

Tuarascáil Mhíosúil Bhainistíochta an Phríomhfheidhmeannaigh

Chief Executive Management Report

Deireadh Fómhair 2026

October 2026

Sonya Kavanagh, Chief Executive

Comhairle Contae Chill Dara
Kildare County Council

News Items

EU Presidency Austrian Delegation

The Austrian delegation concluded a three-day visit to County Kildare, marking the county's participation in the EU Presidency County Pairing Initiative through a programme of civic, cultural, educational, heritage, enterprise and community engagements (see page 7).

Towns and Cities Regeneration Investment Fund

Kildare County Council announced that six regenerative projects have been awarded more than €15 million under two categories of the Towns and Cities Regeneration Investment Fund (TCRIF) (see page 7).

Libraries - Summer Stars

A total of 3,866 children from Co. Kildare took part in the Summer Stars 2026, the libraries free national programme encouraging children to read for fun during the school holidays(see page 13).

Housing Infrastructure Investment Fund (HIIF)

Delivering Homes, Building Communities 2025–2030 announced the Housing Infrastructure Investment Fund (HIIF) as a key measure to support the Government's target to deliver 300,000 homes by the end of 2030 (see page 25).

Integration Supports

From 01 January to 05 October 2026, Kildare LAIT delivered 174 clinics supporting 1,075 residents, resolved 1,182 queries and engaged 2,018 people in integration and psycho-social activities (see pages 54-56).

Community Development

The Pride In your place competition took place on 16 September in the Osprey hotel. The awards acknowledge the voluntary efforts made to maintain and enhance public open spaces, and the sense of pride and community engagement that grows from that work (see page 71).

Visiting Delegation from Lexington, Kentucky

County Kildare has been twinned with Lexington, Kentucky since 1984. The relationship is supported by the County Twinning Committee in Kildare and Lexington Sister Cities in Lexington. Over the years, the friendship has grown, underpinned by the shared importance of the equine industry to both regions (see pages 72-73).

Transport Operations

Department of Transport allocations announced in February. Kildare County Council received a total of €20,014,300 for 2026 (see pages 81-82).

Into Kildare

September continued the strong momentum established during the summer. Activity included international travel media visits, national broadcast and radio activity, destination content creation, industry engagement and the promotion of Kildare's towns, attractions and visitor experiences (see pages 94-99).

Entrepreneurship Support

The Local Enterprise Office Kildare exhibited at the Transition Year Show 2026, a national careers, education and enterprise event held at the Curragh Racecourse on 30 September 2026, engaging directly with students, teachers and guidance counsellors, promoting entrepreneurship, enterprise supports and career opportunities in County Kildare (see pages 100-101).

Diary/Calendar

Marking 20 Years of Championing Women in Business

Female entrepreneurs from across County Kildare will come together on 15 October at the Keadeen Hotel, Newbridge to celebrate 20 years of National Women's Enterprise Day. This year's event, Going Global – Her Way, focuses on the growing ambition of Irish women entrepreneurs to expand their businesses into international markets (see page 8).

Local Studies

A Leaving Cert History RSR (Research Study Report) presentation will take place on 21 November in Naas Library to demonstrate to secondary school history students the importance of considering the use of local history collections when deciding on their RSR projects, and to highlight the local content available to them in the Local Studies collections (see pages 14-15).

Climate Action Fortnight 2026

Climate Action Fortnight 2026 will take place from 17–31 October. September planning covered public and internal workshops, school initiatives, talks, walks, films and community activities designed to showcase local projects and encourage practical climate action (see page 64).

Monasterevin Settlement Plan

A Special Meeting of Full Council Scheduled for 23 November 2026 to consider submissions to the Draft Variation and recommendations of the Chief Executive as set out in Chief Executive's Report (see page 88).

Fashion, Textiles and Design Hub

Construction of the Monasterevin hub reached 99% completion, with operations expected to commence in mid-to-late November 2026 (see page 104).

November Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 Nov	3 14:00 Audit Committee Prep; Boardroom; Members Calendar 14:30 Audit Committee; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Boardroom; Members Calendar	4	5	6 10:00 Clane-Maynooth MD Meeting; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar
9	10 15:30 Naas MD Meeting; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar	11	12 15:30 Coiste Gaeilge ; Council Chamber; Members Calendar	13
16 10:00 Athy MD Meeting; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar 15:00 Budget Briefing	17	18 10:00 Kildare-Newbridge MD Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar	19	20 10:00 Celbridge-Leixlip MD Meeting; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar
23 10:00 UÉ - Water Services Workshop 15:00 Budget Meeting; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar	24 14:30 CPG November 2026 Meeting; Boardroom; Members Calendar	25	26	27
30 11:00 NTA Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar 15:00 Full Council Meeting; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar	**1 Dec**	2	3 14:30 LCSP; Council Chamber	4 10:00 Clane-Maynooth MD Meeting; Microsoft Teams Meeting; Council Chamber; Members Calendar

Table of Contents:

Corporate, Culture and Emergency Services 7

Corporate Services 7

Gaeilge, Teangacha Oifigiúla/ Irish Language, Official Languages 9

Library and Arts Service 12

Fire Service Operations: 18

Finance, Digital Services and Innovation and Governance 19

Finance 19

Innovation 22

Housing, Regeneration and People 24

Housing 24

Strategic Projects and Public Realm (SPPR) 25

Integration and Strategic Property Management 53

Integration 53

Climate, Community, Environment and Water 60

Climate 60

Community 66

Environment 73

Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces 78

Transport 78

Open Spaces 86

Planning, Enterprise and Economic Development 88

Planning 88

Kildare Land and Activation Office (KLAO) 92

Building and Development Control 94

Kildare Fáilte - Into Kildare 94

Enterprise and Economic Development 100

Corporate, Culture and Emergency Services

Corporate Services

Communications

New Library eService Announced



Kildare County Council's Library Service announced that Libby, the award-winning reading app, is now available to members of Kildare Libraries. Readers with a valid library membership card can borrow and enjoy eBooks and eAudiobooks immediately through the app.

EU Presidency Austrian Delegation



The Austrian delegation concluded a three-day visit to County Kildare, marking the county's participation in the EU Presidency County Pairing Initiative through a programme of civic, cultural, educational, heritage, enterprise and community engagements.



Funding Awarded for Six Regenerative Projects

The Council announced that six regenerative projects have been awarded more than €15 million under two categories of the Towns and Cities Regeneration Investment Fund (TCRIF). The package includes funding of €6 million for the refurbishment of Kildare Town Community Centre and more than €4 million each to Maynooth's Harbour Field Park and Murtagh's Corner Project in Naas. A further €450,000 has been award to progress two key projects in Celbridge, Donaghcomper Amenity Lands and the redevelopment of the Parochial House and lands and also for preparation of a masterplan for

Newbridge Central Settlement Consolidation Site.

National Public Libraries Open Day 2026



Kildare Library Service encouraged people of all ages to visit their local library on National Public Libraries Open Day 2026, which took place on Saturday, 26 September, to discover the benefits of free library membership. To mark the day, Kildare Library Service held a range of events across the county.

Marking 20 Years of Championing Women in Business



Female entrepreneurs from across County Kildare will come together on 15 October at the Keadeen Hotel, Newbridge to celebrate 20 years of National Women's Enterprise Day. This year's event, Going Global – Her Way, focuses on the growing ambition of Irish women entrepreneurs to expand their businesses into international markets.
Hosted by the Council's Local Enterprise Office, the event will bring together female entrepreneurs at all stages of their entrepreneurial journey, from those exploring exporting opportunities to established businesswomen already trading internationally.

Pride in Your Place Awards 2026



The thirty first annual Pride in Your Place Awards 2026 was hosted by the Council at the Osprey Hotel, Naas. The event celebrated the outstanding achievements of community groups, residents' associations and young people across Local Authority and Approved Housing Body estates

throughout County Kildare. The awards acknowledge the voluntary efforts made to maintain and enhance public open spaces, and more importantly, the sense of pride and community engagement that grows from that work.

M4 Bus Priority Scheme Opened

The Council, in partnership with the Department of Transport, Transport Infrastructure Ireland, National Transport Authority and South Dublin County Council, announced that the M4 Eastbound Hard Shoulder Bus Priority Measures Pilot Scheme was operational, marking an important step in supporting a shift to sustainable transport on Irish motorways. The pilot scheme operates on the eastbound carriageway of the M4 between Junction 6, Celbridge and Junction 5, Leixlip, permitting buses to use the hard shoulder during peak travel times.

FOI, Data Requests and Ombudsman

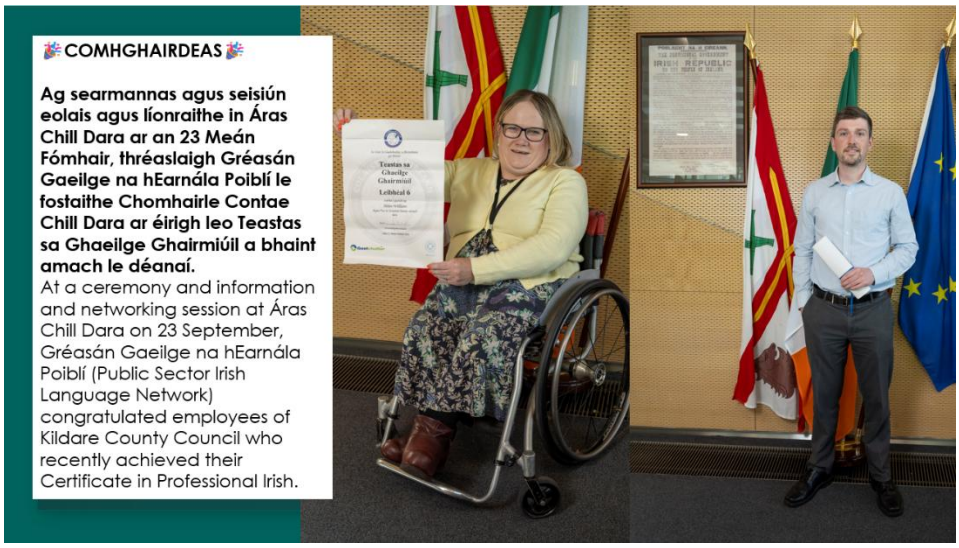
	Total received Quarter 1, 2026	Total received Quarter 2, 2026	Total received Quarter 3, 2026
Freedom of Information Requests	63	67	153
Freedom of information appeals	2	8	6
Information Commissioner Appeals	1	4	2
Data Access Requests	10	5	15
Ombudsman	7	9	14

Gaeilge, Teangacha Oifigiúla/ Irish Language, Official Languages

Brian Cregan




Comhghairdeas! Ghnóthaigh Helen Williams, Seirbhísí Corparáideacha, agus Simon Higgins, Pleanáil, a úsáideann an Ghaeilge fheidhmeach ina gcuid oibre, Teastas Gaelchultúr sa Ghaeilge Ghairmiúil ag leibhéal C1 ar an gCreat Eorpach, QQ1 Leibhéal 6.
Congratulations! Helen Williams, Corporate Services, and Simon Higgins, Planning, who regularly use applied Irish in their work, have achieved the Gaelchultúr Certificate in Professional Irish at level C1 on the European Framework (CEFR), QQ1 Level 6.
Comhairle Contae Chill Dara
Kildare County Council
Gaelchultúr


COMHGHAIRDEAS
Ag searmannas agus seisiún eolais agus líonraithe in Áras Chill Dara ar an 23 Meán Fómhair, thréaslaigh Gréasán Gaeilge na hEarnála Poiblí le fostaithe Chomhairle Contae Chill Dara ar éirigh leo Teastas sa Ghaeilge Ghairmiúil a bhaint amach le déanaí.
At a ceremony and information and networking session at Áras Chill Dara on 23 September, Gréasán Gaeilge na hEarnála Poiblí (Public Sector Irish Language Network) congratulated employees of Kildare County Council who recently achieved their Certificate in Professional Irish.


Comhghairdeas! Ghnóthaigh Jean K. Herbert, Seirbhísí Leabharlainne Chill Dara, ar ball de Choiste Gaeilge na Leabharlainne í, Teastas Gaelchultúr sa Ghaeilge Ghairmiúil ag Leibhéal B2 ar an gCreat Eorpach, QQ1 Leibhéal 5. Oibríonn Jean sa leabharlann i mBaile Chill Dara agus bhunaigh sí grúpa nua scéalaíochta trí Ghaeilge don óige le déanaí – treise le Jean, rinne sí éacht!
Congratulations! Jean K. Herbert, Kildare Library Service, who is a member of our Library Service's Irish Language Committee, received her Gaelchultúr Certificate in Professional Irish at Level B2 on the European Framework (CEFR), QQ1 Level 5. Jean works in the library in Kildare Town and recently established a new Irish language storytelling group for young people – more power to Jean, what a wonderful achievement!
Gaelchultúr
Irish Books for Adults - Fiction & Non-Fiction
Leabhair as Gaeilge do Dhaoine Fasta -Ficsean & Neamhfhicsean

Cuairt Ghréasán Gaeilge na hEarnála Poiblí ar Áras Chill Dara

Thug Gréasán Gaeilge na hEarnála Poiblí cuairt ar Áras Chill Dara ar an 23 Meán Fómhair chun foghlaim faoi na deiseanna a chuirimid ar fáil dár gcomhghleacaithe chun an Ghaeilge a chloisteáil agus a labhairt ar fud na Comhairle agus go sóisialta.

Is líonra Gaeilge é Gréasán Gaeilge a thugann daoine atá ag obair san Earnáil Phoiblí le chéile agus a thugann deiseanna dóibh a gcuid Gaeilge a labhairt agus a chleachtadh ag imeachtaí rialta. Le linn na cuairte, tugadh forléargas do Chomhairle Contae Chill Dara ar an obair a dhéanann an Gréasán Gaeilge, ar na tacaíochtaí atá ar fáil dár n-eagraíocht, agus ar dheiseanna rannpháirtíochta na foirne agus na gcomhlachtaí poiblí. Tharla an chuairt seo i gcomhthráth le himeacht líonraithe Gaeilge an Ghréasáin sa Droichead Nua.

Ag an ócáid líonraithe agus ceiliúrtha speisialta seo, thréaslaigh Cathaoirleach Chontae Chill Dara, An Comhairleoir Tim Durkan, agus Máire Bríd Ní Ghionnáin, Bainisteoir Tionscadail Ghréasán Gaeilge na hEarnála Poiblí, a gcáilíochtaí gairmiúla Gaeilge, Teastas sa Ghaeilge Ghairmiúil, le fostaithe na Comhairle.

Bhuail an Gréasán le baill Fhoireann na dTeangacha Oifigiúla agus le baill Chlub Cúpla Focal na Comhairle, agus bhí siad an-tógtha le Paudie Teahan, Ciarraíoch ó dhúchas atá ag obair sa Rannóg Tithíochta, agus a chan ‘An Poc ar Buile’ in onóir na hócáide speisialta. Ardfhear a Phaudie!

Tá Comhairle Contae Chill Dara go mór faoi chomaoin ag foireann Ghréasán Gaeilge na hEarnála Phoiblí agus guímid gach rath ar an obair thábhachtach atá ar bun acu. Táimid ag súil le bheith ag comhoibriú leo amach anseo agus ag cur na Gaeilge chun cinn ar scáth a chéile.

Is féidir le Seirbhísigh Phoiblí clárú leis an nGréasán Gaeilge anseo: Cláraigh — Gréasán Gaeilge na hEarnála Poiblí https://www.greasangaeilge.ie/claraigh

-

Gréasán Gaeilge na hEarnála Poiblí (Irish Language Public Sector Network) visit Áras Chill Dara

Gréasán Gaeilge na hEarnála Poiblí, the government’s Irish Language Network, visited Áras Chill Dara on 23 September to learn about the

opportunities we offer our colleagues to hear and speak Irish across the Council and in social settings.

Gréasán Gaeilge is an Irish language network that brings together people working in the Public Sector and provides opportunities for them to speak and practise their Irish at regular events. During the visit, Kildare County Council was given an overview of the Irish Language Network's projects, the supports available to our own organisation, as well as opportunities for staff and public bodies to participate in the network. This visit coincided with Gréasán Gaeilge's Irish language networking event in Newbridge.

At this special networking and celebratory event, Cathaoirleach of the County of Kildare, Councillor Tim Durkan, and Máire Bríd Ní Ghionnáin, Project Manager, Gréasán Gaeilge na hEarnála Poiblí, congratulated the council's employees on their recently-achieved professional Irish language qualification, the Certificate in Professional Irish.

Gréasán Gaeilge met with members of our Official Languages Team and with members of the Council's Club Cúpla Focal, and they were most impressed with Paudie Teahan, a native of the Kingdom of Kerry who works in the Housing Department, and who sang "An Poc ar Buile" to mark the special event. Good man Paudie!

Kildare County Council is most grateful to Gréasán Gaeilge na hEarnála Poiblí, we wish them every success in their future endeavours, and we look forward to collaborating to promote the Irish language.

Public servants can register with Gréasán Gaeilge here: Cláraigh — Gréasán Gaeilge na hEarnála Poiblí https://www.greasangaeilge.ie/claraigh

-

Library and Arts Service

News and Highlights

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

Austrian Ambassador visit to Kildare

Kildare Libraries contributed to the recent visit by the Austrian Ambassador to County Kildare from 23–25 September. The Ambassador

visited Athy and Naas Libraries as part of the celebration of Ireland's EU Presidency and as part of the Kildare-Austria pairing. Ireland's Ambassador to Austria accompanied the Ambassador. There was a wonderful demonstration of local musical talent in Athy with Music Generation and local musicians and a Q&A with students from Scoil Phádraig Naofa. Co. Librarian, Gillian Allen gave the Ambassadors a tour of the beautiful Naas Library and Cultural Centre while Kildare Libraries ably assisted the visits to St. Brigid's Cathedral and Kildare Town Community School. There were talks on another Austrian visitor, The Empress Sisi in Leixlip and Naas to coincide with the visit.





Summer Stars

A total of 3,866 children from Co. Kildare took part in the Summer Stars 2026, the libraries free national programme encouraging children to read for fun during the school holidays. Whether it's picture books, graphic novels, or audiobooks, every child could take part and enjoy reading at their own pace and were able to take part in a wide range of events including story times, author readings, games, concerts, arts and crafts and much more. A total of 239 events took place, with an overall attendance of 6,999.

By supporting children to embrace the joy of reading, libraries are helping them to develop skills for life - literacy skills, imagination, and creativity, and to develop a lifelong love of reading!

Culture Night

Kildare Libraries hosted a successful programme for Culture night: Celbridge Library screened the award winning local film Headspace; Naas Library: Featured Amhráin Scoile Ghaeilge/Songs You learned at Primary School and Aria, a community choir of 50 ladies from Co. Kildare; Castledermot Library: Showcased the film Rocky Road to Dublin: A Secular Ireland? Athy Library had Opera with Ioana Constantin; Gaeilge Chois Bhearu and Legends with Athy Gospel Choir; Eoghan Burke gave a Bodhran workshop in Maynooth and played and sang songs from Kildare in Kildare Town Library.



Eoghan Burke in Kildare Town Library

County Archives and Local Studies Archives

Digitisation of a further six volumes of archival material has been undertaken with funding from the Department of Culture, Communications and Sport's Commemorations grant including Naas Town Commissioners' minute books, Kildare County Council minute book, the Book of Maynooth and some more of the Ballitore Papers. These will be made available online shortly.

Attended eGovernment Awards in UCD where the KCC-Files app was a finalist in the Digital Transformation Project of the Year category.

Ongoing review of files in the Cotton Mills Records Store, Áras Chill Dara and NRO. Training and assisting staff with the implementation of the KCC-Files app and records management.

Local Studies

A Leaving Cert History RSR (Research Study Report) presentation will take place on 21 November in Naas Library to demonstrate to secondary school history students the importance of considering the use of local history collections when deciding on their RSR projects, and to highlight the local content available to them in the Local Studies collections.

Kildare Arts Service

Culture Night/ Oíche Chultúir 2026 Highlights

Culture Night was on 18 September featured over 76 free cultural events across all five Municipal Districts in Kildare This annual event employed over 25 artists in the County and supporting an additional 32 arts workers to audiences of more than 4055 people. A selection of our highlights below.

VECTOR Digital Arts Residency talk MERTIS, Naas



Photo credit: Malcom McGettigan, Serena Devereux Culture Night 2026

Serena Devereux led a conversation about her work offering insight into her research, creative process and residency experience, as well as the technologies and ecological themes that underpin the work. The VECTOR Digital Arts Residency with MERITS now in its second year its positive emphasis on professional and creative development helps aligning this residency with county and national digital arts strategies to promote innovation and collaboration in the arts and creative industries.

CRAICLY, Derrymullen Farm, Allenwood

Taking place in a Cow Shed and celebrating multiple stories of “The Cow” Derrymullen is a 200-acre organic operation, with a herd of Speckled Park Cattle and home to generations of farmers. The evening of Storytelling included storytelling and Kate Ryan talking about the traditional of Irish food and a trad session from local musicians.



Photo credit: CRAICLY, photo by Malcom McGettigan 2026

NRITYĀ NAZĀKHAT at Castletown House



Photo by Malcom McGettigan 2026

An original Kathak production nrityā nazākhat featuring four dancers and a live Hindustani classical musician on tabla. The performance at Castletown House explored nazākhat—subtlety, grace and emotional nuance through intricate footwork, live music and dialogue between dancers and musicians. Structured across seven short acts, the work moves from expressive storytelling into increasingly virtuosic rhythmic exchanges, culminating in ahigh-energy finale. It has been conceived as a site-responsive performance, where the architecture of Castletown House becomes an active part of the experience, creating a dialogue between heritage, movement and music.



Photo by Malcom McGettigan 2026

The Parachute Project - Brian Cregan and Curragh Community College



Photo by Brian Cregan

The Parachute Project was asix week creative programme which took place in April and May 2026 where students explored the origins of photography, learned cyanotype printmaking techniques, and investigated the unique history, landscape and heritage of the Curragh.

Lead Artist Brian Cregan
Associate Artists: TY Students at Curragh Community College Design and Textile fabrication Aideen Cross/Creative Sewing
Film by Richard Lennon (Darn Skippy) which was screened on Wednesday 16 September, 7.00pm followed by reception and display of the artwork.
The Parachute Project was co-commissioned by Riverbank Arts Centre and Kildare County Council Arts Service.



Photo image credit: Brian Cregan 2026

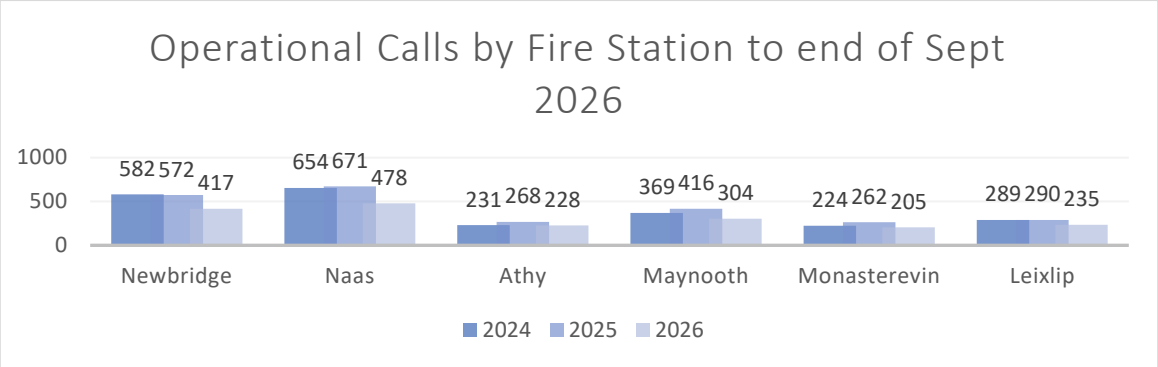
MARTA GOLUBOWSKA, M52 Barge, Robertstown Harbour

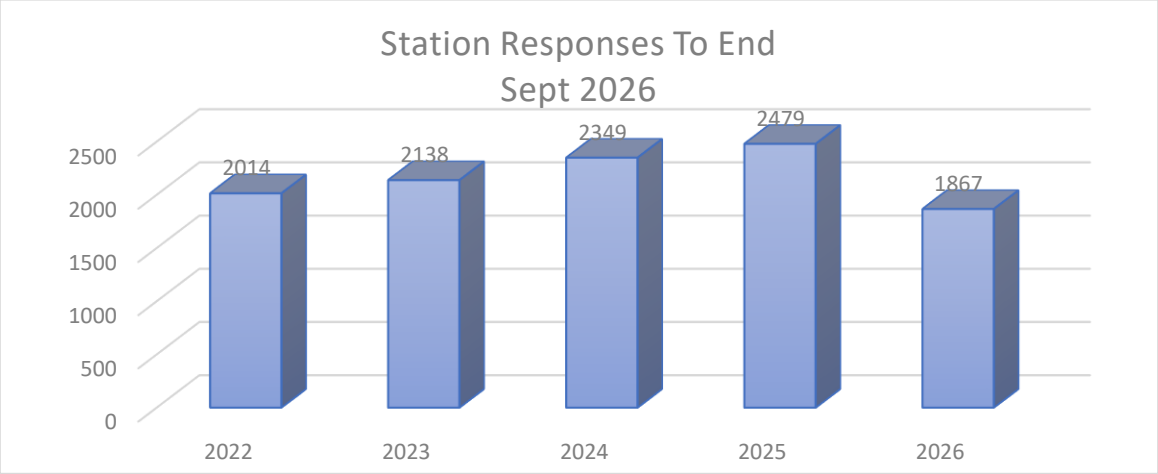
For her Culture Night Commission Artist Marta Golubowska and embark on a two hour boat journey between Robertstown to Healy's Bridge and back. The short spin down the canal will enable the audience to see IDLE MUSING, a video installation and enjoy the calm of the cruise. During the trip, there will be a conversation about the cultural potential of the canals in county Kildare. Marta will share various art projects that have happened on the canals in recent years. The M52 barge is a Community and Culture-building role of the canals in Kildare.



Fire Service Operations:

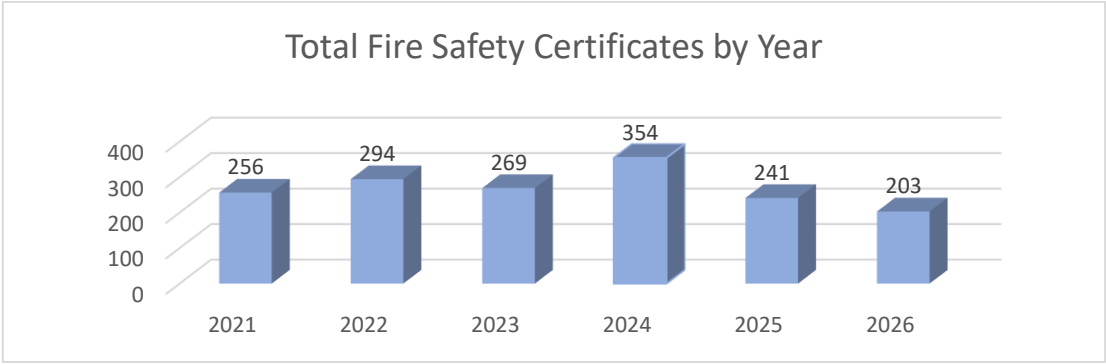
2026 Summary: (Note: Figures for previous years indicate full year statistics)





Fire Safety Certificates

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



Finance, Digital Services and Innovation and Governance

Finance

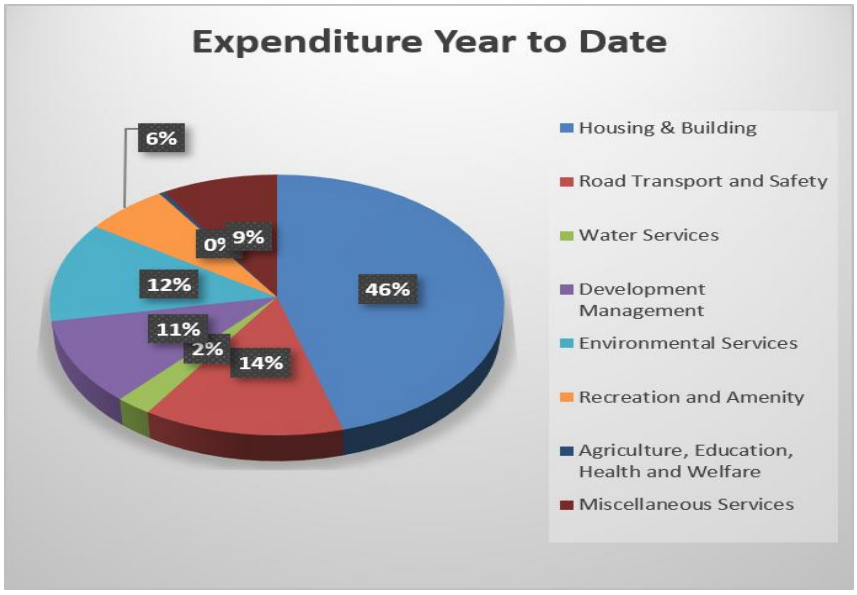
Annual Financial Statement

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

Revenue Account

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

Division	Expenditure	Budget	% Budget Spend	Budget remaining
	€,000	€,000		€,000
Housing & Building	86,252	115,475	75%	29,223
Road Transport and Safety	25,638	51,384	50%	25,746
Water Services	4,562	9,008	51%	4,446
Development Management	19,987	34,286	58%	14,299
Environmental Services	23,518	29,923	79%	6,405
Recreation and Amenity	11,982	21,437	56%	9,455
Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare	758	1,475	51%	717
Miscellaneous Services	16,633	22,676	73%	6,043
Local Property Tax Allocation				-
Rates				
	189,331	285,664	66%	96,333



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

Division	Income	Budget	% Budget collected	Budget to be collected
	Income			
	€,000	€,000		€,000
Housing & Building	90,492	103,764	87%	13,272
Road Transport and Safety	10,718	25,965	41%	15,247
Water Services	3,783	7,993	47%	4,210
Development Management	8,308	12,365	67%	4,057
Environmental Services	7,876	10,375	76%	2,499
Recreation and Amenity	1,916	2,720	70%	804
Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare	307	321	96%	14
Miscellaneous Services	10,698	17,255	62%	6,557
Local Property Tax Allocation	18,194	27,291	67%	9,097
Rates	59,459	77,615	77%	18,156
	211,751	285,664	74%	- 73,913

As Members are aware the budget in the public sector represents the ceiling to funding provision of a service – i.e. excluding additional grants, the budget amount is the maximum spend that can be incurred.

Estimates are fixed and service delivery is limited to within the envelope of funding. If a budget holder wants/needs to increase some aspect of the service beyond the budget provision, they need to find the funding elsewhere by reducing some other line of expenditure.

The executive is very conscious of the need to monitor and manage expenditure and to ensure that overall budgets are not exceeded whilst at the same time delivering services in accordance with the budget agreed by Members.

The revenue expenditure and income for 2026 are on target.

Commercial Rates, Rents and Loans Collections

Kildare County Council

Summary of Major Collections to 30 September 2026

	Arrears 01/01/2026	Accrued	Write Off	Waivers	Total for Collection	Collected	Outstanding 30/09/2026
Commercial Rates	5,558,393	78,689,277	186,401	-	84,061,269	66,517,866	17,543,403
Rents & Annuities	1,828,501	19,725,595	- 6,224	-	21,560,320	19,826,291	1,734,029
Housing Loans	1,016,693	2,906,678	819	-	3,922,552	2,899,871	1,022,681

Cashflow / Overdraft

Kildare County Council manages its cashflow requirements on a daily basis and did not avail of its overdraft facility during the period 01 January to 31 August 2026.

Risk Management

The third quarterly review of the Corporate Risk Register took place in September. The Head of Internal Audit, Risk and Governance is working with the Sections to complete and document the actions from the review. The third quarterly review of the Corporate Risk Register is scheduled for December.

Corporate Governance

Training for Members and Senior Management on the Local Authority Code of Governance took place on 28 September and 05 October. The Institute of Public Administration delivered the training. The presenters slides will be circulated to the Members.

The training sessions included:

- Corporate Governance – what, why, how?
- Backdrop to the Code of Governance for Local Authorities (2024)
- Governing framework for Local Authorities
- Key provisions and application of the principles set out in the Code of Governance for Local Authorities:
- Principle 1 – Leadership
- Principle 2 – Values and Behaviours
- Principle 3 – Structure, Roles, and Functions

- Principle 4 – Capacity and Capability
- Principle 5 – Decision Making – Risk, Finance and Control
- Principle 6 – Stakeholder Engagement and Accountability
- Principle 7 – Sustainability and Climate Action

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

Innovation

Double Success for Kildare County Council at the TECHConnect Awards 2026!

Kildare County Council has received two awards at the inaugural TECHConnect Awards 2026. These awards, hosted by the LGMA, recognise excellence in digital, innovation and ICT across local government.

Orla Talbot, Housing Department was the winner of the Behind the Scenes Contribution of the Year Award. Orla was recognised for supporting Housing's digital, ICT and service improvement programme in Kildare County Council, helping to progress projects across digital services, process improvement and national initiatives.



Orla Talbot, Housing Department winner of the Behind the Scenes Contribution of the Year. Pictured receiving her award from Pauline Mulligan, LGMA Chief Executive.

The Full Circle Furnishings project team, led by Housing with cross-organisational support, were the winners of the Innovation Award. The

project focuses on the reuse of furniture and other furnishings to support households in need, diverting items from landfill, and contributing to climate and circular economy objectives.



Paul O'Sullivan pictured receiving the Innovation Award on behalf of the Full Circle Furnishing Team from Pauline Mulligan, LGMA Chief Executive. Also part of the award-winning team, not pictured, are Josephine Fogarty, Caitriona Byrne, Aisling Dermody, Catherine Walsh and Ollie Brady (Senior Sponsor).

Congratulations also go to other shortlisted colleagues including the teams behind the Library Data Dashboard (Data Excellence Award), GeoCollect (Shared Solutions Award) and to Rory Hopkins (IT Leader of the Year).

Having five nominations shortlisted reflects the commitment and innovation of staff to improve our processes and services.

Showcasing Innovative work happening across the Council.

The Innovation Spotlight Poster Series provides a visible showcase of innovative projects happening across the organisation. The initiative supports awareness, knowledge-sharing and recognition of this work.

This month's poster features the Foreign Business Travel Approval App, an in-house solution developed through collaboration between the Executive Office and IT Teams to streamline how we manage foreign business travel requests. The app has been created to replace a largely manual process, it centralizes information, improves visibility and reporting, supports CO_2 emissions monitoring, and reduces administrative effort for staff.

Each month a different project is featured and is displayed outside the canteen at Level 6 and the Innovation Office on Level 0, Áras Chill Dara.

Housing, Regeneration and People

Housing

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

Further to Circular 25/2026 dated 07 July, the draft Housing Delivery Action Plan (HDAP) for the period 2027 to 2030 was submitted to the DHLGH via the online portal on 25 September. Workshops will commence with DHLGH to determine the final target figures for Kildare and this process is expected to be completed by the end of November 2026.

Affordable Homes Barracksfield West, Phase 2.

The application portal for phase 2 closed on 15 September. This phase includes eleven one-bed, seven two-bed, and seven three-bed units. There were 215 complete applications following the closure of the application portal. Applications are being assessed, and the names of potential purchasers for most units have been provided to the LDA. The final phase will be advertised later in the year.

Clogherinkoe Serviced Sites:

The application portal for the serviced sites remains open until 31 December. To date there have been a total of 16 applications, including five complete and eleven in draft.

Social Housing Delivery

The Contract signing for five units at Trinity Way, Carbury was completed on 23 September with construction expected to commence in October.



Part 8 for Ballitore Garda Station development of six dwelling units was approved at the September meeting of Athy Municipal District.

Local Authority Home Loan (LAHL)

The LAHL Portal went live on the Kildare County Council website on 08

July 2026. Applicants can now upload a digital application. The team will continue to accept hard copy applications.

Regeneration

URDF Call 3

URDF Call 3 is a funding support specifically designed to address long term vacancy and dereliction, reactivate underutilised buildings and increase housing supply / town centre regeneration. Tw0 properties acquired under the URDF Call 3 Programme are sale agreed and received Section 183 approval at September's full council meeting. Two properties acquired are currently advertised for sale.

Housing Infrastructure Investment Fund (HIIF)

Delivering Homes, Building Communities 2025–2030 announced the Housing Infrastructure Investment Fund (HIIF) as a key measure to support the Government's target to deliver 300,000 homes by the end of 2030. The Scheme is managed by the Housing Activation Office (HAO) in the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Call 1 of the HIIF closed in February 2026, with a total of 138 applications received from 30 Local Authorities and the Land Development Agency.

Following a detailed assessment process led by the Housing Activation Office, 82 projects have been approved for inclusion in the HIIF programme under Call 1.

Kildare County Council was successful in having six strategic projects included in the HIIF programme, with up to €100m allocated across the county.

A table outlining the details of each project is included further down the Housing and Regeneration updates, just before the SPPR projects.

Strategic Projects and Public Realm (SPPR)

Major Regeneration Funding Boost for County Kildare

County Kildare has secured significant investment under Round 1 of the Towns and Cities Regeneration Investment Fund, providing fresh momentum for several transformative

regeneration projects across the county.

The funding package supports six strategic projects, including the redevelopment of Harbour Field Park in Maynooth, the Murtagh's Corner Project in Naas, Kildare Town Community Centre, two regeneration initiatives in Celbridge, and the preparation of a masterplan for the Newbridge Central Settlement Consolidation Site. Together, these projects will help revitalise town centres, improve community infrastructure, and create more vibrant, attractive places in which to live, work, and visit.

Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2026 Launched

Kildare County Council has launched the 2026 Town and Village Renewal Scheme, supporting projects that enhance town and village centres, improve public spaces and amenities and strengthen community facilities across County Kildare. The programme provides an important opportunity for local communities to bring forward projects that contribute to the sustainable development and long-term vitality of towns and villages throughout the county.

Newbridge Library

The site perimeter hoardings have now been erected, and the demolition of the existing single-storey structure has been completed. The contractor has also confirmed that a range of site surveys have been successfully undertaken, marking continued progress in the project delivery programme.

Clane Library Redevelopment Continues to Advance

Significant progress has been made on the redevelopment of Clane Library, with the internal strip-out, floor-slab removal and required wall demolition now complete. Roof-removal works are nearing completion, and underpinning is due to commence as the project moves into its next phase of construction.

Riverbank Arts Centre Redevelopment Reaches Key Milestone

The Part 8 public consultation for the proposed redevelopment of the

Riverbank Arts Centre concluded on 22 September 2026. Submissions received through the consultation process will now inform the next stage of this cultural project.

Capital Programme

Location	No. of Units	Updated Status
Approval - Stage 4		
St. Patrick's Park Rathangan Remedial Works (Phases 2 & 3)	Demolition of 15 units, refurb of 25 units, construction of 7 units.	Works are progressing well on site. The Project completion is anticipated to be extended from December 2026 to March 2027, primarily due to unforeseen underground Electrical and Water Services issues which resulted in the resequencing of the works.
Ardclough Road, Celbridge	39 units	Construction commenced 07.07.2026.
Dispensary Site, Carbury	5 units	Contract signed, Construction expected to commence in October.
Millfield Manor, Newbridge	2 units	Tender report being completed.
Approval – Stage 3		
Ardrew, Athy	73 units + community building	Stage 3 approval received from DHLGH on 18.11.2025. Subject to completion of procurement procedures, a contract award is targeted for Q4 2026.
Ardrew Halting Site, Athy	8 units (5 new units, 1 caretaker unit, refurbishment and amalgamation of 4 units into 2)	Construction tenders issued: returns received and evaluations are underway.

St Evin's Park, Monasterevin	13 units	Contract signing took place on 27.08/2026
Craddockstown, Naas	28 units	Contract signing took place on 30.07.2026. Commencement notice issued 01.10.2026.
Approval - Stage 2		
Clane Road, Sallins	4 units	Site previously allocated to The Peter McVerry Trust will now be developed by KCC.
Station Road, Kildare.	29 units	Site clearance and knotweed disposal to be included in main tender. Investigation & Clearance Works at tender stage. Final Design/Tender documents being prepared.
Old Caragh Road, Naas	81 Units	Part 8 expected to launch Q4 2026

Single Stage Approval		
Shamrock Stores, Athy	6 apartments.	New Single Stage Application being prepared. Refurbishment of existing dwellings is not feasible. Revised proposal finalised and issued to internal departments for comment.
Ballitore Garda Station	6 (2 x refurb + 4 new)	Part 8 approved. Work on tender preparation commenced.
Maddenstown Terrace	1	Refurbishment construction tender returns being assessed.
Kilcock Courthouse	5 units	Revised single stage funding application approved by DHLGH. Tenders for consultants underway to proceed to Part 8.

Sarto Road, Naas. BIM Pilot	7 units	Single stage application approved by the DHLGH. Site investigation works complete. Design finalised. Design team being procured .
Oldtown Mill, Celbridge	60 units	Novation of Technical Advisors complete . Tender preparation underway.
Coolaghknock Glebe, Kildare	99 social units/ 32 affordable	Examining the transition to D&B Contract, Novation of Technical Advisors and associated programme.
Rickardstown, Newbridge	96 social/ 40 affordable units	Examining the transition to D&B Contract, Novation of Technical Advisors and associated programme.
Rathasker Road, Naas	104 units	Examining the transition to D&B Contract, Novation of Technical Advisors and associated programme.

Pre-Approval		
Liffey Lodge	TBC	Preliminary design options being progressed.
Tanyard, Ballitore	4 units	Pre-funding application submitted to DHLGH.
Inniscarra, Athy	5 units	Feasibility report progressing. Preparation of Stage 1 application to the DHLGH is ongoing.
Canalside, Athy	5 units	Single stage funding application being prepared for submission to DHLGH.
Blacklion HS, Maynooth	2- day houses	Single Stage Application proposal submitted to DHLGH and comments received. Consultants appointed. Revised single stage application to be submitted Q4 2026.
Bothar Bui, Athy	8 units	Feasibility underway. Site investigations are being procured. DHLGH reviewing sketch feasibility.

Basin Street, Naas	TBC	Tender for conservation report and structural survey complete. Survey drawings complete. Feasibility report issued to the Planning Section for comment.
Blacklion, Maynooth	80 TBC	Feasibility underway.
Former Fire Station Site, Maynooth	TBC	Feasibility and design ongoing. Consultation with SPPR and Community Section commenced.

Infill Schemes

Location	No. of Units	Updated Status
Newtown House, Leixlip	4 units	Construction commenced 30.06.2026
Skenagun, Castledermot	1 major refurb & extension & 1 new build	Stage 4 approval received September 2026.

Approved Housing Bodies

Type	Approved Housing Body	Location	No. of Units	Updated Status
CAS	Cluid	ESB site, Leixlip	36	Part 8 approved December 2025. Cluid to proceed with amendments to proposal required under conditions of Part 8 approval. Cluid delayed due to change in funding for community element. Works programme to be issued by Cluid.

CAS	Sofia Housing	St. John's Convent, Rathangan	24	Stage 4 approval submitted to DHLGH November 2025. Contractor appointment by AHB to follow. Sophia progressing towards commencement of works on site.
CAS	Cluid	Dominican Lands Athy	34	Construction commenced in September 2026.
CAS	Nas na Riogh	Beaufort, (adj McAuley Place), Naas	44	Part 8 application launched 02.04.2026. Stage 4 approval application submitted to DHLGH. The Part 8 meeting to the MD Members was expected in September 2026, however this is postponed pending the outcome of a submission to An Coimisiún Pleanála.
CAS	Tintean Housing Assoc.	McCauley Court, Athy	Refurb 10 units & communal building	Legal process to transfer these units to KCC has completed. Tinteán are currently working on a revised CAS application for the refurbishment works.
CAS	O.N.E.	Eyre St/James St Newbridge	Refurb of existing buildings to create 6 units	This project will create 5 units + 1 caretaker unit for ex-service men and women. DHLGH has approved the AHB to conduct a Feasibility Study.
CAS	Homeless Care	Jigginstown Phase 2, Naas	10	Stage 2 approval application to be submitted to DHLGH.

Acquisitions

	2025	2026
Housing Acquisitions	23	20
Housing Turnkeys	22	6
Part V Acquisitions	158	71
Total	203	97

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	31	11	22	26	7
MTR Delivery 2026 (via CALF and leasing)	0	1	4	0	0
CALF delivery 2026	53	0	24	48	0

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

Duration	No. of Households with Dependents	Adults	Dependents
0 - 6 Months	56	82	120
6 - 12 Months	17	22	35
12 - 18 Months	12	18	25
18 - 24 Months	7	11	19
24 - 30 Months	3	4	5
30 – 36 Months	1	2	1
36 Months +	1	3	2
Total	97	142	207

Families in Own Front Door Accommodation 30 September 2026			
Duration	No. of Households with Dependents	Adults	Dependents
0 - 6 Months	4	5	10
6 - 12 Months	3	5	13
12 - 18 Months	0	0	0
18 - 24 Months	2	3	6
24 - 30 Months	1	4	1
30 – 36 Months	1	1	0
+ 36 Months	3	8	6
Total	14	26	36

Notices of Termination at 30 September 2026

Notices of Termination on hand	Number Overholding	Number expiring 2026	Number Expiring 2027
88	55	16	17

Homeless Presentations with Unique Presentations Breakdown:

Year	Total Cases	Unique Households	Of which Unique Adults	Of which Unique Dependents	Repeats Households
2025	2,368	531	558	441	1,837
Q1 2026	955	208	247	190	747
Q2 2026	1,123	199	231	174	924
Q3 2026	1136	177	221	170	1185

Homeless Exits from Emergency Accommodation:

Year	Total No Household Exits from EA	Local Authority Lettings	AHB Letting	Private Rented (HAP and RAS)
2025	48	16	16	14
Q1 2026	13	9	2	2
Q2 2026	11	3	1	7
Q3 2026	11	3	2	6

Housing Maintenance

Year	Vacant House Turnarounds	New House Purchases Upgrades	Number of Response Maintenance Requests Logged	Number of Response Maintenance Requests Completed
2025	118	13	12,155	9,140
Q1 2026	46	1	3,547	1,423
Q2 2026	24	1	2,869	1,555
Q3 2026	37	4	2,339	756

Energy Retrofit Programme

Delivery Overview

Department Allocation for 2026: 85 units

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

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

2026 Delivery	**Occupied Units**	**Vacant/Void Units**	**On-Site Works Completed**	**Recouped to Date**
Q1	13	9	22	22
Q2	0	6	6	6
Q3	20	0	22	0
		Total to Date:	50	28

Contracts Awarded / On-going	Occupied Units	Vacant/Void Units	On-Site Works Completed	Units still to be delivered in 2026
Castlefen, Sallins & Churchview, Kilmeague	34	0	20	14
EERP - Project 2 - 2026	11	n/a	0	11
EERP - Project 3 - 2026	12	n/a	0	12
Vacant Units pre-approved	0	4	2	1 (as 1 vacant unit not expected until 2027)
		Expected Delivery in 2026 from contracts:	22	38
		Total Expected Delivery for 2026:		85-88

Project 2 – Units at Liffey Court, Ballymore Eustace

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

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

Housing Assistance Payment – HAP

Year	Applications Received	Applications Rejected	Applications Approved
2025	338	9	338
2026	237	0	236

Housing Adaptation Grants

	Housing Adaptation Applications Received	Housing Adaptation Grants Approved	Mobility Aid Applications Received	Mobility Aid Applications Approved	Housing Aid for Older Persons Apps Recd	Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Approved
2025	320	157	21	17	327	322
Q1 2026	111	21	6	1	117	58
Q2 2026	76	154	3	1	53	194
Q3 2026	42	103	0	1	29	169

Social Housing Assessments

Period	Existing Housing File Updates	Transfer Requests	New Valid Applications	Mortgage to Rent Apps	Refusals	No. of Households added to List
2025	120	253	1226	11	345	1049
Q1 2026	38	82	433	5	97	187
Q2 2006	36	33	303	3	106	284
Q3 2026	27	75	415	5	75	251

Housing Allocations

Period	Total	CBL	Over 65	Disability	Homeless/Homeless Prevention	Refusals
2025	525	169	57	108	117	125
Q1 2026	137	40	22	26	38	52
Q2 2026	232	107	23	38	33	70
Q3 2026	308	210	28	49	55	115

Local Authority Home Loan (LAHL)

Year	Approval No.	Approval Amount	Approval Drawdown No	Approval Drawdown Amount	Expired No	Expired Amount
2025	28	€5,809,730	8	1,827,400	11	€2,388,290
Q1 2026	6	€1,177,900	0	0	0	0
Q2 2026	5	€1,102,940	0	0	0	0
Q3 2026	5	€1,144,800	1	€110,000	5	€945,300

Tenant Purchase Scheme

Year	Applications	Ineligible	Letter of Offers	Properties Sold
2025	35	2	33	10
Q1 2026	16	3	0	3 (Applications received in 2025 only sold in 2026)
Q2 2026	7	2	6	2
Q3 2026	7	3	1	2

Rent Assessments

Year	LA Rents	New HAP	HAP Review
2025	1,916	370	405
Q1 2026	518	81	102
Q2 2026	563	72	87
Q3 2026	460	91	136
Total ytd	1541	244	325

Regeneration

Year	CPO Commenced	CPOs awaiting confirmation	CPOs confirmed	CPOs on hold/ Withdrawn	Acquired by agreement	Vacant Property Grant Applications	Vacant Property Grants Approved	Vacant Property Grant payments
2025	11	5	3	2	0	117	94	100
2026	9	7	1	1	2	101	83	41

Year	Vacant Property Inspections	Properties identified as requiring further investigation	Property Owners Engaged with	Pre-CPO Notices Erected	Section 8(2) Derelict Sites Notices Issued	Properties added to the Derelict Sites Register
2025	164	113	146	29	31	10
2026	110	98	65	8	15	6

Town	Update
Castledermot Town Centre First Plan	NbS application to LAWPRO – Tenders received for the NbS scoping report for Castledermot with exemplar NbS project funded in 2027. Just Transition application for funding submitted to the *Feasibility* strand.
Clane Town Centre First Plan	Town and Village Renewal Funding (TVRS) - Tender drawings being prepared for refurbishment works to the town centre playground recreational space in Clane. This project was identified as a priority for the community in the Clane TCF Plan.
Kilcullen following completion of TCF Measure 1	Town and Village Renewal Funding (TVRS) - The Town Regeneration team is developing design drawings and Tender documents.

Kildare County Council - Housing Infrastructure Investment Fund (HIIF)Projects							
Project Ref	Project Title	Project Funding	Project Description	Residential Units detail	Directorate delivering	Project Status	Project Update
HIIFC1-KE-001	Part of Newbridge Southern Outer Orbital Relief Road	Final section of Newbridge Southern Outer Orbital Route (c. 795m road length and bridge over River Liffey) Indicative Cost Band >€20m	This application is for the last section of the Newbridge Southern Outer Orbital Route (NSOOR), a very strategic route with a new Bridge over the River Liffey, that will allow housing activation of significant lands to the Southeast of Newbridge Town. Out of 3.3km of NSOOR, there remains one element of this road of 795m with an 88m River Liffey Bridge to be delivered, linking Newbridge Town with substantial Housing (and employment) lands.	Directly unlocks lands for 1,070 residential units and indirectly unlocks a further 808 residential units.	Transport	Phase 5 – Detailed Design & Procurement	Tender documents for consultancy appointment are currently with HIIF for review prior to tender issue. Engagement with utility providers continues prior to issuing tender Detailed design and tender preparation for the construction works are ongoing. **Next Steps:** Issue consultancy tender documents. Issue SAQ to shortlist civil contractors

HIIFC1-KE-002	Naas Northwest Quadrant & Canal Quarter Naas	Naas Harbour pedestrian bridge and link to Naas Northwest Quadrant Indicative Cost Band <€10m	Finlay Park Phase 1 & 2 substantially complete / under construction -195 Units with no active access to Naas Town Centre. • Finlay Park Phase 3 Planning application preparation underway. This project is seen as the first activator of NNWQ, and the Public Park and Active Travel Bridge are pre-development requirements of Kildare County Council. 119 Units. • NNWQ will provide for 4,000 residential units • Canal Quarter Masterplan Substantially Complete	Linked to NNWQ with capacity for 4,000 residential units.	Housing & Regeneration	Phase 3 Preliminary Design	**Next Steps:** Planning application to be submitted during next quarter.
HIIFC1-KE-003	Naas Inner Relief Road	Road from R445 Dublin Road to R410 Blessington Road (c. 1.6km length).	Naas Inner Relief Road. Granted Planning Permission via Part 8 in 2006. The project	Directly unlocks lands for 850 residential units.	Transport	Phase 4 – Planning & Statutory Process	Planning application submitted and decision due.

		Indicative Cost Band €10-20m	commences at R445 Dublin Road at the signalised junction with The Gallops Estate Road. The route corridor follows the alignment of the existing Gallops Estate Road in a southerly direction and continues along the western boundary of Naas Racecourse. It intersects and crosses Tipper Road immediately to the southwest of Naas Racecourse and continues southwards to connect to the existing 'Time House' Industrial Estate Road. The route terminates at the existing junction of the Industrial Estate Road and the R410 Blessington Road. The approximate				**Next Steps:** Detailed design

			length of proposed Route is circa 1.60km.				
HIIFC1-KE-004	Captains Hill Upgrade, Confey, Leixlip, Co. Kildare	Upgrade of Captains Hill Indicative Cost Band <€10m	The project is the major upgrade of Captains Hill, the route linking Leixlip to Confey, a 5km watermain replacement required by Uisce Eireann and upgrades to the L1015 and R147	Directly unlock lands for 1,750 residential units and indirectly unlocks a further 1,000 residential units.	Planning	Phase 4 – Planning & Statutory Process	Part 8 is before the Celbridge Leixlip MD at their October meeting. **Next Steps**: Detailed design.
HIIFC1-KE-005	Celbridge Hazelhatch Mobility Corridor	Road from Clane Road (R403) to Loughlinstown Road (near Hazelhatch/ Celbridge Train Station) connecting with R405 Hazelhatch Road. Road includes a new bridge crossing over the River Liffey and Active Travel infrastructure (2km road length).	The construction of a new road, pedestrian footpaths, and cycle lanes as part of an active travel corridor known as the Celbridge Hazelhatch Mobility Corridor, located in Celbridge Town. The proposed corridor spans approximately 2km, commencing at a new junction with Clane Road (R403) and extending southeast through	Directly unlocks lands for 1,719 residential units and indirectly unlocks a further 1,582 residential units.	Transport	Phase 5 – Detailed Design & Procurement	Consultancy tender period closed, tender evaluation complete and approval to appoint a consultant needs sign off from the Housing Activation Office within DHLGH. CPO confirmed and operative notice issued to all landowners.

		Indicative Costs Band >€20m	predominantly greenfield lands. The corridor connects with the R405 Hazelhatch Road and terminates at the Loughlinstown Road Roundabout near Hazelhatch and Celbridge Train Station. A new bridge crossing over the River Liffey is proposed approximately 200m south of the Clane Road junction.				Initial meeting with UE on their requirements for the scheme. **Next Steps**: Appoint consultant and progress detailed design. Progress the CPO processes.
HIIFC1-KE-006	Phase 1 MOOR Crewhill Maynooth	Maynooth Outer Orbital Road (MOOR) – Moyglare Road, Crewhill to Kilcock Road. Indicative Cost Band €10m – 20m	The Crewhill Link Street is a 650m long section of the Maynooth Outer Orbital Road (MOOR), a key roads objective (RD1) of the Maynooth and Environs Joint Local Area Plan. Crewhill Link Street will be the next part of an overall route around Maynooth. This 5km stretch	Directly unlocks lands for 1,126 residential units and future phases will unlock a further 3,448 residential units.	Planning	Phase 4 – Planning & Statutory Process	**Next Steps:** LRD application process

			to the north of the town will pass through western lands to the M4 junction 7 interchange. When complete the full MOOR scheme will release large areas of zoned and strategic reserve zoned residential landbanks. Crewhill Link Street is a key piece of road /street infrastructure which will connect the Moyglare Road in north Maynooth at Maynooth Education campus via an upgraded signalised junction. It will bisect residential zoned lands at Crewhill which will provide the primary access to approximately 600 dwellings as				

			well as commercial development in the short term. The Link Street is key to opening the development of northern and western Maynooth which KCC have identified for strategic growth. Specific engineering aspects of the infrastructure scheme will provide are detailed below. • 650m of key Link Street Road carriageway. • 1.3km of new off-road cycle-paths for active travel and linking to Maynooth Education Campus. • 1.3km of new pedestrian footpaths for active travel. • Upgrade of the existing Moyglare Road signalised junction with				

			footpath and cycle-path improvements. • Four new access junctions to residential zoned lands. • Regional nature-based drainage solutions / detention basin, sustainable urban drainage infrastructure including swales, rain gardens and tree-pits and stormwater drainage. • Key watermain supply infrastructure to facilitate network extension and supply to zoned and future zoned lands. • Key primary foul sewer and foul pumping station to serve the wider lands with rising main to facilitate connection to Uisce Eireann networks. • Key primary utilities and services to serve future				

			residential lands including MV electricity and communications networks. • Road lighting.				

Strategic Projects and Public Realm - Priorities

Municipal District	Project Name	Estimated Value	Funding Awarded	Project Stage	Notes
Countywide	Barrow Blueway	€11,683,034	RRDF €9,007,827 DHLG €2,675,000 Waterways Ireland	Stage (iv) Construction	Snagging remains to be completed by the contractor. Hydroseeding of the embankments requires remediation.
	Barrow Blueway Trail Head	€80,000	€80,000 Community Recognition Fund	Stage (iib) Planning Preparation	Part 8 confrmed July 2026. Project is progressing to detailed design and preparation of the tender documentation required for the construction works.
	Greenway – Phase 2 Sallins to Clonkeen	€25,700,000	DoT/TII and Carbon Tax Fund	Stage (iii) Tender Action,	Design and procurement work continue across the

				Evaluation, Award	project packages. The tender package for the section from Lock 20 to Shee Bridge, including the proposed 18th Lock Pedestrian Bridge, is advancing to tender. A route-wide tree survey has been completed to support the necessary vegetation-clearance works
Athy	Ardrew Amenity Lands			Stage (iia) Developed Preliminary Design	Development of preliminary design is progressing, with site surveys being undertaken to inform development of the project proposals.

Celbridge-Leixlip	Wonderful Barn	€23.8m (most recent cost for entire project)		Stage (iii) Tender Action, Evaluation, Award	A contractor was appointed on 26 August 2026 for the next phase of conservation works at the Wonderful Barn, with works commencing on site in September 2026.
Clane-Maynooth	Maynooth Town Centre Master Plan	€3,438,500	€2,574,375 URDF €858,125 KCC/LPT €1,908,750 URDF approved	Analysis - Masterplan	Review and refinement of the Draft Masterplan continue.
	Harbourfield, Maynooth	€ 5,086,825		Stage (iic) Detailed Design and Tender Docs	Detailed design and tender documentation are being finalised to support progression of the project to construction, subject to completion of the required

					funding arrangements.
	Clane Library	€3,800,000		Stage (iv) Construction	Construction works are progressing, with the internal strip-out, floor-slab removal and required wall demolition now complete. Roof-removal works are nearing completion, and underpinning is due to commence.
Kildare-Newbridge	Newbridge Library & County Archives		KCC/ Dept of Housing/ DRCD	Stage (iv) Construction	Construction commenced in August 2026, and site establishment works are progressing. An archaeologist has been appointed, and the required excavation licence application has been submitted to the National

					Monuments Service.
	Rathangan Town Renewal Plan		LPT	Analysis - Masterplan	Preparation of the Draft Rathangan Town Renewal Plan is nearing completion, with the remaining urban design elements being finalised.
	Newbridge Town Renewal Plan		LPT	Analysis - Masterplan	Public consultation on the Draft Newbridge Town Renewal Plan concluded in September 2026. Feedback received through the consultation process is being reviewed ahead of finalisation of the Masterplan.
	Monasterevin Masterplan – sub project	€204,887	€163,900.00 (RRDF 80% KCC 20%)	Stage (i) Preliminary Design	The funding agreement has been finalised. Procurement of

	Market Square Monasterevin				consultancy services to progress the feasibility study is being advanced.
	Riverbank Arts Centre			Stage (iib) Planning Preparation	The Part 8 public consultation for the proposed redevelopment of the Riverbank Arts Centre concluded on 22 September 2026. Submissions received through the consultation process will inform the next stage of the project.
Naas	Naas Town Centre Masterplan	€4,662,000	€3,500,000 URDF €1,165,000 LPT/KCC	Analysis - Masterplan	Review and refinement of the Draft Masterplan continue.
	Naas Canal Quarter Masterplan - URDFKil006			Analysis – Masterplan	The final drafts of the business case, framework

					masterplan, masterplan and transport and infrastructure assessment are under review.
	Sallins Town Renewal Masterplan	€70,000	€70,000 LPT	T&V Renewal Masterplan Preparation	Publication of the Masterplan has been deferred pending completion of the Sallins Settlement Plan to ensure alignment between both documents.

Integration and Strategic Property Management

Integration

General

Long-Term Designated Accommodation Centres

All residents who are Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection have now left the Citywest Reception Centre. Those deemed vulnerable and in continuing need of State-provided provided accommodation have been relocated to long-term Designated Accommodation Centres (DAC's). The Kill Equestrian Centre and Punchestown have both been opened and long-term DAC's.

Nationally, applications for residents to be declared vulnerable closed on 17 September and are currently being assessed by the Department of Justice.

Temporary Protection Transition Scheme

The Temporary Protection Transition Scheme was opened for application on Wednesday, 28 September. In order to apply for the scheme applicants must:

Be in Ireland under Temporary Protection for a minimum of one year.
They must be earning a minimum of just under €30,000
They must have their own accommodation (not state supported)

Successful applicants will be granted a two year residency status (equivalent to Stamp 4) and can renew that status for a further two years after which time they will be entitled to remain in Ireland and received full State entitlements.

Local Authority Integration Team

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

Service Delivery and Integration Supports (01 January to 05 October 2026)

From the beginning of the year, Kildare LAIT delivered a broad range of supports across the county:

- Delivered 146 one-to-one information clinics and 28 group clinics, supporting 1,075 residents living in State-contracted accommodation centres. These clinics provided information, guidance and direct support to assist individuals and families in accessing services and navigating key integration challenges.
- Responded to and resolved 1,182 queries, the majority of which were received through clinics. Information gathered through clinics and recurring queries continued to inform the design of targeted interventions.

- 2,018 people participated in integration and psycho-social activities, demonstrating continued engagement and community participation across County Kildare.

A significant focus of activity has been supporting Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection through ongoing accommodation policy changes. The LAIT continues to provide information and practical guidance on accommodation transitions, private rental pathways, Self-Declaration requirements, appeals processes and housing supports, while promoting resources such as Irish Red Cross and IOM webinars funded by the DoJHAM.

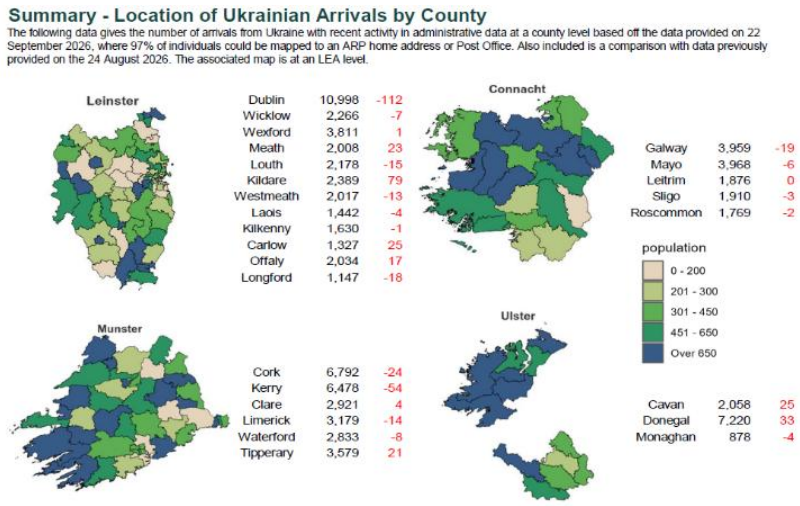
Between 14 July and 01 October 2026, the LAIT received accommodation requests from seven families and nine individuals with Temporary Protection who were homeless or at risk of homelessness. Information on accommodation options was provided, and all cases were recorded on the Kildare County Council Homeless Services Tracker.

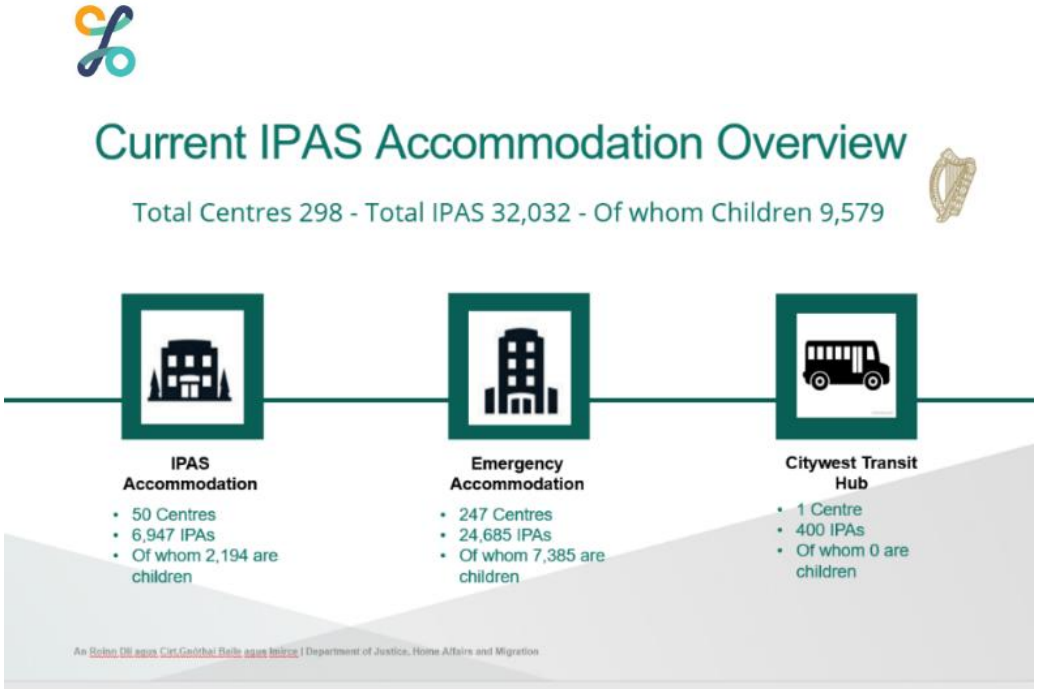
The team continues to identify and escalate barriers affecting residents in long-term DAC's, particularly in relation to school transport, access to medical appointments and the suitability of transport arrangements for residents with mobility issues or disabilities.

Local Authority National Integration Network (LANIN) meeting on 09 September 2026: Kildare LAIT Coordinator presented on behalf of the LANIN Supporting Young People Working Group. LANIN is a national forum for sharing emerging issues, identifying good practice, coordinating responses to integration challenges and informing national discussions on migration and integration. LANIN operates through regional structures and thematic working groups, bringing together representatives from local authorities across all regions. Kildare LAIT is actively involved in both the Mid-East Regional Group and national working groups.

Statistics provided by the Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration

According to the DoJHAM (05 October 2026), there are currently a total of 269 persons with Temporary Protection (Ukraine) 210 adults/ 59 children in the five State-contracted accommodation centres in County Kildare.





There are 445 persons (346 adults/ 100 children) in the five State-contracted accommodation International Protection Accommodation centres in County Kildare.

Refugee Resettlement Programme

Kildare Refugee Resettlement Programme formally concluded on1st September 2026. All final operational and financial reports have been submitted to the IRPP team. The LAIT continues to provide follow-up support to resettled families and maintain coordination with partner agencies to ensure continuity of support and long-term integration outcomes. The programme will be presented at the upcoming European Integration Network meeting, co-organised by the Irish Government and the European Commission in December 2026.

Ukraine Services and Accommodation Team

Offer a Home Scheme

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

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

Minister has extended the ARP payment until March 2027; however, the payment has reduced to €400 per month. The first of the reduced payments will be received by homeowners in October.

Designated Accommodation Centres (DAC's)

Designated Accommodation Centres were established to accommodate persons with temporary protection arriving in the State after 14 March 2024. Currently, there are no 30-day DAC's in operation in Kildare since the last residents left Punchestown on 20 June.

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

Community Integration Forum

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

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

The Community Integration Forum (CIF) meets every two months. The last meeting was held on 08 September.

The Community Integration Forum (CIF), in partnership with the Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT),

organised a human trafficking awareness workshop on 15 September 2026, delivered by the International Organization for Migration (IOM). A total of 24 participants from KWETB, Insync, Family Resources Centres, HSE, Foroige, REALT Coordinator, Teach Tearmainn, CKLP – SICAP programme, Gardai, JRS Ireland and Kildare County Council (various departments) were in attendance. The workshop examined the various forms of human trafficking, including labour exploitation, sexual exploitation, forced criminality, and domestic servitude. Participants explored how to recognise indicators of trafficking, identify potential victims, understand referral pathways, strengthen multi-agency responses, and apply their learning through practical case studies and real-life scenarios.

This training complemented a workshop delivered in partnership with Ruhama in 2025, which focused specifically on sexual exploitation and sex trafficking. Together, these training opportunities have helped build the knowledge and capacity of frontline staff and service providers to identify and respond effectively to different forms of human trafficking and exploitation, while promoting a coordinated and victim-centred approach across agencies.

Accessibility and Inclusion

September was a productive month for accessibility and inclusion initiatives across the county. Six Local Access Group meetings were facilitated, alongside a meeting of the County Kildare Access Network (CKAN). A walkability audit of Leixlip was undertaken with a representative from Stewarts Care to assess accessibility and identify opportunities for improvement in the public realm. Engagement also took place with several Local Access Groups through workshops focused on enhancing the CKAN website and exploring more effective use of social media to communicate activities, raise awareness, and strengthen community engagement. In addition, the first preparatory meeting for the Kildare Inclusivity Festival 2027 was held, commencing planning for what is expected to be another successful and

impactful event promoting inclusion and accessibility across the county.

Climate, Community, Environment and Water

Climate

Climate Action Regional Office (CARO)

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

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



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

Local Authority Climate Action Training Programme

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.
At 98% achievement rate for 2026 metrics.

Permanency of Staff Business Case

Conveyed to DCEE and remains under review. 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. Work ongoing to expand the green club toolkit by the inclusion of a Community Resilience element. Proposed to be launched on 22 November in Croke Park.

Kildare Climate Action Office

Inspiring change, shaping tomorrow

Kildare County Council Climate Action Office

The Climate Action Regional Office supports the Climate Action Office, which coordinates the Climate Action Team, Energy Management Team,

functional areas and Senior Management Team in delivering Council-wide decarbonisation.

Performance update: The 2025 Local Authority Climate Action Key Performance Indicator results show that Kildare achieved energy savings of 46.75%, compared with a local-authority average of 42.28%. Social-housing retrofits and completion of the LED public-lighting programme were identified as areas for further progress.
Community Based Projects:

Maynooth DZ:

Community Garden Maynooth

Maynooth Tidy Towns were awarded Community Climate Action Fund (CCAF) funding. The first phase of works is expected to commence in mid-October 2026, subject to finalisation of operational arrangements.

DemoHouse Maynooth

The Maynooth Demo House closed following completion of the demonstration phase. The project provided insights into household energy performance, behavioural change and community engagement that will inform future Decarbonising Zone activities. Two experimental elements may continue with future tenants. The research was showcased through the Sustainability Webinar Series, “Greener Homes, Real Projects – Lessons from Kildare Local Authority’s DemoHouse”, on 22 September 2026.

DZ Funding

Funding has been assigned nationally by DCEE to support Decarbonising Zones. Work is progressing on three Maynooth events to help establish a broader steering committee and develop a website mapping local climate actions. The first event took place in Manor Mills on 12 September 2026 and achieved good engagement, including an offer of voluntary assistance to Maynooth SEC and the Decarbonising Zone. Follow-on events are planned for 03 October 2026, “Shaping Maynooth’s Climate Future”, and 25 October 2026, “Circular Living in Maynooth”.

Climate Art Showcase

Martina O'Brien's heav(Y) b(La)ck stone exhibition will be hosted by Maynooth University from 13–23 October 2026 and officially opened by Associate Professor James Carolan. The immersive, renewable-powered artwork combines climate science and art to explore the materials and technologies underpinning the transition to a sustainable future.

Climate action grants:

Applications to the Climate Innovation Fund and the LEAF programme were assessed during September 2026. Successful applicants were due to be notified following completion of the assessment process.

Climate Action Fortnight 2026

Climate Action Fortnight 2026 will take place from 17–31 October. September planning covered public and internal workshops, school initiatives, talks, walks, films and community activities designed to showcase local projects and encourage practical climate action.

Energy Updates

Fleet Decarbonisation

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

Grass to Gas

Development work progressed during September 2026 with Terrain-AI on a simpler, more immersive AI-enabled dashboard for system operators. A complementary desktop study is examining the potential conversion of diesel engines to dual-fuel or Bio-CNG operation. From October 2026, further local-authority data will be sought where feasible, with European funding

opportunities to scale the project to be explored in spring 2027.

Energy Performance Contract

Building surveys and detailed design activities are progressing under the Energy Performance Contract to establish performance baselines for Áras Chill Dara and the two leisure facilities. Installation of actuators to the upper windows commenced on 12 September, with cabling progressing level by level as part of the energy-efficiency upgrade programme.

Energy Audits / Decarbonisation Projects:

Energy projects are advancing across libraries and community facilities, supported where applicable by SEAI Pathfinder funding.

Leixlip Library: Energy-efficiency works are complete and the project has been finalised.

Athy Library: The outcome of the JTF START funding application for the proposed geothermal project is awaited. No funding award has been confirmed.

Athy Municipal District offices: An energy audit has been completed. Funding will be required to progress the project.

Newbridge Library: Pathfinder funding is being sought for energy-efficiency works to the protected structure element of the wider capital project.
Clane Library: The outcome of the JTF START funding application is awaited in relation to potential support for the remaining 50% of project funding. No funding award has been confirmed.

Community Facilities: IES Ltd. has completed energy audits for the Newbridge and Kilcullen Community Youth Facilities, Monread Community Centre and the Old Fire Station in Maynooth. The findings will inform the scope and prioritisation of future energy-efficiency works.

District Heating (DH)

Strategic work is progressing on the Maynooth District Heating and DISCO projects.

Tetra Tech is preparing tender documentation to support the

proposed works included in the JTF START funding application.
September activity included project mobilisation and coordination of GIS information to support site optimisation, seismic analysis and potential drilling. Progression to physical works remains subject to a successful funding outcome.
The JTF START application outcome is awaited and no funding award has been confirmed. If successful, the Maynooth project, in conjunction with Maynooth University, could progress location optimisation, drilling and assessment of potential heat applications to support the long-term decarbonisation of Maynooth.

Gap to Target Assessment for 2026

The 2026 Gap-to-Target Assessment was completed with SEAI, which indicated that Kildare County Council is on course to meet and may exceed the required target.

Community

Kildare Local Community Safety Partnership

The Kildare LCSP held its Annual Public Meeting on 01 October 2026, which included a presentation from Community Gardaí on community policing initiatives across County Kildare.
The meeting also marked the launch of public consultation on Kildare's first Local Community Safety Plan, with an Adult Community Safety Survey and a Youth Community Safety Survey (age 15+) now available for people who live, work or study in County Kildare. The survey will close on 30 October.
The Kildare Safe and Connected Community Grant Scheme was also launched, offering funding of up to €3,000 to support community-led initiatives that promote safety, wellbeing, inclusion and stronger community connections. Applications will close on 30 October.
In addition, Kildare LCSP successfully secured €44,500 under the National Community Safety Fund to deliver the '12 Days of Community Safety at Christmas' public awareness podcast series. Work on this project will commence in 2027.
Further information on the public consultation opportunities, grant scheme and the work of Kildare LCSP is available at: www.

kildarecoco.ie/AllServices/Community/LocalCommunitySafetyPartnership

Further communications will issue to elected representatives to assist in engaging the communities of Kildare during public consultation.

Kildare Sports Partnership Hilldara Hillwalking Festival and Autism Friendly Walks

The annual Kildare Sports Partnership Hilldara Hillwalking Festival took place every weekend of September. This year there were three walks per week; one aimed at an advance group which is reaching 40 people weekly, one aimed at beginners to the Hillwalking group which has attracted close to 50 people thus far, and a new weekly Autism Friendly Walk which 65 people have participated in to date. Autism Friendly Walks have not only benefitted children to be physically active, but they are proving to be very impactful for bringing parents and families together who have a shared living experience. The Curragh Racecourse and Donadea Forest Park have hosted the first of the two Autism Friendly Walks, with Kerdiffstown and Moore Abbey to host the remaining two walks. Once again the Hilldara Hillwalking Festival is proving to capture new members of all ages and abilities across the county.

Swim Activator Programmes

Swim Activator Louise McNamee continued to broaden the scope of swimming-based initiatives in the county across the summer. The most recent activities she delivered included a ‘Swimmin Women’ programme, lessons as part of an activity camp through Irish, Water Safety Awareness Training to 30 residents of Hazel House Monasterevin, and Aquatics For All for service users in St. John of Gods. Louise has reached 154 new participants in her twelve most recent initiatives.

Sport Ireland Photography Project

Sport Ireland Communications Team visited Kildare Sports Partnership in Athy on Wednesday 07 October to conduct a photography project on KSP activities in the locality. Inpho Sports have been contracted to complete this project which will capture action imagery of the KSP Walk and Talk

Group, Water Sports Activities on the Barrow, and Exercise/Weightlifting with local service providers. These images will be added to the national database of imagery for Sports Partnerships to share but will also be provided directly to KSP and participating groups for volunteering for the project.

Proposed KSP-NUI Maynooth Collaboration for One-Year Research Project

KSP are currently planning a joint application with NUI Maynooth for a one-year research project to measure the impact of specific KSP initiatives. This research project will be driven by NUI Maynooth researchers and is dependent on funding be obtained through the Sport Ireland Core Grant Research stream. This will further strengthen the case for funding in sporting related programming.

Local Community Development Committee

SICAP Programme

The SICAP programme continues to progress in its work with disadvantaged community groups and individuals across the county. All KPIs for 2026 have been met. Work is concluding on the SICAP case study, due for submission at the end of October. This focusses on social enterprises with three selected – Lullymore, The Acre Project and Teach Diarmada. Aileen Gilchrist, Pobal Liaison Officer met with the subgroup as part of her annual support visit. Her feedback was very positive on the Kildare SICAP programme. The SICAP audit 2025 has started. Work is commencing on a draft SICAP plan 2027.

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

LEADER

The LEADER subgroup met on 24 September. There are five projects being presented for approval to the value of €615,113.54.

Smart Villages: Representatives from Carbury/Derrinturn met the Clane/Maynooth Municipal District to highlight their plan which includes a pathway to link both villages.



Representatives from Carbury/Derrinturn at Clane Municipal District

There are three completed plans, with four more communities recently commencing their training. For further information Turning the Sod | Engage and Transform Now

Funding allocation for 2026 through LEADER is expected to reach €1.8m with the budget fully allocated in 2027. Kildare will host an upcoming EU rural pact conference on the 03 and 04 November in Killashee House Hotel. This event is linked with the EU presidency. Kildare LEADER focusing on Smart Villages, will host a stall with the 04 November dedicated to LEADER in Europe.
For further information contact: Sabrina Whelan, Acting Manager, County Kildare LEADER Partnership sabrina@countykildarelp.ie

Empowering Communities Programme

Work continues through this programme targeting specific areas in Athy.
For further information contact: Linda Walsh, SICAP Manager, County Kildare LEADER Partnership linda@countykildarelp.ie

Local Enhancement Programme

Grant aid approved is being transferred to applicants.

Child Poverty Programme

LCDC and CYPSC were successful in securing national Department of Children funding for a two-year pilot programme, focused on supports for neurodiverse children and their families. A booklet outlining supports for families will be launched in Athy on 01 October. Work is underway to secure funding to continue this initiative which is providing Occupational Therapy supports in Family Resource Centre's for neurodiverse children and their families.

Sláintecare Healthy Communities



A two-day Trauma-Informed Practice Training programme was delivered on 23 and 24 September, facilitated by Connected for Life UK. A total of 33 participants successfully completed the training.

Progress continues on Phase 2 of the Age Friendly Mile, supported through SHCP seed funding. Current developments include the installation of accessible, age friendly benches and outdoor exercise equipment, and ISL-friendly signage to enhance inclusion.

Planning is underway for a Mental Health Information Morning in Athy on 13 October. The event will promote awareness of local supports and services while creating opportunities for community members to connect with each other and organisations in the area.

The third monitoring meeting for the Traveller Health Fund was held with Genio and the Department of Health. Feedback on programme progress was very positive, and work is now underway on a business plan to support advocacy for continued and expanded funding beyond the current programme period.

Healthy Ireland

Kildare Traveller Action were supported with an Equine Educational Programme for young people. Over 30 children and young people were supported learning skills to care for horses but also supported physical and mental health.

Leixlip Family Resource Centre are currently being supported with the development of a community garden space which young people from the ASD unit in Confey College will plant flowers with members of the local Mens Shed.

Trauma informed Training has been organized by the Healthy County Co-ordinator for 21 and 22 October in the community centre in Kilcock this will support the training of over 25 professionals across the county in Trauma Informed Care.

Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2024-2029

Work is continuing on the implementation of the first LECP Implementation Plan (2024-2026). The focus is currently on the close-out phase, with progress updates being gathered from lead and supporting stakeholders across all actions. This information will inform the end-of-term review and help assess progress against the objectives set out in the current implementation plan. In parallel, preparatory work has commenced on the development of the next LECP Implementation Plan for the period 2027-2029. Once a draft close out and implementation plan has been developed, it will be considered by the LECP Advisory Steering Group before progressing through the agreed governance and approval structures.

Community Development

The Pride In your place competition took place on 16 September in the Osprey hotel. The awards acknowledge the voluntary efforts made to maintain and enhance public open spaces, and the sense of pride and community engagement that grows from that work. Residents' associations, young people and community groups were honoured at the event. More information is here: https://kildarecoco.ie/News/Kildare,County,Council,Hosts,Pride,in,Your,Place,Awards,2026.html

Community Support Centres

Electrical surveys are currently being undertaken at 16 Community Support Centre sites to assess the feasibility of installing Manual Transfer Switches for mobile generator power and to determine associated costs. Once cost estimates have been finalised, a funding application will be submitted to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH). Subject to funding approval, installation works will then commence.

County Kildare Traveller and Roma Strategy

Work is progressing on the development of a new County Kildare Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy, aligned with the National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy II (NTRIS II) 2024-2028. Letters are currently being issued to key stakeholders seeking representation on the Steering Group that will oversee the strategy's development. A draft Request for Quotations for external support is under review, with preparatory work continuing on governance, stakeholder engagement and procurement arrangements.

Twinning:

Visiting Delegation from Lexington, Kentucky (25-28 September 2026)

Celebrating Our Twinning Friendship

County Kildare has been twinned with Lexington, Kentucky since 1984. The relationship is supported by the County Twinning Committee in Kildare and Lexington Sister Cities in Lexington. Over the years, the friendship has grown, underpinned by the shared importance of the equine industry to both regions.

A cultural programme was organised for the Lexington delegation during their visit to County Kildare, showcasing the county's heritage, equine industry, music, racing traditions and tourism offerings. Kildangan Stud was included in the programme as a showcase of Ireland's internationally renowned thoroughbred breeding industry. The visit provided an opportunity for the delegation to experience a key sector of Ireland's economy and heritage, while further strengthening the cultural and economic connections between Kildare and Lexington.



A visit to the Shackleton Museum in Athy formed part of the cultural programme. The museum highlights the remarkable life and achievements of Sir Ernest Shackleton and his strong connections to County Kildare, offering

an insight into the county's unique heritage and history.



The delegation also attended a race meeting at the Curragh Racecourse, providing an opportunity to experience one of Ireland's premier sporting and cultural venues. The visit showcased the significance of the thoroughbred racing industry to County Kildare and highlighted the strong links between Kildare and Lexington, both internationally recognised centres of equine excellence.

Environment

Rural Water

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

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

County Rural Water Monitoring Committee

The County Rural Water Monitoring Committee monitors and advises on the implementation of policy regarding the Rural Water Programme. The County Rural Water Monitoring Committee is comprised of local authority officials, elected members from each Municipal District and representatives from the private group water scheme sector, the National Federation of Group Water Schemes,

rural organizations, HSE. The second Rural Water Monitoring Committee meeting for 2026 was scheduled to be held on 30 September 2026 but was cancelled due to Industrial Action.

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

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

Local Authorities are currently preparing their Local Authority Water Action Work Plans, as required under the Water Action Plan 2024. These are county-level, public facing work plans/trackers which will set out the actions taken by a local authority to protect and improve natural water quality. It is expected that these will need to be completed by the end of Q3.

National Agricultural Inspection Programme (NAIP)

NAIP Inspections

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

Domestic Wastewater Treatment System National Inspection Plan (DWWTS NIP)

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

Water Quality

Rye River Fish Incident

Following a significant pollution incident on the Rye River in late June, which resulted in a significant fish kill, Kildare County Council have been working with Inland Fisheries Ireland and the EPA to investigate the source and cause. As part of this Kildare County Council Environment met with

the EPA on 23 July to discuss the incident and to set out the next steps in the investigation and any potential follow up prosecution. The EPA requested a written statement and a water quality monitoring report from the Council staff who were involved in the incident response and attended the incident location over a number of days. These were sent to the EPA on 07 August on a 'Without Prejudice' basis. No update has been received to date in relation to the next steps by the EPA.

National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy

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

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

Waste Enforcement

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

Regional Waste Planning Office

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

CCTV

A new CCTV scheme has been approved, and cameras are operational at Edmund Rice Square, Athy. The cameras will be in place for twelve weeks. A second scheme has been approved for Blackwood Bog outside of Athy. The cameras will be in place for twelve weeks. A further five schemes are planned and will be in place before the end of the year.

Recycling Facilities

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



Mattress Amnesty Day

A mattress amnesty day was held on Sunday, 06 September in Sillot Hill and was managed by Bord na Mona. The event is funded from the Circular Economy Fund under the Anti-Dumping initiative. An unprecedented number of mattresses were brought to Silliot Hill. In total 794 vehicles attended, 1,702 Mattresses werecollected for recycling which equated to 40.35 Tonnes.

Picker Pals

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

Domestic/Commercial Refuse Collections

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

Flood Risk Management Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Study

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

Morell Flood Management Scheme

Construction of this scheme is continuing.



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

Athy Flood Relief Scheme

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

Naas Flood Relief Scheme

Hydraulic modelling for the Naas FRS is complete. Details of the latest flood mapping can be found at: https://www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/naas/home/

Leixlip Flood Relief Scheme

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

Cemetery Capital Programme

This programme, which includes cemetery extensions, capital type internal improvements and proposals for columbarium walls is currently being reviewed in line with funding availability and a list of projects for 2027 is currently being compiled.

Columbarium Walls

Two new columbarium walls have been installed in both Monasterevin

and Donaghcumper cemeteries and all outstanding snags are now complete.

Veterinary Services

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

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

Dog Breeding Establishments

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

Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces

Transport

Capital Programme

Title	Funding Source	Project Status	Project Tier
Maynooth Eastern Ring Road (MERR)	LIHAF	Construction ongoing. Bridge beams due to be lifted into position in the middle of October.	Tier 1
Celbridge ABTA	KCC	Traffic surveys due to commence shortly following completion of UE works in Celbridge. Phase 1 consultation due to start on the 19 October with in person event planned for the 12 November.	Tier 1
Exceptional Abnormal Load (EAL), Transport of Transformer to Dunstown Sub Station		All works complete as per RW18 circular. Load due to move in October.	

Athy Main Street Improvement Works	KCC/TII/DOT	Drawings for roundabout and junction changes prepared and going through TII review process. S38 due to kick off in September to change direction of traffic in Emily Square.	Tier 2
Junction Programme	KCC/DOT	Contractor has commenced works as part of the Blackwood Cross Phase 1 Works. Contractor appointment for the works at Allenwood ongoing with works to commence there shortly.	Tier 2
Murtagh's Corner & Corban's Lane	KCC	Detailed design ongoing for Lough Bui and Blessington Road tie-ins.	Tier 2
M4 Footbridge	KCC	Meeting to be arranged with KIC to progress delivery of this project.	

National Roads Office

M4 Eastbound Bus Priority Scheme

The first section of the M4 Eastbound Hard Shoulder Bus Priority Measures Pilot Scheme on the eastbound carriageway of the M4 between Junction 6, Celbridge and Junction 5, Leixlip has been delivered. The measures came into operation on 03 September permitting buses to use the hard shoulder during peak travel times. Taxis are not permitted to use the measures.

Initial feedback from TII Motorway Traffic Control Centre (who are managing the operation of the bus measures) indicates a good number of buses using the bus measures when the parameters are met.

M4 Westbound Bus Priority Scheme

It is intended to bring the Part 8 for the proposed Westbound Bus Priority Measures before the Council in Q1 2027.

M9 Park and Share sites:

Kildare National Roads Office are currently working with TII to progress the identification of possible 'Park and Share' sites at three locations along the M9, Junction 3 (Moone, Co Kildare), Junction 4 (Prumpelstown, Co Kildare) and Junction 5 (Rathcrogue, Co Carlow). Park and Share sites are a facility where drivers

can go to park their vehicle and then share a lift with other private drivers for their onward journey. The feasibility and Options reports for Junctions 3 and 4 were issued to TII on the 09 July 2026 and the NRO received gateway approval to proceed to design phase on the 14 July.

Valuers were appointed for the provision of property valuation and professional advisory services on 24 July 2026. They are currently in the process of valuing the preferred sites at Junction 3 and Junction 4 on the M9. Negotiation with the landowners can then proceed following completion of the valuations with the view of acquiring the sites by agreement.

Other Park and Share Locations:

TII have requested the NROs assistance on seven other Park and Share locations around the country that they wish to process and the NRO have started to engage with the other parties in this regard.

Road Safety

Speed Limit Review

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

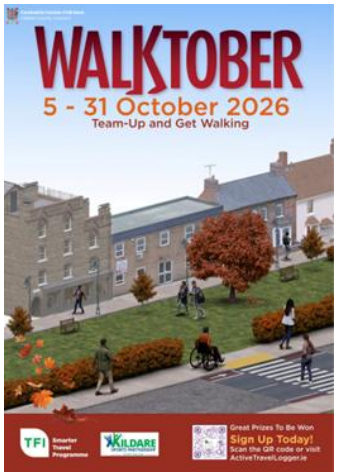
The public consultation has closed and we received 42 submission which are currently being reviewed.

KFM Back to School Road Safety Campaign



KFM in association with Coimisiún na Meán's news reporting scheme will, over the coming weeks and months broadcast a series of thirty-minute programmes, one per month starting in September about road safety. In addition to these there will also be a series of 53 short 2-4 minute programmes which will be broadcast weekly. As part of this the Road Safety Officer was invited by KFM to discuss our Back-to-School Road Safety Campaign, which included advice for road users about safely traveling to and from school.

Smarter Travel Programme0



Kildare County Council participates in the TFI Smarter Travel Programme, which is a national voluntary behaviour change programme. This programme focuses on promoting and encouraging staff to sustainably and actively commute and beyond. Walktober is the NTA's annual workplace step challenge that encourages staff to get active, improve their wellbeing, and support sustainable travel by walking more throughout October. Participants form teams, track their steps, and compete with organisations across Ireland for prizes and leaderboard positions. During the last Walktober in October 2025, 6,563,943 steps were logged by Kildare County Council Staff.

GoCar Information Session



Kildare County Council held an EV Share Car information session for employees. Partnering with GoCar, the scheme provides staff with access to a convenient car-sharing service for business travel. The initiative supports the Council's commitment to sustainable transport by offering an alternative to private vehicle use, helping to reduce emissions, improve travel efficiency, and promote smarter mobility choices across the organisation. Staff had the opportunity to learn more about the service and how it can support their day-to-day work-related travel needs.

Operations

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



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

The municipal district offices have completed approximately 85% of the RI schemes and 95% of the RM schemes. Works are ongoing on completion of the remaining schemes

General Maintenance

Kildare County Council maintains in excess of 3,300 kilometres of National Secondary, Regional and Local roads throughout the county. Included in this work are road surface repairs, footpath repairs, drainage maintenance, sign maintenance, road marking renewals and the delivery of the Road Opening Licence system (ROL). Maintenance works continues across the network with an emphasis on cleaning gullies and sweeping roads during the autumn months.

Public Lighting

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

Surface Dressing

The surface dressing season started on 25 May and was completed 10 weeks later. This programme is delivered by direct labour. The exceptionally hot weather impacted on the scheduling of work and resulted in works being stood down on two occasions as the road surface temperatures were too high.The crew were redeployed to carry out maintenance on roads showing signs of distress due to the high temperatures.

Regional Salt Barn

The yearly review of the Service Level Agreement (SLA) between the Department of Transport and Kildare County Council is currently being

finalised. Upon completion of the review, the new SLA will be agreed ahead of the winter maintenance season 2026-27. There are currently over 10,000 tonnes of salt in the salt barn. The winter maintenance season for 2026/27 will commence on 12 October.

Winter Maintenance 2026/27

The roads department are currently reviewing the 2025/26 season and preparing for the new season which commences on the 12 October. The ten salting routes and the winter maintenance plan will be shared on the council website once completed.

Extreme Weather Events:

The last week in September brought some heavy outburst of rain which caused some localised spot flooding. This was mainly due to the high intensity of the rainfall and the surface water network not being capable of taking the volume.

There was also the first high wind event of the season which brought down a few trees across the county. The crews responded a removed any trees that were causing an obstruction.

Sustainable Transport

Title	Allocation 2026	Stage	Update
Royal Canal Greenway	€440,000	Defects period	The work on the greenway is substantially complete and the contract is in the defects period, Snags are now complete, the retention will be released shortly and this will finalise this contract.
Louisa Bridge Leixlip - Royal Canal Greenway Scheme	€160,000	Prelim design	Works on Louisa Bridge at Railway Station to be completed in 2026. Tenders out for consultants for detail design.

Green Lane, Leixlip Active Travel Scheme	€870,000	Detailed Design	Detailed Design is nearing completion, this project will progress to tender stage in due course.
Naas to Sallins Greenway (Section 2 Naas Harbour – Sallins Village)	€50,000		Consultant for stage 4 safety audit appointed.
Sallins Village Active Travel Scheme	€100,000	Consent	Part 8 drawing are currently being finalised. Presentations to MD councillors to follow.
Celbridge Road, Maynooth Active Travel Scheme	€1,000,000	Part 8	Part 8 Public Consultation close on the 5th August. We received 91 submissions and Part 8 Report is complete. The report will be wit the CMMD councillors shortly.
Kilcullen Road, Naas Active Travel Scheme	€800,000	Design review	The designers of the scheme have been appointed to examine the independent post opening safety review of the scheme. A number of options are under consideration.
Celbridge Active Travel Bridge	€50,000		Land transfer discussions to continue for land required to build the bridge.
Dublin Road, Naas Active Travel Scheme	€1,000,000	Detailed Design	Construction documents are and tender package complete. Uisce Eireann are delivering water mains upgrades prior to the commencement of the ATS at this location. We continue to engage with Uisce Eireann and the appointed contractor.
Monasterevin Active Travel Scheme	€50,000	Planning	Preparations to commence a Part 8 Public Consultation process are underway and a briefing was held with elected members on this project. Engagement with the NTA ongoing.
Mill Street, Maynooth Active Travel Scheme	€1,700,000	Defects Period	Substantial completion certificate issued and the contractor is completing snags in the 12 month defects period. Final Account being discussed with contractor.

Naas to Kill Active Travel Scheme	€525,000	Detailed Design	Detailed design in progress and specialists have been appointed.
Dublin Road (Naas) Connector Active Travel Scheme	€400,000		Progress on this scheme is tied to resource availability.
Newbridge Main Street	€200,000	Prelim design	Site meeting held with elected members on this project potential options drawing is being progressed ahead of discussions with the National Transport Authority.
Monread Road, Naas Active Travel Scheme	€25,000		Approaches to Sallins Road Roundabout to be examined to prepare an alternative to the zebra crossing across the two-lane width approaches.
SRTS Round 2 - Patrician Primary/St. Conleth's, Newbridge	€150,000	Consent	The design of this safe route to school scheme have been finalised and the Section 38 for the scheme is progressing.
SRTS (R3) - Scoil an Linbh Iosa, Prosperous	€350,000	Construction	The construction of this scheme is complete. Engagement with the school promoting the use of park and stride facilities in the village is ongoing.
SRTS Round 2 - Scoil Bhríde/Scoil Phádraig, Clane	€150,000	Prelim design	Planning application in adjoining land to be finalised shortly with a condition for the access route.
SRTS (R4) Ardscoil Rath Iomghain, Rathangan	€20,000	Prelim design	SRTS Delivery Plan to be completed by An Taisce Green Schools. This project will be completed in the school holiday of 2027.
SRTS (R4) Maynooth Educate Together NS	€20,000	Prelim design	SRTS Delivery Plan completed by An Taisce Green Schools, and initial discussion completed with the school. This will be delivered as part of the Celbridge Road ATS.

SRTS (R4) Scoil Eoin Phoil, Green Lane, Leixlip	€20,000	Prelim design	SRTS Delivery Plan to be completed by An Taisce Green Schools. This will be delivered as part of the Green Lane ATS.
SRTS (R4) Scoil Íde Naofa, Kilmead, Athy	€20,000	Prelim design	SRTS Delivery Plan to be completed by An Taisce Green Schools.

Bus Stop Enhancement Programme

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

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

Open Spaces

Parks and Tree Maintenance

Park Maintenance and Tree maintenance continues throughout the county. The programme of Tree Works comprises of pruning and removals annually in the county to manage, preserve and enhance the trees in public areas. The works are largely based on requests we get from the public and public representatives through the year.



Before and after of maintenance works at the Lakes and Famine Park (Naas)

Title	Project Status
Cherry Avenue Park, Kildare	Letter of acceptance is being prepared for the successful tenderer.
Sallins Amenity Land	Construction tender documents have been received from the consultants. These are being reviewed.
Carton Avenue	Tender documents are being prepared to procure a consultant to prepare a conservation and masterplan, it is expected to be advertised in October. A Just Transition Application has been submitted seeking funding for the work.
St Catherine's Park Sensory Garden	Substantial completion was achieved on 1 September 2026. The construction fencing has been removed, and the sensory garden has been opened to the public.
Outdoor Recreational Plan	The translation of the plan to Irish has been received The SEA and AA screening reports have been completed and an SEA determination report has been forwarded to the statutory agencies for consideration., which they have one month to respond.
The Lakes, Naas	SPPR are preparing a tender for the path improvements in the park.
Kilcullen Skate Park	Preliminary discussions are ongoing in relation to a location for the park.
Barrow Blueway Extension – Monasterevin to Portarlington	The final feasibility has been submitted and is being reviewed.
Moorefield Park Playground	Construction is due to commence in mid-October
Tree Works	Work is ongoing on the programme of tree work throughout the County.

Lakeside Highfield Dara Park Open Space	A tender to appoint consultants to prepare a masterplan is currently being prepared and is due to be advertised in October
Ballymore Eustace Looped Walk	Route improvement work has been tendered and the work awarded. Work is due to commence this month.
Celbridge Outdoor Teen Facility	The public consultation for Celbridge Teen Facilities closed on the 22nd of September, with 945 Submissions. Evaluation of these submissions is underway. The installation of the teen hangout area at The Slip has progressed to the construction stage. Final design details have been completed

Planning, Enterprise and Economic Development

Planning

Forward Planning

Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029:

Variations currently underway;

Variation No. 6 – Sallins Settlement Plan

Chief Executive's Report on submissions received to the Proposed Material Alterations (PMAs) prepared and submitted to the Elected members on 25 September 2026. Special Meeting of Full Council Scheduled for 12 October to consider PMA's and adopt final variation.

Variation No. 7 – Monasterevin Settlement Plan

The Variation was on public display from the 01 September until the 29 September with submissions invited until 12.00 noon on the 29 September 2026. 39 submissions received and a Chief Executives Report is currently being prepared. A Special Meeting of Full Council Scheduled for 23 November 2026 to consider submissions to the Draft Variation and recommendations of the Chief Executive as set out in Chief Executive's Report.

Variation No. 8 – Kilcock Settlement Plan

Preparation of Draft Variation and supporting documents underway and due for publication Q1 2027

Variation No. 9 – Celbridge Settlement Plan

Preparation of Draft Variation and supporting documents underway and due for publication Q1 2027

Variation No. 10 – An Nás Thiar - A vibrant new neighbourhood for Naas

Revised assessments and reports as per the NTA's submission to the Northwest Quadrant Masterplan are required to be completed in advance of a new draft going on public display. Anticipated timeline to be confirmed.

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

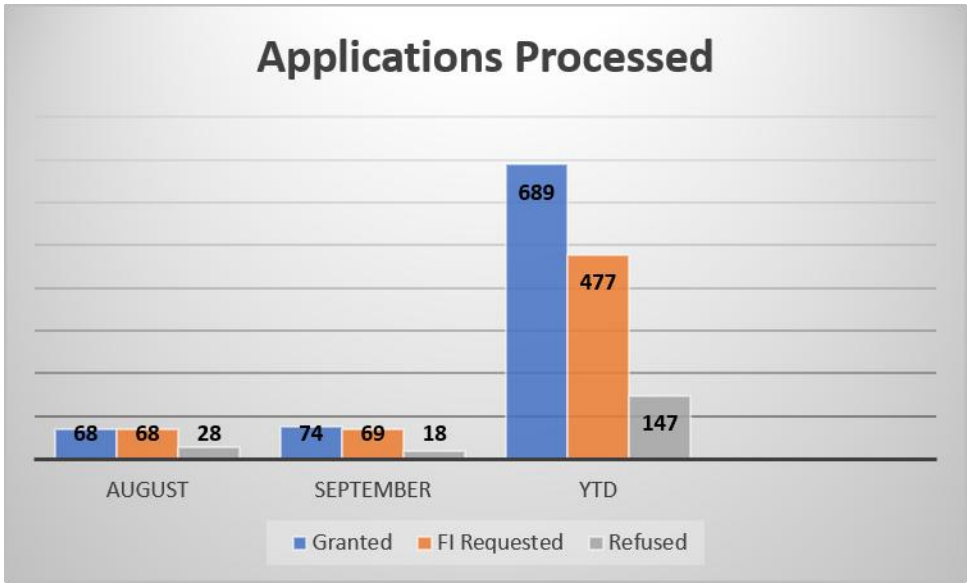
Part 4 of the Planning and Development Act 2024, is due to commence shortly which will introduce an updated development management framework for the planning system, representing a significant reform of planning application procedures, decision making processes, timelines, and associated statutory requirements.

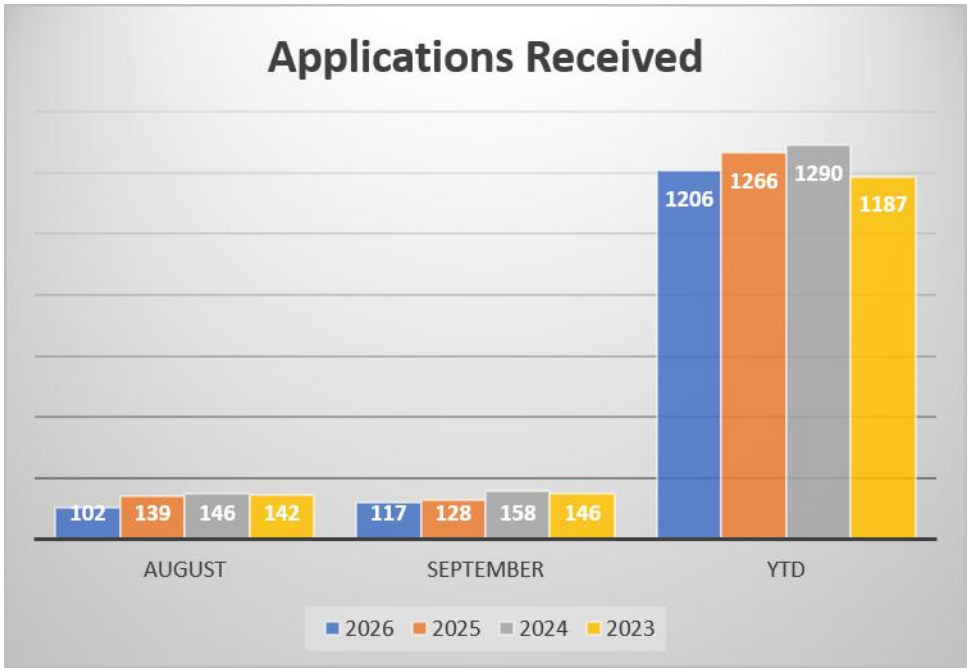
Significant preparatory work has been undertaken to facilitate its commencement, including a comprehensive review and update of Development Management procedures, standard operating processes, workflows, and correspondence to ensure compliance with the new legislative provisions. Ongoing engagement has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

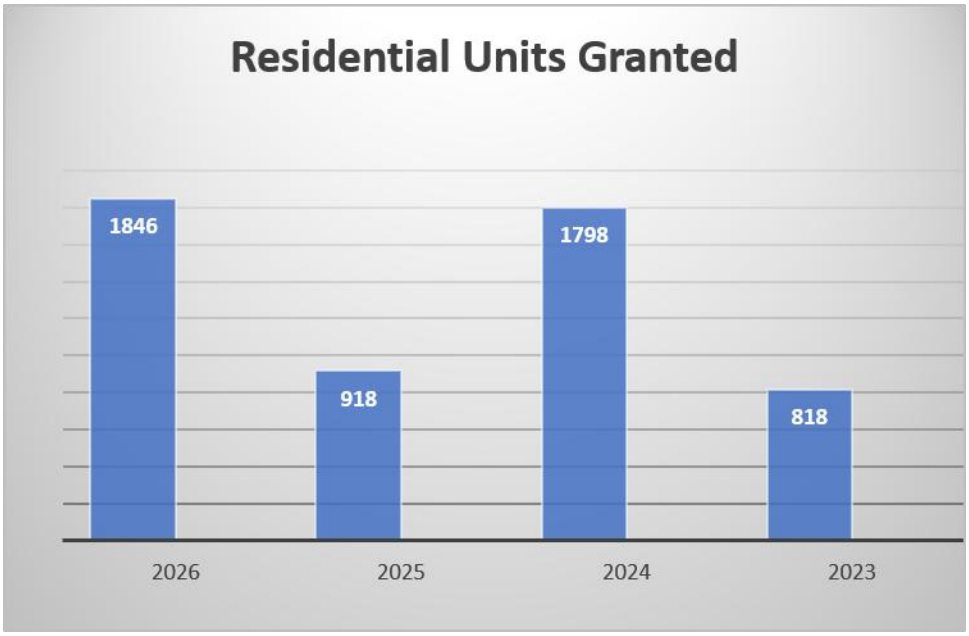
Planning application templates, validations, decision notices, and related communications have been revised to include references to the new Planning and Development Act and Regulations. IPlan has been updated and process reviews are ongoing to ensure operational readiness and a smooth transition to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

ePlanning

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







Pre-Planning

19 new pre-planning requests were submitted in September. 216 applications received year to date.

Section 5s

Nine new Section 5 declaration requests received in September. 101 requests received year to date.

Large-scale Residential Development (LRD)

LRD Applications					
Ref No.	**Date Received**	**Applicant**	**Development Address**	**Proposed**	**Decision**
2561119	02/10/25	Cozone Ventures Ltd	Railpark, Maynooth	581 Residential Units & Neighbourhood Centre	Appeal granted on 10/09/2026
2660381	09/04/26	Andrews Construction	Tea Lane/Church Road, Celbridge	115 Residential Units & Creche	Granted 17/09/2026

2660469	29/04/26	Ballymore Development Ltd	Lands west of Naas Racecourse	234 Residential Units & Creche	Granted 29/09/2026
2660575	29/05/26	Maynooth Montane Ltd	Maynooth Business Campus	315 Residential Units, Creche, Retail units & Community facility	Decision due 15/10/2026
2660878	30/07/26	Leixlip and Newbridge SPV Ltd	Confey, Leixlip	125 Residential Units	Further information requested 23/09/2026

Strategic Housing Development Applications to An Coimisiún Pleanála (SHD)

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

Heritage and Nature

A. Biodiversity / Ecology

Feighcullen Woodland Creation on Public Lands project – final site assessments complete in preparation of planting commencing November/December 2026.

Biodiversity Conference 2026 (17 and 18 October) preparations underway.

B. Heritage and Conservation

Historic Towns Initiative funded Ballitore Heritage led regeneration plan underway. Public Consultation event one complete.

Ongoing management of Historic Structures Fund 2026, Community Heritage Grant Scheme Community Monuments Fund, Heritage Plan Implementation Fund 2026.

Kildare Land and Activation Office (KLAO)

Masterplans:

Naas Canal Quarter Masterplan

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

Town and City Renewal Investment Fund:

KLAO were successful in obtaining €150,000 on behalf of Kildare County Council to the funding call for a Project Development stream grant to support the Council in preparing a Masterplan for the Newbridge Central Settlement Consolidation Site.

The delivery of the masterplan will provide a mechanism to advance the regeneration of this key town centre site with potential to deliver housing at scale. This to be considered with the remediation of the Machinery Yard for which tenders are being completed.

MOOR Progress. (SD)

Project Maynooth 2 held 01 October 2026

Crewhill Planning application is imminent.

Confey

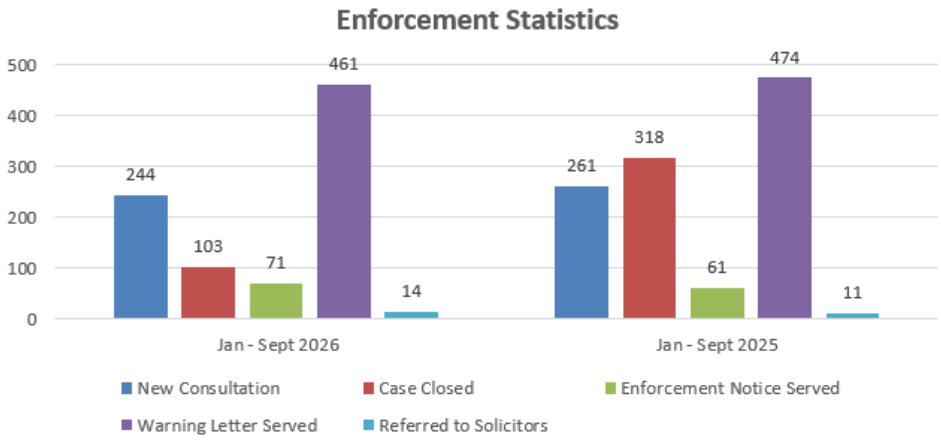
Confey Ongar Project (Unfunded)

Atkins Realis progressing route selection. Phase 0 complete.

Planning Enforcement

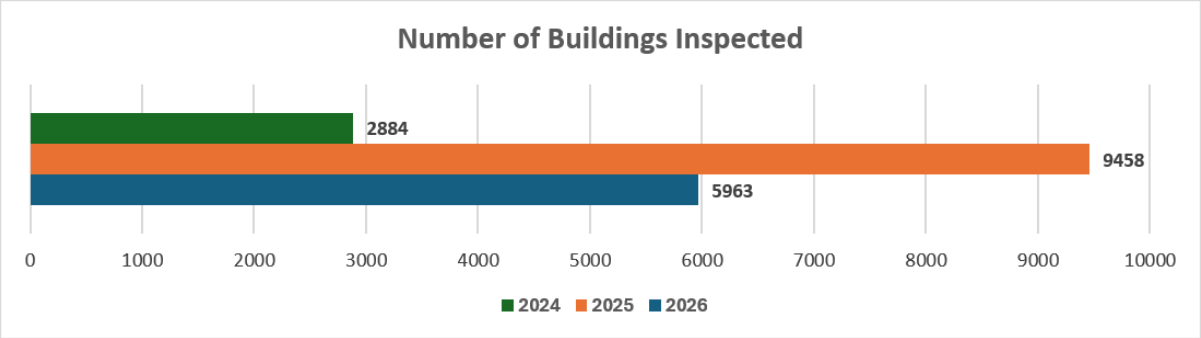
Summary for September 2026

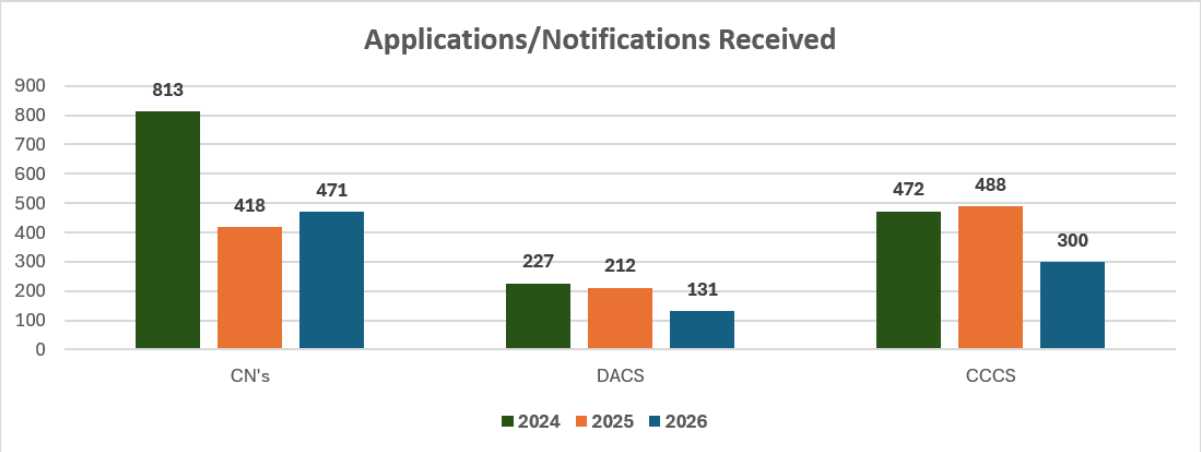
25	New Consultations
1	Cases Closed
2	Enforcement Notices Served
50	Warning Letters Served
3	Cases referred to Solicitors



Building and Development Control

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





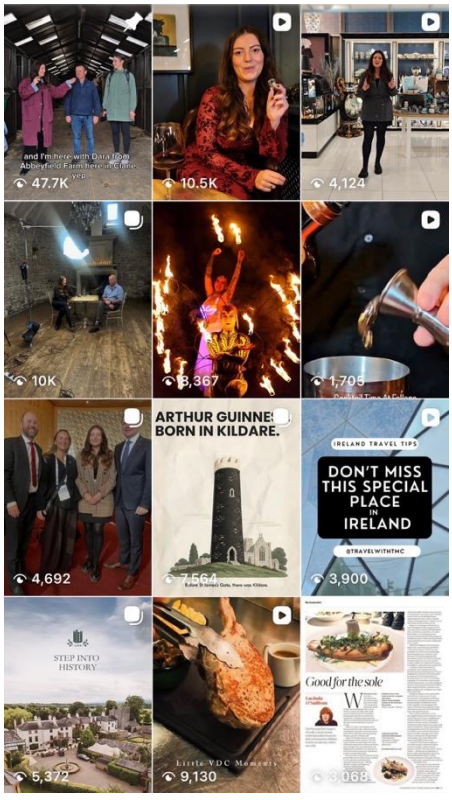
Kildare Fáilte - Into Kildare

September delivered strong and cost-efficient digital performance across Into Kildare's destination campaigns. Meta activity generated 490,637 impressions, reached 141,970 people and delivered 2,429 link clicks. The Traffic campaign alone generated 2,007 website link clicks, with the Staycations campaign achieving a 2.62% click-through rate. Video content also performed strongly. The Sallins destination video generated 65,709 views and 46,490 post engagements, making it September's strongest content, while the Abbeyfield Farm video generated 24,755 views and 15,960 post engagements, supporting the promotion of Kildare's Horse Country.

Overall, September continued the strong momentum established during the summer, with a clear focus on

extending destination promotion beyond the peak season. Activity included international travel media visits, national broadcast and radio activity across RTÉ Radio 1, Newstalk and Today FM, destination content creation, industry engagement and the promotion of Kildare's towns, attractions and visitor experiences.

Into Kildare also maintained a strong visitor-facing presence, with County Kildare tourism brochures available in both Terminal 1 and Terminal 2 at Dublin Airport, promoting the county to domestic and international visitors.



Into Kildare hosted Canadian travel writer Tara McAndrew on a dedicated FAM trip showcasing the breadth of County Kildare's tourism offering. The itinerary included Clane, Sallins, Athy and Kildare's waterways, providing an opportunity to showcase the county's heritage, outdoor experiences, hospitality and visitor attractions to an international audience.





Planning also continued with Fáilte Ireland for the Kildare Tourism Industry Networking Event, taking place at The Keadeen Hotel in October. The event will bring together tourism businesses and stakeholders from across the county to strengthen collaboration, build commercial connections and identify opportunities to grow tourism across Kildare. The September Save the Date communication achieved a strong 56.88% open rate, with more than half of recipients engaging with the communication.



A significant focus during September was the continued development and promotion of Athy as a visitor destination. Into Kildare undertook filming with Jack Lukeman for the 24 Hours in Athy video campaign, showcasing the town's cultural and heritage offering, including the Shackleton Experience and surrounding businesses while highlighting the investment and development taking place within the destination.



Into Kildare attended the Champions Race Meeting at The Curragh Racecourse and invited local media to attend, providing an opportunity to showcase one of the county's flagship sporting occasions while supporting the continued positioning of Kildare as the heart of Ireland's thoroughbred and equestrian industry.



Into Kildare also coordinated broadcast planning and activity with Ireland AM, incorporating the Shackleton Experience and working

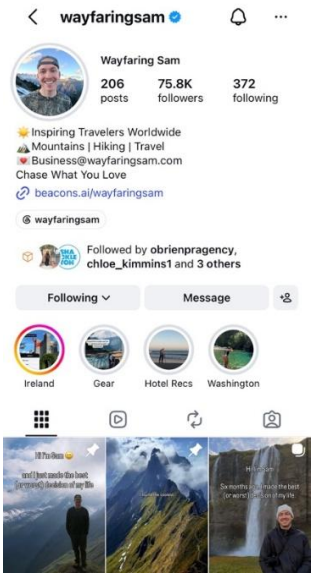
alongside Kildare County Council to showcase the attraction, the wider Athy tourism offering and the investment made in developing this important heritage experience.



The value of Into Kildare's travel media activity was further demonstrated during September when the recent hosted visit by travel journalist Isabel Conway resulted in the Shackleton Experience being shortlisted among the top five contenders in the British Guild of Travel Writers Tourism Awards. The original FAM visit was specifically organised to support international exposure for the newly opened attraction and showcase Athy's wider heritage and hospitality offering.



Into Kildare hosted American travel influencer Wayfaring Sam on a dedicated itinerary showcasing the breadth of County Kildare's tourism offering. The visit include a trip down the canal with barge trip in Sallins, Lock 13 and its brewery, the Shackleton Experience in Athy and Barberstown Castle. The itinerary was designed to showcase Kildare's hospitality, castles, history and heritage, waterways and visitor experiences to the American market and Wayfaring Sam's international audience.



Into Kildare met with the Shackleton Experience to discuss upcoming collaborative opportunities and future campaigns. The meeting focused on building on the attraction's strong opening season, its growing national and international profile and opportunities to further position Athy as an important heritage tourism destination.



A site visit was undertaken with Moyvalley Hotel and Golf Resort to discuss upcoming collaborations and opportunities for destination promotion. The visit formed part of Into Kildare's continued engagement with tourism businesses and members across the county, identifying opportunities for collaborative marketing, content and future campaigns.

Content creation took place at voco The Club, developing new social media assets showcasing Kildare's accommodation, leisure and visitor offering.

The content will support Into Kildare's wider destination marketing activity and provide fresh material for autumn and winter campaigns.



Into Kildare participated in a Flanders Learning Journey with Fáilte Ireland, exploring tourism attractions and experiences and gaining insight into

approaches to destination collaboration, visitor experience development and tourism partnerships. The learning journey provided an opportunity to identify best practice and consider how successful approaches to collaboration and destination development could inform future tourism activity in County Kildare.



Filming and content creation took place at Newbridge Silverware, promoting the attraction and its visitor offering for Into Kildare's social media channels. The activity forms part of the continued development of destination-led video content, showcasing individual Kildare attractions while encouraging visitors to explore the wider county.



Into Kildare helped facilitate and support a visit to Athy as part of a delegation from Lexington. The itinerary showcased the Shackleton Experience and O'Brien's Bar, before highlighting Kildare's renowned Horse Country offering with a visit to the Curragh Racecourse. The visit provided an opportunity to showcase the county's heritage, hospitality and equestrian tourism offering to an international audience.

Enterprise and Economic Development

2026 Financial Reports

Total LEO Financial Supports At 1.10.26	No. of Businesses	Amount Approved
Grow Digital Voucher	22	€48,990
Business Expansion Grant	6	€141,576
Priming Grant	3	€100,808
Feasibility Study Grant	2	€17,416
Market Explorer Grant	7	€31,747
Gradstart	0	€0
IP Start Grant	5	€10,800
Energy Efficiency Grant	12	€102,483
Micro Finance Ireland	25	N/a
TOTAL	**82**	€453,820

Priming Grants Approved in October

DECTEK tRAKker Limited of Clane / Maynooth Municipal District was approved €49,950 to support the employment of four full-time positions. The business provides an AI powered workflow automation and tracking platform.

Business Expansion Grants Approved in October

George Tutty Footwear Limited of Naas Municipal District was approved €13,654 to support the employment of a new full-time position and capital expenditure. Business manufactures bespoke footwear solutions.

Feasibility Study Grants Approved in October

DAInta Limited of Celbridge / Leixlip Municipal District was approved €13,900 to support the development of a minimum viable product for the Life Science sector.

Uvabloom Limited of Kildare / Newbridge Municipal District was approved €3,516 to support shelf-life testing and consultancy for manufactured food products.

Entrepreneurship Support Transition Year Show 2026 – Curragh Racecourse

The Local Enterprise Office Kildare exhibited at the Transition Year Show

2026, a national careers, education and enterprise event held at the Curragh Racecourse on 30 September 2026, engaging directly with students, teachers and guidance counsellors, promoting entrepreneurship, enterprise supports and career opportunities in County Kildare and highlighting programmes such as the Student Enterprise Programme**.** The Council also promoted the recently developed Equine Career Guidebook, showcasing the breadth of career opportunities within Ireland's equine industry and supporting awareness of a sector of significant importance to the Kildare economy.



Economic Development

Retail Supports

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

Municipal District	Number Approved	Amount Approved
Athy	22	€55,835.12
Celbridge / Leixlip	7	€13,044.74
Clane / Maynooth	18	€60,836.20
Kildare / Newbridge	25	€54,830.70
Naas	12	€25,734.40
Total	**84**	**€210,281.16**

Tourism

The Shackleton Autumn School will take place in Athy on the weekend of 16 October.The team is collaborating with the Shackleton Experience to animate the town by engaging local businesses, mapping experiences/ events and targeting vacant units to leverage visitors to Athy.

Austrian Ambassador Visits Athy Food, Skills and Innovation Hub

The Austrian Ambassador to Ireland recently visited the Athy Food, Skills and Innovation Hub to learn more about the facility and its role in supporting food enterprise, skills development and innovation in the region. During her visit, the

Ambassador toured the Hub, gaining insight into its teaching programmes, food incubation units and its objective of supporting food businesses from start-up through to growth.

The Ambassador also met with a selection of local food producers, hearing first-hand about their businesses, their experiences of developing and scaling their enterprises, and the ways in which supports from the Local Enterprise Office have helped them to grow. The visit highlighted the strength of Kildare's food enterprise community and the important role the Athy Food, Skills and Innovation Hub plays in providing practical supports, facilities and opportunities for food businesses to develop and thrive.

European Funded Project
Enterprise Europe Network (EEN)

Kildare County Council continues to participate in the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN), supporting SMEs in accessing international markets, innovation supports, and EU collaboration opportunities, aligned with the Council's economic development objectives.

Preparations for the SIAL Paris 2026 Trade Mission, one of the world's largest food innovation and trade exhibitions, are well advanced.

'Kildare Brewing Co.' based in Sallins has been selected to participate in the mission, providing an opportunity to showcase local enterprise capability in an international marketplace and explore new export opportunities.

Participating companies will benefit from a series of pre-arranged business-to-business meetings with international buyers, distributors, suppliers, and commercial partners, helping maximise the value of attendance and potential commercial outcomes. Further information is available at: www.een-ireland.ie

Merits Client Support
Tech Pre-Accelerator Programme

The MERITS Tech Pre-Accelerator Programme commenced on 17 September 2026, with 15 entrepreneurs from across Co. Kildare participating in the ten-session programme. The programme supports early-stage technology businesses through structured workshops,

mentoring, peer learning and access to the wider enterprise and innovation ecosystem.

Tech Cluster and Idea Ignition

MERITS hosted its first Autumn Tech Cluster event "Idea Ignition" on 24 September, bringing together 35 founders, creators and innovators for an interactive evening of idea sharing, product demonstrations, pitching and networking. The event facilitated focused discussions, feedback and potential collaborations, supporting entrepreneurs at all stages of business development.



Culture Night

As part of Culture Night Friday, 18 September MERITS welcomed Serena Ply, MERITS Artist in Residence and winner of the Vector Award, who presented her installation Cybernetic Ecologies, alongside an informal artist talk. Incorporating real-time weather data and 3D scans of plant species from Kildare, the evolving installation responded to environmental conditions. The event showcased MERITS as a space for creativity, innovation and community engagement, bringing together art, technology and the natural environment.

Hub Development

Circular Economy Hub, Athy

An application was submitted for phases 2 and 3 of the Circular Economy Hub under the SMART Pobal Fund on 02 June. Results of application to be confirmed mid-late October. If the funding request is successful, it will allow full completion of the building and environs with anticipated opening in January 2028. If unsuccessful, the existing ground floor will be completed, and the hub will be semi operational in January 2027. Currently, the structural construction tender has been awarded, and works have commenced with 85% complete. Structural steel for cracked slab supports and AOV openings installed. All handrails to ramps and emergency exits installed. Internal steel framing supplied and installation commenced week beginning 28 October. The site is

fully secure with 24-hour security surveillance with all prohibited access points removed.

Fashion, Textiles and Design Hub, Monasterevin



99% of the construction contract is completed. ESB application reference number for MIC upgrade works received. ESB works are to be completed week commencing 05 October. Site clean-up has commenced with removal of scaffolding and preparation of hoarding removal. The hub will be operational mid to late November 2026.

Sonya Kavanagh
Chief Executive