

**Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall**  
Fingal County Council



# Chief Executive's Management Report

13<sup>th</sup> of July, 2020

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S MANAGEMENT REPORT – JULY 2020

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# CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNANCE (CAG)

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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 4 expected to commence on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July.

### County Council Meeting and the Annual Meeting

Due to the Covid19 pandemic, it was not possible to hold the June meeting of the County Council or the Annual Meeting in the Chamber in County Hall. Both meetings were held on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June in the National Show Centre, Cloghran in order to facilitate social distancing requirements.

At the Annual Meeting, Councillor David Healy (Green Party) was elected as Mayor of Fingal, while Councillor Robert O'Donoghue (Labour Party) was elected as Deputy Mayor.

The Chairpersons of the Area Committees were also elected and will come into effect in September 2020:

Councillor Robert O'Donoghue - Balbriggan/Rusk-Lusk/Swords Area Committee

Councillor John Walsh - Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar Area Committee

Councillor Brian McDonagh - Howth/Malahide Area Committee

### Governance and Oversight Meetings

Also, during the month of June, Governance and Oversight meetings continued to be held on MS Teams with the Elected Members:

11<sup>th</sup> June Members of the Balbriggan/Rusk-Lusk/Swords Area Committee

12<sup>th</sup> June Members of the Howth-Malahide Area Committee

25<sup>th</sup> June Members of the Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar Area Committee

The main topics discussed at these meetings related to:

- Operations Department Works Programme 2020
- Bathing Water Microbiological Water Quality on Fingal beaches
- Updates on -
  - Fingal Coastal Way
  - N2 Rath-Kilmoon Project
  - Snugborough Interchange
  - Broadmeadow Greenway.

Virtual meetings were also held for all six Strategic Policy Committees:

- 9<sup>th</sup> June Transport & Infrastructure Management SPC
- 10<sup>th</sup> June Economic, Enterprise & Tourism Development SPC

- 16<sup>th</sup> June Planning Strategic Transport & Infrastructure Development SPC
- 22<sup>nd</sup> June Housing SPC
- 23<sup>rd</sup> June Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment SPC
- 24<sup>th</sup> June Community Development, Heritage Culture & Creativity SPC

## 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.

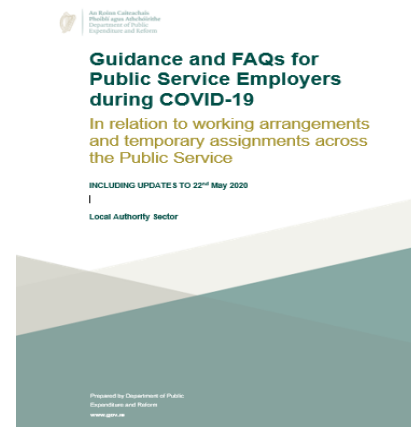
The Chairs of the Regional Groups represent the Regions at the **National Steering Group** that ensures that the decisions of Government and best practice approaches are implemented and informed by what is taking place at local level.

Locally, Fingal County Council's **Management Team** met throughout the month of June and Senior Staff continue to be updated as and when necessary.

Three briefings with the **Corporate Policy Group** took place in June.

## HUMAN RESOURCES

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.

Strong relationships with Unions locally and regular dialogue has assisted the organisation greatly with establishing the various working arrangements and implementation of the required

measures, and this will continue throughout all phases of the Government’s roadmap.

The Human Resource functions have moved to online platforms with recruitment and training functions now being delivered through online/virtual facilities.

### Health & Safety Unit (HSU)

The Health & Safety Unit continues to be very active in ensuring on-going Covid-19 compliance through inspections, issuing of industry standards in relation to Covid-19 solutions for the workplace and responding to staff and management queries relating to the pandemic.

### Customer Services

In the interest of public health, we encourage the public to conduct their business by phone, email and online. During the month of June, the Customer Care Agents ensured that the Council remained open for business as the first point of contact for the public -

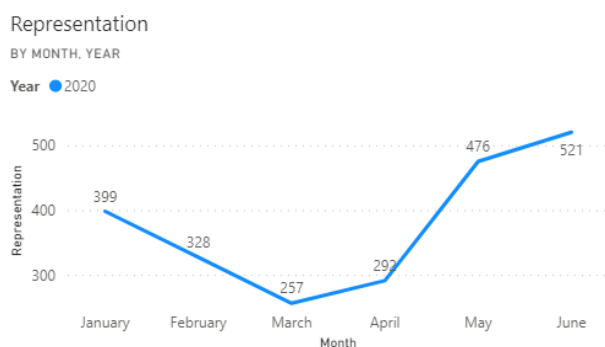
**Total Phone Calls: 12,568**

**Total Emails: 1,171**

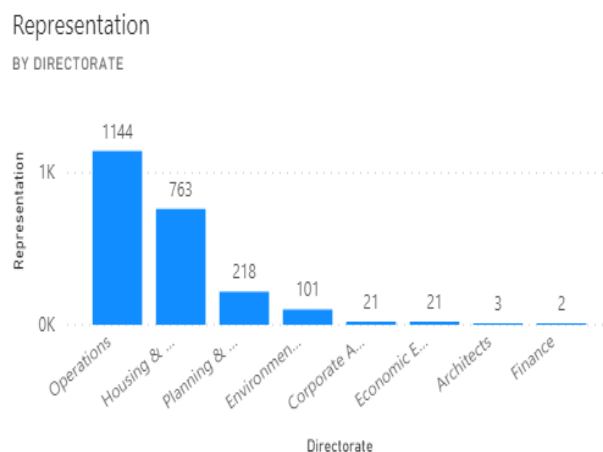
Civic Offices re-opened to the general public from Monday June 29<sup>th</sup> for Phase 3 easing of COVID-19 restrictions. This includes the cash offices in Swords and Blanchardstown.

### CRM

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



The month of June had a total of 521 representations with 484 (92%) replied to within the target deadline. The table below shows the number of Councillors representations assigned to each Directorate to date this year.



### Facilities Management

Building Facilities, with assistance from Architects Department, Health and Safety unit and IT Department, are continuing to consolidate the physical alterations and changes to activities that have been introduced throughout the Corporate Buildings. Increased cleaning systems are continuing and with the recent re-opening of the reception areas in County Hall and Civic Offices to the public new queuing arrangements have been introduced with staff entering and exiting through rear entrances.

### ISO 50001 certification for Energy Management

Fingal County Council has been awarded ISO 50001 certification for its Energy Management System by Certification Europe.

The award was made after a thorough assessment of the Council’s Energy Management System found that it complies with the extensive requirements of ISO 50001:2018 which is the international standard for energy management.

The initial certification is valid for three years and the Council Energy Management System will be subject to an on-going surveillance programme by Certification Europe to ensure that it continues to

adequately meet the requirements of the standard. All energy use under the control of the Council is covered by the certificate.

In 2018, Fingal County Council set up an Energy Management Team, under the leadership of the Council's Energy Performance Officer, John Quinlivan, to bring the different energy users within the organisation together to work alongside

Codema, Dublin's Energy Agency, on a co-ordinated plan to reduce energy consumption.

Working within the framework of policies of the elected Council, particularly the Climate Change Action Plan, and the ISO Certification criteria, the Energy Team produced an Energy Policy and Management Plan for the operation and management of energy usage in Council Facilities.

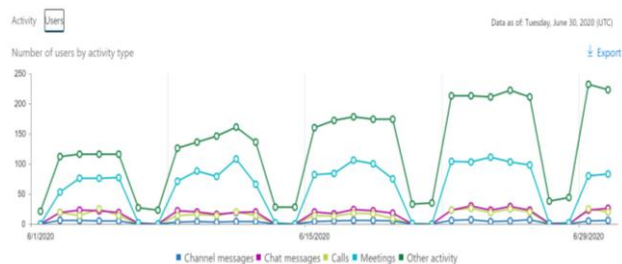


## Information Technology

### Remote Working

During June, the final phases of the rollout programme were completed enabling digital remote working for all remaining office staff including laptops, Microsoft Teams and cloud email.

The graph below illustrates the growth in the number of staff using Teams over the past month.



Use of MS Teams conferencing has continued to enable the Council to operate effectively while staff are working remotely with 1,492 virtual meetings held in the month of June.

### Digital Strategy

Fingal County Council launches the Fingal Digital Strategy 2020 – 2023.



The Strategy aims to encourage and support citizens, businesses and visitors to reap the full rewards of a digitally enabled society through a series of objectives and actions over three years. It showcases the many benefits digital can make to our health, happiness and wellbeing, from supporting the economy and enabling remote working, to enhancing access to education, learning and social connectivity.

The plan contains an initial 48 actions that are ongoing or planned within the Council, covering four key action areas – Digital Infrastructure, Digital Community, Digital Business and Digital Government. The actions of this plan will be continually monitored and updated by the Digital Fingal Oversight Group working across all Council departments. Regular updates will be posted on the Digital Fingal section of the Council website.

## Smart Balbriggan

Balbriggan has been chosen as Ireland's first town to be named as a Smart District in a move that will put it at the cutting edge of smart projects to improve services, create jobs and build a better community.

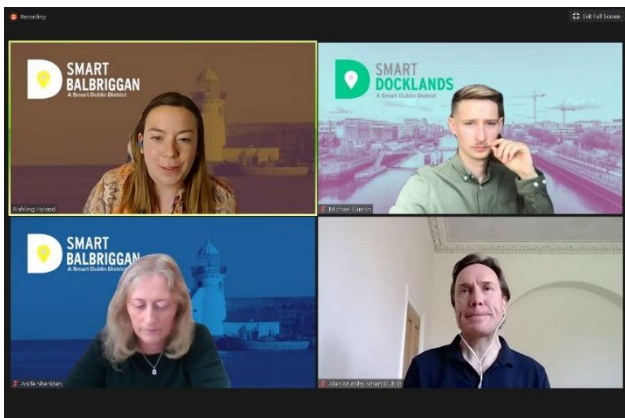


Smart Districts, under the Smart Dublin programme, are strategically selected geographical locations where targeted smart projects are implemented.

The core focus of the Balbriggan Smart District will be to enhance community life, support economic opportunities and drive innovation through a number of smart district projects.

A webinar was held on Thursday 25 June to highlight the concept of smart places and districts and to launch Smart Balbriggan. If you missed the Smart Balbriggan webinar you can watch it back here

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QSk0uLOCipM>



The Smart Balbriggan team have created a consultation survey that will be used to shape Smart Balbriggan district projects and initiatives. Take part in the Smart Balbriggan

Survey here -

<https://consult.fingal.ie/ga/content/smart-balbriggan-survey>

## 3D Virtual Reality Model to enhance Citizen Engagement

The Council has been successful in securing funding under the Public Sector Innovation Fund to develop a 3D Virtual Reality model to enhance citizen engagement in Balbriggan.

Funding: €20,000

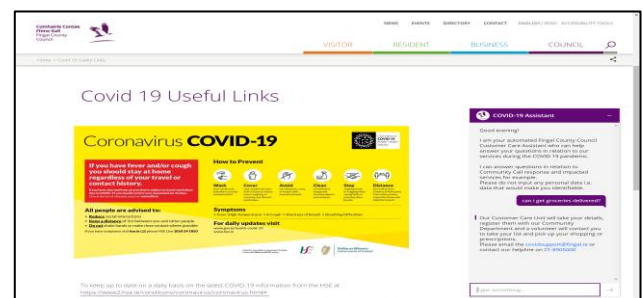


The proposal is to create a 3D Virtual Reality (VR) Model to be used in *Our Balbriggan Hub*, to connect with residents, public services and business in a meaningful way. The hub situated in the centre of the town will be the engine room for the plan and is where the *Our Balbriggan* team will be based. Having VR technology will enable the team to engage further with the citizens and help them to visualize how their town will be developed.

This project will be led by the Smart Balbriggan team.

## ChatBot

On 4<sup>th</sup> June, the Council launched a COVID19 ChatBot on the Council website.



The chatbot enables members of the public to type in Council-related COVID19 questions to which the automated service will respond. If the ChatBot is unable to answer the question, it provides details of how to contact the Council to get the required answer. The ChatBot provides a convenient mechanism for getting answers to questions without needing to phone, email or search the Council website and is available 24/7. The ChatBot is available on each page of the website via the following pop-up box –

**Services & Community Support during Covid-19. Click here!**

From the launch on 4<sup>th</sup> June up to 2<sup>nd</sup> July, members of the public have had 3,309 conversation with the ChatBot.

### Smart Fingal Control Room/IoT Sensor Testbed for Traffic Congestion

The Council has been successful in securing funding under the Public Sector Innovation Fund to develop a smart traffic pilot project.

Funding: €15,000

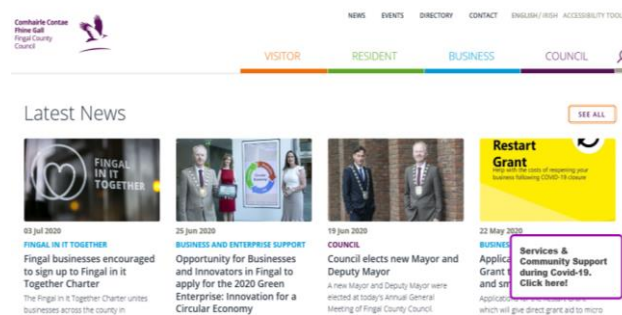
The funding will go towards developing intelligent traffic solutions and trialing IoT sensors in the Dublin 15 pilot area, in partnership with ESB Innovation. This will enable Fingal County Council to use real-time data to improve traffic flows, reduce congestion and monitor traffic and environmental data.

This project will be led by the Operations Department, supported by the Digital Fingal team.

## COMMUNICATIONS

### Website

Our website, [fingal.ie](http://fingal.ie), had 91,200 visitors during June and 237,900 page views. The most views were for information on Planning Applications, Recycling Centres, Borrowing Books, New Street Malahide and Housing.



### Your Council Day

On July 1, Fingal County Council, along with the other 31 local authorities, participated in Your Council Day, the annual initiative from the Local Government Management Agency to promote the work of Councils.

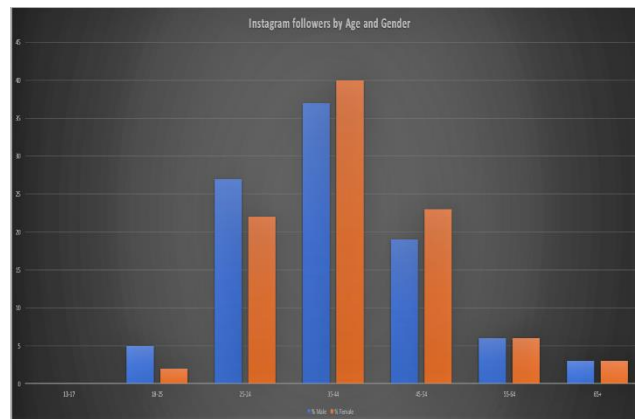
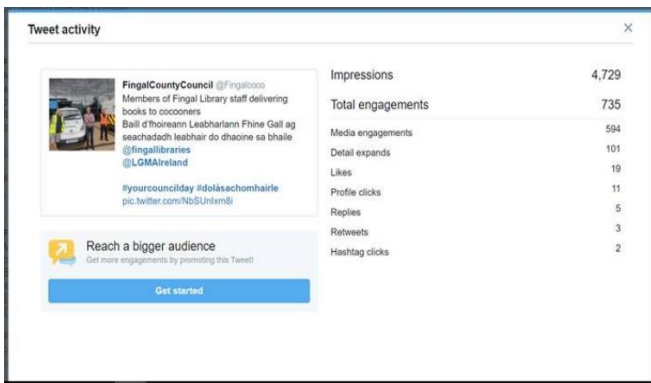
From 8am to 8pm a wide range of material was published on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram including video messages from the Mayor and Chief Executive at the beginning and end of the day.

In keeping with our commitment to the Irish language there were a number of Irish Language tweets and videos on the day including an opening and closing video message from the Mayor and a video message from the Irish Officer.

The main focus nationally and locally was on the Twitter social media channel and our tweets generated an impression rate of 109,300 and an engagement rate of 1.8%. Eleven tweets attracted an engagement rate of over 5% and a further three had an engagement rate higher than 10% with the most engaging tweet at 15.5% being about Fingal Library staff delivering books to cocooners.

Nationally, 6,100 tweets about Your Council Day were posted and more than 49,000,000 potential impressions were generated





## Social Media Support

Support across social media channels for a range of departments continued to be a focus for the Communications section. This included promotion of the Restart Grant, Shop Local and the Town & Village Scheme and announcements about the pilot scheme to pedestrianise New Street in Malahide, the reopening of libraries and lifeguard stations, bathing water notices and roadworks as well as calls to actions around litter, dumping and End of Life Vehicles.



Our Social Media platforms saw their monthly reach drop which coincided with moves to reopen the country after the COVID-19 lockdown. The @fingalcoco Twitter account had 1.1m impressions while the Council's Facebook page reached 522,703 people. Both accounts saw the number of followers increase with Facebook moving to 19,147 while our Instagram account, which is only nine months old, now has 2,250 followers. Our Twitter account registered an engagement rate of 2.3% which is the highest-ever recorded for a month's activity.

## Videos

Among the videos published during June were features on the Portmarnock to Baldoyle Greenway, Holymount Housing Scheme in Swords, Rathbeale Road Upgrade, official opening of the Donabate Distributor Road and the granting of planning permission for the Broadmeadow Estuary.



## Press Releases

A total of 34 press releases and statements were issued by the Communications Unit during June.

# ECONOMIC, ENTERPRISE AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT (EETD)

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<b>Local Enterprise Development</b>	

## EVENTS

### JULY ON-LINE EVENTS



Kicking off the July on-line daily events calendar on Thursday 2nd of July will be Kodaline playing an "Other Voices" Courage concert Live at Swords Castle. This event was available on all social media platforms and will be broadcast on RTE.

Keep an eye on our social channels for sporting, cooking, art, music and much more.

## HERITAGE PROPERTIES

### RE-OPENING OF HERITAGE PROPERTIES



In line with phase 3 of the Government road Map regarding the easing of Covid19 restrictions, which commenced on 29th June, all heritage properties have now re-opened to the public.

Social distancing measures for all sites will include the following:

- One-way systems in operation
- Directional signage on the floors
- Hand sanitisation units
- PPE : Gloves, facemasks and isolation rooms where necessary
- Staff training

- Customers will be encouraged to book online
- Contactless payments

## UPDATE ON WORKS TO HERITAGE PROPERTIES

**Newbridge and Ardgillan Roofs** - Design team consultants now formally appointed.

**Malahide Castle** – Design team consultants now formally appointed in respect of heating/boiler upgrade.

**Howth Courthouse** – Works for the refurbishment of the courthouse to house the tourist office and provide additional community space to be completed end of July 2020.

## TOURISM



**Dublin's  
Coast &  
Fields**

### Tourism Development

#### Fingal Food Tourism – Next Steps

- Continue to
  - build the Fingal Food Story
  - build the social and online profile
  - grow the number of unique food experiences being promoted
- Create a Fingal Food Network (with supports from Failte Ireland)
  - Collaborating with businesses and food producers
  - Identifying the saleable components of the Fingal visitor experience
  - Sharing the promotion of these
- Develop and deliver a Fingal Food Tourism Strategy

#### Tourism & Hospitality Working Group

- Members from Chamber of Commerce from the tourism and hospitality sector
- Templates being developed for content and itineraries
- Promoting and supporting Fingal tourism businesses through digital /social strategies and a planned national media campaign

- Facilitating co-operative marketing initiatives like cluster and cross sell experiences for local businesses
- Looking at new ways of enabling doing business

### Tourism General Supports

- Collaborating with tourism groups to develop marketing propositions
- Assisting with the content management of local tourism websites
- Engaging with Fáilte Ireland & Tourism Ireland
- Fáilte Ireland - dedicated support hub for businesses <https://covid19.failteireland.ie>

### Social Media and Digital Marketing

A social media strategy for the promotion of reinvigorating tourism, events and food tourism.

#### Tourist information offices (TIOs).

We are working with the CE staff to reopen Tourist Information Offices throughout Fingal commencing with Swords Castle and Howth. This has included a back to work policy and preparing and training all staff for their return to work.

### RE-START GRANT

Fingal County Council has paid out €4.08m to 795 businesses in the Fingal area for the Restart Grant which gives 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 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. Some of the Local Enterprise Office (LEO) highlights for June 2020 are as follows:

### 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 618 applications, all applications were assessed and evaluated, a time-consuming process but one that is resulting in

significant benefit to 464 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.

Following the announcement of a further expansion to the scheme on the 8th June, LEO Fingal hosted a local TOV webinar which was attended by over 300 small businesses in the county. A further TOV Webinar is scheduled for the 7th of July with currently 250 participants registered to attend.

To date in 2020, LEO Fingal has approved 276 TOV applications, with a further 90 under assessment; applications continue to be received daily.

### Microfinance Ireland 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 COVID-19 loan applications in the country, already 11 applications have been approved. There is a significant pipeline of further applications currently being assessed.

## Fingal Enterprising Women Network



The Fingal Enterprising Women Network provides learning and networking opportunities for women in business and enterprise.

The delivery of weekly series of online Fingal Enterprising Women networking concluded on the 16th of June. Nine online networking events took place in total with over 1,000 female entrepreneurs in attendance. A Further online networking event is planned for July 2020.

## Sport to Start-up - Start Your Own Business (SYOB) Pilot Concludes



LEO Fingal partnered with Sport Ireland in leading the inaugural Sport to Start-up programme. An intensive online Programme which saw fifteen high-level sportspersons in various disciplines

develop their business plans as they prepare for post-sports careers.

Following the success of the pilot, preparations have begun for the 2nd edition of the programme.

## #RestartFingal Webinar Series



During June, four "Restart Fingal" webinars were delivered as the economy began to open. The last one took place on Tuesday 30th featuring Susan HayesCulleton. The new Mayor of Fingal, Cllr. David Healy closed the successful series praising the initiative.

All episodes are now available to be viewed online on the LEO Fingal website: (<https://www.localenterprise.ie/!FAZZJW>)

## Start Your Own Business (SYOB)

The 10-module SYOB programme has been adjusted for online delivery. Three SYOB courses with 45 participants commenced in June. A further course will commence in July with 15 people booked so far; one more is planned for potential delivery in August.

The SYOB 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.



## 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 June 2020, 13 business clinic days were held, offering advice to 119 Fingal businesses. This brings the cumulative figures for 2020 to date to 71 days clinics and 492 attendees. In addition, 28 businesses were assigned a Business mentor in June, this brings the cumulative figure to 121 individual Mentoring assignments delivered year to date.

## Digital School of Food Goes National

An innovative new online food programme developed by LEO Fingal has now been opened to entrepreneurs across Ireland and is set to give a boost to Irish food start-ups during COVID-19.

The DSoF is the first of its kind in Europe and gives food entrepreneurs expert advice and guidance, from their home, office or kitchen.

## LEO Fingal COVID-19 Training Update

LEO Fingal continues its delivery of programmes to support SME and Micro Enterprise clients through the current challenges. To date, LEO Fingal has had over 3,500 people sign up to avail of the training and supports available. This figure is the highest in the country and represents the commitment and drive to ensure that Fingal businesses have the very best available in terms of both innovative and practical supports to help them recover from the economic impact of Covid-19.

Programmes currently on offer include pertinent topics such as:

- Restart Your Business

- Staff Management 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.

## Local Enterprise Office Response: Communications



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](http://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.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### Balbriggan Socio Economic Strategy

#### Balbriggan Rejuvenation Strategy 2019 - 2025

June marked the one-year anniversary of the launch of the Our Balbriggan Rejuvenation Plan and the Council implemented a communications campaign to inform residents of the progress of the Plan and to strengthen citizen engagement in the ongoing implementation of the Plan.

An 8-page brochure was delivered to every household in Balbriggan which outlined the Council's progress on its commitment to deliver "20 Things in 12 Months" and an indicative schedule for the implementation of the planned public realm projects. A series of videos featuring the Chair of the Balbriggan Leadership Group Profession Brian MacCraith of DCU, the Chief Executive of Fingal County Council AnnMarie

Farrelly and Mayor Councillor Eoin O'Brien received good engagement on social media.



A webinar was delivered to mark the launch of "Smart Balbriggan" the first town in Ireland to become a Smart District. The webinar had over 250 subscribers and featured contributions from Aoife Sheridan of the Our Balbriggan Team, Aishling Hyland, FCC's Digital Officer, Alan Murphy from Smart Dublin and Michael Guerin of Smart Docklands. The concept of Smart Districts was outlined along with the vision for Smart Balbriggan which has a community focus. There was excellent engagement with webinar attendees through a Q & A and live poll and a survey is open on Consult.ie to allow for input in the programme and objectives of Smart Balbriggan over the next 3 years.



Works have also completed on the fit-out of the Our Balbriggan Project Office in St. George's Square. It is anticipated that the office will open in late July 2020.



## Economic Development

### Economic Development Support

As we continue on our road to economic recovery the team in Economic Development have been working through various initiatives to help local businesses.

The Mayor, Chair of our SPC and Economic Development in association with Fingal Dublin Chamber, Balbriggan Chamber of Commerce, Malahide Chamber of Commerce and Shop Malahide, launched the Fingal In It Together Charter on the 30th June 2020 to support the reopening of businesses across the County. This initiative binds businesses in Fingal together in support of one another to provide customers with safe access, encourage people to shop local, encourage collaboration and co-operation between businesses, promote social media support of local businesses and understanding while we adapt to new social distancing requirements. Businesses can sign up to the Charter on the Council's website and receive decals of the Charter logo for their windows, a pdf copy of the Charter and have a link to their website added to a business directory of those who have signed up to the Charter on the Council's website.





### Sustainable Business

The Economic Development Section in association with the Environment & Climate Action Department launched a call for expressions of interest in collaborating with the Council on the EPA's call for Green Business Projects. This call offers funding of up to €100,000.00 for projects demonstrating innovation in the Circular Economy, with a particular focus on the themes of: Food Waste, Construction & Demolition Waste, Plastics and Resources & Raw Materials. The deadline for expressions of interest in working with the Council is the 17th July 2020.



### Local and Rural 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 or the Community Call in the delivery of their programmes. The LCDC is also supporting the work of the Community Call through the Healthy Ireland Initiative and the many projects up and

running under that funding stream. The next meeting of the Fingal LCDC will be held in early July by remote.

The 2020 **Community Enhancement Programme** was announced at the end of June by former Minister for Rural and Community Development, Michael Ring T.D. The Fingal LCDC has been allocated €68,000 in funding for 2020 and details of the programme, and how Community Groups can apply to the fund will be advertised from mid-July onwards. The fund helps community groups in funding small capital items and equipment. The 2020 funding scheme will also be supporting small capital costs associated with adapting to COVID-19.

**SICAP:** As a result of COVID-19, the LCDC supported and endorsed a new SICAP Response Plan to deal with COVID-19, 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 realignment of the programme's actions is underway. It is anticipated that this review will complete in July in line with guidance provided by 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. The SICAP Programme going forward is also strategically aware of an increasing unemployment rate locally and the implications this will have on service provision through the programme into the future.



### 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 €4.4 million already committed to approved projects leaving approximately €330,000 remaining to support new projects to the end of 2020. The most recent Dublin Rural LEADER Action Group meeting was held in June 2020 where almost €100,000 was formally approved for 3 new projects in Rural Dublin. This included €89,000 approved solely in the Fingal area.

In the programme to date, 76 projects have been approved with 53 in Fingal, 5 in Dun Laoghaire Rathdown and 17 in South Dublin. There is also one project that is split across the 3 LEADER Local Authority Areas: FCC, SDCC and DLR, for a Community Rewilding and Biodiversity Training Programme.

To date 73 project claims to the value of €1.3 million have been paid out as full or partial payments for projects as they complete. Since the start of COVID-19 in March, 22 claims to the value of €505,955 have been paid out to promoters in the rural areas. Of these, 15 claims have been solely for the Fingal area to the value of €357,880, providing valuable financial stimulus to these areas.

At the LAG Meeting in June, the LAG formally approved the review of the current Rural Dublin LEADER Local Development Strategy (LDS). The LDS is the 6-year LEADER Programme for Rural Dublin. The review of the LDS was extremely positive with the programme performing very strongly over the last two years. The reallocation of funding within the programme's thematic areas was approved to reflect the requirements of the project pipeline to the end of the current programme.

The pipeline of new projects to be brought to the LAG for consideration at its next meeting in September is extremely strong and a number of new projects will be brought to that meeting. The pipeline currently has €4.5 million in eligible projects of which €1.5 million is solely for Rural Enterprise. Many of these projects will be carried over for support into 2021 when more funding is made available to the Programme. The Dublin Rural LEADER LAG LDS review has identified the need for allocating LEADER funding to COVID-19 Response and Recovery Projects in the rural areas and this will be implemented going forward.

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 June 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 to help them through current cashflow difficulties. These are being treated on a case by case by case basis and additional non-financial supports are also being offered. To date, no businesses within the three centres have ceased trading as a result of COVID-19. All three centres have reopened, with controlled and restricted access for tenant businesses and visitors who use the common areas in line with risk assessment recommendations and national guidelines. The centres have been reconfigured and adapted to

meet new requirements and this process will be ongoing into the future as national guidelines evolve. All HSE Guidelines are being followed. Tenant businesses and centre staff are still being encouraged to work remotely where possible.



# OPERATIONS

Contents
Programme of Works
Walk Bike Fingal
Blue Flag – Velvet Strand, Portmarnock
2020 Oak Tree Commemorative Ceremony, Malahide Demesne
Electric Vehicles Fleet
Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit
Recycling Centres
LED Programme & Street Lighting
Road Safety Section
Traffic Section
Road Opening Licences
Bridge Rehabilitation Project

## Programme of Works

The Operations Section continue to provide essential services to the residents of 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.



Resurfacing of Castlecurragh Road



Drainage Works – Somerton Lane

## St. Catherine's Park – Lucan

Construction of the new footpath has been completed and this will allow the old beech tree in St Catherine's Park to remain and age with grace and exist as a veteran tree.



## Resurfacing works-Swords/Balbriggan Area

Resurfacing works continued as planned on a number of roads in the Swords/Balbriggan Area.

To date resurfacing works has already commenced at Rapoli Road, Killougher, Forte De Fyne, Wyestown and Batter Lane. In addition there were further restoration improvement works commenced and completed at Brackenstown

Road and Turvey Avenue with works almost completed at Turnapin Lane.



Rapoli Road



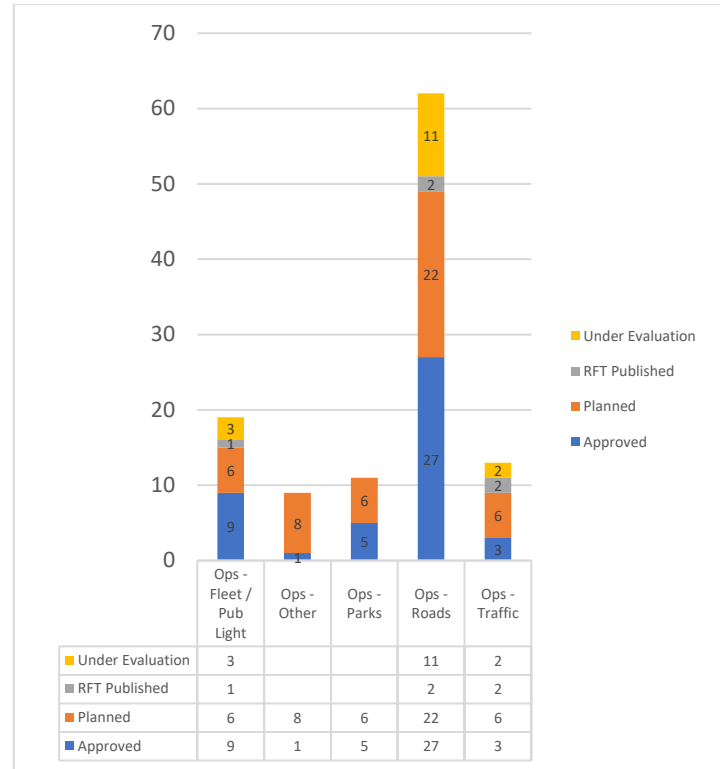
Turnapin Lane

### Harbour Works at Balbriggan, Loughshinny and Rush

The Annual Fishery Harbour and Coastal Infrastructure Capital Programme provides funding for safety, maintenance and new development works at harbours all around the Country. The Operations Department recently met with the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine who administer this funding and following the meeting agreed on a programme of works for maintenance and upgrade works to be carried out in Balbriggan, Rush and Loughshinny Harbours in 2020.

Tendering for these works has already commenced with works due to commence at Loughshinny Harbour in July/August and all remaining works to be completed in Q4 2020.

### Works Programme - Procurement



### 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 with the aim of temporarily repurposing Fingal streets, roads and public realm spaces with 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.

Locations Implemented:

- New Street Malahide
- Well Road Swords
- Harbour Road Howth
- Portmarnock Village
- Harbour Road Skerries
- The Mall Malahide



**New Street Malahide**

Well Road, Swords - Pedestrianised area implemented through temporary traffic management. Well Road is currently closed to vehicular traffic.



**New Street Malahide**



**Well Road - Swords**



**New Street Malahide**



**Harbour Road, Howth**



Portmarnock Village



Harbour Road, Skerries

### Blue Flag – Velvet Strand, Portmarnock

Fingal County Council welcomed a dual award on Velvet Strand, Portmarnock - the Blue Flag in respect of water quality and the Green Flag for the Green Coast award.

The results were announced by An Taisce live on Facebook on the 19<sup>th</sup> June 2020. This is the seventh year in a row that Portmarnock has achieved the Blue Flag status. The Blue Flag is an international award for beach excellence regarding water quality as well as other criteria including facilities for visitors, beach management and environmental education.

The Green Coast awards aim to recognise beaches that have excellent water quality and appropriate management to ensure the protection of the natural environment.

The awards emphasise community involvement and all beaches must be managed by the local authority in cooperation with local clean coast groups.



The Operations Department continues to work in collaboration with the community in Portmarnock and recognises the excellent community involvement that contributed to the achievement of these awards in 2020.



Velvet Strand, Portmarnock is managed by Fingal County Council in cooperation with Portmarnock Community Beach Committee, Portmarnock Community School, Hanrahans, Praxis Day Service, Kilcoskan National School and Scoil Machua.

Velvet Strand provides a superb amenity for outdoor recreation and has been particularly appreciated by local people During COVID-19 travel restrictions.

## 2020 Oak Tree Commemorative Ceremony, Malahide Demesne

This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> year Fingal County Council has initiated applications for citizens to apply to purchase a tree within the Commemorative Grove in Malahide Demesne.

The ceremony is normally timed to coincide with National Tree Week in March but had to be postponed due to the COVID19 pandemic.

On 18<sup>th</sup> June 2020 Mayor Cllr Eoghan O'Brien along with the Chief Executive, Ann Marie Farrelly, Deputy Darragh O'Brien, Councillor Anthony Lavin and FCC Operations Department celebrated the planting of thirteen commemorative trees in Malahide Demesne.



The commemorative oak trees are powerful symbols of growth, strength and longevity. The commemorative oak tree grove in Malahide Demesne is a peaceful space where families and individuals can take time out to reflect and to celebrate the life of a relative or friend. Fingal County Council memorial trees can only be considered for inclusion in parks where there is active supervision.

## Electric Vehicles Fleet

In June the Operations department announced the addition of a number of electrical vehicles to its fleet. The vehicles representing an investment of €340,000.

The additional fleet consists of 14 Fully Electric Nissan eNV vans, 2 Fully Electric LDV 3.5 ton tipper trucks, 1 Fully Electric Meangreen Zereturn mower and 1 Fully Electric Goupil G4 Utility Vehicle and is further evidence of the commitment of the Council to the transition to electrification of its fleet.

The addition of these vehicles means that 15% of Fingal County Council's commercial fleet is now electric. Electric charging points have been installed in Council depots and car parks and the Council has also introduced the innovative charging points at street lights.



## Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit

### Hires put in Place

There were 76 hires put in place from 1<sup>st</sup> June – 30<sup>th</sup> June, engaging 25 suppliers.

Hires included:

Rubber Tyred Surface Roller

Mobile Welfare Unit hired to accommodate Crews as part of Surface Dressing

Collection of PPE from Kildare to Watery Lane Swords for Operations- Lorry with Driver

### TENDERS AWARDED

There were 14 LOT 1 (Plant Hire Only) Tenders Awarded in June

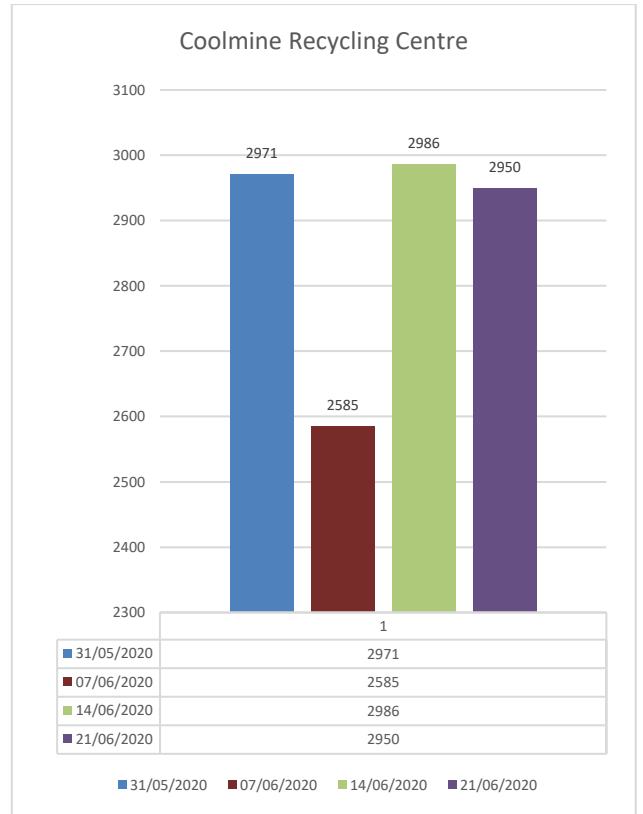
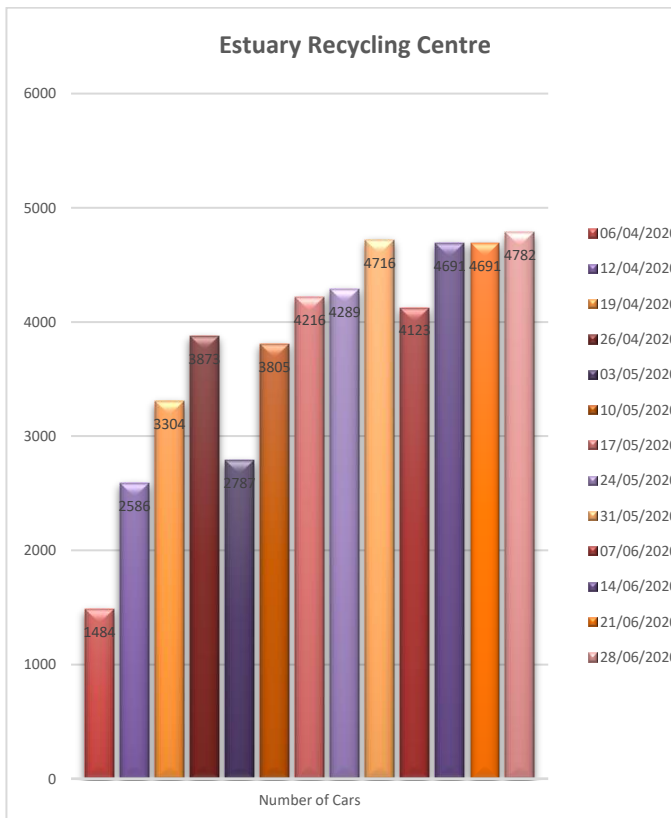
There were 16 LOT 2 (Plant Hire with Operator) Tenders Awarded in June



**Bandit Woodchipper purchased for Operations Department**

### Estuary & Coolmine Recycling Centres

Demand for Fingal's recycling centres is high. The last week of June saw the Estuary Recycling Centre have it's highest figure to date this year with 4,782 cars entering the facility.

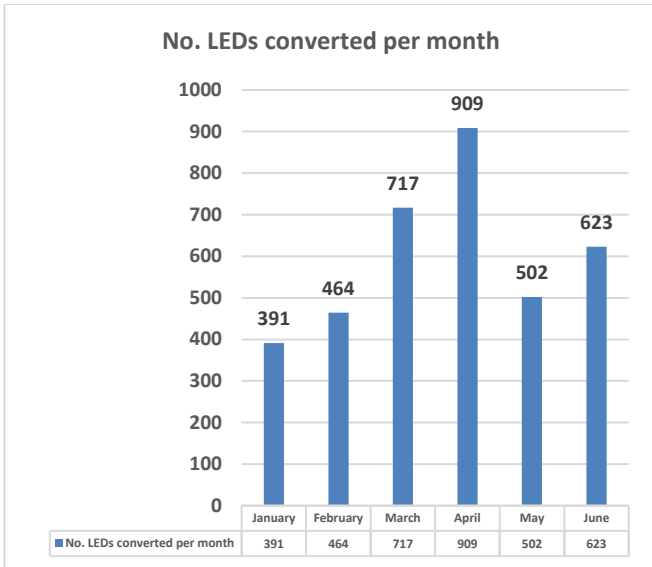


### LED Programme:

In June the LED Upgrade Program saw 623 LED Upgrade works carried out in the following locations:-

- Castlecurragh Distributor Road, Corduff
- Distributor Road, Warrenstown
- Distributor Road, Waterville,
- Westway...Blanchardstown
- Fernleigh...Carpenterstown
- Royal Canal walkway...Castleknock
- Tinkers Hill...Lucan
- Dun Emer estate...Lusk
- Ladyswell Road...Mulhuddart
- Airways Industrial Estate...Santry
- Balheary Road, Brackenstown Road, Drynam Road, Murrow Road, Ridgewood
- Distributor Road, Swords Business Park...Swords





### Street Lighting

98 general street light repairs are carried out in the month of June. Other works carried out include column replacements, the street lighting works programme and the LED energy efficiency programme.



### Repairs carried out at the Royal Canal walkway Castleknock

In June new lighting is installed in Tuscany Park in Baldoyle. The works consisted of new ducting, cabling and installation of extra street lighting.



### Tuscany Park Baldoyle

### Column Replacement:

The column replacement program moves to Biscayne in Malahide in June with both contractors and ESB Networks on site.



### Biscayne Malahide

### Road Safety Section

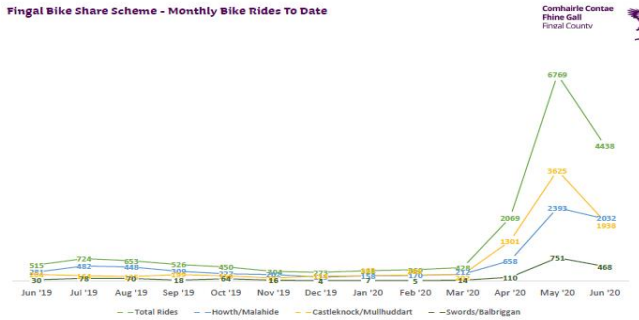
#### Bleper Bike Share Scheme –

Following advertisement on Staff Messages, the “Fingal Voices” app, consultation with councillors and members of the public, more than 200 bike parking locations have been identified as desired locations for bike parking throughout the county.

Bleperbike is continue to show exceptional levels of usage in Fingal.

There has been a slight decrease in the number of rides since last month, from 6769 rides at the height of the lockdown in May, to 4438 in June. This is primarily due to a decrease in the number of bikes available to users in Fingal as the city centre began to reopen and the natural redistribution of bikes took place, 102 bikes in May down to 68 bikes in June, the weather this month has also been wetter than previous months. We will continue to promote awareness of BleperBike through our social media platforms. The vast increase in the usage compared with pre-Covid 19 usage shows that despite the drop this month from the previous month, there is a latent desire within the public to cycle. Increasing facilities such as protected cycle tracks, pedestrianised areas and bike parking facilities will be a focus for Operations.

Fingal Bike Share Scheme - Monthly Bike Rides To Date



A priority list of desired locations has been drawn up from more than 200 locations suggested and installation is underway.



Toast Rack installed on New Street, Malahide

BleperBike is FREE to all Fingal County Council staff as advertised on Staff Messages with 39 Fingal staff members signed up.

**Electric Bike Trial for Staff Carrying out Site Visits in Dublin 15**

As a result of our successful partnership with BleperBike, we have been provided with a 6 week trial of a state of the art electric bike. (ending 31<sup>st</sup> July)



This e-bike is available to all staff who carry out site visits in the Dublin 15 area and they are encouraged to use the bike to help reduce traffic on roads while using a more environmentally friendly method of transport.

Keys for the e-bike are available from reception.

**Bike Racks - Sheffield Stands & Toast Racks**

The first delivery of Sheffield Stands & Toast Racks have arrived in the Coolmine, Watery Lane and Malahide depots.

Delivery Date	Coolmine	Swords	Malahide
26/06/2020	1 Toast Rack  33 Galvanised Single Racks	33 Galvanised Single Racks	1 Toast Rack  33 Galvanised Single Racks  15 Stainless Steel Single Racks

**Bike Week 2020**

Bike Week 2020 has now been rescheduled! It will take place from 19<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> 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 both the Royal and Grand Canals. Cycle training for primary school children and the Street Velodrome have already been rescheduled.

**Mobility Hubs**

The planning for the Mobility Hub is well under way in Malahide. However, due to requirements for disabled parking bays the location has moved from the Dublin Road to St. James’s Terrace where there are existing EV charge points.

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.

The Signage & Car Shaped Bike Port for the Mobility Hubs has been delivered & awaiting installation



Car Shaped Bike Port



Signage

### School Wardens

School Warden PPE has been ordered and is available, where required, for wardens on their return to school in September. Any additional PPE requirements regarding COVID 19 will be addressed over the coming weeks.

### Traffic Section

#### Speed Limits Project

The 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 July, along with "Draft B" of the Speed Limit Bye-Law Drawings. The TII have written to FCC to confirm their agreement with the proposed Speed Limit Bye-laws.

#### Traffic Control Project

Fingal County Council's Traffic Signals Maintenance Contract (2020) FCC/028/19 was published on the 25th February 2020 on e-tenders. 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. The Tender evaluation took place on the 21<sup>st</sup> of May. The CE order for the successful tender is complete. It is envisaged that contract will be awarded in July.

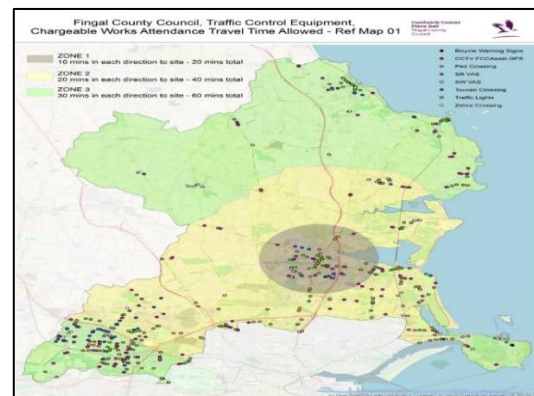


Figure 0-1 Map indicating Fingal's Traffic Control Equipment

#### 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 focused on the urban areas in Fingal which have Traffic Signals/Assets. The tender submissions has

been evaluated and tender will be awarded in the coming weeks.

### **Expansion of Fingal County Councils Duct infrastructure**

Discussions are ongoing on various projects, both internally and through 3<sup>rd</sup> parties, throughout the county, to identify strategic locations where ducting can be provided to add to FCC's ducting assets in order to provide Fibre Optic connectivity to remote locations, and interconnectivity of Fingal's assets. Mapping of this infrastructure is also ongoing on G.I.S. so that it is recorded for future use.

Works are under investigation for the development of the fibre optic link along the Hearse Road to connect from the Lissenhall junction to the Donabate Distributor Road (DDR), and to continue the linkage along this new Road to Portrane. This will allow the visibility of the Hearse Road which will be beneficial for key events in Newbridge House via CCTV and the assessment of traffic on the new DDR.

Discussions are well advanced with 3<sup>rd</sup> parties in getting traffic ducting infrastructure installed in key strategic routes around the airport and Swords to the Rathbeale Road and sections around Dublin Enterprise Zone (DEZ) which will form part of a vital asset going forward with the aim of improving traffic management and ensuring the DEZ continues to be the sought after destination with regards to ease of commutability.

### **Traffic Control Centre Project**

Work is ongoing to ensure informed decisions are made for the roll out of the FCC Traffic Control Room Project. Discussions are ongoing with all relevant stakeholders on its implementation: IT Department, Corporate Affairs - Building Facilities/Information & data (GDPR)/Architects, FCC's Traffic Signals Maintenance Contractor - Traffic Solutions, FCC's CCTV Maintenance Contractor - SKS. Identification of a suitable location in Blanchardstown Civic Offices for the new Traffic Control Centre is being progressed at present. Design drawings have been developed

and discussions with the Architects Department and facilities took place in June. Works have commenced to relocate drawings cabinets and the cleaning room to facilitate the construction of the traffic control room.



### **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, the tender is currently being evaluated and will be awarded in July.

## Road Marking and Lining Contract (County Wide)

Selected road marking works in the Howth-Malahide/Swords Area have started and will progress until planned area works are completed before moving onto the other areas within Fingal.

## 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.

The 2020 Ramps Contract (FCC/279/20) was published on Supplygov (FL20000107T) on 11th June and the closing date for submissions was the 25<sup>th</sup> June 2020. There was 5 tender submissions made and these tender submissions will be evaluated in July and successful and unsuccessful letters issued.

Fingal County Council Ramps Scheme 2020 consists of 30 no. Traffic Calming Ramps as follows:

<i>Ramps Locations</i>	<i>No.</i>
Baldoyle/Sutton/Malahide	
<b>New Ramps</b>	
Strand Road, Howth - Bus friendly flat top ramps x 1	1
Strand Road, Howth at St Fintans Road - Asphalt Speed cushions x 2 (1 set)	1
Strand Road, Portmarnock - Asphalt Speed cushions x 4 (2 sets)	2
Back Road/Castlefield junction, Malahide, Table ramp, buildout and new drainage	1
<b>Repair Ramps</b>	
Portmarnock asphalt speed cushions by 2 (1 set)	1
Castleknock/Mulhuddart	
<b>New Ramps</b>	
Castleknock Drive - Standard round top ramp x 2	2
Allendale to Ravenwood estate - Asphalt Speed cushions x 4 (2 sets)	2
Glenville Road - Standard round top ramp x 3	3
<b>Repair Ramps</b>	
Hollystown & Tyrellstown - Asphalt Speed cushions x 14 (7 sets)	7
Swords/Balbriggan	
<b>New Ramps</b>	
Donabate - Carrs Mill/ Rahillion - Standard round top ramp x 3	3
Swords - Brackenstown Road - Standard round top ramp x 2	2
Donabate - Jn of Portrane Rd, Beaverstown Rd & Ballisk Lane - The Hand	1
The Avenue, Rush, at St Catherine's National School - Standard round top ramp x 2	2
<b>Repair Ramps</b>	
Various locations x 2	2
<b>Total Number of Ramps</b>	<b>30</b>

## Kettles Lane/Feltrim Road Junction

This Consultants Brief involves traffic counts and speed surveys necessary for the junction assessment and options report. The Brief is being finalised for Tender shortly.

## New Signals Installation (county-wide)

The 2020 New Signals Installation Contract documents were issued for tender on the 22<sup>nd</sup> May

2020. The final date for tenders was the 26<sup>th</sup> June. Over the coming weeks, the submissions will be evaluated. 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	
<b>Baldoyle/Sutton/Malahide</b>	
St Sabina, Sutton, Dublin 13	Signalised Pedestrian Crossing
Carrickhill Road Lower, Portmarnock, Co. Dublin	Signalised Pedestrian Crossing
<b>Castleknock/Mulhuddart</b>	
Barnwell Road, Hansfield, Dublin 15	Zebra Crossing
St. Margaret's Road, Ballymun, Dublin 11	Signalised Toucan Crossing
Diswellstown Road, Castleknock, Dublin 15	Zebra Crossing
<b>Swords/Balbriggan</b>	
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

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### VAS Contract (County wide)

The 2020 Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) Contract documents went out for tender on the 19<sup>th</sup> June. The final day for tender submissions is 17/07/2020. It is anticipated that the contract will be awarded by mid-August 2020.

Vehicle Activated Signs are located at the following location:

Vehicle Activated Sign 2020	
Description and Locations	
<b>Baldoyle/Sutton/Malahide</b>	
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	
<b>Castleknock/Mulhuddart</b>	
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	
Castlecragh Road - Mulhuddart - Cycle sign	
<b>Swords/Balbriggan</b>	
Garristown - Speed sign	
Man O War - Speed sign	
Old Road, Rush - Speed sign	
R122 at intersection L5085 - Speed sign	
Fieldstown R125/R122 Junction approach- Speed sign	
Donabate, Portrane Road - 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	

Figure 0-3 VAS Signs Contract 2020

### 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 major works schemes:

- Hearse Road, Donabate Closure - Glenveagh Developers/Shannon Valley  
Ongoing road closure for reinstatement of the Hearse Road at Prospect Hill and Semple Woods. Ongoing progress updates from the developer and site visits. Further signage and lining has been requested and agreed upon to promote safety and speed compliance.
- Swords Pipeline - Irish Water/John Craddock  
Major infrastructure scheduled from September 2020 to January 2021 affecting Swords Main Street junction with the R106 and the R106 Malahide Road up to Mountgorry roundabout (Applegreen). MS Teams discussions underway with Irish Water & contractor John Craddock Ltd. to establish overall works duration and phase locations and durations for the installation of a water main. Irish Water and contractor to revert with further information following the completion of the exploratory works scheduled for July.
- Dublin to Drogheda Fibre Network -KN Networks/Zayo  
Duct laying works are continuing at a significant pace throughout many parts of the County since the KN project commenced in May 2020. To date KN Networks have laid approximately 13 kilometres of ducting in the County and are currently laying ducting at a rate of approximately 1,200 metres per week. Temporary Traffic Management along the roads is being monitored regularly to ensure compliance, as well as daily inspections by the Engineering and Parks teams to ensure trench and verge reinstatements are to standard and that trees along the route are adequately protected. The Swords/Balbriggan Area Committee were also delivered a presentation in relation to the Project. As part of this project Fingal County Council

are having ducts installed for the traffic connectivity.



**Ducting installation in Roganstown Co. Dublin.**

- Finglas to Airport - 110 kV Cable Circuit - ESB  
Major infrastructure proposed for 2021. ESB will be commencing the detailed design phase of the project and have engaged with Operations Traffic Section with regard to the latest route drawings that impact FCC roads.
- Loughshinny Foul Sewer Rising Mains.  
Irish Water 1.5Km Installation of a Rising Mains on Harbour road and Mine Road. Road closure required on Harbour Road. Major infrastructure scheduled from August 2020. Site meeting scheduled for July 3rd.
- Stamullen to Balbriggan (on the R132) Foul Sewer Rising Main Pipeline  
Irish Water 2.1Km Installation of Twin Rising Mains on the R132 from Delvin Bridge to Cardy Rock, Balbriggan. Major infrastructure scheduled from September 2020. MS Teams discussion scheduled for Thursday July 2nd.

### **Road Opening Licence Jan – June 2020**

A road opening licence is required to open the public road, footpath or grass verge for

water/sewer connections, lowering of footpaths, footpath reconstruction and pipe laying etc. All road opening licences are applied for through the Road Management Office and the application is then inspected and conditioned by our Engineers. 593 applications have been dealt with to date in 2020.

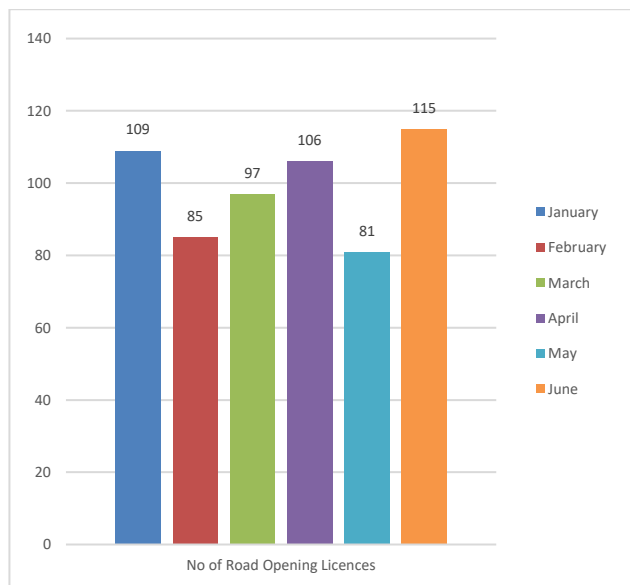


Figure 0-1 Road Opening Licences Jan – June 2020

### 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. Tender Assessment meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 2020.

Contractor expected to commence works in mid July 2020. This is a significant milestone in terms of commencement of works to meet the in-stream fisheries requirement in order to have all work complete in 2020.

### Rehabilitation of Church Road Bridge, Blanchardstown, Wyanstown Bridge & Wimbletown Bridge Royal Oak Santry Footbridge, Effelstown and Ratharten Bridges Rehabilitation

Successful/ unsuccessful letters sent to the tenderers on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2020, two weeks stand still period, post tender meeting, letter of acceptance followed. Contractor is due to send FCC the programme of works and methodology. 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).

### Royal Oak Santry Footbridge, Effelstown and Ratharten Bridges Rehabilitation

Contract documents BOQ, Preliminary H&S plan, RFQ, Declaration to tenderers etc prepared and published on 02/06/2020 in QQ Etenders. Contract awarded on 9 June 2020. The contractor started on site last week of June 2020.



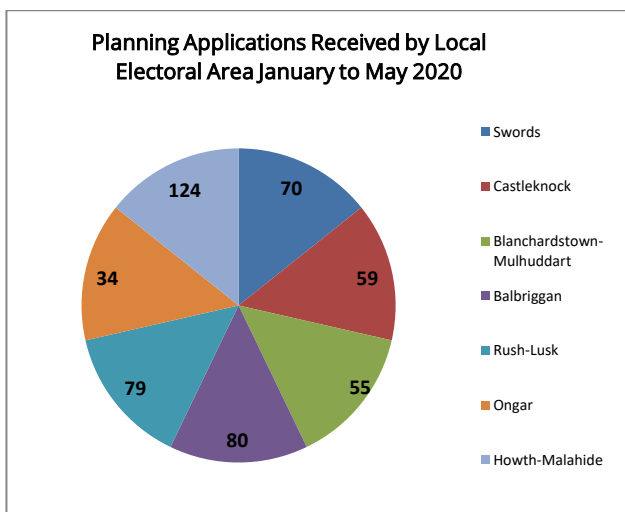
# PLANNING AND STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE (PSI)

Contents	
Planning Applications	Royal Canal Greenway
Planning Decisions	Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian & Cycle Scheme
Building Control	Fingal Coastal Way
Fingal Development Plan Variation no. 2	Forest of Fingal Tree Strategy
Fingal Development Plan Variation no. 3	Park Development Plan for Bremore Regional Park
Hole in the Wall Road	Remains in River Valley Park
Donabate Distributor Road	National Heritage Week 2020
Church Fields Link Road and Cycle Network	Development Management/Forward Planning (Water Services)
Broadmeadow Way	Building Control/Taking in Charge
Park Road Upgrade	

## Planning Applications

There have been 501 planning applications received to the end of May 2020, 70 of these applications were invalid leaving a total of 431 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 330 planning decisions have been made to the end of May 2020. There have been 270 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, 79 commercial/retail grants of permission and 20 grants of permission in respect of housing developments - 7 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.

## Building Control

There were 65 Disability Access Certificates submitted up to the end of May 2020, of these 50 have been granted and 14 are currently on time extension. There were 78 Fire Safety Certificates submitted up to the end of May 2020, of these 25 have been granted and 52 are currently on time extension.

A total of 492 building control decisions have been made up to the end of May. There were 146 decisions to grant, 1 refusal and 345 time extensions.

## **Fingal Development Plan Variation no. 2**

Variation no. 2 has been made by the Elected Members at the Council meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> June.

On 10<sup>th</sup> 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 Variation responds to 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 Variations 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.

The Variation was on public display until 7th February. A total of 26 submissions were received during the consultation period. All submissions and the Chief Executive's Report on same were considered at the June County Council Meeting, before the Variation was made by resolution.

The Variation comes into effect from the 19<sup>th</sup> June and all documents associated with the same will be made available at <https://www.fingal.ie/fingal-development-plan-2017-2023> presently.

## **Fingal Development Plan Variation no. 3**

Variation no. 2 has been made by the Elected Members at the Council meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> June.

On 10<sup>th</sup> 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 and the Chief Executive's Report on same were considered at the June County Council Meeting, before the Variation was made by resolution.

The Variation comes into effect from the 19<sup>th</sup> June and all documents associated with the same will be made available at <https://www.fingal.ie/fingal-development-plan-2017-2023> presently.

## **Hole in the Wall Road**

Since the recommencement of works on site on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March and the implementation of Covid-19 health and safety measures, site clearance, topsoil removal and fencing has been completed. The existing stone wall on Mayne Road and Drumnigh Road is being taken down and the stone will be reused for the new flood defence wall. Excavations for the flood defence wall and channel are ongoing as well as foundation and retaining wall construction and construction of the boundary wall to Drumnigh Road. The Mayne River has been temporarily diverted to enable the bridge construction and civil works are have commenced this week on the bridge abutments.





### Donabate Distributor Road

Following substantial completion of the road, there is a one- year maintenance period that the Contractor is responsible for, which includes various minor items like snagging and establishing the landscaping and fixing other minor issues that arise. The grass areas should be handed over as complete, well-established swards at the end of this maintenance period. Top soiling, seeding and issues with some signage, traffic pole locations and traffic light timings have been raised as issues which will be addressed by the Contractor.

The suspension of works on site due to Covid-19 adversely impacted the landscaping works and the drought conditions experienced during this period have compounded the problem. However, the Contractor has now remobilised on site following the shut down and has trimmed the grass verges along the roadside.

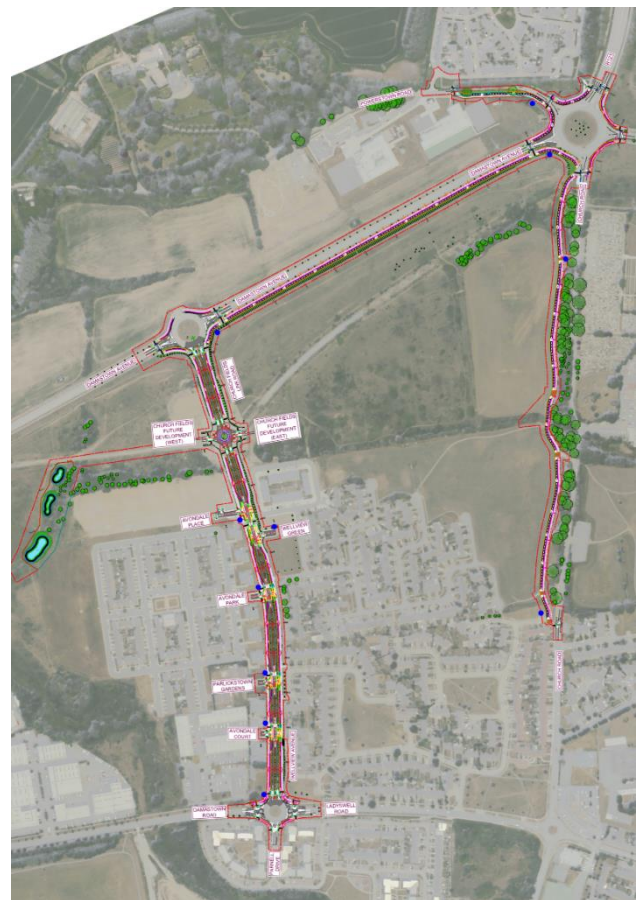
### Church Fields Link Road and Cycle Network

This project was granted planning permission by the elected members at the full council meeting held on Friday 19th June.

The scheme is being funded through a combination of Fingal County Council's own funds and funding from the DPHLG Serviced Sites Initiative fund, whilst the cycling and pedestrian infrastructure provision has been made possible by a capital funding contribution from the National Transport Authority's Sustainable Transport Management Grants programme and will form an important element of the Council's ongoing rollout of the NTA's Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network.

The permission includes for the construction of 800m of road including upgrade works to Wellview Avenue with high quality cycling and pedestrian facilities as well as an additional 1.5km of fully segregated cycling and pedestrian facilities linking into the schools campus on the Powerstown Road at Gaelscoil an Chuilinn and Powerstown Educate Together National School.

Detailed design has now commenced and procurement and construction will follow on with a potential start of works on site in early 2021.



### Broadmeadow Way

Following the recent successful granting of planning permission for this project, tenders were requested from engineering and environmental specialist consultants to take the design forward and manage the detailed design and construction stages. These tenders were received on 1<sup>st</sup> July and are currently being assessed, with appointment

targeted to take place in July. Certain key elements of the project are ongoing in parallel including the design of the bridge works which is being progressed in collaboration with Irish Rail.

### **Park Road Upgrade**

The Park Road project is progressing on site and a temporary closure is now in place until the end of September 2020 to facilitate the project which includes road widening, footpath construction, utilities upgrade and diversions, boundary treatment and other ancillary works. The project is programmed for completion in Q1 2021.

### **Royal Canal Greenway**

Following the concerns raised during the public consultation undertaken in 2019, the scheme engineering consultant is carrying out a further detailed assessment in the deep sinking area to verify the preferred route. Additional surveys and design options are being considered along with an in-depth look at what the route would look like in the deep sinking area.

On site site-investigation work has now been complete following its Covid – 19 suspension and the design assessment of the deep sinking area is continuing.



Design elements being considered include constructability, engineering constraints, proximity to the rail-line, and future DART expansion requirements. Following this assessment the emerging preferred route will be decided and further public engagement on the route will be carried out.

It is envisaged that this will be undertaken during 2020 to facilitate a planning application in 2021. The planning process will be either via a Part 8 or to An Bord Pleanala, depending on the final preferred route.

FCC are also considering virtual public engagement and consultation options and also the provision of a safe environment to consult with those unable to access on line consultations will be considered.

### **Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme**

A non-statutory public consultation on the preliminary design of the Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme was undertaken in November 2019.

Following on from this and having considered the feedback and submissions from this process a Part 8 Planning Application is being lodged on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2020.



Should the planning application be approved it is envisaged that the project will immediately proceed to detailed design and tender stage in Q1 of 2021

### **Fingal Coastal Way**

The findings of an Opportunities and Constraints Public Engagement Report for the Fingal Coastal Way was presented to the Balbriggan Swords ACM on Thursday 11th June.



This report followed a series of non-statutory public consultation evenings on the opportunities and constraints for the Fingal Coastal Way took place in November in Rush, Balbriggan and Skerries.

A route options report is currently being prepared for which further consultation is proposed for the second half of 2020. This report will set out a small number of routes (c.3-5 route options) over the entire route corridor, with associated assessments of each option and the identification of the emerging preferred route.

### Forest of Fingal Tree Strategy



## Forest of Fingal

A Tree Strategy for Fingal

The Parks and Green Infrastructure Division in consultation with the Operations Department are continuing with the review and revision of the

'Forest of Fingal' Tree Strategy for the county. The strategy was introduced to the Planning Strategic Transport & Infrastructure Development and Climate Action, Biodiversity and Environment SPCs. The presentations were positively received, consolidating the fact that trees are rightly perceived as an invaluable element of green infrastructure, making a positive contribution to climate action, health & wellbeing, biodiversity, as well as the local economy of Fingal. Very useful feedback was provided, which has given the steering group plenty of items to discuss and consider going forward.

The benefits of trees to our health have never been as important and relevant in these times of the Covid-19 global pandemic. Amid the lifting of restrictions and our lives retuning back to relative normality, the global climate crisis is returning to the forefront of discussions, highlighting the need to future proof our tree population for a sustainable and resilient county.

An early draft of the main proposals and amendments will be ready in September to initiate internal consultation with relevant departments and staff. The public and external consultation is planned to commence on National Tree Day in October 2020.

It is intended to conclude the public consultation process in March 2021 during National Tree Week and the revised Tree Strategy will be presented for adoption shortly thereafter.



**Majestic Oak tree (Dair ghallda) in Glebe park Balrothery**

## Park Development Plan for Bremore Regional Park



Building on the extensive community consultation held to date, the Parks & Green Infrastructure Division have recently held a series of focused consultations with key stakeholder groups in Balbriggan. The primary objective of the project is to develop a Park Development Plan to deliver a sustainable vision for Bremore Regional Park in the face of population growth and increasing levels of community participation in active leisure. The stakeholder consultations have enabled the myriad of concerns, challenges and opportunities to be heard, taken on board and balanced through a proposal that aims to achieve consensus. The next phase of the project will be the formal part 8 planning process due to commence later this year.

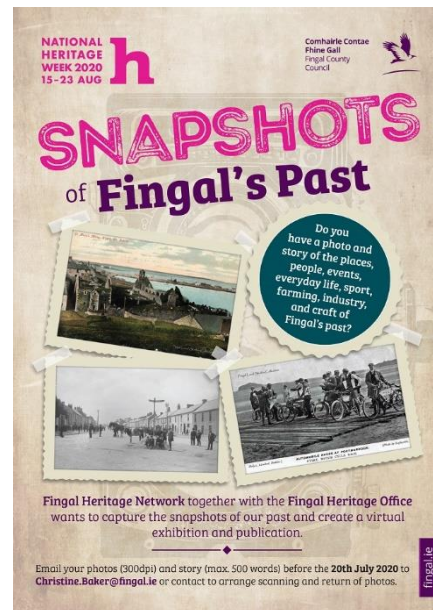
### Remains in River Valley Park

A geophysical survey has been undertaken in River Valley Park Swords at the site of recorded monument (DU011-090). The skeleton exposed in the river bank has been archaeologically excavated under licence to the National Monuments Service, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and the National Museum of Ireland, and will now undergo osteoarchaeological analysis.

### National Heritage Week 2020

Launched on the 16<sup>th</sup> June, National Heritage Week 2020 will take place between 15-23<sup>rd</sup> August 2020.

Due to COVID-19-related restrictions on social gatherings, communities are invited to undertake projects that explore a topic associated with this year's theme – 'Heritage and Education: Learning from our Heritage'. The Heritage Officer has been working with the Fingal Heritage Network on reconfiguring the Snapshots of Old Fingal seminar into a virtual experience.



### Development Management/Forward Planning (Water Services)

- Return to Work – all work operates now on a business-as-usual basis, including office based work (conducted mostly remotely) and site based work (within the guidelines from the HSE, CIF and FCC's Corporate safety systems).
- Development Management – our work as internal consultee on planning applications has resulted in 124 reports being prepared in June. A very busy period due following the lifting of suspension orders on planning applications.
- Pre-planning consultations – During June staff from 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. These meetings have also included the following

discussions on drainage and flood risk management relating to the following strategic infrastructure project - Fingal Coastal Way, Metrolink, DART extension. All these meetings are being conducted online using Microsoft Teams.

- Flood Risk Assessments and Drainage Strategies to inform Local Area Plans (LAP) work continues.
- 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**

- Return to Work – all work operates now on a business-as-usual basis, including office based work (conducted mostly remotely) and site based work (within the guidelines from the HSE, CIF and FCC's Corporate safety systems).
- Building Control Inspections are currently being carried out on a business-as-usual basis within the guidelines from the HSE, CIF and FCC's Corporate safety systems. Inspectors and engineers continue to engage with developers by other means to deal with building control.
- BCMS – the management and validations of building control documents through the BCMS continued remotely through the Lockdown. While the BCMS site remained very busy throughout, there was a decrease in the number of applications. This trend has turned and there has been a significant increase in commencement notices which are required to be validated prior to commencement of construction.
- 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 Building Control documentation). This will bring Fire Safety Certificates, Regularisation Certificates and Disability Access Certificates all online, completing the paperless conversion of building control documentation. BCMS users have been informed, supports are in place, staff are trained and we are ready for the "Go-Live" date, which is set for early July 2020.

- Dangerous Structure/Places inspections – each complaint continues to be assessed on a case by case basis. During June we have received 10 notifications and we have conducted 4 site visits, where we deemed this absolutely necessary. Follow up is underway in 4 cases.
- Taking in Charge of Legacy Developments – Bond claims have been submitted and verified by IBRC through 2019/2020. FCC have prepared tender documentation for works contracts in line with 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. This work will lead to the Taking in Charge Statutory process.
- This month we had one development taken in charge at the June Council meeting, Orchard View, Donabate.

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 building control legislation and Code of Practice of Inspecting & Certifying Buildings & Works, DHPCLG, September 2016.

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

Housing	Community, Culture & Sports Community Development Office Sports Office Arts Office Libraries
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### Housing Supply Report

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 29 sites across the county and 318 homes already delivered.

The initiation of the Part 8 public consultation planning process has commenced for two schemes in July. Details of the two proposed schemes, the former Leonards Garage, Lusk and Church Road, Lusk were presented to local Councillors at the Area Committee meeting on the 9th July.

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	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	6	Planning Stage
Hayestown, Rush	64	Planning Stage
Infill Site adjacent to 169 Clonsilla Road, D15	1	Planning Stage
	<b>698</b>	



## **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 was approved at the Council meeting in June and detailed design is now underway.
- 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 has lodged a planning application for the road infrastructure upgrade which is funded through the Serviced Sites Fund.
- Design of the housing is currently underway by the LDA. They propose to deliver 346 housing units of mainly affordable/cost rental and dwellings available for affordable purchase. Housing will also be provided for families in need of social housing.
- Further information will be brought to the Area Committee when available.

## **Part V Delivery**

The Housing Department continues to work closely with developers to secure a steady delivery of social housing units through the Part V process.

## **Approved Housing Bodies**

The delivery of social housing by the Approved Housing Body sector is an important delivery stream which delivers quality housing across the county. The Housing Department continues 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	€98,143,631
Number of loans drawn down	230
Value of loans drawn down	€50,258,949

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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:rentaccountD15@fingal.ie) or [rentaccountnorthcounty@fingal.ie](mailto:rentaccountnorthcounty@fingal.ie). Further details are available on the Council's website [www.fingal.ie](http://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. Similar to other Local Authorities, the Housing Department is now working to restart mainstream private rented inspections and evaluating the level of inspections that can be achieved for 2020 in the context of Covid 19 constraints.

The annual targets are as follows:

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

**Visit by the Mayor in June of the completed homes at Holymount, Rathbeale Road, Swords**





## Housing Tenancy Services Report

### Housing Support

Fingal County Council's Housing Department continued to provide services across its full range of Tenancy Services during the **COVID19** outbreak. Public Offices have re-opened since 29<sup>th</sup> June and Customer Care Units are once again handling housing queries, amongst others, from members of the public. Visitors to our buildings are required to observe public health guidance and to carry out their business safely, whilst observing social distancing guidelines.

For those who may not wish to access our Public Offices, a simple, and easy to use guide for all those who need assistance, continues to be available on Fingal's website via [www.fingal.ie](http://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 <a href="mailto:homeless@fingal.ie">homeless@fingal.ie</a>
HAP	01 870 4515 <a href="mailto:HAP@fingal.ie">HAP@fingal.ie</a>

Estate Management (Maintenance, ASB & Special Projects)	01 890 5588 <a href="mailto:Estatemanagement@fingal.ie">Estatemanagement@fingal.ie</a>
Lettings	01 890 5380 <a href="mailto:Housing.allocations@fingal.ie">Housing.allocations@fingal.ie</a>
Housing Support	01 890 5902 <a href="mailto:Housing.allocations@fingal.ie">Housing.allocations@fingal.ie</a>
Customer Care Team	01 890 5000 <a href="mailto:CustomerCareUnit@fingal.ie">CustomerCareUnit@fingal.ie</a>

### 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

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](http://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 continued to provide offers of social housing support right throughout the recent **COVID -19** Lockdown period and this is demonstrated in the table below. The supply of housing is continuing through a number of mechanisms, allowing Fingal County Council to continue to make offers of housing support across standard social housing and 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
June	90
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>658</b>



Housing applicants viewing their new

### **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 137 in place during 2020 to date. A further 200 tenancies are being progressed.

### **Homeless Services**

The Council's homeless team continue to engage with those experiencing homelessness to offer advice and support. Homeless Assessments have resumed at the Homeless Clinic in the Blanchardstown Office. In June, there were 35 new homeless presentations, 15 of which were families. 17 families exited homeless circumstances into varying forms of social housing during June, with a considerable further number of further exits planned during July.

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 of 280 households have exited homelessness through the various means of housing support. Homeless HAP accounts for 180 of these tenancies.

To date in 2020, over 320 HAP applications have been received in Fingal County Council and are being progressed at present.

### **Traveller Specific Supports**

#### ***Covid-19 Continued Support***

Measures have continued within Fingal to ensure that Traveller families receive as much assistance as possible during these unprecedented times.

Daily site visits by Housing Inspectorate and Senior Council Officials are continuing with due care to maintaining public health guidelines while checking on vulnerable tenants and advising on the continued supports available. In addition, the Council’s designated Social Worker Service for Travellers continues to make regular contact with the most vulnerable, in order to assist with additional needs arising from the current circumstances.

We continue to engage and work in conjunction with a variety of advocacy groups working on behalf of the Traveller Community.

With the easing of restrictions under Phase 3 of the Government’s Roadmap, the planning and implementation of refurbishment works on various sites can continue with works progressing at St Mary’s, Cappagh and Meakstown Close.

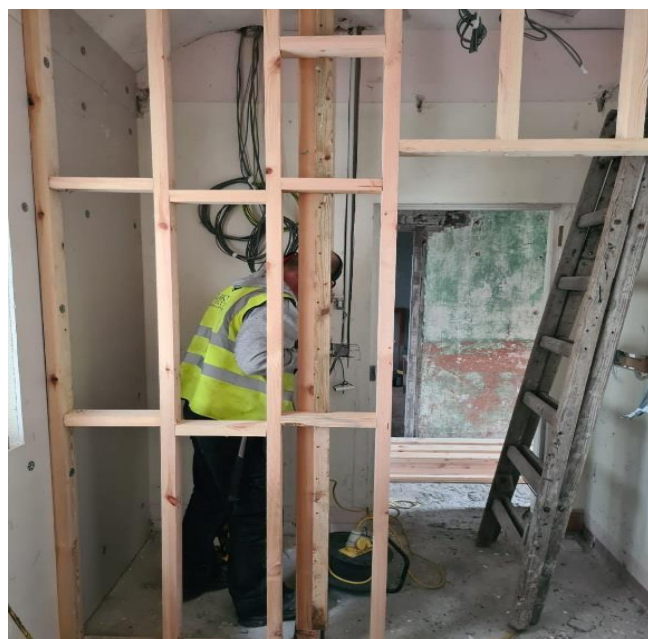


**Newly built extension at Traveller Specific Group Housing Scheme Meakstown Close**

### 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 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2020
In letting process	37
Undergoing re-let repairs	46
With County Architect for procurement of pre-let repairs	20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>103</b>



### 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 five service batches containing a total of 2,307 properties have issued to our contractor to date.

### Cyclical Maintenance

This programme provides for external painting and joinery repairs to council housing stock and this currently operates on a 6/7 year cycle. With restrictions lifting, painting works have now been completed in the Sheepmoor Estate, Dublin 15. The next phase of the cycle has been procured and will apply to the following areas during the remainder of 2020. It should be noted that phasing of the works has yet to be agreed with the Contractor, and is not necessarily in the order 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
Lambeecher 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 is underway and is being conducted 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.

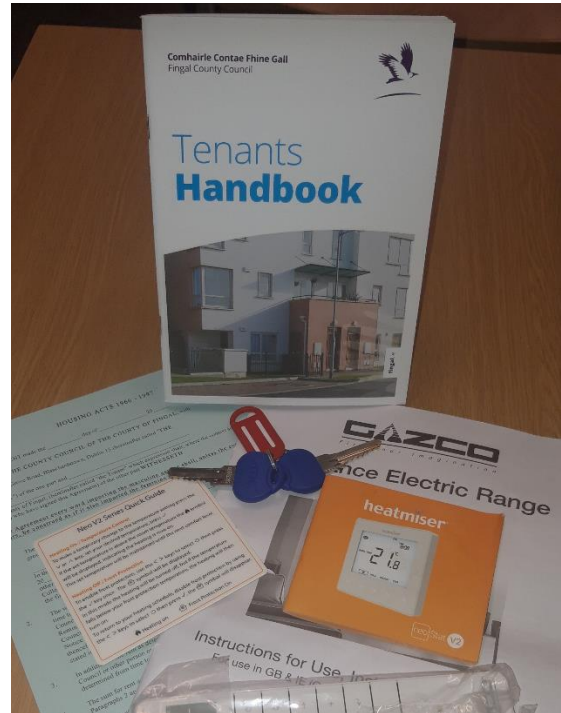
In response to **Covid-19**, the Housing Social Workers have been actively engaged with their most vulnerable cases at this time providing support, information and inter-agency linkages when and where required. Tenants were identified by the Social Workers and Housing Inspectors who may be considered 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 25 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

53 cases under review -10 regularisations, 15 breaches (allegations of sub-lets, abandonments, illegal occupiers), 14 Miscellaneous, 14 downsizing Surrenders on EM Grounds - 1 (Jan), 3 (Feb), 3 (March), 3 (April), 1 (May), 1 (June)

## Anti-Social Behaviour

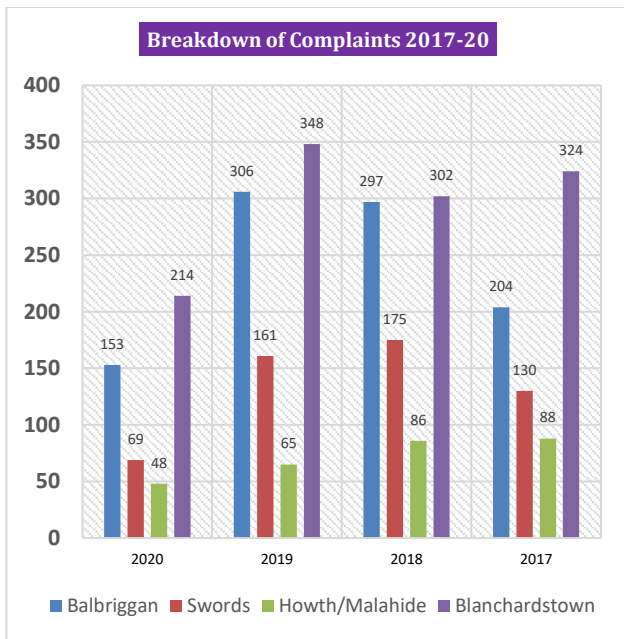
June 2020	Active Investigation	Active Monitoring	Closed
Dublin 15	44	39	8
North County	66	82	29
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>37</b>

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	85
Tenancy Alerts 2019	30
Tenancy Alerts 2020	20
Tenancy Warnings 2019	4
Tenancy Warnings 2020	3
Tenant Induction Training 2019	12
Tenant Induction Training 2020	3

## Housing Inspections

Traveller Specific Inspections 2019	1818
Traveller Specific Inspections 2020	797
Estate Inspections 2019	944
Estate Inspections 2020	321
EM/ASB Inspections 2019	3858
EM/ASB Inspections 2020	1528



## Community Culture & Sports Division

### **Community Development Office:**

Balbriggan has been well served with strong community responses to the COVID 19 pandemic. **O'Dwyers GAA** is one such group that mobilised volunteers quickly. They have a strong resource base of volunteers and good networks into the local community.



Local community response teams are providing shopping and pharmacy deliveries together with much welcomed social connections between isolated individuals, families and the outside world. A few friendly words and a bit of humour can make an enormous difference to someone who is isolating. This has also been the experience of Fingal staff manning the COVID helpline who can offer not just technical support, advice and guidance but also a friendly voice together with a listening ear to people in need.

**Man O'War GFC** liaison group encompasses a close-knit community from the townlands of Lusk, Skerries and Balrothery/Balbriggan. The club has always had close links with the Man O'War Senior Citizens group. During the Covid crisis, they have maintained contact with identified vulnerable members of the community and a team of club volunteers have been on hand to help. Huge credit goes to Country Crest, the club sponsor and neighbour, who delivered fruit and vegetable hampers to all the senior citizens including local families on two occasions during the lockdown.

### **Fundraiser for Alzheimer Society Ireland and Multiple Sclerosis Ireland**

Club volunteers mobilised members at home and abroad to take part in the "Relay for Gerry" fundraiser on Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> May 2020. Locals in north county Dublin were joined by supporters in Galway, London, Boston, Vancouver, Australia and New Zealand and raised over €12,000 for Alzheimer Society Ireland and Multiple Sclerosis Ireland.



Relay for Gerry (L to R Dearbhla Sheridan, Bernice Jones Moore, Marie Gaffney, Miriam Moore and Kathleen Fay)



**Training Sessions** - Training for Fingal PPN Reps took place in June with The Wheel who are Ireland's national association of community and voluntary organisations, charities and social enterprises. The training courses were: Volunteer Management & Good Practice Essentials and Implementing Regulators Charities Governance Code

**Training Schedule** - Due to Covid-19 this year's Training Schedule could not be carried out in the normal manner. It was decided to run online training courses to be delivered by Carmichael a trusted online training provider who have previously provided expert guidance and training support to the Fingal PPN. The training provided

will include Charities Governance Code Principles; GDPR; Online meetings; Media Relations; Using Social Media and Cyber Security.

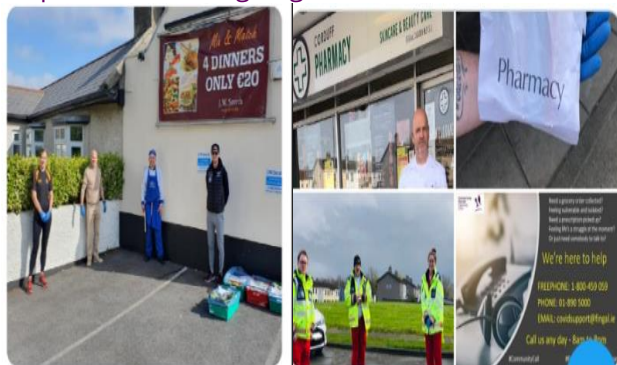
**Fingal PPN Online Meetings** - the Secretariat and PPN staff continue to meet online and the Linkage Group Facilitators have agreed to re-start the Linkage Group meetings in an online format from September. A training course is taking place for Facilitators before the meetings commence and a policy document is being drawn up to help support Facilitators, Reps and members with this new format of conducting PPN business.

Fingal PPN Secretariat monthly meeting this evening. We are still working away and preparing for when Government guidelines allow for us all to meet again at our Linkage Groups, Plenary meetings, training courses, workshops and other PPN events. We will continue to keep you posted by email, website, social media and we are only a phone call away if your group needs advice or support 0873828589

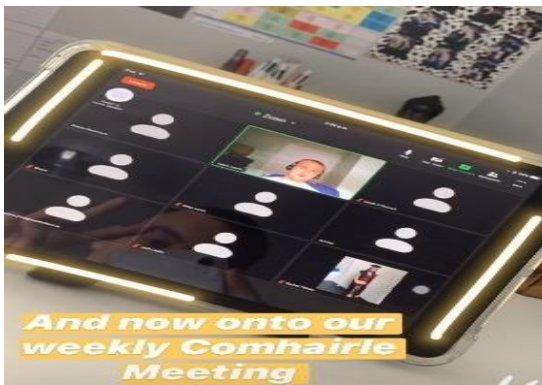


**#CoronavirusSolidarity diary of "good news stories"**

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



**Comhairle na nÓg** are continuing to meet weekly to discuss the development of their two major topics Climate Action and Peer Pressure, they are also doing team building exercises aimed at new members who only got to meet once this year. Comhairle members have embraced the virtual medium however it has brought some challenges for young people who do not have access to up to date technology or limited access, the Comhairle coordinator is supporting the young people in this regard.



Comhairle Weekly Meeting via Zoom above

**IHREC Funded Training** final pilot took place with a 2-hour Webinar on the 29<sup>th</sup> June 2020. This Intercultural, Diversity and Public Sector Duty Training will bring together elements from pilots run over the past few months, evaluated and transformed into a virtual training piece broken down into bite sized information videos and a 2-hour webinar to bring this training piece together.

**The Forget-Me-Nots** choir were successful in obtaining COVID19 funding to create an online rendition of an old classic “We’ll meet again”, they hope to have this ready for a live performance in September 2020 but for now are practising very hard at their weekly Zoom rehearsals.



**CrossCare Swords** provided much needed support to families of the area using their COVID19 Funding for care / positivity packs.

Summer Projects Programme 2020



A number of Agency led organisations are currently developing proposals to offer Summer Projects Programmes to Fingal youths over the summer months while adhering to the current Government Roadmap and public health guidelines. The Community Division will examine the option of an Autumn Multi Activity Programme of Events which will replace the Summer Project Funding Programme 2020. This Programme would provide much needed recreational and educational services to young people across Fingal.

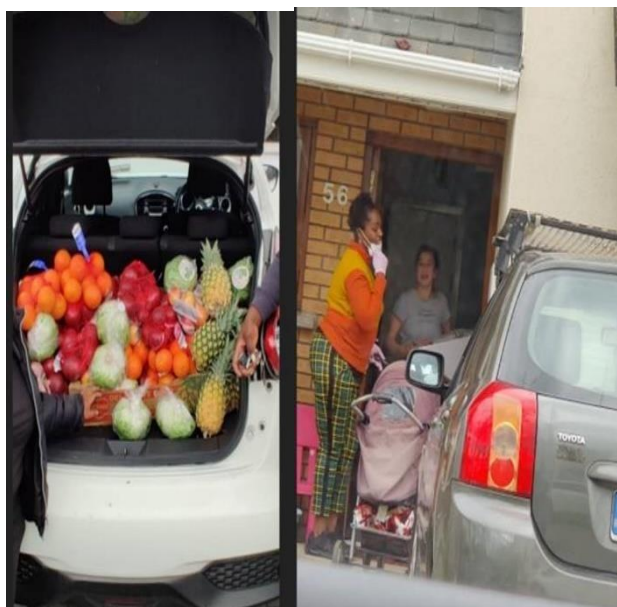


Fingal County Council Community Facilities located across the county are developing their individual Covid response plans in preparation for re-opening. Each facility has a designated Covid compliance officer who will oversee the implementation of the recommendations contained in the response plan and risk assessments. Training is currently being provided to assigned officers across all sites through the Fingal Community Facilities Network. Following on from this all employees and key volunteers will receive a two-hour “reintroduction to the work place” training session that will be rolled out on each site. A big challenge for each facility is ensuring that there is adequate protective measures and PPE in place. In most cases community facilities will commence with a soft opening of key services such as childcare, anchor tenants and targeted service providers. The remaining groups will not return until September. When each group returns on site, they will be required to complete a declaration form that will confirm that they have their own Covid response

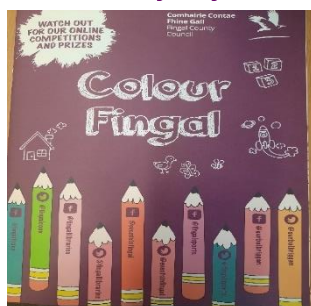
plan in place. All staff and volunteers will complete a return to work declaration and have adequate contact tracing mechanisms in place for their own group.

**Fingal 2020 COVID Emergency Funding Scheme** the Community Development Office continues to administer this scheme to support groups/organisations that are directly involved in the Fingal Community Call response or responding locally to the COVID-19 pandemic. To date €46,000 has been awarded to community groups and services towards food provision, youth activity packs, personal protective equipment, technologies, mask materials etc.

**4 World Children**, a Dublin 15 based Community Group, who received funding under the COVID 19 Emergency Funding scheme to deliver fresh fruit to vulnerable members of the community living in Avondale Estate, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15.



### National Play Day 2020



The Community Department in collaboration with Fingal Children's & Young Peoples Service Committee successfully applied for funding from the Department of Children and Youth Affairs to deliver this year's National Play Day 2020 on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2020. This funding of €2,000 was used to deliver a programme of outdoor and indoor play activities aimed at 700 young children residing in Fingal and identified through the Child and Family Support Networks. As the National Playday promotes outdoor and indoor activities, the proposal aimed to engage with children by distributing boxes of chalk and colouring books. The cost of the chalk has been funded by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs and the colouring books have been donated by libraries and events. Due to Covid-19 restrictions children have rediscovered the joys of street games such as Hopscotch and street art. Fingal County Council asked participants and their parents/guardians to use the #chalkitout when posting their creations on social media.

### Draft Community Facilities (non-Fingal County Council owned) Remedial Works Scheme 2020

The draft scheme for non-Fingal County Council owned community facilities was presented to the Community Development, Heritage Culture & Creativity SPC meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> June and will be brought to the full Council meeting in September for approval of the Elected Members. The draft scheme provides for 2 categories of funding:

- **Multi -Purpose Facility** - grants up to **50% of the cost of the works subject to a maximum of €20,000** for enhancement/refurbishment projects involving capital works to Community facilities.
- **Single interest facility** - grants up to **50% of the cost of the works subject to a maximum of €15,000** for enhancement/refurbishment projects involving capital works to community facilities

## Commemorations – The Sack of Balbriggan

The Centenary of the Sack of Balbriggan occurs on the 20<sup>th</sup> September 2020. This is the primary centenary event identified for commemoration in 2020 in Fingal County Council's, Fingal Remembers – Commemoration Programme 2018-2022. A local committee including local representatives have been meeting since October 2019 supported by a facilitator engaged by Fingal County Council to discuss suitable plans to commemorate this event. In line with current COVID 19 advice it is now proposed to have a virtual commemoration of the event. The Sack of Balbriggan will also take a prominent place at the online Fingal Festival of History from 12<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> September with various speakers taking part. The Local Studies and Archives Section will have an exhibition in the Atrium, County Hall Swords. A mural will be unveiled at the Bridge in Balbriggan prior to the 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020. The events planned by the local committee will still take place virtually insofar as is possible and will be captured on video with all video footage being shown on Social Media in the run up to 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020 and subsequently converted to a documentary of events at a later date. It is further proposed to hold a small event in line with COVID 19 advice to which the President of Ireland will be invited.

### Sports Office:

**National BeActive Day** - The Sports Office participated in the nationwide Sport Ireland BeActive day, which took place on Sunday 28th June. The community were encouraged to participate in some form of activity. It was supported with a four-page activity sheet which could be downloaded. 30,000 activity sheets were also delivered to targeted population areas throughout the county.



**Couch to 3K** The Sports Office has joined with Dublin city and county councils and Local Sports Partnerships to deliver a couch to 3k programme. This across Dublin initiative commenced on Monday 29th June. 1,500 participants have signed up for the programme, 480 from Fingal.



**Virtual Run** We participated in a weeklong national social media campaign to promote men's health. As part of this week the Sports Office promoted a Fingal Virtual Run, over 80 males participated in the virtual run during Men's Health Week.

**DigiFit for all** the DigiFit video series was extended to include home exercises aimed at those with limited movement (older people and those with a

disability). These videos have been circulated widely through disability services and the older people's network. Through a partnership with Vision Sports Ireland, videos were adapted and are now being circulated throughout its membership.

#### Arts Office:

**Music Generation** - The development of Fingal County Council's application to Music Generation, Ireland's National Music Education programme, is progressing. The Steering Group, composed of FCC Dublin and Dun Laoghaire Education & Training Board representatives and an engaged Music Consultant, are meeting online to guide content development. The submission will include a music education programme for children & young people in education and community settings, with consideration given to progression of learning from early years onwards, under-served communities, and with a Covid-19 reality.

**Swords Cultural Quarter** meetings have continued to prepare the design brief for the Swords cultural Quarter, including spatial provision, areas and adjacencies, a facilities management appraisal, and a design brief for a gallery and creative HUB.

## Swords Cultural Quarter

**'Our Balbriggan' rejuvenation plan.** the arts office is working on the public arts elements for the town including co-ordinating a selection of the collection to be displayed in the new central Hub Space.



#### **Cruinniú na nÓg 2020**

On Saturday 13th of June Fingal Arts welcomed parents, families and young people to take part in a wide range of fun, free, creative activities with a unique difference! Everything people needed to engage in the arts this year was made available online. We received positive feedback from participants, and a staggering 2,942 engagements with the content on this special day, shining a light on how important the arts are in our daily lives. Promotion and delivery took place across all available social media platforms.



**Let's Stay Together** - The Arts Office created a campaign at the beginning of the Covid-19 crisis, in April to connect virtually to communities and artists during this period. Since then 11 films have been produced, which have been broadcast every Thursday. These bespoke films have covered a variety of social media platforms and has highlighted interviews with key cultural leaders and artists.

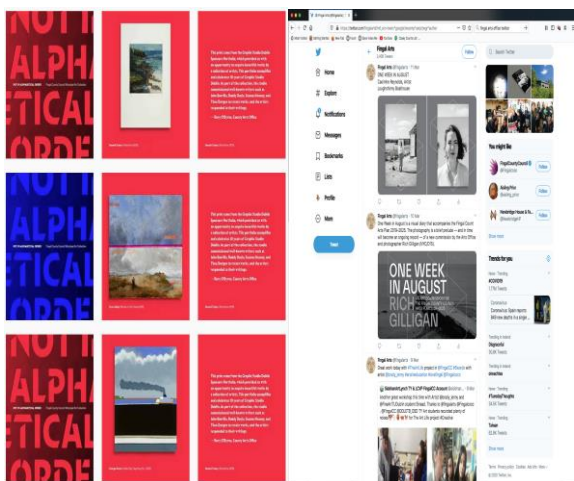
**Providing expert Coaching Support** in our continued commitment to stay connected with artists/organisations throughout the Covid-19 emergency, the Arts Office offered 'expert arts specific coaching' arts organisations and artist. The objective is to help artists and arts organisations consider how they respond to and 'work well' within the changed landscape post Covid -19. To date approx. 22 hours of coaching has been delivered.

Through social media platforms the Arts Office are sharing the content in our portfolio of work. The portraits featured in the Arts Plan publication –

'One Week in August' (OWIA) and work from the County Arts Collection is shared weekly. 'The OWIA – Reflections during Covid-19' are posted every Monday. The posts provide an ideal way to stay connected with the public and feature those represented in the publication. The County Arts Collection images are shared every Wednesday.



Developed as a new **public art commission** in response to Covid 19 -**Transcending Time** by Fingal Artist Aoife Dunne was a mobile, digital installation that could be requested exclusively to Fingal Residents homes. The work captured the imagination of the national media and featured on the front page of the Irish Times, as part of their Arts round up, it was reported in RTE's online cultural platform even reaching a European Policy Publication, who shared the details online across Europe, this was all delivered in a very short time. The Transcending Time video which was shared through Instagram and social media received over 4000 views. The response from the public was overwhelming and over 300 homes and community groups requested a visit of the work which we are still working through.



### Fingal County Council's '2020 Artists' Support Scheme' for professional Fingal Artists

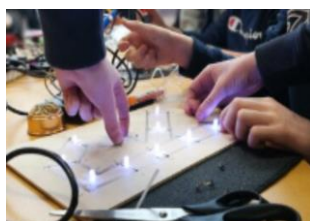
Now in its seventh year, demand for the funding scheme has increased from 37 applications received in 2014 to 107 eligible applications received this year. The funding allows for professional artists in Fingal to avail of an award towards professional development opportunities, a residency, or towards the development of their careers as artists. The award was open to practising artists at all stages in their professional careers working in music, visual art, drama, dance and literature. A total of 109 eligible applications were received and assessed by independent advisors in each category. 65 awards were approved amounting to a total sum of €100,000.

### Public Art Commission 'Transcending Time'



**Creative Ireland - Cruinniú na nÓg** a national day of creativity for young people took place virtually across Fingal on Saturday 13th June 2020 in

collaboration with Libraries and the Arts Office. 28 Workshops/Events were held via Facebook, Twitter, Vimeo and YouTube representing an excellent collaboration between the Community Department, Libraries, Arts, Communications, The Seamus Ennis Centre and Draócht. The highly successful activities reached an online audience of over 40K people.



### Age Friendly

COVID-19 forced all of us to rethink how we live our lives. It also required us to find new ways to support others in our community, especially our older people, to stay connected to their families, friends and service providers.

### Skerries Age Friendly Town

Skerries Age Friendly Town, a working group under the umbrella of the Skerries Community Association and an initiative of the Fingal Age Friendly County programme, decided to take action to address the needs of our more vulnerable older community. The 'Staying Connected' initiative is a smart technology solution called ACORN to enable older people to stay in touch. It is a new venture for the town and is a response to Covid-19.

### 'Staying Connected' Project Partners

This initiative was launched on Friday 5th June in Lusk Community Nursing Home by the Mayor, Cllr. Eoghan O'Brien. More than 20 ACORN smart tablets were donated to the nursing homes in Rush, Lusk, and Loughshinny along with Skerries and Lusk Community Day Care Service. The initiative was made possible due to the support

that the Skerries Age Friendly Town Working Group received from the Skerries Community Association, Skerries Rugby Club and Fingal County Council's Age Friendly County Programme and local businesses and services. The project also received financial support from both the business and local community in Skerries.

Michael McKenna, chair SCA *"Events like Covid-19 can test a community. This project shows how local businesses, organisations and individuals can make a positive difference. These tablets will make digital communication so much easier for people in the nursing homes and the day care service and their families!"*

Mary Conway, Chair of the Skerries Age Friendly Town said *"We knew Skerries was a town with a proud tradition of supporting local community initiatives, but we never expected the response that we got, it has been heartwarming"*



LR Patrice Reilly HSE Social Work Team Leader Dublin North ICPOP Team, Louise Edmonds, Age Friendly Regional Programme Manager Fingal, Philip Hogan, ACORN Cliffrun Media Ltd., Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Eoin O'Brien, Jim Glennon, Chair of Fingal Age Friendly Alliance, Mary Conway, Chair of Skerries Age Friendly Town, Carl Birney, Skerries Rugby Club



## **LIBRARIES**

### **Re-opening of Libraries**

Blanchardstown Library re-opened to the public for browsing on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June, with Swords and Baldoyle opening on 25<sup>th</sup> June. As of 29<sup>th</sup> June, eight of Fingal's 10 library branches were open for browsing and for printing/photocopying. Malahide and Balbriggan Libraries are currently closed for development works – further information below. Risk assessments were carried out at all branches in advance of opening and signage, perspex screens, hand sanitizers and regular cleaning schedules were put in place. Based on advice from the Department of Health, there is no longer a need to quarantine books for 72 hours. To comply with social distancing rules, the number of people we can admit at any one time is limited and depends on the size of the library. We plan to offer access to PCs from 20<sup>th</sup> July and again this will be limited, both in terms of the number of PCs on offer and the allotted time. In the coming weeks, we plan to make further library services available, including the use of study spaces, where feasible.

### **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 works commenced on 18<sup>th</sup> May, with the completion date and the re-opening of the libraries expected to be at the end of July 2020. This programme of works funded by the Council, 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, M&E works, remodelling and repositioning of existing furniture, the purchase of new furniture, the

incorporation of new meeting spaces and painting and re-flooring works. These improvement works will enhance the overall visitor / patron experience at each library. A similar programme of works is being planned for Blanchardstown library.

### **Virtual library space**

The physical library may have closed its doors for three months but many of our services moved and are remaining online. The content online includes yoga workshops, story times, coding classes, art workshops and more. Events for our younger members continue, even if they too have moved to the virtual space. Look out for our Summer Stars reading challenge and all our usual fun events such as art workshops, STEM events and story time. Wellbeing events will also take place across the library schedule including virtual workshops on how to conquer worry and anxiety, deep relaxation, mindfulness, resilience, how to lower your cholesterol and family wellbeing during a crisis. Find out more on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and on Fingal Libraries Youtube channel.

### **Sack of Balbriggan and the Fingal Festival of History**



This year's festival will be a virtual event and will take place from 12<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> September. Speakers for our History at the Castle Day will be videoed and recorded at Swords Castle and this will allow us to upload the event to our social media platforms throughout Fingal Festival of History week.

The theme of this year's festival is the War of Independence with a particular focus on the Sack of Balbriggan. The speakers confirmed include:- Jim Walsh (Historian) – The Sack of Balbriggan – a retrospective view, Brian Gallagher (Author) – writer of historical fiction for children, young adults & adults, works include Pawns, Spies, Across the Divide, Taking Sides etc., John Dorney (Historian & writer & editor of The Irish Story Website) – War of Independence with particular reference to north County Dublin, Declan Brady (Genealogist & Historian) - 1920 Local government and the War of Independence in Fingal, Brian Hanley (Historian & Assistant Professor of History at TCD) – The Black & Tans and David O'Connor (former councillor and Mayor of Fingal) - Songs and Music relating to the Sack of Balbriggan and The War of Independence, performed by David O Connor and Aidan Lawlor with Helen Lawlor on the Harp.

### **Cocooning Library Service and Contact and Collect**

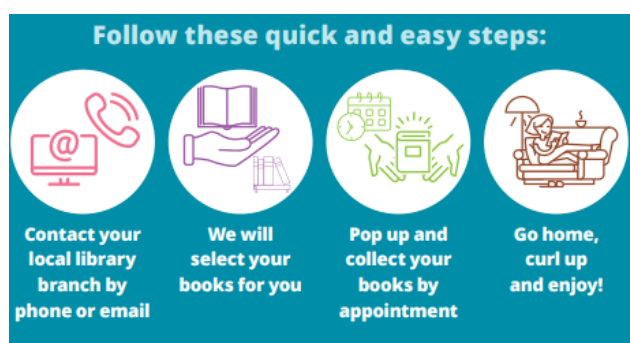
For anyone still cocooning, Fingal Libraries offers a book, talking book and DVD delivery service direct to your hall door. For further information telephone 01 8905000 or email [cocooning.library@fingal.ie](mailto:cocooning.library@fingal.ie)

Also, although branches are open for browsing, we are also operating a contact and collect service:

### **Fingal Local Studies and Archives Memory Project and COVID-19 Collection**

Fingal Local Studies and Archives want to hear from children and young people about their time in lockdown. Our latest library brochure has a template of a postcard on which they can draw a picture or write their thoughts, feelings or daily activities. These postcards will be stored at our Local Studies and Archives Department at 46 North Street, as a record of how young people lived through and coped with COVID-19.

Local Studies and Archives are also collecting material relating to the pandemic and how it is affecting the lives of the people of Fingal. They are interested in letters, diaries, photographs and any other unique items related to COVID-19. Material donated will be preserved and stored at Local Studies and Archives and will be made available for public consultation on the premises and on our social media platforms. All personal data will be kept private and secure in line with GDPR. Details of both these initiatives are available at <https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2020-06/b23340-fingal-libraries-cocooning-brochure-rev3.pdf> and at branch libraries.



**Follow these quick and easy steps:**

- Contact your local library branch by phone or email**
- We will select your books for you**
- Pop up and collect your books by appointment**
- Go home, curl up and enjoy!**

# ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE ACTION (ECA)

Contents	
<b>Environment &amp; Climate Action</b> Climate Action & Environmental Awareness Water Quality Protection Bathing Water Quality Litter Management Waste Enforcement	<b>Water Services</b> Operations

## ENVIRONMENT

### Climate Action & Environmental Awareness

The Climate Action, Biodiversity & Environment Strategic Policy Committee chaired by the new Mayor was presented with progress updates on the Climate Change Action Plan and the Tree Strategy & Bio Diversity Strategy in June. These updates were well received.

Fingal Climate Change Action Plan was launched in Sept 2019, and actions are ongoing. The Plan can be viewed at <https://www.fingal.ie/climate-change-action-plan-2019-2024> Updates under each action area are as follows:

#### Energy & Buildings:

FCC's Energy Management Team have made energy efficiency improvements of 34.5% to date, effectively exceeding the 33% target set by government, 1 year early.

The Energy Management Team, in collaboration with Codema and the SEAI have also developed an ISO 50001 compliant, energy management system, which enables improved oversight of energy accounts. As part of the management of energy usage, reports are now run on a monthly basis, ensuring oversight of every account and continuous improvement.

The value of this work cannot be overstated. FCC is part of an elite group of Public Bodies which have exceeded the 33% energy efficiency target by 2019

and have achieved exemplary standards in energy management. FCC is now on course to far exceed its 33% improvement in energy efficiency target by Dec 2020, and is well placed to meet its 2030 targets.

Energy Performance Contracts for energy upgrades for Fingal County Hall; and Civic Offices, Draíocht Arts Centre and the public library in Blanchardstown, are progressing well and Energy Service Companies are undertaking site visits to inform investment proposals.

The roll out of LED public lighting is 63% complete and on track for completion for 2021.

Housing & Community Department have replaced 80 Boilers in 2020 and provided these properties with upgraded heating controls. A further 170 have been identified for upgrade to more efficient models this year. All social housing stock as of 31/12/15 are now insulated, and all buy-ins and long-term leases since that date have been provided with attic insulation. A programme for cavity wall insulation, as necessary, is under development. Single glazed window replacement is 100% complete for council owned social housing stock and acquisitions.

#### Transport:

Actions in relation to modernising teleconferencing facilities and working arrangements to reduce the need for staff to travel between offices and to travel to an office on a daily

basis have been accelerated through the development of working arrangements in response to Covid 19. Microsoft Office 365 has been rolled out through our IT department at a remarkable pace. This has enabled staff to meet and collaborate virtually through MS Teams. Departments have identified tasks which can be progressed whilst working remotely, and systems have been put in place to allow remote access to office files. Health & Safety procedures have been developed & communicated in relation to home working, and training has been provided in relation to managing remote teams.

FCC is transitioning to an electric vehicle (EV) fleet and currently has 28 fully electric road vehicles, out of a fleet of 190, i.e. 15% of road vehicles. EV charge points have been provided in staff carparks and in depots for operational vehicles. An Electric Bike is also being trialled in our Blanchardstown office for staff use to undertake site visits and reduce the use of private vehicles. Provided there is sufficient uptake, adequate provision will be rolled out to both County Hall and Blanchardstown offices.

FCC is actively working to improve pedestrian and cycling infrastructure to encourage the uptake of cycling and walking throughout the county. The number of bicycle stands provided at key locations across the county is increasing steadily. Our Operations team have utilised the Fingal Voices app to invite member of the public to suggest locations for bicycle stands, and these are being provided where appropriate & feasible. "Bleperbike" bike sharing scheme was piloted in Blanchardstown and has been expanded to Swords, Malahide & Howth, with 50no bikes county wide.

A number of projects incorporating high quality cycling infrastructure are at various stages of design, planning and construction. For example: the Harry Reynolds Road Cycle Route & the Royal Canal Urban Greenway are at preliminary design stage, Fingal Coastal Way at route selection stage of prelim design, the Broadmeadow Way granted planning approval in May, the Sutton to Malahide

cycleway is underway with the Baldoyle to Portmarnock section officially opened this year. The Donabate Distributor Road which includes high quality cycle facilities is now in service.

FCC is working with the National Transport Authority (NTA) & Transport Infrastructure Ireland to deliver BusConnects and Metrolink.

FCC has laid the foundations for MetroLink by facilitating opportunities for high-density, mixed-use, employment generating activity, with a significant level of residential development along the route. Swords Masterplans were developed and agreed in 2019. These plans set the vision for parcels of land located along the MetroLink route.

FCC Operations staff are working towards providing park and ride facilities at strategic locations across the county and have engaged with the NTA to work on policy formation and to identify potential sites.

#### **Flood Resilience:**

Interim flood defences have been augmented at Portrane beach this summer and the Coastal Protection Team & RPS Consulting Engineers are putting plans in place to communicate the Emerging preferred option for Coastal Protection Plan for Portrane, Rush & Rogerstown outer estuary to the communities in the coming weeks.

The OPW in consultation with FCC is piloting The Rogerstown Outer Estuary coastal monitoring programme as one of 5 National locations. Drone flights have commenced. This pilot will inform a National Coastal Monitoring Programme which will be rolled out by the OPW.

Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department are currently drafting a Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) Guidance Document for new development within the County. The document is aimed at providing advice and guidance with regard to SuDS design, taking in charge and maintenance requirements, to prospective planning applicants.

FCC is also working with DCC & OPW in undertaking a catchment study of the Santry River to return the river to a more natural state, and to alleviate the flood risk downstream, through the use of green infrastructure and SuDS.

Climate change risk assessments of FCC Cultural Heritage Sites will commence this year. This project will map architectural and archaeological heritage sites across the county and risk assess the sites for impacts of climate change, informing monitoring programmes.

### **Nature Based Solutions:**

FCC is currently drafting a new tree strategy focusing on best practice in terms of designing open spaces to maximise the benefits of trees, including for climate action - carbon sequestration & SuDS; and in providing Habitats for Bio Diversity. The Tree Strategy will include woodland management plans for our Regional Parks.

Consultation for a new FCC Biodiversity Action Plan has started. The Plan is to be prepared in 2020 and will focus on the delivery of a climate change resilient ecological network throughout the county and will also identify strategic wildlife corridors and estuary sites where there is potential to make space for (flood) water through green infrastructure.

An internal working group has been established to identify sites where there may be an opportunity to retrofit green infrastructure to regional parks and estates. This green infrastructure could potentially include tree pits, rain gardens, swales & ponds and could provide multiple benefits including water quality & water attenuation benefits, carbon sequestration, and new and improved habitats for wildlife. This work may inform future work programmes.

FCC is responsible for 2,000 hectares of open space that are managed in a sustainable manner. The acreage of wildflower meadows in parks and

open spaces is increasing steadily and herbicides are no longer used in many parks.

Climate action and environmental awareness initiatives are ongoing, with an increasing focus on Biodiversity awareness, including the “Bee positive” biodiversity social media, cinema and bus shelter advertising campaigns in 2020.

### **Resource Management:**

Climate & Environmental Awareness Programmes for staff and the public are ongoing with a continuous presence on staff messages, social media and engagement with community groups in relation to sustainable living, waste reduction & recycling, and enhancing bio diversity. Public consultations in relation to projects and plans are ongoing. Our Communications team highlight the climate action message in the promotion of all plans and projects, and the public are seeing progress on the ground in the form of cycling infrastructure, greenways, planning for public transport, EV vehicle fleet, social housing improvements, Conversion of streetlights to LED’s, availability of energy savings kits in libraries, emergency response, coastal protection, bring centres, management of open spaces, and greening of events & competitions.

The public are increasingly informed in relation to the climate action challenges facing society and the leadership Fingal is taking, in collaboration with the Dublin local authorities, through the sum of our actions. A Climate Action Logo is under development at present which will be used by all Dublin Local Authorities (and has potential be adopted nationally). This will enable easy visual connections between initiatives, projects, plans & events; and will reinforce the awareness of associated climate action benefits.

Fingal Comhairle na nÓg is the recognised youth council in Fingal and are supported by Fingal County Council. They have chosen Climate Change and Peer Pressure as their focus for the year and

are actively engaged youths in Fingal and engaging with plans and policies through public consultations. The group is planning to undertake a beach or park clean up and will produce a video focusing on peer pressure in relation to climate action / inaction.

23 Fingal Schools that were awarded new Green Flags this year by An Taisce. The list of schools awarded can be seen here: <https://www.fingal.ie/green-schools>

The Nature Activity Competition entries were of a very high standard. A sample of entries and the list of winning entries can be viewed here: <https://www.fingal.ie/congratulations-winners-activities-nature-competition>

FCC operates approximately 60 accessible bring centres (bottle banks), and 2 recycling centres for public use. The bring centres have been exceptionally busy throughout the Covid 19 pandemic with tonnages equalling the Christmas peaks for bottle banks.

The CARO's will be rolling out a national programme of Climate Action Training for local authority staff at all levels and elected representatives this year. Pilot sessions are complete in Kildare & Monaghan. Tailored workshops will also be arranged for technical staff.

## Water Quality Protection

[Significant Water Management Issues in Ireland \(SWMI\) for Ireland's](#)

[River Basin Management Plan 2022-2017 – public consultation extended](#)

There has been an extension to the public consultation on the Significant Water Management Issues for Ireland to be addressed in the next River Basin Management Plan. The extended consultation will now run until 5pm on Friday 7 August 2020.

Due to COVID-19, and the restrictions people faced during the public consultation period, there is a six week extension to the public consultation to allow more time for submissions from all interested parties.

The final date for responses is Friday 7 August 2020, with copies of the consultation document available for download on the department's website at [www.housing.gov.ie](http://www.housing.gov.ie).

Submissions can be made online at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/3HGB3HZ](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3HGB3HZ), by email to [rbmp@housing.gov.ie](mailto:rbmp@housing.gov.ie) and in writing to: SWMI Consultation, Water Advisory Unit, Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, Custom House, Dublin 1, D01 W6X0.

[Registration, maintenance and grants for septic tank systems](#)



Since 2013, all homeowners with a wastewater system must be registered with their local

authority (LA) – to check if you are registered go to [www.protectourwater.ie](http://www.protectourwater.ie)

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is an independent public body. The EPA are responsible for supervising local authorities when they inspect wastewater systems. The EPA and local authorities do this to ensure that the systems are suitable and well maintained.

Poorly maintained wastewater systems can affect your drinking water, especially from private wells.

Many people assume that their private well water is safe to drink and don't treat it or get it tested. They shouldn't because a recent study found that E.coli, which can cause serious illness, is present in almost a third (29%) of Irish private wells.

### Have you completed a septic tank system check?

To help people with a septic tank know what to do, a plain English leaflet is available to read and tells you how to:

1. **Check** your septic tank works
2. **Maintain** it properly
3. **Protect** your health and local environment

Maintain your wastewater system and you will help to protect your health and your local environment including your bathing water.

“A well-maintained system in the right site with the right soil conditions will protect your health, your local environment and your pocket.”

Download leaflet here: <https://www.catchments.ie/download/septic-tank-system-check/>

### Grants payable under the Housing (Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems Financial Assistance for Prioritised Areas for Action) Regulations 2020 (S.I. No. 185 of 2020)

This grant is available to assist with the costs of remediation, repair or upgrading works to, or

replacement of, a domestic waste water treatment system (DWWTS) that serves a house, where the works arise in a Prioritised Area for Action in accordance with the River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 (RBMP), and where the potential applicant has received a letter from the Local Authority Waters Programme Office (LAWPRO) on behalf of the housing authority, confirming eligibility to apply for a grant.

*Important: Costs associated with the routine maintenance or servicing of DWWTS, or of desludging such systems, do not qualify for grant aid.*

### Bathing Water Quality



2020 Routine Bathing Water Quality Sample Results					
	25th May	2nd June	15th June	18th June*	29th June
Balbriggan, Front Strand	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent		Excellent
Skerries, South Beach	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent		Excellent
Loughshinny Beach	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent		Excellent
Rush, North Beach	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent		Excellent
Rush, South Beach	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent		Excellent
Donabate, Balcarrick Beach	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent		Good
Portrane, The Brook Beach	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent		Excellent
Portmarnock, Velvet Strand	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
Sutton, Burrow Beach	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent		Excellent
Howth, Claremont Beach	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent		Excellent
Malahide Beach	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent		Excellent

The month of June saw a total rainfall of 68.1 mm at Dublin Airport a stark contrast for May which only saw 9.3mm. Despite the rain our beaches are busy and bathers are swimming along Fingal's coastline from sunrise to sunset in our 10 identified bathing areas.

There have been two notices to date this bathing season and both issued at Velvet Strand, Portmarnock:

1. Prohibition (Do not swim) Notice issued on 17<sup>th</sup> June following local heavy rainfall which caused a storm overflow – a re-sample was taken on 18<sup>th</sup> June and results\* met “excellent” status and notice was removed.
2. A Prior Warning Notice for bathers was issued on 25<sup>th</sup> June following a Met Eireann yellow alert for Thunderstorms from 16.00p.m. on 26<sup>th</sup> June – the forecast rain did not take place and the notice was removed on 27<sup>th</sup> June.

We are closely monitoring the bathing waters and any queries can be reported to [bathingwaters@fingal.ie](mailto:bathingwaters@fingal.ie). We have re-tested the bathing water at Balcarrick Beach, Donabate on 2<sup>nd</sup> July and results met “xxx”. The next scheduled sampling is 13<sup>th</sup> July and results are available at [www.beaches.ie](http://www.beaches.ie)

[Citizen science: help Explore Your Shore and do a Rocky Shore Safari](#)

The National Biodiversity Data Centre has launched a Rocky Shore Safari which is a new survey under their **Explore Your Shore!** marine citizen science project.

Rocky Shore Safari is the fourth survey of their **Explore Your Shore!** citizen science project and is designed to collect information on the distribution

of marine plants and animals in Ireland's rocky shore habitats.



Members of the public can get involved in our Rocky Shore Safari by spending one hour surveying their local rocky shore and submitting records of animals and plants to [www.exploreyourshore.ie](http://www.exploreyourshore.ie)

Be part of the network of active marine biodiversity recorders today.

As part of the project, a suite of online surveys is available and identification workshops and resources will be available with full details posted on their project website at [www.ExploreYourShore.ie](http://www.ExploreYourShore.ie)

*Explore Your Shore! is funded by the Environmental Protection Agency to promote citizen science and awareness of water quality in Irish freshwater and coastal aquatic habitats.*



## Litter Management

Weekend Patrols continue to be carried out by the Litter Wardens, with particular attention being paid to the beaches and tourist destinations. High levels of footfall have been observed across all the beaches and designated bathing waters. Notwithstanding this there has been no corresponding rise in the levels of littering at these locations.

In addition to the Litter Wardens, the Dog Wardens are also continuing their enhanced patrols across the county in response to higher than normal levels of complaints in relation to dogs. These complaints have drastically reduced in number since the commencement of additional Dog Warden patrols.

## Waste Enforcement

### RMCEI Plan 2020

Quarter 3 will focus on increasing compliance at permitted waste facilities with inspections planned over the coming week as Covid 19 restrictions are eased. Validation of annual waste returns at permitted facilities continues with on-site validation audits scheduled during July and August. Desktop validation of waste collection permit annual returns are also being undertaken with follow on audits scheduled during August. Quarter 3 also sees a significant focus on illegal car breaking yards i.e. sites operating without the necessary planning permission and/or waste facility permit. Sites have been identified and will be targeted for inspections and follow on enforcement action if operators fail to clear sites and regularise activities. Several sites have been closed to date with further action planned over the coming months.

A bi-annual review of the RMCEI Plan 2020 was recently completed to take account of Covid restrictions and the knock impacts for undertaking inspections. Remote inspections have been completed where possible with on-site inspections planned for later in the year to verify conditions on sites. A significant increase in the number of complaints was noted over the past 3 months with knock on effects on available resources. As a result certain waste enforcement activities have been scaled back to help focus efforts on waste related complaints and illegal dumping activities. Overall there has been a doubling in complaint numbers observed between January – June 2020 compared to the same period last year.

### ELV Awareness Campaign

An End of Life Vehicle (ELV) awareness campaign is underway to highlight issues around illegal ELV sites and the importance of disposing of your old car at an authorised facility to promote the circular economy and prevent environmental pollution.

“Did you know **85%** of your old car can be recycled when it’s time to scrap it? Were you aware you’re required by law to dispose of your old car at a permitted scrapyard or authorised treatment facility (ATF) to get a certificate of destruction (COD)? If you don’t you could be facing a €100 fine or even worse, upon summary conviction in a district court, a fine of up to €5,000!” A number of posters were developed which are being circulated on Fingal social media sites, Council buildings, libraries and local media sites. The posters will be displayed at several bus shelters locations throughout Fingal during July to help raise awareness and to highlight the fact that your old car can be recycled for free if brought to a permitted facility.

**85%**  
OF YOUR  
**OLD CAR**  
CAN BE **RECYCLED**



**AVOID A  
€5,000 FINE  
USE AN AUTHORISED FACILITY**

Comhairle Contae  
Fhine Gall  
Fingal County  
Council



**Scrap your Car for Free**  
Visit [www.elves.ie](http://www.elves.ie)

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Council



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### Waste Management

The Regional Waste Management Offices (RWMO's) produced an Interim Report on the Performance of the Waste Sector in Ireland during the initial restrictions period from the 12th of March to the 18th of May. The report found that a combination of key decisions and business

continuity measures ensured that waste services continued uninterrupted and proved remarkably resilient during the period. The report highlights key success factors which contributed to the continuity of services while identifying some vulnerabilities which will have to be addressed. The report confirms that established structures, arrangements and relationships were fit for purpose while recognising that future crises may have significantly different characteristics from a waste perspective.

In terms of waste collection the RWMO's continue to liaise with all waste collectors through the IWMA and the NWCPO and waste collection is operating normally. Waste collectors are continuing to fine tune operational arrangements to ensure the safety of staff and business continuity.

All C&D waste facilities reopened on the 18th of May with initial estimates of 50% of normal activity to the end of the year. There is sufficient C&D waste capacity for 2020 based on the current evaluation. The RWMO's are liaising with the sector to monitor waste flows over the period of the reopening plan.

### 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

### Financial Reports

Refer to Appendix 1 for the following reports:-

- Revenue Account Income & expenditure to 30<sup>th</sup> June , 2020
- Capital Account Income & Expenditure to 30<sup>th</sup> June , 2020
- Summary of Corporate Debtors to 30<sup>th</sup> June , 2020

## APPENDIX 1

### REVENUE ACCOUNT INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 30TH JUNE 2020

	EXPENDITURE			INCOME			NET
	Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent to date	Income €	Adopted Full year Budget €	% Budget Raised	€
A Housing & Building	28,966,864	64,668,499	45%	31,553,673	67,692,700	47%	-2,586,809
B Road Transport & Safety	11,009,091	23,627,200	47%	3,008,972	6,609,400	46%	8,000,119
C Water Services	8,879,009	13,535,000	66%	8,701,191	17,109,500	51%	177,819
D Development Management	9,291,110	15,538,700	60%	6,388,137	4,285,700	149%	2,902,973
E Environmental Services	20,569,443	42,952,600	48%	2,672,888	6,679,000	40%	17,896,554
F Recreation & Amenity	16,525,229	34,225,501	48%	700,706	1,691,300	41%	15,824,523
G Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	347,664	900,300	39%	100,454	210,100	48%	247,210
H Miscellaneous Services	14,125,001	29,041,500	49%	3,233,817	6,282,400	51%	10,891,184
J Central Management Charge	22,618,922	45,480,800	50%	1,398,825	3,031,800	46%	21,220,097
LG Local Property Tax / GPG				3,764,250	7,528,500	50%	-3,764,250
RA Rates				74,424,850	148,849,700	50%	-74,424,850
	<b>132,332,333</b>	<b>269,970,099</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>135,947,764</b>	<b>269,970,099</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>-3,615,431</b>

## CAPITAL ACCOUNT

		Balance at	Expenditur	Income	Balance at
		01/01/2020	e YTD	YTD	30/06/2020
		€	€	€	€
A	Housing & Building	-36,816,097	57,554,650	-39,510,593	-18,772,040
B	Road Transport & Safety	23,162,527	17,214,111	-523,261	39,853,377
C	Water Services	-14,803,701	919,067	-1,024,626	-14,909,260
D	Development Managemer	-109,842,777	4,056,544	-16,803,519	-122,589,752
E	Environmental Services	-12,699,108	2,329,377	-1,211,109	-11,580,840
F	Recreation & Amenity	-1,575,613	6,440,689	-715,880	4,149,196
H	Miscellaneous Services	-43,171,040	2,168,953	-12,213,969	-53,216,056
	<b>Total</b>	<b>-195,745,809</b>	<b>90,683,390</b>	<b>-72,002,957</b>	<b>-177,065,376</b>

<b>SUMMARY OF CORPORATE DEBTORS TO 30/06/2020</b>				
	<b>Balance at 01/01/2020</b>	<b>Balance at 30/06/2020</b>	<b>Current debt</b>	<b>&gt; 1 Year</b>
	<b>€</b>	<b>€</b>	<b>€</b>	<b>€</b>
<b>RATES</b>	<b>4,906,810</b>	<b>87,397,946</b>	<b>85,736,241</b>	<b>1,661,705</b>
<b>LOANS</b>	<b>1,363,067</b>	<b>1,483,511</b>	<b>307,494</b>	<b>1,176,017</b>
<b>RENTS</b>	<b>5,100,489</b>	<b>5,890,133</b>	<b>3,262,555</b>	<b>2,627,578</b>

*Figures for rents and loans are unadjusted by credits/prepayments*