

Monthly Management Report for Elected Members

September 2025

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.

Contents

Introduction by the Chief Executive	2
Corporate Affairs and Governance	3
Housing Services	9
Transportation Services	22
Economic Development, Enterprise & Tourism.....	35
Rural Regeneration	43
Community Development.....	45
Age Friendly Ireland Shared Service	50
Planning	54
Climate Action and Environment.....	61
Libraries Services.....	64
Finance	66

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, HR Management and Emergency Services

Corporate Affairs and Governance

Directorate for Housing and Integration

Housing Services

Directorate for Transportation, Urban Regeneration & Asset Management

Transportation

Directorate for Planning & Strategic Projects

Planning and Development

Directorate for Financial Services and Information Systems

Finance Services

Directorate for Climate Action, Culture, Community & Gaeltacht Affairs

Climate Action and Environment

Library Services

Community Development

Directorate for Economic Development, Rural Regeneration & EU Affairs

Economic Development

Tourism

Rural Regeneration

Thank You,

Kieran Kehoe

Chief Executive

Corporate Affairs and Governance



Corporate Governance

Investigation by the Standards in Public Office Commission of Alleged Contraventions of the Ethics in Public Officer Acts 1995 and 2001 and Part 15 of the Local Government Act 2001, Mr. Tommy Reilly.

Pursuant to Section 180(3)(a) of the Local Government Act 2001, (the Act), The Standards in Public Office (SIPO) Commission Report in respect of the matter above, was furnished to the Cathaoirleach and the Chief Executive and subsequently circulated to the Elected Members of Meath County Council. Section 180 (4)(a) of the Act states where a report referred to in subparagraph (i), (ii) or (iii) of subsection (3)(a) is furnished to a local authority, it shall be considered by the elected council.

Mr. Tommy Reilly may initiate a judicial review of the findings presented by the Standards in Public Office Commission. He has a period of 90 days from the publication date of the report to pursue this action. Consequently, the report will not be submitted for consideration by the members until the expiration of 90 days from the publication date.

Additional Irish Language Obligations for Public Bodies

The Official Languages Act has been amended to include section 9E. It will be the responsibility of the council to ensure that any work carried out by a third party and any public service that is outsourced, that the third party adheres to the same language standards as set out in the Act.

Oibleagáidí breise Gaeilge do chomhlachtaí poiblí

Leasaíodh an tAcht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla chun Alt 9E a chur san áireamh. Beidh sé de fhreagracht ar an gComhairle a chinntiú go gcloífidh aon obair a dhéanann tríú páirtí agus aon seirbhís phoiblí atá seachfhoinsithe, go gcloíonn an tríú páirtí leis na caighdeáin teanga chéanna de réir an Achta Teanga.

Meath County Council Deliver 169% of Social Housing Targets and Welcome New Housing Targets Set Out in National Planning Framework Guidelines

In early July, statistics supplied by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, showed that Meath County Council delivered 169% of their new-build delivery against overall social housing new-build targets from 2022 to 2024.

Later in the month, the Department issued new targets setting out housing growth requirement guidelines for planning authorities.

In both cases, Meath County Council issued press releases and social media posts to advise and assure the public in the county that Meath County Council are continuing to work hard to address the housing challenges of the people of Meath.



Meath County Council Announce Production of Season 2 of Podcast Series Local Lens

Also in July, Meath County Council announced that after a successful first season, Local Lens is returning for a second season and will go into production later in 2025.

Local Lens, which launched in February 2025 with six 30-minute episodes, has received over 2,100 downloads so far with approximately 270 listening hours across all platforms, meaning the cumulative time people have spent listening to the series is equal to about 11.5 days.

In addition to Ireland, the series has also been downloaded in the US, the UK, Australia, India, Portugal, France, Austria, Japan, the Netherlands, Belgium, Spain, and Sri Lanka.



Meath County Council Partners with Ablefest 2025 for Ireland's Largest Inclusive Music and Arts Festival

Meath County Council partnered with Ablefest 2025 to bring Ireland's largest inclusive Music and Arts Festival to Fairyhouse Racecourse for 2025 on Saturday, 26 July.



Backing Meath GAA for a Greener Future

Meath County Council was proud to partner with Meath GAA to take an exciting step towards a more sustainable future with the launch of their first Reusable Bottles Campaign, in order to help stamp out the use of single-use plastics.

This initiative, funded by Meath County Council, marks a new chapter in Meath GAA's commitment to environmental responsibility, player wellbeing, and community pride.

At the heart of this campaign is the introduction of high-quality, personalised reusable sports bottles for Meath GAA players and Meath County Council promoted this introduction with a press release, along with photographs and a video on social media.



Meath County Council Welcomes Delegation from Bobbio

Mayor of Navan Cllr Padraig Fitzsimons, Chief Executive Kieran Kehoe and Navan Area Manager and Director of Services Martin Murray were delighted to welcome Mayor of Bobbio Roberto Pasquali and a delegation from the Italian city to Navan on Monday, 14 July.

Bobbio has been twinned with Navan for the past 22 years and we are looking forward to continuing our partnership with our Italian counterparts in the years to come, focusing on opportunities and initiatives to better both of our regions.



Meath County Council Promote Amber Thursday and Road Safety Awareness Day

In advance of a busy August Bank Holiday Weekend, Meath County Council personnel joined An Garda Síochána to launch this year's Amber Thursday, an interagency initiative which seeks to raise awareness of the risks and dangers on the road, in water, or with fire.

Later in August, Meath County Council also promoted their Road Safety Awareness Day at Emerald Park in collaboration with the Gardaí. Both initiatives and safety messages were well-publicised by the Council.



Meath County Council Delighted to Host Homecoming for our Meath LGFA Heroes on August Bank Holiday Monday

Meath County Council, in association with the Meath Ladies Gaelic Football Association (LGFA), were delighted to host a Homecoming for the Meath Senior Ladies team and management at Páirc Tailteann, Navan, on Bank Holiday Monday (August 4).

iRadio Presenter DJ Conor Woods and MC 'We are Meath' Podcaster David Rispin lead the festivities with the team arriving shortly after and being welcomed by Cathaoirleach of Meath County Council Cllr Wayne Harding.



Meath County Council Promote Over 125 Events Planned in Meath for 20th Annual National Heritage Week

To effectively promote National Heritage Week and the over 125 events occurring in the county from 16 to 24 August, Meath County Council ran an extensive social media campaign throughout August promoting all of these events, as well as promoting it via traditional media via a press release and the facilitation of a radio appearance on LMFM.



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			
Church Street, Kells	3	Q2 2026	Q2 2027
Total	3		
PART 8 PLANNING & DETAILED DESIGN			
Kells, Archdeaconry*	22	TBC	TBC
Carrick Street Regeneration, Kells*	47	TBC	TBC
Planning & Design Total	69		
TENDER FOR CONSTRUCTION			
Church View, Rathmolyon	22	Q3 2025	Q4 2027
Haggard Street, Trim	4	Q1 2026	Q1 2027
Blackhill Crescent, Donacarney	2	Q3 2025	Q3 2026
Total Tender for Construction	28		
CONSTRUCTION STAGE			
Pitcher Lane, Kells	5	Q2 2024	Q4 2025

Brews Hill, Navan	12	Q1 2024	Q4 2025
Ratholdren Court, Navan	27	Q3 2024	Q2 2026
Newtown, Drumconrath	1	Q3 2024	Q4 2025
Connaught Grove	47	Q3 2024	Q1 2026
Abbott Mews, Abbeylands, Navan	6	Q3 2025	Q4 2026
Construction Total	98		
COMPLETED DEVELOPMENTS			
Swan Lane, Navan	6		14/8/2025
Total Completed Units	6		
OVERALL TOTAL	204		

***Archdeaconry Glebe, Kells & Carrick Street, Kells**

Judicial Review Hearing is listed for 4&5 November 2025.

Meath County Council Approved Capital Assistance Scheme, Part V & Turnkey up to 21st August 2025

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT TYPE	NO. OF UNITS
Ashbourne	Part V	43
Ballivor	Part V	2
Donacarney	Part V	2
Drogheda	Part V	30
Duleek	Part V	6
Dunboyne	Part V	3
Dunshaughlin	Part V	50
Enfield	Part V	28
Kells	Part V	12
Kilcock	Part V	4
Longwood	Part V	1
Navan	Part V	57
Oldcastle	Part V	13
Rathmolyon	Part V	10
Ratoath	Part V	27
Stamullen	Part V	2
Summerhill	Part V	17
Trim	Part V	49
Bettystown	Turnkey	1
Donacarney	Turnkey	16
Drogheda	Turnkey	30
Kells	Turnkey	28
Navan	Turnkey	14

Kilmoon	CAS	1
Navan	CAS	12
Trim	CAS	2
Oldcastle	CAS	5
Total		465

Meath County Council Approved Capital Assistance Scheme, Part V & Turnkey – Delivered as at the 21st August 2025.

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT TYPE	NO. OF UNITS
Ballivor	Part V	4
Bettystown	Part V	4
Carlanstown	Part V	2
Clonee	Part V	7
Dunshaughlin	Part V	5
Julianstown	Part V	2
Ballivor	Turnkey	8
Bettystown	Turnkey	20
Clonee	Turnkey	66
Navan	Turnkey	12
Stamullen	Turnkey	5
Navan	CAS	5
Total		140

Affordable Housing

Meath County Council are offering two new affordable housing schemes at present.

Effernock, Trim, Co Meath – 8 units, Offers issued to successful applicants, 7 have accepted and 23 offers not accepted, 1 from our reserve list has until 25/08/2025 to accept.

Beaufort, Boyne Village, Navan, Co Meath – 7 units, Offers issued to successful applicants. 7 have accepted and 12 offers not accepted.

Expressions of Interest

The Housing Department continue to collaborate with Developers and Landowners to purchase land and or properties for the provision of social and affordable housing.

Local Authority Adaptive Work Scheme (LAAWS)

- LAAWS grant funding of €614,442.67 including VAT was submitted for approval to DHLGH on 23rd January 2025.
- This includes 56 disabled persons grant units for €522,730.59 and 1 disabled persons grant extension units for €91,692.08.
- This brings the total to 57nr. LAAWS applications scheduled to be completed in 2025.
- Funding for €427,643 has been confirmed by the Department, with the remaining funding expected to be confirmed later this year. Application for the remaining funding has been made.
- 29nr. LAAWS applications are completed so far this year.

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

Confirmation of 2025 approved allocation for Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and Disabled People Scheme received on 9th May 2025 - **€4,343,714** including MCC match funding.

563 grants awarded to the value of €4,332,428 up to 15/8/2025

Local Authority Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme (EERP)

Initially MCC were approved for 48 properties. However, we were approved for a further 20 properties in June, giving a total of 68 properties for 2025. 47 properties are voids (31 completed) and

21 properties are occupied (10 completed). Works are ongoing on 20 properties and works have not commenced yet on the remaining 7 properties.

Local Authority Planned Maintenance

811 Stock Condition Surveys were completed from the 1st January 2025 up to 21st August 2025.

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 August 2025.

	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 Contractor
Kells	2	5	6	10	3
Navan	13	12	7	25	7
Ashbourne	2	0	1	3	0
Laytown/Bettystown	3	0	3	3	3
Ratoath	4	0	0	2	2
Trim	3	3	0	3	3
TOTALS	27	20	17	46	18

Summary Profile of Approved Housing Body Approved Projects (Including Part V)

Project Name	No. of Units	AHB	Estimated Completion
Gardenrath, Kells	12	Cluid	Q3 2025
Bailey Hill, Navan	5	Cluid	Q4 2025
Woodstream, Bailis, Navan	21	Cluid	Q3 2025
Dunboyne Heights, Dunboyne	50	Iveagh Trust	Q1 2027
Kilmoon	1	Marillac - CAS	Q1 2027
Oldcastle	5	Saint Vincent de Paul - CAS	Q3 2027
Tailteann, Navan	12	Meath Women's Refuge - CAS	Q4 2027
St. Loman Street, Trim	2	Saint Vincent de Paul - CAS	Q2 2027
Total Number of Approved Units	108		

Summary Profile of Approved Housing Body Approved Projects Delivered in 2025 Year to date:

Project Name	No. of Units	AHB
Flowerhill Lodge, Navan	5	North & East - CAS

Gardenrath, Kells, Co. Meath	33	Cluid - CALF
Mine View, Athboy Road, Navan	12	Respond - CALF
Emmett St, Trim	12	North & East - CALF
Total Number of Units Delivered	62	

Homelessness – July 2025

	Single Adults / Couples	Households with Children	Total Households
Placements at 30th June 2025	175 (179 Adults)	76 (110 Adults, 126 Children)	251
Placements at 31st July 2025	172 (174 Adults)	82 (117 Adults, 137 Children)	254

Of the households with children, 73 families are placed in short-term private rented accommodation (house/apartment) through the Settlement Team's intervention, and 9 Families in PMVT/DePaul Family Hubs.

95% bed allocations were availed of by service users.

5% beds were available (Trim, Kells & Drogheda)

Meath County Council is not the sole user of the properties located in Meath that facilitate the Settlement Section. Owners of properties that border other LA's will also engage with these LA's. This includes Louth, Fingal, Westmeath & Kildare.

Reason for EA Presentations	Total Numbers
NTQ	11
Family Circumstance	17
Hospital Prison Care	6
Couch Surfing Cannot Afford	17
Rough Sleeping	1
Other	0
Total	52

Family Figures:

6 Families exited EA in July. This comprised 9 Adults & 10 Children

Reason for EA Family Exit	Total Numbers
MCC Allocation	2
HAP	1
Not availing of Bed	2
Other	1
Total	6

Age profile of clients in emergency accommodation on 31.07.2025

Age profile	Clients	0-4	04-11	11-18	18-25	25-40	40-65	Over 65
Families	117				25	52	39	1
Couples	4					3	1	
Singles	170				13	51	90	16
Children	137	38	55	44				
Total	428	38	55	44	38	106	130	17

Homeless HAP Placefinder 01/07/2025 – 31/07/2025

Total	8
Exit from Emergency Accommodation	6
Homeless Prevention	2
In Progress	8

Tenant Liaison Team July 2025

Anti-Social Behaviour Investigation	Complaints	Cases
Frequent serious disturbances	130	48
Occupancy of dwelling	104	59
Garden upkeep/maintenance	75	43
Dog/Horse/Pet Control	3	3
Total July 2025	312	153

ASB Investigations on going at (month end)	107
ASB Investigations completed (month end)	46
Number of Pre Tenancies completed in July 2025	20
Abandonments for July 2025	6
Houses taken back into stock for July 2025	9

Warnings Issued 2025

Warnings	May	June	July	Total
Verbal	0	4	8	12
Written	1	0	2	3
2 nd Written	0	0	0	0
Statutory	0	0	0	0
Advisory	0	0	0	0
Total	1	4	10	15

Tenant Incremental Purchase Scheme						
2025	Applications Received	Invalid	Offers Issued	Offers Accepted	File to Solicitor	Sale Closed
January	2	1	1	0	1	1
February	3	0	0	1	0	3
March	6	0	3	2	1	0
April	5	0	0	0	3	0
May	3	1	10	5	1	1
June	0	0	1	0	1	1
July	4	0	1	1	1	1
Total	23	2	16	9	8	7

Standards in Rented Accommodation

2,206 Inspections were carried out on rented properties in Meath up to the end of July 2025. Of this figure, 795 were first inspections, 41 properties passed after their first inspection. Subsequent follow up inspections will be carried out to ensure compliance. The number of tenancies to be inspected by Meath County Council in 2025 has been set at 1,973 dwellings (each dwelling can only be counted once per calendar year).

77 Improvement Notices and 6 Prohibition Notices were served from January to July 2025.

Social Housing Supports - for period 1st July to 31st July 2025

- 173 applications received for Social Housing
- 57 applications approved onto the Social Housing List
- 16 applications unsuccessful

Outlined below is the number of households that have had their accommodation needs met by Meath County Council in the period 1st July to 31st July 2025

Allocations/Housing Supports	Number
MCC Direct Allocations	31
Transfers	3
Approved Housing Bodies	16
Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)	0
Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)	24
Long Term Leasing (inc Private MTR)	7
Mortgage To Rent (Approved Housing Bodies)	4
TOTAL	85

Transportation Services



1. National Roads

Funding Source	TII
Grant Allocation	€8,609,519 (including Greenways €1,400,000)
Scheme	Update
N51 Dunmoe Phase 2 - €2.7M	Snagging work is ongoing and is expected to be completed in the coming weeks.
N2 Slane Bypass & Public Realm Enhancement Scheme - €650K	<p>An Coimisiún Pleanála confirmed the CPO and EIAR on the 27/06/2025.</p> <p>An Coimisiún Pleanála published their EIAR decision on the 16th of July 2026.</p> <p>MCC published the CPO decision on the 23rd of July 2026.</p> <p>JR period currently running, estimated completion on the 11th of Sept 2026.</p>
N2 Rath Roundabout to Kilmoon Cross - €31.5K	Total funding received from TII for 2025 is €31.5K
N52 Grange to Clontail - €1.3M	Tender competition for Phase 5,6 & 7 consultant complete. Relevant letters sent to consultants, currently in standstill period.

	DRAFT gateway statement to enter Stage 5, as per TII guidelines with TII awaiting approval to formally submit.
National Road Resurfacing - €4.5M	N52 Woodtown to County Boundary works substantially complete.
N52MH Calliaghstown RSIS - €319K	Road safety improvement works and resurfacing substantially complete
N52MH Mandistown RSIS - €370K	Works substantially complete
N52MH_034.0 Balrath Cross RSIS	Design currently being progressed

2. Non - National Roads

Funding Source	DoT
Grant Allocation	€26,567,800

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

Grant Allocation	€ 18,283,550 (including CIS)
Own Resources (Local tertiary roads)	€3,083,800
Total	€21,366,350
<u>Scheme</u>	<u>Update</u>
Phase 1 (Recycle, Overlay & Surface Dressing):	Contract completed.
Phase 2 (Surface Dressing)	75% completed to date (surface dressing is weather dependent)

Phase 3 (Structural Overlay & Surface Dressing)	17 out of 19 no. schemes completed to date
Phase 4 (Wearing Course)	17 out of 20 no. schemes completed to date including 3 schemes completed under nightworks
Community Involvement Scheme	Works to commence 1 – 2 weeks
Local Tertiaries	1 no. scheme completed

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

Grant Allocation	€1,200,000
<u>Scheme</u>	<u>Update</u>
R156/R125 Mullagh Cross	Part 8 Planning put on public display from 15 th July with the closing date for submissions being 13 th August 2025.
L6210 Newtownmoyaghy	Approval to proceed to Planning Phase obtained from the Department of Transport and NIS application to An Coimisiún Pleanála being finalised.
R108 / L16111 Bey More Junction safety scheme	Consultancy contract awarded on 7 th July 2025. Constraints and collision data being reviewed.

2.(c) Safety Improvement Works on Regional & Local Roads

Grant Allocation	€470,000
<u>Scheme</u>	<u>Update</u>
12 schemes received funding approval for 2025	<p>The schemes are being reviewed and options being considered for each.</p> <p>R-108 Bey More €20,000</p>

	R-125 Grennoge €30,000
	R-125 Collinstown €25,000
	R-155 Curragha €85,000
	R-162 Nobber €30,000
	R-195 Fennor Oldcastle €35,000
	R-195 Springhall Oldcastle €55,000
	L-1603 Lobinstown €40,000
	L-4007 Clonmalevan €20,000
	L-5054 Kentstown €20,000
	L-5614 Bettystown €55,000
	L-5018 Ballybin €55,000
	Total €470,000

2.(d) Bridge Rehabilitation Works Regional & Local Roads

Grant Allocation €742,250	
<u>Scheme</u>	<u>Update</u>
Newtown Commons Bridge Duleek	Works substantially complete
R154 Addanstown Bridge	Bridge works complete.
Laytown Pedestrian Bridge	Resurfacing to be completed by end of August 2025
Ballivor Bridge	Works substantially complete.
Ashbourne Bridge	Works complete.
BAMS Engineering Inspections (2025)	Inspections to commence Q3 2025
Verdons Bridge	Consultants appointed

Aclare Bridge	Consultants appointed
Graultys Bridge	Consultants appointed
Piercetown Bridge	Tender documents for consultants being prepared.

2 (e) Climate Change Adaptation & Resilience Works

Grant Allocation €540,500	
<u>Scheme</u>	<u>Update</u>
12 schemes received funding approval for 2025 under Climate Change Adaptation & Resilience Works	<p>The schemes are being reviewed and options being considered for each:</p> <p>R160 Clongowan €200,000 Street, Ashbourne €50,000 Seafields Footpath Cycleway €45,000 - Commenced Keenaghan Drainage Improvement €35,000 R-151 Mornington €30,000 Planned R-191-8 Leitrim Lower Culvert Upgrade Works €30,000 - planned L-8036-5 Edgeworth Court, Longwood €30,000 completed L-62251- Rathcore €30,000 planed L-1011-15 Irishtown, Ardcath €30,000 L-80045-5 Church Road, Athboy €25,000 L-5615 L-5615 Pilltown Road €10,500 - Planned Total €540,500</p>

(f) Former National Road Rehabilitation Works

Grant Allocation €750,000	
<u>Scheme</u>	<u>Update</u>
R132 (Former N1)	Works completed. Innovative low carbon material used as part of a trial in conjunction with DoT.

3. Active Travel Grants

Funding Source	NTA
Grant Allocation	€12,000,000
<u>Scheme</u>	<u>Update</u>
NA1: R147 Martha's Bridge to Circular Road	The preferred tender has been notified, and it is anticipated that a Letter of Acceptance will be issued during the week ending 15 th August 2025. Works are expected to commence on site late August/early September 2025.
NA1: R147/N51 Poolboy Bridge to Kells Road Roundabout	The consultants are finalising the review process for potential options to optimise existing road space on the R147. Meath County Council recognises the importance of delivering a scheme that aligns with the development of other cycle and pedestrian schemes along the R147 corridor, ensuring continuity of cycle and pedestrian infrastructure along this key route in Navan.
Flowerhill Cycle & Pedestrian Scheme	Design work is continuing with respect to the Preliminary Design Report and Structures Report (TII), prepared as part of Phase 2 (Feasibility and Options Assessment) of the process. The interim scheme is to be advanced in two separate planning applications with the first to include the Round 'O' roundabout, N51 to the R147/N51 junction (including the Ratholdren Road junction), and second application to include the section of the R147 from Poolboy Bridge (including R147 junction) to the Kentstown Road (New Bridge). Following a meeting with the NTA, it has been agreed to proceed on this basis for the Part 8 applications.
Navan Public Realm: Trimgate Street Pedestrianisation	Consultant Team is continuing work on finalising the Preliminary Business Case and final Gateway 3 documents for submission to the National Transport Authority. Intention to proceed to Part 8 application in late Q3 2025. The school's art competition has concluded, with prizes awarded to the winning schools and students.
Navan Contract 5:	Works at Fairgreen Car Park and the adjacent new public space are nearing completion. Public lighting and

Fairgreen, Church Hill, Bakery Lane, Old Cornmarket, Preston Place and Fairgreen carpark.	<p>CCTV installation have now commenced ahead of the removal of the overhead power cables on Fairgreen. Kerbing and paving works are ongoing at St Mary's Church and will continue past St Anne's Loreto Primary School until the end of August. Old Cornmarket has been fully paved, with the section in front of Staunton's Pharmacy now open to traffic.</p> <p>At the Old Sheep Market on Church Hill, historical paving is being restored and reused to preserve the area's character, and a historic well uncovered during excavation is being reconstructed as a key feature by skilled stonemasons. The final element of this stage of the Navan 2030 scheme will be the enhancement of Bakery Lane, starting Monday, 11th August 2025, and including new paving, upgraded utilities, improved lighting, and landscaping.</p>
Convent Road to Metges Road & Trim Road: Beechmount to Balreask Manor Active Travel Schemes	A meeting was held with the NTA regarding a proposed interim scheme that avoids land acquisition. The NTA has provided feedback, and the design team is updating the Gateway 2 documentation with the intention of resubmitting for approval in late Q3 or early Q4 2025.
Trim Road Phase 3 - Beachmount to Balreask Manor	A Chief Executive's Report recommending the proposed development has been issued to the Navan MD elected members, with a decision expected at the Navan MD September Monthly Meeting.
Trim Road Phase 4 Balreask Manor to Borallion Junction	Gateway 2 documents, including the Project Execution Plan, Option Selection Report, and Feasibility Report, have been uploaded to the NTA PRS system for approval.
Dunboyne and Clonee Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme	Preliminary Design (preparation of Part 8 planning documents) being finalised for Section 1 of the scheme, Dunboyne to Clonee Active Travel Links. MCC continuing to meet with landowners whose lands may be impacted by the proposed scheme. Masterplan for the remaining Active Travel routes in Dunboyne now complete. Update to be provided to Elected Member in August.
Castle Street Ashbourne	Consultant appointed to develop an Active Travel Scheme along Castle Street Ashbourne, design works to start in August.

Johnstown Village Active Travel Scheme	Feasibility and Route Option Selection Report now complete and NTA satisfied with proposals. Works to commence in August on the preliminary Design for Part 8 planning application.
BusIt2School	The BusIt2School scheme is funded by the DOT and aims to encourage primary school pupils to travel to and from school by bus. Navan Educate Together have now completed the scheme and a close-out report of the finding is now being prepared. Scoil Naomh Eoin Clonmaggaden and St. Stephens Johnstown are scheduled to take part in the scheme in September.
Dangan NS, Summerhill	Further traffic calming works to be implemented at Dangan NS week commencing Monday 11 th August 2025. A raised crossing will be provided at the existing pedestrian traffic lights, while the ramps will be reconfigured to further reduce speed.
Safe Routes to School	
St. Stephen's NS, Navan	Contract awarded and work commenced
Beaufort College, Navan	Contract awarded and work commenced
St. Colmcille's NS, Kells	Contract awarded and work commenced
Our Lady of Mercy NS, Kells	Contract awarded and work commenced
Pedestrian Crossings	The NTA have confirmed funding of €615,000 for nine new/upgraded pedestrian crossings as follows:
1. Replacement of Controlled Crossing on Trim Ring Road, R161	Works completed.
2. Two pedestrian crossings (adjacent and linked) at Proudstown Road, R162-Aisling Place junction, Navan	These pedestrian crossings will be completed as part of a larger junction improvement scheme.

3. Pedestrian Crossing at Tudor Grove, Ashbourne	Civil works have completed, awaiting final commissioning of traffic signals in time for Schools restarting.
4. Pedestrian Crossing at Dunshaughlin Road (R125), Ratoath	Design now complete, tender documents to be issued to the contractor for pricing.
5. Pedestrian Crossing Delvin Mews, Stamullen	Design completed and construction anticipated Q4 2025
6. Pedestrian Crossing upgrade at Cortown School	Works completed.
7. Pedestrian Crossing at Kildalkey Road, Athboy	Funding from both the NTA and Age Friendly housing Development secured, design being finalised with construction Q4 2025 anticipated.
8. Pedestrian Crossing at Ratoath Tennis Club, also serving Scout Den/Foroige, Ratoath Athletic Club and community all weather pitches	Design in development with construction anticipated Q4 2025
9. Pedestrian Crossing to Dunshaughlin park and playground	Design in development with construction anticipated Q4 2025
Bus Stop Enhancement Programme	<p>Upgraded and new bus stops works completed in Navan and Johnstown, with amended town bus routes (NV1 and NV2) launched by Bus Éireann/NTA.</p> <p>A Consultant has been appointed to develop designs to upgrade approximately 85 bus stops countywide over next three years. It is anticipated 10-12 bus stops will be upgraded by year end with more to follow in 2026 and 2027.</p>

4.Roads & Sustainable Transport Schemes

Funding Source	Primarily DoT & NTA
Grant Allocation	(covered under TII)
Boyne Valley to Lakelands County Greenway	
Scheme	Update
Kilberry to Greenway Footpath & Gibbstown Car Park	Works progressing on the footpath from the Gibbstown Greenway crossing to Kilberry. Works to be complete in October.
Greenway Surfacing	Tenders received for the replacement of the open grade Greenway surfacing with bituminous surfacing. 5,800m of surfacing to be installed. The section between Nobber and Castletown loops will be surfaced. Surfacing will then progress south from the Castletown loop towards Wilkinstown. Works to commence in September.
Poles Car Park, Kilmainhamwood	Tender received for the construction of the Greenway car park at Poles Greenway crossing. Works to commence on site in October.

5.Other/Projects

Scheme	Update
Oldcastle Public Realm Scheme	Tobin Consultant Engineers Ltd. actively progressing the detailed design. MCC exploring options to acquire land for new car park to serve the town centre.
Athboy Main Street Public Realm Scheme	Tobin Consultant Engineers appointed for the Athboy Main Street Public Realm scheme. Feasibility and Route Options Selection report being developed.
Footpath Rehabilitation Programme	Works recently completed at the Grove estate Navan. Work has commenced in Kentstown (Ashbourne MD).

	Contracts award in process for works Ratoath and Trim MDs.
LDR4 Navan	Works progressing at Kells road new signalised junction. Scheme currently expected to be substantially complete early Q4 2025.
R162/ Clonmaggaden Road Junction Navan Traffic Lights	Works nearing substantial completion. Road Safety Audit to be completed.

6.URDF

Scheme	Update
Former Spicers Bakery, Rampart Carpark & Andy Brennan Park	Demolition of 4 derelict buildings at Andy Brennan Park is now completed. Emergency demolition works on section of the Former Spicers Bakery is complete
Frontage Improvement Works Flowerhill	Letters to be issued to the successful and unsuccessful Architect for Phase 2 works. The Council are seeking approval from URDF for the implementation stage of the project.
Ratoath – Refer to 10 Meath County Council Projects below - New Library/Community Building, Amenity Area, and Age Friendly Housing, Ratoath	N/A

7. RRDF

Scheme	Update
Boyne Greenway Navan to Oldbridge	Topographical and ground investigation surveys have concluded and the preliminary design of the horizontal and vertical alignment of the Boyne Greenway route is progressing. When the first draft design is complete, consultation and engagement will take place with landowners, relevant stakeholders and the public.

8. THRIVE

Scheme	Update
County Archive and Community Hub	Design and the Works tender document preparation currently on-going. Stage 1 Works Procurement process completed with 6 no. being shortlisted for Stage 2 Works. Procurement for Stage 2 Works in progress

9. Large Scale Sports Infrastructure Fund (LSSIF)

Scheme	Update
Upgrade & Development of the existing Seafeld Sports Facility at Corballis, Laytown, Co. Meath	Open Service procurement procedure for the appointment of a Landscape Architect–led Multi Disciplinary Design Team received from eTENDER on 7 Th July 2025

10. Meath County Council Projects

Scheme	Update
New Library/Community Building, Amenity Area, and Age Friendly Housing, Ratoath	Stage 1 Service procurement process complete. Stage 2 Service procurement process to appoint an Architect-led Multi-Disciplinary Design team received from eTender on 28 th July 2025
Buvinda Council Chambers & Offices	Works tender document preparation is currently on-going. Stage 1 Works Tender received from e- tenders on 3 rd June 2025. Works tender documents for Reserved Specialist Mechanical and Electrical received from eTender on 3 rd July 2025
Solstice – Frontage	In discussion with original Architect

11. National Speed Limit Review

Scheme	Update
National Speed Limit Review	<p>The first phase of implementation of the national Speed Limit Review saw the reduction from the default 80 km/hr to a default 60 km/hr on rural local roads. The Council completed this phase of the work, involving installation of the new 60 km/hr signs throughout the County, in Q1 this year. The next phase of the review is the introduction of a 30km/hr speed limit in built-up urban areas. The Department of Transport are currently preparing Guidelines for Setting and Managing Speed Limits in Ireland to ensure a common approach among all local authorities in determining the extent of the areas where the 30 km/hr speed limit would be appropriate. These guidelines are required before the draft byelaws for the built-up and urban areas can be finalised to go on public consultation and adoption by the elected members. Therefore, until the guidelines are available, it is not possible to give a date for the completion of this second phase.</p>

Economic Development, Enterprise & Tourism



American Chamber 4th July Event



Representatives of Meath County Council attended the American Chamber 4th July Independence Day lunch where the guest speaker was Peter Burke, Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment. Prior to the event, the team met with a number of businesses located in Meath to discuss plans for the Thrive Centre of Business Excellence and promotion of Meath for Foreign Direct Investment.

Ablefest 2025

Meath County Council was very proud to support an incredibly successful Ablefest event, held on Saturday 26th July. This is Ireland's largest inclusive music and arts festival, specifically designed for people with additional needs.



Sectoral Insights Programme

As part of our continued commitment to increase stakeholder engagement and interaction with Meath businesses, the Economic Development team progressed with a focus group programme, meeting with key representatives from a range of business sectors across the county.

Since our last update the team has met with representatives from the Medi/Pharma, Equine, Engineering, Manufacturing and Agri sectors. These focus groups are proving instrumental to shaping our programme of supports for the new Thrive Business Centre of Excellence and providing a platform for these businesses to express the challenges they are facing, and to reach out to the council for assistance and support.

European Parliament's Transport and Tourism Committee visit to Meath

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Wayne Harding and Deputy Chief Executive Des Foley, along with the Economic Development team were delighted to welcome local MEP Nina Carberry along with a delegation from the European Parliament's Transport and Tourism Committee to Meath County Council Buildings on Wednesday 23rd July. The visit comprised of a presentation from Irish Rail about the plans for the region, a presentation on the developing plans for Bremore Port and an overview

of the work of the Discover Boyne Valley team, highlighting the many attractions and experiences that the region has to offer.

In collaboration with the OPW the team was able to facilitate a visit by the delegation to the Hill of Tara, to showcase the heritage and cultural significance of this ancient monument.



Meath Made chosen to launch National August craft month with Design Craft Council Ireland

Economic Development and the Local Enterprise Office were delighted to support Meath Made in the National launch of August Craft month, ahead of their Meath Made Creates Festival.



The second Meath Made Creates Festival took place in the Swift Cultural Centre, Trim on the 16 and 17 of August and was very successful.

Shanxi Delegation visit Navan

Economic Development, in conjunction with Meath Chamber, were delighted to host a short visit from a delegation from the Shanxi Region of China on 11th August where a presentation was delivered to the Shanxi Committee on Foreign Direct investment opportunities in Co. Meath.



The Centre of Food Culture

The Centre of Food Culture launched its first events outside the Boyne Valley Region – supporting expansion of the organisation’s scope on a national scale, whilst continuing to run events in the region: Cultivating Connections Farm Walk at Swainstown Farm on 22nd June, Meet the Cheesemaker: Coolattin Cheddar on 5th July (sold out), Cultivating Connections Farm Walk at Carlingford Oysters on 11th July (sold out), Meet the Cheesemaker: Leitrim Hill Creamery on 13th July and Cultivating Connections Farm Walk at McNally Family Farm on 22nd July.

Local Enterprise Office

Leo Activity Report – August 2025 - Grants, Programme Supports, Mentoring & Training

Grant Approved/Mentoring Sessions/Training	
Mentoring Assignments Approved	24
Attended Online Training Courses	33
Attended Digital Marketing Clinics	-

Grant Approved/Mentoring Sessions/Training	
Attended Website Health Check Clinics	-
Attended Finance Advice Clinics	-
GREEN for Micro Applications	3
Digital for Business	1
Grow Digital Voucher	-
LEAN for Micro	1
Energy Efficiency Grant	2
LEO Grants	4 approved

Tourism Press Visits

Boyne Valley Tourism has received lots of coverage in July and August from our April UK Press Trip:

- **Sunday Mirror - July 2025** [Fionnuala Boyle for Sunday Mirror - 8th - 10th May 2025](#)
- **About My Generation - July 2025** [Rupert Parker for About My Generation - 8th - 10th May 2025](#)
- **The Cultural Voyager - July 2025** [Rupert Parker for The Cultural Voyager - 8th - 10th May 2025](#)
- **The People's Friend - July 2025** [Sophie McVinnie for The People's Friend - 8th - 10th May 2025](#)
- **Bloom Magazine - July 2025** [Angela Campbell for Bloom Magazine - 8th - 10th May 2025](#)
- **Senior Times - July 2025** [George Keegan for Senior Times - 8th & 9th April](#)



Boyne Valley Tourism collaborated with Rory's Travel Club on 7th August with the recording of a documentary film on Ireland including Meath, featuring The Spire of Lloyd, The Johnstown Estate Hotel, Emerald Park and Boann Distillery

Tourism Trade Shows

Irishfest

Representatives from Boyne Valley Tourism and Meath County Council departed to Milwaukee, USA on August 13th to represent the destination with a stand at Irishfest. It is the largest Irish music festival in the US with over 100,000 visitors over the 4 days of the festival. This was Boyne Valley Tourism's first year in attendance. A representative from the Boyne Valley was also present on Fáilte Ireland's Púca and Home of Halloween stands. Boyne Valley Drive leaflets and the Boyne Valley golf guide was distributed at the show, along with branded merchandise featuring scenes from the Boyne Valley (Trim Castle, Newgrange, Slane Castle).



Siamsa Glas Festival 2025

Boyne Valley Tourism are delighted to support the Siamsa Glas Festival as it returns for its second year from Friday 12th to Sunday 14th September. There is a packed programme of events in store with the aim of the festival being to celebrate the Irish language & culture of our Gaeltacht Bhaile Ghib and explore businesses along the Boyne Valley to Lakelands Greenway.



Training for Tourism providers and retailers

Boyne Valley Tourism in conjunction with LEO have created a “Púca meets Peak” Free training workshop. With over 50,000 visitors expected for this year’s PÚCA Festival (30th Oct–3rd Nov) we have invited local business providers to [Maximise PÚCA Festival Workshop - Local Enterprise Office - Meath](#) Led by renowned retail strategist **Miriam Simon**

Rural Regeneration



Vacant Homes	2025 total
Vacant Homes Identified	34
CPO - Housing Act - Completed in 2025	2
CPO - Housing Act - Commenced in 2025	5

Derelict Sites	2025 total
Derelict Sites Register (no. of properties)	40
No. of statutory orders issued	16
CA - Derelict Sites Act - Completed in 2025	2
CA - Derelict Sites Act - Commenced in 2025	2

Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant	2025 total
Approved Applications	40
Approved in Principle Applications (not commenced)	34
Applications In Progress/Info Requested	26
Rejected Applications	3
Withdrawn Applications	24
Completed / Paid Applications	54
Total Applications Received	66
Total Approved Grant Funding	€4,107,464
Total Paid Grant Funding	€1,924,702

Rural Regeneration Project Progress	Funding
Part 8 Process (July 2025)	
Dunshaughlin Sensory Garden Part 8 (Completed/Approved)	MCC
Duleek Linear Park Part 8 Process complete - CE Report to be issued	TVRS
Drumconrath Recreational Space & Enterprise Building - CE Report issued	TCF TVRS

Works Commenced (July 25)	
Aura Trim - Pool repairs	MCC
Aura Trim - Astro Pitches	MCC
Unity Building Navan (De-Carbonisation project)	MCC
Accessibility River Walk, Kilmainhamwood	ORIS
Ráthcairn Footpath Scheme out to Tender	ORIS
Castletown - Cottage Refurb - Tender Assessment/Contractor Appointment	TVRS
Works Completed (July 25)	
Drumconrath Recreational Space & Enterprise Building (Site Clearance/Demolition Works)	TCF TVRS
Balrath Wood - Entrance Upgrade Works	ORIS

Community Development



Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP)

The Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024 was commenced by Minister O'Callaghan on the 2nd of April 2025. Regulations issued on the 30th of June 2025. Guidance on the Operation of Local Community Safety Partnerships was issued on the 31st of July. The process to secure nominations for the LCSP has commenced in accordance with the Guidance received.

On the 9th of July we hosted a drama workshop followed by Orienteering to promote positive well-being amongst the LGBTI+ community and their families and the wider community. This initiative was funded under the Dormant Accounts fund 2024 and the Department of Rural and Community Development and The Gaeltacht. A second event will be held September 2025.



The Meath County Council Residents Association Handbook, developed through the Community & Cultural Development and Gaeltacht Affairs Strategic Policy Committee, was launched on the 14th of July. The Handbook was developed to support new and existing resident associations. Over 200 copies have been distributed to date.



Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT)

- The LAIT continue to proactively hold drop-in clinics in all centres with populations of more than **15** people. The Team continues to visit other centres to address issues as they arise.
- Cumulative Yearly total of Clinics Held: **99**

Numbers Accommodated

UKR -BOTP	656
IPA	1,003

Intercultural Football Tournament

Meath County Council's LAIT team was represented by a group of 15 players from Ashbourne at the Intercultural Football Tournament in Dundalk on Saturday, 19 July. The tournament featured teams with representatives from various countries. The games were competitive but played in great spirit with strong teamwork and sportsmanship throughout the day.

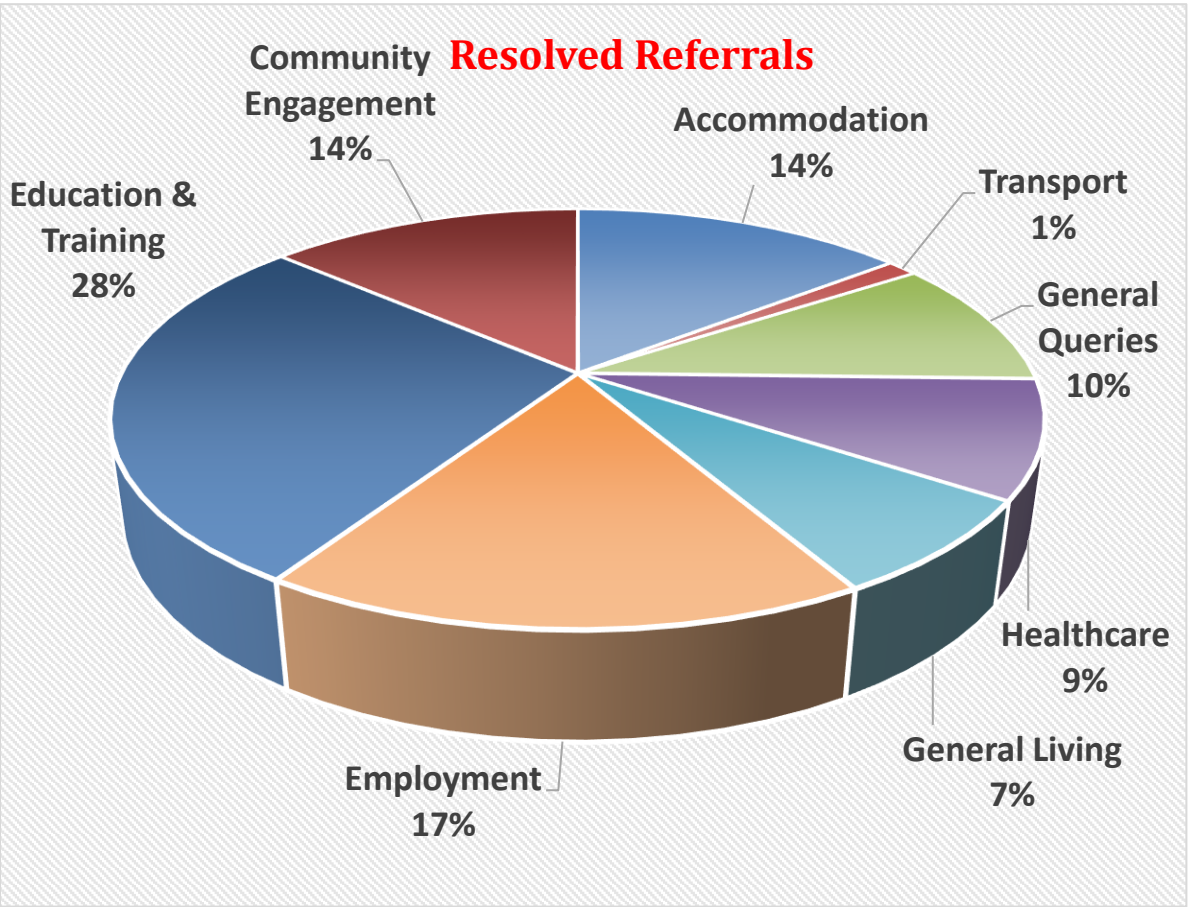


Little Libraries

In July, 'Little Libraries' were setup in 3 accommodation centres. The Little Libraries are collaborative initiative between the LAIT and Meath County Council Library Services. The purpose of the Little Libraries is to bring communal reading spaces to the residents in accommodation centres. Two 'Little Librarians' are nominated in each centre, with the children taking an active role in ensuring the library books are well maintained.

Customer Service Cases Logged 2025

The graph illustrates the main categories of queries responded to by the LAIT.



Number of Customer cases assigned/in progress/still active	31
Number of Customer cases closed	253
Total	284

Community Development

Public Participation Network

787 groups are registered with Meath PPN.

Secretariat members attended 'Building Community Resilience in Times of Emergency' event in Portlaoise July 17th hosted by Laois, Tipperary and Leitrim PPNs with DRCDG. Findings from July will continue into a workshop at the Conference.

PPN representatives from SPC's and LCDC attended communications training on June 20th in Dunboyne Castle hotel.

Planning of National Conference continues. 6 meetings with DRCD/MCC and Events & Comms team have taken place, and the final programme is being finalised.

Carranstown Grant Scheme

Carranstown grant offers issued to 31 successful groups on 8th July.

Pride of Place

The judging for the IPB Pride of Place initiative took place on Wednesday 23rd July. Judges visited the Age Well programme in Summerhill, which is entered in the Age Friendly category. An awards ceremony will take place on Friday 7th November at the Limerick Strand Hotel.

Meath Age Friendly

Following judging that took place in August, two Meath based projects have been shortlisted for the National Age Friendly Awards. LocalLink /Flexibus was shortlisted under the Age Friendly Transport Category for their Accessible Meath Hospital Bus Service. AgeWell, an integrated care model of Third Age was shortlisted under the Age Friendly Active and Healthy Aging category. The National Age Friendly Awards will be held in Galway in October.

Meath Local Community Development Committee

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

There is no LCDC meeting scheduled for August. The next meeting of the LCDC will take place on Friday 26th September.

LEADER Programme 2023 – 2027 – Local Action Group (LAG)

The LEADER LAG met on 25th July.

Local Enhancement Programme 2025

96 community groups approved under the current stream of the LEP are in the process of drawing down their grant claim.

125 community groups approved under the capital stream of the LEP are in the process of drawing down their grant claim.

Age Friendly Ireland Shared Service



National Age Friendly Ambassadors Day was held on 18th June, hosted this year by Carlow County Council in the Visual Theatre on the campus of Carlow College. Age Friendly Ambassadors are high profile personalities appointed by local authorities across Ireland to promote positive ageing and challenge ageism using their platforms and extensive networks. The theme for this year's Ambassadors Day was *Wellbeing in Later Life — Physical, Mental and Emotional Health*, which encouraged people to reimagine how we think about ageing in Ireland.

Age Friendly Ireland supports an international movement under the World Health Organisation's **Global Network for Age Friendly Cities and Communities**. In addition to regular online meetings with the affiliates network, the following engagements are of note:

- Presentation on the Age Friendly Library Programme to the Eurocities Library Group
- Lightning talk at WHO European Work Programme consultation – 4th June
- Online meetings with Zapopan (Mexico) and Buenos Aires (Argentina) in June via the Irish Embassy
- Presentation at the European Federation for Living Webinar on 21st August on housing for older people
- Two staff members will present at the “*Reimagining housing for older people in Ireland: needs, models, and the path forward*” webinar on 3rd September (organised by Campbell Tickell).
- Two staff members will present at the 17th International Federation on Ageing Conference in September in Cape Town, South Africa.
- AFI is participating on the steering committee for the WHO 3rd Global Age Friendly Congress which is being held in San Sebastian, Spain in June 2026.
- AFI Chief Officer, MCC Chief Executive and Cathaoirleach will present to the European Parliament in Brussels in November in a session on an *Age Friendly Europe* hosted by MEP Nina Carberry.

Galway City and Galway County Councils will host the **National Age Friendly Recognition and Achievement Awards** in the Galmont Hotel on 23rd October. Preparations for the Awards are well underway with visits by a panel of four independent judges to the shortlisted projects across the country. The Awards showcase Age Friendly practices and initiatives that make the biggest impact

on older people's lives and lead to sustainable solutions for ageing communities. The award categories are aligned to the eight domains of the WHO global framework.

Older People's Council members took part in a HSE **consultation** in August at the Royal College of Physicians on the topic of developing an Older Adult Health and Wellbeing Profile. At the request of An Garda Síochána, two special consultations on road safety took place this year, with the objective of developing actions to support older people's safety on the road network.

Communications and Information is an essential element of local Age Friendly Programming. Across all counties, Expos, Information Days and Annual General Meetings of Older People's Councils take place regularly. Large scale events help inform older people about local services and promote awareness of Age Friendly work in Ireland. Recent examples include:

- 2,000 people attended the Laois Live Well Expo in April
- 700 people attended the Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Expo in June
- 700 attended Fingal's Vintage Picnic in May
- Offaly County Council hosted a civic reception for its Older People's Council in July
- Kilkenny launched their new Age Friendly strategy in July
- Dublin City Council hosted a consultation day in May in preparation for its new Age Friendly strategy

Under the National Technical Programme, Irish Rail have been working with AFI to make 10 stations Age Friendly over 2025. Phase 2 of this partnership will shortly be launched with the announcement of a further 6 train stations to undergo the Age Friendly recognition process.

AFI delivered workshops and presentations at the International Social Housing Festival in the Convention Centre, Dublin in June. A further Housing Conference will take place in December with the Irish Wheelchair Association, National Disability Authority and & the Irish Council for Social Housing.

Walkability audits took place in Castledermot (Kildare) as part of the Town Centre First process, in Dungarven (Waterford), Carlow Train Station, Vandeleur Walled Gardens (County Clare), the Pavilions Shopping Centre (Fingal) and a further one is scheduled for Roscommon Hospital later in August. Walkability audits bring a group of citizens with diverse needs together to undertake a community-based assessment of a built environment. The National Technical Manager provides training to local programmes on the walkability audit process.

AFI is supporting University of Limerick to gain Age Friendly recognition using the World Health Organisation's 4 stage process. This builds on the commitment that UL and other Irish universities have already made under the 10 Principles of the Global Network of Age Friendly Universities. University of Limerick will contribute towards an Irish publication 'Towards an Age Friendly University' which will set out the methodology of the four stage process as guidance for other third level institutions.

Local Age Friendly Programmes will support delivery of the HSE's Minding Your Wellbeing Programme for Older People. This six session course will commence rolling out in the autumn in a number of counties, with a view to being scaled up to other areas over time.

The Healthy Age Friendly Homes Programme has signed a local protocol of co-operation with the Fire Service in Leitrim in relation to Home Fire Safety visits for older people. This partnership will see firefighters from all five fire stations in County Leitrim conducting free Home Fire Safety Visits for older residents who are referred through the Healthy Age Friendly Homes Programme.

Finally, AFI will deliver an in-house workshop to MCC Elected Members on 24th September which will cover the structure and evolution of the programme and the range of Age Friendly initiatives and processes at national and local level in Ireland that support ageing communities.



Some of the Age Friendly Ambassadors at Carlow College for Ambassadors Day were (left to right) Nickey Brennan, Mike Hanrahan, Geraldine Plunkett, Terry Prone, Faith Almond, Bob Gilbert and Seamus McDermott.



Cathaoirleach Cllr Paddy Farrell, Joseph Gilhooly (Chief Executive, Leitrim County Council), Eimear McCormack (Acting National Manager, Healthy Age Friendly Homes Programme), Noel O'Reilly (Chief Fire Officer), Martin Bond (Senior Assistant Chief Fire Officer), with representatives from Age Friendly Ireland and Leitrim Fire Service.

Planning



1. Planning Applications (Section 34)

921 planning applications were lodged in the period 01.01.2025 to 31.07.2025. This is compared to 905 in the same period in 2024.

84.8% of the applications received in 2025 have been lodged via the online portal - ePlan.

2. Commencement Notices

280 Valid Commencement Notices were received in the period 01/01/2025 to 31/07/2025. This is compared to 566 in the same period in the previous year.

The Commencement Notices can be broken down as follows:

Development Type	Number
One-Off House	92
Multi-Units	92** Units
Extensions	92
Other*	47

* Agricultural, Commercial, Recreational etc

**This includes a resubmission of a commencement notice for which the initial valid commencement notice has since been withered.

One commencement notice has been lodged in relation to solar farms for the period 01.01.2025 to 31.07.2025

3. Development Contributions (Section 48)

The collection figures for development contributions for the period Jan – June 2025 are as follows:

Receipt Period:	Jan - June 2025
Total Receipts	€ 2,151,710
Recoupments received	€ 0

Total Received	€ 2,151,710

The collection figures shown above are **inclusive** of Uisce Eireann receipts (€32,525).

The total collected (receipts plus recoupments received) in the same period in 2024 was €6,545,080.

Target Collection Jan - Dec 2025:	€ 8,000,000
Actual Collected Jan – June 2025:	€ 2,151,710
% collected:	27%

4. Planning Enforcement (Sections 152,154 and 160)

154 Planning Enforcement complaints received since 01.01.2025


89 new planning enforcement cases were opened from 1.01.2025 to 31.07.2025

New Cases to be Investigated	12
Warning Letters	173
Enforcement Notices	17
Referred for Legal Proceedings	4
Closed	58
Court Attendances	21

*please note these figures relate to actions taken on files in the year 2025 only.

5. Forward Planning and Projects

Joint Drogheda Local Area Plan Issues Paper	The report on submissions to Issues Paper was finalised and issued to the Elected Members on the 18th July 2025.
Implementation Plan for Revised Housing Targets Set Out in New National Planning Framework Guidelines	Currently preparing an Implementation Plan for incorporating the revised housing targets issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage into the Meath County Development Plan 2021-2027.
Review of Meath County Development Plan	The review of the Meath County Development Plan will commence in September 2025 with the publication of the Strategic Issues Paper. Tender preparation is underway for assessments required to inform the new County Development Plan.
Communications Strategy for the upcoming Meath County Development Plan.	A Communications Strategy for the CDP is being prepared with the aim of maximising public engagement, communication and involvement in the upcoming Meath CDP.
Old Johnstown Village Public Realm and Regeneration Plan	The public consultation process closed on the 19 th June 2025 and submissions are currently being assessed. Sixteen submissions were received (6 hard copies, 8 online, 2 email). The report is currently being finalised.

<p>Navan Town Centre Expansion Area Master Plan</p>	<p>Preparation of the overall Master Plan for lands in Navan off the Trim Road and Carraige Roads has commenced. The lands have been designated to provide for the extension of Navan Town centre and the potential location for the future Navan Central Rail Station as part of the new proposed Navan Rail Line.</p>  <p>Pre-draft Consultation took place in June/July 2025 which concluded on the 14th of July 2025. 326 surveys were completed. The Planning Authority are now reviewing the submissions received which will inform the preparation of the Master Plan.</p>
<p>Masterplans</p>	<p>Masterplan 23 for Employment Lands in Bracetown/Gunnocks in Dunboyne was agreed on the 14th July 2025 and is available for viewing here.</p>

Award Nominations	<p>Meath County Council have been shortlisted in two categories for the IPI Planning Awards 2025.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category 1 Plan Making - Kildare County Council and Meath County Council - Two Counties, One Town: Coordinating the Low Carbon Future of Maynooth. Category 4 Heritage and Culture - Sheridan Woods Architects & Urban Planners Ltd and Meath County Council - Duleek Heritage Led Regeneration Plan <p>https://www.meath.ie/council/council-services/planning-and-building/development-plans/public-realm-plans/duleek-heritage-led-regeneration-plan-2025</p>
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Heritage & Biodiversity Projects

Heritage Week 2025	<p>Heritage Week took place between the 16th-24th of August, 118 events were held in Meath celebrating built, natural and cultural heritage. A number of events were organised in partnership with the Heritage Section and Meath Libraries.</p> <p>Heritage Week merchandise was handed out to the Community Heritage Grant Scheme recipients on the 8th of August.</p>
The Pilot World Heritage Strategic Investment Fund Scheme	<p>The Scheme closed on July 25th with two applications received. One did not meet the eligibility requirements of the fund and the other was submitted to the Department for evaluation.</p>

Community Monuments Fund 2025:	<p>Ardcath Church: Detailed tender documents and specifications prepared, procurement process undertaken and contractor appointed to undertake conservation works.</p> <p>Archaeologist appointed and S14 application submitted. Bat Ecologist appointed and bat survey undertaken.</p> <p>Old Athlumney Graveyard: Bat survey undertaken.</p>
Ardmulchan Church	Phase 2 conservation works were completed which involved works to the entrance gate, boundary walls, grave tombs and medieval church.
“Colouring Meath” Book launch	A new colouring book celebrating the wonderful built, cultural and natural heritage of Meath was launched in July, offering young readers a fun and creative way to explore their surroundings. The book is freely available from Meath Libraries, or you can download the individual pages from Meath County Council's website
Conservation	Built Heritage Information Evening will be held on the 3 rd of September at 6:30pm
Biodiversity	A series of in person/ walk in public consultation events for the Draft Biodiversity Plan were held through the county during 4th-15 th August; also online via the consult.ie portal. Submissions are currently being reviewed.



Completed works at Ardmulchan Church

Climate Action and Environment



EcoChic Campaign

The EcoChic campaign concluded on the 4th of July 2025. There were 10 clothing swaps and 15 upcycling & sewing workshops throughout quarter 2. A total of over 500 people attended the events with over 150 people receiving training and 1,500 items of clothing swapped. This has resulted in 10.5 tons of CO2 emissions saved, 890,000 litres of water conserved and 262 kgs of plastic saved from landfill.

EcoWaters Campaign

The Climate Action Section commenced the EcoWaters campaign to raise staff awareness on water conservation and best practice. The campaign commenced with a series of internal posts with water conservation tips such as rainwater harvesting and installing water saving devices.



Navan Water Sensor Project

The Climate Action Section is commencing a pilot project using soil moisture sensors to reduce overwatering in the Navan Area throughout Summer 2025.

The methodology behind the project is that the sensors will inform Climate Action of the moisture levels letting us know where needs water and if areas are being overwatered to reduce water usage. Climate Action will then work with the Navan MD to ensure the watering schedules are created to reduce overwatering. A similar project was conducted in Wrexham in Wales and saved them approx. £32,000 and 1,000 litres of water daily over a 7-month period using 50 sensors.

At present, site identification has been refined to 10 sites for the sensors, three sensors have been set up and installed generating data with a dashboard created and connected to the LoRaWAN network for the data to be communicated to the MD.

Community Climate Action Programme Fund

Communications and engagement are continuing for Phase 2 of the CCAP with a webinar released with information in coordination with Wicklow, Kildare and Louth. In person information sessions will take place in the coming weeks as per schedule below.

Venue	Day	Date	Time
Trim Library	Tuesday	19.8.25	6-7pm
Bettystown Library	Tuesday	19.8.25	6-7pm
Ratoath Community Centre	Wednesday	20.08.25	6-7pm
Ashbourne Library	Thursday	21.8.25	6-7pm
Kells Library	Thursday	21.8.25	6-7pm
Dunboyne Library	Tuesday	26.8.25	6-7pm
Dunshaughlin Library	Thursday	28.8.25	6-7pm
Navan Library	Thursday	28.8.25	6-7pm
Duleek Library	Saturday	30.8.25	10-11am

The Toy Library

Our first Toy Library event took place in Ashbourne Community Centre on Saturday 9th August.

There was a great turnout of 86 families from 11-2. We had the right energy, the right crowd, and a fantastic atmosphere throughout. There were 260 toys recirculated with a saving of €3443.00 toy value and 158.3 Kg of plastic saved.

The Toy Library is a free event designed to promote toy reuse, reduce waste, and encourage Circular Economy principles in communities.

We have 3 more events coming in the months.

Date	Time	Zone	Location
6 th September	11am -2pm	Laytown / Bettystown	Scoil Oilibhéir Naofa, Coast Rd, Bettystown, Co. Meath, A92 H762
20 th September	11am -2pm	Trim	Trim GAA Club, Newhaggard Road County Meath C15 A258
6 th December	11am - 3pm	Navan	Simonstown GFC, Proudstown Road, Navan, Co. Meath, Ireland



Animal & Food Controls Update

The Council have been advised that the transfer of the Official Food Control Functions to Department of Food and the Marine will be completed by the end of Q 3 2025.

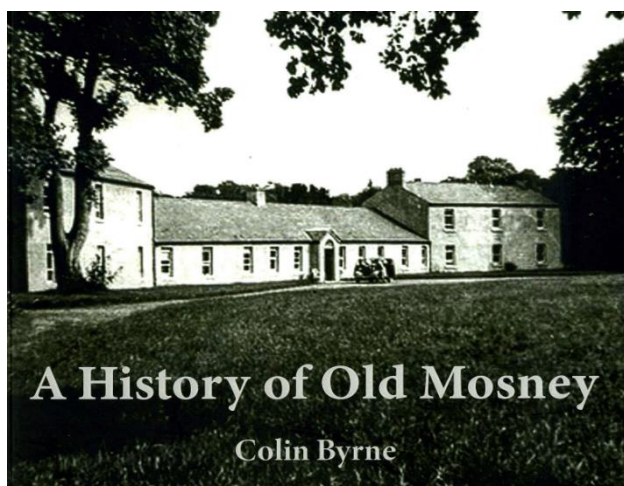
Libraries Services



Archives

The newly appointed County Archivist Corinne Herward commenced work with Meath County Council in July. She qualified with an MA in Archives and Records Management from UCD in 2020. She previously worked at the European Defence Agency in Bussels, and as Archivist in Sligo County Council from 2021 – 2024. Before joining Meath County Council, she worked in Offaly Archives on a part-time basis while completing an MA in Creative Writing at Queen's University Belfast. Corinne is a member of the Local Government Archivists and Records Managers Association (LGARM). Corinne is available for appointments at Navan library Monday to Friday.

Local Studies



There was a full house in Bettystown Library for Meath Archaeological & Historical Society's July event. Local historian Colin Byrne delivered a lecture on old Mosney, in which he traced the story of this part of Meath's coast, particularly the 700-acre farm of George Pepper, from earliest times up to the opening of Butlin's Holiday Camp in 1948. MA&HS's next event takes place in September in Oldcastle Library when Una Palcic will deliver the Annual Séamus Mac Gabhann Lecture on *The Development of Oldcastle Town 1650-1900*.

National Public Libraries Open Day 2025

The National Public Libraries Open Day is a nationwide celebration of Ireland's public libraries. The campaign invites the public to "Take a Closer Look" at the modern, inclusive and vibrant library service and takes place on Saturday 27th September. Meath County Council Library Service will showcase a range of services including STEAM backpacks and kits, the TTT toy collection, and the Musical Instrument Lending Bank. In partnership with Meath's Climate Action Team, the new Clothes Swap Lending Kits for the public will be highlighted during a Clothes Swap and Mending/ Sewing Workshop taking place in Trim Library and Swift Cultural Centre.

Creative Ireland - Bog Bothy Project

The Bog Bothy project, supported by Meath's Creative Ireland Programme, is aimed at fostering a sustainable and creative architectural response to Ireland's peatland heritage and future. It's led by the Irish Architecture Foundation in collaboration with architects Evelyn D'Arcy and David Jameson of 12th Field.



The project features a purpose-built bothy - a simple, off-grid timber shelter designed as a refuge for deep engagement with bog landscapes. The design was co-created with communities across Offaly, Louth and Meath, drawing on local knowledge and cultural ties to the peatlands.

Originally launched in Clara, Co. Offaly the Bothy was placed on Girley Bog for the duration of the month of August. A weekend programme of activity took place during National Heritage

Week on August 16–17, 2025 to officially launch the project in Meath. The programme included panel talks, guided walks, workshops, performances and exhibitions featuring photographs by Shane Hynan, alongside new work by Resident Artist Luke Casserly. There were three exhibitions as part of the programme - two outdoor on Girley Bog and one in the Toradh 2 Gallery in Kells.

After the Heritage Week weekend, the bothy was available for daytime bookings until the end of August. The exhibitions remained on display for the month.

This project delivered a compelling example of how architecture, arts, and local collaboration can help reimagine and honour Ireland's boglands, preserving cultural memory while promoting ecological resilience.



Finance



Housing Loans:

LAHL Data 1 st January 2025 to 12 th August 2025		
Fully Completed Applications Received	23	2025 applications
Awaiting Recommendation from Housing Agency (Underwriters)	0	
Invalid Applications	3	2025 applications
Awaiting Further Information from applicants	1	2025 application
Approved by Credit Committee	17	16 relate to 2025, 1 relates to 2024
Refused by Credit Committee	3	2025 applications
Awaiting Decision by Credit Committee	0	
Active Approvals	14.97	11.83 relate to 2025, 1.78 relate to 2024, 1.36 relate to 2023
Expired	14	14 relate to 2024
Drawdown by Customer	11.86	5.17 relate to 2025, 5.22 relate to 2024, 1.47 relate to 2023

Figures above related to activity from 1st January 2025 to 12th August 2025 and in some cases relate to applications from 2023 and 2024. Previously expired loans may be extended in some cases.