



**comhairle chontae na mí**  
*meath county council*

# **Chief Executive's Report for Elected Members**

**Monthly Management Report**  
**December 2020**

This Monthly Management Report is prepared in accordance with Section 136(2) of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended by the Local Government Reform Act, 2014, and provided to the Elected Members for consideration and information.

## Introduction by the Chief Executive

To Members,

This Monthly Management Report gives an overview of the on-going governance of Meath County Council at what is a very challenging time for the Council, the county and the country more generally. This report is being provided for your information and consideration.

As we emerge from the Level 5 restrictions it is to be hoped that the Covid-19 case numbers will remain stable and at a level where some form of normality can return to the local economy and in particular the retail and hospitality sectors during the festive period.

The easing of the restrictions will require the Council to modify some of its services again. As a local authority, most of our services are defined as essential and have remained open for business throughout the year. As a public service organisation, we will continue to monitor and review how we are performing and our requirements to respond to the public health advice as it evolves. The next phase of the Community Call – Community Resilience Programme will be rolled out over the winter and we will put in places what is required for the county, in collaboration with our key stakeholders.

The month of November has been extremely busy, with the recommencement of the Special Planning Meeting on the review of the County Development Plan, the holding of the Budget Meeting to adopt Budget 2021, as well as, the various MD, SPC and other meetings that have taken place as scheduled. We have all had to change and adapt how we do business in the context of the pandemic and as a Council we have made every effort possible to ensure that we continue the work in a safe and responsible manner, using the legislative tools available to us to further ensure that.

With the cooperation of the elected members, my hope is that the Development Plan review will be completed before Christmas. It'll be a significant and fitting conclusion to the work year, which has been challenging on a number of fronts.

Above all let us ensure that as a Council and as a county we come through this together safely and stronger.

Thank You,

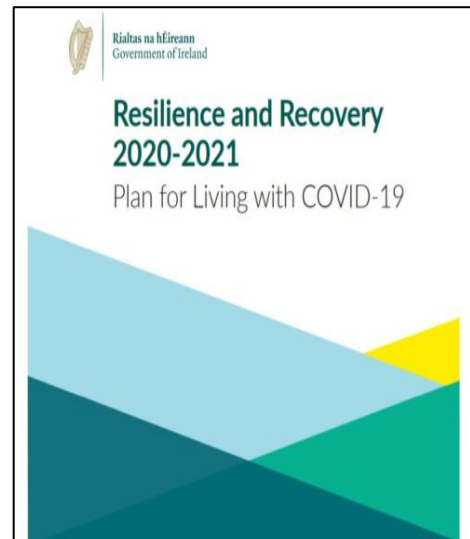
**Jackie Maguire**  
**Chief Executive**

## Covid-19 – Response to Restrictions

### Level 5 Restrictions

The decision of the Government to move the country to Level 5 restrictions, under the Resilience and Recovery Plan 2020-2021, on midnight October 21<sup>st</sup> had an impact on some of the services of the Council.

However, as a provider of essential services, the Council remained open, most of our services are deemed essential and we operated at near normal delivery levels for these services. That said, a number of services were impacted and the level of interaction with the public was reduced to protect the health and wellbeing of staff and to comply with the public health guidance.



These impacts were outlined in the November Report and are available to the public on the Council's website.

### Exit from Level 5 Restrictions

The decision of Government to relax the public health restrictions has allowed the Council to modify its operations and to re-open public counters again, which were closed during the Level 5 restrictions.

These changes will be reviewed in January when the extent of Covid restrictions for the new year are known. The following are some of key changes:

- Public counters – open for the same hours as the pre-level 5 period.
- Internal events (e.g. civic events) will not proceed and external events will remain limited to 15 attendees.
- Kells pool - opening for public sessions only and not taking group bookings.

The Library Section has got specific guidance from the Department regarding reopening. Branches are open for browsing, e-services and call & collect services, but no seating or events are permitted. These services are available during normal opening hours. The Trim Library has also re-opened at new premises on Mill Street.

All changes took effect on December 1<sup>st</sup>.

## Corporate Services

### Meetings Administration

**Standard Operating Guidance for Council Meetings:** The Standard Operating Guidance (SOG) agreed at national level by the Local Government Management Agency (LGMA), the Association of Irish Local Government (AILG) and the Local Authority Members Association (LAMA) remains in place and governs the holding of Council meetings. This includes the guidance on the maximum duration of meetings of 1hr 55mins.

### Corporate News

**Christmas Opening Hours:** Council buildings and public counters will be closed for a slightly longer period this year, in line with the agreed sectoral approach. The offices and public counters will be open on Wednesday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, but will be closed from December 24<sup>th</sup> and will re-open on Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021, with the exception of Motor Tax counters which will be closed from Tuesday, December 22.

The 24 Hour Emergency Line 1890-445-335 remains operational throughout the holiday period.

**Excellence in Local Government Awards 2020:** The Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards 2020 (ELG Awards), sponsored by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, took place virtually on Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup>. While Meath County Council had six shortlisted projects, none were successful in winning an award.

### Events - Communications

**Turning on of Christmas Lights Events:** The traditional turning on of the Christmas lights was done through a series of virtual events this year, due to the public health restrictions. The Council has investing in some new lighting and projectors, with the intention of making the county's towns more attractive and welcoming and supporting the Shop Local campaign.



The events have been well received by local businesses and citizens alike.

# Housing Services

## Capital Programme

### Summary Profile of Approved Direct Construction Projects

PROJECT NAME	NO. OF UNITS	APPROVED BUDGET €	ESTIMATED START DATE	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE
<b>DESIGN PHASE</b>				
Farganstown	84	24,630,457	Q2 2021	Q4 2022
Kells Archdeaconary	20	3,826,010	Q2 2021	Q2 2022
Blackhill Cresent, Donacarney	2	418,369	Q2 2021	Q4 2021
Nangle Court, Navan	6	1,096,600	Q2 2021	Q2 2022
Church View, Rathmoylon	9	1,719,002	Q2 2021	Q2 2022
Carrick Street Regeneration, Kells	36	10,225,755	-	-
<b>Totals</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>41,916,193</b>		
<b>PART 8 PLANNING PROCESS</b>				
Ashbourne	76	19,730,587	Q2 2021	Q3 2022
Lagore, Dunshaughlin	34	7,996,502	Q3 2021	Q4 2022
<b>Totals</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>27,727,089</b>		
<b>TENDER FOR CONSTRUCTION</b>				
Donore	21	4,165,565	Q1 2021	Q2 2022
<b>Totals</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>4,165,565</b>		
<b>CONSTRUCTION STAGE</b>				
Bettystown (Phase 2)	15	3,426,308	Q1 2019	Q4 2020
Kells	40	8,555,683	Q1 2019	Q4 2020
Lagore, Dunshaughlin	26	5,813,948	Q1 2020	Q2 2021
<b>Totals</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>17,795,939</b>		
<b>PROJECTS COMPLETED</b>				
Bettystown (Phase 1)	16	3,437,478	Complete	N/A
Athboy (Phase 1)	32	8,850,320	Complete	N/A
Proudstown Road Navan	4	819,737	Complete	N/A
Summerhill	19	3,854,980	Complete	N/A
Ratoath	17	3,662,700	Complete	N/A
Cortown*	10	6,922,971	Complete	N/A
Kilmainhamwood*	4		Complete	N/A
Oldcastle*	16		Complete	N/A
The Belfry, Trim	3	560,000	Complete	N/A
Carlanstown	13	2,719,237	Complete	N/A
<b>Totals</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>30,827,423</b>		
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>122,432,209</b>		

\* Rapid Build Delivery Projects

## Summary of 2020 Approved Funding Submissions

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT TYPE	NO. OF UNITS	FUNDING APPROVED €
Dunboyne	Part V	10	2,025,748
Dunshaughlin	Part V	8	2,222,861
Trim	Part V	6	1,549,664
Navan	Part V	5	1,116,500
Drogheda South	Part V	10	2,584,583
New Lane, Navan	Direct Construction	5	985,945
Athboy (Kildalkey Rd)	Direct Construction	20	4,135,500
Meath Women's Refuge	Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	8	2,014,482
Newtown	Rural Dwelling (Disability)	1	237,718
Navan	Turnkey	26	6,362,500
Mornington	Part V	8	2,105,199
Bettystown	Part V	2	507,980
Donacarney	Part V	5	1,305,042
Bettystown	Turnkey	2	575,505
Ashbourne	Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	20	5,393,367
Duleek	Turnkey	16	4,297,030
<b>Totals</b>		<b>152</b>	<b>37,419,624</b>

## Summary of Current Funding Submissions

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT TYPE	NO. OF UNITS	FUNDING SOUGHT €
Stamullen	Part V	5	1,263,622
Kilcock	Part V	13	3,344,819
Bettystown	Turnkey	1	318,000
<b>Totals</b>		<b>19</b>	<b>4,926,441</b>

**Expression of Interest for Turnkey Schemes and/or Lands:** There is currently an open call for proposals (no deadline applies) regarding the supply of development sites or completed housing schemes that are fit for purpose for social housing within the County. Details regarding same and required forms can be found on [www.etenders.gov.ie](http://www.etenders.gov.ie). or via the following link on Meath.ie <http://bit.ly/EOIHouseSchemesAndOrLand>

**Acquisitions:** The Council was given approval on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2020 to acquire 25 second hand units before the end of the year. Sales have been completed on 13 units with a further 12 units at "sale agreed" stage.

**Turnkeys:** Sales have closed on 19 Turnkey houses to the value of €4,598,500

**Part V:** Sales have closed on 33 Part V houses to the value of €8,175,400. A further 21 Part V units have been delivered to Approved Housing Bodies

**Housing Adaptation Grant Schemes for Older People and People with a Disability:** Grants to the value of €2,137,316 have already been awarded by Meath County Council to 325 Households under the various Grants schemes to date in 2020.

**Local Authority Adaptation Works Scheme:** Twenty-six projects completed to date in 2020 (€200,219), with a further 12 task orders issued to contractors (€89,649)

**Local Authority Vacant Units Currently Unavailable for Allocation:** Outlined below is a summary per Municipal District of the number of vacant properties that currently require works before they can be re-tenanted, as at 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020. For the period from 19<sup>th</sup> October 2020 to 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020, works were completed on 15 vacant units; while 8 units became vacant during this period.

	No. of Units Vacant < 3 Months	No. of Units Vacant 3-6 Months	No. of Units Vacant > 6 Months	No. of Vacant Units Currently Subject to Works	No. of Vacant Units not with Contractors
<b>Ashbourne</b>	0	1	1	2	0
<b>Kells</b>	3	0	2	4	1
<b>Laytown/Bettystown</b>	1	2	**1	4	0
<b>Navan</b>	5	1	**1	5	2
<b>Ratoath</b>	4	0	2	6	0
<b>Trim</b>	0	1	**1	2	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>3</b>

Note: \*\*1Includes three pre-lets with major renovations aiming to upgrade BER rating to B2.

### Summary Profile of Approved Housing Body Approved Projects 2017-2021

PROJECT NAME	NO. OF UNITS	AHB	DELIVERY
<b>PIPELINE DELIVERY</b>			
Slan Duff, Kentstown	2	Cluid Housing	Delivery Due – Q4 2020
Fitzherbert Wood, Navan	5	Tuath Housing	Delivery Due – Q4 2020
Gort Fionnbarra, Navan (Phase 2)	20	Tuath Housing	Delivery Due – Q2 2021
Frederick Manor	11	Cluid Housing	Delivery Due – Q4 2020
Narrow Ways Bettystown	12	Tuath Housing	Delivery Due - Q1 2021
The Maudlins, Trim	9	Cluid Housing	Delivery Due – Q1 2021
Ashewood Ashbourne	11	Cluid Housing	Delivery Due - Q2 2021
Athboy Road, Navan	63	Respond	Delivery Due - Q3 2021
Ledwidge Hall, Slane	28	Oaklee Housing	Delivery Due – Q4 2021
Royal Oaks, Enfield	30	Cluid Housing	Delivery Due – Q4 2021
Gort Fionnbarra, Navan (Phase 3)	49	Tuath Housing	Delivery Due – Q4 2021
The Willows, Dunshaughlin	96	Cluid Housing	Delivery Due – Q4 2021
Effernock, Trim	16	Cluid Housing	Delivery Due – Q4 2021
<b>TOTAL UNITS TO BE DELIVERED</b>	<b>352</b>		

UNITS DELIVERED			
Churchfields, Ashbourne (Part V)	8	Tuath Housing	Complete - 2017
Grangehall, Dunshaughlin	6	Tuath Housing	Complete - 2017
Ardmore, Bettystown	1	North & East Housing	Complete - 2017
Royal Oaks, Enfield (Part V)	4	Cluid Housing	Complete - 2017
Seabury Lawns, Mornington	6	Cluid Housing	Complete - 2018
Kellets Grove, Dunshaughlin (Part V)	6	Tuath Housing	Complete - 2018
Milltown Meadows, Ashbourne	67	Cluid Housing	Complete - 2017
Emmet Street, Trim	11	North & East Housing	Complete - 2018
Dunville, Navan (30 units Part V)	64	Tuath Housing	Complete - 2018
Ceamach Close, Donacarney	16	Cluid Housing	Complete - 2018)
Blackcastle, Navan	26	Tuath Housing	Complete - 2018
Grangehall, Dunshaughlin	8	Tuath Housing	Complete - 2018
Ashewood, Ashbourne	12	Cluid Housing	Complete - 2018
Churchfields, Ashbourne	18	Tuath Housing	Complete - 2018
Fitzherbert Wood, Navan	22	Tuath Housing	Complete 2018/2019
Churchfields, Ashbourne (Part V)	25	Tuath Housing	Complete – 2018/2019
Eastham Square, Bettystown(Part V)	5	Cluid Housing	Complete – 2019
Station Road, Dunboyne	24	Respond	Complete – 2019
Dunville, Navan	6	Tuath Housing	Complete – 2019
Commons Road , Navan	12	North & East Housing	Complete - 2019
Gort Fionnbarra, Navan (Phase 1)	20	Tuath Housing	Complete - 2019
Maudlins, Duleek	20	Respond	Complete – 2019
Dun Eimear, Bettystown	23	Cluid	Complete – 2019
Dunville, Navan	54	Tuath	Complete – 2020
Athboy Road, Trim	25	Oaklee	Complete – 2020
Whitefield Hall, Bettystown	29	Tuath	Complete – 2020
Royal Oaks, Enfield	4	Cluid Housing	Complete - 2020
Gort Fionnbarra, Navan (Phase 2)	18	Tuath Housing	Complete - 2020
The Bungalows, Dunshaughlin	8	Circle	Complete - 2020
Fitzherbert Wood, Navan	5	Tuath Housing	Complete - 2020
<b>TOTAL UNITS DELIVERED</b>	<b>553</b>		
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>905</b>		

### Homeless Service

	SINGLE ADULTS/COUPLES	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS
<b>Placements at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020</b>	125 (129)	25 (39 Adults, 56 Children)	150
<b>Placements at 31<sup>th</sup> October 2020</b>	127 (132)	27 (43 Adults, 63 Children)	154

Of the 27 households with children, 10 families are placed in short term private rented accommodation (house/apartment) through Settlement Team's intervention and 6 Families in PMVT Family Hubs.

**Reasons for emergency accommodation placement in order of frequency:** Primary reason is Notice to Quit & unable to a find property to rent; followed by family breakdown; addiction; mental health and young person leaving Tusla aftercare.



A total of 471 households presented as homeless to Meath County Council for the period January 1st to October 31st 2020 (301 individual/couples and 170 families). The reasons for presentations were as follows: 160 family breakdown, 86 Notice to Quit, 92 sofa surfing/cannot afford rent, 36 domestic violence, 17 leaving prison/hospital, 17 addiction, 14 mental health, 11 rough sleeping, 26 overcrowding/Unsuitable Living Conditions, 12 other.

A total of 145 tenancies were secured through the support provided by the Homeless HAP Placefinder Service for the period January 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup> 2020.

### **Social Housing Supports**

A total of 998 new applications for Social Housing Support were received for the period January 1<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020.

Outlined below is the number of households that have had their accommodation needs met by Meath County Council in the period January 1<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020.

<b>Allocations/Housing Supports</b>	<b>Number</b>
MCC Direct Allocations	239
Approved Housing Bodies	212
RAS	3
HAP	638
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,092</b>

## Planning Services

### Planning Applications

A total of 1,813 planning applications were received for the period 01.01.2020 to 30.11.2020. This is compared to 1,643 in the same period last year.

### Development Contributions

Development Contribution receipts up to the end of October 2020 are €7,835,648. This is compared to €9,122,839 in the same period last year. (Figures are not inclusive of Irish Water receipts)

### Oral Hearing – ABP-303211-18

An Bord Pleanála has notified the Council that an Oral Hearing will take place with respect to the disposal of treatment and recovery of waste at Knockharley on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December.

### Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) applications lodged with An Bord Pleanála

#### 308628

- **Case Type:** Application - Electricity Development
- **Description:** 110kV gas insulated switchgear substation compound, associated dropdown transmission lines, and associated development at Drogheda IDA Business and Technology Park, Donore Road, Drogheda, Co. Meath
- **Planning Authority:** Meath County Council
- **Category:** SID (Not incl LAP SID cases)
- **Date lodged:** 10/11/2020
- **EIS:** Yes
- **NIS:** No
- **Parties**

CAP Developments LLC (Applicant)

#### 308620

- **Case Type:** Amendment - Electricity Development
- **Description:** Section 146B application for alterations to An Bord Pleanála Case Reference ABP-303568-19 for a proposed electrical substation and associated 110kV and MV infrastructure required to connect ground mounted solar PV generation to the electricity transmission system at Gillinstown, Duleek, Co. Meath
- **Planning Authority:** Meath County Council
- **Category:** SID (Not incl LAP SID cases)
- **Date lodged:** 10/11/2020
- **EIS:** No
- **NIS:** No
- **Parties**

Highfield Solar Limited (Applicant)

### **Taking-in-Charge**

The following list of developments was placed on public display from Monday November 23<sup>rd</sup> until Tuesday December 22<sup>nd</sup> with respect to the Taking-in-charge process. Submissions or objections in writing will be accepted up to and including Tuesday January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

<b>Development</b>	<b>Municipal District</b>
Blackcastle Lodge	Navan
Cherryhill Court	Kells
Moy Park	Kells
Moyview	Trim
Seachnail Abbey	Ratoath
Hanson Wood	Ratoath
Chestnut Grove	Ratoath
Dunboyne Castle	Ashbourne
Millbourne Phase 2	Ashbourne
Rath Lodge	Ashbourne
The Grange Donore	Laytown / Bettystown

## Transportation

### National Roads 2020 funding from TII confirmed - €7,278,918

N51 Dunmoe Phase 2	Stage 2 Archaeology works complete. Remaining field work (Stage 3) complete end of Nov. Westmeath RDO finalising Tender documents for the main construction contract to be completed in Q4 2020.
N2 Slane Bypass	RPS progressing Phase 3 design. Geophysical report complete. Site Investigation Contractor field work complete, laboratory testing ongoing. Archaeology geophysical works commencing end of Nov 2020. Landowner meetings ongoing.
N2 Rath Roundabout to Kilmoon	ROD/AECOM are progressing Phase 2 - Options Selection assessments. Seasonal ecology survey completed on site. When the Emerging Preferred Option is identified a third public consultation process will take place in Q1 2021.
N52 Grange to Clontail	The Part 8 public display period is complete, Preparation of CE report ongoing. Decision due in Q1 2021. Atkins progressing Phase 3 design.
NS Resurfacing	Resurfacing works are substantially complete on National routes including the works at N51 Balmoral, Navan

### (a) Non- National Roads 2020 funding from DTT&S - € 23,696,867

R162 Kilberry Traffic Calming Scheme – Phase 1	R163 Road Closure in place from 31 <sup>st</sup> October to 18 <sup>th</sup> November to facilitate safe excavation and reconstruction of the R162 and R163 at the junction. Works currently expected to be completed by the end of the year.
R150 Laytown to Bettystown Spine Road	Works commenced on 04 <sup>th</sup> August & are currently expected to take circa 12 months. Works progressing well with Earthworks, Drainage & Structures almost complete, new car-park at Youth Reach Centre also substantially complete.
Road Works Programme	Phase 1 – Restoration Improvement contract 100% complete Phase 3 & Phase 4 – Overlay/surface dressing 98% complete Phase 5 – CIS – 100% complete Phase 6 – LIS – 100% complete

**DTTAS Climate Change Adaptation Jobs Stimulus Programme 2020 (€517,000):** The 5 successful schemes are progressing.

### (b) Non- National Roads 2020 - Funding – Other than DTT&S

R154 Kiltale Traffic Calming & Junction Improvement Scheme	Works ongoing and currently expected to be complete Q2 2021.
LDR6 Kentstown junction to Farganstown, LIHAF Scheme	Scheme will be substantially complete in the next couple of weeks.
Ratoath Outer Relief Road (RORR), LIHAF Scheme	Scheme is currently behind programme and has been delayed due to issues on site – not now expected to be complete until Q1 2021.

## Sustainable Transport Measures Grants from NTA Confirmed - € 5,877,000

Navan Town Scheme (Navan 2030)	Paving works complete at Newgrange Hotel, street parking reinstated temporarily. Paving works ongoing at Church retaining wall & Old Infirmary. Temp traffic management in place on Bridge St and Circular Rd. New kerbing and footpaths installed on Circular Rd junction. Abbey Rd kerbing complete between Cannon Row and Kennedy Rd. Paving works complete on Boreen Keel/Emmett Terrace and at the Garda Station. Two-way traffic to reopen on Abbey Rd between the roundabouts for December. Limited paving works & associated civils off the road will continue.
Navan Town Bus Stops	Successful Tenderer identified and Letter of Intent has issued. Bus Éireann confirmed date for commencement of services in December, and advance works underway to facilitate these, including bus turnabout facility (Gainstown/ Robinstown Crossroads), bus cages (line marking) at stops & erection of bus poles
Provision of Accessible Bus Stops	Project advancing from preliminary design to detailed design stage with our Consultants. Utility and topographical survey contractor appointed and survey works commencing on site in coming weeks. Should be ready to tender in Q1 2021, with the construction phase commencing in Q2 2021.
Tender for Installation of Bus Shelters	Project at detailed design stage with our Consultants. Utility and topographical survey consultant appointed, and surveying works currently taking place. Should be ready to tender Q1 2021, with the construction phase commencing in Q2 2021.
Athlumney to Trim Road Cycle and Pedestrian Scheme	The geometric design of Phase 1 & 2, using the new topographical survey, has commenced. Site work for Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey is complete and the GPR model due end of November. Preliminary design of public lighting for the scheme has been completed. Meeting held with ESB to review in advance of application. Consultation with affected landowners has commenced. Currently in final stage of appointing a land valuer for the Railway Cottage on Railway St.
Laytown Park and Ride	New petrol oil interceptors installed, new drainage installed, new kerbing installed, new public lighting installed. Bottle bank kerbing and road pavement foundation installed. Ducting for ESB installed. New surfacing to be installed in December. Works projected to complete in late December 2020.
Kells Bus Stop Reconstruction	Contractor programming work on the reconstruction of the bus bay at the Kells Parochial House (Stop reference 135231) in December, at night-time. Works will involve excavation of existing road and reconstruction and remarking of the stop.
Boyne Greenway – Drogheda to Mornington	Extensive list of further information sought by An Bórd Pleanála and is under review. It is anticipated that further bird surveys will commence next month.
N51 Park & Ride	Part 8 process commenced for the proposed N51 Park & Ride scheme in mid-October. Submissions to Planning Department up to 5.00pm on Tuesday 1st of Dec. Submissions will be reviewed in December, and it is currently anticipated that a CE report will be presented at Navan MD meeting in Jan 2021.
Ratoath Cycle Network	Part 8 submissions closed on 20th Nov. Substantial no. of submissions received, currently being reviewed. Work to commence on responses to objections/queries in the received submissions. Alternative layouts for the contentious tree removal section, adjacent to Woodlands, being examined.

**NTA Jobs Stimulus Programme 2020 (€3,105,000):** The 38 schemes are progressing and are at various stages with 32 schemes set to be complete or substantially complete by the end of the year.

**Safety Improvement Works on Regional & Local Roads**

(DTT&S Grant Allocation outlined above includes €357,000 for Safety Improvement schemes for 2020)

2020 Schemes	Road	MD	Status
Kells Town	R164	Kells	Waiting on Traffic Lights to be installed -95% Complete
Athgaine Cortown	L2813	Kells	Road Surfacing to be completed – 95% Complete
Drumbaragh	R163	Kells	Works Complete
Scottstown Gormanlough	R163	Laytown/Bettystown	Construction due for completion 30/11/2020
Minnistown Road	L5615	Laytown/Bettystown	Works Complete
SallyGardens Crossroads	L1625	Laytown/Bettystown	Works Complete
Newhaggard Road	R161	Trim	Construction due for completion 30/11/2020
Oberstown Cross Skyrne	L1005	Ashbourne	Construction due for completion 30/11/2020



**Work progressing on the R150 Laytown to Bettystown Spine Road**

**Bridge Rehabilitation Works Regional & Local Roads**

Works on the repair of Annesbrooke, Skearke and Kearntown bridges are complete and works on Clonard, Stoneyford, Anne’s & Cornmill bridges are on-going.

The design of repairs to Kilmainhamwood and Donaghmore retaining walls and embankments are ongoing. Repairs to the Danestown and Normansgrove culverts have commenced and the Maudlin Bridge works have been suspended until May 2021.

## Other Actions/ Projects

<p><b>Risk Mitigation – Footpath Improvement Works</b></p>	<p><b>Navan MD</b> Kilcarn Court Phase 2: Works completed</p> <p><b>Kells MD</b> - Schemes in Kells, Fr McCullen Park, Moynalty Rd to Fr McCullen Park, Gardenrath Rd &amp; Nobber (O Carolan Park)-Tenders on SupplyGov closing 4/12/2020 Athboy (Church View &amp; St Joseph Villas estates) Tender on Etenders closing 4/12/2020</p> <p><b>Ashbourne MD</b> –Proposed Schemes in Ardcah(Church View Housing Estate); Stamullen(Mountain View Housing Estate entrance); Bellewstown (Woodview Estate) Tender assessment complete, formal appointment of contractor underway</p> <p><b>Trim MD</b> –.Contractor commenced footpath extension from Baynefield to Industrial Estate, Enfield Approx. completion date 18/12/2020</p> <p><b>Ratoath MD</b> Scheme from Arkle House to Supervalu on R-125 (Dunshaughlin Rd) &amp; R-155 (Well Rd ) commenced on 16/11/2020, approx 3 weeks to complete. Footpath from MD office to GAA grounds on L-2208-1(Drumree Rd Dunshaughlin) completed</p> <p><b>Laytown/ Bettystown MD</b> - Coney Hall Mornington – due to commence on 14/12/20</p>
<p><b>Public Lighting Capital Programme</b></p>	<p>2020 Programme of Capital Public Lighting Works – Construction works have commenced and works are 30% complete</p>
<p><b>Milltown Rd/Ashbourne-Rd Safety Improvement Scheme</b></p>	<p>Wearing course - week of 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov, line marking to follow. Works should be substantially complete by early December 2020, with a small crew on site snagging &amp; tidying up until Christmas / early Jan 2021</p>
<p><b>(DCYA) Capital Grant Funding Scheme for Play &amp; Recreation 2020</b></p>	<p>Clogherboy Playground Refurbishment – Works have commenced on site</p>
<p><b>R135 Cycle Network Design</b></p>	<p>Comments / feedback received from NTA on Preliminary design. Tender documents ready to be issued for CCTV surveys of existing drainage networks</p>
<p><b>Town &amp; Village Renewal Scheme</b></p>	<p><b>Ramparts Boyne Walk Refurbishment</b> Scheme was re-tendered as an open tender due to higher than expected tender sums. Tender closing date 24/11/2020.</p>

## Environment

### **Anti-Dumping Campaign**

The Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications launched a new communications campaign titled “Your Country - Your Waste” on the 13<sup>th</sup> November as part of the fight against illegal dumping. The Campaign has been developed as part of the 2020 Anti-Dumping Initiative and includes a tailored suite of information and awareness messaging for use by Local Authorities, community and voluntary groups during 2020 and 2021. It will begin with a weeklong social media campaign on mywaste.ie social media platforms. The campaign aims to highlight relevant contact numbers and e-mail addresses to help make it easy for people to report illegal dumping. There has been an 11% increase in the number of calls reporting illegal dumping during the Covid 19 pandemic.



Meath County Council is using its social media pages and YouTube Channel to support the National Campaign. The Anti-Dumping message and images from the National Campaign will be used as part of the Green Christmas advertisements in local newspapers advising on Bring Banks, Recycling Centres and Christmas Tree Recycling Service over the festive period. A Green Christmas Radio Campaign on iRadio in December and January will target Food Waste, Bring Banks, Recycling Centres and Unwanted Gifts at Christmas.

The EPA has started a campaign which aims to encourage people to take the simple action of freezing surplus food before its use-by date in order to save money and reduce the impact food production processes and waste have on the environment. Irish households produce over 250,000 tonnes of food waste per year, at a cost of €700 per household. The agency is calling on everyone to support the campaign titled “Eat It or Freeze It” on social media and to take simple actions to stop food waste.

Meath County Council worked with Laois, Westmeath and Wicklow County Council and the EPA’s Stop Food Waste to undertake a regional Stop Food Waste Challenge over a 4-week period in July and August. A series of Stop Food Waste Challenge videos screened every Sunday over the period, with an online Q&A hosted live every Wednesday afternoon. The Campaign had 210,000 online hits



over the period which also included radio and press also. The aim of the campaign is to encourage people to make small changes to the way they consume food, in order to make a large difference to food waste.

### **Climate Action**

The Low Carbon and Climate Action Bill is being progressed to enactment, this will put specific obligations on local authorities to create a Climate Action Plan within 18 months, addressing both mitigation and adaptation. Although MCC address both in its current Climate Action Strategy (CAS), the new legislation dictates that we must consult with neighbouring local authorities, therefore at a minimum a review of the current CAS will be necessary. Climate Action training will commence in the new year and will be aimed at Elected Members and Senior staff first, the Climate Team was involved in the training trials and in further discussions around leadership. The head of the Council's climate action team recently presented on the Meath County Council climate action case studies at the annual ESTG conference.

The Climate Action Team will be running some Christmas competitions to promote energy saving, sustainability and climate action tips. The sub-regional work on the Implementation Guidelines is nearing completion and it is hoped to have this ready to circulate to all local authorities early in the new year. The actions of the Meath Climate Action Strategy for its first year has been reported to the Climate Action Regional Authority Office, and reports on progress for all local authorities will be available shortly. The Climate Action Team is working with a number of local companies, credit unions and Macra na Feirme (Participants from the inaugural agri-event) to develop ideas and action around the promotion of sustainable farming.

### **River Basin Management Plan**

Drafting of the 3<sup>rd</sup> cycle River Basin Management Plan (for the period 2022 – 2027) is underway. The draft plan will be published by the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage (DHLGH) in December 2020, which will be subject to extensive public consultation before the final plan is published Dec 2021. The EPA provides technical input and advice to DHLGH on the plan content, for example in updating the characterisation of pressures and impacts on water status.

While recognising the real challenge it will be to attaining good status for waters in Meath by 2027 and being aware of the economic implications of same, we have commenced drafting an appropriate work plan for the RBMP 3<sup>rd</sup> Cycle consistent with our recent submission to the EPA.

The EPA in its recently published State of the Environment Report states that water quality is one of a number of environmental indicators going in the wrong direction, with declines in pristine river sites and with just over 50% of surface waters being in a satisfactory ecological condition. The report suggests that in order to meet compliance with the requirements of the Water Framework Directive and policy objectives, that extensive targeted action on water catchments is required together with enforcement of existing legislation and implementation of best practice policies. The report further highlights the need for environmentally sustainable improvements in agriculture, wastewater investment and better management of nutrients and other land use drivers.

### **Revised grant scheme for Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems (Septic Tanks etc) and Private Water Supplies (Wells)**

Grants for DWWTS (National Inspection Plan) - grant scheme towards remediation, repair or upgrading works to, or replacement of, a domestic waste water treatment system under the EPA's National Inspection Plan.

Grants for DWWTS (Prioritised Areas for Action under the RBMP) - grant scheme towards remediation, repair or upgrading works to, or replacement of, a domestic waste water treatment system situated in a Prioritised Area for Action in accordance with the River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021.

Grants for DWWTS (High Status Objective Catchment Areas under the RBMP) - grant scheme towards remediation, repair or upgrading works to, or replacement of, a domestic waste water treatment system in a High Status Objective Catchment Area in accordance with the River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021.

General rules applying to the DWWTS Grants schemes - Grant rate of 85% of the eligible costs of remediation, repair or upgrading works, or replacement of any such system or €5,000, whichever is the lower. Means test requirement removed.

**Grants for Private Water Supplies (Wells)** -- revised grant scheme towards the carrying out of improvement works to a private water supply. Provision of a new well: 85% of the approved costs for the provision of a new well, subject to a maximum of €5,000. For rehabilitation works: 85% of the approved costs for rehabilitation works, subject to a maximum of €3,000. For treatment works: 100% of the approved costs for works that, in the opinion of the housing authority, are necessary to treat the water to meet the water quality standards specified in the Regulations, subject to a maximum grant of €1,000. Examples of such treatments are filtration or Ultra Violet treatment.

### **Environmental Initiatives**

**Green Schools:** The annual Green Schools Seminar took place (online) in November for all schools in Meath, in conjunction with An Taisce Green Schools.

**Re Love Fashion:** All secondary schools in Meath have been invited to take part in the Sustainable Textile Competition, competing with schools in Dublin City, Fingal, South Dublin, Wicklow, Kildare, Laois, Westmeath, Longford and DLR. Much of the competition will be online in 2020 with the final in the Rediscovery Centre in Spring 2021.

**Dog Fouling Campaign:** An Anti-Dog Fouling Campaign took place over the summer on LMFM and on billboards.

**Paint Collection:** The collection of old or unused paint has resumed at all Meath Recycling Facilities.

**Paint Reuse Scheme:** Meath County Council has been successful in acquiring funding from the LAPN for a Paint Reuse project in conjunction with the Rediscovery Centre. The project will be rolled out over the next 12 months and will see unused paint diverted from disposal for resale and reuse. Paint will be collected at the Recycling Centres, reusable paint will then be sent to the Rediscovery Centre for repotting and resale. Meath County Council will examine the possibility of acting as a depot or collection location for reusable paint.

**Ashbourne Flood Alleviation Scheme**

Despite COVID restrictions works are on-going at a steady albeit slower pace. The latest programme indicates completion of this scheme in Q2, 2021. Works in Race Hill and Milltown are completed bar some accommodation works. At present there is active construction on all other sections of the scheme through Huntsgrove and Brookville to Hunters lane.

## Community

### **Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)**

A meeting of the LCDC took place on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2020 where the second call of Covid-19 Emergency Funding applications was considered and a new vice-chairperson of the LCDC was also to be elected.

### **LEADER Programme 2014-2020**

A meeting of the LAG took place on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2020. One project in the amount of €5,318.76 was presented for approval to the LAG which brings the budget to 87% committed with 25% of the value of claims paid to promoters. The Administrative Budget is 98% committed.

### **Age Friendly County programme (AF)**

The Meath Age Friendly Alliance met for the first time since before lockdown with a lot of positive work being done by the agencies for the older persons. Athboy walkability audit which is Age Friendly and Dementia Friendly was shortlisted in the Chambers Ireland awards. Eureka Transition year students won the National Garda Youth Awards for their intergenerational project “Never Home Alone” which raises awareness about the impact of loneliness. Meath Age Friendly will continue to work with the library, arts, Sports Partnership, Climate Change and Biodiversity sections to roll out future initiatives. Meath Age Friendly will roll out initiatives under the Keep Well national campaign.

### **Public Participation Network (PPN)**

The PPN secretariat is carrying out a survey which is an opportunity for groups to give feedback on budget proposals, the impact of Covid and supports needed, managing activity and training needs. Input will inform the 2021 workplan for the PPN. The PPN handbook guidelines were launched by the Department on November 19.

### **Knockharley Grant Scheme**

The walking track within the Kentstown Village project is open for the public to utilise. The official opening date has yet to be arranged, subject to Covid 19 restrictions being eased.

### **CLÁR 2020**

Two applications were approved by DRCD namely €50k to Ballinacree Community Association and €30k Kilskyre NS & Hurling Club. Works to commence shortly on the projects.

### **Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2020**

Standard Town & Village Scheme: 10 applications were submitted for consideration to the DRCD and await announcements on these.

### **Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme 2020**

Five applications under Measure 1 were submitted for consideration to the DRCD and await a decision on these. 3 Applications were submitted under Measure 2 and one under Measure 3 prior to the closing date of 30<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Comhairle na n'Óg**

The Comhairle online AGM took place on Friday, October 23. There were 90 young people who participated and some elected members. 17 young people finished their term and new members were elected. The Comhairle Showcase will also take place online on Saturday, December 5, 2020.

### **Community Amenity Project Scheme**

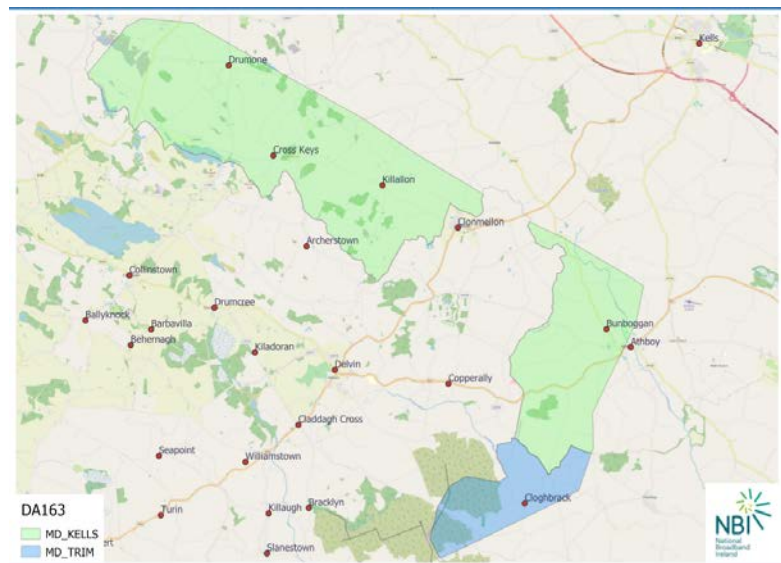
One of the 2020 Projects has already been completed and claimed. This is the 7<sup>th</sup> Meath Dunshaughlin Scout Den. Claims for the 2019 Scheme continue to be submitted and paid.

### **Public Sector Duty**

The working group for the implementation of the statutory Public Sector Equality & Human Rights Duty met on November 11, through a virtual workshop to finalise the implementation plan for 2021. A workshop is scheduled virtually for December to agree a roll out of the action plan.

### **National Broadband Plan- Rollout**

NBI are surveying in part of Kells and Trim MDs, commencing at the end of November. This work involved walking the fibre routes, checking poles and inspecting open air infrastructure to confirm the routes that will be used to deliver fibre to homes and businesses in the area. Over the next 6 months it is likely that some tree pruning will have to take place to remove branches blocking safe access to run fibre between eir's poles.



### **National Broadband Plan- BCPs**

The DRCD has informed the Council that Meath has secured permission to develop an additional four Broadband Connection Point sites (Cortown GAA Club, Moynalty GAA Club, Bective GAA Club and the Ballinlough XL Shop complex). These sites will need to be surveyed by enet prior to connection and will be connected in 2021. These are at community facilities where there is no commercially available high speed broadband.

Six of the sites are now connected to Vodafone's services to provide free public WIFI outdoors (Cormeen, Teach Raithneach, Meath Hill GAA, Castletown GAA, Meath GAA COE and Boardsmill GAA.) Most sites have indoor access as well but only Cormeen and Teach Raithneach are open for limited indoor use due to Covid-19 restrictions.

### **Co-operation Ireland IPB Pride of Place 2020**

This year's Cooperation Ireland IPB Pride of Place virtual awards night took place on Saturday, November 21, at 7pm. The event was hosted by Marty Morrissey and live streamed from the Pride of Place website. There were two Meath entries this year: Duleek Revival Programme in the Community Youth Led Initiative category and Prosper Meath Trim Service in the Community Wellbeing Initiative category. There were no winners this year in the categories.

### **Healthy Ireland - Keep Well Campaign**

This campaign was recently launched by the Department of Health. The campaign is being co-ordinated at a local level by Meath County Council and sub-groups have been set up based on the themes of the Keep Well Campaign. These are:

- Switching Off/Being Creative and
- Staying connected

An allocation of funding of €107,560 has been provided by the Department of Health, through Healthy Ireland, to help fund some local initiatives.

### **Community Wellbeing Initiative**

The announcement of the Community Wellbeing Initiative winners will take place on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020. The event will be broadcast from Buvinda House at 6.30pm on the Council's YouTube channel. You can view the event at <https://youtu.be/WBYtex5jzwc>.

### **Joint Louth Meath Migrant Integration strategy**

The inaugural meeting of the Joint Louth Meath Migrant Integration Forum took place virtually on 20<sup>th</sup> November to discuss the joint strategy and agree actions to progress in 2021.

## Arts Office

### Overview

The Arts Office understands the difficulties artists, creatives and the arts communities face in the current circumstances and continues to provide valuable support throughout the county during this time. The pivotal role that the arts play in society and its importance to individuals and communities is well recognised.

As a fundamental element of a vibrant and sustainable community, Meath County Council has, through the County Arts Development Plan 2019 -2024, committed to nurturing a creative working life for professional artists and creators at all stages of their career. At a time when most artists and creatives have seen their work, performances and engagements cancelled or postponed for the foreseeable future, this support is crucial. The Arts Office has reached out to the creative and artistic communities and, in response, has developed a series of initiatives to support, highlight and celebrate creativity in Meath. The Office continues to adapt and respond to the circumstances presented by Covid-19 and has adopted a proactive approach in reimagining the 2020/21 Arts programme. To this end the Arts Grants, Awards & Bursaries Schemes were expanded in 2020 and several new funding initiatives introduced.

### Keep Well Campaign

The Arts Office has contributed several projects to the national Keep Well – *Switching Off & Being Creative* Campaign. All details are on the website and include the very successful Ceol Comfort, Toradh online and Theatre Tuesday initiatives.



## **Meath County Council Arts Office Grants, Awards & Bursaries Schemes 2020**

A total of 55 Arts Grants and Awards have been made during October and November supporting the work of 60-plus artists in the county. These awards also support communities, groups, festivals, organisations and individuals engage, participate and create art in their locality.

### **Meath County Council Arts Grants, Awards & Bursaries Schemes 2020**



- **55** Arts Grants Awards made
- **60+** artists supported
- **16** Schools supported under the Schools Musical Instrument Purchase Scheme
- **1900+** primary & secondary school children benefit from SMIPS programme

**Schools Musical Instrument Purchase Scheme:** This supports the development of musical instrument resources in both primary and secondary schools in County Meath. In 2020, a very large volume of applications was received under this scheme. The applications were largely in response to the current crisis and were framed by the urgent requirement of schools to modify classroom practice to ensure the continued delivery of music education.

Recommendations under this scheme were approved at the November Council meeting and with additional funding from Creative Ireland, 16 local schools at both primary and secondary level receive support to both creatively adapt existing music programmes and establish new structures to facilitate practical music engagement safely within the school environment. These awards will enable 1,900-plus children and young people take part in Covid adapted music programmes.

**PLATFORM31 New Funding Opportunity:** PLATFORM31 is an initiative of The Arts Council of Ireland in collaboration with the Association of Local Authority Arts Officers. Meath Arts Office is delighted to announce its participation in PLATFORM31, a national funding and development opportunity for mid-career artists of any discipline. One artist from each of the 31 local authorities will be selected to participate in the scheme which awards an €8,000 bursary to participants. Selected artists will also form a peer network for ideas sharing and support: <https://platform31.localartsireland.ie/>

**MCC Arts Office X Centre Culturel Irlandais Paris Residency Bursary Award:** Continuing the partnership with the Centre Culturel Irlandais (CCI) Paris, the Arts Office announced an exciting artist's residency bursary in 2021. The bursary will enable an artist from Meath to spend a month-long residency at the prestigious CCI and includes travel from Ireland, accommodation and a monthly stipend.

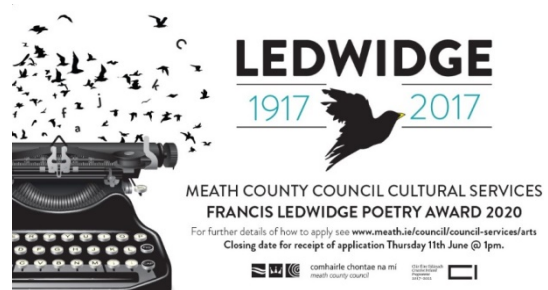
Centre Culturel Irlandais' annual residency programme offers great opportunities for artists of all disciplines to tap into the resources of the CCI and the city of Paris, as well as being an important means of showcasing Ireland's dynamic contemporary culture on an international stage. The bursary is open to practising professional artists of all disciplines living in county Meath.



All applications must be made directly to CCI, full terms and conditions are available from [www.centreculturelirlandais.com](http://www.centreculturelirlandais.com) Applications to be made on-line by **Tuesday 12 January 2021, 5pm GMT**

**Meath County Council Cultural Services Francis**

**Ledwidge Poetry Award 2020:** The winner of this year's award has been announced as Jim McElroy, from Belfast. This award supported by Creative Ireland will afford the winner a one-week residency at the prestigious Tyrone Guthrie Centre and a bursary amount of €1,500.



## Economic Development and Tourism

### Local Enterprise Office (LEO)

#### Overview of Activity

Activity	Approvals
Mentoring Assignments	17
Trading Online Vouchers Approved	60
Training Courses Attended (online)	134
Training Voucher Seminars Attended (Online)	101
Digital Marketing Clinics Attended (online)	15
Brexit Mentoring Clinics (online)	4

#### Enterprise Centre Funding

The Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment, Leo Varadkar, TD, has announced a total of €8.24 million in grants to 95 enterprise centres throughout the country under Enterprise Ireland's Enterprise Centres Fund.

The funding is considered crucial for the future of the enterprise centre sector in Ireland as hubs around the country implement a recovery plan for businesses within their remit over the next six to 12 months. As traditional workplace dynamics have been overturned by Covid-19 and new social distancing requirements, enterprise hubs and co-working spaces are in an ideal position to provide a new 'Hub-Home-HQ' model as companies and their employees embrace new ways of working

Grant funding to the tune of almost €300,000 is being allocated to the Kells Community Enterprise Centre and the Meath Enterprise Centre in Navan and will be used to facilitate the installation and upgrade of new and existing ventilation, air-conditioning and security/access control systems in both centres and which will allow the creation of a safer and more flexible work environment post Covid-19.

#### Innovate Accelerate Europe Programme (IAE)

The IAE Programme 2020 is the first International business collaboration programme on the island of Ireland which has been adapted to operate within the constraints which have resulted from the Covid pandemic. This unique offering is designed to enable companies - despite the crisis - to realise their ambition to grow, stay ahead of their competition and significantly increase their earning potential and extend their reach beyond the island of Ireland.

The key aims of the programme are:

- To protect against the potential economic isolation brought on by Brexit, which threatens the northeast region by supporting equality of opportunity through enabling SME owner-managers

to transition from servicing local to external markets through engaging in transnational business collaboration.

- To develop a cross-border support infrastructure for SMEs challenged by Brexit, to increase their knowledge and capacity of the driving forces within their market; to develop the competitiveness of their businesses and the capacity of their staff; to engage effectively in sophisticated networking, and to be more innovative in applying management techniques to their own situation.

More specifically it is the ambition of IAE to:

- Encourage cross border and transnational business collaboration to increase SME growth potential.
- To help SMEs to investigate business collaboration opportunities in Europe afforded by new technology.
- To help SMEs to engage in new market and new product development by establishing business to business links and business to education/research links.
- To encourage innovation by assisting SMEs to adopt and implement new technologies, new management methods and best practices.
- To strengthen relationships between enterprise support agencies on both sides of the border through collaboration in devising and delivering enterprise support programmes which are consistent, quality driven, and offer good value for money.

The programme was designed over recent months by Meath and Louth LEOs and the Newry & Mourne Enterprise Agency. The programme uses a mixture of one-to-one mentoring, taped masterclasses by experts, preparation of a bespoke export readiness appraisal, production of professional grade videography for each client along with a focused social media promotion programme.

IAE is currently being piloted by 21 small food companies from both sides of the border. Initial reaction from participants is very positive. It is planned, after the pilot, to roll this out to different sectors throughout 2021.

## Finance Section

### Commercial Rates

**Restart Grant Scheme:** This scheme commenced on the 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020 and ceased on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2020. A total of 1582 applications have been paid to a value of €5.48m. This includes appeals of Restart Grant Plus applicants that did not apply for the original Restart Grant, but now given the chance to avail of it.

**Restart Grant Plus Scheme:** This scheme commenced on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2020 and closed 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020. Some 1753 applications have been paid €12.6m.

In total €18.1m has been paid to businesses in Meath under the Restart Grant and Restart Grant Plus so far. Over 100 applications remain outstanding that require further information in order to proceed.

The recently announced Restart Grant Plus top up of 30% is currently being applied to over 1,600 eligible accounts and paid automatically this will equate to over €2.8m.

**Six Months Rates Waiver Scheme:** This scheme was announced on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2020, this waiver is currently being applied to all customers' accounts automatically that meet the relevant criteria. At present, the waiver has been applied to 3788 properties to the value of €11.8m, the process has been completed.

An additional 3 months has been applied to the Rates Waiver Scheme. As a result approximately another €6m in credits is being applied to customer accounts.

### Rents

Meath County Council operates a Differential Rents Scheme, where notified of income reduction or increase a tenants rent is adjusted accordingly in line with this scheme.

### Non Principal Private Residence (NPPR)

The level of applications for certificates remains constant, all issued within the 14 day limit, once the application is in order. There is no back log of applications.

### Housing Loans

The 3 month mortgage payment break has been expanded to a possible 9 month payment break. The assessment, processing and engagement with customers is ongoing.

An update from the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government is awaited to address the present criteria of 2 years continuous employment in relation to Rebuilding Ireland Home Loans home loan applications. This has a great impact on prospective applicants due to the Covid 19 situation.

**Loans Data 1st February 2018 to 30th November 2020**

<b>Applications Received</b>	<b>389</b>
<b>Applications Returned</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Applications awaiting further information not Submitted to Housing Agency</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Applications Submitted to Housing Agency for Assessment/Recommendation</b>	<b>369</b>
<b>Applications Awaiting Assessment /Recommendation by Housing Agency</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Applications Awaiting Decision by Meath County Council Credit Committee</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Applications Approved by the Meath County Council Credit Committee</b>	<b>225</b>
<b>Applications Refused by the Meath County Council Credit Committee</b>	<b>134</b>
	<b>369</b>
<b>Approvals Drawdown by Customer for House Purchase (includes restructuring)</b>	<b>157</b>
<b>No of customers in MARP</b>	<b>34</b>