the National Transport Authority, announced the launch of Bike Week 2026. Running from Saturday, 09 May to Sunday, 17 May (see pages 65)

Taste of Kildare Launch – 12 June

Ongoing sponsorship and planning meetings for Taste of Kildare continued throughout the month, with a number of previous sponsors and exhibitors confirming their participation in this year's event. Tickets for the festival officially went on sale with an Early Bird promotional campaign. The Taste of Kildare launch event has been confirmed for 12 June at Naas Racecourse (see pages 77)



June Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Jun	2	3	4	5 10:00 Clane-Maynooth MD Meeting; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar
8 14:30 Protocol Committee; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Boardroom; Members Calendar	9 15:30 Naas MD Meeting; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar	10	11	12
15 10:00 Athy MD Meeting; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar	16	17 10:00 Kildare-Newbridge MD Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar	18	19 10:00 Celbridge-Leixlip MD Meeting; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar
22 14:30 CPG June 2026 Meeting; Boardroom; Members Calendar	23	24	25	26 15:00 Annual Meeting - Full Council; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar
29 15:00 Full Council Meeting; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar	30	**1 Jul**	2 14:30 LCSP; Council Chamber	3 10:00 Clane-Maynooth MD Meeting; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar



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Corporate, Culture and Emergency Services

Corporate Services

Communications

Trauma Informed Practice



The Council supported the inaugural Kildare Trauma Informed Practice Conference at the Killashee Hotel, Naas. Over 220 professionals from statutory, voluntary and community organisations across County Kildare attended. The conference, hosted by the Kildare Trauma Informed Advisory Group comprising representatives from Kildare County Council's Community Department and other statutory and voluntary organisations, marked a significant milestone in strengthening trauma-informed approaches when working with individuals and communities.

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Writer in Residence Programme 2026-2027



Kildare County Council, in partnership with Maynooth University, invited applications from writers of established reputation in poetry and/or creative prose for the role of Writer in Residence. The residency marks a decade-long collaboration between Maynooth University and Kildare County Council Arts Service.

Works Contract signed for Newtown House Lane Housing Project



The Council signed a contract appointing Showglade Construction Ltd. as the main Contractor and Project Supervisor Construction Stage (PSCS), for the upcoming Newtown



House Lane housing project, located at Captain's Hill, Leixlip, Co Kildare. The project will deliver four new age-friendly social housing units.

Adoption of Variation No. 3 Kildare County Development Plan

Supporting accelerated housing delivery and delivering essential social infrastructure - Kildare County Council formally adopted Variation No. 3 of the Kildare County Development Plan 2023–2029 (as varied) which provides for the delivery of approximately 40,000 new housing units by 2040.

Kildare Inclusivity Festival 2026



Kildare County Council, in collaboration with the County Kildare Access Network (CKAN) and community partners, was delighted to host the second Kildare Inclusivity Festival, a free, feel-good day out for all ages and abilities, which took place on Sunday, 10 May 2026 at The Curragh Racecourse. The festival is proudly funded through LPT and supported by our main sponsor, Intel and Nua Healthcare.

Organic and Chemical Fertilisers on Farmland

Kildare County Council reminded farmers of their obligations, regarding the application of organic and chemical fertilisers on farmland, to protect water quality and the environment.

Advice to Farmers on Silage Effluent Management



The Council reminded farmers of their obligations regarding the proper management and storage of silage and silage effluent, to protect the environment and ensure water quality is not impacted.



The NTA and Kildare County Council launches Bike Week 2026



Celebrating Cycling Across County Kildare - Kildare County Council, in collaboration with Kildare Sports Partnership, and supported by An Garda Síochána and the National Transport Authority, announced the launch of Bike Week 2026. Running from Saturday, 09 May to Sunday, 17 May, Bike Week is an annual celebration and promotion of the benefits of cycling.

Ballymore Eustace becomes Ireland's first Age Friendly, Climate Friendly Village



The Council launched the Age Friendly, Climate Friendly Village initiative in Ballymore Eustace, delivering walkability upgrades, an accessible River Walk and climate action. The launch was led by Tánaiste and Minister for Finance Simon Harris TD, in the presence of the Cathaoirleach of the County of Kildare, Councillor Carmel Kelly, together with local community representatives and project partners.

VECTOR Digital Artist in Residence

The Arts Service, in partnership with Kildare County Council's Economic Development Department announced Serena Devereux as the recipient of the 2026 VECTOR Digital Arts Residency in Kildare County Council's Merits Hub.

Opening of Ambassador's Place Social Housing Development



Kildare County Council officially opened Ambassador's Place, a new social housing development at Green Hills, Kill, providing 33 much needed homes for individuals and families in



the community. The development was opened by Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, James Lawless TD, in the presence of the Cathaoirleach of the County of Kildare, Councillor Carmel Kelly.

Ministers Browne and Lawless Visit Maynooth for Eastern Ring Road Update and Opening of New Social Housing Scheme



The Council was delighted to welcome the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, James Browne T.D. and the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, James Lawless T.D., to Maynooth, Co Kildare. The Ministers met with Kildare County Council staff and project delivery partners to note the progress in the delivery of the upcoming Maynooth Eastern Ring Road Project. Following this they officiated at the opening of a significant social housing development at Fitzgeralds Close, Greenfields, Maynooth.

Census 1926 - The Story of Us Exhibition Tour



Naas Library and Cultural Centre has been chosen as one of ten venues to host an exhibition on the 1926 Census. The exhibition, which will take place in July, will feature engaging talks and events to mark this historic release of records.

New Maynooth Fire Station



Kildare County Council welcomed the official opening of the new Maynooth Fire Station by the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, James Browne TD and



Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science James Lawless TD. The development, delivered at a cost of €4.4 million, represents a major Central Government investment in modern fire and emergency services for Maynooth and the surrounding area.

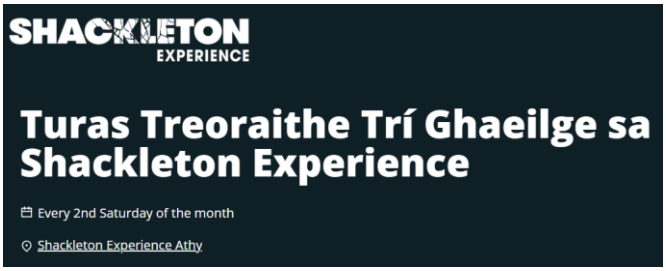
Gaeilge, Teangacha Oifigiúla/ Irish Language, Official Languages

An Phleanáil Teanga Straitéiseach i gContae Chill Dara – Meitheal Chill Dara 2026

D'óstáil Cill Dara le Gaeilge Meitheal Chill Dara 2026, an chomhdháil bhliantúil pleanála teanga do Chontae Chill Dara, ar an 9 Bealtaine i mBaile Átha Í mar ar rianaigh eagraíochtaí agus grúpaí pobail a ngníomhaíochtaí reatha agus a gcuspóirí pleanála teanga don bhliain amach romhainn. Ba í Deirdre Ní Choistín, Ard-Stiúrthóir TG4 arb as Cill Choca ó dhúchas í, an t-aoichainteoir ag Meitheal na bliana seo. Labhair Oifigeach Gaeilge Chomhairle Contae Chill Dara, Muireann Ní Bheaglaoich, ar an bpleanáil teanga atá idir lámha ag Comhairle Contae Chill Dara, go háirithe tacaíocht don phleanáil teanga straitéiseach feadh an chontae, agus tacaí nua le deiseanna úsáidte teanga a chruthú níos minice i réimsí amhail drámaíocht, spórt, ealaín, ceol agus amhránaíocht.



Cuireadh bailchríoch ar Mheitheal Chill Dara 2026 le Turas Treoraithe as Gaeilge den iarsmalann úrscothach 'Shackleton Experience' i mBaile Átha Í. Cuirtear turas treoraithe trí Ghaeilge ar fáil uair sa mhí sa Shackleton Experience agus is féidir ticéid a chur in áirithe roimh ré ag www.shackletonexperience.ie/book-now/



Meitheal Chill Dara, mar a ndírítear ar an bpleanáil straitéiseach teanga i gContae Chill Dara, an t-aon imeacht



pleanála teanga dá leithéid ar leibhéal contae in Éirinn.

Strategic Language Planning in County Kildare – Meitheal Chill Dara 2026

Cill Dara le Gaeilge hosted Meitheal Chill Dara 2026, the annual language planning conference for County Kildare, on 9 May in Athy where community organisations and groups delineated their current language planning activities and objectives for the coming year. Deirdre Ní Choistín, Director-General of TG4 and native of Cill Choca, Kilcock, was guest speaker at this year's Meitheal. Kildare County Council's Irish Language Officer, Muireann Ní Bheaglaoich, outlined the council's Irish language planning objectives and actions, particularly its support for strategic language planning across the county, and new language supports to create opportunities to use the Irish language more frequently in domains such as drama, sport, art, music and singing.

Meitheal Chill Dara 2026 culminated with an Irish-Language Guided Tour of the state-of-the-art 'Shackleton Experience' museum in Athy. The Shackleton Experience offers a guided tour through Irish once a month and tickets can be booked in advance at www.shackletonexperience.ie/book-now/

Meitheal Chill Dara focuses on strategic language planning in County Kildare and it is the only county-level language planning event of its kind in Ireland.

Library and Arts Service

News and Highlights

"Having fun isn't hard when you've got a library card." – Marc Brown

Skills for Life

Digital Skills classes in Celbridge and Maynooth, Sustainable Lifestyles and Environmental Awareness sessions in Kildare Town and Maynooth, and weekly HSE smoking cessation clinic in Athy. Chime – National Charity for Deaf and Hard of Hearing People / Outreach Clinic in Kildare Town every month, and OverEaters Anonymous Meeting in Naas every week. Employability Clinics every Friday; HiDigital Sessions being offered by staff and SL consulting with ALONE re: future courses.



Educational Supports

Library staff once again have been offered support by Kildare County Council to undertake professional development courses in Librarianship and for the first time in Archives and Records Management.

Climate Awareness

The award-winning Seed Library has been busy again in Kildare Libraries and have relaunched Grandparent and Grandchild Storytime and Seed Planting Sessions; A new Beginners Gardening Club for Seniors and Circular Living: Ireland's Journey to a Circular Economy question and answers with Richard Curtis in Athy; Free Community Swap and repair in Maynooth; Libraries reviewing ZERO Waste across the branches.

Naas Library

Launch on 23 April with Professor Martin Curley of his new book, Digital Health Transformation; Stay Left, Shift Left-10X: The New Proactive Digital Paradigm for Health Transformation; Minister Lawless in attendance. Launch of Children's and Teen's creative writing groups and Teen book club; Michael Rowley's Braveheart Exhibition 10-24 April.

Integration

Staff attended Refugee Week Webinar 16 April; ATHY: Ukrainian Movie Evening - Last Tuesday of every month. SIS - Storytime in Bert House – Integration team running Breath Workshops in the Library; NAAS: links with new asylum seekers and contact made with Communities for Hygiene hub; Linked in with Play and Information Officer to donate deselected stock. Sensory Storytime in Leixlip Library with Discovery Playtime; TTT Webinar: Assistive Technology for Adults with Literacy Difficulties.

Kildare Town Library

It was all about Community and Advice in Kildare Town Library in April – Newbridge Citizens Advice Centre held an Age Friendly presentation while they also partnered with KWETB to hold a CV Advice and Review session for adults.

Staff held a Promotional Event outside the Branch to highlight physical and online services while a



Kildare County Childcare Committee representative held an Information Session for parents in conjunction with our regular Storytime.
Numbers attending Kildare Library's 'Employability' service grew during April.

Athy Library

The BFG dropped into Athy and Castledermot Libraries in April to celebrate Spring Into Storytime with children from Kilkea and Castledermot national schools and with their help created 'Splendiferous Golden Dreams'



Celbridge Library: Down Syndrome Ireland Book Club

The Communications team from Down Syndrome Ireland have been in touch with staff to organise a short video recording of our Read adventures book club. The book club is a collaboration between DSI, Celbridge Library and St Raphaels Special School - to capture and share the fantastic work and involvement shown by everyone to date as an example for other libraries and potentially shared on DSI social media.
3,500 euro in funding was secured by Celbridge library staff via Creative Communities for further projects with the group, including creating a book and Lámh training for staff.



Kildare County Archives and Local Studies

Irish Military Seminar, 06-09 May

The Tenth Irish Military Seminar was held in Naas Library and Cultural Centre, it featured talks by David McCullagh and Dr. Padraig Lenihan, the launch of Martin Malone's book set in 1798, "Pike Hill, The Rath Massacre", and a panel discussion with members of the County Kildare



Federation of Local History Groups, the County Kildare Archaeological Society and Co. Archivist.

County Archives and Local Studies

An Open Day for Kildare County Council staff to highlight the work of the County Archives and Local Studie took place on 21 April allowing staff to view some of the County Council's archival collections.

Local Studies



Local Studies staff attended the National Museum of Ireland to view the Catalpa flag which was on display on 18/19 April to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the rescue of six Fenian leaders from Fremantle Prison, Western Australia.

Archives

Archivist attended the launch of the 1926 Census and exhibition in Dublin Castle on 18 April and was interviewed on KFM Radio about the census release and forthcoming touring exhibition which will be hosted by Naas Library and Cultural Centre from 04-28 July.

Kildare Arts Service

Association of Local Authority Arts Officers - Annual Meeting

Our County Arts Officer Éilis Lavelle attended the annual in-person meeting of the Association of Local Authority Arts Officers held at the Arts Council offices in Dublin. Representing Arts Officers across all 31 local authorities, the ALAAO functions as a key forum for collaboration, knowledge sharing and the development of best practice in local arts provision. The meeting also supports alignment between local authority activity and Arts Council policy, strengthening coordinated delivery of arts programmes at community level.

Writer in Residence Creative Writing Workshops Programme

A series of four creative writing workshops, You Must Remember This, was delivered across Athy, Naas, Maynooth and Leixlip libraries between



18–29 April. Each 2.5-hour session, facilitated by Writer in Residence Aingeala Flannery, was delivered with twelve participants per workshop, engaging a total of 48 participants. The programme provided an accessible introduction to memory-based writing, with all participants producing a draft prose piece by the end of the session. The Writer in Residence programme is delivered in partnership between Kildare County Council Library and Arts Service and Maynooth University, supporting collaboration between artists and local communities.

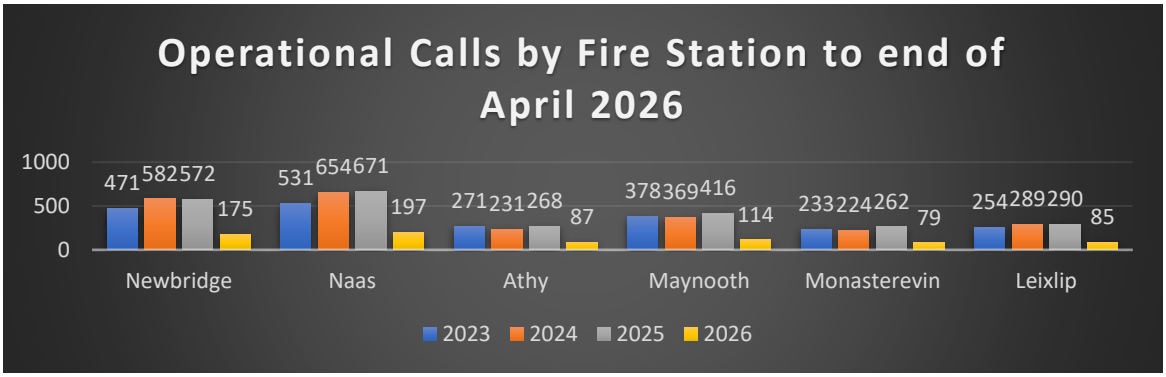
Kildare Youth Theatre's performance of Othello at Riverbank Arts Centre

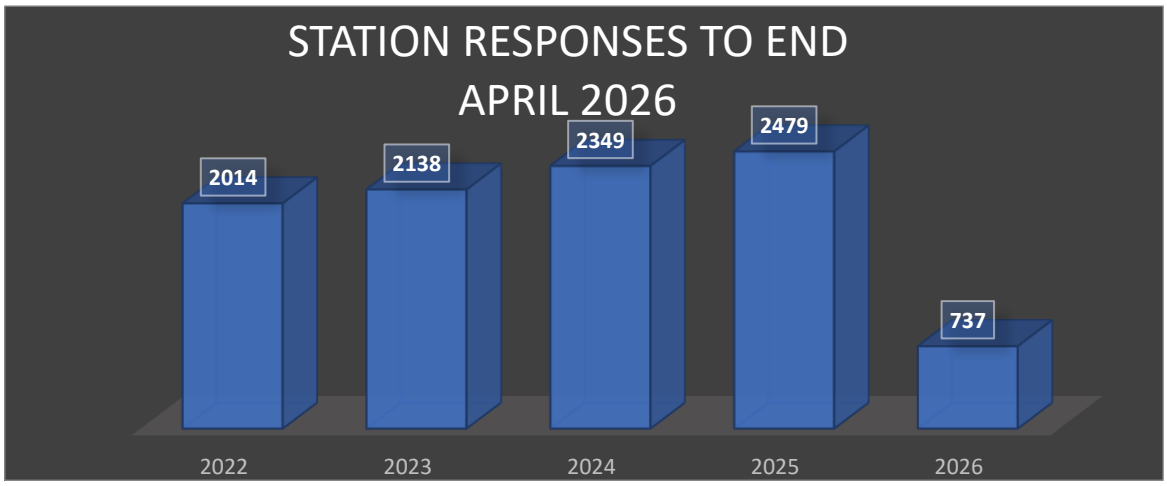
Riverbank Arts Centre presented Kildare Youth Theatre's production of Othello, directed by Lianne O'Shea, as part of its programme in April. The production attracted a strong school's audience, with over 500 students from Kildare attending, supporting youth arts engagement with live theatre

Fire Service Operations:

Fire Safety Certificates

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





Fire Safety Certificates

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



Finance, Digital Services and Innovation and Governance

Finance

Annual Financial Statement

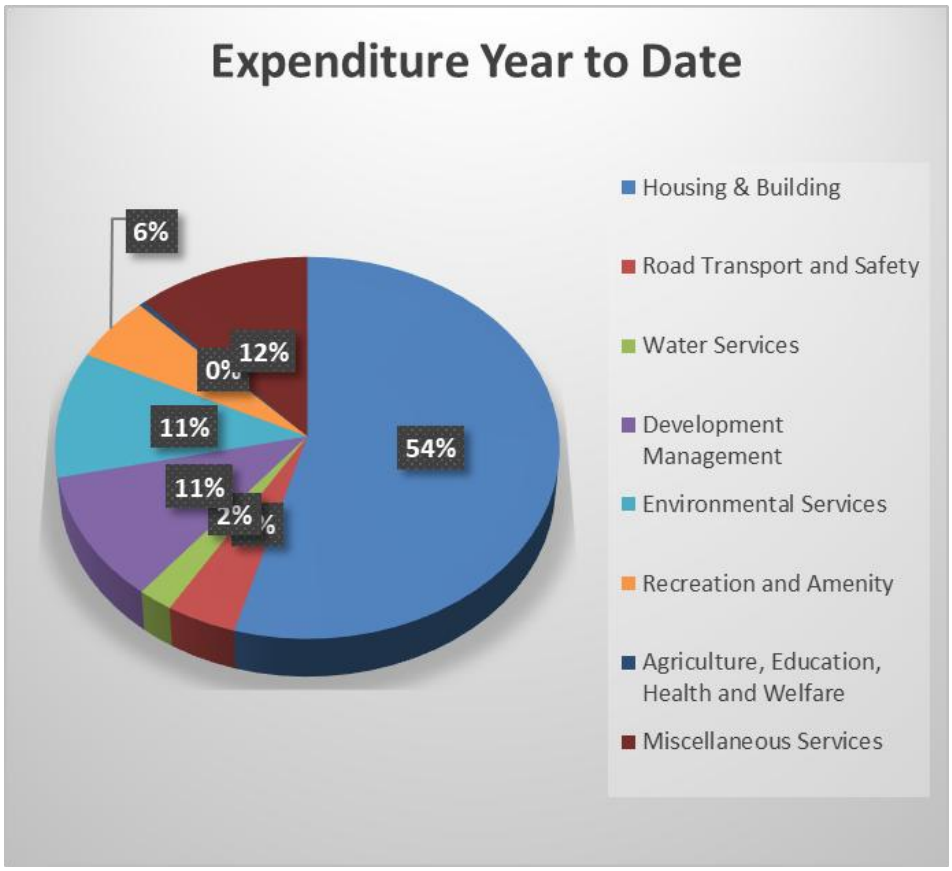
The Annual Financial Statement for year ended 31 December 2025 has been prepared and presented to Council in March 2026 and submitted to the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage by 31 March 2026 in accordance with statutory requirements. The Annual Financial Statement was also presented too and discussed at the Kildare County Council audit committee meeting on 05 May. The Annual Financial Statement for 2025 is now subject to audit by the Local Government Auditor.



Revenue Account

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

Division	Expenditure	Budget	% Budget Spend	Budget remaining
	€,000	€,000		€,000
Housing & Building	40,297	115,475	35%	75,178
Road Transport and Safety	3,154	51,384	6%	48,230
Water Services	1,573	9,008	17%	7,435
Development Management	7,970	34,286	23%	26,316
Environmental Services	7,915	29,923	26%	22,008
Recreation and Amenity	4,089	21,437	19%	17,348
Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare	301	1,475	20%	1,174
Miscellaneous Services	8,755	22,676	39%	13,921
Local Property Tax Allocation				-
Rates				
	74,053	285,664	26%	211,611





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

Division	Income	Budget	% Budget collected	Budget to be collected
	Income			
	€,000	€,000		€,000
Housing & Building	39,599	103,764	38%	64,165
Road Transport and Safety	2,543	25,965	10%	23,422
Water Services	909	7,993	11%	7,084
Development Management	3,676	12,365	30%	8,689
Environmental Services	1,670	10,375	16%	8,705
Recreation and Amenity	957	2,720	35%	1,763
Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare	174	321	54%	147
Miscellaneous Services	917	17,255	5%	16,338
Local Property Tax Allocation	9,097	27,291	33%	18,194
Rates	20,675	77,615	27%	56,940
				-
	80,217	285,664	28%	205,447

Commercial Rates, Rents and Loans Collections

Kildare County Council

Summary of Major Collections to 30 April 2026

	Arrears 01/01/2026	Accrued	Write Off	Waivers	Total for Collection	Collected	Outstanding 31/03/2026
Commercial Rates	5,558,393	78,365,332	68,557	-	83,855,168	43,318,398	40,536,770
Rents & Annuities	1,828,501	8,629,833	915	-	10,457,419	8,534,550	1,922,869
Housing Loans	1,016,693	1,326,446	-	-	2,343,139	1,502,104	841,035

Cashflow / Overdraft

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

Risk Management

The first quarterly review of the Corporate Risk Register took place in mid-March. The Head of Internal Audit, Risk and Governance is working with the Sections to complete and document the actions from the review.



The second quarterly review of the Corporate Risk Register is scheduled for June.

Digital Services

The 'AI for Good' Seminar, organised by Maria Barry, Digital Programme Officer Kildare County Council in collaboration with Maynooth University, was held over three consecutive Fridays at Naas Library. The event attracted an average of 30 participants per session, and the feedback received was highly positive.

Housing, Regeneration and People

Housing

Social Housing Delivery

Works Contract Signed for Newtown House Lane Housing Project

Kildare County Council has signed a contract appointing Showglade Construction Ltd. as the main Contractor and Project Supervisor Construction Stage (PSCS), for the upcoming Newtown House Lane housing project, located at Captain's Hill, Leixlip, Co Kildare.



The project will deliver four new age-friendly social housing units with funding provided under the Social Housing Investment Programme, through the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. The scheme is expected to be completed in 2027. The Part VIII design for the development was completed by Kildare County Council Architects Department, which will lead the construction stage design team. The project team includes Donnachadh O'Brien and Associates (Civil and Structural+ PSDP) and Hayes Higgins Partnership (Mechanical, Electrical and BER assessors).



Opening of New Social Housing Schemes

Fitzgeralds Close, Greenfields, Maynooth



Kildare County Council welcomed Minister James Browne, T.D. who officially opened Fitzgeralds Close, Greenfields, Maynooth on Thursday, 16 April. The event was also attended by Minister James Lawless, T.D.

The development provides 65 new homes, supported by more than €29 million in funding from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage under the Social Housing Investment Programme – Accelerated Delivery Programme. The scheme includes a mix of one- to four-bedroom houses, one- and two-bedroom apartments, and two-bedroom duplex units, including Age Friendly and universally designed ground-floor homes to support accessibility and independent living. The Fitzgeralds Close development was delivered in partnership with Van Dijk Architects, Cunningham Contractors, Hayes Higgins Partnership, and specialist design and engineering teams.

Ambassador's Place, Greenhills, Kill



Kildare County Council also welcomed Minister James Lawless, T.D. who officially opened Ambassador's Place, Green Hills, Kill on Monday, 20 April, providing thirty-three much needed homes for individuals and families in the community.

The scheme provides a mix of one, two and three-bedroom houses, together with one and two-bedroom apartments. A number of homes are age-friendly and universally designed at ground-floor level to support accessibility and independent living. The project was delivered by Kildare



County Council in partnership with Van Dijk Architects, Hayes Higgins Partnership, Townmore Construction and other specialist design and engineering teams.

Homelessness Update

Support Following Notice of Termination

Kildare County Council recognises that households may receive a Notice of Termination (NoT) from their landlord and may be uncertain about the next steps. Households with no alternative accommodation are encouraged to contact Homeless Services for support and advice.

Contact Details:
Phone: 045 980230 (Monday–Friday, 9:00am–5:00pm)
Email: customerservice@kildarecoco.ie
Out of Hours Service: 1800 804 307
Monday–Friday: 5:00pm–9:00pm
Saturday and Sunday: 12:00pm–5:00pm

Supports Available

Upon contact, a member of the Homeless Team will engage directly with the tenant to assess their situation and provide tailored support, which may include:

- Advice and guidance following receipt of a Notice of Termination
- Signposting to relevant services, including Threshold for tenancy support and advice
- Tenancy Sustainment Supports
- Referral to the Homeless HAP Placefinder Service, where eligible, to support access to private rented accommodation
- Guidance on Choice Based Letting (CBL) and encouragement to express interest in available social housing allocations.

Emergency Accommodation

Where all options to secure alternative accommodation have been exhausted, the Homeless Team will provide:
Advice on accessing emergency accommodation, where appropriate
Ongoing casework support, based on assessed need.



Town Regeneration

Circular Housing 19/2026: Arrangements for the Provision of Social Housing through the modified and expanded Buy and Renew Scheme

This circular, dated 10 April 2026, sets out revised arrangements for the Buy and Renew Scheme. It provides that eligible properties must now be both vacant and derelict, and it expands the scheme to include a new Contractor-Led renewal approach. The circular also states that, in addition to residential properties, proposals involving commercial properties may be supported where they can be repurposed as social housing.

The circular now provides for two strands of activity under the scheme:

Strand 1- Direct Delivery: LA/AHB Led Buy and Renew, local authorities and AHBs continue to purchase and remediate eligible properties directly, including properties acquired through Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPO).

Strand 2 - Indirect Delivery: Contractor Led Buy and Renew a contractor purchases and renews the property and manages the project through the full project lifecycle, with the local authority or AHB entering into a fixed-price agreement for purchase before works begin.

The circular sets out specific eligibility criteria, as follows:

- Properties must be on the Derelict Sites Register or meet the definition of a derelict site under the Derelict Sites Act 1990,
- must have been vacant as a residence for a continuous period of two or more years on 31 December 2025, and
- must be in an area where there is a need for social housing.

Strategic Projects and Public Realm (SPPR)

Clane Community Library – Milestone Reached



Construction of the Clane Community Library has reached a major milestone following a successful sod-turning event on 14 April, attended by Minister Jerry Buttimer.



The award-winning contractor M.L. Quinn has been appointed, with construction scheduled to commence in May, marking the formal start of delivery on this flagship project. Representing a €3.25 million strategic investment, the new Clane Community Library will provide modern, inclusive civic infrastructure, enhancing access to learning, digital services and community space in line with Clane's rapid and sustained population growth.

Robertstown Eco Park Officially Opened



The Robertstown Eco Park was officially opened on Saturday, 02 May, delivering a high-quality, inclusive community amenity along the Grand Canal. The opening celebration highlighted the park's role in promoting community wellbeing, sustainability and cultural participation, with a strong turnout for family-friendly activities and live local music.

Developed through effective community-led delivery, the Eco Park stands as a positive example of place-based investment supporting rural quality of life and active recreation in County Kildare.

Funding Opportunities:

Town and Cities Investment

Regeneration Fund replaced the previous Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) and is designed to support the regeneration of town and cities across Ireland with a particular focus on areas experiencing disadvantage. Towns with a population greater than 9,000 are eligible and the fund supports two main strands:

- Category 1A – Plan and Project Pipeline Development – will focus on supporting local authorities in creating a pipeline of future projects for delivery in later years of the National Development Plan and to create momentum in delivery under the new Fund. This funding will be made available to progress certain plans (area masterplans, Town Centre First Plans, etc) or initial design works for specific projects.



- Category 1B – Project Delivery - will focus on the delivery of capital projects within the short to medium term. Proposals for funding under this Category will be targeted at the implementation and construction of capital works projects that have been sufficiently advanced in design, planning, or feasibility to progress in the coming months.

Round 1 of the fund closed to applications on the 01 May 2026 with six project applications proposed as follows:

Category 1A:

- Celbridge Parochial House Redevelopment (SPPR/Housing/Libraries) – progress a feasibility study for the site.
- Donaghcomper Lands (Parks) – prepare a conservation and masterplan for the site.
- Newbridge Consolidation Site (Planning/LAO) – Kildare County Council Machinery Yard and surrounding environs – Masterplan

Category 1B:

- Harbour Field Maynooth (SPPR) – construction project
- Murtagh's Corner Naas (Transport) - construction project
- Community Centre Kildare Town (Community) – progress detailed design and construction.



Capital Programme

Location	No. of Units	Updated Status
Approval - Stage 4		
Ambassador Site, Kill	33 units	Certificate of completion 01.05.2026
Old Greenfield, Maynooth	65 units	Substantial Completion Cert issued 19 December 2025 for 64 of the 65 Units. Last unit Completion Cert issued 06.02.2026
St. Patrick's Park Rathangan Remedial Works (Phases 2 & 3)	Demolition of 15 units, refurb of 25 units, construction of 7 units.	Works progressing on site.
Approval – Stage 3		
Ardclough Road, Celbridge	39 units	Contractor tender assessments complete. Stage 4 submission to DHLGH has been lodged awaiting approval.
Dispensary Site Carbury	5 units	Contractor tender assessments complete. Stage 4 application submitted to DHLGH.
Ardrew, Athy	73 units + community building	Stage 3 approval received from DHLGH on 18.11.2025. Design and 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.
Approval - Stage 2		
Craddockstown, Naas	28 units	Design and Build construction tender complete. Stage 4 issued to the DHLGH.
Clane Road, Sallins	4 units	Site previously allocated to The Peter McVerry Trust will now be developed by KCC. Ongoing liaison with previous design team to investigate novation design of services.
Ardrew Halting Site, Athy	8 units (5 new units, 1 caretaker unit, refurbishment and	Tender for construction works is being prepared and scheduled to be launched in Q2 2026.



	amalgamation of 4 units into 2)	
Station Road, Kildare.	29 units	Part 8 was considered and amended at the Kildare-Newbridge MD meeting in May. Site clearance and knotweed disposal to be included in main tender. Investigation and Clearance Works at tender stage. Final Design/Tender documents being prepared.
St Evin's Park, Monasterevin	13 units	Design and Build construction tenders assessed. Stage 4 approval application submitted to DHLGH.
Oldtown Mill, Celbridge	60 units	Part 8 approved. Confirmation received from DHLGH that the formerly agreed PPP model is not proceeding. Delivery to be progressed via Design and Build.
Coolaghknock Glebe, Kildare	99 social units/ 32 affordable	Part 8 approved. Confirmation received from DHLGH that the formerly agreed PPP model is not proceeding. Delivery to be progressed via Design and Build.
Approval - Stage 1		
Caragh Road, Naas	73 units	Development of 73 units [to include 15 no. affordable units]. Design team preparing design options for the site. Being progressed to Part 8.
Sarto Road, Naas. BIM Pilot	7 units	Single stage application approved by the DHLGH. Site investigation works complete. Design finalised.
Single Stage Approval		
Shamrock Stores, Athy	6 apartments.	New Single Stage Application is 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)	Design team appointed. Part 8 to be launched in Q2 2026.
Maddenstown Terrace	1	Part 8 accepted at February 2025 meeting of Kildare - Newbridge MD. Due to significant increase in cost, alternative approach to works to be explored. 3 options drafted: preferred option to be identified and issued to consultants for comment.



Kilcock Courthouse	5 units	Revised single stage funding application approved by DHLGH. Tenders for consultants underway to proceed to Part 8.

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.
Millfield Manor, Newbridge	2 units	Consultants appointed: tender to be prepared. Tender to be issued Q2 2026.
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 Q2 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.
Former Fire Station Site, Maynooth	TBC	Feasibility and design ongoing. Consultation with SPPR and Community Section commenced.
Blacklion, Maynooth	80 TBC	Feasibility underway.
Rickardstown, Newbridge	96 social/ 40 affordable units	Confirmation received from DHLGH that the formerly agreed PPP model is not proceeding. Delivery to be progressed via Design and Build.
Rathasker Road, Naas	104 units	Confirmation received from DHLGH that the formerly agreed PPP model is not proceeding. Delivery to be progressed via Design and Build.



Infill Schemes

Location	No. of Units	Updated Status
Newtown House, Leixlip	4 units	Construction to commence Q2 2026.
Glandore, Athy	5 units + 1 refurb	Works progressing on site. 5 new dwellings and Glandore House expected to reach practical completion May 2026.
Skenagun, Castledermot	1 major refurb and extension and 1 new build	Stage 3 approval received.

Type	Approved Housing Body	Location	No. of Units	Updated Status
CAS	Clúid	ESB site, Leixlip	36	Part 8 approved December 2025. Cluid to proceed with amendments to proposal required under conditions of Part 8 approval.
CAS	Sofia Housing	St. John's Convent, Rathangan	24	Stage 4 approval submitted to DHLGH November 2025. Contractor appointment by AHB to follow. Stage 4 approval received April 2026. Contractor expected on site in June.
CAS	Clúid	Dominican Lands Athy	34	Stage 4 approval received. Work ongoing to transfer the site to Cluid. Development License agreement being put in place to progress works.
CAS	Nás Na Ríogh	Beaufort, (adj McAuley Place), Naas	44	Part 8 application launched 13.05.2026. Stage 4 approval application submitted to DHLGH.
CAS	Tintean Housing Assoc.	McCauley Court, Athy	Refurb 10 units and	CAS funding approved. Terms of Heads of Agreement have been signed. Legal process for transfer of units to



			communal building	KCC has commenced. Deed of Assurance and pre-Contracts have been received and reviewed
CAS	Homeless Care	Jigginstown Phase 2, Naas	10	Stage 2 approval application to be submitted to DHLGH.

Families in PEA including Supported Temporary Accommodations and Family Hubs as of 30 April 2026

Duration	No. of Households with Dependents	Adults	Dependents
0 - 6 Months	36	54	78
6 - 12 Months	17	23	30
12 - 18 Months	12	19	31
18 - 24 Months	3	6	4
24 - 30 Months	3	4	5
30 – 36 Months	1	3	2
36 Months +	0	0	0
Total	72	109	150

Families in Own Front Door Accommodation as of 30 April 2026

Duration	No. of Households with Dependents	Adults	Dependents
0 - 6 Months	4	7	18
6 - 12 Months	2	2	4
12 - 18 Months	0	0	0
18 - 24 Months	5	11	15
24 - 30 Months	1	1	0
30 – 36 Months	1	5	1
+ 36 Months	2	3	5
Total	15	29	43



Notices of Termination as at 30 April 2026

Notices of Termination on hand	Number Overholding	Number expiring 2026	Number Expiring 2027
108	34	74	0

Acquisitions

	2025	2026
Housing Acquisitions	23	3
Housing Turnkeys	22	0
Part V Acquisitions	158	9
Total	**203**	**12**

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	8	0	0	4	0
MTR Delivery 2026 (via CALF and leasing)	0	0	1	0	0
CALF delivery 2026	0	0	0	0	0

Town Regeneration

Year	CPOs Commenced	CPOs Awaiting Confirmation	CPOs Confirmed	CPOs Withdrawn/ On Hold	Acquired by Agreement
2025	11	5	3	2	0
2026	5	7	1	2	2

Year	Vacant Property Grant Applications Received	Vacant Property Grant Approved	Vacant Property Grant Paid
2025	117	94	100
2026	53	28	20



Year	Vacant Property Inspections	Properties Requiring Further Investigation	Property Owners Engaged With	Pre-CPO Notices Erected
2025	164	113	146	29
2026	30	28	23	1

Year	Derelict Site Inspections	Section 8 (2) Notices Issued	Sites Added to the Register
2025	46	31	10
2026	12	8	4

URDF

URDF Call 3	• 6 URDF Call 3 approved properties have been acquired by CPO. • 2 properties have been acquired by agreement. • CPO is in process on 2 properties. • De-risking/enabling works are complete on 3 properties, and they are being prepared for forward sale subject to approval of the elected members.

Town Centre First

TVRS	Funding Applications	Town and Village Renewal funded projects for Clane and Kilcullen, as follows: **Clane** - remedial and upgrade works to the town centre playground recreational space. This project was identified as a priority in the TCF Plan. Early desktop analysis and survey have commenced in-house. **Kilcullen** – a project comprising a number of elements including research, design and mapping of amenity, heritage and cultural walking and wheeling trails linking and identifying assets and opportunities. Design drawings completed by the



		Town Regeneration team were reviewed with the Town Team and feedback received.

Public Realm

Capital Works – Strategic Priorities

Municipal District	Project Name	Estimated Value	Funding Awarded	Project Stage	Notes
Countywide	Barrow Blueway	€11,683,034	RRDF €9,007,827	Stage (iv) Construction	Rathangan Bridge: Works are substantially complete. Outstanding items include completion of snagging and hydroseeding. Discussions are ongoing to agree the final account. Barrow Blueway: Engagement and negotiations are continuing with Waterways Ireland and Laois County Council in relation to the



Municipal District	Project Name	Estimated Value	Funding Awarded	Project Stage	Notes
					Service Level Agreement.
	Barrow Blueway Trail Head	€80,000	€80,000 Community Recognition Fund	Stage (iib) Planning Preparation	The Part 8 consultation closed on 28 April 2026. Eight submissions were received, including one internal submission. These will be reviewed and reported as part of the statutory process.
	Greenway – Phase 2 Sallins to Clonkeen	€25,621,000	DoT/TII and Carbon Tax Fund	Part 8 Planning Process, DAV and Fure	Sallins Link: The procurement process is at an advanced stage, and the appointment of Donnelly Civil Engineering is currently awaited. Next Towpath Package: Preparatory



Municipal District	Project Name	Estimated Value	Funding Awarded	Project Stage	Notes
					work is underway to advance the next package to tender by mid-May. This package is expected to include works at Ticknevin Junction, west to Lock 20, east to the end of the Sheebridge Boardwalk, Bonynge Pedestrian Bridge to Lock 18, and a potential footbridge at the 18th Lock, subject to final confirmation.
Kildare-Newbridge	Newbridge Library and County Archives		KCC/ Dept of Housing/ DRCD	Detailed Design	Stage 4 application has been lodged with the Department of Rural and Community



Municipal District	Project Name	Estimated Value	Funding Awarded	Project Stage	Notes
					Development, once approved the contract can then be awarded.
	Rathangan Town Renewal Plan		LPT	Town Renewal Plan	Work is progressing well, with the final stages underway.
	Newbridge Town Renewal Plan		LPT	Town Renewal Plan	Draft Masterplan being finalised and will be presented to the Kildare-Newbridge elected members in advance of public consultation (in person)
	Monasterevin Masterplan – sub project Market Square Monasterevin		€34,335.00 (grand aid awarded under T&V (TCF Measure 3)	Preliminary Design	Surveys and Funding: Required surveys are complete and will inform the pre-Part 8 design.



Municipal District	Project Name	Estimated Value	Funding Awarded	Project Stage	Notes
					RRDF funding has been secured, with the Letter of Offer and Funding Agreement awaited. Funding Verification: Clarifications have been requested from DRCDG regarding the removal of the Arts allocation and a detailed breakdown of professional fees. Next Steps: A refined feasibility study/masterplan is to be developed, and a consultant designer will need to be appointed to



Municipal District	Project Name	Estimated Value	Funding Awarded	Project Stage	Notes
					progress this work.
	Riverbank	TBC	TBC	Pre-Part 8	Design Review: Design issued to internal departments for final review.
Athy	Athy Sports Hub, Ardrew			Preliminary Design	Contractor Appointment: A preferred contractor has been selected and the appointment report has been approved.
Celbridge-Leixlip	Wonderful Barn	€23.8m (most recent cost for entire project)		Planning Preparation	Historic Structures Fund: An application to the fund has been successful. This provides grant funding of 50%. The procurement process for a suitable



Municipal District	Project Name	Estimated Value	Funding Awarded	Project Stage	Notes
					contractor will now take place.
Clane-Maynooth	Maynooth Town Centre Master Plan	€3,438,500	€2,574,375 URDF €858,125 KCC/LPT €1,908,750 URDF approved	Town Centre Masterplan	Final Draft and Supporting Reports: The Draft Masterplan is scheduled for presentation to Senior Management Team for approval in June.
	Clane Library	€3,760,000	TBC with Library Department	Stage (iv) Construction	Following receipt of Departmental approval, ML Quinn has been appointed as contractor. Works are scheduled to commence in May 2026, with an estimated programme duration of 18 months.



Municipal District	Project Name	Estimated Value	Funding Awarded	Project Stage	Notes
Naas	Naas Town Centre Masterplan	€4,662,000	€3,500,000 URDF €1,165,000 LPT/KCC	Town Centre Masterplan	Final Draft and Supporting Reports: The Draft Masterplan is scheduled for presentation to Senior Management Team for approval in June.
	Sallins Town Renewal Masterplan	€70,000	€70,000 LPT	Masterplan	Final document will be presented to Senior Management Team in June, date to be confirmed.
	Naas Canal Quarter Masterplan	€320,000	URDF	Pre-draft Masterplan	Transport and Infrastructure Assessment is being carried out by our consultant and will inform the Naas Canal Quarter Masterplan.



Integration and Strategic Property Management

Integration

LAIT
Foireann Údaráis Áitiúil um Imeascadh
Local Authority Integration Team

General

International Protection Bill

The International Protection Bill was signed into law by the President on 22 April 2026. The new legislation will take effect for all asylum applications made from 12 June 2026.

Numbers of New Arrivals

The numbers of new arrivals seeking Temporary Protection remains low. The number in the Punchestown Designated Accommodation Centre (DAC), the only remaining 30-day DAC in Kildare, currently stands at 54 (11 May 2026). Approximately 30% of new arrivals seeking Temporary Protection apply for the 30-day State provided accommodation in a DAC.

Changes to State Provided Accommodation for Persons with Temporary Protection

The Cabinet Committee on Justice, Migration and Social Affairs (27 March 2026) approved the withdrawal of tourist and commercial accommodation currently housing up to 16,000 people from Ukraine. It was also discussed to wind down the Accommodation Recognition Payment (ARP) Scheme in the last four months of this year and to end it by March 2027.

The Government will be considering proposals to progress these measures in the coming weeks. Any changes that are approved to this accommodation model would be introduced on a phased basis, with information and support provided to



residents. The proposals will ensure consideration of ongoing supports for people with particular circumstances that would make it difficult for them to manage in independent accommodation. Any changes to the accommodation model will still require continued contracted accommodation for those who are vulnerable or will continue to require accommodation supports.

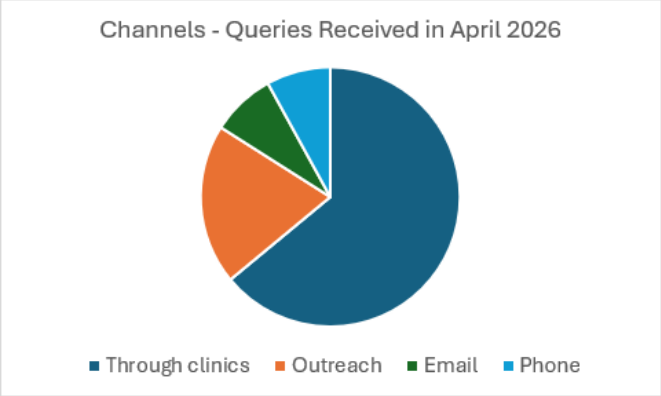
While temporary protection is in place until March 2027, there may be further extensions to the directive which will be agreed at EU level.

Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT)

The Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT) supports persons who have applied for international protection, persons with status, temporary protection, and programme refugees living in county Kildare. The LAIT connect them with local services and helping them to navigate new civic systems to them. The LAIT supports those in State-contracted accommodation through information clinics.

From the beginning of the year until the 24 April the LAIT delivered:

- 53 one-to-one information clinics and 17 group clinics around specific topics or addressing common needs in accommodation centres.
- 408 queries have been resolved. Most queries were received and solved during clinics in accommodation centres.



During April, the LAIT has supported 54 people through the following activities:

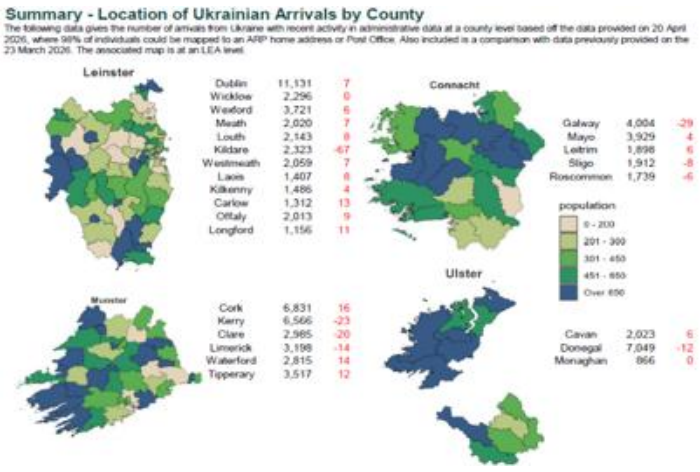
- Three information sessions organised with KWETB on adult education guidance and ESOL English for Speakers of Other Languages) courses in Newbridge during April 2026.
- Move and Groove Women's Movement and Dance programme



supporting women and girls accommodated in IPAS centres in Newbridge to engage in physical movement and sports. This programme is delivered in collaboration with Kildare Sports Partnership.

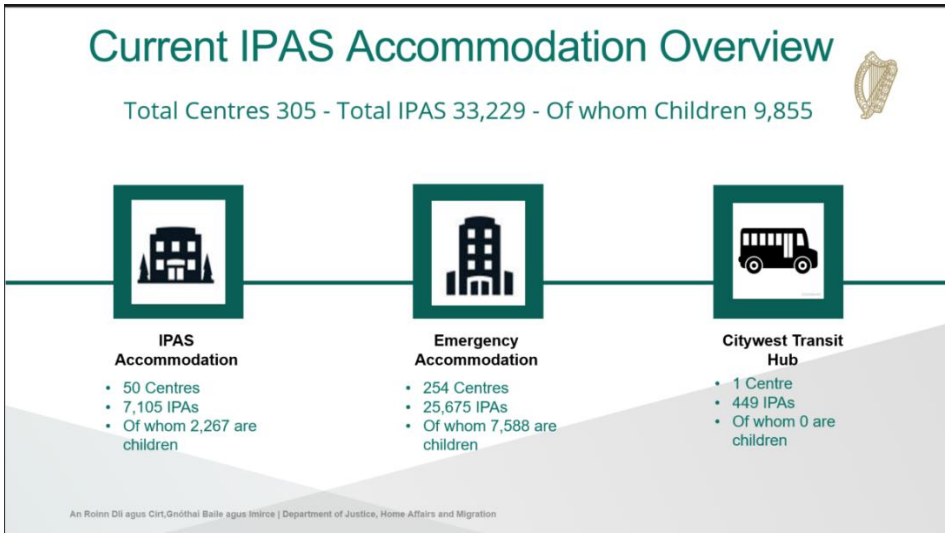
- Healthy Living in Ireland programme for international protection applicants and refugees living in Monasterevin. This is a programme to learn about the health system in Ireland and the different programmes that the HSE offers. It is run in partnership with the HSE Health Promotion and HSE Social Inclusion Team.
- Adult Women Swim Programme targeted women accommodated in De Burgh Manor IPAS accommodation centre in Athy who want to learn to swim. This programme is run in partnership with Swim Ireland and KSP.
- Breathwork Workshops started in Athy Library organised and funded by the LAIT supporting persons with temporary protection and international protection applicants living in Athy. The workshops are aimed at supporting self-regulation and modulate the nervous system, reducing stress and anxiety, improving mood and overall wellbeing.

According to the Data source Department of Justice, Homeland Affairs and Migration (11 May 2026) there are currently a total of 152 persons with Temporary Protection (Ukraine)108 adults/ 21 children in the five State-contracted accommodation centres





According to the Department of Justice, Homeland Affairs and Migration (11 May 2026) there are 455 persons who have applied for international protection, 351 adults/ 104 children in the five State-contracted accommodation centres in County Kildare.



Kildare Refugee Resettlement Programme

The Irish Refugee Protection Programme (IRPP) is a national programme established by the Government on 10 September 2015 as part of Ireland's humanitarian response to the migration crisis in Europe. Its purpose is to provide safe and legal pathways for refugees (primarily those identified by the UNHCR) to resettle in Ireland.
The IRPP is working with Local Authorities engaged in resettling refugees, following the County and City Management Association's (CCMA) model for distribution for IRPP II, CCMA HBLU IRPP II Model for Distribution. Through this model, Kildare County Council was allocated a quota of 66 refugees for 2024-26. Kildare County Council was involved in this programme as far back as 2010.

By the first week of May 2026, Kildare County Council has resettled 62 refugees who have been supported to integrate by a Resettlement Worker and an Intercultural Worker. The remaining family are due to resettle in June 2026. The integration supports have been extended until the 14 July 2026. Subsequently the Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT) will support these families as other targeted groups.



The programme is supported by an Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG) chaired by the LAIT Coordinator, and at national level by the LGMA through a Working Group with all the local authorities participating in the IRPP. Further information is available at: gov.ie - Irish Refugee Protection Programme

Ukraine Services and Accommodation Team Offer a Home Scheme

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

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

The Ukraine Services and accommodation team is currently matching properties in rural locations offered by other Local Authority's. The Minister has extended the ARP payment until March 2027.

Designated Accommodation Centres (DAC's)

Designated Accommodation Centres were established to accommodate persons with temporary protection arriving in the State after 14 March 2024. The Ukraine Services and Accommodation Team continue to deliver Day-14 clinics on a roughly two week basis to assist residents with the sourcing and matching of accommodation. The last clinic was held in the Punchestown DAC on 08 May.

Kill has ceased to be a 30-day DAC and has returned to a Full Board DAC accommodating persons with temporary protection who arrived before March 2024. Newhall 30-day DAC has closed and will be returned to its original use as farmland. The



capacity at the Punchestown DAC has been reduced to 285, current occupancy 54 (DOJ 11 May).

The Community Integration Forum

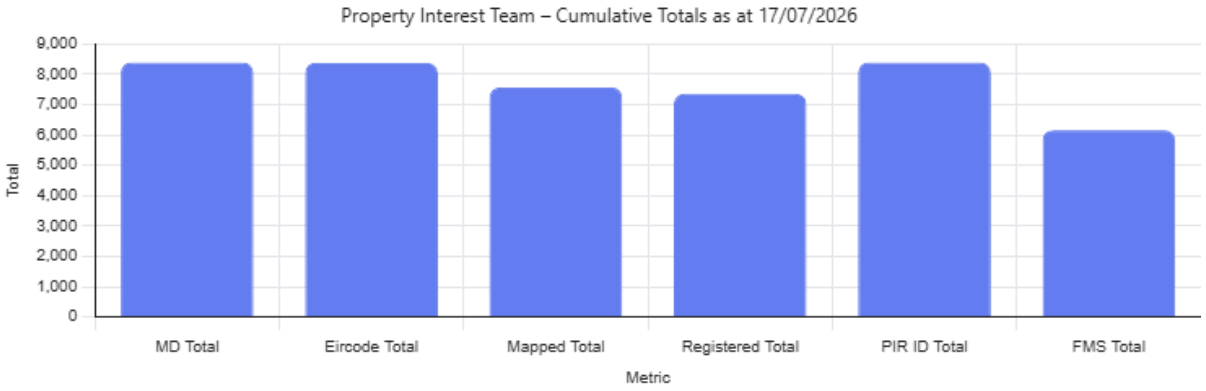
The role of the Community Integration Forum is to enhance information sharing, collaboration and coordination among service providers to maximise integration supports outcomes. Membership includes Kildare County Council (LAIT, Accommodation Team, Community Services/Sport Kildare Partnership, Library 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 next meeting will be held in early June

Property

Property Interest Register Team Progress Report May 2026:





Health and Safety

During April the Health and Safety Team completed Health and Safety Roadshows in each of the Municipal District Engineering Areas including the Machinery Yard. The Road Shows included:

- Presentation by Coaching Team on new coaching initiative
- Presentation by Jackie Sweeney on Wellbeing
- Presentation by Health and Safety Team on Safety Statement and general Health and Safety.

Accessibility



The second Kildare Inclusivity Festival was held in the Curragh Racecourse on Sunday, 10 May. The event was a great success.

Access Group Meetings were held in:

- Maynooth Disability Access Group
- Leixlip Disability Access Group
- Athy Disability Access Group

Procurement

In April, three Multi Party Framework Agreements were established in the Housing Directorate for the following:

- Multi-party agreement for General Building Works
- Multi-party agreement for Electrical Works
- Multi-party agreement for Plumbing Works

The Proc Ref System continues to be rolled out across Kildare County Council. The system has been introduced in the IT Department and across the Integration, Property, Procurement, Facilities and Health and Safety teams and is currently being rolled out in in the Finance and Innovation teams.

The Procurement Team has responded to 200 queries to date in 2026 and the Procurement Portal has received 913 visits in the past 90-days.



Climate, Community, Environment and Water

Climate

Climate Action Regional Office (CARO)

CARO Eastern & Midlands Climate Action Regional Office

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

Local Authority Climate Action Plans (LA CAP)

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



Sub-Regional Energy Projects

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

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





Reimagining Local Authority Fleet

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

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



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

GAA / CCMA Green Clubs Programme:



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

Kildare County Council Climate Action

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:

Community Climate Action Program Fund Round 2:

The application process for Round 2 of funding closed on the 22 December with 38 applications submitted. 28 applications were forwarded to the Department for appraisal on 27 February. The outcome remains outstanding; notification from the Department awaited.
Under Round 1, the 24 projects approved by the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) for the Community Climate Action Fund grant are completed substantially. Round 1 fund will close in May 2026

Climate Book Club:

The book club is going from strength-to-strength with the program being extended to the main libraries. The final session in Maynooth library will take place in May.

+55 Climate Workshop:

Hosted in Naas Library and facilitated by Jacinta Barrins. Session six on 05 May the final session invited attendees to Share Progress – Do the ONE action. Share progress amongst peers, enjoy the benefits, and tell family and friends about climate change.

Climate Action SPC:

The March SPC was held on 11 March. The program of works for the year was discussed and agreed. Focus is on policy need to support the LACAP and information building to support the SPC members.
The next meeting is scheduled for the13 May with a visit to Tallaght District Heating scheme.

JTF START:

An allocation of €30 million is available for the eight counties within the EU JT Territory.
Ten projects have been selected to go forward to full application. Award is based on quality of application.



Maynooth DZ:

Climate Champions:

The DZ Climate Champions Awards for 2026 launched on 09 April, categories include Community Groups, Schools, Businesses, and Farmers. Closing date for applications 24 May. Applicants must be from the Maynooth DZ area. Awards taking place at Picnic in the Park at Harbour Field Maynooth on 21 June. We are looking to build on the number of awardees in 2025.

Community Garden:

The lease agreement with Maynooth Tidy Towns for a community garden at Harbour Field following the Section 183 approval at Full Council in November 2025 is finalised and ready for signing. Maynooth Tidy Towns are awaiting the outcome of their Community Climate Action Fund application to progress works. MTT are considering a LEADER application for July 26 deadline for works on other section of land.

Energy Updates:

Energy Performance Contract (EPC)

Updated EPC contract has been issued to Lawler Sustainability, preferred contractor. Window Actuators and ventilation are currently being investigated and priced. Pathfinder funding of 50% of the 75% funding has been received.

Energy Audits / Decarbonisation Projects:

- Leixlip Library: decarbonising works have commenced. Due to be completed in May 2026.
- Athy Library: A trial borehole for ground source heat pump for decarbonisation is completed, and we are working with a consultant on a feasibly report due in May.
- Athy Municipal District offices: An Energy Audit has been carried out.
- Newbridge Library: trying to secure Pathfinder funding for the Energy Efficiency works to the Protected Structure element of the larger capital project.
- Clane Library: Pathfinder funding of 50% of the 75% funding has been received from SEAI for the energy efficiency works – i.e. Heat Pump and PV.
- Community Facilities: IES Ltd. has been appointed to carry out four Energy Audits for



Community facilities in Newbridge, Kilcullen and Maynooth as well as Monread Community Centre.

SEAI Monitoring and Reporting (M&R):

Building Register required to be completed as part of M&R. M&R information issued to SEAI for 2025.

SEAI Pathfinder Strategic Review:

Request for information on match funding has been returned to enable the SEAI to reinforce their next five-year business case and outlining challenges Kildare County Council will have in meeting finances.

Critical Success Factors Audit

Awaiting the results of recent meeting with the SEAI PSM.

District Heating (DH)

Maynooth District Heating feasibility study in conjunction with the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team with funding from SEAI and URDF. Document complete.
DISCO project continues. Partner meeting held in Dublin in April 2026 with the next meeting of project partners scheduled for late 2026 in a member European country to be confirmed.

EV Charging for Kildare County Council Fleet:

The Energy Team met with Transportation department, and it was agreed an EV Charging Strategy for Kildare County Council Fleet would be developed by the Transportation Section.

ISO 50001 Energy Management:

Surveillance Audit scheduled for 22 June.

Community

Kildare Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP)

The Kildare LCSP held its second meeting on 02 April 2026. Members of the Kildare LCSP received a presentation from the Waterford Pilot Project, who shared their experience of establishing one of the country's first Local Community Safety Partnerships. The presentation provided valuable guidance as Kildare continues to develop its own long-term approach to



community safety. The next meeting is scheduled for 07 May 2026.

The Community Safety Fund 2026 is open for applications. Funded through proceeds of crime seized by CAB and An Garda Síochána, €4.75 million is available nationwide to support projects that improve community safety. Grants of €20,000–€150,000 for innovative initiatives reducing crime, reoffending, and fear of crime. The fund is open to community groups, NGOs, not-for-profit, and consortia. Applications to be submitted by 5.00pm, 18 May 2026 at www.gov.ie/communitysafety.

Kildare Sports Partnership (KSP)
RTÉ Tracks and Trails
Kildare Waterside Episode



'Tracks and Trails' were thrilled to collaborate with Kildare County Council, Kildare Sports Partnership, and Waterways Ireland in presenting a stunning waterside trail as part of Season 13. This exciting episode aired on RTÉ One on 01 May 2026 and is available on the RTÉ player.



The episode featured proud Kildare natives Jack L and Celine Byrne. Together with presenter Doireann Ní Ghlacáin, they guided viewers along the Barrow Blueway towpath trail from Athy to Robertstown, highlighting the rich heritage and history that the region has to offer.

KSP Club Grants Scheme

The deadline for the 2026 KSP Club Grants Scheme has passed and there has been huge interest in the scheme with over 70 applications received.

A limited number of projects/initiatives will be funded with an emphasis on the following areas:

- Coaching and Training Aids
- People with Disabilities



- Training and Education
- Women in Sport

KSP are currently working through the applications to determine those that are successful.

Kildare Inclusivity Festival 2026

KSP once again played a key role in the planning and delivery of the Kildare Inclusivity Festival alongside Kildare County Council, The Curragh Racecourse, and County Kildare Access Network (CKAN). The event took place on Sunday, 10 May in the Curragh Racecourse.

KSP Hosting Sport Ireland Coordinators Meeting

KSP have been asked by Sport Ireland to host the biannual national meeting of the Local Sports Partnership Coordinators on 19/20 May. The event will take place at Kilkea Castle, with meetings and information sessions being delivered by Sport Ireland staff on day one.

The second day of the event will involve a visit to Athy where the coordinators network will be given an insight into KSP programmes in the town that cater for people of all abilities. Local groups will be present on the day to demonstrate some of these activities (e.g. 2km Walk and Talk Group).

Walking Football Event for Older Adults

Over 70 Older Adults participated in a Walking Football Blitz held on Friday, 17 April, in Naas Sports Centre. This was a hugely successful event in collaboration with the Men's Sheds.

'EnjoyTennis' Programme for People with Additional Needs

32 people with a range of intellectual, physical, and sensory needs have participated in the 'EnjoyTennis' programme at one of three locations across the county in recent weeks. Programmes have been delivered in Athy, Celbridge and Naas.

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

The next meeting of Kildare LCDC is on 27 May 2026.

Local Enhancement Programme (LEP)

The Department of Rural and Community Development were made aware of the approval of the LEP



made by Kildare LCDC at their meeting on 20 April. Local applicants cannot be informed of the decision until DRCDG releases the information nationally.

SICAP Programme:

The SICAP programme continues to progress in its work with disadvantaged community groups and individuals across the county. The SICAP subgroup is scheduled for 12 May to prepare for the upcoming LCDC meeting.

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.

The LEADER subgroup is scheduled to meet on 14 May to prepare for the upcoming LCDC/LAG meeting.

Kildare is presenting on the recently completed James O Dwyer Glamping project at a national CAP Network meeting in Tullamore on 21 May.

For further information contact**:** Maeve Howe, Manager, County Kildare LEADER Partnership
maeve@countykildarelp.ie

Sláintecare Healthy Communities

Sláintecare Healthy Communities co-hosted the first Trauma-Informed Practice Conference in County Kildare on 21 April at the Kilashee Hotel. The event attracted over 220 professionals from across the county, representing a broad range of health and wellbeing, community, and statutory services.

The conference delivered a full day of learning through keynote speakers and workshops, with a strong focus on trauma-informed practice, shared learning, and self-care for professionals. High attendance and engagement reflected strong cross-sector interest and commitment to embedding trauma-informed approaches in practice.

Seed-funded projects are progressing. Compliance reports for the current funding stream are due to the Department of Health by the 29 May.

In parallel, community needs analysis is underway with stakeholders to identify priority initiatives for funding in the 2026–2027 period.



The Department of Health Traveller Health Fund has entered its second year of delivery in partnership with Sláintecare Healthy Communities, Kildare Traveller Action, and Kildare County Council. The initiative has supported the recruitment of an Education Coordinator and a Men's Health Worker in Athy. Year Two will focus on sustaining after-school supports and educational advocacy for Traveller young people, alongside needs-led programmes engaging men from the community.

Healthy Ireland

The work of Healthy Ireland Kildare is progressing across numerous collaborative initiatives across the county. Healthy Ireland co-funded the recent Trauma Informed Conference, 'Compassion In Action', held in The Killashee Hotel. Over 220 professionals attended. Healthy Ireland will continue to support the progression of Trauma Informed Practise across the county. Healthy Ireland is also supporting the Family Resource Centre in Leixlip around a biodiversity community garden space which will involve intergenerational work between young people and older people, in the planting of flowers, and trees. The aim is this will be a calming space and the community will be involved in all elements of the process.

Local Economic Community Plan (LECP)

Communications have issued to stakeholders requesting action updates by 31 July to support the close-out of the current LECP Implementation Plan actions (2024–2026), one-to-one meetings will be scheduled in June to assist action owners in completing these returns. In parallel, an action template has been shared with the stakeholders to inform new actions in the next LECP Implementation Plan (2027–2029). The Advisory Steering Group (ASG) is scheduled to meet on 13 June to note progress.

Community Development





On 24 April, Kildare County Council officially launched the Age Friendly, Climate Friendly Village initiative in Ballymore Eustace. The launch was led by Tánaiste and Minister for Finance Simon Harris TD, in the presence of the Cathaoirleach of the County of Kildare, Councillor Carmel Kelly, together with local community representatives and project partners.



Following the 2016 Census, Kildare County Council selected Ballymore Eustace for the Age Friendly, Climate Friendly Village project, as the village has a higher proportion of older residents than many other parts of the county. Working with the local community, barriers to safe walking were identified through a walkability audit and practical accessibility improvements delivered. Works also included upgrades to the River Walk, with improved surfacing and new accessible viewing platform, making around 800 metres of the route easier for everyone to use. These improvements support more people, especially older people and people with disabilities, to take part in village life and enjoy shared outdoor spaces.

This work was supported through a range of funding sources, including Local Property Tax, the Disability Participation and Awareness Fund (funded by the Department of Children, Disability, Equality, Integration and Youth), the Kildare Age Friendly Programme and other Kildare County Council community grants.



As part of the wider community-focused initiative, plants from this year's Bloom garden were secured for Ballymore Eustace, following a nomination by Kildare Age Friendly. The Support Garden, designed by Joe Eustace, highlights the personal journey of planning ahead, with



themes of strength, trust and care. Inspired by the Bloom concept, a local version of the garden has been created in Ballymore Eustace, reflecting Age Friendly design, sustainability, biodiversity and nature.

The garden includes a salmon centrepiece reflecting the local river and biodiversity, a living willow arch at the entrance, and a boulder symbolising time. A universally accessible seating area has been designed with older residents in mind. The planting is pollinator-friendly, the surrounding area is managed for wildlife, and the garden is intended to be low-maintenance. Four trees represent the seasons and the journey through life, with the first planted today by John Farrelly, Chief Executive of the Mental Health Commission.

Environment

Rural Water

The Rural Water Programme, through Exchequer funding, delivers improvements to private domestic water and waste water services in areas of rural Ireland where there are no public (Uisce Éireann) water/waste water services. The Rural Water Section administers operational and capital funding and grants under the Multi-Annual Rural Water Programme (MARWP), to ensure the delivery of national objectives for drinking water services in rural areas not served by Uisce Éireann.

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

County Rural Water Monitoring Committee

The County Rural Water Monitoring Committee monitors and advises on the implementation of policy regarding the Rural Water Programme. The first biannual County Rural Water Monitoring Committee meeting for 2026 was held on 25 March 2026. The second Rural Water Monitoring Committee meeting for 2026 will be held in September 2026. The County



Rural Water Monitoring Committee is comprised of local authority officials, elected members from each Municipal District and representatives from the private group water scheme sector, the National Federation of Group Water Schemes, rural organizations, HSE.

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

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

Draft Local Authority Water Action Work Plans, which are a requirement under the Water Action Plan 2024, have been produced and feedback and comments have been sent back to the Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO). Final Local Authority Water Action Work Plans will be county-level, public facing work plans/trackers which will set out the actions taken by a local authority to protect and improve natural water quality.

National Agricultural Inspection Programme (NAIP)

NAIP farm inspections which commenced in January continue and Kildare County Council submitted details of the Q1 2026 NAIP farm inspections to the EPA before the Q1 reporting deadline which was the end of April 2026.

Domestic Wastewater Treatment System National Inspection Plan (DWWTS NIP)

Two staff from the Environment Department attended an EPA DWWTS Workshop for the Septic Tank Inspector Network at the end of April 2026 where the EPA gave updates in relation to the current DWWTS National Inspection Plan (NIP) (2022-2026) and the next DWWTS NIP for the period 2027-2031.

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 draft litter management plan was approved for adoption by the elected members at the Council meeting on 24 November.

Waste Enforcement

Activities for Focus in 2026 under the National Waste Enforcement Priorities are agreed. The following high-level priorities for 2026-2027 are: Tackling Illegal Waste Activities and Multi-Agency Sites/Operators of Concern · Construction and Demolition Material · Household Waste · Commercial Waste Plastics and Producer Responsibility Initiatives (PRIs)

Tidy Towns

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

Ireland's Best Kept Towns Competition 2025

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

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

CCTV

The CCTV camera scheme at the recycling banks at Edmund Rice Square in Athy has proven successful in identifying and fining polluters.
A tender for CCTV providers has been published with a closing date of 29



May. A lot of interest has been shown in the competition.

Recycling Facilities

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

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 (CFRAMS)

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

Morell Flood Management Scheme

Construction of this scheme is continuing.



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

Athy Flood Relief Scheme

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

Naas Flood Relief Scheme

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



Leixlip Flood Relief Scheme

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

Cemetery Capital Programme

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

Columbarium Walls

Columbarium walls have been completed in Athy, Leixlip Confey, and St. Conleth's Newbridge cemeteries. Two new walls have been completed at Monasterevin and Donaghcumper cemeteries.

Grant funding

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

Veterinary Services

A new service provider, Midland Animal Care Ltd., has taken on the operation of the dog warden service on behalf of Kildare County Council from 01 January.

A new social media page to assist with the rehoming page has been set up on Facebook and has been advertised.

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

Legislation XL Bully Type dogs

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

Green Schools

There are currently 47 schools engaged with the Green School Programme in the Kildare region. 19 green schools' assessment visits were undertaken by Kildare County Council during the 2025/2026 school year. The Green Schools Flag Awards for all successful schools will take place on



the 19 May in the Helix Theatre in Dublin.

Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces

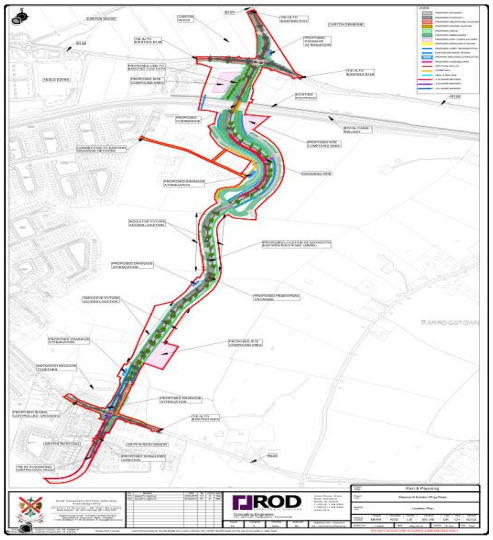
Transport

Maynooth Eastern Ring Road (MERR)

The contractor is progressing well now that weather conditions are more favourable.

The following activities will take place over the coming month:

- Topsoil strip.
- Excavate and fill for side roads.
- Drainage works.
- Attenuation tank installation.
- Reinforced concrete noise barriers.
- Track monitoring.
- Piling platform construction.
- Piling works for the bridge.
- Offline diversion works for electricity and foul watermain services.



Celbridge Hazelhatch Mobility Corridor

A decision was due from An Comisiún Pleanála on 11 May 2026 on the planning consent (Case Reference: JP09.323851) and Compulsory Purchase Order (Case Ref: FAO9.232853).

Newbridge Southern Ring Road

An allocation of €200,000 has been received from the Department of Transport to progress this project. Draft tender documents are currently being reviewed by the Department of Transport and will be issued once finalised.



Celbridge Area Based Transport Assessment

Tobin Consulting Engineers have been appointed to complete this project and a kick off meeting has taken place on 13 April.

Confey Barnhill Road

The tender period has now been completed and the process to appoint a consultant is nearing completion. A kick off meeting will be arranged once the appointment has taken place.

R448 National Cycle Network Pilot

The Road Safety Audit report has been received and the additional work required following the audit has been identified. A briefing has taken place with the local community group and the works are currently being scheduled.

Junction Programme

The Section 38 for both Allenwood and Blackwell Cross were noted at the April Municipal District meeting. The project team are finalising tender documents and will issue the tender for the works shortly with a view to commencing construction works as soon as possible.

National Roads Office

M4 Eastbound Bus Priority Scheme

Construction almost complete (noise barriers to be installed). Changes to legislation are required to allow Bus to run on the hard shoulder and the draft amendment to the legislation are with the department for approval by the Minister and expected to be approved shortly.

M9 Park and Share sites:

Works progresses on the M9 Park and Share sites at Junctions 3,4 and 5. Junctions 3 and 4 are in Kildare and the NRO are preparing the feasibility and options report and are currently identifying possible locations where land can be acquired by agreement.

N7 Bus Priority Measure - Feasibility

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 to Junction 2 – inbound only.

Road Safety

Speed Limit Review

The Council has commenced the process for the introduction of special speed limit by laws for built up areas in accordance with the updated mandatory Guidelines for the Setting and Managing of Speed Limits in Ireland document, published by the Department of Transport.

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

Launch of Bike Week 2026



Kildare County Council, in collaboration with Kildare Sports Partnership, and supported by An Garda Síochána and the National Transport Authority, launched Bike Week 2026.

Running from Saturday, 09 May to Sunday, 17 May, Bike Week is an annual celebration and promotion of the benefits of cycling. Communities across Kildare are invited to enjoy a wide variety of free cycling activities, including community cycles, fun bike festivals, bike safety workshops, and inclusive family events.

Just 1 Life Programme



The closing session of the Just 1 Life Road Safety Programme took place this week at Naas Odeon Cinema, marking the conclusion of another impactful year of delivery to secondary school students across County Kildare.

The Just 1 Life Programme is supported by Kildare County Council and is delivered in collaboration with Naas and Newbridge Rotary Clubs, An Garda Síochána, A&E Consultant from Naas Hospital and Kildare Fire Services.

Delivered throughout the 2025/2026 school year to over 2,500 students over ten sessions, the programme has once again played a vital role in raising awareness amongst young people of the real-life consequences of dangerous behaviour on the roads



whether you're a driver, passenger or pedestrian through the delivery of hard-hitting road safety messages.

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 and Restoration Maintenance programmes for 2026. The total RI allocation is €11,334,000 and RM is €2,678,500, which is in line with the allocation for 2025.

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

General Maintenance

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

Public Lighting

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

Surface Dressing

The annual surface dressing programme will commence on Monday the 25 May. These works will commence in the north of the county and work south with an estimated duration of six to eight weeks. These works are weather dependent which may affect the duration. The locations of these works were already shared as part of the road works programme for 2026.

Winter Maintenance

The winter maintenance season for 2026 is now completed. A review of the season will be carried in the coming months, ahead of the next



season which will commence in October.

Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) and Community Involvement Scheme (CIS)

Applications have been assessed for the above schemes for the improvement of non-public roads (LIS) and public roads (CIS). The LIS schemes progressing in 2026 have been advised and are listed below

- Allenwood South, Jacobs Well Road – Clane Maynooth Municipal District
- Parkies Lane, Roseberry, Newbridge – Kildare Newbridge Municipal District
- Plunketstown Lower - Athy Municipal District
- Alliganstown, Ballymore Eustace – Kildare Newbridge Municipal District
- Grangehiggin - Kildare Newbridge Municipal District

The Community Involvement Scheme 2026-2027 has been advertised. Closing date for applications is 29 May. This scheme allows communities to co-fund the repair and maintenance of local roads and cul-de-sacs not typically covered by main roadworks programmes. Full details/guidelines and application forms may be obtained from Kildare County Council's website https://kildarecoco.ie/AllServices/Transport/Communityinvolvementscheme/ or by emailing liscis@kildarecoco.ie.

Sustainable Transport

Royal Canal Greenway Scheme

2026 Allocation: €440,000

The work on the greenway is substantially complete and the contract is in the defects period, final snagging is taking place, and retention will be released subject to this being completed. Final Account agreed with contractor.

Louisa Bridge Leixlip - Royal Canal Greenway Scheme

2026 Allocation: €160,000

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

2026 Allocation: €870,000



Tender for construction delayed due to complex drainage requirements to provide a scheme consistent with Sustainable Drainage System. A decision on the timescale for tendering of the project will be made and communicated.

Naas to Sallins Greenway (Section 2 Naas Harbour – Sallins Village)

2026 Allocation: €50,000

Meeting to be held with Waterways Ireland to discuss the scope of works and requirements between Osberstown Bridge and Sallins Village.

Sallins Village Active Travel Scheme

2026 Allocation: €100,000

Completion of the draft preliminary design delayed due to requirement to include new active travel bridge to the west of the existing traffic bridge in Sallins Village. A decision to proceed with the scheme in phases will be made and communicated.

Celbridge Road, Maynooth Active Travel Scheme

2026 Allocation: €1,000,000

The intention is to commence a Part 8 Public Consultation process in Q2 2026. A number of internal stakeholder engagement events took place in April, and feedback has been incorporated into the Part 8 drawings.

A further briefing session with elected members was held on Friday, 08 May, in advance of the public consultation process.

Kilcullen Road, Naas Active Travel Scheme

2026 Allocation: €800,000

The designers of the scheme have been appointed to examine the independent post opening safety review of the scheme. Initial meeting with the designer has taken place and are currently reviewing the independent report. A briefing with elected members is planned following this initial review.

Celbridge Active Travel Bridge

2026 Allocation: €50,000

Land transfer discussions to continue for land required to build the bridge.

Monread Road, Naas Active Travel Scheme

2026 Allocation: €25,000

Approaches to Sallins Road Roundabout to be examined to



prepare an alternative to the zebra crossing across the two-lane width approaches.

Dublin Road, Naas Active Travel Scheme

2026 Allocation: €1,000,000
Construction documents are being prepared and tender documents are being finalised. We are currently in discussion with Uisce Eireann as there are works required to water mains in this location.

Monasterevin Active Travel Scheme

2026 Allocation: €50,000
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.

Newbridge Main Street

2026 Allocation: €200,000
Site meeting held with elected members on this project potential options drawing is being progress ahead of discussions with the National Transport Authority.

SRTS Round 2 - Patrician Primary/St. Conleth's, Newbridge

2026 Allocation: €150,000
Scheme due to be implemented in 2026.

SRTS Round 2 - Scoil Bhríde/Scoil Phádraig, Clane

2026 Allocation: €150,000
Scheme due to be implemented in 2026.

Mill Street, Maynooth Active Travel Scheme

2026 Allocation: €1,700,000
Substantial completion certificate issued and the contractor is completing snags in the twelve month defects period. Final Account being discussed with contractor.

SRTS (R3) - Scoil an Linbh Iosa, Prosperous

2026 Allocation: €350,000
Scheme due to be implemented in Summer 2026.

Naas to Kill Active Travel Scheme

2026 Allcation: €525,000
Appointment of consultants to proceed with the detailed design of the scheme has been completed.



Dublin Road (Naas) Connector Active Travel Scheme

2026 Allocation: €400,000

Progress on this scheme is tied to resource availability.

SRTS (R4) Ardscoil Rath Iomghain, Rathangan

2026 Allocation: €20,000

SRTS Delivery Plan to be completed by An Taisce Green Schools.

SRTS (R4) Maynooth Educate Together NS

2026 Allocation: €20,000

SRTS Delivery Plan completed by An Taisce Green Schools and initial discussion completed with the school.

SRTS (R4) Scoil Eoin Phoil, Green Lane, Leixlip

2026 Allocation: €20,000

SRTS Delivery Plan to be completed by An Taisce Green Schools.

SRTS (R4) Scoil Íde Naofa, Kilmead, Athy

2026 Allocation: €20,000

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.

The Council is expecting the delivery of new bus shelters from the National Transport Authority during 2026. Installation to commence in the county shortly.

Open Spaces

Outdoor Recreation Plan

A final version of the plan is complete and will be presented to the Transportation, Mobility and Open Spaces Strategic Policy Committee this month.

Cherry Avenue Park

A tender for the construction of an initial phase of the park is due to be advertised this month.

Playground Inspection App

A new app to log safety and maintenance inspections has been developed in conjunction with the IT Department and is being rolled out for use in the playgrounds across the county.



Sallins Amenity Land

A breakdown of costings submitted for the initial phase of works proposed in Sallins Amenity Land have been approved by the Sports Capital Programme Division. The preliminary business plan and financial analysis have been resubmitted following a request for additional information. Approval is now awaited to allow a tender to be issued for the initial phase of works.

Planning, Enterprise and Economic Development

Planning

Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029:

Variations currently underway;

- Variation No. 3 – Revisions to the National Planning Framework
  The Chief Executive Report for proposed Variation No. 3 (Revised NPF) of the Kildare County Development Plan (as varied) issued to the Elected Members with a Special Meeting held 27 April 2026.
- Variation No. 4 – Landscape Character Assessment
  The Chief Executive Report for proposed Variation No. 4 (LCA) of the Kildare County Development Plan (as varied) was issued to the Elected Members on with a Special Meeting held 27 April 2026.
- Variation No. 6 – Sallins Settlement Plan
  Preparation of Draft Variation and supporting documents complete, publication 22 April – 20 May 2026
- Variation No. 7 – Monasterevin Settlement Plan
  Preparation of Draft Variation and supporting documents underway and due for publication Q2 2026
- Variation No. 8 – Kilcock Settlement Plan
  Preparation of Draft Variation and supporting documents underway and due for publication Q3 2026
- Variation No. 9 – Celbridge Settlement Plan
  Preparation of Draft Variation and supporting documents

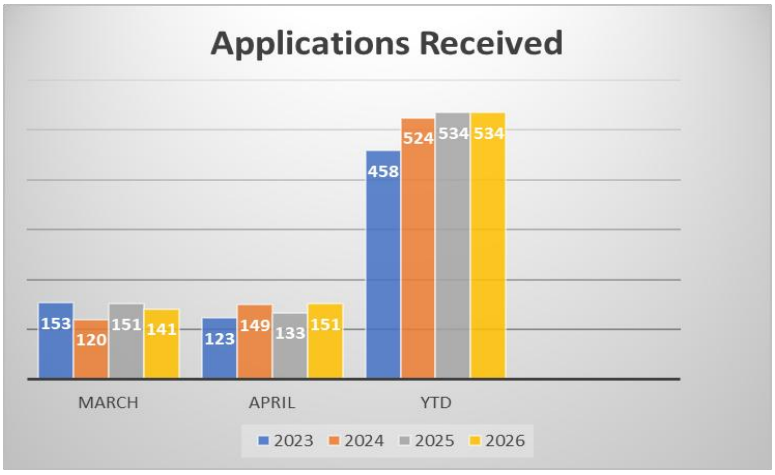


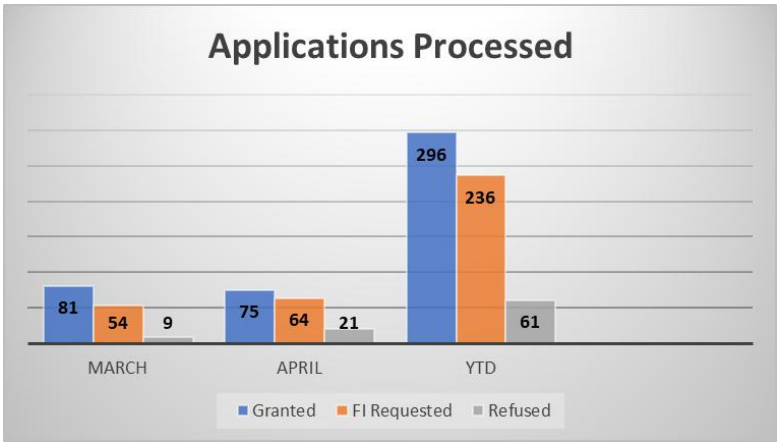
underway and due for publication Q4 2026.

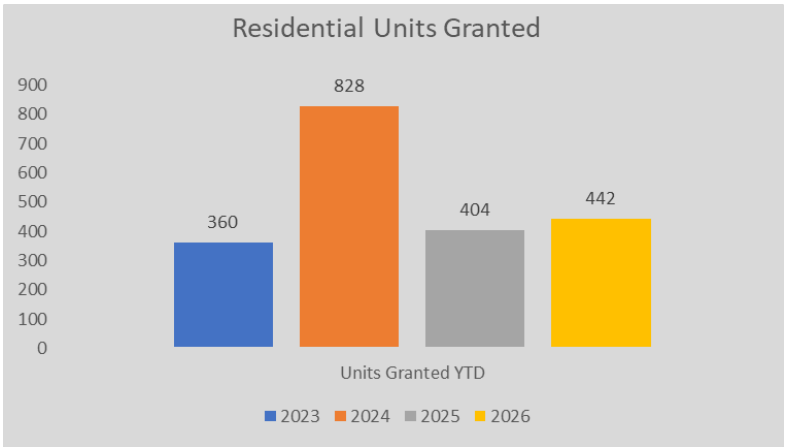
Development Management

ePlanning

In 2025, 89% of all applications received were via the online planning portal, an increase of 11% on 2024. 98% of submissions/observations continue to be submitted via online ePlanning.









Pre-Planning

33 new Pre-Planning requests were submitted in March, 97 applications received year to date.

Section 5s

Nine new Section 5 Declarations requests received in March, 33 applications received year to date.

Large-scale Residential Development (LRD)

LRD Applications					
Ref No.	**Date Received**	**Applicant**	**Development Address**	**Proposed**	**Decision**
2561119	02/10/25	Cozone Ventures Ltd	Railpark, Maynooth	581 Residential Units and Neighbourhood Centre	Granted 07/05/2026
2561468	19/12/25	Maynooth Montane Ltd	Railpark West, Maynooth	139 Residential Units and Creche	FI Requested 19/02/2026
2660381	09/04/26	Andrews Construction	Tea Lane/Church Road, Celbridge	115 Residential Units and Creche	Decision Due 03/06/2026
2660469	29/04/26	Ballymore Development Ltd	Lands west of Naas Racecourse	234 Residential Units and Creche	Decision Due 23/06/2026

Strategic Housing Development Applications to An Coimisiún Pleanála (SHD)

An Coimisiún Pleanála issued a decision to refuse a Strategic Housing Development application on 02 January 2026. The application was for a development of 344 residential units at Ballyoulster, Celbridge, application number 22313825.

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



Strategic Infrastructure Development Applications to An Coimisiún Pleanála (SID)

Uisce Éireann Water Supply Project

Eastern and Midlands Region. Special Council meeting held on 25 March. Chief Executive Report sent to An Coimisiún Pleanála 27 March.

Derrynadarragh Wind Farm

Nine wind turbines, onsite 110kV substation, turbine delivery route and a grid connection route in townlands of Aughrim and Derrylea (Monasterevin) in County Kildare. Special Council meeting was held on 14 April. CE Report was sent to An Coimisiún Pleanála same day.

Heritage and Nature

A. Biodiversity / Ecology

- An Ecological Capacity Building Programme for Planning and wider Kildare County Council underway.
- 100 staff attended (in person and online) the first training event (collaboration between Heritage and Nature Unit and Parks) on Hedgerow and Tree Protection and Management on 22 April. Will follow up with Toolkit/Video.



Hedgerow and Tree Training 22 April 2026

- Biodiversity Week commences on 15 May – Twenty events throughout the county.
- Ballynafagh Tender Assessment complete – letters of appointment and notification due to be circulated.
- Feighcullen Woodland Creation on Public Lands – Planting Scheme agreed. Implementation will commence in Q4 2026.

B. Heritage and Conservation

- Historic Towns Initiative 2026 – €60,000 Funding allocated for Ballitore Heritage Led Regeneration Plan.
- Kildare County Council Thatched Cottages Grant 2026 €15,000 awarded to a rethatch in Suncroft.
- Ongoing review of the Record of Protected Structures by ACO and



Intern in preparation of the next County Development Plan.

Kildare Land Activation Office (KLAO)

Housing Infrastructure Investment Fund (Hiff) - Call 1

All applications are currently being assessed for eligibility, and all eligible applications will be assessed based on the criteria set out in the Scheme Outline. Correspondence will issue to all successful and unsuccessful applicants when this process has been completed (estimated April / May 2026).

Masterplans:

Northwest Quadrant (Naas) Framework Masterplan

The Framework Masterplan has been finalised and is programmed for integration into the statutory planning framework via Variation No.5 to the County Development Plan, with a target June publication date. Supporting documents are currently being finalised. The Delivery Strategy will then be progressed.

Naas Canal Quarter Masterplan

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

Town And City Investment Fund:

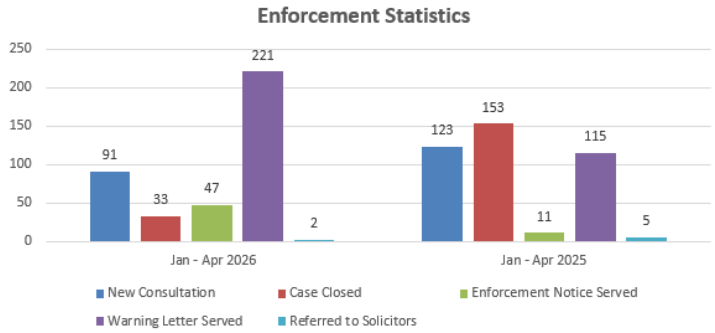
KLAO applied on behalf of Kildare County Council to the funding call on 01 May 2026 for a Project Development stream grant to support the council in preparing a Masterplan for the Newbridge Central Settlement Consolidation Site. A masterplan would provide a mechanism to advance the regeneration of this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

KLAO Steering Committee:

The third KLAO steering committee meeting met in April 2026. The KLAO unit will concentrate on accelerating the activation of the large urban extensions at Northwest Quadrant (Naas), Confey (Leixlip), Maynooth (West), Celbridge (south), and the Newbridge Central Settlement Consolidation Site. The Steering Committee is to meet again in circa eight weeks' time to discuss the units'



work programme and the outcome of the HIIF application process.

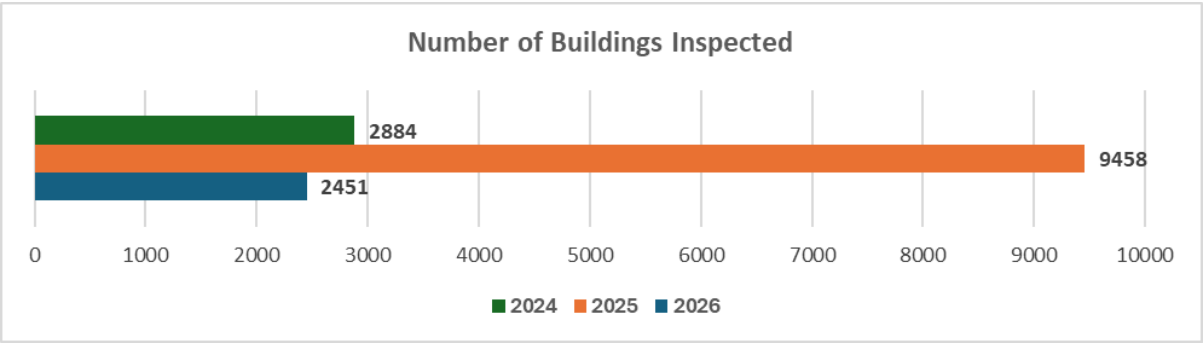


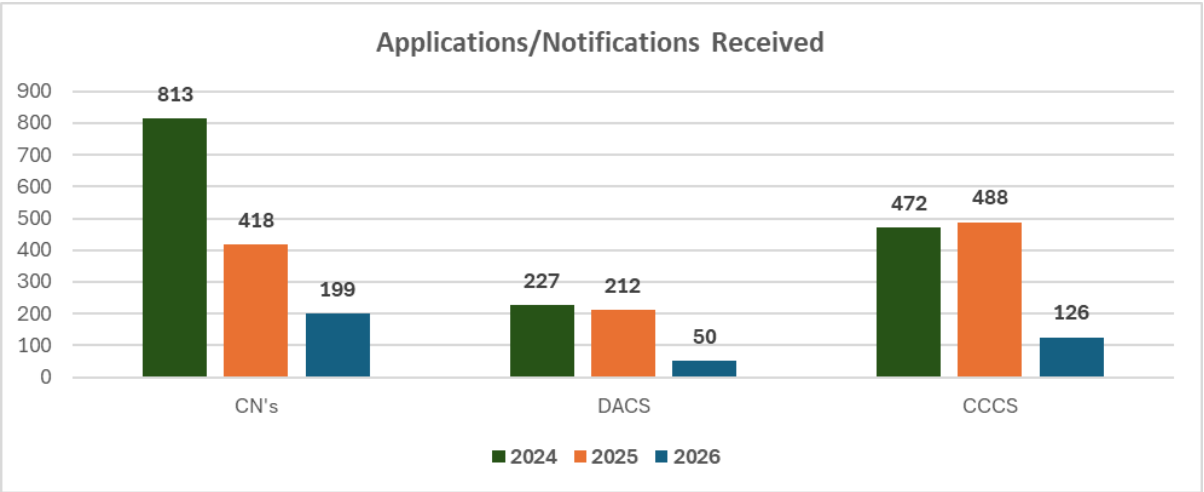
Planning Enforcement Summary for April 2026

19	New Consultations
12	Cases Closed
3	Enforcement Notices Served
30	Warning Letters Served
0	Cases referred to Solicitors

Building and Development Control

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







Kildare Fáilte – Into Kildare

Key Activities

Into Kildare's marketing activity throughout April focused on promoting the Easter period and highlighting key upcoming events across the county, including the Punchestown Racing Festival. A significant milestone during the month was the launch of the new Into Kildare tourism website, which now includes a dedicated Event Planners section designed to support conference and event bookings in County Kildare, alongside comprehensive listings of tourism, hospitality and visitor experiences.

Into Kildare attended the launch day of the Punchestown Festival with FBD Hotels and Resorts.



Killashee, Punchestown and Into Kildare representatives

Chief Executive Áine Mangan participated in an interview on Newstalk discussing the importance of the Punchestown Festival in supporting tourism across County Kildare and its significant contribution to local businesses and the hospitality sector. The interview also highlighted key attractions and upcoming events taking place across the county.

Ongoing sponsorship and planning meetings for Taste of Kildare continued throughout the month, with a number of previous sponsors and exhibitors confirming their participation in this year's event.

Tickets for the festival officially went on sale with an Early Bird promotional campaign.

A comprehensive marketing plan has been developed for Taste of Kildare, focused on driving brand awareness and maximising ticket sales through a combination of paid and organic marketing campaigns.

The Taste of Kildare launch event has been confirmed for 12 June at Naas Racecourse.



Planning meetings took place in advance of filming for the Athy tourism



project “24 Hours in Athy / 48 Hours in Kildare”. Detailed itineraries and filming locations were agreed, with key attractions and partners identified to maximise campaign reach and visitor engagement.



Into Kildare attended and supported an event at the Museum of Style Icons at Newbridge Silverware Visitor Centre. The occasion marked the launch of a new permanent exhibition and included a meet-and-greet with Daniel and Majella O'Donnell, offering attendees the opportunity to engage with them in person.



Into Kildare Chief Executive Áine Mangan with owners of Newbridge Silverware

Into Kildare held its Annual General Meeting at the Solas Bhríde Centre, Kildare Town, with very strong attendance from tourism businesses and stakeholders from across the county. The event was attended by Cathaoirleach Carmel Kelly, Minister Martin Heydon TD, Chief Executive of Kildare County Council Sonya Kavanagh and other invited guests. Guest speaker Pól Ó Conghaile, award-winning travel editor, journalist and author, addressed attendees on travel trends and hospitality insights.



Into Kildare Chief Executive Áine Mangan with Into Kildare Board of Directors

The AGM provided an opportunity to highlight key activities and achievements from 2025, while also outlining strategic priorities and key objectives for 2026. while also outlining strategic priorities and plans for 2026.
Updates at the AGM included the formal confirmation of David Kelly as



Chairperson and the ratification of Jacqui McNabb to the Board of Directors.



Ann Marie Sweeney Local Enterprise Office, Chief Executive Kildare County Council Sonya Kavanagh, Cathaoirleach Carmel Kelly and Into Kildare Chief Executive Áine Mangan

Chief Executive Áine Mangan chaired the LGMA Tourism Officer Network meeting hosted by Fingal County Council at Malahide Castle Visitor Centre, featuring guest speaker Ciara Sugrue from Fáilte Ireland. Representatives from over 32 county councils attended the meeting.



Tourism Officer LGMA Network - hosted by Fingal County Council with Guest Speaker Failte Ireland.

Into Kildare attended the official launch of the OFX Irish Legends at Carton House Fairmont. The launch panel featured Paul McGinley, alongside Phil Harrison of the Staysure Legends Tour, Maeve McMahon of OFX, and Liam McCool.



OFX and Fairmont, Carton House representatives

Planning and delivery of upcoming tourism initiatives continues across a number of key projects. Into Kildare has also finalised the itinerary for the French FAM Trip, while preparations are also progressing for the US PNW PGA FAM Trip, which will showcase Kildare's golf tourism offering to the North American market



Enterprise and Economic Development

2026 Financial Supports

Total LEO Financial Supports at 07 May 2026	No. Businesses	Amount Approved (€)
Grow Digital Voucher	12	€25,372
Business Expansion Grant	0	€0
Priming Grant	0	€0
Feasibility Study Grant	0	€0
Market Explorer Grant	4	€16,845
Gradstart	0	€0
IP Start Grant	2	€4,320
Energy Efficiency Grant	7	€60,593
TOTAL	**25**	**€107,130**

Entrepreneurship Support

Focus on Competitiveness

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

Green for Business – to support businesses on their sustainability journey.
https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Financial-Supports/Green-for-Business/
Lean for Business – to support businesses in becoming more efficient.
https://www.localenterprise.ie/kildare/financial-supports/lean%20for%20business/
Digital for Business – to support businesses on digital transformation projects.
https://www.localenterprise.ie/portal/digital/the-digital-for-business-support.html

Supports to Clients as of 07.05.2026	Target	Applications Approved
Lean for Business	18	17
Green for Business	32	14



Digital for Business	32	24

Focus On Tech

The Tech Pre Accelerator commenced on 09 April with 15 participants beginning their ten week journey. The programme officially launched in Merits Hub with a strong mix of anticipation, nerves and positive energy among participants. Denise O'Grady of Denise O'Grady consulting led the opening session, setting a strong foundation for the programme and supporting participants as they began developing and progressing their business ideas.

As part of our mentoring programme supports, Michael O'Gorman joined as Tech Specialist in Residence. Michael is CEO of Pathway Business Solutions and Training and brings over thirty years' experience across multinational industry, education and consultancy. Michael provides participants with strategic guidance, innovation expertise and practical coaching to support enterprise growth and development.

Focus On Craft

The Creative Catalyst series of six half-day workshops to support craft businesses takes place from 06 May. Expressions of Interest are now open to craft and food businesses for the Taste of Kildare event on 15-16 August at Naas Racecourse.
The GATHER shop in Kildare has been painted and will have new signage in the coming weeks. Sales at GATHER are up 8% year on year.
Applications are now open for Showcase 2027 in the RDS. The closing date is 20 May.

Economic Development

Retail Supports

Supporting local retailers is a core responsibility of the Economic Development team to enable local economic development, employment and regeneration.

Modules and workshops that took place this month to train and upskill local businesses in Kildare included:

- On 22 April, the Boost Sales with Visual Merchandising workshop was delivered in MERITS, Naas, to train retailers on how to effectively



optimise their merchandising space.

- On 22 April, in collaboration with the KWETB, a full-day accredited 'Understanding Recruitment and Selection Of New Staff' module was delivered with a focus on the retail, tourism and hospitality sectors.

Upcoming training sessions focused on retailers and the hospitality sector include:

- On 11 May, the Sustainable and Profitable - How Small Retailers Win on Both course will be delivered at MERITS, Naas.
- On 19 May, the practical Visual Merchandising Workshop - Dubai Duty Free Irish Derby workshop will be delivered in Market Square, Kildare Town.

For further information, or to book a place, please contact the team on 045 980838 or localenterprise@kildarecoco.ie

Grant Breakdown

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	4	€8,091.50
CBLX	3	€6,850.00
CLMN	4	€10,635.00
KDNB	4	€9,319.40
NAAS	7	€16,062.50
	22	**€16,327.50**

Tourism

The Tourism Activator is supporting EU JTF grantees to draw down grant funding and working with Failte Ireland on press launches for Lullymore Heritage Park and Zipit Forest Adventures at Donadea later this summer.

Kildare County Council was awarded 12,800 towards Agri-Tourism by the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine. The project will develop a new farmers market at Emily Square, Athy.

European Funded Project Repower Regions (Erasmus+)



Kildare County Council, as Lead Partner, is working with 11 European organisations on the Erasmus+ Repower Regions project, supporting regional cooperation and green-skills development in the heating and cooling sector.

The project is approaching its mid-point, with a periodic report due to the European Commission at the end of May, marking a key governance milestone in overall delivery.

Key Achievements

- The project has reached a mid-term delivery stage, with progress across all work packages supporting submission of the upcoming EU periodic report.
- Skills curricula development is progressing across EQF Levels 4, 5 and 6, with modules advancing through quality assurance and preparation for design and online development.
- All partner regions have delivered regional “Best Benefits” summaries, strengthening dissemination, regional visibility, and engagement with local stakeholders.

Strategic Alignment

This work supports the Council’s economic development and climate action objectives, by strengthening regional skills capacity to support the transition to low-carbon heating and cooling technologies.

- The project continues to position the Council as a lead regional authority in EU-funded skills development, with direct relevance for local employers, SMEs, and the construction and retrofit sector.
- Ongoing engagement with European partner regions supports knowledge transfer, best practice, and reputational value for the Council at EU level.

Upcoming Priorities

- Submission of the EU periodic report to the European Commission by end-May 2026.
- Progress remaining skills curricula through quality assurance and design, enabling



structured online development and pilot testing later in 2026

Forward Focus

- Continue development of regional industry alliances, linking employers, training providers, and public bodies to ensure long-term sustainability beyond the project lifecycle.
- Maintain delivery momentum into the next project phase, including preparation for the Transnational Partner Meeting in Krakow, Poland, in November 2026.

Food, Drink and Agri Innovation Hub, Athy

Kildare Local Enterprise Office continues to support the growth and visibility of the county's food and drink sector through targeted initiatives and industry engagement. On 26 April, six Kildare LEO client companies participated as exhibitors at the Regional Food and Drink Producers Showcase in Emerald Park, providing a valuable platform to promote their products, connect with buyers, and raise the profile of Kildare as a leading food-producing region.

Activity within the Food, Drink and Agri Innovation Hub in Athy has continued to focus on building skills and supporting workforce development. A ten day Barista Training Programme, delivered in partnership with KWETB, was completed by eight participants, equipping them with practical, industry-relevant skills to support employment in the hospitality sector.

In addition, a six day Bread Baking Course was delivered in collaboration with the DARA Project, with eight participants taking part. This initiative supported individuals in recovery from substance misuse by providing hands-on training, building confidence, and enhancing pathways to employment. The DARA Project plays a vital role in enabling participants to re-engage with the workforce and community through structured supports and skills development.

These combined initiatives demonstrate Kildare County Council's commitment to supporting local enterprise, creating opportunities for employment and inclusion, and strengthening the county's reputation as a centre of excellence for food and drink production.



Circular Economy Hub, Athy

An Expression of Interest has been submitted for Phase 2 and 3 of the Circular Economy Hub under the Smart Pobal Fund.

Structural Construction Tender awarded and works have commenced. Infill of all selected existing internal openings including the removal of door/window frames, blockwork and the formation of new internal openings 100% complete. Site investigation of ground conditions of future proposed lift shaft 100% completed. Steel formwork to support cracked concrete slab designed and fabricated. Installation scheduled mid-May. New fire exits construction works commenced with demolitions and alterations 100% completed. Full strip out of redundant heating system and miscellaneous electrical removal works 100% completed. The site is fully secure with 24-hour security surveillance with all prohibited access points removed.

Fashion, Textiles and Design Hub, Monasterevin

Demolition and internal alterations completed. Installations of reinforcement and pouring of ground floor foundations completed. Installation of floor screed commenced. All structural steel installation completed. Works have commenced to archway soffit and fire floor construction. Installation of joist hangers, insulations and silents floor system 80% complete. All submittals on schedule. Expressions of Interest have been received from potential workshop facilitators, and a programme of skills-based workshops will be developed.





Sonya Kavanagh
Chief Executive