

Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council



Chief Executive's Management Report

4th of June, 2020

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S MANAGEMENT REPORT – JUNE 2020

Contents

Corporate Affairs and Governance (CAG)

Governance and Oversight Meetings
Corporate Services Major Emergency Management –
Response to Covid 19
Human Resources
Health and Safety Unit
Customer Services
CRM
Facilities Management
Information Technology
Communications

Economic, Enterprise and Tourism

Development (EETD)

Tourism Development

Events
Tourism
Heritage Properties

Local Enterprise Development

Economic Development

Balbriggan Socio-Economic Strategy
LEADER Programme
Local Community Development Committee
Enterprise Centres

Operations (OPS)

Covid-19 Measures
Routine Operational Matters
Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit
Street Lighting
Recycling Centres
Works Programme
Walk Bike Fingal
Road Safety Section
Traffic Section
Bridge Rehabilitation Project
Map Road Licensing
R132 Cycle Lane Study
Road Opening Licenses

Planning and Strategic Infrastructure (PSI)

Planning Applications
Planning Decisions
Planning Applications – Submission Deadlines and Decision
Due Dates
Building Control

Fingal Development Plan Variation no. 2
Fingal Development Plan Variation no. 3
Dunsink Study
All-weather Pitch facility, car park and Associated
ancillary works at Ward River Valley Park
Redevelopment of Malahide Village Green
Park and playground proposals for
Lanesborough, The Naul, Garristown and Howth.
Broadmeadow Way
Snugborough Interchange Upgrade
Churchfields Link Road
National Transport Authority Support
Official Opening of Rathbeale Road Upgrade and
Donabate Distributor Road
Construction recommences
Development Management/Forward Planning
(Water Services)
Building Control/Taking in Charge
The Heritage Officer

Housing and Community, Culture & Sports and Libraries (H+CCS+L)

Housing

Community, Culture & Sports

Community Development Office
Sports Office
Arts Office

Libraries

Environment & Climate Action (ECA)

Environment & Climate Action

Environmental Awareness & Climate Action
Bathing Water Quality
Litter Management
Dog Warden Service
Waste Enforcement

Water Services

Operations

Finance

Financial Reports

CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNANCE (CAG)

Contents

Governance and Oversight Meetings
Corporate Services Major Emergency Management –
Response to Covid 19
Human Resources
Health & Safety Unit
Customer Services
CRM
Facilities Management
Information Technology
Communications

The Corporate Services, Human Resources and Information Technology Departments continue to play a vital role in ensuring that the organisation can respond to the requirements of the organisation as it implements the Governments roadmap for reopening society and business with Phase 2 expected to commence on the 8th of June.

Governance and Oversight Meetings

The Council continued to engage with the Elected Members through governance and oversight virtual meetings which were held on the Microsoft Teams platform throughout the month of May. Below are a list of the virtual governance and oversight meetings held:

11th May Members of the County Council
14th May Members of the Swords/Balbriggan/
Rusk-Lusk Area Committee
18th May Members of the Howth-Malahide Area
Committee
28th May Members of the Blanchardstown-
Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar Area
Committee

The main topics discussed at these meetings related to:

- Finances of the Council
- Re-starting the economy
- Housing matters / Delivery update
- Business Continuity during the CoVid19 pandemic

- Works Programme 2020 - update
- Physical and Social Distancing proposals
- Planning matters relating to the specific Area Committees
 - Sutton SHD
 - Churchfield Link Road, Mulhuddart – Part VIII

Throughout June, the Council will continue to hold virtual oversight and governance meetings with it's Members of the County Council, the Area Committees and the Strategic Policy Committees as well as further information briefings as required for the Members.

In addition to this, a physical meeting of the County Council will take place on 19th June to facilitate the statutory business of the Council as well as the election of the new Mayor and Deputy Mayor as part of the Annual General Meeting.

Corporate Services - Major Emergency Management - Response to Covid 19



The **Major Emergency Planning** Structures in place within the Council continue to provide the framework within which the Council's Departments adapt and update business continuity plans.

Business Continuity Plans continue to be used to prioritise critical services, to channel and re-assign resources and ensure continuity of service for the public. This process has also enabled management to ensure exposure of staff is minimised through significant levels of remote-working and facilitating social distancing within the organisation.

The **Major Emergency Eastern Region Steering Group**, including representatives from the management of Dublin, Wicklow and Kildare Local Authorities, the Fire Services of those Local Authorities, An Garda Síochána and the HSE, continue to meet regularly with a view to co-ordinating services, activities and to ensure that activities across the region are informed by and in line with the national measures. The group is Chaired by AnnMarie Farrelly, Chief Executive and is serviced by Fingal's Corporate Services Department.

The Chairs of the Regional Groups represent the Regions at the **National Steering Group** that ensures that the decisions of Government and best practice approaches are implemented and informed by what is taking place at local level.

Locally, Fingal County Council's **Management Team** met 3 times a week for the month of May and otherwise as required.

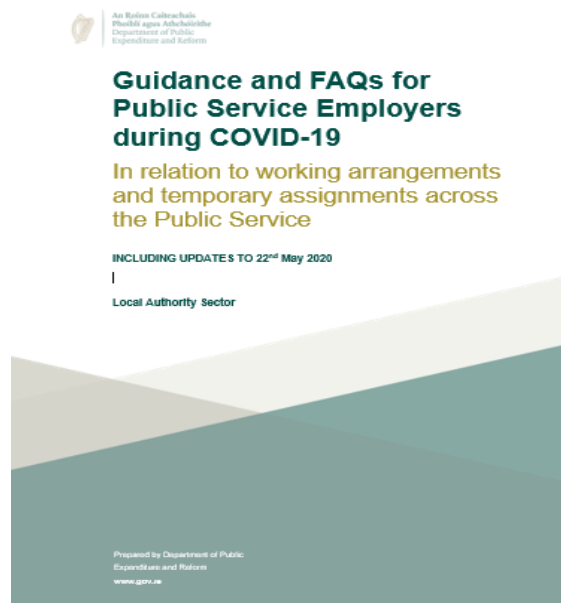
Senior Staff are updated daily and are briefed at weekly meetings.

Briefings with the **Corporate Policy Group** are scheduled weekly and otherwise as required and Members are given weekly updates by the Mayor and Chief Executive and otherwise as necessary.

HUMAN RESOURCES

The most recent **Guidance and FAQs for Public Service Employers during COVID-19** In relation to working arrangements and temporary

assignments across the Public Service issued on the 22nd of May 2020. One of the key principles contained in the document regarding who should attend the workplace states that *'The civil and public service must show leadership and support those members of society who need to attend the workplace outside the home by enabling as many of their own employees to continue working from home for as long as possible.'*



Having regard to the guidance from DPER a variety of **working arrangements** including working from home, shift arrangements (early morning starts, late evening shifts), weekend working and staggered rosters continue to be available to staff with a view to ensuring that social distancing and national health protection guidance can be followed as well as enabling the private sector to return to work.

Staff are kept up to date on relevant Government directives and are provided with useful information through text alerts and a dedicated staff information webpage.

The HR Department is co-ordinating the **Public Service Temporary Assignment Scheme** under which staff deemed as available for reassignment are directed to register for potential temporary re-assignment to other parts of the public sector.

Salary and wages related payments continue to be paid without interruption.

Strong relationships with Unions locally and regular dialogue has assisted the organisation greatly to transition to new working arrangements and implementation of the required measures, and this will continue throughout the 5 phases of the Government’s roadmap.

The co-ordination of responses and management of human resource issues through relationships with our colleagues in neighbouring Local Authorities, the Local Government Management Agency, the Departments of Housing, Planning & Local Government and Public Expenditure and Reform continues to ensure the best possible service is provided.

In responding to the challenges brought by Covid-19 the **Training & Development** section has been working hard to adapt and enhance the Council’s training programme to facilitate new ways of working. From the outset of the pandemic the Human Resource Department produced a full catalogue of free e-Learning resources for all staff covering a wide range of topics from professional and personal development to resilience and well-being.

Many of the Council’s structured training programmes have now moved to online platforms and courses are well underway. The feedback from our colleagues has been positive and staff are quickly adapting to the new classroom environment. The Training & Development team will continue to work with all its training providers to facilitate, where practicable, the moving of courses to online delivery.

The Council’s **Recruitment** processes which had been held in abeyance for a period of time during the crisis are now also back up and running.

Health & Safety Unit (HSU)

The Health & Safety Unit has played a significant role in the Council’s response to Covid-19. Various Standard Operating Procedures (SOP’s) have been developed and are continuously being reviewed as advice changes. A detailed risk assessment was prepared which identified the hazards and

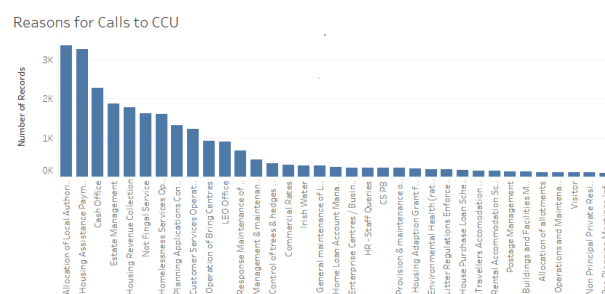
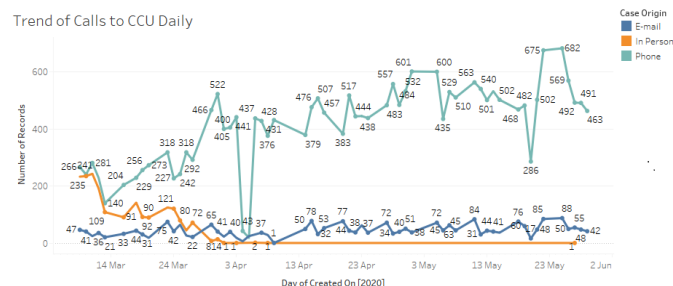
associated risks with Covid-19 within FCC and suitable controls were built on the advice offered by the HSE and the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention.

Under the phased return to work beginning on May 18th induction packs were prepared for those staff returning to their actual workplace, occupational first aiders, compliance officers, staff visiting and entering sites to carry out works, FCC staff working at close quarters and staff dealing with contractors.

The HSU has now moved into a phase of monitoring Covid-19 compliance within FCC and a number of compliance inspections have been carried out.

Customer Services

The Council remains open for business and the Customer Care Agents continue to resolve queries as the first point of contact by phone and email.



The CCU have answered 20, 982 calls since going off site at Easter up to the 3rd of June. Approximately 853 calls were made to the Community Call line during this time, approximately 340 of which were requests for assistance.

For the month of May alone the CCU answered 12, 394 calls.

A significant number of calls received by the CCU are for the Cash Office and the Council is in the process of providing an online payments facility for all services and it is expected that this will be available in the coming weeks

As part of the Government’s Roadmap for Re-opening, the Council’s Planning counters reopened on the 27th of May on a limited basis in both County Hall and the Civic Offices.

In the interest of public health and in order to ensure that social distancing guidelines are maintained, it will be limited to current planning files which will be available for viewing on an appointment only basis.

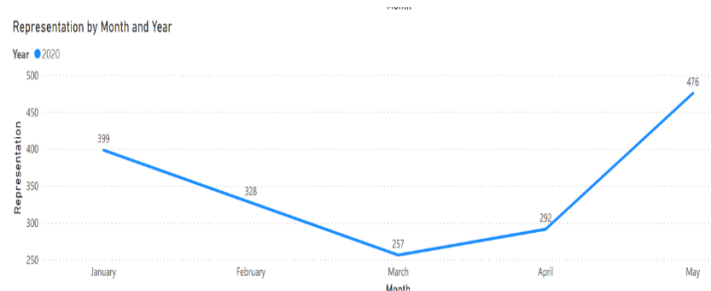
Whilst we continue to encourage the public to view files online via our website, <https://www.fingal.ie/view-or-search-planning-applications>, if they wish to view a file, they can contact customercareunit@fingal.ie to be allocated a date/time to attend the counter.

CRM

Staff continue to work on the Customer Relationship Management System (CRM) and issue responses to Councillors representations and complaints submitted by the public.

Councillors Representations by Month

Month	Representation
January	399
February	328
March	257
April	292
May	476



The month of May had a total of 476 representations with 465 (98%) replied to within the target deadline.

Facilities Management

Our Building Facilities team, along with the Architects, Health and Safety and HR departments are examining and working through the 39 different floor plans on which our pre-COVID-19 operations were carried out to ensure physical distancing guidelines are applied to ensure staff are protected when they do return to work. It is expected that 40 to 50% of desks can be used at any given time due to the 2 metre rule. The focus will remain on office work being done remotely where possible.

There have been some very visible alterations made to the Corporate offices as a result of the current public health emergency. Notices and signage emphasising the requirements to maintain physical distancing of two metres, cough/sneeze etiquette and washing your hands have been placed around the offices. A large number of sanitary gel dispensers have also been fitted at locations throughout the buildings, as well as supplied to offices, and changes have been made to the access points around the offices to minimise surface contact points.

At the customer care reception areas and in the staff restaurants perspex screens have been erected in order to assist in protecting staff from possible infection, with suitable floor markings to indicate the two metres distance.



The message for everyone is, please adhere to the public health guidelines.

Increased cleaning programmes continue to be implemented in Corporate Buildings to ensure they can be used safely by staff and public attending arranged appointments. Arrangements continue for staff access to buildings from 6am to midnight to ensure that the various flexible working arrangements that have been put in place for staff can function.

Information Technology

The Information Technology Department has spent the last month consolidating the major changes that were rolled out in March and April, planning for the next rollout of laptops, Microsoft Teams and email migration to the cloud. In addition, work on systems for the ReStart Grant is ongoing. We are also delighted to have initiated the Smart Balbriggan district which will support the objectives of Our Balbriggan.

ReStart Grant

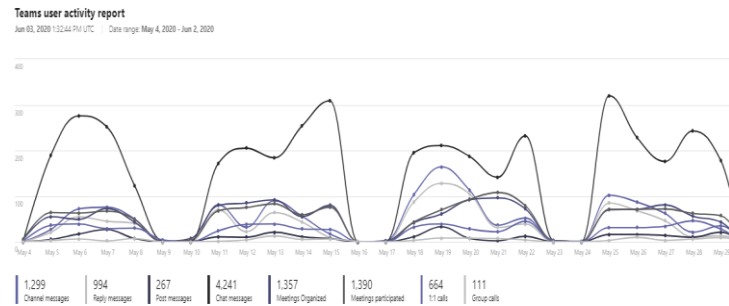
The IT Department has been working with the Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Department to implement and integrate systems to enable the ReStart Grant for small businesses. This includes a system to enable online applications for the grant and integration of that online application system with the Council's Commercial Rates and Financial systems.

Remote Working

At the time of writing approximately 60% of staff have been equipped with laptops – a 326% increase on pre-COVID period. A programme is

now under way that will rollout full digital remote access for all remaining office staff including laptops, Microsoft Teams and cloud email.

MS Teams has proven invaluable in enabling the Council to continue to operate effectively while staff are working remotely with 1,390 virtual meetings held in the month of May as illustrated in the graph below.



Service Desk

There has been a significant increase in the number of tickets logged with the IT Service Desk during the current crisis with 4,130 tickets logged from 16th March to 31st May. The highest number of tickets have been for Email and Citrix –

Email	1,359 tickets	33%
Citrix	502 tickets	12%

Projects

The IT Department has received forty new IT project requests since the start of 2020 – eight of these as a result of COVID19. Seventeen projects have been completed so far this year, including five COVID19 projects.

Smart Balbriggan – A Smart Dublin District



Balbriggan is set to become the first 'Smart' town in Ireland. Smart Balbriggan will look at how smart city technologies can improve life in Balbriggan for its residents, businesses and visitors. The smart district will trial and test technologies and innovative initiatives to improve quality of life and service delivery for the community.

A smart district under the Smart Dublin programme is a strategically selected geographical location where targeted smart city region projects are implemented. Smart districts are developed through a partnership model which brings together industry, academia and citizens, and are anchored by the local authority in partnership with Smart Dublin.



In 2019, more than 25% of Balbriggan residents took part in a public engagement on the future of Balbriggan resulting in the publication of "Our Balbriggan 2019 – 2025 Rejuvenation Plan", setting out an ambitious vision for Balbriggan. To support the delivery of this plan the Economic Enterprise and Tourism Department, the Our Balbriggan Team, Digital Fingal and Smart Dublin have partnered together to develop Smart Balbriggan, a new and exciting Smart District programme. Smart Balbriggan is also strategically aligned to the Fingal Digital Strategy 2020 – 2023, which is due for publication later this month.

SAVE THE DATE

A webinar will be held on the 25th June at 10am to explore the topic of Smart Towns and Cities, Smart Dublin Districts and the development of the Smart

Balbriggan District. Details of the webinar will be circulated on Fingal County Council social media channels.

COMMUNICATIONS



The Communications Unit, along with the three other Dublin Local Authorities, implemented a co-ordinated Communications Plan around the dedicated times for Coconers in our Parks. A comprehensive social media campaign was initiated, supported by radio and print advertising as well as extensive media coverage in both broadcast and print outlets.

The Communications Unit also worked with the Events Department, which co-ordinated an online June Bank Holiday activities and events programme on Facebook channel. The Unit assisted with the filming of many of the segments featured across the five day event, as well as scheduled posts on social media channels.

Social Media Support

Support across social media channels for a range of departments continued to be a focus for the Communications Department featuring a range of issues such Litter, Bathing Waters Public Consultation, Cruinniu na nOg, Social Distancing, Recycling Centres and "Let's Stay Together".

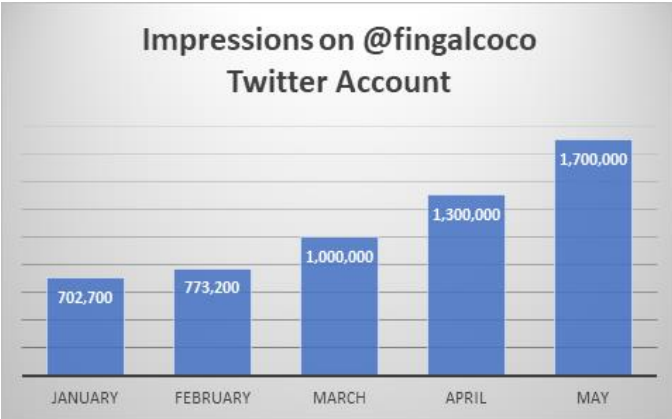
Videos

Among the videos produced during the month by the Communications Unit were weekly Message

from the Mayor on a range of topics including Housing, LEO Fingal, Cocooners in the Parks and Community Call. A series of videos for Age Friendly Fingal were also produced.

Social Media

Social media channels continued to attract record numbers with Twitter receiving 1.4m impressions during May with a 1.4 per cent engagement rate. Our followers on Twitter also exceeded 18,000 during the month of May, while our Facebook posts reached 906,138 people.



ECONOMIC, ENTERPRISE AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT (EETD)

Contents	
Tourism Development Events Tourism Heritage Properties	Economic Development Balbriggan Socio-Economic Strategy LEADER Programme Local Community Development Committee Enterprise Centres
Local Enterprise Development	

EVENTS

CRUNNIÚ NA NÓG 2020



Log onto www.facebook.com/Fingalcoco for competitions and prizes in many events including Music Videos, Hip Hop Dancing and Double Dutch Skipping.

ONLINE EVENTS

Events Office, in partnership with various other departments, just completed the 3rd of their online events. As part of the programme planning for Events, an outside radio broadcast will be developed to be carried on several stations for our seniors. This will be a combination of phone in, requests, messages and live music.

FESTIVAL OF FINGAL

Currently in the pipeline is 31 Days of an online Festival of Fingal. This daily social media campaign will be key to promoting Fingal and all it has to offer from a domestic Tourism market and forms part of our economic recovery strategy as the tourism and hospitality sector re-open in line with the national Road Map for reopening society and business. Collaboration with the members of the chambers of commerce will be ongoing to animate this space.

HERITAGE PROPERTIES

RE-OPENING OF CATERING SERVICES





In line with phase 1 of the Government road Map with regard to easing Covid19 restrictions, which commenced on 18th May, take-away catering services from the on-site coffee shops have now re-opened in Malahide, Newbridge and Ardgillan Demesnes.

UPDATE ON WORKS TO HERITAGE PROPERTIES

Newbridge and Ardgillan Roofs - Following completion of a risk assessment by the Architects Department, design team consultants will now be formally appointed to advance this project.

Malahide Castle – Design team consultants will be formally appointed this month in respect of boiler/heating upgrade works.

Howth Courthouse – In line with governments Phase 1 easing of Covid restrictions on 18th May, the contractor for the refurbishment of the courthouse to house the tourist office and provide additional community space, has re-commenced work on site. A revised programme of works to be submitted to the Council.

Skerries Martello Tower – A feasibility report was completed in 2019 to redevelop the Red Island Martello Tower at Skerries as a visitor attraction.

A specification is now being developed, in order to proceed to detailed design tender stage, involving the following elements:

- The stabilisation of the tower, both externally and internally
- The fit out of the interior space as an interpretative centre/exhibition space.

Swords Castle – Works to the front perimeter of the castle are currently out to tender. These works include:

- The extension of floodlighting the castle walls to include the newly-revealed East Wall and Tower facing North Street.
- The area to the front of the Chapel to be cordoned with pre-cast concrete benches, with timber slats for seating, as well as a number of pre-cast planters.

A loose yellow, quartz grit to be laid on the perimeter ground surfaces in front of the Chapel and the East Wall, to provide a tidy and uniform finish.

TOURISM

Fingal Food Tourism



**Dublin's
Coast &
Fields**

This campaign has been the focus of the main marketing activity during lockdown as we continue to promote local producers offering online sales, Fingal restaurants promoting delivery or collection services and suggesting locally sourced recipes.

We continue to:-

- build the Fingal Food Story, profile local food producers and reflect on food experiences available in Fingal once lockdown ends.
- build the social and online profiles which have gained considerable followers
- develop content for the www.coastandfields.ie website.

Back to Business

Liaison is continuing with Fáilte Ireland and local development groups on back to business opportunities and planning for the emergence of the industry out of lockdown.

Social media marketing

The social media proposals received for the promotion of tourism, events and food tourism have been evaluated and a preferred service provider has been chosen. Events and Tourism are now working with the social media company to

develop a back to business strategy for the coming months.

Work is continuing with Fingal Dublin Chamber and its members on creating promotional content around the 'reopening business' piece, this will include offers, suggested itineraries, competitions etc.

Websites

All websites are being reviewed to ensure they are "on message" as these will be the landing pages for social media 'calls to action'.

LIAISON WITH FAILTE IRELAND

- Fingal Food Project and future supports which may be available from the Food Tourism team
- Recovery post lockdown - focus on the promotion of Taste the Island to the domestic market.

RE-START GRANT

Applications opened on Friday 22nd May for the Restart Grant which will give direct grant aid to micro and small businesses to help them with the costs associated with either staying open or reopening and reemploying workers following COVID-19 closures.

The Grant will be equivalent to the rates bill of the business in 2019, with a minimum payment of €2,000 and a maximum payment of €10,000.

To avail of the Restart Grant:

1. A business must have a turnover of less than €5m and have 50 or less employees.
2. The business must have suffered a projected 25%+ loss in revenue from 1st April 2020 to 30th June 2020.
3. The business must commit to remain open or to reopen if it was closed. The business must also declare the intention to retain employees

that are benefitting from the Temporary Wage Subsidy Scheme (TWSS).

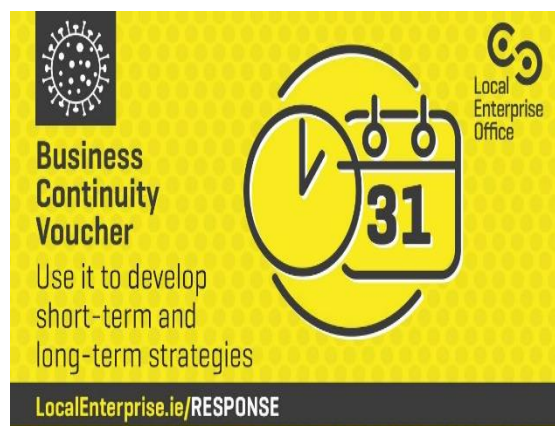
LOCAL ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Local Enterprise Office Fingal



LEO Fingal continues to respond decisively to the impact of COVID-19 through the implementation of urgent and necessary actions, to support Fingal SME and Micro Enterprise.

Business Continuity Voucher (BCV)



Until the 15th of May 2020, Fingal businesses impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak and seeking support to assist with continuing to trade could apply for a BCV. The voucher was valued at €2,500 and could be used by companies and sole traders to develop short- and long-term strategies to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The goal of the BCV was to help business owners make informed decisions about immediate measures and remedial actions they could undertake to protect staff and sales.

LEO Fingal received 603 applications. All applications are currently being assessed and evaluated, a time-consuming process but one that is resulting in significant benefit to businesses approved for assistance.

Trading Online Voucher (TOV) scheme



As a consequence of the impact of COVID19, there has been a very steep rise in the numbers of small businesses moving online. LEO Fingal has been actively promoting the TOV scheme to encourage and enable this transition. Funded by DCCAE as part of the National Digital Strategy, the scheme supports small businesses to enhance their online offering.

LEO Fingal hosted five national TOV webinars in May, attended by over 2,000 small businesses across Ireland. To date in 2020, LEO Fingal has approved 110 TOV applications, with a further 196 under assessment and applications continue to be received daily.

Sport to Start-up Programme



Following the success of the Ideas Generation workshop for high level sportspersons in January 2020, LEO Fingal partnered with Sport Ireland in leading the inaugural Sport to Start-up programme, which kicked off on Monday 25th May 2020. Fifteen high level sportspersons were selected for the programme.

COVID-19 Loans

LEO Fingal provides a loan scheme through its partnership with Microfinance Ireland. These are loans of up to €50,000 with a six-month (0% interest) moratorium on repayments. As businesses prepare for the reopening of the economy, there has been a significant increase in applications for loans from businesses that have difficulty raising finance from their bank. LEO Fingal currently has the highest levels of MFI Covid19 loan applications in the country, already 13 applications have been processed and assessed to date, of which 11 were approved. There is a significant pipeline of further applications currently being assessed.

Start Your Own Business (SYOB)

During May, LEO Fingal has noticed an increasing renewed interest among people who wish to look into starting their own business despite COVID19.

The 10-module SYOB programme has been adjusted for online delivery and is now being rolled out from early June. It is designed to provide a solid grounding in how a business is set up. It will help participants to plan and prepare for a successful career in enterprise and importantly will advise how to navigate this through the COVID19 era.



Fingal Enterprising Women Network

Fingal Enterprising Women Network provides learning and networking opportunities for women in business and enterprise. Delivery of weekly online Fingal Enterprising Women networking events continues. Four online networking events took place in May with over 600 female entrepreneurs in attendance.

New #RestartFingal Webinar Series



The poster features a dark blue background. At the top left is the Local Enterprise Office logo with the text 'Difig Fiontair Áitiúil Local Enterprise Office'. At the top right is the 'Coronavirus COVID-19 National Programme' logo. The central text reads 'Restart Fingal Series' with a white bird icon above it, and 'An Initiative of the Local Enterprise Office Fingal' below. A circular portrait of Sean Weafer is on the left, with his name 'SEAN WEAFER' and quote '“Stop Hesitating; Start Selling!”' to the right. At the bottom right, it says 'FREE WEBINAR, JUNE 10TH 10:00 - 12:00'.

As the economy begins to open up, a new series of webinars of interest to local SMEs has been launched by LEO Fingal with the theme “Restart Fingal”. The first one – featuring executive sales coach Sean Weafer will take place on Wednesday 10th June.

Business Clinics and Mentoring

Clinics and mentoring continue to be offered over the phone and online to help individuals respond to the disruptive impact on business due to COVID-19. In May 2020, 10 business clinic days were held, offering advice to 84 Fingal businesses. In addition, 32 businesses were assigned a Business mentor.

LEO Fingal COVID-19 Training Update

LEO Fingal continues its delivery of programmes to support SME and Micro Enterprise clients through the current challenges. Programmes currently on offer include pertinent topics such as:

- Open Your Business Safely Post Lockdown
- Financial Action Planning Post Lockdown

The demand for these courses has been substantial with all scheduled courses booking out rapidly. Additional programmes continue to be organised to meet the demand.

National Student Enterprise Programme (SEP)

Despite the cancellation of the SEP final in Croke Park due to the emergency, the judging process went ahead remotely. The national SEP final took place on the 27th May 2020. The following student enterprises represented Fingal.

- **Junior Category** – “Campo de Fiori” (Loreto School in Balbriggan).
- **Intermediate Category** – “Candle Holders Out Of Sustainable Equipment (C.H.O.O.S.E)” (Edmund Rice College in Blanchardstown).
- **Senior Category:** - “Globenomics” (Castleknock Community College).

LEAN Business Programme

The Lean Business Programme is designed to encourage clients to adopt Lean business principles in their organisations to increase competitiveness. The next LEAN programme in 2020 run by the four LEOs in the Dublin region will commence on Thursday 25th June.

Local Enterprise Office Response: Communications



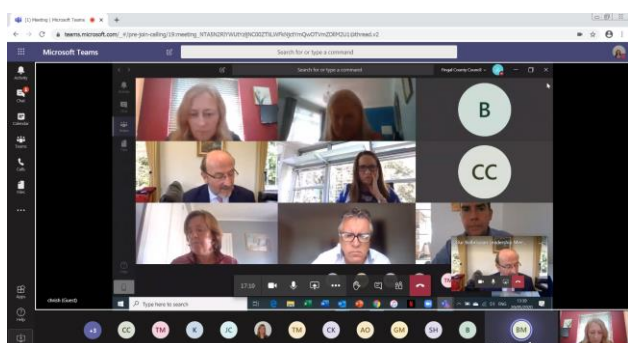
The banner has a yellow background. On the left, it says 'Helping your business respond to COVID-19' with 'Visit LocalEnterprise.ie/Response' below. On the right is the Local Enterprise Office logo.

For businesses currently affected by COVID-19, the Local Enterprise Office has compiled a useful guide on the supports and advice available. The website is updated continuously with new developments, so Fingal clients are encouraged to check back regularly. (www.localenterprise.ie/Response). In addition, regular ezines are published and disseminated to over 7,000 clients and other registered service users in Fingal. Each of the various social media platforms are continually updated with important messages for SMEs concerning dealing with COVID-19.

Details of the Business Restart grant are being widely disseminated via the LEO’s comms channels.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Balbriggan Rejuvenation Strategy 2019 – 2025



A virtual meeting of the Balbriggan Leadership Group took place on the 14th May 2020 where the pillar chairs for the Local Economy, Public Realm, Education, Training & Employment & Community Affairs & Integration shared local responses to the public health restrictions arising from COVID-19.

A draft schedule of communications was agreed for the latter half of June, to mark the one year anniversary since the Rejuvenation Plan's launch. The campaign's aims are to (a) State progress, current position and future intent and (b) Strengthen citizen engagement. Amongst the events agreed to mark the occasion will be an 8 page brochure on the current position and future developments, which will be delivered to every household in Balbriggan, a Video, a Webinar and Community Engagement initiatives celebrating the resilience of the community and inviting citizens to bring forward solutions to make positive change in their communities on how the town transitions during and post COVID-19.

The meeting welcomed the announcement of Balbriggan's inclusion in Phase II of the EU URBACT Programme along with nine other European large towns. The meeting also welcomed the news that Balbriggan will be Dublin's newest Smart District - Smart Balbriggan will join Sandyford, Docklands & DCU to be launched in June 2020.

Property & Industrial Development

Both the Property Services and the Industrial Development Sections are working to maintain services under current restrictions while adhering

to social distancing requirements. Staff in these Sections are primarily working remotely to progress property and industrial development matters and are attending the office on a staggered basis and only as business requires. Telephones have been diverted to Council mobile phones where possible and staff remain available and contactable via email for any enquiries or matters arising.

Local Development

Fingal Local Community Development Committee

The Fingal LCDC continues to oversee and administer the key areas of LEADER and SICAP and the various Local Development and Community Development funding programmes under its remit. The LCDC is also represented on the Fingal Community Call Forum and is supporting many of the LCDC member agencies that are also members of the Community Call Forum, in the delivery of their programmes. The LCDC is also supporting the work of the Community Call Forum through the Healthy Ireland Initiative with a number of projects in progress under that funding stream.



SICAP

As a result of COVID-19, the LCDC supported and endorsed a new SICAP Response Plan, which has been implemented by Empower and has been central in responding to emerging challenges in the community. A review of the SICAP budget for the remainder of the year and the re-alignment of the programme's actions is underway. It is anticipated that this review will complete in July in line with guidance of the Department of Rural and Community Development and Pobal. It is expected that financial resources within the programme will be reallocated to support actions of most need for the remainder of the year.

LEADER Programme

The Fingal LEADER Programme continues to accelerate the funding of eligible projects in the

administrative areas of Fingal, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown and South Dublin.



The programme's overall budget for supporting projects is €4.777 million with €4.304 million already committed to approved projects, leaving approximately €473,000 remaining to support new projects to the end of 2020. The most recent Dublin Rural LEADER Action Group meeting was held by remote conferencing in April where €1.72 million was approved for 9 new projects in Rural Dublin. This included €1.1 million approved in the Fingal area.

In the programme to date, 73 projects have been approved with 51 in Fingal, 4 in Dun Laoghaire Rathdown and 17 in South Dublin. There is one project split across all three local authority areas which is a Community Re-wilding and Biodiversity Training Programme.

The pipeline of new projects to be brought to the LAG for consideration at its next meeting is strong. The Dublin Rural LEADER LAG is in the process of reviewing its Local Development Strategy and identifying funding remaining in the LEADER LDS Budget that can be allocated for COVID-19 Response and Recovery Projects in the rural areas. This review is to complete in June.

Fingal County Council continues to deliver the financial and administrative oversight responsibilities for the approval and drawdown of LEADER funded projects following the national transfer of the LEADER Article 48 Administrative Checks from Pobal to the Local Authority Sector. There has been no interruption to the delivery of

the LEADER Programme or the Article 48 Checks as a result of COVID-19

Social Enterprise Supports: The Local Development Section continues to support the new shoplocal.irish website initiative, a social enterprise which provides an online service to the community highlighting businesses that provide delivery services locally.

Enterprise Centres

Occupancy rates at the Council's three enterprise centres at the end of May 2020 were Drinan 84%, BASE 88% and Beat 88%. The three Enterprise Centres currently support 64 businesses. A number of businesses in the Centres have been accommodated with rent moratoriums, on a case by case basis, to help them through current cashflow difficulties and additional non-financial supports are also being offered. All three centres will be partially re-opening, with controlled and restricted access for tenant businesses who use the common areas on the 8th June, in line with risk assessment recommendations and national guidelines. The centres are being re-configured and adapted to meet and this process will be ongoing into the future. All HSE Guidelines are being followed. Tenant businesses and centre staff are still being encouraged to work remotely where possible.



OPERATIONS

Contents	
Covid-19 Measures	
Routine Operational Matters	
Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit	
Street Lighting	
Recycling Centres	
Works Programme	
Walk Bike Fingal	
Road Safety Section	
	Traffic Section
	Bridge Rehabilitation Project
	Map Road Licensing
	R132 Cycle Lane Study
	Road Opening Licenses

COVID 19 Measures

In line with government guidelines to prevent the spread of Covid – 19 within the community measures taken by the council in terms of car parks, public toilets and playground closures remained in place until the 18th May 2020. As part of phase 1 of the national roadmap for the easing of restrictions car parks and public toilets were reopened on the 18th May. The large number of signs, reminding people of the social distancing guidelines, which were installed throughout our parks and open spaces during the lockdown phase remain in place and have recently been supplemented by a further consignment of signs which will provide an additional reminder to members of the public about the social distancing rules. Additional staff also worked at various locations to deal with extra people attending public parks & beaches and litter management as required.

As part of an initiative led by the four Dublin authorities a designated two-hour period between 1.30pm and 3.30pm was reserved in all parks across Dublin city and county for people who are cocooning. This includes the Over-70s and medically vulnerable people.

This initiative commenced on Wednesday, May 6th and designated car parks were opened for cocooners in our regional parks. Other park users were asked to consider using parks at other times so that those cocooning could have as much space and confidence in physical distancing as possible. With the reopening of car parks from the 18th May designated parking spaces for cocooners have been set aside.



Routine Operational Matters

The Operations Section continue to provide essential services to the residents of the Fingal area such as litter, cleansing, grass cutting, road maintenance, recycling facilities etc and continue to work through the various works programmes and Annual Programme of Works while at the same time responding to emergencies and with the unforeseen events from the Covid 19 Pandemic.



Collection of litter on the Lower Strawberry Beds



The Operations Crew sanding the Cricket Pitch in Tyrellstown Park



Tree Carving in Malahide Demesne



Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit

Hires put in Place

There were 65 hires put in place from 1st May – 29th May, engaging 20 suppliers.

Hires included:

35 T Crane for Malahide Water Treatment Plant

Pipe Jetter (Recycling Unit) and CCTV camera Van for Gully Surveying and Cleaning (Balbriggan/Swords)

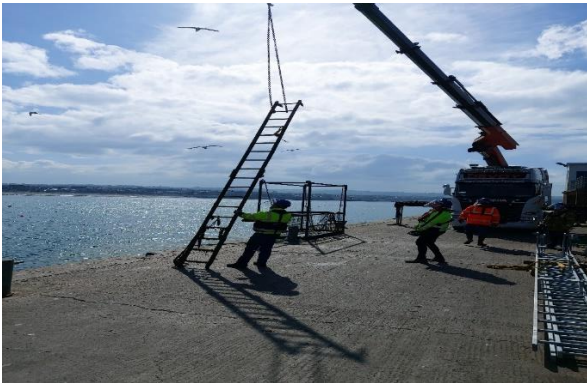
Street Lighting

During the current pandemic street lighting maintenance is deemed an essential service with 218 repairs carried out in the month of May.

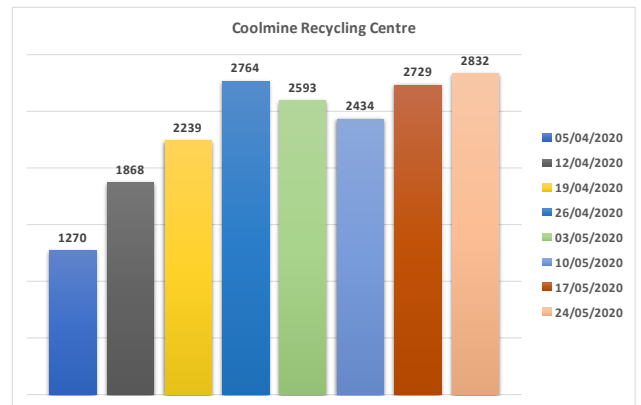
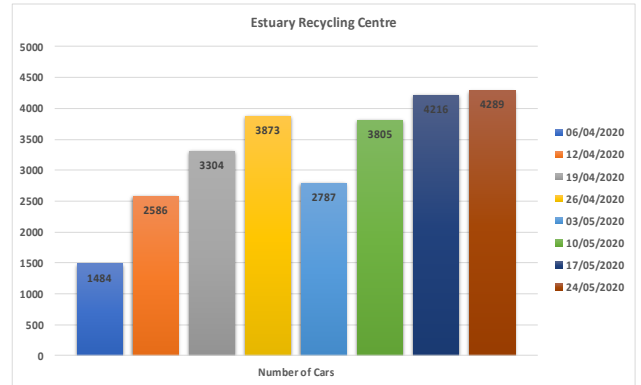


Repairs carried out at Rush Harbour

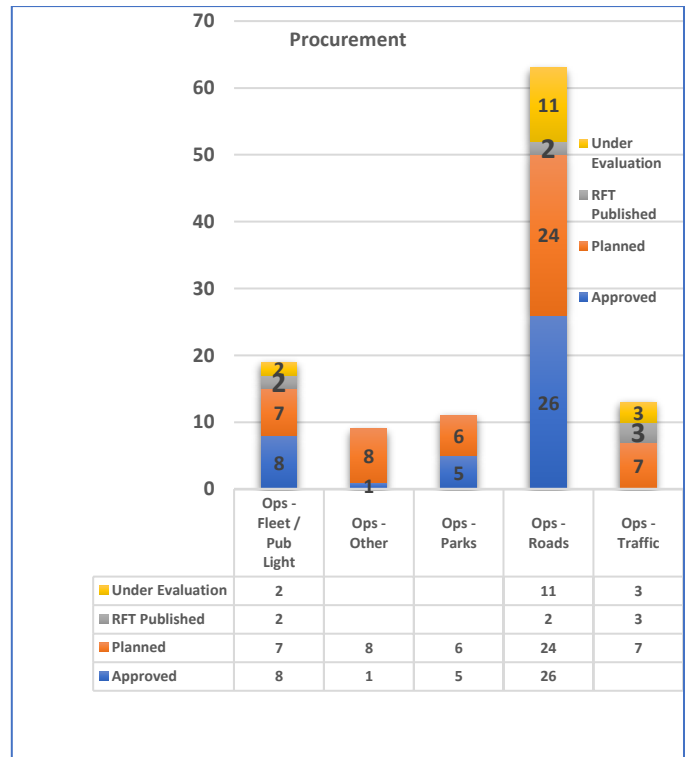
Essential Maintenance Works at Skerries Harbour:



Recycling Centres



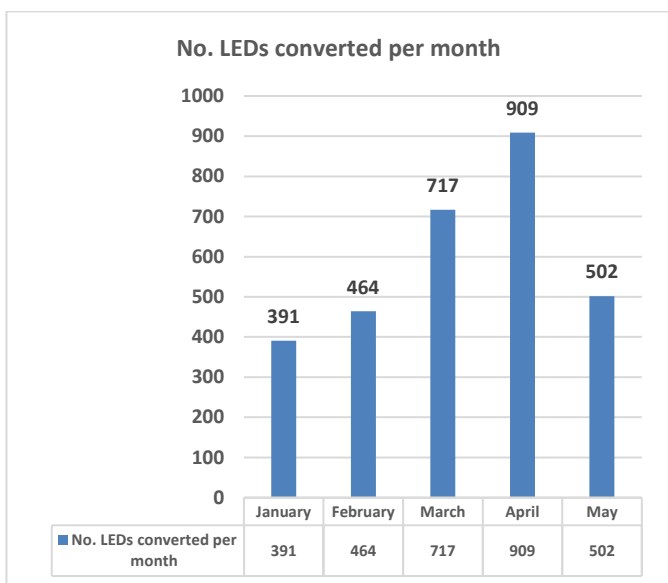
Works Programme



LED Programme: In May the LED Upgrade Program saw 502 LED Upgrade works carried out in the following locations:-

- Annfield, Windmill estate...Clonsilla
- Cappoge Cottages, Heathfield estate...Clonsilla
- Rathoath Road...Hollystown
Laraghcon...Lucan
- Castlecurragh Vale...Mulhuddart
- Barnwell estate, Lily's Way, Williams estate...Ongar
- Loughshinny

Column Replacement: The column replacement program in Rivermeade estate St Margaret's is nearing completion with over 30 columns replaced to date.



Quay Road, Rush – overlay completed.



R132 Balbriggan road resurfacing works underway with additional safety measures in place.



Traffic management is required at Tinkers Hill in Lucan to replace all existing lights with LED.



'Walk Bike Fingal!'

Plan for Social Distancing in the Public Realm

Fingal County Council acknowledges the changing needs of its communities during the Covid-19 pandemic by assessing and repurposing public road space to facilitate the increase in cyclists and pedestrians by giving them extra space to practice social distancing from each other.

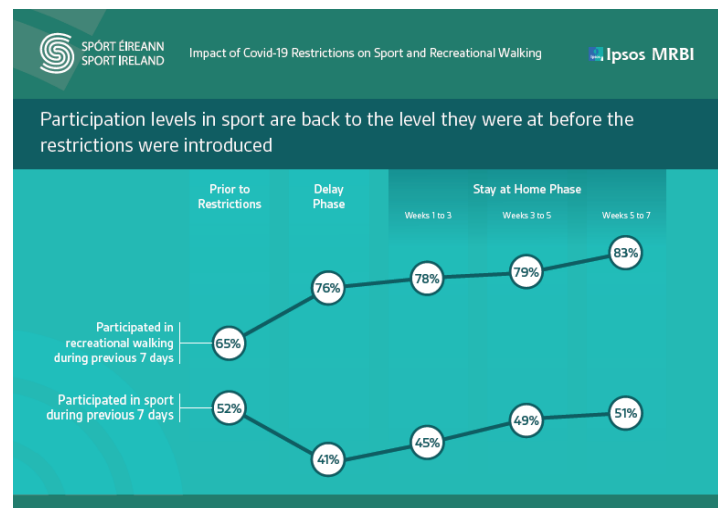
During the needs assessment, it was determined that vehicular traffic on the roads has fallen by up to 70% with a corresponding fall in public transport use by 75% since the commencement of the Covid-19 restrictions.

In light of this and in response to requests, Fingal County Council Operations Department carried out an initial needs assessment of 10 locations and may consider additional locations after initial roll out.

The aim of temporarily repurposing Fingal streets, roads and public realm spaces is to meet the current needs of users in mind including those with prams and wheelchairs. Some people walking and exercising on busy and sometimes crowded footpaths are moving out into the road to preserve the required 2m social distance. Others, especially if walking with children are staying on the footpath but passing others at less than the 2m required distance and thereby risking infection rather than risking injury from vehicular traffic. Cyclists travelling on roads also need to preserve the 2m distance from each other. Both of these raise new road safety issues not experienced before to this extent.

With this plan, Fingal aims to provide residents with safe space to walk, run, exercise and travel by bike and adhere to the 2m rule. Fingal seeks to encourage physical activity at a safe social distance and thereby improving the physical and mental health of its citizens during this time of restricted movements. These temporary measures are being introduced by Fingal in consultation with Local Gardai.

A report published by Sports Ireland has shown that the levels of physical activity have increased where people have Participated in recreational walking during previous 7 days have increase from 65% Pre Covid restrictions to 83% in weeks 5-7 of restrictions, this highlights the increased demand for physical space on the footpaths and roads.

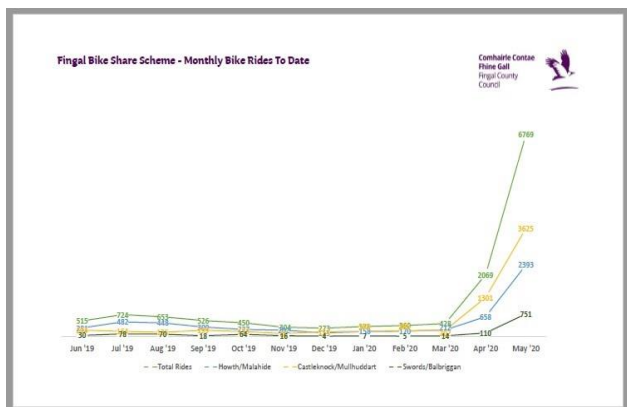


Road Safety Section

Bleper Bike Share Scheme - We are continuing to identify additional locations across Fingal in partnership with BleperBike, also advertised on staff messages for suggestions and issued to the Councillors, to expand and encourage bike sharing user growth amongst commuters. Bleperbike have reported a huge increase in BleperBike use over the last 3 weeks of the Covid-19 pandemic, particularly in the Dublin 15 and Swords areas. We will also continue to promote awareness of BleperBike through our social media platforms.

BleperBike is **FREE** to all Fingal County Council staff as advertised on Staff Messages with 34 Fingal staff members signed up.

The graph below shows the substantial increase in ridership in Fingal from March to May. The usage in May for Bleeper is 10 times higher than in March across all of Dublin. In May there were approximately 5500 new users to Bleeper, in total across Dublin. With significant groups of people in the suburbs, across all demographics including 18-24 and over 50's age bracket using the bike sharing scheme. There are now 102 bikes in Fingal, up from 50 before April.



Bike Racks - Sheffield Stands & Toast Racks

A substantial number of Toast racks and Sheffield stands, (both galvanised and stainless steel) have been procured this month. The Road Safety Section are compiling a list of locations throughout the county for a plan of works over the Summer months to install these racks.

	Coolmine, Dublin 15	Swords	Malahide
End of May	1 Toast Rack 33 Galvanised Single Racks 5 Stainless Steel Single Racks	1 Toast Rack 33 Galvanised Single Racks 5 Stainless Steel Single Racks	1 Toast Rack 33 Galvanised Single Racks 5 Stainless Steel Single Racks
End of June	1 Toast Rack 33 Galvanised Single Racks 5 Stainless Steel Single Racks	1 Toast Rack 33 Galvanised Single Racks 5 Stainless Steel Single Racks	1 Toast Rack 33 Galvanised Single Racks 5 Stainless Steel Single Racks
End of July	1 Toast Rack 33 Galvanised Single Racks 5 Stainless Steel Single Racks	1 Toast Rack 33 Galvanised Single Racks 5 Stainless Steel Single Racks	1 Toast Rack 33 Galvanised Single Racks 5 Stainless Steel Single Racks

Fingal Co. Councillors have been encouraged to submit any suggestions they may have on where they feel bike parking is required in their constituencies or if members of the public have made requests to them for bike parking to please forward them to us.

Staff have also been asked to submit suggestions via Staff Messages and can contact us at Road.Safety@Fingal.ie

Bike Week 2020 & European Mobility Week

Unfortunately, Bike Week 2020 has been postponed due to Government restrictions regarding Covid 19 and no alternative dates have been arranged yet.

However, we are planning for European Mobility Week, which will run from 16th September to 22nd of September. We are hopeful that we can work in conjunction with Dublin City, South Dublin, Waterways Ireland and other stakeholders in organising a 44km looped cycle taking in the Royal and Grand Canals. The cycle will begin at The Docklands on the Royal Canal in Dublin City, via Blanchardstown, through St. Catherine's park and back to the city through Lucan via the Grand Canal.

Following on from the success of "Car Free Day" in New Street, Malahide last September we are looking at organising 3 car free days as part of European Mobility Week for 2020.

Mobility Hubs



Car Shaped Bike Ports for Mobility Hubs

Two Mobility Hubs are in the planning stages for locations in Malahide, on the Dublin Road, and in Balbriggan. We are currently liaising with the “Our Balbriggan” Team to install the Balbriggan Hub. The aim of Mobility Hubs is to increase accessibility for those with mobility issues and the ageing population whilst also encouraging sustainable modes of travel & connectivity. The Hubs have different modes of travel/ transport mapped out and are in areas with a high concentration of employment/ housing/ shopping/ amenities and/or recreation that are close to existing public transport links whilst also supporting climate change mitigation.

5 Car Shaped Bike Ports (see photo above) have been procured from Castit Ltd in Waterford and are due for delivery over the coming weeks.

The Signage for the Mobility Hubs has also been ordered and delivery is expected shortly



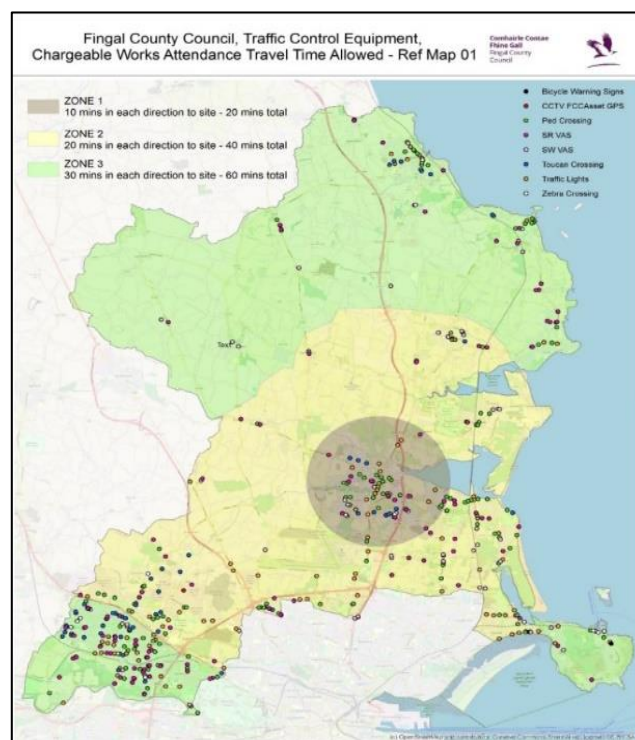
Traffic Section

Speed Limits Project

The first draft of the Speed Limit Bye-laws for the entire county is now complete. The draft document went out for public consultation in February and closed on the 20th March. Almost 200 maps have been generated for the review at a very high level of detail. Approximately 58 submissions were received. A report on the submissions received has been drafted and is currently being reviewed for presentation to the Local Area committees in June, along with “Draft B” of the Speed Limit Bye-Law Drawings.

Traffic Control Project

Fingal County Council’s Traffic Signals Maintenance Contract (2020) was published on the 25th February 2020 on etenders for a period of 6 weeks with an initial closing date of 7th April 2020. Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, the tender was extended, firstly for 3 weeks until 28th April but due to the ongoing pandemic issues the closing date for submissions was further extended to 7th May, the tender process is now complete and the tender assessment is being finalised. It is expected that the contract will be awarded in the coming week. The Contract is for the provision of Traffic Control Equipment Maintenance and Emergency General Works Contract for a minimum two-year period which can be extended to a maximum period of four years.



Map indicating Fingal’s Traffic Control Equipment

Traffic Infrastructure Mapping

A tender was published in April on e-tenders for the commissioning of a report to identify the extent and possibilities arising from the duct infrastructure in the county. The Report will be

Bridge Rehabilitation Project

Rehabilitation of Curragh, Curragh West & Clonshaugh Bridges

The Engineering Consultant to carry out the design of the bridge rehabilitations and preparation of tender documents has been appointed. The Consultant prepared the tender documents and drawings on 14th May 2020. FCC advertised the tender on 15th May 2020 in Etenders with a queries deadline of 1st of June and Closing date 15th of June 2020.

Rehabilitation of Church Road Bridge, Blanchardstown, Wyanstown Bridge & Wimbletown Bridge

Successful/ unsuccessful letters sent to the tenderers on 13th May 2020, two weeks stand still period, post tender meeting, letter of acceptance will follow. Due to the requirements to work within the Regional Fisheries requirements from July to end of September for all instream works it is, at this moment envisaged that this will take place to ensure works are completed in the available window in 2020 (depending on the future HSE advise on Covid 19 situation).

Rehabilitation of Knightstown Bridge, Colecot Bridge & Callaighwee Bridge

Work is nearing completion for all three bridges.

Road Marking and Lining Contract (County Wide)

A CE order for the Road Markings and Lining Contract for all of Fingal Area for the 2020/21 period has been signed-off for the award of contract for €61K. Selected works for the are scheduled to begin early this Summer. The works include requests from the public and local representatives agreed with the Traffic section followed by Garda consultation. The Contractor is MacLochlainn (Road markings) Limited based in Howth Village.

Bollards and Planters, St Sylvester's School, Malahide

The tender for the Bollards, Planters and footpath upgrades in the vicinity of St Sylvesters School has been returned and the preferred bidder is

Integrated Utility Services Limited. The work consists of installing street furniture (Bollards and Planters) along the Malahide Road by St Sylvesters School. The project purpose is to enhance road user safety primarily by the prevention of parking along the footpath. A small section of footpath is to be replaced at the junction of Yellow walls Road and the Malahide road. The new footpath section will have a higher kerb line to deter parking at the junction. New mandatory road signs will be erected to prevent vehicular U turns along the road also. This follows consultation with An Gardai Siochanna Traffic section in Dublin Castle. Works are scheduled to start early Summer and in agreement with the Malahide Tidy Towns Committee.

Footpath Improvements

A Minor Footpath repair contract is scheduled for award in the coming days for near €25k. The purpose of the contract is to improve access for pedestrians at various locations within the Howth -Malahide Area. The works are being finalised at present and will mostly involve construction of tactile pavement and drop kerbs at selected junctions to improve safety and mobility.

Ramps

Public consultation submissions as required under the Roads Traffic Act for the construction of proposed ramps will be examined by the traffic section with submission deliberations by the traffic section to be made in June.

Kettles Lane/Feltrim Road Junction

This Consultants Brief involves traffic counts and speed surveys necessary for the junction assessment and options report. COVID 19 has interrupted these patterns and therefore It is not proposed to tender until end of June. Such mentioned studies can then be undertaken during school term which will assist in providing more accurate traffic patterns.

New Signals Installation (county-wide)

The 2020 New Signals Installation Contract documents were issued for tender on the 22nd May 2020. All tenders are due back by the end of June. The contract should be awarded by the end of July and consists of the supply and installation of 5 No. Signalised Pedestrian Crossings, 2 No. Signalised Toucan Crossings and 2 No. Zebra Crossings within the administrative area of Fingal. The Contract includes both the civil and the electronic/electrical works for the project.

The schemes include the provision of traffic lights, traffic calming ramps, appropriate road signage and road markings. Pedestrian Crossings are at the following locations:

Traffic Signals for 2020	
Description and Locations	
Baldoyle/Sutton/Malahide	Type of Crossing
St Sabina, Sutton, Dublin 13	Signalised Pedestrian Crossing
Carrickhill Road Lower, Portmarnock, Co. Dublin	Signalised Pedestrian Crossing
Castleknock/Mulhuddart	Type of Crossing
Barnwell Road, Hansfield, Dublin 15	Zebra Crossing
St. Margaret's Road, Ballymun, Dublin 11	Signalised Toucan Crossing
Diswellstown Road, Castleknock, Dublin 15	Zebra Crossing
Swords/Balbriggan	Type of Crossing
R127, Link at Racecourse Common, Lusk	Signalised Pedestrian Crossing
Fancourt Road, Balbriggan	Signalised Pedestrian Crossing
Balbriggan Road, Skerries	Signalised Pedestrian Crossing
St Cronans Avenue, Swords	Signalised Toucan Crossing

VAS Contract (County wide)

Contract preparation began in May for the 2020 Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS). Contract documents are currently being prepared. On completion the Contract will be published on Supplygov in June.

Vehicle Activated Sign 2020
Description and Locations
Baldoyle/Sutton/Malahide
Feltrim Rd, Streamstown Wood, Co. Dublin - Left turn warning sign
7-9 Malahide Rd, Streamstown Wood, Malahide, Co. Dublin - Speed sign
72-76 Balglass Rd, Howth, Dublin - Flashing right bend ahead sign
Railway Cottage, Back Rd, Broomfield, Malahide, Co. Dublin - Flashing pedestrians ahead sign
Rob's wall heading to Malahide - Cycle sign
Thormanby Road from Howth - Cycle sign
Malahide road heading to Malahide - Cycle sign
Castleknock/Mulhuddart
Clonsilla Road (Between Coolmine & Roselawn) - Speed sign
Lower Road, Lucan - Speed sign
Carpenterstown Road/Burnell Park - Cycle sign
Lucan - Clonee Road (outside St. Catherine's Park) - Cycle sign
Castlecurragh Road - Mulhuddart - Cycle sign
Swords/Balbriggan
Garristown - Speed sign
Man O War - Speed sign
Old Road, Rush - Speed sign
R122 at intersection L5085 - Speed sign
Hearse Road - Donabate bound - Cycle sign
Balheary Road - Cycle sign
R122 - Balbriggan to Naul Westbound - Cycle sign
R108 - Ballyboughal to Naul Northbound - Cycle sign

MapRoad Licencing

Ongoing engagement and conditioning of MapRoad Road Opening Licences including review of temporary traffic management plans and operations. Apply licence conditions to ensure efficient traffic management of Fingal County Council Road network.

Engagement with Contractors on the following large schemes:

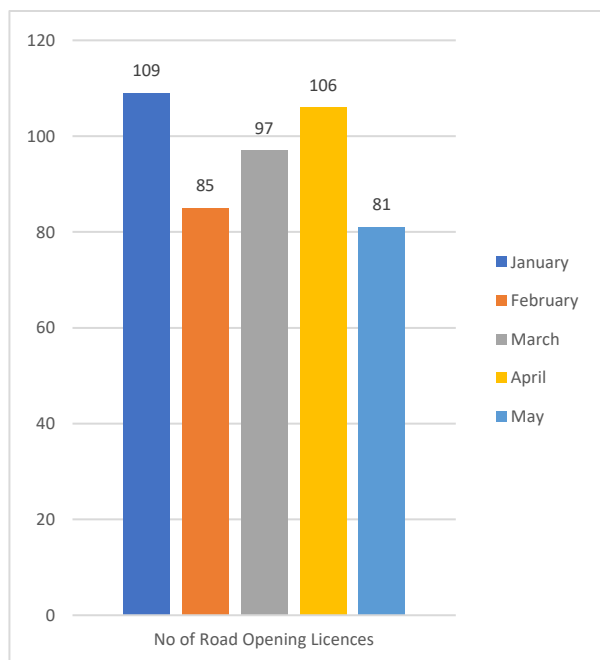
- Donabate, Hearse Road – 6 week Closure schedule for June 2nd at northern section of Hearse Road (Semple Woods/Prospect Hill) – Glenveagh/Shannon Valley.

- Dublin to Drogheda Fibre Network - KN Group are constructing three, approx. 40km, two-way duct routes creating a fibre network between the two areas.
- Swords Pipeline – Irish Water to follow up with exploratory work schedule for pipeline installation on R106/Malahide Road.

R132 Cycle Lane Study

Contract and associated tender documents were completed in May a tender was published on e-tenders; Consultancy Services - (Traffic and Road Safety Design) for the Study of the R132 between Blake’s Cross and Minister’s Road (2.7KM) for the incorporation of a cycle lane - FCC/268/20. The tender was published on 15th May and the closing date for submissions is 8th June.

Road Opening Licence Jan – May 2020



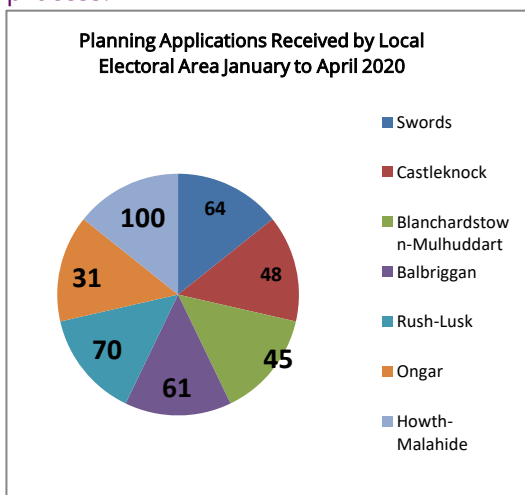
PLANNING AND STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE (PSI)

Contents	
Planning Applications	Broadmeadow Way
Planning Decisions	Snugborough Interchange Upgrade
Planning Applications – Submission Deadlines and Decision Due Dates	Churchfields Link Road
Building Control	National Transport Authority Support
Fingal Development Plan Variation no. 2	Official Opening of Rathbeale Road Upgrade and Donabate Distributor Road
Fingal Development Plan Variation no. 3	Construction recommences
Dunsink Study	Development Management/Forward Planning (Water Services)
All-weather Pitch facility, car park and associated ancillary works at Ward River valley Park, Swords	Building Control/Taking in Charge
Redevelopment of Malahide Village Green	The Heritage Officer
Park and playground proposals for Lanesborough, The Naul, Garristown and Howth.	

Planning Applications

There have been 419 planning applications received to the end of April 2020, 54 of these applications were invalid leaving a total of 365 valid applications. The volume of applications received by Local Electoral Area (LEA) is detailed in the table below.

To date in 2020, 3 Strategic Housing Development (SHD) application (for 459 units) were made to An Bord Pleanála. The Board granted permission for 10 SHD's (2223) units); 3 in January, 5 in March and 2 in April. The Board refused permission for 1 SHD (359 units) in February. There are a total of 3 SHDs (459 units) currently in the formal application process.



Planning Decisions

A total of 327 planning decisions have been made to the end of April 2020. There have been 267 decisions to grant permission (82%) and 60 refusals of permission (18%). There have been 24 grants of permissions in respect of single house construction, 139 grants of permission for domestic extensions, 77 commercial/retail grants of permission and 19 grants of permission in respect of housing developments - 6 of which related to development 2 - 20 housing units, 1 of which related to development 20 - 50 housing units, 3 of which related to development 50 - 100 housing units and 9 of which related to developments of 100 + housing units.

Planning Applications – Submission Deadlines and Decision Due Dates

The period from 29th March to 23rd May (both dates inclusive), referred to as the 'emergency period', is disregarded for the purposes of calculating time limits as regards the processing of a planning application under the 2000 Planning Act and their Regulations.

The submission deadline and decision due dates for applications received between the 30th March

and the 22nd May 2020 are **29th June 2020 and 20th July 2020** respectively.

The submission deadline and decision due dates for applications received between 21st February and 29th March 2020 have the period from 29th March to 23rd May (both dates inclusive), disregarded and will be between the 25th May 2020 and 25th June 2020, for submissions and between 15th June 2020 and 16th July 2020 for decisions, depending on date of lodgement.

Building Control

In 2020 there have been 55 new Disability Access Certificates submitted up to the end of April, of these 36 have been granted and 16 are currently on time extension. There have been 66 new Fire Safety Certificates submitted up to the end of April, of these 8 have been granted and 52 are currently on time extension.

From January to the end of April 2020 a total of 436 building control decisions have been processed. There were 123 decisions to grant, 1 refusal and 312 time extension's.

Fingal Development Plan Variation No. 2

On 10th January 2020 we published Variation No. 2 to the Fingal Development Plan, pursuant to Section 13 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

This proposed Variation seeks to respond to the recent changes in National and Regional planning policy, namely the publication of the National Planning Framework (NPF) in 2018 and the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly (EMRA) Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) in 2019. The proposed Variation will result in amendments to the Core Strategy and associated tables in the written statement; and amendments to text and objectives/policies throughout the written statement to refer to the National Planning Framework and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy.

Fingal Development Plan Variation No. 3

On 10th January 2020 we published Variation No. 3 to the Fingal Development Plan, pursuant to Section 13 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

This proposed Variation seeks to remove the indicative line for the Road Proposal, "N3 – N4 Barnhill to Leixlip Interchange", as shown on Sheet 13, Blanchardstown South.

The Variation was on public display until 7th February. A total of 13 submissions were received during the consultation period. All submissions have been considered and the Chief Executive's Report on same was issued on 6th March. This Chief Executive's Report is to be considered at the June Council meeting. An online briefing session was undertaken with Elected Members on the 27th May where the CE report was discussed.

Dunsink Study

Fingal County Council have applied for funding under the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund to undertake the study to analyse the access and servicing of the landbank at Dunsink as required under the Fingal Development Plan. Elected members will be appraised of the outcome of the application process and any ongoing progress of the study.

All-weather Pitch facility, car park and associated ancillary works at Ward River valley Park, Swords

The Parks and Green Infrastructure Division (assisted by the Central Procurement Unit) have published the first of a two phase tender for design and construction of an all-weather pitch, car park and associated ancillary works at Ward River Valley Park, Swords. The pitch will be a 3rd generation synthetic all-weather pitch providing for gaa, soccer and other sporting codes. Running in parallel with the design-build procurement process is the appointment of archaeological consultants to conduct archaeological pre-development testing in advance of construction works.



Redevelopment of Malahide Village Green

In line with the roadmap for the lifting of restrictions to reduce the spread of COVID-19, work recommenced on the redevelopment of Malahide Green on Monday May 18th 2020. This recommencement of work followed the implementation of new health and safety procedures in line with the Return to Work Safely Protocol and Public Health Guidance. These changes have been put in place to protect the public and the workers on site. Fingal County Council will keep abreast of Public Health Guidance to continuously ensure the safe project completion of this enhanced public amenity.

Works progressing on Village Green, Malahide



Works progressing on Village Green, Malahide

Park and playground proposals for Lanesborough, The Naul, Garristown and Howth.

The Parks and Green Infrastructure Division are actively progressing projects to develop new and enhanced play and wider landscape proposals at the above locations.

With the assistance of the Central Procurement Unit, a tender has for design teams has been issued to support the Part VIII phase of the project. The deadline for the receipt of tenders is in June and it is anticipated that the contract for the services will be awarded in Q3.

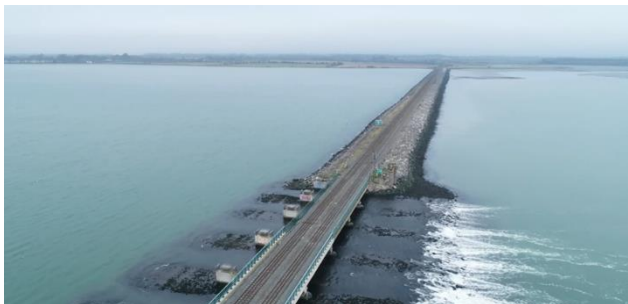


Indicative natural play proposals

Broadmeadow Way

We were delighted to receive planning approval from An Bord Pleanála for the Broadmeadow Way scheme, the proposed high quality greenway linking Malahide and Donabate along the railway viaduct that will run across the Malahide estuary. The scheme will begin some advance works this year with main works starting in 2021 and a targeted opening date in 2022. This will be an

iconic amenity in Fingal and will form a landmark feature of the proposed Fingal Coastal Way route, attracting local residents and tourist users alike. The small number of conditions associated with the grant of planning can be seen as a reflection of the comprehensive nature of the planning submission and of the significant and detailed work undertaken by the project team to achieve this planning consent.



Snugborough Interchange Upgrade

The Council has commenced the tendering process for a main contractor to undertake the Snugborough Interchange Upgrade scheme in Dublin 15, which will bring about significant improvements for motorists, pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users. The project includes the construction of a second bridge over the N3 as well as new footpaths and cycle tracks, and a new pedestrian and cyclist underpass, and it will improve accessibility to the Blanchardstown Centre and to the 800 businesses located in Dublin Enterprise Zone.



Snugborough Interchange Upgrade

Church Fields Link Road, Mulhuddart

The public consultation element of the Part 8 planning for this project has concluded and the results were outlined to the Area Committee on Thursday 28th May, along with the design team's responses to the issues raised. This Part 8 proposal, which delivers significant connectivity and sustainable transport benefits to this area as well as facilitating local residential development, will now be put forward for formal Part 8 approval at the next meeting of the Full Council.

National Transport Authority support

It is important to acknowledge the constructive working relationship that exists between the Council and the NTA, the result of which can be seen in the funding support provided to the above three schemes. The Broadmeadow Way is being fully funded by the NTA, the Snugborough Interchange is being part-funded, and the Church Fields Link Road has been discussed in detail with the NTA and we are hopeful of receiving funding assistance for that scheme also. The 2020 allocation received from the NTA's Sustainable Transport Measures Grant programme, which covered 17 projects in total, was the largest ever such allocation received by the Council.

Official Opening of Rathbeale Road Upgrade and Donabate Distributor Road

In line with current public health restrictions, scaled-back official opening events took place on both of these recently completed projects on 3rd June, with the Mayor and Chief Executive present. Further information is available online including photographs, statements and some short videos.



Construction Recommences

Following the partial lifting of Covid-19 public health restrictions, works have recommenced on a number of Planning & Strategic Infrastructure projects across the county including the Hole in the Wall Road, Royal Canal Greenway site investigation and Park Road Upgrade, Rush. Works are being undertaken by our contractors in line with social distancing requirements.

Development Management/Forward Planning (Water Services)

- Development Management & Pre-planning consultations – During May staff from Forward Planning (Water Services) have engaged in discussions with developers at pre-planning stage to discuss issues related to the provision of water services and to ensure the implementation of flood risk management and sustainable drainage systems on site.
- Flood Risk Assessments and Drainage Strategies to inform Local Area Plans (LAP) - FCC staff are currently managing the preparation of the surface water management plans
- SHDs – staff are engaged as internal consultees in discussion on approx. 7no. SHD applications
- CDS – staff continue to provide planning review of water/wastewater connection applications on behalf of Irish Water. Staff have remote access to IW's network and as such this process continues as normal.

Building Control/Taking in Charge

- Building Control Inspections - The majority of construction sites reopened on 18/05/2020 and site visits have recommenced. Inspectors and engineers continue to engage with developers by other means to deal with building control.
- BCMS expansion – work continues with the National Building Control Office with the

preparation for the implementation of the final module of the BCMS (Building Control Management System – an online forum for BC documentation). This will bring Fire Safety Certificates, Regularisation Certificates and Disability Access Certificates all online, completing the paperless conversion of building control documentation. "Go-Live" date is 30/06/2020.

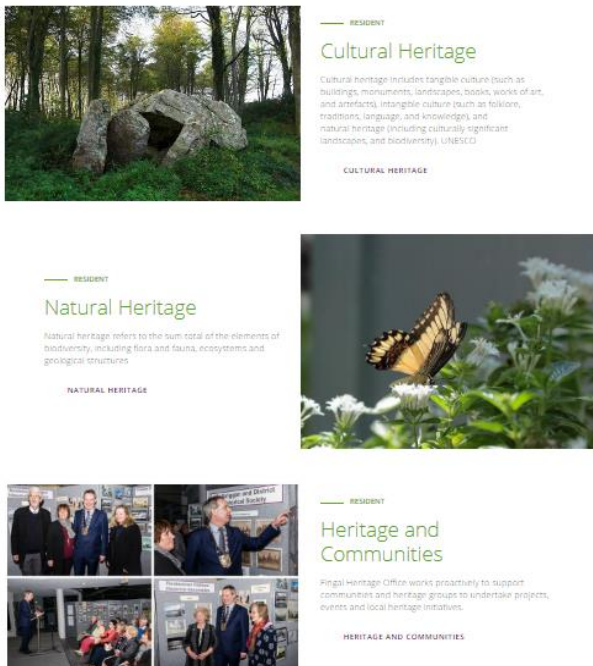
- Dangerous Structure/Places inspections – each complaint continues to be assessed on a case by case basis. During May we have received 19 notifications and we have conducted 13 site visits, where we deemed this absolutely necessary. Follow up is underway in 6 cases.
- Taking in Charge of Legacy Developments – Frameworks of services providers are operating and have been used to develop site resolutions on 12 IBRC developments and 6 other developments. All bond claims have been submitted and verified by IBRC through 2019. FCC are preparing tender documentation for works contracts which will lead to the Taking in Charge Statutory process. These documents are being revised pre-tender to take account of the DBEI/Dept Health - Return to Work Safely Protocol COVID-19 Specific National Protocol for Employers and Workers and CIF - Construction Sector C-19 Pandemic Standard Operating Procedures.

CPD (Continuous Professional Development) – given our current remote working environments, this division has now moved our CPD programme to video conferencing. We continued this month with video CPD presentations on the subject of fire safety engineering and compliance with Part B Fire Safety.

The Heritage Officer

The Heritage Officer has been working with the Communications division to update and expand the Heritage & Conservation section

<https://www.fingal.ie/heritage-and-conservation> of Fingal website. As part of the In This Together initiative the Heritage From Home series has been running on the Fingal Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/fingalculthralheritage/> and on [fingal.ie](https://www.fingal.ie) for the month of May. This series highlights archives and repositories of interest available virtually.



The Heritage Officer is currently confirming the parameters of *the Fingal Cultural Heritage & Climate Change Risk Assessment* project. To date this has involved liaison with the Dublin Climate Action Regional Office, Chair of the Built & Archaeological Heritage, Climate Action Sectoral Adaptation Plan implementation committee and technical experts in the CHERISH programme. This project will assess the risk to our cultural heritage from climate change and establish the basis for future monitoring and protection of the resource.

HOUSING & COMMUNITY, CULTURE & SPORTS (H&CC&S) & LIBRARIES

Housing & Community, Culture & Sports		
<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> Housing Housing Development Office Community Development Office Sports Office Arts Office Libraries </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> Community, Culture & Sports Community Development Office Sports Office Arts Office Libraries </td> </tr> </table>	Housing Housing Development Office Community Development Office Sports Office Arts Office Libraries	Community, Culture & Sports Community Development Office Sports Office Arts Office Libraries
Housing Housing Development Office Community Development Office Sports Office Arts Office Libraries	Community, Culture & Sports Community Development Office Sports Office Arts Office Libraries	

Housing Supply Report

Through the Covid-19 restrictions, Fingal County Council continues to deliver social housing units and continues to provide housing solutions in accordance with the Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan through a range of delivery mechanisms including construction, Part V, acquisitions, leasing and Housing Assistance Payment Scheme (HAP).

Construction Programme

The Council has an ambitious construction programme underway with 22 sites across the county and 210 homes already delivered.

Designation of Essential Sites

Following applications by the Council, six sites in the County were approved by the Housing Agency/Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government to complete essential construction work to support housing delivery. Construction recommenced in late April following confirmation by contractors of safe working arrangements, appropriate social distancing and commitments to undertake the works in accordance with all necessary HSE and Government Guidelines. Work on a total of 91 family homes has now been completed on these sites in Swords, Kinsealy, Balbriggan, Ballymun Cross and Dublin 15.

The Rathbeale Road, Swords housing project was one of six sites designated as an essential project and all 24 housing units are now complete. Five of the 24 units have been adapted to accommodate individuals with additional needs. The Mayor visited the houses on Wednesday 3rd June and was accompanied by the Chief Executive,

the Director of Housing and Community and the County Architect.

All remaining social schemes are at either pre-planning or tendering stage and can be progressed as normal and the design teams can work and communicate remotely. However, where on-site investigations studies are required by members of the design teams these may be delayed due to Covid-19 restrictions.

It is proposed to have a number of schemes ready to be tendered once the crisis period ends. Pre-planning work is underway on a number of other housing projects which could be presented informally to the local Councillors subject to Covid19 guidelines.

The following table outlines the various stages that construction projects are currently at.

Project	Units	Status
St Cronan's x 2 schemes	15	Completed
Cappaghfinn I	14	Completed
Balrothery - North + East	9	Completed
Wellview, Dublin 15	20	Completed
Racecourse Common	74	Completed
Ballyboughal	8	Completed
Pinewood, Balbriggan	20	Completed
Estuary Road - V de Paul	8	Completed
Castlelands, Balbriggan	24	Completed
Ravenswood, Coldwinters, Peter McVerry Trust	8	Completed
Rivermeade	2	Completed
Pinewood CC, Balbriggan	2	Completed
Avondale, Dublin 15	42	Completed
Church Road, Dublin 15 - FCC	22	Completed

Rolestown Phase 1	26	Completed
Rathbeale Road, Swords	24	Completed
Church Road, Dublin 15 - Cluid Housing (see note below)	64	On Site
College St. Baldoyle - Cluid Housing	4	On Site
Tucketts Lane, Howth	8	Tendering Stage
Wellview Cul de Sacs, Wellview, D15	20	Tendering Stage
Cappagh, Dublin 11	69	Tendering Stage
Outlands, Swords, Co Dublin	11	Tendering Stage
Church Fields Phase 2B, Mulhuddart, D15	70	Tendering Stage
Kilhedge Lane - Tuath Housing Association	48	Planning Stage
Former Leonards Garage, Lusk	10	Planning Stage
Church Road, Lusk	5	Planning Stage
Garristown – North and East Housing Association	5	Planning Stage
Hayestown, Rush	50	Planning Stage
Infill Site adjacent to 169 Clonsilla Road, D15	1	Planning Stage
	683	

Church Fields, Dublin 15

Detailed design and the pre-planning process has commenced in relation to 498 discounted purchase, discounted rental and social properties. Progress on delivering the housing potential of the site continues;

- An initial phase of the housing development of Church Fields has been approved and is out to tender – 20 homes.
- The next phase of development consisting of 70 social houses has been approved and will be tendered in the coming weeks.
- Funding has been approved under the Serviced Sites Fund (SSF) to enable delivery of key road and green infrastructure to facilitate the development of the site.

- Part XI for the road link between Damastown Road and Wellview Avenue including the upgrade of the existing Wellview Avenue and a cycle way adjacent to Church Road will be brought to the June Council meeting for approval.
- The green infrastructure design is also underway as outlined in the Land Management Plan.

The Area Committee will continue to be briefed in relation to development of the overall site.

Land Development Agency

The Council is working closely with the Land Development Agency (LDA) to bring forward land banks located in Fingal to unlock their potential to deliver mixed tenure housing.

Hackettstown Lands:

- The LDA proposes to lodge a planning application for the road infrastructure upgrade shortly.
- Design of the housing is currently underway by the LDA. They propose to deliver 346 housing units with 72% being either affordable rental or purchase. The balance of 28% will accommodate families in need of social housing.
- Further information will be brought to the Area Committee when available.

Part V Delivery

The current Covid19 crisis will impact on the delivery of Part V units across the county. However, the Housing Department are working with developers in relation to secure delivery of social housing units.

Approved Housing Bodies

The Covid-19 restrictions will also have an impact on the delivery of social housing by AHBs. The Housing Department continue to work closely with all AHBs in relation to finalising delivery and the allocation process.

Other Development Opportunities

The Housing Department continue to meet with developers who are building across the county

with a view to exploring opportunities to bring forward proposals to increase the supply of social housing. All opportunities and proposals to provide much needed additional turnkey housing are considered.

Affordable Dwelling Purchase Arrangements

The Affordable Dwelling Purchase Scheme is a national initiative that will see affordable homes built on state owned land in co-operation with local authorities.

The procurement process for the developed design, construction, delivery and sale of 39 affordable residential units at Dun Emer, Lusk is nearing completion and it is proposed to appoint a contractor shortly. An online application process will be opened once the contractor has been appointed.

Further detail and updates on the scheme will be brought to the local Councillors in the coming weeks.

Leasing Schemes

The Housing Department continues to operate the various leasing schemes to provide much needed properties for social housing. There has been a noticeable increase in the number of properties and leasing proposals being offered to the Council over the past few months. This is to be welcomed and every effort is made to secure long term leases with interested property owners and developers.

Covid19 Employment Loss

Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan

Number of applications received to date	956
Number of applications approved	444
Value of the loans approved	€99,823,793.00
Number of loans drawn down	229
Value of loans drawn down	€50,254,949

Mortgage holders who have lost employment due to the Covid19 crisis and are experiencing difficulties making repayments should contact the Council immediately on www.loans@fingal.ie Subject to

proof of job loss or reduced hours, Fingal County Council may offer a solution to make reduced or deferred payments that are proportionate to the loss of income.

As a minimum, Mortgage Protection Insurance payments must be made so as not to break the continuity of cover. Fingal County Council will endeavour to find an individual solution with each borrower.

Failure to make mortgage repayments without an agreement with Fingal County Council may affect credit ratings and limit ability to access credit in the future.

Further details are available on the Council's website www.fingal.ie

Rent Payments – Council Tenants

Council tenants who have temporarily lost employment due to Covid19 crisis, may have their rent temporarily re-assessed based on Social Welfare payments until their employment situation becomes clearer. Tenants should contact the Council immediately at email; rentaccountD15@fingal.ie or rentaccountnorthcounty@fingal.ie. Further details are available on the Council's website www.fingal.ie

Private Rented Inspections

In February 2018, all local authorities were issued with targets for the Inspection of Private Rented Properties by the DHPLG in conjunction with its Strategy for the Private Rental Sector – a key component of Rebuilding Ireland. The aim is to increase the national average inspection rate from 6% to 25% of registered rental properties by 2021. The targets are based on the percentage of tenancies registered with the RTB, which within the Fingal County Council administrative area was 21,034 at end of 2018.

The annual targets are as follows:

2018 (10%)	2019 (15%)	2020 (20%)	2021 (25%)
2,072	3,155	4,207	5,259

For the duration of the Covid19 crisis, emergency inspections will be carried out as required.

May Photos from social housing construction schemes

Rolestown



Holymount, Swords



Housing Tenancy Services Report

Housing Support

Fingal County Council's Housing Department is continuing to provide services across its full range of Tenancy Services during the **COVID19** outbreak. Whilst Public Offices remain closed to the members of the public in accordance with current health restrictions, the Housing Department remains **open for business**.

A simple, and easy to use guide for all those who need assistance has been made available on Fingal's website via www.fingal.ie

For those who may have queries in relation to their accommodation circumstances, the following **contact details** have been made available on Fingal's website, and messaged on Facebook and Twitter to reach as many of our citizens as possible.

Housing Unit	Contact Details
Homeless Services	01 890 5090 homeless@fingal.ie
HAP	01 870 4515 HAP@fingal.ie
Estate Management (Maintenance, ASB & Special Projects)	01 890 5588 Estatemanagement@fingal.ie
Lettings	01 890 5380 Housing.allocations@fingal.ie
Housing Support	01 890 5902 Housing.allocations@fingal.ie
Customer Care Team	01 890 5000 CustomerCareUnit@fingal.ie

Information Videos

The Housing Department have launched a suite of videos on various social media platforms to deliver information to our citizens on how they can access housing support services during the Covid 19 outbreak.

The videos are launched across three digital platforms of Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Links to these are detailed below.

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/fingalcoco/videos/>

<https://twitter.com/fingalcoco>

<https://www.instagram.com/fingalcountycouncil/>

Social Housing Support

The Housing Support team are continuing to assess applications for social housing support during this time.

Should you now wish to seek support for Social Housing, you may do so by completing and returning a Social Housing Application Form. To access an application form, please log-on to Fingal's website via www.fingal.ie and follow the link to Housing Provision . and you can submit housing applications by

Post to Housing Support Team , Fingal County Council, Grove Road, Blanchardstown, Dublin D15W638

The Lettings Team continue to provide offers of social housing support as stock becomes available notwithstanding current restrictions during COVID -19. The supply of housing is continuing through a number of mechanisms allowing us to continue to make offers of support across standard social housing, with Approved Housing Bodies as well as the provision of a number of transitional housing options.

Month	Offers of Housing Support 2020
January	117
February	103
March	137
April	114
May	97
TOTAL	568

Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)

The HAP team in Fingal County Council continues to operate as normal with the public contacting us through email and phone during COVID-19 restrictions. Additional resources have been deployed to assist with the volume of calls/emails from those who have been affected by the current crisis (in relation to a change in income).

Since its inception in Fingal County Council in 2017, the HAP team have set up over 2,000 tenancies with 110 in place during 2020 to date. A further 170 tenancies are being progressed.

Homeless Services

We are working with our partners in the DRHE and many of the Service Providers in the sector to ensure that there has been and will be no disruption to these services during the restrictions imposed by Covid-19 public health requirements

The Council's homeless team continue to engage with those experiencing homelessness to offer advice and support. Homeless Assessments continue via telephone and where there is a need, emergency accommodation continues to be available. In May, there were 32 new homeless presentations, 15 of whom were families. 25 families exited homeless circumstances into social housing offers in May with a considerable further number of exits planned during June.

The Council is linked in with an Approved Housing Body, NOVAS, who is working with homeless families to assist them in seeking accommodation through HAP.

Since 1st January 2020, a total 252 households have exited homelessness through the various means of housing support. Homeless HAP accounts for 155 of these tenancies.

Travellers Supports

Covid-19 Initiatives

A number of measures are underway within Fingal to ensure that Traveller families receive as much assistance as possible during these unprecedented times.

It is important to note that the Traveller specific stock is currently being visited on a daily basis by the Housing Inspectorate staff and Senior Officials. This is being done in a respectful manner and maintaining social distancing guidelines, and to check on vulnerable tenants and advise on the supports available to them. It is also used to collate any maintenance issues. In addition, the Council's designated Social Worker Service for Travellers is making regular contact with the most vulnerable, in order to assist with additional needs arising from current circumstances. Meals on Wheels are being delivered to the most vulnerable through an initiative of the Community Response Forum.

Significant supports available through the Housing Department include ;

- Emergency / priority lettings for applications from Traveller specific accommodation, where possible,
- Arrangements to assist with applications for requests to self- isolate or cocoon,
- Additional Clean Ups and Emergency Maintenance requests are being prioritised.

The Council is also providing the following additional measures on sites as part of its strategy to raise awareness of **Covid 19** and additional requirements around hygiene and social distancing;

- notice boards have been erected on sites with relevant hygiene and Health & Safety guidance, and other useful information for additional supports available to the community.
- Additional callouts for treatment of waste water systems are in place and if any additional Portable Toilet facilities are required , this can be arranged,
- Tenants have been provided with resources to maintain on site hygiene with the supply of litter pickers and supply of recyclable waste collection bags.

With the easing of restrictions under Phase 1 of the Government's Roadmap, the planning and implementation of refurbishment works on various sites, can continue with works scheduled for St Mary's, Cappagh.

Returning Dwellings to Productive Use

The number of casual voids within Social Housing Stock which are currently in the re-let process is as set out in the table below;

Voids	At 28 th May 2020
In letting process	33
Undergoing re-let repairs	32
With County Architect for procurement of pre-let repairs	15
TOTAL	80

Planned Maintenance Programmes

Boiler Servicing

The Council provides an annual boiler servicing facility, including all maintenance and upgrade works, for a nominal fee of €3 per week to participating tenant. The 2020 servicing programme is underway and several batches have issued to our contractor. Access to dwellings may be refused by householders during the current **Covid-19** public health restrictions but there will be return visits later in the year, to ensure that servicing standards are met.

Cyclical Maintenance

This programme provides for external painting and joinery repairs to council housing stock. Currently the programme operates on a 6/7 year cycle. As phase 1 restrictions have been lifted, painting works in the remaining dwellings in Sheepmoor Estate, Dublin 15 have re-commenced. The next batch of estates to be procured, for commencement of works in the summer months, public health guidelines permitting, is as set out below;

Estate	
St Patricks Park,	Donabate
Castlecurragh Heath/Vale	Dublin 15
Dromheath	Dublin 15
Shamrock Park	Oldtown
Windmill Estate	Skerries
Toberburr Avenue	St Margarets
The Bawn Grove/ The Hill	Malahide
Kirkfield Cottages	Clonsilla
Lambeeher Estate	Balbriggan

Estate Maintenance and Grass Cutting

The Housing Maintenance Division provides a grass cutting service for circa 350 elderly or vulnerable tenants, within its housing estates. In addition, grass cutting is provided in small areas of open space, not covered by Operations

Department, with the overall objective of improving the visual aspect of the estates. The ongoing provision of grass cutting services to vulnerable tenants re-commenced during May, in line with the social distancing requirements of public health guidelines.

Laneways provided to the rear of dwellings in the older estates can be a source of dumping and anti-social behaviour and the Housing Maintenance Division works with local residents to find solutions where issues exist. In some cases, laneways are gated and keys provided to adjoining residents for local access. In other situations, where all householders are in agreement, laneways can be incorporated into the adjoining rear gardens.

Housing Welfare Service

The Social Workers attached to the Housing Department are available to support vulnerable tenancies and to work with housing applicants who have medical/welfare needs.

In response to **Covid-19**, the Housing Social Workers are actively engaged with their most vulnerable cases at this time providing support, information and inter-agency linkages when and where required. Tenants have been identified by the Social Workers and Housing Inspectors who may be considered particularly vulnerable during **COVID-19** and follow on action has been initiated through a number of mechanisms including the Fingal Community Response Forum.

In addition there are currently 24 cases being provided with supports by the Tenancy Sustainment Service, on an ongoing basis.

Anti-Social Behaviour/ Inspectorate/ Stock Management

The ongoing management and sustainment with regard to social tenancies and good estate management falls within the remit of the ASB/Inspectorate Unit. Alleged breaches pertaining to tenancy agreements are investigated and pursued in accordance with Housing legislative guidelines.

There are occasions when the vulnerabilities, complexities and health related issues associated with a tenancy require tenancy sustainment

intervention and supports. Ongoing case management and review with a variety of external agencies, including Approved Housing Bodies, An Garda Síochána, Tusla and the HSE is a necessity to ensure all agencies work collaboratively with a view to achieving best outcomes.

Stock Management

48 cases under review -7 regularisations, 13 breaches (allegations of sub-lets, abandonments, illegal occupiers), 15 Miscellaneous, 13 downsizing Surrenders on EM Grounds - 1 (Jan), 3 (Feb), 3 (March), 3 (April)

Anti-Social Behaviour

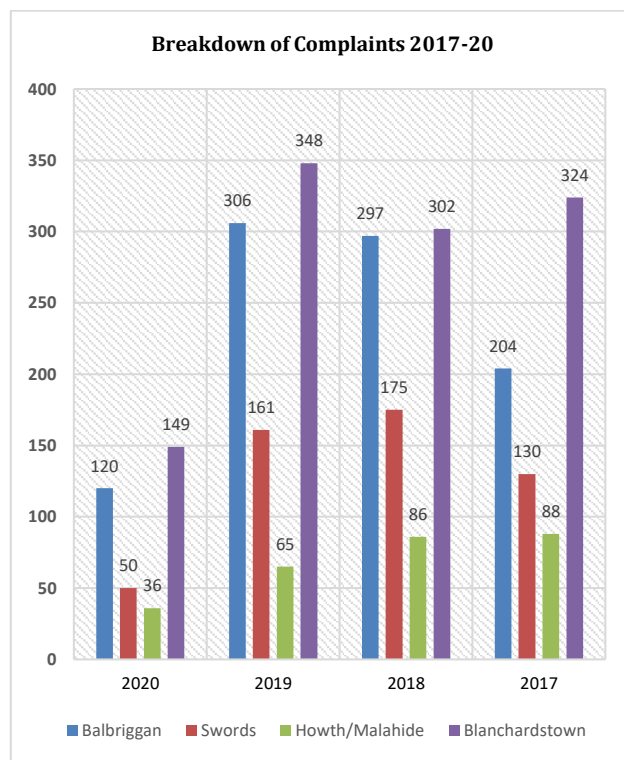
	Active Investigation	Active Monitoring	Closed (cumulative for year)
Dublin 15	40	29	19
North County	50	59	26
TOTALS	90	88	45

ASB complaints are still being received and are being followed up and investigated as normal, even within current COVID-19 related restrictions. Residents are formally reminded of their obligations under social distancing, where it comes to the attention of the ASB unit that breaches have occurred within our estates.

Total ASB Complaints Received



Area Breakdown of Complaints



Anti-Social Interventions

Interviews Held 2019	123
Interviews Held 2020	80
Tenancy Alerts 2019	30
Tenancy Alerts 2020	17
Tenancy Warnings 2019	4
Tenancy Warnings 2020	2
Tenant Induction Training 2019	12
Tenant Induction Training 2020	3

Housing Inspections

Traveller Specific Inspections 2019	1818
Traveller Specific Inspections 2020	668
Estate Inspections 2019	944
Estate Inspections 2020	247
EM/ASB Inspections 2019	3858
EM/ASB Inspections 2020	1174

Examples of Estate Management Response to Covid-19 at Traveller specific sites & Group Housing Schemes



Covid - 19 distancing signage placed at all Traveller specific sites & Group Housing Schemes



Pictured are the Housing Inspectors equipped with PPE preparing to deliver fun activity packs to children at Traveller specific sites & Group Housing Schemes



Children delighted to receive their fun activity packs



Estate Management in collaboration with their colleagues in the Library Department have distributed fun activity packs for children at Traveller specific sites & Group Housing Schemes. Pictured is a sample of activity pack

Community Culture & Sports Division

Sports Office:



Marathon Families

The programme was launched on line two weeks ago. Conscious of the fact that it can be difficult to stay active, at this time, the programme encourages families to participate in a virtual marathon together. This redesigned MarathonKids programme is intended to challenge the whole family to complete together, while staying within the current Government restriction of 5km from home. To date 121 families have signed up for the programme.

Fingal DigiFit

The DigiFit home exercise programme is proving a success with secondary school girls, feedback is extremely positive. Teachers have been sending the links to the students who are participating in the programme in their own homes.



Fingal Sports Stars

The Mayor recently launched our Fingal Sports Stars series of videos. Interviews of Fingal Sports Stars, in a variety of fields which aims to inspire, inform and entertain budding sports people throughout the county. Each video finishes with a skills challenge for young people to participate in. The Mayor demonstrated his own 'keepy-uppy' football skills, in a video accessible at <https://bit.ly/3bWhKFk> - followed by a Twitter challenge to all Fingal Councillors.



Creative Ireland

Cruinniú na nÓg a national virtual celebration of creativity for children and young people will take place on line **on Saturday 13th June 2020**. This will be celebrated throughout Fingal with over 24 online workshops for young people of all ages taking place, it has been devised by our Libraries Division, Arts Office, The Seamus Ennis Centre and Draíocht.



The Fingal Arts Office are delighted to contribute to the third iteration of Cruinniú na nÓg. The following online engagement activities for children and young people are now being prepared by the Arts Office and the artists.

Title: **What Do You See?**

Look & respond to a selection of artworks within Fingal's County Council's Art Collection with artist Beth O'Halloran.

For all ages

Fingal Arts Office recently celebrated 25 Years of Collecting Art. We will share a selection of artworks from this amazing collection with you and invite you to respond with your own masterpieces. Ideal for all ages and abilities, our wonderful artist Beth O'Halloran will guide you through a process of looking, imagining, creating and drawing, inspiring your very own response to these magnificent artworks.

Title: **Sing Loud, Sing Proud!**

Singing Workshop with Fingal Academy of Music.

For all ages

Join Donal and Michael from Fingal Academy of Music to learn a song from start to finish in this fun dynamic workshop which is sure to create a musical atmosphere that everyone will enjoy at

home. Part of a new children's folk song series, this lively workshop is aimed at all ages and all abilities. Let's hear you sing out loud, make Fingal proud!

Title: **At the Heart of Sol's Art**

Exploring the artwork of Sol LeWitt with artist Anne Cradden

Age: 9 years +

Take a colourful journey of geometric shapes and patterns by exploring the work of artist Sol LeWitt. Sol was an artist who began working in the 1950s and became most well-known for huge abstract drawings that he made by drawing directly on to walls! These drawings were based on sets of instructions written by the artist. In this workshop, you'll take a closer look at LeWitt's work to understand his ideas and how he produced his art. Using your imagination, found materials from home, and a pinch of magic, you'll be inspired to create a drawing or sculpture guided by our artist Anne.

Title: **Free as a Bird.**

A Creative Movement Workshop with Dublin Youth Dance Company.

Age: 5 – 10 years

Duration: 30 minutes

Virtual workshop.

Registration required: <https://free-as-a-bird-creative-movement-workshop.eventbrite.ie>

An uplifting adventure exploring movement, space, music and play! Facilitated by the exceptional Dublin Youth Dance Company, this inventive dance workshop can be enjoyed in any family setting, indoors or outdoors. Liberate your spins, twists and jumps and prepare to dance your own dance! Register here to receive a Zoom invite to the virtual workshop on June 13th. Dublin Youth Dance Company is Ireland's premier dance company for children and young people. This is an opportunity not to be missed.

Age Friendly Fingal Fingal Older Peoples Council Age Friendly Fingal was delighted to have members from Fingal Older Peoples council attend a WebEx meeting to conduct their monthly meeting. This group were happy to take part in the virtual meeting to discuss Cocooning and a lot of the issues around isolation and loneliness for senior citizens across the country.



Cocooning Activities Booklet

The Cocooning Activities booklet was a fantastic success and 8,000 copies were distributed across the county with the assistance of GAA clubs, Meals on Wheels, Healthy Ireland, local County Councillors, An Garda Síochána, Meath Louth & Fingal Local link Transport, Cross Care, FCC Housing Department, community centres and many more. Members of the public across the country have requested copies and we obliged where possible. Several Age Friendly Programme Managers are now printing this booklet for their own members across the country.

This booklet is available on line or on the attached link: <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2020-05/cocooning-2.0-single-updated.pdf>

The Cocooning Short Story and Poetry Competition closing date is 15th June 2020. All entries will be compiled in a Covid-19 memory makers short story and poetry book which will be launched in October or November this year.

Good to Chat Group

Good to Chat group of volunteers took part in Age Friendly Communications training to assist them in supporting our older people during the Cocooning phase, 16 volunteers are available to make phone calls twice a week for half an hour or be a pen pal to senior citizens across the county.



Age Friendly Fingal are delighted to present Peig McManus as "Rose" Part 4

Fingal Older Peoples Council are delighted with the feedback from the information delivered in a sensitive but funny way, in discussing the touchy subjects of "what happens when it's time to go" The video can be found on the following link: <https://youtu.be/YDOuF-EdyzM>

Community Development Office

Fáilte Isteach – Tyrrelstown, Dublin 15

"Fáilte Isteach – Welcoming Migrants through Conversational English Classes"

This project has resumed virtually, using the Zoom platform to allow voluntary tutors and students engage in English conversation sessions during the pandemic. This has proved very helpful for the students, many of whom had been feeling isolated. Fáilte Isteach HQ has provided online supports and materials for the Tyrrelstown project

which will now run beyond May, the project used to finish to coincide with the end of the school year. The annual presentation of the Certificates ceremony will be held later in the Summer, this may be a virtual or a social distancing event depending on restrictions at the time.

Virtual Fingal Africa Day

Fingal County Council in association with the Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade provide an opportunity for local African Groups to take part in a Virtual Africa Day Celebration 2020. Virtual Africa Day provides the platform for community groups to showcase African culture and community living in Fingal. A variety of videos were posted including African Day celebration messages, a cooking demonstration, displays of dress and dance. The Community Office with assistance from the Communication Office circulated a video featuring an opening welcome message from Mayor Cllr. Eoghan O'Brien. This was shared on social media and throughout the African Community on Monday, 25th May 2020 Africa Day. Link to the video - <https://www.fingal.ie/news/marking-africa-day-2020-online>

Fingal 2020 COVID Emergency Funding Scheme

The Community Development Office continues to administer the Fingal COVID19 Emergency Funding Scheme. This scheme is funded by the Department of Rural & Community Development to support groups/organisations that are directly involved in the Fingal Community Call response and/or responding locally to the COVID-19 pandemic. To date €24,301 has been awarded across 32 community groups and services. For more information click [here](https://form.jotform.com/200864157081352)

The Rush Mask Up Project was a huge success, local seamstress, Carmel made a template which was distributed to willing volunteers to make the masks. Fingal County Council (Fingal Community Response to Covid 19 Funding Scheme) provided

financial support for material and elastic to be sourced which enabled the stitchers to get to work.



1,500 cotton masks have been made to date with the assistance of Rush Athletic and St Maur's GAA. Over 800 masks were distributed by volunteers to the homes of over 65's and cocooning adults. The Chairperson of Rush Community Council was delighted with the response received and confirmed that they will continue to distribute the masks to those in need. A great example of 'community working for community.'

Aster Family Resource Centre in Balbriggan have been busy delivering food packs, children's activity packs, baby packs, PPE packs and personal care packs to families in the town. Throughout the lockdown the service has been a valuable lifeline for a host of families, who for a variety of reasons have found themselves extremely vulnerable at this time. Aster Family Support was recently successful in securing a COVID 19 Emergency Grant from the Council that enabled them to provide this much needed service.



The Blakestown / Corduff Covid Project has now moved on to phase 2. All clients have been transferred over to Northside Home Care meals on wheels, however the project volunteers have decided that they will check in on their clients until the end of June 2020. Each client will receive a scone and a cup of tea or coffee and a chat with their volunteer each Friday around lunchtime. This will also enable the volunteer to ascertain if the client needs any further supports so they can be referred on to the relevant service.

Reopening of Community Centres:

Community Centres are working on their remobilisation plans to explore how they can start to look at re-opening safely. Each Facility is currently working with their health and safety advisors to put a plan in place and a working group has been set up to develop a template that can be adapted across the various sites. The group are also working on developing a suite of templates that can be used to support each board of management.

The Community Facilities Network is currently developing an online **Project Management Training Program** in conjunction with Hibernia. It is envisaged that 15 participants will engage in QQI level 6 project management training in the last quarter of 2020.

Comhairle na nÓg

A video offering advice to peers in Fingal was completed on 7th May 2020 for national release. It is now live on the Fingal Comhairle na nÓg Instagram page and has also been included in Fingal County Council's June Bank Holiday Weekend Events Page.

Comhairle na nÓg participated in the **Music Generation Consultation**. This consultation was a collaboration with Fingal County Council, working in partnership with the Dublin & Dún Laoghaire Education & Training Board, to carry out research into young people's participation and interest in music-making and performance opportunities to support the development of Music Generation. The purpose of the survey was to understand the

views of young people regarding what is available to them in Fingal and to understand the types of music programmes and services that best suit them and their musical interests.

Comhairle na nÓg also participated in the **Youth Justice Strategy Consultation** on the 14th May 2020. This consultation process is to inform the development of a new Youth Justice Strategy to cover the period up to 2026. The consultation collected opinions on a range of areas related to the draft strategy including the role of individuals and organisations in helping to prevent children and young people's involvement in crime and on different approaches to dealing with those who have committed an offence.

Fingal PPN

Daily update in collaboration with Fingal Age Friendly

Fingal PPN in collaboration with Fingal Age Friendly issue a daily report to all PPN members with a copy of the Daily Age Friendly newsletter and other relevant PPN news. This update is getting excellent feedback from the groups and their members. The updates are issued to other volunteer groups in the community along with those who are cocooning and other vulnerable members of the community. This is along with regular updates on the dedicated page on the Fingal PPN Website for Covid-19 news, Fingal PPN Facebook and Twitter pages which are all receiving excellent feedback.

Fingal PPN Re-Registration Project

Fingal PPN are embarking on a re-registration project. We will be contacting over 860 voluntary and community groups who have registered with Fingal PPN over the last few years to ensure the groups are still active and running as a community and/or voluntary group. Contact and registration details will be updated to ensure this database is current and relevant.



#CoronavirusSolidarity diary of “good news stories”

Fingal PPN and Fingal County Council’s Community Department are continuing to document a diary of “good news stories”. These stories highlight the fantastic community spirit of Fingal in response to the ongoing Covid-19 crisis.

Balbriggan Women’s Development

Group reusable masks available

#CoronavirusSolidarity

#CommunityCall

22/05/2020

The Balbriggan Women’s Development Group has been working hard sewing reusable masks for vulnerable members in their community (people with underlying health condition and senior citizens). If you are in need of a mask you can text them your address on 087 2829915 and one of their volunteers will deliver the mask/s to you.

[HSE Ireland](#) cloth face covering recommendations:

Map of Covid-19 Fingal Co-ordinated Response

Fingal PPN now have 59 organisations and volunteer groups in Fingal that have offered help during the Covid-19 Emergency. These are mapped on the Fingal PPN website. If a person needs help or support, they can easily see if there is a group nearby to assist them



Arts Office

Expert Coaching Support

In our continued commitment to stay connected with artists/organisations throughout the Covid-19 emergency, the Arts Office are extending our ‘Let’s Stay Together’ campaign with the offer of ‘expert coaching support’. The objective is to help artists and arts organisations consider how they respond to and ‘**work well**’ within the changed landscape post Covid -19. This new initiative is also a response to The Arts Council’s recent *Planning for Recovery* survey which provides an overview of the impact of Covid-19 on arts organisations and artists. The survey records lost programme activity, audiences and income. A one-hour arts-specific coaching session will be available per individual/organisation and will be facilitated by Janice McAdam, a Strategy and Engagement Consultant and Coach who has worked with the Arts Office over the years. Coaching sessions will begin in June.

Support to professional Fingal artists during Covid

Fingal Arts Office is continuing to support Fingal’s professional artists through a range of initiatives. In addition to offering ongoing one to one clinics and arts specific coaching with artists the office is delighted to announce supports for both professional writers and visual artists.

In partnership with **Graphic Studio Dublin** the Council are offering a fine art print residency for a professional artist at any stage of their career, working in any discipline, who is interested in exploring print processes. The two-week long residency will provide an ideal environment for the development of a creative project in printmaking working with a master printer.

To support our writers in the County we have partnered with **Words Ireland** to offer a mentorship programme. The mentoring is open to

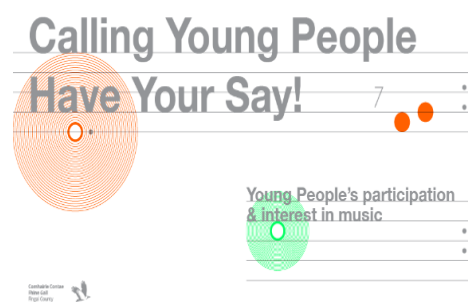
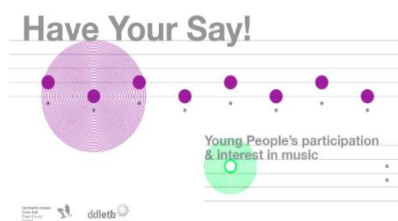
emerging and published writers who want to develop their work and consists of four meetings with an experienced writer over a period of up to approximately six months.

The Arts Office has partnered with **Children's Books Ireland** this year to support an award for mid-career writers and illustrators of children's books. This is an opportunity for Fingal artists to avail of a week-long residency, to take place in late 2020. The bursary is designed specifically for mid-career children's books authors or illustrators. This bursary was introduced to support more experienced, published authors and illustrators who require time and space to focus on their craft to the benefit of their continuing careers.

Finally, the Council is pleased to announce the **Loughshinny Boathouse Artists' Studio** Open Call. The recently restored former boathouse is in the beautiful setting of Loughshinny, a coastal village that lies between Rush and Skerries.

The dramatic location of the boathouse on the water's edge and at one end of the harbour offers a unique fully subsidised workspace for professional artists. The studio, which is non-residential, is available for three months to one year from January 2021 and is open to Irish and international artists at all stages in their professional careers, working in all disciplines. The closing date for this award is **31st July 2020**.

Music Generation Fingal



Fingal Arts Office is working in partnership with the Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Education and Training Board to make an application to Music Generation for funding to extend and enrich each partners' commitment to the music education of children & young people in Fingal. A Public Consultation Campaign was conducted to gather data to support this application. Surveys regarding access to performance music education for children and young people in the county were issued to interest groups, stakeholders and the public.

Phase 1 386 responses to the Public Consultation Phase which ended mid-May:

- General Public Survey: 144 responses
- Young People's Survey: 145 responses
- Music Education Provider's Survey: 97 responses

Phase 2

Music Consultant Karan Thompson submitted an analysis report to the Steering Group for discussion. Weekly video meetings are taking place to develop content for programme development and the submission to Music Generation which will focus on:

1. Local Context for Music Education
2. A Framework Plan for Proposed Music Programmes in Fingal
3. Governance & Staffing Structures
4. Financial Plan

**Transcending Time – A Public Art Covid 19
Commission by Fingal Artist Aoife Dunne**



This is a live mobile art project with Dublin 15 artist Aoife Dunne. Fingal residents will be able to request a visit from a new travelling new installation created by the artist to offer some colour and escapism while we remain close to our homes. The visit can be requested via the projects dedicated website www.transcendingtime.ie where the artist will plan a scheduled route for the van to take based on the requests. This project takes into consideration all current COVID 19 guidelines in its creation and development.

LIBRARIES

Book collection service available from 8th June

Library buildings have been closed since 12th March but the week of the 8th June will see a book collection service operating from selected branches, as part of the gradual re-opening of libraries. Borrowers will contact the library by telephone or email to request books and collect them at a pre-arranged time. Further details will be available on our website and on social media.

Digital Learning and Meeting Spaces Refurbishment Project – Balbriggan and Malahide Libraries

An 8-week construction programme has begun at these two libraries in tandem. The operations commenced on Monday 18th May. This programme of works relates to a grant from the Dept. of Rural and Community Development for investment in ICT capacity and digital services at public libraries.

Apart from the installation of new technologies such as Digital Signage and Lapsafe units the fit out works will also include the remodelling and repositioning of existing furniture, the purchase of new furniture, the incorporation of new meeting spaces, painting and re-flooring works.

Expected completion date for these works is the end of July 2020. These improvement works will enhance the overall visitor / patron experience at each library. Patrons of these libraries can contact library.eservices@fingal.ie or librariesHQ@fingal.ie for more information regarding accessing Fingal Libraries eservices and online events during the period of works. Alternatively, patrons can access library services at one of the other libraries in our network. A similar programme of works is being planned for Blanchardstown library.

The Cocooning Library service

On 5th May Fingal Libraries introduced a book delivery service for anyone cocooning in the County. The service is operated from Blanchardstown Library and includes members of staff from the Library and the Mobile and Housebound service. Requests come through the Customer Care Unit, through social media and by word of mouth. To date we have 90 clients and approx. 1,200 items have been issued. A specific email has been set up in order to deal with queries: cocooning.library@fingal.ie



E-services

COVID-19 has led to an incredible increase in the use of e-services by Fingal Libraries' members. Since the start of the pandemic the borrowing of e-books has increased by 130% and e-audiobooks by 83%. The readership of e-newspapers has grown by 174%.

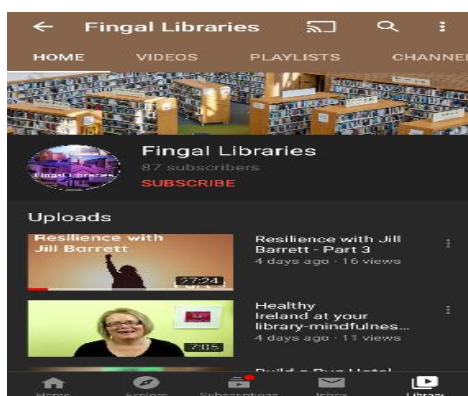
Joining the library to use e-services has never been easier. You can now join online and download e-books, e-audiobooks, online magazines, newspapers, music and language courses for free straight away. For further information go to <https://www.fingal.ie/fingallibraries> or to <https://www.librariesireland.ie/news/online-services-during-coronavirus>

Social media

Fingal Libraries has a hugely enhanced social media presence, highlighting all aspects of the service and other Fingal initiatives. This includes regularly scheduled posts across the whole week on subjects such as creative writing, good news Tuesday, book recommendations and the 21-day Irish language challenge. There have been 277 Insta posts since lockdown accounting for nearly 30% of total Instagram posts and 28 new blogs. Some more of our social media stats include:

- The number of people who engaged with our Facebook page went from 632 on 12th March to 2038 on 26th May.
- Since 2nd April our Facebook Followers have gone from 4936 to 5234 - an increase of nearly 300.
- Our post reaches have increased from an average of 1825 on 12th March to 12,490 on 12th May.
- 12.7k mins of video was viewed, 2940% up from the previous 76 days

The new Fingal Libraries YouTube channel was created in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, in order to create an accessible platform and record of our content creation. The channel is used to host diverse content such as: storytime sessions, arts and crafts, talks, presentations and online courses. Since the channel was set up, our videos have been viewed a total of 3,572 times.



Covid-19 Collection – Fingal Local Studies and Archives

Fingal Local Studies and Archives is collecting material relating to the Covid-19 pandemic and how it is affecting the lives of the people of Fingal. The project involves putting a call out to Fingal citizens to donate letters, diaries, poems, stories, photographs, artwork, signs, posters or any other unique items related to Covid-19.

Any material donated will be preserved and stored at our Local Studies and Archives. It will be made available for public consultation in the Fingal Local Studies and Archives Reading Room and on our social media platforms. Material can be sent by post to Fingal Local Studies and Archives, 46 North Street, Swords, Co. Dublin or emailed to local.studies@fingal.ie

Every item we receive must be accompanied by an Agreement for the Donation of Records/Archives which will give us permission to use the item for exhibitions and, in the future, allow researchers access for research. All personal data will be kept privately and secure as per GDPR guidelines.

This project is one element of an overall Fingal Libraries Memory programme in respect of Covid 19.

Fingal Libraries Programme of Events 2020

Fingal Libraries has continued to provide library services during the COVID 19 crisis albeit in an online and virtual way. This has been the same for our programme of events.

Using digitised content uploaded onto social media platforms and the FCC website we have successfully engaged with the national story time event 'Spring into Storytime' and 'Healthy Ireland at your Library'. We have also continued to produce events normally held onsite at branch libraries such as Arts and Crafts sessions and poetry workshops. Many of our library staff have been very active in this regard and have made valuable and creative contributions.

A taster of events planned for the rest of the year include: -

Summer Stars 2020, again this will be a mainly virtual offering of the national annual reading challenge event.

Fingal Festival of History and the Write Time Festival (celebration of creative writing) both of which will take place in September of this year. The theme for this year's History at the Castle day will be the Sack of Balbriggan.

Wellbeing week

The 8th of June will see the start of Wellbeing Week in Fingal Libraries. It will be a week of online events specifically related to issues of wellbeing that are increasingly important during this time. The events will include a series of workshops:

- "Conquer your Worries" for Children and Teens with Hidden disabilities
- How Families Survive the Teenage Years
- Managing Worry and Uncertainty in Adults
- The Big Chill - a deep relaxation to rest and relax deeply
- Loving Heart - a mindfulness workshop
- Lower Your Cholesterol
- Self-care.



For Cruinniú na nÓg 2020, Fingal Libraries is also participating in MyPlace, a 3 week project which invites young people (and their families) to participate in the exploration of building, making and interactivity as part of.

Through online resources and guidance, participants will have an opportunity to show the world a place that they love, and/or redesign a place in the way that they would like for the future. Participants can re-imagine themselves as architects, cyclists, city planners, artists, or gardeners - citizens of Ireland with a story to tell about their place as they see it now or as they would like it to be.

Each week will progress through a new stage, from 3D modelling, to circuitry, and finally, to sound design. Pieces will be documented by participants as they progress and displayed in our virtual gallery.

Cruinniú na nÓg :13th June

Cruinniú na nÓg on 13th June will include Reuben the Entertainer, Anyone4Science, creative writing sessions, science workshops, author Alan Nolan, drawing workshops, coding classes, Gymboree and lots more for children of all ages. There will be a mixture of live and pre - recorded events which will be uploaded to our YouTube Channel and social media platforms.

ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE ACTION (ECA)

Contents	
Environment & Climate Action Environmental Awareness & Climate Action Bathing Water Quality Litter Management Dog Warden Service Waste Enforcement	Water Services Operations

ENVIRONMENT

Environmental Awareness & Climate Action:

Sports Sustainability Competition: The following soccer and rugby clubs will each receive funding of €2,000 which will be invested in the projects under this competition: Lusk United, Portmarnock AFC, St. Ita's, St. Mochta's, Swords Celtic, Garda Association F.C. and Garda Westmanstown Rugby Club.

Nature Activity Competition: 70 entries were received and the standard was very high from all age categories. Some entries will be shown on our website and social media during June. All entrants received wildlife books and the 25 winners will each receive a €50 One4All Voucher.

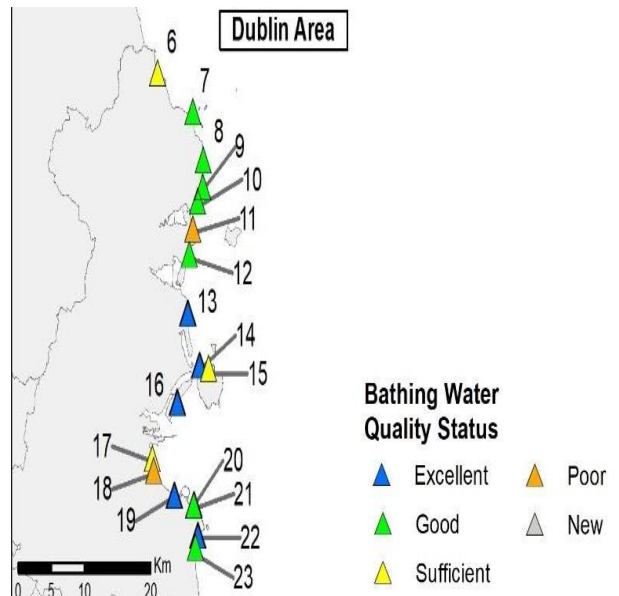
World Bee Day was held on 20th May and our Bee Animation video was shared across all social media.

Nature Activity Competition Winners



Bathing Water Quality

EPA Reporting on Bathing Water Quality 2019 – 95% beaches meet or exceed EU minimum standards.



Fingal bathing waters

- 6. Balbriggan, Front Strand
- 7. Skerries, South Beach
- 8. Loughshinny Beach
- 9. Rush, North Shore
- 10. Rush, South Beach
- 11. Portrane, The Brook Beach
- 12. Donabate, Balcarrick Beach
- 13. Portmarnock, Velvet Strand
- 14. Sutton, Burrow Beach
- 15. Claremont Beach, Howth

On 26th May, 2020 the EPA released the latest publication of the Bathing Water Quality in Ireland report for the year 2019. The EPA's [Bathing Water in Ireland 2019](#) report found that 95% - 140 out of 147 -of bathing waters assessed met or exceeded the minimum required quality standards under the EU Bathing Water Directive 2006/7/EC (implemented via the Bathing Water Quality Regulations 2008). This figure is slightly up on 2018.

Quality status of bathing waters is determined by assessment of samples taken over the preceding four years. See Dublin and Fingal beaches classification extract from that report above.

Nine of Fingal's identified bathing waters in Fingal met the standards (Sufficient) with seven of those exceeding the minimum required standard (Good/Excellent).

The Velvet Strand beach in Portmarnock will once again fly the blue flag for "excellent" bathing water quality, with a flag raising ceremony to take place at the beach on 10th June, 2020.

The Brook beach in Portrane has been classified as 'poor' for the fourth successive year and pollution relating to domestic misconnections, agricultural/urban run-off to local surface waters and pollution from dogs and birds are the pressures in this environment. A bathing water management plan in 2019 was implemented and all results in the bathing season achieved "excellent" results. A management plan has been prepared for 2020 and it is hoped that improvements in quality will be sustained leading to this bathing water achieving minimum standards for the 2021 season.

Bathing water classified as 'poor' means there is a risk of a microbiological result which could potentially cause illnesses like skin rashes or gastric upset.

Local authorities are required to put notices at these areas advising people not to swim there for the entire bathing season. The Brook, Portrane,

has an "All Season" advice not to swim due to this classification.

Everyone can play their part in improving bathing waters by bringing their rubbish home, cleaning up after their dog and reporting water pollution by emailing bathingwaters@fingal.ie or telephone 01-8905000.

The EPA is reminding anyone using or swimming at beaches this year should follow the public health advice, including the government's roadmap to re-opening the economy, and any local information in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic.

NOTE:

PRE-SEASON SAMPLE taken on 25th May at all 10 identified bathing waters – results all met 'excellent' status - available on www.beaches.ie.

In Ireland, the bathing water season starts 1st June and ends 15th September and the national website will have all results on all ten identified bathing waters as they become available.

Public consultation; Identification of new bathing waters – submissions from 22nd May – 22nd June, 2020

Local authorities are required under the Bathing Waters Directive and the Bathing Water Quality Regulations 2008 (SI No 79 of 2008) to identify bathing waters on an annual basis. The Directive requires that water quality at all designated bathing waters meets stringent microbiological standards in order to protect the health of people who choose to bathe there.

Fingal County Council is asking people who swim at beaches, lakes and rivers to tell them if they think they should maintain existing designated bathing waters designations or give a new official bathing area designation to areas that are commonly used for swimming, but not identified at the moment.

If you are a regular swimmer and want to help your Council decide which bathing areas should be

classified as such, it might be helpful to consider the following:

- How your swimming area has been used up to now;
- How many people use the site;
- What facilities exist at the site and how accessible it is;
- Any safety issues.

The public consultation is available to view at <https://consult.fingal.ie/en/consultation/public-consultation-identification-bathing-waters-fingal-bathing-season-2021>. The closing date for submissions is 22nd June.

Litter Management

Litter Patrols continue across the county in an effort to identify litter and illegal dumping blackspots. The Wardens undertake daily inspections on scheduled routes throughout Fingal. Each Warden is responsible for inspecting an assigned area and designated routes. The Wardens investigate reports of illegal dumping, littering, dog fouling and abandoned cars received from a number of sources, and take the relevant enforcement action if appropriate.

The Litter Wardens liaise with the Operations crews to ensure the timely removal of any illegally deposited material. The Operations Department may also bring illegal dumping and littering to the attention of the Wardens.

Daily reports in relation to the conditions at all bottle banks and textile recycling facilities are sent directly to the Environment Division to ensure the contractor is contacted in real time in relation to issues arising. These inspections are required daily due to the current high usage of these facilities. A CCTV camera has been installed at the River Valley Bottle Banks due to the increased levels of illegal dumping at the facility.

Dog Warden Service

The frequency of patrols in parks, beaches and open spaces has been increased due to the additional footfall at these amenities. The increase in the number of Dog Wardens allows for additional flexibility in dealing with any issues that may arise.

Waste Enforcement

ELV Project 2020

Work continues on the End of Life Vehicle Project which is a National Waste Enforcement Priority for 2020. As restrictions are eased, inspection of suspected illegal sites ELV will continue with enforcement directions and notices issued as required to ensure that this illegal activity ceases. Focus is turning to priority ELV sites using a multi-agency approach to tackle these more difficult sites.

Grant funding of €95,000 has been secured under the 2020 Anti-Dumping Initiative to tackle two of these priority sites. The funding will be used to help clear away ELV's to facilitate recovery, prevention of further illegal activity and to facilitate monitoring post operations.

WATER SERVICES

Operations

Water and Drainage Services continue to be provided as agreed in the Service Level Agreement with Irish Water.

FINANCE

Contents
Financial Reports

Finance

We are still waiting on the details regarding the rates waiver scheme announced by the Government a number of weeks ago. The terms of this scheme will be a critical part of stabilizing the Councils finances and informing the decisions we will need to make as we progress through the Covid 19 emergency.

Our rate collectors continue to engage with rate payers that are having difficulty with making rate payments.

We continue to keep our financial position under review as the Covid 19 emergency continues to evolve.

Financial Reports

Refer to Appendix 1 for the following reports:-

- Revenue Account Income & expenditure to 31st May, 2020
- Capital Account Income & Expenditure to 31st May, 2020
- Summary of Corporate Debtors to 31st May, 2020

APPENDIX 1

REVENUE ACCOUNT INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 31ST MAY 2020

	EXPENDITURE			INCOME			NET
	Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent to date	Income €	Adopted Full year Budget €	% Budget Raised	€
A Housing & Building	24,628,062	64,668,499	38%	26,056,564	67,692,700	38%	-1,428,502
B Road Transport & Safety	9,207,601	23,627,200	39%	2,584,893	6,609,400	39%	6,622,708
C Water Services	7,102,436	13,535,000	52%	7,244,794	17,109,500	42%	-142,358
D Development Management	5,169,201	15,538,700	33%	1,999,546	4,285,700	47%	3,169,655
E Environmental Services	17,119,232	42,952,600	40%	2,545,797	6,679,000	38%	14,573,435
F Recreation & Amenity	13,278,091	34,225,501	39%	639,581	1,691,300	38%	12,638,510
G Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	275,259	900,300	31%	82,169	210,100	39%	193,090
H Miscellaneous Services	11,780,513	29,041,500	41%	2,693,535	6,282,400	43%	9,086,978
J Central Management Charge	18,722,072	45,480,800	41%	1,189,203	3,031,800	39%	17,532,869
LG Local Property Tax / GPG				3,136,875	7,528,500	42%	-3,136,875
RA Rates				62,020,708	148,849,700	42%	-62,020,708
	107,282,467	269,970,099	40%	110,193,665	269,970,099	41%	-2,911,198

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION TO 31/05/2020

		Balance at 01/01/2020 €	Expenditure YTD €	Income YTD €	Balance at 31/05/2020 €
A	Housing & Building	-36,816,097	51,263,574	-35,726,095	-21,278,618
B	Road Transport & Safety	23,162,527	15,866,963	-424,839	38,604,651
C	Water Services	-14,803,701	901,375	-672,671	-14,574,997
D	Development Management	-109,842,777	3,432,549	-15,431,498	-121,841,726
E	Environmental Services	-12,699,108	2,070,949	-1,023,017	-11,651,176
F	Recreation & Amenity	-1,575,613	5,786,264	-636,293	3,574,358
H	Miscellaneous Services	-43,171,040	2,023,732	-10,140,089	-51,287,397
	Total	-195,745,809	81,345,407	-64,054,502	-178,454,904

SUMMARY OF CORPORATE DEBTORS TO 31/05/2020				
	Balance at 01/01/2020	Balance at 31/05/2020	Current debt	> 1 Year
	€	€	€	€
RATES	4,906,810	95,902,828	93,733,741	2,169,087
LOANS	1,363,067	1,473,050	312,061	1,160,989
RENTS	5,100,489	5,710,667	3,178,733	2,531,934

Figures for rents and loans are unadjusted by credits/prepayments