



comhairle chontae na mí
meath county council

Chief Executive's Report for Elected Members

Monthly Management Report
July 2022

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

Meath County Council Annual General Meeting – June 2022



At the council's Annual General Meeting, held in person in the Solstice Theatre on June 13, 2022, Councillor Nick Killian was elected Cathaoirleach and Councillor Mike Bray was elected Leas-Chathaoirleach of the council.

Council Meetings

The results of the recent survey of elected members has confirmed that the majority of councillors would like the council meeting to continue in a hybrid format. As the Solstice Theatre has fully reopened the continuance of the council meeting in the theatre is not sustainable. Unfortunately, the council chamber cannot be upgraded to facilitate hybrid meetings.

As it is not feasible to upgrade the council chamber to facilitate hybrid meetings, it was agreed in discussion with the Corporate Policy Group and the Protocol Committee, that the council meetings would take place in the Training Room in Buvinda House early in quarter 4 this year. The IT infrastructure in the Training Room will be upgraded to fully facilitate the requirements of a hybrid meeting and some minor decorative refurbishment works will take place over the summer months.

The council are finalising the details of the proposed new council chamber and a presentation will be given to the elected members in advance of lodging the application to An Bord Pleanala.

Municipal Districts AGMs: All six Municipal Districts held their Annual General Meetings between June 13-27. All six agreed their schedule of meetings for 2022-2023 and elected the Cathaoirleach and Leas-Chathaoirleach, as follows:

MD	Cathaoirleach	Leas-Chathaoirleach
Ashbourne	Cllr. Amanda Smith	Cllr. Alan Tobin
Ratoath	Cllr. Gillian Toole	Cllr. Damien O'Reilly
Laytown-Bettystown	Cllr. Wayne Harding	Cllr. Stephen McKee
Kells	Cllr. Eugene Cassidy	Cllr. Paul McCabe
Navan	Cllr. Eddie Fennessy	Cllr. Francis Deane
Trim	Cllr. Joe Fox	Cllr. Noel French

All MD meetings will continue in a hybrid format.

US Ambassador visits Buvinda House

Meath County Council was delighted to welcome US Ambassador to Ireland, Minister Claire Cronin, to Buvinda House in early June.

Ambassador Cronin was met by An Cathaoirleach Cllr. Sean Drew and members of the management team. Discussions were held in relation to the many economic and cultural ties between County Meath and the US.



Staff Retirements

The following staff members have retired from the Council in Q2 of 2022:

- Richard Masterson – Transport – Kells MD – Retired 01/04/2022
- Oliver Carey – Corporate – Facilities – Retired 10/04/2022
- Brigid McQuaid – Fire Service – Retired 08/05/2022
- Albert Sharkey – Transport – Kells MD – Retired 18/05/2022

Communications and Events

Meath County Council host Civic Recognition event



On Wednesday, June 8 Meath County Council hosted a Civic Recognition event for each Municipal District in Buvinda House, Navan.

The event, which was last held in 2019, honours and recognises the achievements of individuals and groups across County Meath. Recipients were nominated by the elected members in all 6 MDs.

Those recognised on the night included Kentstown Village Park Group, Jack O' Connor, Fr Murphy's Athletic Club, golfer Alex Maguire, endurance athlete Keith Russell, 2022 Student Enterprise Award winners Theo Staunton and Matthew Kealy, members of Dunboyne Boxing Club and Trim GAA club. The recipients were presented with a certificate from the Cathaoirleach of each of the Municipal Districts.

Boyne Blueway Launch

On Tuesday, June 14 Leas Cathaoirleach Cllr. Mike Bray launched the Boyne Blueway Trim with Cllr. Joe Fox, Trim MD Chair, Cllr. Aisling Dempsey, Chair of Boyne Valley Tourism and Barry Lynch, Director of Service, Meath County Council.

The Boyne Blueway Trim is a stretch of 8kms of Blueway from Trim to Bective Mill. It takes approximately 2.5 to 3 hours to paddle and can be paddled by beginners or those at intermediate level.

Further details are set out below under Tourism.



Launch of Porchfield, Trim

On Wednesday, June 8 An Cathaoirleach Cllr. Seán Drew officially launched The Porchfield, Trim. The Meath project is the first Fáilte Ireland 'Destination Town Capital Investment Scheme' project in the country to be completed and launched.

The completion of these works has transformed the medieval 'open field' adjacent to Trim Castle into an engaging outdoor space where tourists can visit Trim Castle and spend an afternoon enjoying a walk or picnic in the Porchfield. Further details are set out below under Tourism.



Free Public Wifi Launched in Trim



An Cathaoirleach Cllr. Sean Drew and Cllr. Joe Fox, Cathaoirleach of Trim Municipal District have launched the WIFI4EU network in Trim.

Also in attendance was Jackie Maguire, Chief Executive of Meath County Council, Michael Hughes owner of The Stockhouse in Trim and VP of County Meath Chamber, Maura Daly, Executive Engineer and Cormac McCann, Broadband Officer.

The WIFI4EU programme sees the investment of over € 120 Million across the European Union to see the introduction of freely accessible high speed across centres of human life.

Additional funding has been provided by the Department of Rural & Community Development to see the network expanded to cover more towns across the County.

Free Public Wifi Launched in Ashbourne

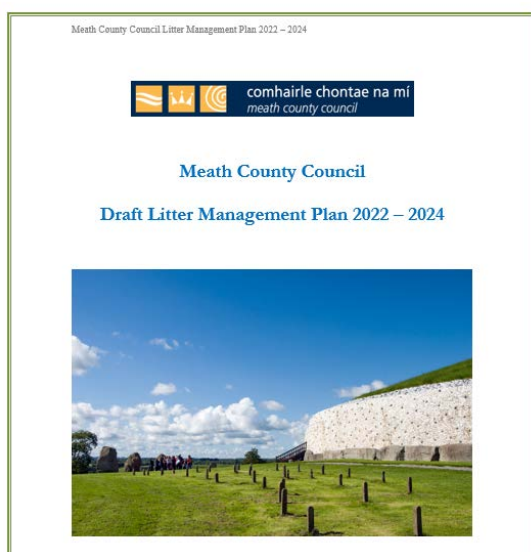


Over 1000 users in Ashbourne have benefitted from the new WIFI4EU network which rolled out in the town centre over the last few months. Meath County Council Cathaoirleach Cllr. Sean Drew and Cathaoirleach of Ashbourne Municipal District Cllr. Suzanne Jamal, along with Cllr. Conor Tormey and Cllr. Amanda Smith, formally launched Ashbourne WIFI4EU on May 31st.

An Cathaoirleach Cllr. Sean Drew welcomed the delivery of the network in Ashbourne saying, "It is important that as many of our citizens as possible have access to broadband. I am glad to see that the county's second largest town is now included along with Kells and Navan who were launched last year and recently added Oldcastle." He added "I'd particularly like to thank the Department of Rural & Community Development for providing match funding to enable the delivery of greater coverage across the county."

Climate Action and Environment

Draft Litter Management Plan 2022 – 2024



Following a presentation and discussion at the June Council meeting the Meath County Council Draft Litter Management Plan 2022 – 2024 is on public display for a period of four weeks from Monday 27th June until Friday 29th July 2022.

A copy of the draft plan is available for public inspection during normal opening hours at the Council offices and same can also be downloaded during that period from <https://bit.ly/MCCLitterManagementPlan>

Details on the preparation of the draft plan has been widely circulated including to members of

the Public Participation Network (PPN) and participants in the Council's Green Kilometre Scheme.

Submissions and observations on the proposed Draft Plan are invited from members of the public and from voluntary and representative bodies and such submissions will be taken into consideration before the Draft Plan is adopted or implemented.

The closing date for receipt of submissions is 4pm on Friday 29th July 2022.

Anti-Dog Fouling Campaign



Meath County Council together with 11 other Local Authorities are initiating an Anti-Dog Fouling Campaign and seeking to address an issues that plagues all our Counties.

The campaign which reminds dog owners to pick up after their dog wherever they are, contains a series of videos which highlight the consequences of not picking up this waste

The campaign will begin on 4th July on social media, radio and press, and will be replicated across all the participating counties.

Community Water Development Fund grants

Community Water Development Fund grants have been issued by the Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO). A total of over €7500 has been awarded for the Meath based projects listed below out of a total funding stream of €510,000. The fund supports communities and groups to deliver projects that enhance the quality of local streams, rivers, lakes, and coastal areas. The

Department of Housing, Local Government, and Heritage provide the funding which is administered by LAWPRO.

Organisation / Group	Type of Project	Funding Awarded
Alpha Dive Sub Aqua Club	Water Quality and Sub Sea Awareness – A Community Engagement Programme with Citizen Science and Beach Cleans	606
Athboy Tidy Towns Association	Athboy -Old Pump house conservation project	600
Wild about Navan	Urban Rain Gardens for Navan	1395
Gaelic Woodland Project	Community Action Against invasive species -plan to remove invasive species from the bank and prevent tunnelling	3625
Duleek Tidy Towns	Plants, Bat Boxes and Bio-Diversity Awareness raising	1300

Climate Action

URBACT Project

The draft Integrated Action Plan was completed and has been submitted for peer review.

Water Re-fill Stations

A water refill station has been installed and is operational in Ashbourne – outside Ashbourne Court Hotel.

A water refill station is due to be installed later this week outside Trim Court House, Trim.

Housing Services

Capital Programme

▪ Summary Profile of Approved Direct Construction Projects

PROJECT NAME	NO. OF UNITS	ESTIMATED START DATE	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE
DESIGN PHASE			
Swan Lane, Navan	6	Q2 2023	Q1 2024
Pitcher Lane, Kells	4	Q2 2023	Q1 2024
Brews Hill, Navan	12	Q3 2023	Q4 2024
New Lane, Abbeylands, Navan	4	Q3 2023	Q3 2024
Ratholdren Court, Navan	26	Q2 2023	Q3 2024
Carrick Street Regeneration, Kells	47	Q1 2023	Q3 2024
Total	99		
PART 8 PLANNING PROCESS			
Kells Archdeaconary	22	Q1 2023	Q2 2024
Kildalkey Road, Athboy	28	Q1 2023	Q1 2024
Blackhill Crescent, Donacarney	2	Q1 2023	Q4 2023
Nangle Court, Navan	15	Q1 2023	Q1 2024
Church View, Rathmolyon	22	Q1 2023	Q1 2024
Haggard Street, Trim	4	Q2 2023	Q1 2024
Totals	93		
TENDER FOR CONSTRUCTION			
Castle Street, Ashbourne	74	Q3 2022	Q1 2024
Farganstown	84	Q3 2022	Q1 2024
Total	158		
CONSTRUCTION STAGE			
Staleen Park, Donore	21	Q2 2021	Q3 2022
Lagore, Dunshaughlin	42	Q1 2022	Q3 2023
Total	63		
Overall Total	413		

Meath County Council Approved CAS, Part V & Turnkey

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT TYPE	NO. OF UNITS
Athboy	Turnkey	7
Kells	Turnkey	12
Bettystown	Part V	2
Donacarney	Part V	12
Drogheda	Part V	10
Duleek	Part V	2
Dunboyne	Part V	11
Dunshaughlin	Part V	13
Kells	Part V	6
Kilcock	Part V	12
Kilmessan	Part V	3
Stamullen	Part V	2
Trim	Part V	6
Ratoath	Part V	2
Total		100

Funding Requests - CAS, Part V & Turnkey

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT TYPE	NO. OF UNITS
Trim	Saint Vincent de Paul - CAS	4
Navan	Group Housing Scheme	6
Carlanstown	Tuath – CAS Construction Turnkey	2
Total		12

Call for Expressions of Interest for Purchase of Lands and/or Turnkey Houses – Social & Affordable Housing

A call for Expressions of Interest was advertised on 18th February for uncommenced residential developments & land for social and affordable housing. Proposals will be evaluated as they are received. Both calls for Expressions of Interest are open until the end of the year. Proposals received will be evaluated, and if deemed suitable, will then form the basis of an application for funding under the Affordable Housing Fund to achieve affordability. Details regarding same can be found on www.Meath.ie/news and www.etenders.gov.ie

Refurbishment Projects

- **St Francis Park (€3,771,374)** –A total of 5No. contractors have been shortlisted for the tender stage of the scheme. Tender Closing Date is 18th July 2022.
- **Alverno Court Refurbishment (€4,150,329)** - Refurbishment works commenced on site on 3rd August 2021 and will be completed across five phases. Phase 2 & 3 of the works commenced on 14th March 2022 and the tenants from Phase 2&3 of the works have been decanted to facilitate these works. The scheme also consists of the demolition of 2No. additional units which are to be rebuilt over the duration of the 5 phases.

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

A total of 92 applications for Grant funding to the value of €681,791 were approved at the end of 2021. These approvals were carried forward into this year's budget as works will not be completed until 2022. A further 216 applications to the value of €2,096,959 have been approved to date in 2022. The total value for the 308 applications that have been approved to date equates to €2,778,750.

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 of 15th June 2022. For the period from 24th May 2022 to 15th June 2022, works were completed on 2 vacant units, while 7 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	1	0	1	2	0
Kells	2	3	0	5	0
Laytown/Bettystown	1	1	2	4	0
Navan	11	1	1	9	4
Ratoath	1	2	1	4	0
Trim	4	3	0	6	1
TOTALS	20	10	**5	30	5

**Note: Four of these pre-let properties include energy upgrade to bring the property to B2 BER rating or better.

Summary Profile of Approved Housing Body Approved Projects

Project Name	No. of Units	AHB	Estimated Completion
Narrowways, Bettystown	12	Tuath Housing	Q2/2022 Complete.
Abbey Road, Commons, Duleek	22	North and East	Q3/2022

Gort Fionnbarra, Navan	15	Tuath Housing	Q2/2022 Complete.
Gort Fionnbarra, Navan	15	Tuath Housing	Q3/2022
Applewood Court, Beaufort Place, Navan	21	Tuath Housing	Q3/2022
Bryanstown Wood, Drogheda	28	Tuath Housing	Q3/2022
Tailteann, Navan	8	Meath Women's Refuge	Q3/2024
Athboy Road, Navan	63	Respond	Q1/2023
The Willows, Dunshaughlin	96	Cluid Housing	Q1/2023
Knightsbrook, Trim	22	Tuath Housing	Q4/2022
Maudlin Vale, Trim	39	Tuath Housing	Q4/2023
Royal Oaks, Enfield	16	Cluid Housing	Q2/2022 Complete.
Carlanstown	8	Tuath CALF Turnkey	Q3/ 2022
Oldcastle	5	Saint Vincent de Paul - CAS	Q2/2023
Total Number of Approved Units	370		

Homelessness

	SINGLE ADULTS/COUPLES	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS
Placements at 30th April 2022 (Previous Reported Figure)	136 (147 adults)	41 (72 adults 100 children)	177
Placements at 31st May 2022	132 (143 adults)	41 (73 adults 97 children)	173
<p>Of the households with children, 34 families are placed in short term private rented accommodation (house/apartment) through Settlement Team's intervention and 7 Families in PMVT Family Hubs.</p> <p>Reasons for emergency accommodation placement in order of frequency: Primary reason is Notice to Quit & unable to find property to rent; followed by family breakdown; addiction; mental health; leaving Hospital / Treatment / Prison / Refuge; couch surfing; rough sleeping; young person leaving Tusla aftercare</p>			

- 26 Placefinder tenancies were secured through the support provided by the Homeless HAP Placefinder Service for the period January 1st to April 30th 2022.

Social Housing Supports

- 344 new applications for Social Housing Support were received for the period January 1st to 31st May 2022.
- Outlined below is the number of households that have had their accommodation needs met by Meath County Council in the period 1st January to 31st May 2022.

Allocations/Housing Supports	Number
MCC Direct Allocations	50
Approved Housing Bodies	48
RAS	0
HAP	149
MTR	9
TOTAL	256

Community Development

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

The next meeting was scheduled for Friday 24th June. This was cancelled due to no quorum.

LEADER Programme 2014-2022

The next LAG meeting was scheduled for Friday 24th June but was cancelled due to no quorum.

Comhairle na nÓg

A Steering Committee meeting for Comhairle na nÓg is scheduled to take place in July. The stakeholder engagement plan has been finalised and its actions will be discussed at this meeting.

Joint Policing Committee

The next meeting of the Joint Policing Committee is scheduled for Monday 19th September. The date and location of the Public Meeting for 2022 has yet to be confirmed.

NBP

NBI works are progressing in Drogheda DA with work expected to continue for another few months to complete the build. To date 209 licences have been processed by Meath County Council for open eir and NBI to carry out works for the NBP.

Broadband Connection Points

Kilskyre Community Activity Centre and Teach Raithneach Culture and Heritage Centre screened a specially selected collection of Oscar Nominated short films on the 9th June for members of their communities.



Several of Meath's BCPs have now been added to the Connected Hubs Portal to enable registered users of the portal to avail of three free day bookings at the sites. The initial sites added include idesk Cormeen and Kilskyre Community Activity Centre.

Ballinacree Community Centre and Rathkenny Hall have supported the delivery of the Hi-Digital Programme to older members of the local communities. This programme is facilitated by an Active Retirement Ireland Volunteer from Nobber and gives basic digital skills to participants in the programme delivered in small groups.

Meath Libraries and Age Friendly Ireland commenced rolling out the Age Friendly Ambassadors Programme in Bective GAA BCP, collaborating with the Bective Cannistown Social Group. A member of library staff will support members of the social group to get online and receive some introductory digital skills. They will also be supported through the loan of an Acorn tablet by the library. Participants will then be able to get support as needed at the end of the programme by visiting Navan Library.

WIFI4EU

The WIFI4EU Networks in Trim, Ashbourne and Ratoath MD (Dunshaughlin, Ratoath and Dunboyne) were officially launched in May and June.

The Community Grant Scheme

98 new applications were received from the re-advertised scheme and have been assessed. Allocation of grants will be recommended to the next SPC on June 28th and thus for approval at the July full council meeting.

Schools Pride of Place Gardening Scheme

35 schools submitted documents for assessment in the schools gardening scheme. Judging has begun and will be completed by end of June when certs will be issued to the schools.

Pride of Place Initiative

322 applications were received, and these are currently being assessed and categorised for judging which will commence in July.

Co-operation Ireland Pride of Place awards

Three groups have been chosen to represent Meath in the 2022 IPB Pride of Place awards. These are Dunshaughlin Tidy Town's, Kilbride Tidy Towns and Old Balreask Woods Community Garden. Judging will take place later in the year with each of the groups. The date and location for this year's awards is yet to be finalised.

Carranstown Grant Scheme

A meeting of the ICLC (Indaver Community Liaison Committee) took place on Friday 17th June and grants to the value of €136,291.51 were made under the 2021 Scheme. These recommendations were endorsed at the Laytown-Bettystown MD June meeting will proceed to the July Full Council Meeting for approval. Groups will then be notified of their allocations.

Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2022

T&V scheme was launched recently with scheme details below and priorities for the 2022.

Priority A1

Projects that bring vacant/derelict buildings and sites back into use as multi-purpose spaces

Projects that bring vacant properties in town centres back into use as remote working hubs

Priority A2

Regeneration projects that assist in revitalising our rural towns and villages, in line with the Town Centre First Policy

New build community centres (where there is a clearly identified and defined need in a town or village that cannot be met with an existing premises)

Projects to develop parks, plazas, public outdoor dining spaces, green spaces and recreational spaces/amenities.

Marketing campaigns targeted at attracting remote workers and mobile talent to their county/region.

Priority B

Projects to support the upgrade and enhancement of shopfronts and street facades (including murals) in towns and villages

Projects that support and enhance the night time economy in line with emerging recommendations from the night-time economy taskforce

Enhancement of heritage assets located in towns and villages, including energy efficiency measures.

For the 2022 Scheme, the minimum grant which is available is €20,000. The maximum level of grant funding available is remaining at €500,000 in respect of one application from each Local Authority. A maximum of €250,000 will apply in respect of 5 applications.

1 application must be in respect of Towns/Villages that have not previously received funding under the Standard Town & Village Renewal Scheme in the last 3 years.

Expressions of interest must be emailed to communitygrants@meathcoco.ie by close of business Thursday 30th June 2022. Expressions of interest will then be assessed, and the strongest projects developed into applications for funding and submitted to department for consideration.

Community Centre Investment Fund

Registration is still open for a new €15 million capital fund for the upgrade and refurbishment of Community Centres.

All interested applicants must register online at gov.ie/CommunityCentresFund

Registration for the fund must be completed prior to submitting a formal application.

The formal application process will close on Thursday 14th July 2022.

The Community Centre Investment Fund will provide grants for larger projects, over €10,000 up to a maximum contribution of €300,000 towards capital costs.

Category 1: Small scale projects/improvements to facilities €10,000 - €25,000.

Category 2: Larger scale projects €25,001 to €100,000.

Category 3: Major projects €100,001 to €300,000.

Applications under Category 2 and 3 must include a minimum contribution of 5% of the total project costs from the applicant's own funds.

Funding is available for capital works such as:

- works to improve communal facilities such as kitchen and toilet facilities
- energy retrofitting, new windows / doors / heating systems
- upgrades to lighting systems and stage areas
- works to address safety concerns, including as a result of fire safety audits
- works to improve disability access
- improvements to assist in providing additional or better services to the community such as Meals for the elderly and youth facilities
- works to develop Community Centres as Social Hubs through the development of Community Cinemas, Youth Hubs and Community Libraries
- essential maintenance works, repairs to roof, and so on

Fund guidelines and a sample application form are available to view at www.gov.ie/drcd

Community Response Forum Ukrainian refugees

The response forum, which is coordinated by the Community Section, continues to meet on a regular basis to ensure there is a co-ordinated response to assist with the needs of Ukrainian families entering the county.

Transportation Services

1. National Roads 2022 funding from TII - €9,996,967

N51 Dunmoe Phase 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction Works re Earthworks, Drainage, & Utilities to offline sections of the mainline and side roads are ongoing. Construction works to commence on the online sections of the existing N51 from July. A road closure on the existing N51 will commence from 1st July for 3 months.
N2 Slane Bypass & Public Realm Enhancement Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft 1 of the EIAR documents has commenced and being reviewed by the Project Team.
N52 Grange to Clontail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TII have given approval to publish the Statutory Orders and to progress the project from Phase 3 to Phase 4. MCC to progress Phase 4.
N2 Rath Roundabout to Kilmoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Topographical Survey Contractor is on site, ground investigation tender documents complete and the tender will be issued in the coming weeks.
National Road Resurfacing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N51 Ongenstown: Capital Maintenance Schemes Tender published N3/R147 Roundabout Kells: Capital Maintenance Schemes works scheduled for August 2022 N2 Kilmoon resurfacing requirements now agreed with TII, works scheduled for August 2022 N2 Kellystown to Glassallen, N2 Rathdrinagh to Tuiterrath and N51 Halltown overlay schemes - design and tender documentation preparation ongoing.

2. Non- National Roads 2022 funding from DoT – Grant Allocation €24,992,217 in total

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

Road Works Programme	<p>Phase 1 - Recycling Overlay and Surface Dressing: Works on site complete at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> L-50462-0 Fennor Ardcah L-5002-17 Skryne L-74114 Drumgill
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- L-6819 Thomastown
- L-28042 Colashane
- L-74102-0 Julianstown
- L-3412 Ladyrath
- L-7410- 33 Balsitric
- L-7401 Drumgill
- L-6830-0 Seymourstown
- L-6818 Moylagh
- L-56002-7 Mooretown
- L-62033-0 Kiltale
- L-2205-28 Milltown

Phase 2 - Surface Dressing: Contract awarded and works complete at:

- L-34061-33 Irishford
- L-74161-0 Rathkenny
- L-8000-0 Martry
- L-6833 Ballybeg
- L-6835-49 Cortown
- L-80021 Balrathboyne Glebe
- L-3408-17 Arch Hall
- L-3409-18 Tatestown

Phase 3 - Structural Overlay and Surface Dressing: Contract awarded and works complete at:

- L-1610-24 Balrath
- L-5056-0 Pump Cross
- L-10132 Sencilstown

Phase 4 - HRA942: Works complete at

- R147 Glebe
- R147 Dowdstown- photo below

CIS schemes: Tender Assessment being carried out.

LIS schemes: Awaiting information from contractor to award contract.



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

R156 Jenkinstown to Mullagh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> O'Connor Sutton Cronin Consulting Engineers currently assessing previous 2012 Part 8 design re current design standards and collision data being reviewed.
R150 Laytown to Bettystown Spine Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The majority of the remaining minor works and snagging is expected to be completed over the summer months while the schools are closed. Land acquisition ongoing.

2. (c) Safety Improvement Works on Regional & Local Roads – Allocation for 2022 €337,000 – 9 schemes

2021 Schemes	Road	Status
Newgate	R147	Works ongoing

2. (d) Bridge Rehabilitation Works Regional & Local Roads - Allocation for 2022 €675,000 – 9 schemes

2022 DoT Schemes	
Tremblestown Bridge (L-40131)	Works tender being finalised
Seymourstown Culvert (L68291)	Works tender being finalised
Donaghpatrick Bridge (L7413)	Works tender being finalised
Monknewtown Church Bridge (L5606)	Works tender being finalised
Tatestown Culvert (L3409)	Works tender being finalised
Dardistown Bridge (R108)	Works tender being finalised
Oldbridge Bridge (R161)	Works tender being finalised
Kilcarn Bridge (R147)	Works tender due 30 th June 2022
2022 Own Resources Schemes	
Kiltale Culvert (L62033)	Works tender being finalised

2. (e) Climate Change Adaptation & Resilience Works – Allocation for 2022 €535,000 – 6 schemes

L-6219 Newtownmoyaghy road edge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tobins Consulting Engineers appointed to review options and are completing environmental reports.
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3. Active Travel Grants 2022 from NTA – €13,910,000

Navan Town Scheme (Navan 2030)	<p>Works underway at Paddy O'Brien St/Kennedy Rd junction & at the rear entrance to the shopping centre on Abbey Road. At the Paddy O'Brien Street junction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> new pavement upgrade works are underway, and on Abbey Road a new taxi rank is being constructed.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A site compound was established within Kennedy Plaza. • Watermain related works commenced at Market Square/Trimgate Street/Kennedy Road junction. • A Road Closure is planned for Abbey Road from the Fire Station Junction to Watergate Street, to commence 7pm on Monday, 18th July 2022 and is set to continue to 7am on Saturday, 30th July 2022. • Service installation works commenced under the archway to Old Cornmarket from Market Square.
Navan Town Bus Stops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final snagging works elements ongoing. • Stage 3 Road Safety Audit completed, awaiting RSA report.
Navan GDA Cycle Network: Athlumney to Trim Road Cycle and Pedestrian Scheme – Phase 1 Works from Solstice to Beechmount.	<p>Continued production of tender drawings and documentation by the Consulting Engineer/Designer for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase 1 Works; Solstice to Beechmount is ongoing for review by MCC Project Team. • Ongoing interaction with affected landowners to secure Deed of Dedication Agreements. Intention to have all documentation and drawings ready to commence the tender process in mid-late July.
Navan GDA Cycle Network: Fairgreen to Johnstown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Cycle Design Office have commenced the preparation of documentation for the Part 8 statutory process, due to commence the process in September 2022. • All works on the Convent Road trial are substantially complete. • Currently awaiting the enabling of ESB supply connection to the CCTV installations so that they can be commissioned. • Ongoing monitoring of the trial is continuing.
Navan GDA Cycle Network – NA1: R147 Martha's Bridge to Circular Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designers progressing well with Phase 3 Preliminary Design for the scheme. • Preparation of documentation and reports for the Phase 4 statutory process has also commenced. • Presentation to Elected Members on progress of scheme is planned for July meeting.
Navan GDA Cycle Network - NA1: R147/N51 Poolboy Bridge to Kells Road Roundabout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designers are progressing well with options selection process for the scheme. Topo Survey completed and GPR survey tendered.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traffic Surveys completed and awaiting deliverables. The intention is to have options identified and selected by July in order to continue onto the Phase 3 Preliminary Design phase.
Navan GDA Cycle Network: Flowerhill Cycle & Pedestrian Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tender competition for Consulting Engineering Services for Phases 2 - 4 has commenced. Closing date for receipt of tenders from the framework is week 1 of July with a 2-week tender evaluation/assessment process envisaged. Intention shall be to issue Letter to successful tender by the end of July.
Navan Public Realm: Academy Street Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A competition for the appointment of Consulting Design Engineers is to be brought to the existing NTA Framework in September. Appointment of Consultants to take place further to tender evaluation/assessment and appointment procedures being carried out
Ratoath Pedestrian & Cycling Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planners report for the Part 8 presented at the June meeting of Ratoath Municipal District. Tender documents advertised for the procurement of a Consultant for the detailed design stage.
Boyne Greenway -Drogheda to Mornington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The public consultation on the Significant Further Information is complete. An Bord Pleanála is currently reviewing submissions.
Harlockstown Pedestrian and Bus Stop Improvement Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction works progressing well on site. Road closure has been approved for 2 weeks (Monday 27th June to 10th July inclusively).
N51 Park & Ride	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site clearance works completed. Construction of the drainage network, road base and capping layer substantially completed. Works commencing on kerbing.
Bus Shelter Enabling Works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Works completed on R147 Rathbeggan, R125 Ratoath and two on the R147 in Dunshaughlin, works predominately completed on two stops in Mornington and at Deepford, Drogheda.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carnaross Deed of Dedication secured. • This project is carried out in conjunction with the Accessible Bus Stops Works.
Accessible Bus Stops Works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This project is carried out in conjunction with the Bus Shelter Enabling Works.
Trimgate Street Pedestrianisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase 2 process is well advanced with Topographical and Traffic surveys completed. • Customer Sentiment Survey to be carried out w/e 25/06/2022. • The development of preliminary options is ongoing as is the development of options for St. Marys Church campus. • Consultations with Elected Members and Business groups are planned for mid-July.
Navan GDA Cycle Network: Athlumney to Trim Road Cycle and Pedestrian Scheme: Convent Road to Metges Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The preparation of tender documentation for the appointment of Consulting Design Engineers for the delivery of Phase 2 to Phase 4 (Route Option Selection, Preliminary Design & Statutory Process) has commenced. • Envisaged to place a tender competition to the NTA Framework in September 2022.
Eastham Road Cycle facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jacobs Engineering appointed for Design Contract. Route option assessment has commenced.
Donacarney Footpath/Cycleway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 8 planning approved. Ground penetration radar and topographical survey complete and detailed design ongoing.

4. Roads & Sustainable Transport Schemes 2022 - Funding other than primarily DoT & NTA

Athboy Town Centre Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 8 Report brought to Kells MD in May and being considered by the Members.
R135 Cycle Network Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works continuing on Phase 1 of the scheme, between Tudor Grove entrance and Dunnes Stores.
Boyne Valley to Lakelands County Greenway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction works continuing on the Greenway between Gibbstown & Wilkinstown – nearing completion.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GLAS Civil Engineering Limited working on the Castletown to Nobber section – works progressing well. Tender documentation being finalised for construction of two further Greenway sections, Nobber to Kingscourt and Castletown to Wilkinstown, (the documents for the Nobber to Kingscourt Section have been sent to TII for approval to go out to tender)
LDR4, Kells road to Ratholdren road, Navan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detail design and tender preparation progressing. Ground Investigation and archaeology expected to be completed in the summer months. Tender for construction contractor expected to commence in Q3 2022.
Boyne Greenway & Navigation Restoration Scheme (Navan to Oldbridge)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project team met with TII to look at Peer review options

5. Other Actions/ Projects

Risk Mitigation – Footpath Improvement Works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ashbourne MD: Works on Deerpark Phase 3 ongoing and Clonalvy works complete. Laytown/ Bettystown MD: Works in Millrace to commence shortly. Contract for Slane and Duleek has been awarded. Trim MD: Contract for Blackfriary Estate, Griffin Park & Dunderry Road has been awarded, works to commence in September. Kells MD: Tenders for Mount Dutton Estate Kells and Drumconrath has been awarded. Construction to commence in the next two weeks. Ratoath MD: Contractor for Dunshaughlin Main St has been appointed, works will commence when Irish Water have completed their works Navan MD: Tender for Clonmaggaden Road, St. Mary's Park and Woodview has been awarded. Works to commence in Q3. Silverlawns Estate - works commenced end of May, 10 week programme.
Housing Estate Road Surfacing Works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laytown-Bettystown MD: Prestart meeting held with contractor. Kells MD: Contract documents prepared for surfacing works in housing estates and put out to tender for the following estates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> O'Growney Terrace Beechlawn Sycamore Avenue Gardenrath Close Rockfield Estate Kennlis Crescent

	<p>Oldcastle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Millbrooke Cottages • St. Brigid's Terrace <p>Nobber</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • O'Carolan Park
Drogheda ABTA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA) study for Drogheda is being progressed in partnership with Louth County Council. Draft report currently expected to be prepared by Q3 2022.

Planning and Development

- Planning Applications

820 planning applications were received in the period 01/01/2022 to 21/06/2022 compared to 1202 in the same period in 2021. The years 2020 and 2021 saw an unprecedented rise in applications which can be attributed to the proposed changes to the rural policy and applications have now levelled off.

- Commencement Notices

The drop in applications has resulted in a decrease in commencement notices also. It is intended to provide a summary on commencement notices as part of the September report.

- Development Contributions

Development Contribution receipts for May 2022 were €5,715,160. This is compared to €6,453,420 in May 2021. (Figures are not inclusive of Irish Water receipts). The decrease can be attributed to the drop in commencement notices being lodged. Contributions are only invoiced once the commencement notice is lodged.

- Planning Enforcement

98 planning enforcement cases have been opened to 20/06/2022.

	Number
New Cases to be Investigated	24
Warning Letter	44
Enforcement Notice	8
Referred for Legal Proceedings	0
Further Information Requested	0
Closed	22

*please note these figures relate to cases opened in 2022 only

- Taking-in-Charge

The following estates are display from Monday 20th June 2022 until Wednesday 20th July 2022 with respect to taking-in-charge

Development	Municipal District
Paramadda Court	Laytown / Bettystown
Dun Eimear	Laytown / Bettystown
Cearnach Close	Laytown / Bettystown
Millerstown Phase 2	Ratoath
Broadmeadow Vale	Ratoath
Cnoc Tiarnach	Ratoath

Royal Canal Walk	Trim
The Gallops Phase 2	Trim
Dunville Phase 1	Navan
Milltown Meadows	Ashbourne

Objections or representations to the proposed declaration may be made in writing to the Senior Executive Officer, Planning Department, Meath County Council, Buvinda House, Dublin Road, Navan, Co. Meath on or before Thursday 4th August 2022.

- Meath County Development Plan update

The judicial reviews relating to the Meath County Development Plan finished on Tuesday 21 June. The Council expects the judgement on the cases to be issued in late July.

Economic Development

Local Enterprise Office Meath

Activity	Approvals
Mentoring Assignments	11
Trading Online Vouchers	7
Training Online Courses Attended	129
Meath Business Owners Network Event Attended	18
Digital Marketing Clinics Attended	12
Finance Advice Clinics Attended	3
Women in Business and Technology Network Event Attended	70

- Shop Front Scheme 2022

14 applications received to date following the launch of the scheme on the 01st of June. Closing date November 01st 2022 with all works to be complete by year end.

Communication will be made with individual retailers over coming weeks to generate interest.

- Friendliest Town

Nominations were received from Elected Members and responses are now being collated to decide upon the 2 nominees for this year's competition.

- Night Time Economy Advisor

Meath County Council in partnership with relevant stakeholders in Navan will submit an application on Friday 24th of June for the Night Time Economy Pilot Programme for Local Authorities. Should our application be successful, it will result in the recruitment of a Night Time Advisor allocated to Navan for a 2 year period.

Tourism

The Porchfield Project, Trim was launched on June 8th by outgoing Cathaoirleach Cllr. Sean Drew. The Meath project is the first Fáilte Ireland 'Destination Town Capital Investment Scheme' project in the country to be completed and launched and was funded jointly by Fáilte Ireland and Meath County Council.

The completion of these works has transformed the medieval 'open field' adjacent to Trim Castle into an engaging outdoor space where tourists and locals can visit Trim Castle and spend an afternoon enjoying a walk or picnic in the Porchfield. The project delivered an outdoor performance space, improved walking and picnic/seating facilities, all-weather walking tracks, newly planted wildflower meadow, an outdoor gym area and restoration of the Horse Bridge. Visitors can also discover the original purpose of the once medieval agricultural field, as outlined on the newly installed interpretive panels and maps and included on the Porchfield Digital Storytrail QR codes available here: <https://www.discoverboynevalley.ie/porchfield-digital-story-trail>

The Boyne Blueway Trim was officially launched on June 14th by Leas-Cathaoirleach Meath County Council Cllr. Mike Bray at the Blueway trailhead on Jonathan Swift Street. This marks the opening of an 8km water stretch from Trim to Bective Mill. Another first for Trim was that the Boyne Blueway achieved accreditation from the Blueway Partnership in April and was among the first of three Blueways to gain accreditation at an event which took place by the National Blueway Partnership in Trim.

At the Boyne Blueway Trim, you can not only participate in a paddling sport in a natural setting but also experience the world class built heritage of the Boyne Valley as you paddle by Trim Castle, Bective Abbey and the Newtown monuments.

Marketing Activity:

The Boyne valley was promoted at a dedicated stand at the Balmoral Show in May and at Bord Bia Bloom in June with 240,000 visitors combined to these shows. The main Boyne Valley Holiday Guide 2022 is printed and available for visitors to Meath. A number of press visits organised by the Boyne Valley Tourism team have yielded some positive travel articles in the Irish News, Belfast Telegraph and Irish Country Magazine in April and June. During May a group of tourism businesses and councillors from Meath visited the Burren Eco Tourism Network to learn how to drive sustainable tourism across the Boyne Valley.

Finance Section

Housing Loans:

RIHL/LAHL Loans Data 1st January 2022 to 21 st June 2022		
Fully Completed Applications Received 2022	59	
Awaiting Recommendation from Housing Agency (Underwriters)	10	All relate to 2022 applications
Awaiting Further Information from applicants	0	
Approved by Credit Committee	43	35 relate to 2022, 8 relate to 2021 applications
Refused by Credit Committee	14	11 relate to 2022, 2 relate to 2021 applications
Awaiting Decision by Credit Committee	0	
Returned to Customer	4	3 relate to 2022, 1 to 2021
Active Approvals	41.12	29 Relate to 2022, 12 relate to 2021, 0.12 relate to 2020
Expired	20	All relate to 2021 applications
Drawdown by Customer	15	1 relates to 2022, 14 relate to 2021 applications

Figures above relate to activity from 1st January 2022 – 1st June 2022 and in some cases relate to applications pre-2022.

Previously expired loans may be extended in some cases