



comhairle chontae na mí
meath county council

Chief Executive's Report for Elected Members

Monthly Management Report
March 2023

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



Project Long Game



An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Nick Killian welcomed speakers and participants to the Solstice Arts Centre on Saturday, January 28 for Project Long Game.

Project Long Game was developed in partnership with Meath Local Sports Partnership. Over the last year, a small working group have been working towards developing a new program for all sporting clubs and organisations across the County.

The project is designed to help you understand and make the most of how sustainable practices can benefit your club and your communities through sustainable sporting practices.

Rose Tour coming to Meath



Cathaoirleach Cllr. Nick Killian and Chief Executive Jackie Maguire welcomed the current Rose of Tralee Rachel Duffy and Meath Rose Co-ordinator Lyn Moloney to Buvinda House recently to announce that all 32 Roses will visit the Royal County Meath on their journey to Tralee this August.

Meath County Council will support and plan an exciting itinerary as part of the International Rose Tour, kindly hosted by Knightsbrook Hotel Spa & Golf Resort in Trim and the local Meath tourism industry.

The visit to Meath will showcase all that County Meath has to offer, where 32 new Roses meet for the first time and enjoy adventures together, creating memories that last a lifetime.

Gort na Glaise Contract Signing



The contract was signed recently for the construction of 84 social housing units at a new estate Gort na Glaise, Farganstown, Navan, delivered in conjunction with the recently completed LDR6 LIHAF-funded distributor road.

This development on Meath County Council owned lands forms part of a potential 1,600 houses to be built on public and private lands accessed from the new distributor road.

The contractor is Andrews Construction, with O'Mahony Pike Architects designing and overseeing the project.

Works commenced on site on February 13, with an 18-month projected construction programme.

Threading the Táin Exhibition Launch



Cathaoirleach Cllr Nick Killian along with Meath Arts & Heritage Offices were delighted to celebrate the Threading the Táin exhibition and to welcome artists and representatives from each of the five participating counties - Roscommon, Longford, Westmeath, Meath and Louth to the Toradh2 Gallery, Kells Courthouse Tourism & Cultural Hub last week.

Threading the Táin is an inter-county community visual arts project showcasing five tapestries created in celebration of the Táin Bó Cúailnge. Funded by Creative Ireland and produced by An Táin Arts

Centre in association with Creative Spark, each tapestry depicts scenes from the revered ancient epic that relate to the five counties mentioned in The Táin.

As a truly collaborative project, it was guided by a lead textile artist in each county who led a group of local community sewers in creating each panel. A book of poetry was also launched on the evening. Commissioned by An Táin Arts Centre Poets from each of the five participating counties were invited to respond the beautiful tapestries and The Táin epic.

Meath County Council to introduce National E-Planning System

Meath County Council is currently engaging with the LGMA to progress the implementation of the national online e-Planning system. Using the e-planning portal, customers will be able to submit their planning applications and lodge submissions on existing planning applications via the online platform.

The new system will accommodate many benefits, including readily available information, a reduction in the use of paper and ink and associated cost savings, quicker publishing and viewing of E- files and automated email notifications to applicants or third parties using the online service.

The Council is currently engaging in preparatory work and IT upgrades which will be followed with engagement with planning agents, engineers, architects, and technicians who will regularly interact with the Council's Planning Department and assist with the transition to electronic planning submissions.

Public Realm and Regeneration Plan for Kells Town Centre Promotional Campaign



Meath County Council is currently in the process of preparing a Public Realm and Regeneration Plan for Kells Town Centre and we would like everyone to play their part.

The Plan will aim to greatly improve the social, economic and environmental assets of the town, how people enjoy and experience the town and will identify

projects to attract funding and investment into the town.

We are inviting the public to get involved by making a submission by emailing streets@bdp.com by Tuesday, February 28.

To share a video featuring Senior Executive Planner, Wendy Bagnell encouraging participation please visit our [Facebook page](#).

Launch of the URBACT Integrated Action Plan and the Elder Tree Project



Cathaoirleach Cllr. Nick Killian was joined by Cllr. Joe Fox, Cathaoirleach of Trim MD, Brian Heffernan, Chairperson of Trim Tidy Towns, Dara McGowan, Director of Services and Cllr. Ronan Moore, Vice Chairperson of Trim Tidy Towns at the launch of the URBACT Integrated Action Plan and the Elder Tree Project at the new home of Prosper Trim.

The URBACT Integrated Action Plan aims to build upon the good work already undertaken in Trim and sets out actions to integrate Sustainable Development Goals on a local level. One such action is the

10,000 Tree Elder Project. This ambitious Trim Tidy Towns project aims to plant over 10,000 native trees and shrubs in Trim and its environs, for every citizen of Trim, over the next 10 years.

The full story can be read on meath.ie.

RANGANNA COMHRÁ GAEILGE

Chuir tús ar an bpróiseas clárúcháin don Ranganna Comhrá Gaeilge – cúrsa 6 seachtain i mí Feabhra. Tá na ranganna seo á réachtáil i gcomhpháirt le hOifig na Gaeilge Chomhairle Chontae na Mí agus an Bord Oideachais Oiliúna Lú agus na Mí (LMETB). Baineann na ranganna seo le próiseas pleanála teanga na hUaimhe fosta.

De bharr éileamh ón bpobal áitiúil, go háirithe ó bhaill pobal na scoile agus tuismitheoirí a bhfuil a bpáistí ag freastal ar na scoileanna Ag Foghlaim le Chéile, thosaigh Oifig na Gaeilge Chomhairle Chontae na Mí cainteanna leis an mBord Oideachais Oiliúna Lú agus na Mí (LMETB) chun ranganna comhrá a chur ar fáil don phobal áitiúil agus go mbeadh siad saor in aisce do ghrúpaí chun an Ghaeilge a spreagadh mar theanga labhartha, agus tacaíocht a thabhairt do ghrúpaí áirithe sa phobal. Beidh an LMETB ag cur maoiniú ar fáil don teagascóir na ranganna seo agus tá sé beartaithe go n-íocfaidh Comhairle Chontae na Mí (ón mbuiséad Oifig na Gaeilge) táillí na rannpháirtithe. Scaip an fógra maidir leis na ranganna seo ar mheán shóisialta Chomhairle Chontae na Mí, agus faoi láthair tá an cúrsa lán le liosta forchoimeáda i bhfeidhm. Beidh na ranganna ag tosú ar an Luan, 27 Feabhra idir 7:30 – 9:30 i.n. Tá sé beartaithe go mbeidh an t-Oifigeach Gaeilge Chomhairle Chontae na Mí i dteagmháil leis an teagascóir le linn an chúrsa chun tacaíocht a thabhairt don ghrúpa trí chiorcal comhrá, scannáin trí Ghaeilge a thaispeáint agus a phlé, maidin chaife trí Ghaeilge, srl a eagrú.

IRISH CONVERSATION CLASSES

The registration process for the Irish conversation classes – a 6 week course began in February.

These classes are being organised in cooperation with the Meath County Council Irish Language Office and the Louth Meath Education Training Board (LMETB). These classes are also relevant to the language planning process in Navan also.

As a result of demand from the local community, especially from the school community and parents whose children attend the Educate Together schools, the Meath County Council Irish Language Office began discussions with the LMETB to provide conversational classes for the local community, and that they would be free of charge for groups to encourage Irish as a spoken language, and to give support to certain groups in the community. The LMETB will be funding the tutor of these classes and it is agreed that Meath County Council will pay (from the Irish office budget) the fees of the participants. The advertisement regarding these classes was circulated on Meath Council social media, and the course is full at present with a reserve list in operation. The classes will begin on Monday 27 February between 7:30 – 9:30p.m. It is agreed that the Meath County Council Irish Officer will be in contact with the tutor during the course to give support to the group through conversation circles, films in Irish to show & to discuss, coffee morning through Irish to organise, etc.

Climate Action and Environment



Launch of URBACT Integrated Action Plan & Elder Tree Project

- The URBACT Integrated Action Plan was formally launched on 22nd February, 2023 at the new Prosper Meath premises located in Trim. This plan aims to localise sustainable development goals within the community of Trim Town.
- The Elder Tree Project, which is an action within the URBACT Integrated Action Plan was also launched at this event. This ambitious plan will plant a native tree/shrub for every citizen in Trim town over the next 10 years. Prosper Meath on Emmet Street, Trim was the project's first location for the tree planting.

Climate Action Plan

A consultant will be appointed on the 7th March to assist in updating MCC Climate Action Plan (2024 – 2029) and will include the following:

- Climate Change Risk Assessment for County Meath
- Climate Mitigation Assessment County Wide
- Climate Mitigation Assessment Decarbonisation
- Strategic Environmental Assessment and Appropriate Assessment for MCC's Climate Action plan

Climate Action Fund:

Community Climate Action Fund (CCAF) The Community Climate Action Fund (CCAF) will open shortly to accept expressions of interest from community groups.

The objective of the CCAF is to support and empower communities, in partnership with Meath County Council, to shape and build low carbon, sustainable communities in a coherent way to contribute to national climate and energy targets.

There are 2 strands:

1. Strand 1 - "Action: Building Low Carbon Communities" for €24 million (national total)
 - Meath has been allocated €811,000
2. Strand 1a - "Shared Island Community Climate Action" for €3 million (national total)

- LAs will be the Lead Partners for strand 1a projects.
- The €3 million Shared Island Fund resourcing is not pre-allocated to individual LAs.
- All LAs in Ireland can assess an application received under strand 1(a) and make a recommendation to the Minister.

Key Dates:

Expression of interest applications will be accepted for an 8-10 week period

Evaluation period: 8 weeks

Assessment by Department: 8-12 weeks

Mid-East Energy Unit

Following recent meeting of the new Mid-East Energy Unit of Meath, Kildare and Wicklow County Councils a number of projects have been identified and which will see the progression of several energy reducing initiatives over the next 3 years in many of our buildings.

Free Bulky Waste Events 2023



Free Drop Off Days 2023
Navan, Trim, Kells, Thorntons Dunboyne & Panda Beauparc, Recycling Centres

Couches - March, 6th to 11th
 Mattresses - April, 11th to 15th
 Garden Equipment - May 8th to 13th
 Cots, Prams, Nursery - June, 5th to 10th
 Halloween Bulky Waste - October 23rd to 28th
 Toys - November, 6th to 11th

These events are for Householders Only - No Commercial customers
 Gate Fee of €2 is payable per vehicle per visit
 Enquiries to environment@meathcoco.ie

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Burial Grounds

Trim

The planning process for the provision of a new burial ground at Loganstown, Trim has been completed and work is currently ongoing on the preparation of contractor tender documents which it is hoped will be issued in quarter one 2023.

Stamullen

The acquisition of a suitable site has now been completed and work has now commenced on the preparation of the necessary planning documentation. The proposed development was the subject of a presentation at a recent Ashbourne Municipal District Meeting.

Housing Services



Capital Programme

Summary Profile of Approved Direct Construction Projects

PROJECT NAME	NO. OF UNITS	ESTIMATED START DATE	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE
PRELIMINARY DESIGN PHASE			
Ashewood View, Ashbourne, Co. Meath	75	Q1 2024	Q3 2025
New Lane, Abbeylands, Navan	4	Q3 2023	Q4 2024
Total	79		
PART 8 PLANNING PROCESS			
Kells Archdeaconary	22	Q3 2023	Q2 2024
Blackhill Crescent, Donacarney	2	Q3 2023	Q4 2024
Nangle Court, Navan	15	Q4 2023	Q4 2024
Church View, Rathmolyon	22	Q3 2023	Q4 2024
Haggard Street, Trim	4	Q2 2023	Q1 2024
Carrick Street Regeneration, Kells	47	Q3 2023	Q1 2025
Brews Hill, Navan	12	Q3 2023	Q4 2024
Pitcher Lane, Kells	4	Q2 2023	Q1 2024
Swan Lane, Navan	6	Q2 2023	Q1 2024
Ratholdren Court, Navan	27	Q4 2023	Q1 2025
Totals	161		
TENDER FOR CONSTRUCTION			
Convent Lands Kildalkey Road, Athboy	28	Q2 2023	Q2 2024
Total	28		
CONSTRUCTION STAGE			
Gort na Glaise, Farganstown	84	Q1 2023	Q3 2024
Lagore Lawn, Phase 2, Dunshaughlin	42	Q1 2022	Q3 2023
Castle Street, Ashbourne	74	Q4 2022	Q2 2024
Total	200		
Overall Total	468		

Construction Scheme Updates:

- Gort na Glaise, Farganstown
 - Tender value €22.4million
 - Contract signing 31st January 2023
- Lagore Lawn Phase 2, Dunshaughlin
 - Contract value €8.1million
 - Site is progressing well and no major delays to date
- Millrace, Castle St, Ashbourne
 - Contract value €19.97million
 - Start date 2nd December 2022

Meath County Council Approved CAS, Part V & Turnkey

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT TYPE	NO. OF UNITS
Ashbourne	Part V	6
Donacarney	Part V	2
Drogheda	Part V	18
Duleek	Part V	7
Dunshaughlin	Part V	13
Enfield	Part V	7
Kells	Part V	5
Kilcock	Part V	2
Kilmessan	Part V	3
Navan	Part V	13
Rathmolyon	Part V	1
Slane	Part V	7
Stamullen	Part V	2
Trim	Part V	20
Kells	Turnkey	12
Navan	Turnkey	4
Total		122

Affordable Housing

Notice was given to the public on social media and on Meath.ie that an Affordable Housing Scheme will be advertised soon.

Details of what documentation is required and how the Scheme works has been advertised on <https://www.meath.ie/council/council-services/housing/affordable-housing>

Expressions of interest

The Housing Department continue to work with Developers and Landowners to purchase land and or properties for the provision of social and Affordable Housing.

Refurbishment Projects

- **St Francis Park:** Site Demolition & Clearance is largely complete and works are advancing on the foundations, rising walls and sub-floors to each new unit.
- **Alverno Court Refurbishment:** Three properties from Phase 2 were completed in December 2022 and the remainder of Phase 2 & 3 is due for completion at the end of March 2023.

Local Authority Adaptive Work Scheme

Department funding of €518,524 has been sought for 2023. This includes for 54 applications in total, including the balance needed to complete the two extensions started in 2022. Tender for works for 9 units has commenced.

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

85 applications for Grant funding to the value of €731,095.75 were approved at the end of 2022 - carried forward into this year's budget as works will not be completed until 2023. A further 20 applications to the value of €137,899.50 have been approved to date in 2023. Total of 105 applications which equates to €868,995.25 of Grant Allocation for 2023 when announced.

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 14th February 2023. For the period from 13th January 2023 to 14th February 2023, works were completed on 7 vacant units, while 11 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 yet with Contractors
Ashbourne	3	0	0	1	2
Kells	1	4	2	6	1
Laytown/Bettystown	3	1	0	2	2
Navan	6	3	5	11	3
Ratoath	1	1	0	1	1
Trim	6	3	1	6	4
TOTALS	20	12	**8	27	13

**Note: Six 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
Applewood Court, Beaufort Place, Navan	19	Tuath Housing	Q1/2023
Mine View, Athboy Road, Navan	63	Respond	Q2/2023
Swanbrook, Trim Road Navan	48	Tuath Housing	Q3/2023
The Arches, Dunshaughlin	6	Tuath Housing	Q2/2023
Maudlin Vale, Trim	31	Tuath Housing	Q4/2023
Oldcastle	5	Saint Vincent de Paul - CAS	Q4/2024
Tailteann, Navan	12	Meath Women's Refuge - CAS	Q3/2024
St. Loman Street, Trim	4	Saint Vincent de Paul - CAS	Q1/2025
Total Number of Approved Units	188		

Leasing

Project Name	No. of Units	Entity	Estimated Completion
Aylsbury, Clonee	73	Meath County Council	Q4/2023
Metges Road, Navan	43	Tuath Housing	Q4/2023
Total Number of Approved Units	116		

Homelessness

	SINGLE ADULTS/COUPLES	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS
Placements at 31st December 2022 (Previous Reported Figure)	136 (142 adults)	50 (81 adults 94 children)	186
Placements at 31 st January 2023	138 (147 adults)	50 (85 adults 87 children)	188
<p>Of the households with children, 43 families are placed in short term private rented accommodation (house/apartment/B&B) 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 family / relationship breakdown; domestic violence; notice to quit; couch surfing; mental health; rough sleeping; overcrowding; unsuitable accommodation</p>			

Age profile of clients in emergency accommodation January 2023

Age profile	Clients	0-4	04-11	11-18	18-25	25-40	40-65	Over 65
Families	85	0	0	0	27	32	24	2
Couples	18	0	0	0	6	5	7	0
Singles	129	0	0	0	11	53	60	5
Children	87	21	38	28	0	0	0	0
Total	319	21	38	28	44	90	91	7

Place finder 01/01/23- 31/01/2023

Total	5
EA	1
Prevention	4

Tenant Liaison Team January 2023

ASB Investigation	Complaints	Cases
Received 01/01/2023 -31/01/2023	112	71
Frequent serious disturbances	82	43
Occupancy of Dwelling	20	18
Garden upkeep/Maintenance	10	10
Total	112	71

Standards in rented Accommodation

287 Inspections were carried out on rented properties in Meath in January 2023. Of these 287 properties 31 properties passed the minimum standards. Subsequent follow up inspections will be carried out to ensure compliance.

Social Housing Supports

- 74 new applications for Social Housing Support were received for the period January 1st to 31st January 2023.
- 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 January 2023

Allocations/Housing Supports	Number
MCC Direct Allocations	11
Transfers	4
Approved Housing Bodies	46
RAS	0
HAP	36
Long term Leasing	0
MTR (AHBS)	0
TOTAL	97

Choice Based Lettings Advertised January 2023

Ashbourne MD	Laytown/Bettystown MD	Kells MD	Navan MD	Ratoath MD	Trim MD
N/A	2 No. 3 Beds in Staleen Park (MCC) Donore, - units allocated	1 No. 4 Bed @ Lynnfield, Oldcastle Road Kells, (MCC) - allocation to be finalised	20 No. 3 beds @ Swanbrook, Trim Road, Navan (<i>Tuath Housing</i>) – nominations being finalised	N/A	9 No. 2 bed properties at - The Lane, Effernock, Trim, Co. Meath (MCC) Allocations being finalised at present.
		5 No. 3 Beds Chapel Gate, Athboy (MCC) – allocations being finalised	10 No. 3 Bed & 1* Bed at Baker Hall, Navan (MCC) – all units allocated		
0	2	6	31	0	9

Community Development



Comhairle na n'Óg

The Comhairle na n'Óg Steering Committee met for the first quarter of 2023 in January. A workplan is being finalised for Comhairle members mapping out what they hope to achieve in the coming 2 years. Meath Comhairle na n'Óg will present to the Elected Members at the March Council meeting.

Joint Policing Committee

The next meeting of the Joint Policing Committee is due to take place on Monday 20th February 2023. The Joint Policing Committee Annual Report 2022 will be presented to the Elected Members at the March Council Meeting.

Community Grant Scheme

The Community Grant scheme was launched the week ending 10th February, the closing date for applications is Thursday 16th March 2023. Applications can now be made online, hard copy application forms are still available. The maximum grant for Residents Associations has been increased to €1000.

Burial Ground Grant Scheme

The Burial Ground Grant scheme launched the week ending 10th February, the closing date for applications is Friday 10th March 2023

Schools Pride of Place Gardening Initiative

The Schools Pride of Place Gardening Initiative launched on Friday 3rd February, the closing date for receipt of applications is Friday 31st March.

Regional Festivals and Participative Events Scheme

The 2023 Allocation to Meath County Council is €11,000 under the Fáilte Ireland Regional Festivals and Participative Events Funding Scheme. The scheme was launched the week ending 10th February, the closing date for applications is Friday 10th March 2023.

Public Participation Network

Following a tender process, Stephen Rourke was selected to support the development of Secretariat for a 12-month period. Workplan and budget proposal is being prepared for ratification at the next plenary. Secretariat have agreed to monthly meetings with rolling induction training forming part of these meetings.

Environment network seeking to collaborate with Carlow and Kildare PPN representatives on a Creative Ireland funded bog arts project with Girley Bog being chosen for Meath.

520 groups are now registered with Meath PPN.

Healthy Ireland / Healthy Meath

The Healthy Ireland 2023-2025 local strategy, application and workplan for County Meath was approved by the LCDC on the 27th January and submitted to Pobal for review and approval.

Joint Migrant Integration Forum

Forum met at the re-scheduled meeting in January where a workplan was agreed for the coming year. Next meeting is scheduled for 30th March and is being hosted by Louth Co council.

The Community Support Fund

The Community Support Fund closed for applications on 10th February and are currently being assessed.

Carranstown Grant Scheme

The scheme closed for applications on 17th February 2023, applications are now being assessed for presentation and consideration at the next ICLC meeting.

Libraries Services



Decade of Centenaries

The Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport, and Media has just issued guidelines for the preparation of local authority programmes for 2023.

The local authority is in the process of submitting a draft programme of activities for approval.

An application has been prepared for a programme which builds on the success of previous programmes and comprises a range of

- arts and cultural events through MCC Arts Office and Solstice.
- Support to county-wide societies Meath History Workshop, Meath Archaeological and Historical Society etc.
- Support for publications, seminars, and conferences.
- Writer-in Residence working with selected primary schools exploring the 'Burning of Lismullen House' which was the major event in Meath in 1923.

Customer Satisfaction Survey

The Data Working Group under the CCMA Corporate Committee identified customer satisfaction as a priority area in 2022. The Data Working Group asked the library services to participate as one of the first local authority service areas in the rollout of a customer satisfaction survey.

This a high-level user survey was undertaken in one large, busy library in each of the 30 library authorities. The survey was run over 5 days in late September (**26th-30th September**).

The survey will be extended in 2023 to cover a second branch in each county and the survey will take place from the **1st of March to the 4th of April**.

Digital Skills

The library service is collaborating with the Broadband Officer and [OurKidsCode](#), a Trinity College Dublin/SFI & DRCD sponsored programme, to help deliver a programme to embed digital skills in families. The partners ran some initial Coding pilots in Meath (Skyrne NS and Solstice) just after Covid and are interested in developing this further into a regular family coding club.

The first meeting with these families will be in Navan Library Meeting Room2 on **Saturday March 11th 2pm-4.30pm**. There is potential to develop this into a monthly club.

The external partners will also be running a four-week programme for families in Bective & possibly Cormeen BCPs with further opportunities to link in with Navan & Kells Libraries.

The initiative complements the work of library STEAM backpacks lending project, which is aimed at 7-10s.

Transportation Services



1. National Roads 2023 - Funding from TII - Grant Allocation €9,139,967 (including Greenways €1,364,000)

N51 Dunmoe Phase 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction Works re Utilities, Surfacing, Accommodation Works and Landscaping are ongoing. Works to online sections of road have recommenced. A temporary traffic management system continues in place to facilitate ongoing construction works along the route.
N2 Slane Bypass & Public Realm Enhancement Scheme	Final Draft of EIAR and CPO documents are currently under review
N52 Grange to Clontail	<p>An Bord Pleanála have extended the timeframe for decision on this CPO to Quarter 2 2023.</p> <p>In the meantime MCC to issue responses to the submissions received.</p>
N2 Rath Roundabout to Kilmoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ground Investigation Contractor due to commence works in Q2 2023. Liaison with affected Landowners regarding access is ongoing. Tenders for Archaeology Geophysical survey received. Tender assessment is ongoing. Expected to commence surveys in Q2 2023. <p>Funding in 2023 will meet current project commitments</p>
National Road Resurfacing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N2 Rathdrinagh to Tuiterrath including Pump Cross– works recommenced on site 23/01/2023. N2 road closure planned for 24th & 25th March 2023. Contract expected to be substantially complete April 2023. N52/ R154 Johnsbrook Cross Safety Improvement works commenced on site 7th February, with an expected duration of 8 weeks.

2. Non- National Roads 2023 - Funding from DoT – Grant Allocation €26,053,080

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

Road Works Programme	<p>SMDW 2023 passed by the 6 MDs at the February meetings – tender documents being finalised</p> <p>CIS schemes 2023 – Funding allocation confirmed from DoT - €459,450. Successful applicants will be notified in the coming weeks</p> <p>LIS schemes 2023 – Funding Allocation confirmed from DRCD - €407,406. Successful applicants will be notified in the coming weeks</p>
Additional CIS Programme	<p>Works commenced on the following schemes, being funded from Own Resources:</p> <p>L-34055 Woodtown Upper L-74063 Kellystown Drumconrath L-28022 Kilfanon kilmainhamwood L-16052 Ardcalf L-74021 Knockumber Navan L-28038 Agheragh Tierworker</p>

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

R162 Kilberry Phase 2b – 2023 DOT allocation €675,000	Tender Docs for construction contract for road repair and drainage, along with footpath upgrade, from Phase 1 to GAA club being finalised.
R162 Kilberry to Lisnagrew Safety Scheme – 2023 DOT allocation €130,000	Safety works at R162/L3406 Mullins Cross and warning signage along R162 route almost complete. Final road surface at Mullins Cross to be completed circa end March, weather permitting.
L-6210 Newtownmoyaghy – 2023 DOT allocation €250,000	Consultants appointed 2022 up to planning stage. Topographical surveys completed. Ground Investigations works 50% complete. Options Selection report being finalised.
R156 Mullagh Cross – 2023 DOT allocation €100,000	Fee proposal from consultants being reviewed for proposed scheme to realign the R156/R125 junction. Interim safety measure to install vehicle activated warning signage on approach to junction expected to be completed March 2023.

2. (c) Safety Improvement Works on Regional & Local Roads –Allocation for 2023 schemes - €390,500

2022 Schemes	Road	
Platin	R152	Junction works being progressed and alternatives being considered
Kilmore Junction	R156/L62161	Phase 1 complete, phase 2 being considered.

Faughanhill Junction	L4025/L8001	Works substantially complete
Oberstown Cross, Skryne	L1003/L1005	Works substantially complete

2. (d) Bridge Rehabilitation Works Regional & Local Roads - Allocation for 2023 schemes - €670,000

2022 DoT Schemes	
Donaghpatrick Bridge (L7413)	Works complete
Oldbridge Bridge (R161)	Works 90% complete, to be finalised during Summer 2023
Kiltale Culvert (L62033)	Works complete
2023 DoT Schemes	
Kilcarn Bridge (R147)	At tender assessment stage
Mellifont Bridge (L5606)	At tender assessment stage
Clonguiffin Bridge (L4020)	At tender assessment stage

2. (e) Climate Change Adaptation & Resilience Works – Allocation for 2023 schemes - €532,500 – 7 schemes funded : L-80045 Church Street Athboy, R-125 Greenoge Retaining Wall, L-7411 Oristown, R-160 Flood Alleviation, L-3405 Drumconrath Flood Works, L-6814 Fennor, R-941 Mullingar Rd, Kells

3. Active Travel Grants 2023 from NTA – €14,135,000

Navan Town Scheme (Navan 2030)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree pits completed in Kennedy Plaza & Landscaping works to plaza area commenced. • New Taxi rank completed on Kennedy Road adjacent to plaza. • New reinforced walls completed. Works commenced on erection of black granite cladding to walls. • Advance works for ESB on Metges laneway and Paddy O’Brien Street, consisting of investigation works and excavations for ‘joint pits’ completed. • New kerbing and pavement works at the Market Square/Trimgate St/Kennedy Road junction at AIB Bank completed. • New kerbing and pavement works continuing on Market Square from AIB to Metges laneway (Daybreak shop). • Consultation with business owners on Kennedy Road continuing
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial meeting held with Bus Eireann representatives to discuss relocation of bus services to Kennedy Road to occur later this year.
<p>Navan GDA Cycle Network: Athlumney to Trim Road Cycle and Pedestrian Scheme – Phase 1 Works from Solstice to Beechmount.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tender appraisal process for construction of Phase 1 Works; Solstice to Beechmount Est. ongoing – to be completed by early March. Advanced hedgerow/tree removal contract for Phase 1 works being completed Engagement with affected landowners/solicitors is ongoing.
<p>Navan GDA Cycle Network: Fairgreen to Johnstown</p>	<p>Convent Road Scheme: Part 8 –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chief Executive Report adopted by Members of Navan MD. Planning Consent confirmed by means of Approved Officer Order on 09/02/2023
<p>Navan GDA Cycle Network – NA1: R147 Martha’s Bridge to Circular Road</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning Consent confirmed by means of Approved Officers Order on 22/12/2022 Consultants for the delivery of Phase 5-7 Design/Procure/Construct services appointed at end of January 2023. Consultants have commenced Phase 5 Detailed Design process
<p>Navan GDA Cycle Network - NA1: R147/N51 Poolboy Bridge to Kells Road Roundabout</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CE Report delivered to Members of Navan MD at February meeting. Report accepted by Members. The 6-week consideration period to run until the end of March 2023 before confirmation of consent can be finalised.
<p>Navan GDA Cycle Network: Flowerhill Cycle & Pedestrian Scheme</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultants continuing design work associated with Phase 2 - Concept Development & Option Selection. Option Selection workshops have taken place. Additional 3rd party survey works are ongoing. Results of these processes are required to inform the final option selection process.
<p>Navan Public Realm – Trimgate Street Pedestrianisation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing consultation and engagement with Trimgate St Traders, St Marys Parish and the Meath Chamber. Continuation of Phase 3, Preliminary Design process - development of options ongoing

Navan Public Realm: Academy Street Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase 2 Concept Development Stage is complete. Consultants are finalising the deliverables for submission to NTA for Gateway 2 approval.
Convent Road to Metges Road & Trim Road; Beechmount to Balreask Manor Active Travel Schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Tender Competition for the delivery of Phase 2 to Phase 4 Design Services for this combined scheme project has been completed. The Tender Appraisal process has commenced with appointment for Phase 2 to Phase 4 Consulting Engineering Services due to take place in early March 2023.
Ratoath Pedestrian & Cycling Scheme	Preliminary design underway, documents for 3 rd party surveys currently being developed
Harlockstown Pedestrian and Bus Stop Improvement Scheme	Phase 2 - from the filling station to the Nine Milestone Roundabout – works substantially completed – footpath completed and open throughout, snagging and ancillary works remaining.
Kilcloon Traffic Calming Scheme	Works consisting of the installation of 2 no. raised pedestrian crossings, associated ramps, public lighting upgrade and footpath upgrade at Kilcloon National School and Church now substantially complete. Ramps and raised tables will be installed once the public lighting has been commissioned
Millbrook to Beech Drive, Johnstown Pedestrian Link	Contractor currently on site - works progressing well
Jim Brunnock Road Kells, Safe Routes to School	Works complete, snagging and ancillary works remaining.
N51 Park & Ride	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surfacing works to both the car park area and the N51 completed, and road marking undertaken Awaiting ESB connection to commission the final elements (internal car park public lighting, cctv system, barrier, petrol interceptor oil alarm) Works to N51/L3416 junction commenced, with temporary traffic management plan implemented.
Bus Shelter Enabling Works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snagging of elements completed Design of two additional locations in Ratoath received and being reviewed
Accessible Bus Stops Works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snagging of elements completed Design of four bus stop locations in Trim, including two with bus shelters, received and being reviewed.

Dunboyne to Clonee Pedestrian and Cycle Network	Scope for 3 rd party surveys being determined with contract documents to be issued during Quarter 1. Route options currently being drawn up.
Donacarney Footpath/Cycleway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed design of road and drainage and preparation of the specification and bill of quantities ongoing. • Site Investigation works concluded, awaiting final report. • Hedge cutting and tree removal works programmed to be complete by end of February • Landowner agreements continuing to be finalised
Safe Routes to School	Options selection for each school site underway. Conceptual design received from the Consultants - Consultation held with the schools and proceeding with the preliminary design

4. Roads & Sustainable Transport Schemes 2023 - Funding other than primarily DoT & NTA

LDR4, Kells road to Ratholdren road, Navan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced hedge clearance works completed on site • Stage 2 tender documents being finalised and checked
R135 Cycle Network Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works substantially complete in Phase 1, between Tudor Grove entrance and Dunnes Stores. • Works in Phase 2 section (junction of Castle St to St Johnswood) progressing well.
Boyne Valley to Lakelands County Greenway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Davis Civil working on the Nobber to Kilmainhamwood section of the Nobber to Kingscourt Greenway. Works progressing well with site clearance 90 % completed and tracks 90% removed between Nobber & Kilmainhamwood. • Ecological surveys completed and follow up meeting held with owners of Newcastle Lake on 10th Feb. A way forward to complete the site clearing through this section was agreed. Other requests/requirements i.e., fencing etc to be assessed & agreed upon completion of site clearance works • Contractor started on the Castletown to Wilkinstown section 7th Feb. Site clearance works completed week of 20th Feb 2023. • Meeting held with Tara Mines 20th Feb regarding completion of Windtown Rd to Gibbstown section
Boyne Greenway & Navigation Restoration Scheme (Navan - Oldbridge)	Additional flood data requested from the OPW and further flood modelling work ongoing to satisfy TII requirements before progressing to the next stage.

5. Other Actions/ Projects

Footpath Improvement Works	<p>Programme of Footpath Improvement Works for 2023 for each MD being devised, this will be communicated to Members in due course.</p> <p>Navan MD update – Silverlawns Phase 2 – 75% complete</p>
Housing Estate Road Surfacing	<p>Kells MD Works commenced on the resurfacing of the following estates in Kells town:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beechlawn • Sycamore Avenue • O’Growney Terrace • Rockfield Estate and Gardenrath • Maple Drive • Headfort Grove • Fr. McCullen Park. <p>Navan MD Tender Report has been approved and now awaiting documentation from contractor to make award of contract for resurfacing of the following estates in Navan MD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moatville, The Grove • Ashbrook • Athlumney Village • St. Brigid’s Villas • Beechmount Lawn • St. Columbus Crescent
Oldcastle Public Realm Scheme	<p>Part 8 documents currently being prepared</p>

Planning and Development



- Planning Applications (Section 34)**
 158 planning applications were lodged in the period 01.01.2023 to 17.02.2023. This is compared to 202 in the same period in 2022.
- Part 8 Applications (Section 179)**
 P823001 – Housing Development on lands at Rathaldron Court, Rathaldron Road, Navan went on display on 22 February 2023. Submissions can be made up to 6 April 2023.
<https://consult.meath.ie/en/consultation/part-8-p823001-housing-development-lands-rathaldron-court-rathaldron-road-navan-co-meath>
- Commencement Notices**
 70 valid commencement notices were received in the period 01/01/2023 to 17/02/2023. This is compared to 81 in the same period in the previous year.

The commencement notices can be broken down as follows

Development Type	Number
One-Off House	30
Multi-Units	131 (units)
Extensions	15
Other*	5

* Agricultural, Commercial, Recreational etc

- Development Contributions (Section 48)**
 Development Contribution receipts for January 2023 show a collection of €461,265. This is compared to €635,894 collected in January 2022. (Figures are inclusive of Irish Water receipts).

- Planning Enforcement (Sections 152,154 and 160)

17 planning enforcement cases have been opened to 17/02/2023.

	Number
New Cases to be Investigated	6
Warning Letter	10
Enforcement Notice	0
Referred for Legal Proceedings	0
Closed	1

*please note these figures relate to cases opened in 2023 only

- Meath County Development Plan 2021-2027

Protect East Meath Ltd. versus Meath County Council and Trailford Ltd., Shannon Homes (Dundalk) Ltd., Rockmill Ltd., Glenveagh Home Ltd., Neemats Ltd., and J. Murphy (Developments) Ltd. [2023 IEHC 69} written judgement issued on 17 February.

The Council will liaise with its legal team with respect to the implications on the County Development Plan and how we should proceed next. Once advices are received it is intended to provide a briefing to the Full Council

The High Court Record No. 2021/959JR - Killegland Estates Limited -v- Meath County Council & Cornelius and Patricia Giltinane, Notice Parties - Judicial Review of MA08 Changing Zoning of Lands from A2 to G1

The Council has been informed that an application seeking leave to appeal the decision has been made to the Supreme Court

The High Court Record No. 2021/964JR - McGarrell Reilly Homes Limited & Alcove Ireland Eight Limited - v - MCC - Judicial Review of Zoning in County Development Plan 2021/2027 of Lands at Kilcock and Stamullen

The Council has been informed that an application seeking leave to appeal the decision has been made to the Supreme Court

Economic Development



Local Enterprise Office Meath

Activity	Approvals
Mentoring Assignments	18
Trading Online Vouchers	4
Training Online Courses Attended	27
Digital Marketing Clinics Attended	10
LEO Fund	3
Website Health Check Clinics Attended	12
Finance Advice Clinics Attended	3
Trading Online Voucher Information Webinar Attended	35

Tourism



Industry Collaboration: An Innovate and Mingle workshop was held for all the tourism industry on February 15th at Knightsbrook hotel with a great turnout of 40 businesses in attendance over a morning and afternoon session. The workshop enabled the industry to work together to maintain a cohesive tourism message and enable them to share information. A follow up session will be organized.

A familiarization trip was organized for the tourism industry to learn about other businesses in the destination on January 25th with 25 businesses in attendance.

PR for the Boyne Valley: A Virtual Journalist Event was held by the tourism team with a presentation to 11 national journalists about the destination. The journalists were from the following publications: The Sunday Business Post, The Irish Examiner, Irish Daily Mail, Travel Extra, Irish Country Magazine, Dublin South FM, RSVP, The Star, Galway Now, Irish Independent, Sunday Independent, The Star.

Tour operators: Boyne Valley Tourism organized a familiarization trip for incoming Irish tour operators who are ground handlers for many international travel agents and tour operators. The ITOA collectively handle 737,000 holiday and business visitors each year. The visit was a resounding success and had 25 key operators who directly organize itineraries for overseas visitors into Ireland. They were shown the Boyne Valley over 2 days and were very impressed with the tourism product on offer.

Promotional Shows: Boyne Valley Tourism attended 2 key holiday shows in January. There was a Boyne Valley stand and brochures and literature were distributed to 45,000 potential visitors at The Belfast Holiday World, held at the Titanic Exhibition Centre on January 20th -22nd and the Dublin Holiday World at the RDS on January 27th -29th.

Finance Section



Housing Loans:

RIHL/LAHL Loans Data 1st January 2023 to 24th February 2023		
Fully Completed Applications Received 2022	8	
Awaiting Recommendation from Housing Agency (Underwriters)	1	Relates to 2023 application
Awaiting Further Information from applicants	2	All relate to 2022 applications
Approved by Credit Committee	13	4 relate to 2023, 9 relate to 2022
Refused by Credit Committee	3	0 relate to 2023, 3 relate to 2022 applications
Awaiting Decision by Credit Committee	0	All relate to 2023 applications
Returned to Customer	3	All relate to 2022 applications
Active Approvals	36.33	3 Relate to 2023, 32.86 Relate to 2022, .47 relates to 2021,
Expired	6	6 relate to 2022 applications
Drawdown by Customer	4.19	4 relate to 2022 applications, .19 relate to 2021 applications,

Figures above relate to activity from 1st January 2023 – 24th February 2023 and in some cases relate to applications from 2022.

Previously expired loans may be extended in some cases

Other Information: From 1st April 2023 the NPPR liability period is reduced to 2012 – 2013, total if unpaid €1,860. Originally it was 2009 – 2013, totalling €7,230 if unpaid.

Rates Demands have issued to all relevant businesses in February 2023.