



comhairle chontae na mí
meath county council

Chief Executive's Report for Elected Members

Monthly Management Report
October 2021

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 and is being provided for your information and consideration.

The report covers the following:

Directorate for Corporate Affairs and Governance, Climate Action and Emergency Services

Corporate Affairs and Governance

Climate Action and Environment

Directorate for Housing, Community and Cultural Development

Housing Services

Community Development

Library Services

Directorate for Infrastructure, Project Management, People Management and Development

Transportation

Directorate for Planning, Economic and Tourism Development

Planning and Development

Economic Development

Directorate for Finance, Information Systems and Water Services

Finance Services

Thank You,

Jackie Maguire

Chief Executive

Corporate Affairs and Governance

Corporate Affairs

Excellence in Local Government Awards: Meath County Council has been shortlisted in the 17th annual Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards 2021 for the following projects:

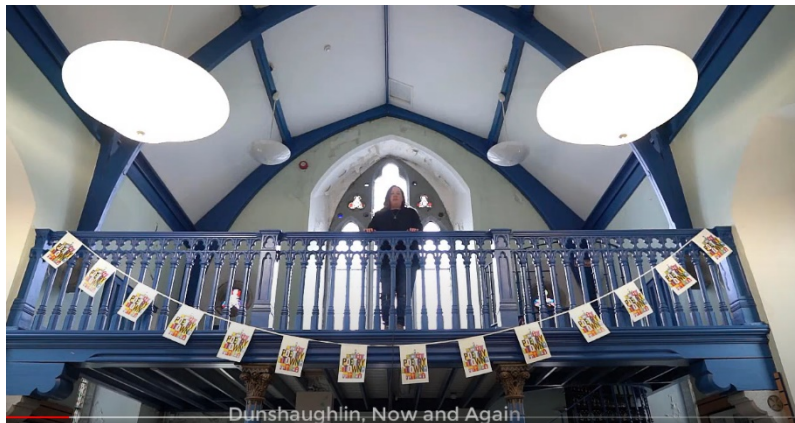
- MCC Connect App – Communications Tool for Staff in Local Authority Innovation
- Laptops for Loan in Best Library Service
- RE:Form in Sustaining the Arts
- Meath Purls of Wisdom - joint Age Friendly & Climate Action in Age Friendly Initiative
- Meath County Council Municipal District Allocation Scheme in Initiatives through the Municipal District

Unfortunately, five other Meath County Council projects submitted were not shortlisted.

This year, the awards will be hosted via an online ceremony on Thursday 18th November 2021. The Excellence in Local Government Awards 2021 (ELG Awards), sponsored by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage are held to recognise and celebrate the outstanding work being carried out by local authorities all over Ireland.



Culture Night 2021: Culture Night took place on Friday, September 17 and gave Meath the opportunity to celebrate all that makes up the richness and diversity of culture today, connecting people to cultural activities locally and nationally with the aim to open up pathways to ongoing engagement.



The night included a special presentation as part of Poetry Town entitled ALOUD: Voices from Dunshaughlin and Beyond. Here, Dunshaughlin Poet Laureate Orla Fay revealed her specially commissioned town poem for the first time. Orla was also joined by a host of other talents including: Peter Fahy, Ellie O'Neill, Fiona Sherlock Tadhg O'Dushláine, Sadbh Kellett, Asta Jones, Paperclap, Nuala Leonard and Sean Ogedebe who each presented original works in lyric and verse to celebrate the strength, diversity and heritage of Dunshaughlin: Poetry Town 2021.

All can be viewed on the Council's YouTube Channel.

Make Way Day - Friday, September 24 marked 'Make Way Day' 2021. The campaign organisers, the Disability Federation of Ireland (DFI), developed an online test that campaigners could use to test and rate their local area. This online test empowers people with disabilities to survey their area for obstacles and rate its accessibility. It once again gave them the chance to share their frustrations by posting photos of obstacles to social platforms with the hashtag, #MakeWayDay21.

The test is available at www.makewayday.com.

World Suicide Prevention Day - On World Suicide Prevention Day (September 10th), Meath County Council in solidarity with Cycle Against Suicide and the 'Lighting of Lights' campaign lit up Meath landmarks in Orange to show support for those in our community who have been impacted by suicide or are struggling with mental health difficulties.

As we stand together, united as one in empathy, hope and support this 'Lighting of Lights' stands as Ireland's beacon of hope, shining bright in the midst of darkness, bringing hope in the midst of despair.



Customer Services

Public Counters: On September 20th, the Public Counter Service (in Buvinda House and the Municipal District Offices) returned to pre-pandemic opening hours, in line with the latest public health guidance.

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Events - Communications

Halloween Illegal Dumping Campaign: In the run up to Halloween, Meath County Council is asking local business owners and communities to secure flammable materials to prevent malicious fires.

In 2020 the Council dismantled 11 large bonfires, with over 30 tonnes of material removed.

In a short video released on social media, featuring community warden Alan Nolan, the Council is asking the public to not give any old household items for use in a bonfire. The short message also advises those who have bulky waste to go to their recycling centre or to a permitted skip provider and to report suspicious activity to:

environment@meathcoco.ie



Library and Cultural Centre in Trim: A sod turning ceremony to officially mark the start of the works on the state-of-the-art Trim Library and Cultural Centre took place on Tuesday, September 14 led by Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD.



This exciting project is being funded to the tune of over €4.3 million, with Meath County Council providing €1.5 million. This funding is being delivered under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund, which is supporting large-scale infrastructural projects. Minister Humphreys was happy to share a message with our online followers following the event. This can be viewed on our social media channels.

Lock it or Lose it Campaign: As part of National Bike Week, Meath County Council teamed up with An Garda Síochána to launch its 'Lock it or Lose it' campaign with pupils from the Loreto St. Michael's secondary school in Navan.



Approximately 41 bikes were reported stolen in Meath so far this year with 14 stolen in the Navan area alone. The aim of the campaign is to raise awareness of bike security within the cycling community and encourage cyclists to purchase a good bike lock when buying a bike.

A number of competitions, tips and advice was also shared across social media and internally through the use of the staff newsletter and the restaurant screens throughout the week of September 12 – 18.

Climate Action and Environment

Climate Action

The following is a summary of measure undertaken by the Climate Action unit:

- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – SDG training for Elected Members was delivered by Development Perspectives on September 3rd, 12 members were in attendance.
- The URBACT Project (Trim) – The baseline assessment and city profiles are now complete and the project will now move to the visioning and storytelling stage. Meath is to co-host (with Moucron and Klaipeda) the next transnational meeting of the project on September 28-29 (on-line).
- A tender process is ongoing to appoint a framework of environmental consultants, the successful tenderer will be awarded the project of collating the baseline emissions for the county and a Register of Opportunities, this work will then populate future climate action and energy documents.
- Work is ongoing on the tender documentation for the establishment of a 3 county Energy Bureau (Meath, Kildare and Wicklow).

Environment

River Basin Management Plan (RBMP): The 2nd Cycle River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) for Ireland 2018 – 2021 was launched in April 2018, setting out measures to be implemented for the protection and management of our waters. On the ground action has involved catchment assessments and stream walks to gain a better understanding of the issues impacting on water quality. The 3rd cycle draft River Basin Management Plan 2021-2027 will be published imminently.

In the 2nd cycle RBMP, the Athboy river catchment was identified as a Priority Area for Action for LAWPRO, and a community information meeting was hosted by LAWPRO on September 15, 2021 at 7.30pm via Zoom.

Re-Love Fashion: The sustainable fashion competition, operated by Local Authorities in conjunction with The Rediscovery Centre has opened to all secondary schools in Meath. The Competition was developed in response to the growing environmental and social impacts of the Fashion Industry and the need for positive change. It encourages applicants to take a deeper look at how their clothing is made and challenges them to explore creative reuse options such as upcycling, repairs, alterations and mending.



Water Fountains for Schools: Colasite Pobail Rathcairn has joined the Meath County Council Water Fountain Scheme with a new fountain being installed in September.

Halloween Bonfire Campaign: The Environment Section, together with the Fire Service, has implemented a social media campaign reminding householders and businesses to protect their property and materials from bonfires at Halloween. The campaign began on Monday, September 20 and will run until Halloween.

Housing Services

Capital Programme

Summary Profile of Approved Direct Construction Projects

| PROJECT NAME | NO. OF UNITS | APPROVED BUDGET € | ESTIMATED START DATE | ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE |
|------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| DESIGN PHASE | | | | |
| Blackhill Crescent, Donacarney | 2 | 563,166 | Q1 2022 | Q4 2022 |
| Nangle Court, Navan | 16 | 2,961,862 | Q1 2022 | Q1 2023 |
| Church View, Rathmoylon | 22 | 5,476,215 | Q1 2022 | Q2 2023 |
| Haggard Street, Trim | 4 | 931,870 | Q2 2022 | Q1 2023 |
| Kildalkey Road, Athboy | 20 | 4,358,112 | Q2 2022 | Q3 2023 |
| Ratholdron Court, Navan | 26 | 5,530,960 | Q2 2022 | Q3 2023 |
| Carrick Street Regeneration, Kells | 43 | 10,225,755 | - | - |
| Totals | 133 | 30,047,940 | | |
| PART 8 PLANNING PROCESS | | | | |
| Kells Archdeaconary | 20 | 3,826,010 | Q4 2022 | Q4 2023 |
| Totals | 20 | 3,826,010 | | |
| TENDER FOR CONSTRUCTION | | | | |
| Ashbourne | 76 | 19,730,587 | Q1 2022 | Q3 2023 |
| Farganstown | 84 | 24,630,457 | Q2 2022 | Q4 2023 |
| Lagore, Dunshaughlin | 42 | 9,850,185 | Q1 2022 | Q3 2023 |
| Totals | 202 | 54,211,229 | | |
| CONSTRUCTION STAGE | | | | |
| Lagore, Dunshaughlin | 26 | 5,813,948 | Q1 2020 | Q4 2021 |
| Donore | 21 | 4,524,250 | Q2 2021 | Q3 2022 |
| Totals | 47 | 10,338,198 | | |
| PROJECTS COMPLETED | | | | |
| 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 |
| Bettystown (Phase 2) | 15 | 3,426,308 | Complete | N/A |
| Kells | 40 | 8,555,683 | Complete | N/A |
| Totals | 189 | 42,809,414 | | |
| GRAND TOTAL | 571 | 141,232,791 | | |

* Rapid Build Delivery Projects

Summary of 2021 Approved Funding Submissions

| PROJECT NAME | PROJECT TYPE | NO. OF UNITS | FUNDING APPROVED € |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Athboy | Turnkey | 7 | 1,598,475 |
| Enfield | Part V | 1 | 255,000 |
| Duleek | Part V | 2 | 458,675 |
| Stamullen | Part V | 3 | 812,353 |
| 2021 Acquisition Programme | Acquisitions | 45 | €11,000,000 |
| Oldcastle | Saint Vincent de Paul - CAS | 5 | 1,046,500 |
| Totals | | 63 | 15,171,003 |

Summary of Current Funding Submissions

| PROJECT NAME | PROJECT TYPE | NO. OF UNITS | FUNDING SOUGHT € |
|---------------|-----------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Donacarney | Turnkey | 1 | 322,700 |
| Kilcock | Part V | 13 | 3,394,991 |
| Stamullen | Part V | 5 | 1,282,577 |
| Trim | Saint Vincent de Paul - CAS | 4 | 1,023,500 |
| Totals | | 23 | 6,023,768 |

Expression of Interest for Turnkey Schemes and/or Lands

There is currently a call for proposals 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. or via the following link on Meath.ie <http://bit.ly/EOIHouseSchemesAndOrLand>

Refurbishment Projects

St Francis Park (€3,771,374) – Part 8 Planning process complete. Project now proceeds to Tender for Construction Stage. Estimated start date onsite is Q1 2022.

Alverno Court Refurbishment (€4,150,329) - Refurbishment works commenced on site on 3rd August 2021 and will be completed across a number of phases. Phase 1 comprises of four units, with decanting process of tenants successfully completed in advance

Housing Adaptation Grant Schemes for Older People and People with a Disability

The 2021 Grants allocation of €3,314,174 has been fully allocated. 485 Households have been awarded Grant aid under the various Grants schemes to date in 2021.

Local Authority Adaptation Works Scheme

A total of 28 projects completed to date in 2021 (€256,175), with a further 22 task orders issued to contractors (€188,863).

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 16th September 2021. For the period from 13th August 2021 to 16th September 2021, works were completed on 6 vacant units; while 6 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 |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Ashbourne | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Kells | 3 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| Laytown/Bettystown | 2 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 0 |
| Navan | 10 | 5 | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| Ratoath | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Trim | 10 | 2 | 0 | 12 | 0 |
| TOTALS | 26 | 15 | 1 | 41 | 1 |

Summary Profile of Approved Housing Body Approved Projects

| PROJECT NAME | NO. OF UNITS | AHB | DELIVERY |
|------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| PIPELINE DELIVERY | | | |
| Bryanstown Wood, Drogheda | 28 | Tuath Housing | Delivery Due - Q3 2021 |
| Narrow Ways Bettystown | 12 | Tuath Housing | Delivery Due - Q2 2022 |
| Ashewood Ashbourne | 11 | Cluid Housing | Delivery Due - Q3 2021 |
| Athboy Road, Navan | 63 | Respond | Delivery Due - Q1 2022 |
| Gort Fionnbarra, Navan (Phase 3) | 49 | Tuath Housing | Delivery Due – Q4 2021 |
| The Willows, Dunshaughlin | 96 | Cluid Housing | Delivery Due – Q2 2022 |
| Effernock, Trim | 6 | Tuath Housing | Delivery Due – Q4 2021 |
| Beaufort Place, Navan | 21 | Tuath Housing | Delivery Due – Q3 2022 |
| Commons, Duleek | 22 | North & East | Delivery Due – Q3 2022 |
| Bridge Street, Ashbourne | 20 | Peter McVerry Trust | Delivery Due – Q4 2022 |
| Tailteann, Navan | 8 | Meath Women's Refuge | Delivery Due – Q1 2023 |
| TOTAL UNITS TO BE DELIVERED | 336 | | |

Homelessness

| | SINGLE ADULTS/COUPLES | HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN | TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS |
|--|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Placements at 31st July 2021 (Previous Reported Figure) | 143 (150 adults) | 20 (29 adults 33 children) | 163 |
| Placements at 31st August 2021 | 146 (153 adults) | 20 (30 adults 33 children) | 166 |
| <p>Of the 20 households with children, 12 families are placed in short term private rented accommodation (house/apartment) through Settlement Team's intervention and 8 Families in PMVT Family Hubs.</p> <p>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.</p> | | | |

A total of 98 tenancies were secured through the support provided by the Homeless HAP Placefinder Service for the period January 1st to August 31st 2021.

Social Housing Supports

A total of 725 new applications for Social Housing Support were received for the period January 1st to 31st August 2021.

Outlined below is the number of households that have had their accommodation needs met by Meath County Council in the period January 1st to 31st August 2021.

| Allocations/Housing Supports | Number |
|------------------------------|------------|
| MCC Direct Allocations | 223 |
| Approved Housing Bodies | 152 |
| RAS | 0 |
| HAP | 377 |
| TOTAL | 752 |

Community Development

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

The LCDC met on Friday 24th September 2021, to receive an update on the progress of the 2021 SICAP programme. The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Friday 22nd October 2021.

LEADER Programme 2014-2020

The LAG held a scheduled meeting on Friday 24th September 2021. At the meeting the LAG received details of proposed projects under the LEADER Transitional Programme and any EOLs received. The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Friday 22nd October 2021.

Age Friendly County programme (AF)

Consultation is still ongoing in preparing a new Meath Age Friendly Strategy. An interdepartmental workshop was held along with discussions with the Age Friendly Alliance members. Surveys have been circulated for Older Persons to complete:

<https://forms.office.com/r/FwAjKyMV85>

A separate survey was sent to agencies and groups <https://form.jotform.com/212431651423041>

An online discussion with Older Persons is scheduled for Tuesday, October 5th, 11am-1pm with the following link available for registration:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83317429542?pwd=SisvNHdFdVp5MldlZUJMRGVXNWxndz09>

Comhairle na n'Óg

A meeting of the Comhairle Steering Committee was held on September 7, 2021. The Department has advised that the AGM must take place online again this year. A letter from the Minister along with a personal invitation letter have been circulated to all schools to encourage participation in the AGM which will take place on October 14, 2021 via Zoom.

Joint Louth Meath Migrant Integration Forum

The last scheduled meeting took place on September 30, 2021. Funding has been allocated under the National Integration fund to roll out awareness training to frontline staff on diversity and inclusion which is an action in the Joint Louth Meath Integration strategy. The first session is scheduled for 28th September.

Joint Policing Committee

The next meeting of the JPC is to take place on October 15, with the main item on the agenda being to consider the draft Six Year JPC Strategic Plan 2021-2026 which has been developed following extensive consultation with external and internal stakeholders.

Public Participation Network (PPN)

The Meath PPN will be delivering a Ready & Able 2021 session for member groups on October 14, 2021. Facilitated by the Carmichael Centre, the session will offer practical guidance for groups on

safely restarting activity. The PPN continues to act as an information and communication hub for member groups.

Broadband

BCPs - Cortown, Carnaross Mart and Kilskyre were connected in September bringing the total connected BCP sites in Meath to 15.

Community Grants Scheme 2021

The closing date for the return of community grant claims is Thursday 30th September, 2021. Claim payments are being processed as they are received.

Community Enhancement Scheme 2021

Payments have begun under the Community Enhancement Programme (CEP). The closing date for receipt of claims is the 26th of November. Works must be completed by year end.

Community Amenity Grants Scheme 2020

Payments continue to be made under the Community Amenity Grants Scheme 2020. 9 of the 20 projects approved for funding have yet to be completed due to delays as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic. Grants to the Irish Wheelchair association for a wheelchair accessible bus, to Seneschalstown for a walking track, to Longwood GAA for a Hurling Wall, to Summerhill GFC for fencing around their walking track and to Killegland AFC for renovations to the club house have all been processed this month.

Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2021 - Streetscape and Shopfront Enhancement

This is an additional Measure introduced as part of the Town & Village Renewal Scheme. Its purpose is to improve the visual appearance of our urban streetscapes increasing pride and confidence in our home towns and villages, making them more attractive places to live, work and do business. The focus of this measure is to support the upgrade and enhancement of shopfronts and street facades. In Meath towns where Public Realm plans are in place or near completion were nominated to participate in the scheme i.e. Ashbourne, Athboy, Bettystown, Laytown, Slane and Oldcastle. The closing date for the receipt of applications was Tuesday 7th September 2021 and applicants will be notified of their grant allocations following assessments.

Social Enterprise Capital Grants Scheme

The Social Enterprise Capital Grants Scheme 2021 is an initiative by the Department of Rural and Community Development under the National Social Enterprise Policy for Ireland. It is a funding scheme that will provide social enterprises with small capital grants and is one of a number of schemes being funded from the Social Enterprise Measure of the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2021.

Application forms are available on meath.ie or from the Community Department. The closing date for the receipt of completed applications is 5pm on Wednesday 6th October 2021.

Libraries Services

Service update

From September 20th and in line with national guidelines the return of a number of additional services has been agreed for public libraries:

- Access to PCs and printers
- Access to Magic Table for individual and family bookings
- Easy seating
- Study spaces
- Access to Local Studies department

Overall numbers in library buildings are still restricted in accordance with public health guidelines. However, the return of even limited access to the above services has been widely welcomed by the public. Lending services continue to recover steadily with lending now at 70% of comparable pre-pandemic levels.

The return of PC access and printing has been particularly welcomed by older persons, many of whom had difficulty in accessing printing services from their mobile phones.

All services and facilities are due to return from October 22nd, as library staff look forward to welcoming the public back for meetings and events.

Children's Book Festival

Meath County Council Library Services will deliver a wide range of literary events in October as the annual *A Right Royal Read* festival commences on October 4th. The programme involves a

- Blend of live online and pre-recorded events.
- 20 + author events and activities for children & young people from 4 – 12 years.
- Diverse range of authors and workshops with pupils able to Zoom in to meet Paddy Donnelly an Irish author living in Belgium. Pupils can also Zoom in closer to home to meet with Cllr. Ronan Moore who will regale audiences with tales from his very well received book *Fionn and the Fianna*

The online offering in 2020 allowed many new schools to participate in CBF for the first time and this year record numbers are expected to register for the exciting programme of events.

The full programme is available at www.meath.ie/council/childrens-book-festival-2021

A full programme of online events is also scheduled for a Family Weekend on the 23rd and 24th of October with booking details available on <http://facebook.com/meathcountylibrary>

Eduroam

Eduroam is a federated service that allows roaming research and educational users to more easily obtain Internet access via the WiFi service at participating sites. When attaching to Eduroam WiFi users are authenticated via their home institution. If authentication succeeds the user is granted wireless network access.

Funding has been received for the new service and work is now ongoing to introduce the service to all twelve branch libraries in the county by the end of November.

Culture Night

Dunshaughlin and Dunboyne libraries were to the fore in supporting Culture Night activities in partnership with their local communities. The branch staff supported The Poetry Town initiative in Dunshaughlin and the Poetry Trail in Dunboyne. Resources developed over the course of the projects will be made available to other communities in due course.

Transportation Services

1. National Roads 2021 funding from TII - €7,629,918

| | |
|---|--|
| N51 Dunmoe Phase 2 | Construction commenced 26 th July 2021 & is currently expected to take circa 18 months. Works progressing on site re Earthworks, Drainage & Fencing to offline sections. |
| N2 Slane Bypass & Public Realm Enhancement Scheme | RPS progressing Phase 3 design. Topographical contractor processing survey data and to issue to design consultants in the coming weeks. Utility survey contractor appointed and will complete surveys in Slane Village in the coming weeks. |
| N2 Rath Roundabout to Kilmoon | Analysis of submissions received following PC3 on the emerging preferred option is on-going and will be contained in the Public Consultation Report and posted on scheme website once complete. Topographical and Lidar Tender Assessment Report drafted and contractor will be appointed in the coming weeks. Legal Services Tender being assessed and due to be appointed in the coming weeks. |
| N52 Grange to Clontail | Drafting of CPO drawings and documentation ongoing. Approval awaited from TII to commence with Phase 4 Statutory processes. |
| National Road Resurfacing | Capital Maintenance Schemes - N2 Cushinstown, N52 Mandistown & N51 Halltown – works substantially complete N52 Marvelstown resurfacing – works substantially complete N51 Higginstown to Crowinstown - tender award awaiting final approval – scheme is being progressed in conjunction with Westmeath County Council as per Section 85 Agreement |



Works on the N51 Dunmoe Phase2 scheme

2. Non- National Roads 2021 funding from DoT – Grant Allocation €26,145,367 in total

2. (a) Restoration Improvement & Restoration Maintenance (Surface Dressing)

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Road Works Programme | <p>SMDW 2021 included 87 Surface Dressing schemes - All schemes completed.</p> <p>SMDW 2021 included 81 Restoration Improvement schemes and the contract is nearing completion with only 3 schemes remaining</p> <p>CIS & LIS schemes for 2021 ongoing – 31 schemes in total – 4 schemes remaining</p> |
|----------------------|--|

2.(b) Strategic Regional & Local Roads & Specific Improvement Grant

| | |
|---|--|
| R150 L aytown to Bettystown Spine Road Scheme | New road opened to traffic on the 13th July. Surfacing to car park, side roads and upgrade to the school road junction with the coast road completed. Awaiting confirmation re ESB connection to power lights and beacons. |
| R162 Kilberry Phase 2 | Tender for works to link Phase 1 footpaths at R162/R163 closed on 31 st August. Tender assessment and contract award being progressed. |

2.(c) Safety Improvement Works on Regional/Local Roads - Allocation for 7 Schemes for 2021

| 2021 Schemes | Road | Status |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Newgate | R147 | Contractor appointment being finalised |
| Liscarton | R147 | Contractor appointment being finalised |
| Cabinhill | L-1006-0 | Works commenced on the 20/09/2021 |
| Clonguiffin, Longwood | L-4020/ L-80142-47 /L-2226-0 | Out to Tender |
| Donaghpatrick | L-3409-18/ L-7414-12 | Works complete |
| Kilmore Moynalvey | R-156 / L-62161 | At Design Stage |
| Faughanhill Bohermeen | L-4025-12 | Out to Tender |

2(d) Bridge Rehabilitation Works Regional & Local Roads –Allocation for 6 Schemes for 2021

| 2020 Schemes | Status |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Kilmainhamwood Retaining Wall | Works ongoing |
| R125 Donaghmore Embankment | Tender Award awaiting final approval |
| Maudlin Bridge (R941) | Works complete |
| 2021 Schemes | Status |
| Clavens Bridge (R147) | At Design Stage |
| Julianstown Bridge (R132) | Contractor appointed |
| Gibber Bridge (L-7400), Breakey Bridge (L-2805), Johnstown Culvert (L-5050) & Ashfield Bridge (L-8029) | Contractor appointed |

Minor Bridge works complete. Bridge Roadworks Programme 2021 - works complete

3. Sustainable Transport Measures Grants 2021 from NTA – €14,284,000

| | |
|---|--|
| Navan Town Scheme (Navan 2030) | Granite footpath & kerbing installed at south western side of Market Sq, including taxi rank area. Watermains completed at Timmons Hill. Surfacing works commenced. Night-time road closures advertised (7.30pm to 6.00am each night, from Monday, 20th September 2021 until Monday 4th October 2021) for Ludlow St to facilitate road surface course works and line marking. Substantial completion by first week in Oct. Detailed design and tender documentation in final stages for Contract 3, which is anticipated to issue to tender next month. |
| Navan Town Bus Stops | There are a small number of stop locations with works still continuing. Permanent road reinstatements, markings and the installation of the poles and flags should commence in the coming weeks. Preliminary design work continuing on: 2 stops adjacent to Athboy Road roundabout, 2 stops on Commons Road, 1 stop in Ratoath, in addition to a bus turn-about facility in Robinstown. Additional GPR survey work undertaken at proposed additional stop locations, and selected existing stops where pole and flag upgrades are anticipated to be installed. |
| Athlumney to Trim Road Cycle and Pedestrian Scheme | Meeting held with property owners Lidl and Local Fuels. Information issued to Architect for Railway Cottage property. CCTV drainage survey completed. Structural survey on Railway cottage draft report submitted for review. Awaiting design on the Railway crossing from Irish Rail, Irish Rail informs the crossing upgrade now likely to be 2023. Planning application for Railway Cottage expected next month. Slit trenching works to commence at beginning of October. |
| Navan GDA Cycle Network - Fairgreen to Johnstown | Convent Road Filtered Permeability Trial Scheme – Section of overall scheme consisting of approx. 630m. Contractor has commenced works on 13/09/2021. 6-week construction programme. Micro-trenching for ducting for CCTV network complete, works ongoing on civils for public lighting, road repairs and surfacing, kerb build outs, speed control measures, public lighting and landscaping. |
| Ratoath Cycle Network | It is hoped to bring the revised Part 8 drawings to the October MD meeting for the Members to give approval to proceed with the Part 8 proposal. |
| Boyne Greenway -Drogheda to Mornington | Ecological surveys are ongoing. Consultant appointed to prepare report for landscaping Design and Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) for the Boyne Greenway. |
| Harlockstown Pedestrian and Bus Stop Improvement Scheme | Deed of Dedication for lands required for stop on northern side of the R125 has been received. Works to confirm public lighting design continuing. Work to collate tender pack continuing. |
| HGV Transport Study -Navan | Preliminary work on the HGV study model completed. |
| N51 Park & Ride | Detailed design advancing toward the preparation of the tender pack. Civil design predominately completed, electrical element design (lighting, access barrier, cctv, etc) being finalised. |
| Additional Outdoor Dining Infrastructure | New tender procurement process carried out and panel of Contractors formed. Planning for works for an additional installation in Kells ongoing |

NTA Jobs Stimulus Programme 2020 (€3,105,000): Of the 38 schemes, 34 schemes are complete or substantially complete.

4. Non-National Roads & Sustainable Transport Schemes 2021 - Funding other than primarily DoT & NTA

| | |
|---|--|
| Athboy Town Centre Project | Emerging preferred Option identified. Ground Investigation, services identification, design and environmental reports being carried out. Part 8 expected in early 2022 |
| R135 Cycle Network Design | Tender documents have been issued for the construction phase, closed 23 rd Sept 21. Tender assessment to follow on immediately after the closing date. |
| LDR4 Navan (Kells Rd to Windtown Rd.) | CPO Confirmation Order statutory notice published. Acquisition of OPW building being progressed. Valuer and Consultant procurement for the next stages of the scheme progressing |
| Newtownmoyaghy, Kilcock | Tender docs for consultants to carry out feasibility and Option Selection in relation to road verge collapse being prepared – being part funded by Climate Adaptation and Resilience Works grant |
| Boyne Valley to Lakelands County Greenway | Navan to Wilkinstown section on rail line – Letter of (Tender) Award has been issued to the preferred Contractor. It is envisaged that construction works will begin in Oct 21 |

5. Other Actions/ Projects

| | |
|--|--|
| Risk Mitigation – Footpath Improvement Works | <p>Kells MD – Works completed on Gardenrath Rd in Kells</p> <p>Ashbourne MD – Works in Maple Drive and Deerpark commencing in early October</p> <p>Trim MD – Snagging and contract closeout ongoing on Mornington Heights and Kildalkey Road, Trim</p> <p>Laytown/ Bettystown MD - Works completed on Abbey View, works have commenced on Stanley Heights.</p> <p>Ratoath MD- Snagging and contract closeout ongoing in Kilmessan</p> <p>Navan MD – Abbeygrove Estate – Contractor appointed – works to proceed Q4 of 2021</p> |
| Pedestrian Crossings at Round-O on R162 & N51 | Works scheduled to take place during the mid-term break to avoid traffic congestion. |
| Climate Adaptation and Resilience Works | Kilcarn Culvert upgrade. Design works and preliminary site investigations complete. Works to start Mid October |

Planning and Development

Planning Applications

A total of 1841 planning applications was received in the period 01/01/2021 to 23/09/2021. This is compared to 1338 in the same period last year. An increase of 38% year-on-year.

Development Contributions

Development Contribution receipts for August 2021 were €8,701,860. This is compared to €6,013,559 in the same period last year. (Figures are inclusive of Irish Water receipts)

Planning Enforcement Complaints

A total of 205 planning enforcement cases have been opened up to 31/08/2021.

| Stage of Process | Number |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| New Cases to be Investigated | 47 |
| Warning Letter | 80 |
| Enforcement Notice | 15 |
| Referred for Legal Proceedings | 3 |
| Further Information Requested | 3 |
| Closed | 57 |

Pre-Application Consultations

All requests for pre-applications consultations (pre-planning clinics) should be made via our website at <https://www.meath.ie/council/council-services/planning-and-building/planning-permission/apply-for-planning-permission/before-you-apply-for-planning-permission>

Economic Development

| Activity | Approvals |
|---|-----------|
| Mentoring Assignments | 9 |
| Trading Online Vouchers Approvals to date this year | 136 |
| Value of Trading Online Voucher approvals | €266,810 |
| Training Online Courses Attended | 137 |
| Trading Online Voucher Information Webinar Attended | 30 |

Finance Section

Commercial Rates Waiver: The commercial rates waiver has been extended to Q3 2021. The criteria of the scheme remain the same as both the Q1 & Q2 2021 waiver schemes. The process of applying the waiver to all customers that qualify to the scheme is almost complete.

Housing Loans:

| RIHL Loans Data 1st January 2021 to 22nd September 2021 | | |
|--|-------|----------------------------------|
| Fully Completed Applications Received | 72 | |
| Awaiting Recommendation from Housing Agency (Underwriters) | 3 | all relate to 2021 applications |
| Awaiting Further Information | 2 | all relate to 2021 applications |
| Approved by Credit Committee | 51 | 4 relate to 2020 applications |
| Refused by Credit Committee | 13 | 4 relate to 2020 applications |
| Awaiting Decision by Credit Committee | 9 | all relate to 2021 applications |
| Returned to Customer | 6 | 4 relate to 2020 |
| Active Approvals | 41.25 | 1.25 relate to 2020 |
| Expired | 15 | 12 relate to 2020 applications * |
| Drawdown by Customer | 17.43 | 9.43 relate to 2020 applications |
| Figures above relate to activity from 1st January 2021 - 22nd September 2021 and in some cases relate to applications pre-2021. Previously expired loans may be extended in some cases | | |