comhairle chontae na mí
meath county council

Monthly Management Report for Elected Members

October 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.

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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 Affairs

Clár Cuimhneacháin – 'Anseo' – 'A Sense of Place'

Tá maoiniú faighte ón Roinn faoin gclár Cuimhneacháin agus fuair an Oifigeach Gaeilge/seirbhís leabharlainne maoiniú €5000 ar a luach le haghaidh togra a reáchtáil le meánscoil ar an gcló Gaelach agus na logainmneacha a mbaineann leis an gceantar áitiúil. Beidh an tionscadal ag tosnú go luath leis an bpobalscoil St. Ciaran's i gCeanannas, agus 'Anseo' an teideal den tionscnamh seo.

Commemorative Programme – 'Anseo' - 'A Sense of Place'

Funding has been received from the Department under the Commemorative Programme and the Library Service/ Irish language Officer received funding of €5000 to run a project with a secondary school on the old Irish typeface and the placenames related to the local district. This project will be starting soon with St. Ciaran's Community School in Kells, and 'Anseo' is the name of this project.

The Official Opening of the Thrive Centre of Business Excellence





On Friday, 26 September 2025, Meath County Council was delighted to officially open the Thrive Centre of Business Excellence in Navan.

Opened by An Cathaoirleach Councillor Wayne Harding, Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment, Peter Burke, TD, and Chief Executive of Meath County Council Kieran Kehoe, the Thrive Centre further strengthens Meath's reputation as a leader in economic development and job creation, while also serving as a central hub for supporting and attracting foreign direct investment businesses to the County, and fostering entrepreneurship and innovation at a local level.

Benefits include improved supports as businesses from start-ups and small SMEs to larger indigenous companies operating on a global scale can access the supports available across Economic Development, the Local Enterprise Office, Tourism, Food Business Development, Broadband Provision and Climate Action, all under one roof.

The launch saw a panel discussion moderated by well-known television presenter Darragh McCullough, and featuring Minister Peter Burke, Chief Executive of Meath County Council Kieran Kehoe, and Brigid Manley, Marketing Manager from Turmec, where the benefits of the new Thrive Centre were explored in detail, all of which will empower businesses to start, grow and succeed.

The event also saw speeches by An Cathaoirleach Councillor Wayne Harding, Minister for Education and Youth, Helen McEntee, TD, Minister of State for European Affairs and Defence, Thomas Byrne, TD, with Director of Services for Economic Development, Dara McGowan, serving as Master of Ceremonies.

Benefits include improved supports as businesses from start-ups and small SMEs to larger indigenous companies operating on a global scale can access the supports available across Economic Development, the Local Enterprise Office, Tourism, Food Business Development, Broadband Provision and Climate Action, all under one roof.

Council Delighted to Welcome Minister Michael Healy-Rae to Council Buildings



Meath County Council was delighted to host Minister of State at the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM), Michael Healy-Rae, TD, at the Thrive Centre of Business Excellence on the morning of Wednesday, 10 September 2025.

The Minister, who has special responsibility for Forestry, Farm Safety and Horticulture, was welcomed by Cathaoirleach of Meath County Council, Cllr Wayne Harding, Chief Executive of Meath County Council, Kieran Kehoe, along with other Elected Members, and personnel from the Council's Management team.

During the visit, the Minister was taken through Meath's enduring successes in the Council's key priority areas of Biodiversity and Heritage, Climate Action, Community, and Environment, in addition to the Council's work with the Centre of Food Culture and Boyne Valley Flavours.

Loganstown Burial Ground Official Opening

Meath County Council officially opened Loganstown Burial Ground in Trim on Monday, 22 September, with a beautiful ceremony held at the facility's Garden of Remembrance.

Loganstown Burial Ground, funded by Meath County Council at a cost of €2.7 million, contains 2,400 single burial plots while the Garden of Remembrance has 460 urn burial plots and Columbarium Walls with 160 niches for the internment of urns.

The ceremony was attended by An Cathaoirleach Cllr Wayne Harding and Chief Executive Kieran Kehoe, with the Cathaoirleach commenting that he was "pleased that every element of this burial ground was planned, designed and built to provide the solemn and merited respect that the people who will be buried here deserve."



Construction Commences on Castletown Community Hub



Meath County Council was delighted in September to sign contracts and start construction on a major redevelopment project in Castletown, transforming a long-time vacant cottage into a a new community hub and coffee shop.

The project, driven by Castletown Tidy Towns, has received €250,000 in Town and Village Renewal funding, with Meath County Council providing the remaining balance.

Fifth 3x3 Basketball Court in the County Officially Opened in Dunshaughlin

Cathaoirleach Cllr Wayne Harding was joined by Minister of State for European Affairs and Defence, Thomas Byrne, TD, Director of Services and Ratoath MD Area Manager Fiona Fallon, and Cllr Gerry O'Connor, Chairperson of the Meath Local Sports Partnership (LSP) to help officially launch a new 3x3 Basketball Court in The Park, Dunshaughlin, Monday, 15 September.



Navan 2030 Works Showcased in NTA Campaign

Nicholas Whyatt and Cormac Ross from Meath County Council's Active Travel Team, in addition to Cllr Eddie Fennessy in the Navan Municipal District, featured in a National Transport Authority (NTA) September campaign showcasing and highlighting the ongoing works enhancing accessibility and sustainable mobility in Navan Town Centre under Navan 2030.

Nicholas, Cormac, and Cllr Fennessy all outline how the project has delivered substantial improvements to the town's transport infrastructure, pedestrian environment, and overall accessibility.



Sod Turned for New Exciting Project for People of Navan

Meath County Council was delighted to turn the sod in September on a new project that will see a new pedestrian bridge and cycleway over the Blackwater River, linking Navan Town Centre and Blackwater Park by providing safe and convenient access for local residents and the people of Navan.

The Blackwater River, Navan, Town Park Bridge and Cycleway, is expected to be opened to the public in Q2 2026.

Fitzwilliam Group will be managing the delivery of the project, which will consist of a new bridge, footpaths, cycle paths and associated public lighting.

The proposed development is located on a predominantly green-field site of 0.77 hectares, located in the townlands of Abbeyland and Abbeyland South in Navan, Co. Meath.



175 Years of Navan Railway Exhibition at Navan Library



Mayor of Navan Cllr. Padraig Fitzsimons, Navan Municipal District (MD) Area Manager Martin Murray, and Elected Members in the Navan MD were delighted to visit the 175 Years of Navan Railway History and Architecture Exhibition at Navan Library in September.

The photographic exhibition, which was originally run in the Solstice Arts Centre in August as part of National Heritage Week, was on display in Navan Library until Saturday, 27 September.

Speaking at the exhibition, Mayor of Navan Cllr Padraig Fitzsimons said: *"In a year that has seen us take some very positive strides forward in the delivery of a project that would see a new commuter line in Navan, it is inspiring to see this excellent exhibition and learn about the stories that shaped its' original formation back in 1850."*

Corporate Governance

Meath County Council as a public body is subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, 2014, which allows for access to certain records held by the local authority subject to a number of exemptions.

The following are the number of requests received in Q3 2025:

FOI	Requests	Internal Reviews	Appeals to OIC
Q3 - 2025	49	1	

The link to the Council's FOI Disclosure Log is: https://www.meath.ie/council/your-council/your-data-and-access-to-information/freedom-of-information

The following are the Q3 2025 statistics relating to Access to Information on the Environment (AIE) requests:

AIE	Requests	Internal Reviews	Appeals to OCEI	
Q3- 2025	8			

The Council's Data Protection Unit (DPU) continues to carry out significant work across the organisation to ensure compliance with the GDPR and Data Protection Acts. The following are the Q3 2025 statistics relating to Data Subject Access Requests - DSAR's:

Subject Access Requests	SAR's
Q3 - 2025	10

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	Q4 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
Rathaldron 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 4th & 5th November 2025.

Meath County Council Approved Capital Assistance Scheme, Part V & Turnkey up to 15th September 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	**48**
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**
Summerhill	Part V	**21**
Trim	Part V	**50**
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		**466**

Meath County Council Approved Capital Assistance Scheme, Part V & Turnkey – Delivered as at the 15th September 2025.

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT TYPE	NO. OF UNITS
Ballivor	Part V	4
Bettystown	Part V	8
Carlanstown	Part V	2
Clonee	Part V	7

Duleek	Part V	4
Dunshaughlin	Part V	10
Julianstown	Part V	2
Kells	Part V	5
Navan	Part V	3
Stamullen	Part V	2
Ballivor	Turnkey	8
Bettystown	Turnkey	20
Clonee	Turnkey	66
Navan	Turnkey	12
Stamullen	Turnkey	5
Navan	CAS	5
Total		**163**

Affordable Housing

Meath County Council are offering a new affordable housing scheme at **Beaufort, Boyne Village, Navan, Co Meath – 9 units**. The online portal for applications will open on Thursday 18th September 2025 at 12 noon and remain open until all units are sold.

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 57 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.
- 34 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**.**

604 grants awarded to the value of €4,648,202 up to 12/9/2025

Local Authority Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme (EERP)

MCC initially received approval to complete retrofits on 48 properties for 2025. However, in June, approval was received for a further 20 properties. In September we were approved for a further 1 property giving a total of 69 properties for 2025. 47 properties are voids (31 completed) and 22 properties are occupied (14 completed). Works are ongoing on 18 properties and works have not yet commenced on the remaining 6 properties.

Local Authority Planned Maintenance

841 Stock Condition Surveys were completed from the 1st January 2025 up to 31st 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 16th September 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	1	3	5	7	2

Navan	13	8	8	21	8
Ashbourne	0	0	1	1	0
Laytown/Bettystown	4	2	2	3	5
Ratoath	4	0	0	2	2
Trim	5	1	2	6	2
TOTALS	**27**	**14**	**18**	**40**	**19**

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 – August 2025

	Single Adults / Couples	**Households with Children**	**Total Households**
Placements at 31st July 2025	172 (174 Adults)	82 (117 Adults, 137 Children)	254

Placements at 31st August 2025	182 (185 Adults)	88 (127 Adults, 155 Children)	270

Of the households with children, 79 families are placed in short-term private rented accommodation (house/apartment) through the Settlement Team's intervention, and 9 Families in Family Hubs.

98% bed allocations were availed of by service users.

2% beds were available (Slane, Kells & Athboy)

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 LAs will also engage with these LAs. This includes Louth, Fingal, Westmeath & Kildare.

41 Presentations on homelessness were made. This comprised 11 Families.

Reason for EA Presentations	Total Numbers
NTQ	17
Family Circumstance	8
Hospital | Prison | Care	3
Couch Surfing | Cannot Afford	11
Rough Sleeping	2
Other	0
Total	**41**

Family Figures:

6 Families exited EA in August. This comprised 7 Adults & 7 Children

Reason for EA Family Exit	Total Numbers
MCC Allocation	4
Not availing of Bed	1
Other	1
Total	**6**

Age profile of clients in emergency accommodation on 31.08.2025

Age profile	Clients	0-4	04-11	11-18	18-25	25-40	40-65	Over 65
Families	127				29	57	40	1
Couples	6					1	5	
Singles	179				17	52	94	16
Children	155	45	64	46				
Total	**467**	**45**	**64**	**46**	**46**	**110**	**139**	**17**

Homeless HAP Placefinder 01/08/2025 – 31/08/2025

Total	**6**
Exit from Emergency Accommodation	3

Homeless Prevention	3
In Progress	5

Tenant Liaison Team August 2025

Anti-Social Behaviour Investigation	Complaints	Cases
Frequent serious disturbances	79	36
Occupancy of dwelling	83	59
Garden upkeep/maintenance	**45**	**28**
Dog/Horse/Pet Control	**0**	**0**
Total August 2025	**207**	**123**

ASB Investigations on going at (month end)	**86**
ASB Investigations completed (month end)	**37**
Number of Pre Tenancies completed in August 2025	**30**
Abandonments for August 2025	**0**
Houses taken back into stock for August 2025	7

Warnings Issued 2025

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

August	8	0	3	1	1	2
Total	31	2	19	10	9	9

Standards in Rented Accommodation

2,945 Inspections were carried out on rented properties in Meath up to the end of August 2025. Of this figure, 859 were first inspections, 50 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).

95 Improvement Notices and 6 Prohibition Notices were served from January to August end 2025.

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

- 129 applications received for Social Housing
- 56 applications approved onto the Social Housing List
- 19 applications unsuccessful

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

Allocations/Housing Supports	**Number**
MCC Direct Allocations	43
Transfers	7
Approved Housing Bodies	19
Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)	0
Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)	13
Long Term Leasing (inc Private MTR)	2
Mortgage To Rent (Approved Housing Bodies)	0
TOTAL	**84**

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 remain in progress, with completion still anticipated in the coming weeks. The contractor has been reminded of the need to expedite the close out.
N2 Slane Bypass & Public Realm Enhancement Scheme - €650K	The High Court on the 15th September granted leave to Mr John Rogers to bring a Judicial Review challenge to the Development Consent for the development of Slane Bypass. A hearing has been scheduled for the 15th and 16th January 2026
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 5-7 consultant complete; awaiting TII approval for appointment. Phase 4 Gateway Statement submitted; awaiting TII approval to progress to Stage 5.

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 report 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**
Scheme	**Update**
Phase 1 (Recycle, Overlay & Surface Dressing):	Contract completed.
Phase 2 (Surface Dressing)	Contract completed.
Phase 3 (Structural Overlay & Surface Dressing)	1no schemes to be completed.
Phase 4 (Wearing Course)	1no scheme to be completed (nightworks)

Community Involvement Scheme	6no schemes completed
Local Tertiaries	7no. scheme completed
Own Resources Roads (August)	8no schemes completed
Local Improvemnet Schemes	Round 1 Complete/ Round 2 yet to commence

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

Grant Allocation	**€1,200,000**
Scheme	Update
R156/R125 Mullagh Cross	Part 8 Planning public consultation closed on the 13th August 2025. Chief Executive Report being drafted and expected to be brought to the Ratoath MD meeting in October 2025.
L6210 Newtownmoyaghy	Approval to proceed to Planning Phase obtained from the Department of Transport and NIS application to An Coimisiún Pleanála being finalised.
R132 Julianstown Traffic Relief Scheme	Application made to the Department of Transport on the 9th Septemeber for approval to proceed to Phase 2 Option Selection.
R108 / L16111 Bey More Junction safety scheme	Traffic Survey and Ecological Constraints Studies being carried out.

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

Grant Allocation	**€470,000**
Scheme	**Update**
R-108 Bey More	Proposals currently being finalised. Works package also being prepared for pricing.

R-125 Grennoge	Works package currently being prepared for pricing.
R-125 Collinstown	Works package currently being prepared for pricing.
R-155 Curragha	Works package currently being prepared for pricing.
R-162 Nobber	Works package currently being prepared for pricing.
R-195 Fennor Oldcastle	Works package currently being prepared for pricing.
R-195 Springhall	Works package currently being prepared for pricing.
L-1603 Lobinstown	Works package currently being prepared for pricing.
L-4007 Clonmalevan	Works package currently being prepared for pricing.
L-5054 Kentstown	Proposals currently being finalised. Works package also being prepared for pricing.
L-5614 Bettystown	Works package currently being prepared for pricing.
L-5018 Ballybin	Proposals currently being finalised. Works package also being prepared for pricing.

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

Grant Allocation	**€742,250**
Scheme	**Update**
Newtown Commons Bridge Duleek	Works complete
R154 Addanstown Bridge	Bridge works complete.
Laytown Pedestrian Bridge	Works substantially complete
Ballivor Bridge	Works complete.

Ashbourne Bridge	Works complete.
BAMS Bridge Inventory and Maintenance Inspection€ (2025)	Inspections commenced Q3 2025
Verdons Bridge	Tender Document being prepared
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**
Scheme	**Update**
12 schemes received funding approval for 2025 under Climate Change Adaptation & Resilience Works	The schemes are being reviewed and options being considered for each: R160 Clongowan €200,000 - Site investigation going to tender. Street, Ashbourne €50,000 -Completed Seafields Footpath Cycleway €45,000 - Completed Keenaghan Drainage Improvement €35,000 - planned R-151 Mornington €30,000 Planned R-191-8 Leitrim Lower Culvert Upgrade Works €30,000 – near completion. L-8036-5 Edgeworth Court, Longwood €30,000 completed L-62251- Rathcore €30,000 planed L-1011-15 Irishtown, Ardcath €30,000 - Completed L-80045-5 Church Road, Athboy €25,000 L-5615 L-5615 Pilltown Road €10,500 - Planned Total €540,500

(f) Former National Road Rehabilitation Works

Grant Allocation	**€750,000**
Scheme	**Update**
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
Scheme	Update
NA1: R147 Martha's Bridge to Circular Road	Letter to the Successful Tender was issued. Contractor commenced on-site on Monday 8th of September, with initial site mobilisation, compound set up and surveys. Temporary traffic management and works on the R147 commenced w/c 15th of September.
NA1: R147/N51 Poolboy Bridge to Kells Road Roundabout	Review process for potential options to optimise existing road space on the R147 complete, and consultants are progressing the preliminary design for a two-way cycle facility on the eastern side of the R147/N52 from Poolboy Bridge towards the Balmoral junction.
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. Traffic modelling work is continuing with regard to the proposed layouts for the Poolboy Bridge junction, Kentstown Road/R147 and Ratholdren/N52 junctions.
Navan Public Realm: Trimgate Street Pedestrianisation	The Consultant Team is continuing to work on finalising the Preliminary Business Case and final Gateway 3 documents for submission to the National Transport

	Authority. It is currently intended to proceed to Part 8 application in Q4 2025.
Navan Contract 5: Fairgreen, Church Hill, Bakery Lane, Old Cornmarket, Preston Place and Fairgreen carpark.	The removal of the overhead power cables on Fairgreen was completed and new pavement constructed to the front of St Marys Church, the adjacent Parochial House, and St Annes Loreto Primary School. Road reconstruction and surfacing works was completed on Fairgreen and Church Hill. Paving works and landscaping was completed to the Old Sheep Market on Church Hill, and the historic well reconstruction works were completed. Paving works to the footpath and parking areas are continuing on Church Hill. Upgrade works are continuing to Bakery laneway, with temporary closures being implemented to facilitate the works. Public lighting works and landscaping works continued. Paving works to the footway on Fairgreen between Bakery Lane and Old Cornmarket continued.
Convent Road to Metges Road & Trim Road: Beechmount to Balreask Manor Active Travel Schemes	A review commenced of the feasibility design for the section on the Kentstown Road to identify options to reduce potential land take requirements, and the matter is currently under review.
Trim Road Phase 3 - Beachmount to Balreask Manor	A Chief Executive's Report recommending the proposed development was adopted by the Navan MD elected members at the Navan MD September Monthly Meeting. Tender documents for the appointment of consultants for Phases 5-7 (Detailed Design, Tender, Construction to Close Out) were prepared for issue to the NTA Framework.
Trim Road Phase 4 Balreask Manor to Borallion Junction	Gateway 2 documents, including the Project Execution Plan, Option Selection Report, and Feasibility Report, were approved by the NTA. Design work has now commenced on Phase 3 (Preliminary Design) for this scheme.
Dunboyne and Clonee Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme	Part 8 planning application for the Dunboyne to Clonee Active Travel Links being finalised, due to go on display early October.

	Delivery Plan for the remaining Active Travel routes in Dunboyne now complete, NTA approval sought for the Delivery Plan.
Castle Street Ashbourne	Consultant appointed to develop an Active Travel Scheme along Castle Street Ashbourne, route selection process now commenced.
Johnstown Village Active Travel Scheme	Feasibility and Route Option Selection Report now complete and NTA satisfied with proposals. Works on the preliminary Design for Part 8 planning application ongoing.
BusIt2School	The BusIt2School scheme is funded by the DOT and aims to encourage primary school pupils to travel to and from school by bus. Scoil Naomh Eoin Clonmaggaden and St. Stephens Johnstown are now participating in the scheme and are scheduled to take part in a bus demonstration days in early October.
Dangan NS, Summerhill	Further traffic calming works now complete.
Safe Routes to School	
St. Stephen's NS, Navan	Contract works progressing well.
Beaufort College, Navan	Contract works progressing well.
St. Colmcille's NS, Kells	Works substantially complete.
Our Lady of Mercy NS, Kells	Works substantially complete.
Pedestrian Crossings	Three now complete at Trim, Ashbourne and Cortown. Others at Navan, Ratoath, Dunshaughlin, Stamullen, Athboy are designed and ready for construction in Q4 2025.
Bus Stop Enhancement Programme	Surveys underway on 85 bus stops countywide for upgrades over next three years with surveys underway.

	Designs progressed for upgrade of 10-12 bus stops by year end.

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, due to be complete earlier October. Bituminous surface scheduled to be applied to Gibbbstown car park in early October.
Greenway Surfacing	Kilsaran Surfacing Ltd. on site replacing open grade surface with bituminous surfacing. 5,800m of surfacing to be installed, Wilkinstown to Leggagh and Castletown to Nobber.
Poles Car Park and Footpath, Kilmainhamwood	Works to commence on car park in ealry October. 500m footpath along the R162 to commence in Novemeber.

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 ongoing/recently completed at Leganara View, Kentstown and Tara Lawns, Ashbourne. Contract awarded for works in Ratoath MD at Dunboyne, Dunshaughlin, Dunsany and Moynalvy to commence presently.
LDR4 Navan	Night works to complete the tie in to the new Kells road junction in Navan commencing on the 6th October. Scheme currently expected to be opened to traffic by the end of October 2025.
R162/ Clonmaggaden Road Junction Navan Traffic Lights	Works substantially complete. Road Safety Audit to be completed.

6.URDF

Scheme	**Update**
Former Spicers Bakery, Rampart Carpark & Andy Brennan Park	No further updates since last report
Frontage Improvement Works Flowerhill	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	Ecological and environmental surveys underway. Preliminary design of the horizontal and vertical alignment of the Boyne Greenway route progressing.

8.THRIVE

Scheme	**Update**
County Archive and Community Hub	Works stage 2 tender documents are estimated to be issued at the end of this month

9. Large Scale Sports Infrastructure Fund (LSSIF)

Scheme	**Update**
Upgrade & Development of the existing Seafield Sports Facility at Corballis, Laytown, Co. Meath	No further updates since last report

10. Meath County Council Projects

Scheme	**Update**
New Library/Community Building, Amenity Area, and Age Friendly Housing, Ratoath	Stage 2 Service procurement process to appoint an Architect-led Multi-Disciplinary is now complete with appointment in progress
Buvinda Council Chambers & Offices	Stage 2 Works tender document preparation is currently on-going for Main Contractor & Reserved Specalists and tender documents are estimated to be issued at the end of this month
Solstice – Frontage	No further updates since last report

11. National Speed Limit Review

Scheme	Update
National Speed Limit Review	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.

Economic Development, Enterprise & Tourism



Launch of Meath Business and Tourism Awards

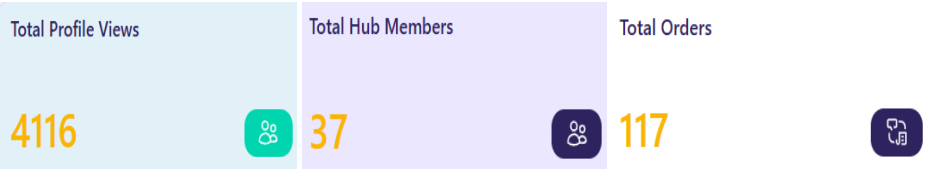


The 2025 Meath Business & Tourism Awards will celebrate the innovation, bravery and ambition of the local business community and the launch of the event took place in the Thrive Centre on Wednesday 3rd September.

Held in partnership between Meath Chronicle with Meath Co Council and Boyne Valley Tourism, the MBTAs take place for the second time in its 17 year history in Trim Castle Hotel in November.

Dunshaughlin Hub

Below are the user statistics for Dunshaughlin Hub - as of 19th September 2025.
An increase of 218 views, 4 members and 15 order bookings.



Enfield Hub

Below are the user statistics for Enfield Hub – as of 19th September 2025.
An increase of 203 views, 1 member and 9 order bookings.



The Centre of Food Culture

Planning is underway for the Centre of Food Culture's annual flagship festival; Samhain Festival of Food and Culture. The programme which can be accessed here is due to be officially launched at the Bookmarket Café in Kells on 25th September.

Local Enterprise Office

Leo Activity Report – September 2025

Grant Approved/Mentoring Sessions/Training	
Mentoring Assignments Approved	29
Attended Online Training Courses	108
Attended Digital Marketing Clinics	5
Attended AI for Business Clinics	3
GREEN for Micro Applications	4
Grow Digital Voucher	1
LEAN for Micro	1
Energy Efficiency Grant	6

M1 Priming/Expansion Grants
The grant supports continue to be in high demand with additional funding sought from Enterprise Ireland to meet the demand.

Management Development Programmes and In person Training
The LEO has started their in person training programmes in the THRIVE building which has been a huge success. The schedule for the final quarter of this year is jam packed with at least 60 persons booked to date for in person training and management development programmes.

New frontiers
Four Meath start-ups will progress from Phase 1 to Phase 2 of the New Frontiers Programme. This is a fantastic opportunity for applicants to focus their attention on their start up full time while receiving mentorship, guidance and financial supports.

AMTCE

The LEO arranged a trip to the AMTCE in Dundalk for clients to get the opportunity to visit the facility and hear about the many courses on offer, in particular the ILM accredited Management & Leadership programme commencing in September. This initiative, vision and execution is shaping the future of workplaces across the SME sector.

The National Ploughing Championships 2025





URBÓ Milk, the Meath-based artisan dairy brand, were this year's nomination from Meath LEO and exhibited in the Local Enterprise Village at the National Ploughing Championships, which took place on 16th-18th September.

Discover Boyne Valley was also the destination at the Ploughing Championships in Screggan, Tullamore. The event was attended by 300,000 people over three days. Ten Discover Boyne Valley Tourism business network members attended to help staff the stand and promote the destination. Feedback from attendees and the industry was very positive.

Tourism Press coverage
In September, the Boyne Valley received coverage in over twenty regional UK newspapers. Stretching from Glasgow to Penzance, the coverage came from the April 2023 UK press trip arranged and hosted by Discover Boyne Valley. One of the journalists present worked for Reach Group PLC, which owns *The Mirror* and over 100 regional titles.

The final results from the UK press trip were: • 34 media features • 240 media mentions • 93,287,563 Media Reach	

Feile Siamsa Glas 2025

The Siamsa Glas festival took place along the Boyne Valley to Lakelands Greenway from the 12th to the 14th of September. Now in its second year, the festival celebrates Irish language, heritage, music, and culture while showcasing the beautiful 30-kilometre Boyne Valley to Lakelands Greenway, which was launched in 2023.

The event, supported by Meath County Council and Boyne Valley Tourism, featured 50 events across 15 venues along the Greenway, spanning from Kilberry to Kilmainhamwood. Activities included music, dance, performances, and workshops for adults and children. The Cathaoirleach of Kells Municipal District, Councillor Sean Drew, closed the festival during the final event on Sunday evening at Tiernan's Pub in Wilkinstown. This closing event featured a touching pub drama written by Anthony O'Boyle and performed by two members of the Dunshaughlin Players.





Training for Tourism providers and retailers

In collaboration with Meath Local Enterprise Office, Discover Boyne Valley ran a Púca training session for Trim and Athboy businesses in the Danley Lodge Hotel, Athboy on September 9th. Titled Púca Meets Peak, the focused commercial workshop was led by renowned business strategist Miriam Simon. The two-hour session blended Miriam's proven PEAK Trading Framework with practical, tactical advice tailored to the PÚCA weekend and beyond. Content included tools to boost footfall conversion and sales, ideas for commercial collaboration between businesses, and strategic insights to treat PÚCA as the kickstart to a strong Q4.

Eighteen businesses attended, and the feedback and engagement were very positive. The training was aimed at business owners and decision makers. In October, Fáilte Ireland will run a separate Púca training for Trim and Athboy-based front-of-house staff.

Rural Regeneration



Vacant Homes	2025 total
Vacant Homes Identified	35
CPO - Housing Act - Completed in 2025	4
CPO - Housing Act - Commenced in 2025	6
Derelict Sites	**2025 total**
Derelict Sites Register (no. of properties)	38
No. of statutory orders issued	18
CA - Derelict Sites Act - Completed in 2025	2
CA - Derelict Sites Act - Commenced in 2025	2
Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant	**2025 total**
Approved Applications	41
Approved in Principle Applications (not commenced)	36
Applications In Progress/Info Requested	44
Rejected Applications	3
Withdrawn Applications	25
Completed / Paid Applications	60
Total Applications Received	93
Total Approved Grant Funding	€4,247,464
Total Paid Grant Funding	€2,604,702
Rural Regeneration Project Progress	**Funding**
Part 8 Process (Sept 2025)	
Works Commenced (Sept 25)	
Ráthcairn Footpath - Tender Assessment completed / Contract awarded	ORIS

Works Completed (Sept 25)	
Aura Trim - Pool repairs	MCC
Aura Trim - Astro Pitches	MCC
Accessibility River Walk, Kilmainhamwood (apart from Landscaping)	ORIS
Longwood Playground - Contractor Appointed	TVRS
Carnaross GFC 2023	CLAR
Unity Building Navan (De-Carbonisation project)	MCC / Climate Action

Community Development



Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP)

Final stages of recruiting members for the Meath Local Community Safety Partnership are underway in line with the Regulations and guidance issued by the National Office for Community Safety. Once all nominations have been received nominees will be sent forward to the Minister for Justice for appointment. In anticipation of Ministerial appointment, arrangements are being made for the first meeting of the Meath Local Community Safety Partnership.

LCSP team attended the Launch on of the Rural Safety Plan 2025- 2027 at the National Ploughing Championships. The plan contains 4 priority areas which members of the National Rural Safety forum have committed to addressing to ensure our rural communities are safe places to work, live in and enjoy. There are 53 actions contained in the plan under the 4 priority areas of Community Safety and Engagement, Property Crime, Road Safety and Animal and Wildlife Crime.



The LCSP team attended the Third Age open day and the *What's on your door step?* event in Ashbourne in conjunction with Meath Partnership.



Four property marking events held throughout September. The Property Marking Machine is available to groups who are fully trained. Groups can contact communitysafety@meathcoco.ie if they are interested in borrowing the machine or interested in arranging an event in their area.

Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT)

- The LAIT continue to proactively hold drop-in clinics in all centres with populations of more than **15** people. We also carry out impromptu visits to centres to address issues as they arise.
- Cumulative Yearly total of Clinics Held: **127**

Customer Service Cases Logged 2025:

Number of Customer cases assigned/in progress/still active	**14**
Number of Customer cases closed	**352**

Figures

UKR	**588**
IP	**974**

Events

Mis/Dis/Mal Information

Filming for the Mis/Dis/Mal Information video(s) continued throughout August.

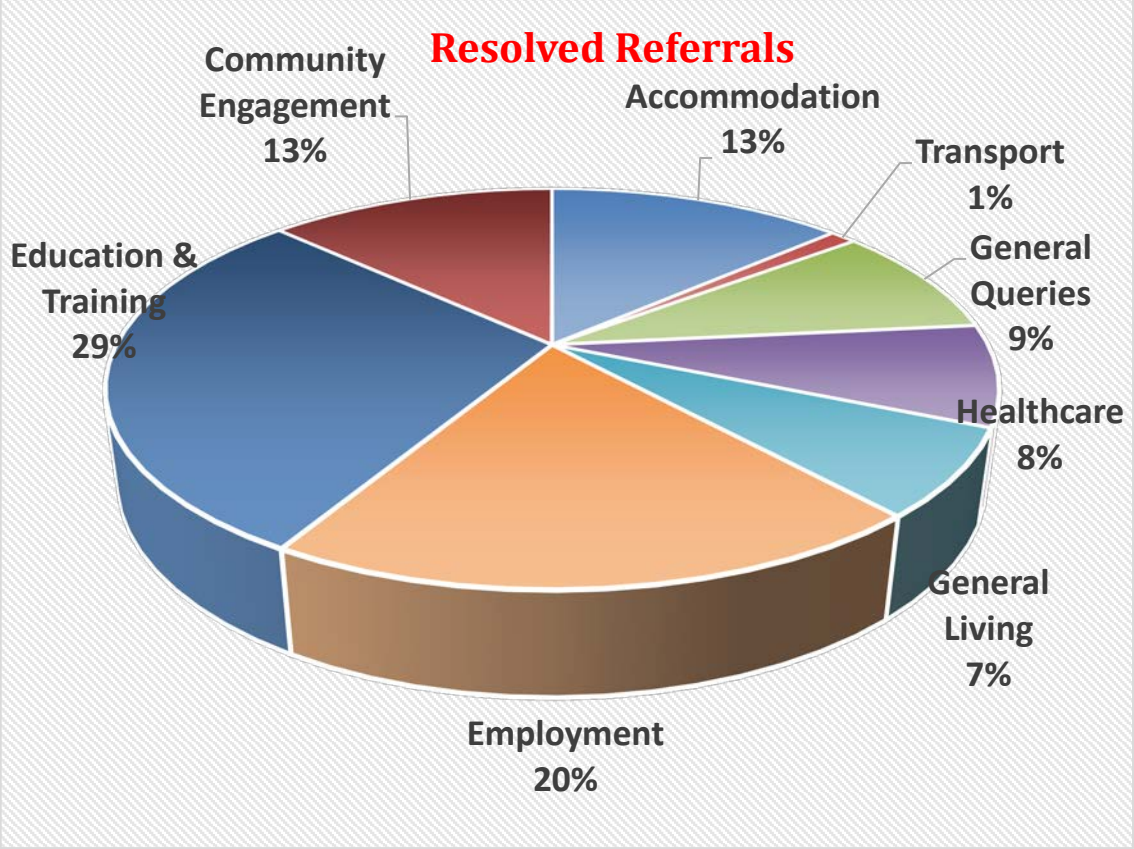
The Big Dig Ashbourne & Navan

As part of Heritage week, the LAIT were offered several places for children aged 5-12 to partake in the Big Dig archaeological event. 15 children from the Ashbourne Court Hotel attended the Big Dig and Viking Dagger event on Saturday, 16th of August; and 5 children from Flaxmill attended the Big Dig and Stone Age Axe making event in Navan library on Monday, 18th of August.



Loughcrew Estate: On 27th August 2025 the Integration Team facilitated a trip to Loughcrew Estate for the residents of Flaxmill House accommodation centre. The 19 participants were taken on a tour of the gardens and provided with lunch before returning home.

The graph below represents the cumulative breakdown of interactions (366 logged) year to date 2025. The Support Workers have met with these guests. This illustrates the main categories of queries for newly arrived and more established refugees of any status.



Community Development

Public Participation Network

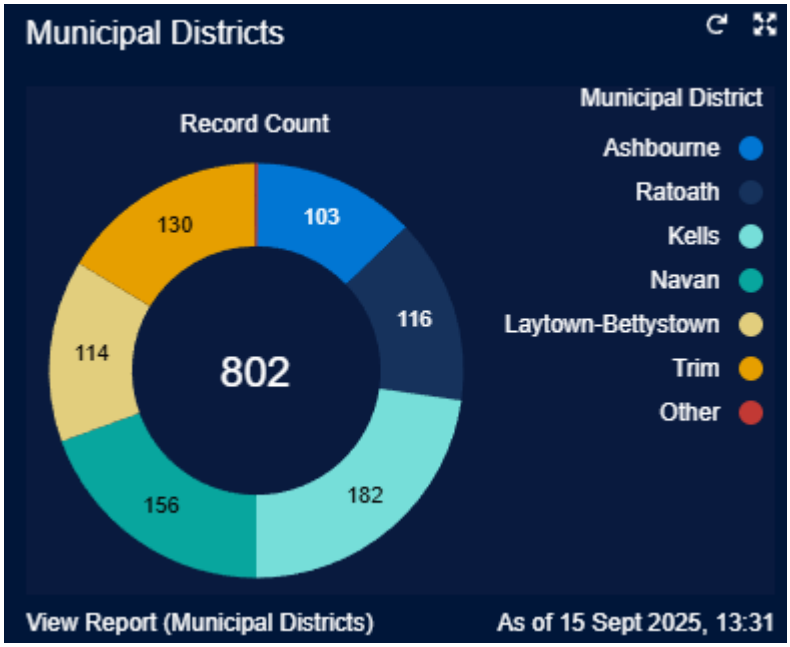
802 groups are registered with Meath PPN.

Preparation continues for the hosting of the National PPN Conference in October.

Staff attended the Resilient Communities in Local Government conference in Waterford with the launch of the Irish Place Standard toolkit. This will inform one part of the national conference.

3 linkage groups were help, connecting community groups to their PPN representatives on various SPCs and committees.

Staff are facilitating at the DRCDG tent at this year's Ploughing, discussing the mental health book project and how young rural people can benefit from its topical discussions around approaching difficult feelings and emotions.



Carranstown Environmental Projects Grant Scheme
The Carranstown Environmental Projects Grant Scheme Award Night took place on 4th September in the Duleek Bellewstown and District Community Facility.

Knockharley Environmental & Community Projects Grant Scheme
A meeting of the Knockharley Community Liaison Committee took place on 10th September to assess the applications received under the 2025 Scheme and funding recommendations will be presented to the Ashbourne MD Members for approval at their October meeting and by Full Council at their November meeting.

Pride of Place
The Pride of Place awards nights are due to take place as follows:
Ratoath: Wednesday 1st October

- Kells: Tuesday 14th October
- Navan: Thursday 23rd October
- Ashbourne: Wednesday 29th October
- Laytown/Bettystown: Thursday 6th November
- Trim: Wednesday 12th November
- County Final: Tuesday 25th November

The school Pride of Place scheme was launched in late September. An information session for teachers is due to be held in Buvinda House on Saturday 22nd November, the session will be delivered by Horticulturist and PoP judge Aoife Munn.

Meath Age Friendly
Meath was shortlisted under the National Age Friendly Recognition and Achievement Awards again this year for two projects, Age Well and LocalLink/Flexibus. Judging took place throughout September. The awards night will be held in the Galmont Hotel, Galway, on 23rd October.
The latest Meath Age Friendly Alliance Meeting was held on 25th September.

Comhairle na nÓg
The Annual Youth Conference will be held in the Ardboyne Hotel on 23rd October 2025. Dr. Niall Muldoon, Ombudsman for Children will attend and participate in a panel discussion. All elected representatives are invited to attend.

Sen. Linda Nelson Murray raised the issue of the right of young people to switch off from teachers' communications out of school time on foot of Meath CNN requesting both her and Minister McEntee to support this matter.

Meath CNN have also written to the Ombudsman for Children and await a response.

CNN are collaborating with Jigsaw on an anti-stigma campaign on harmful words in relation to mental health and a focus instead on power words instead of stigma words.

Meath Local Community Development Committee

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)
A meeting of the LCDC will take place on Friday 26th September to approve the SICAP Case Study.

LEADER Programme 2023 – 2027 – Local Action Group (LAG)
There is no LAG meeting scheduled for August. The next meeting of the LCDC will take place on Friday, 26th September.

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 Sports Day took place at the National Indoor Arena on 25th September in partnership with Sport Ireland. Older people from 10 different counties sampled physical activity sessions ranging from parkrun, Cricket for All, Go for Life Games, active weights, Fitstix Activator Poles, adapted ceili dancing, walking football and Tai Chi.

Age Friendly Ireland (AFI) was represented at the National Ploughing Championship this year.

AFI presented to an Insurance Ireland event on 26 September, the second in a series of their 'Consumers in Vulnerable Circumstances Forum' (CVCF), in partnership with KPMG. AFI shared feedback from Older People's Councils in relation to their access to insurance products, particularly in relation to travel and motor insurance, and their recommendations for making insurance services more Age Friendly.

The University of Limerick marked the start of their journey for Age Friendly recognition under the WHO process at an event on campus on 2nd September.

The Vice Chair of the National Network of Older People's Councils spoke at the HSE Integrated Care Conference in the National Convention Centre, representing the voice of older people and lived experience in relation to older people's engagement with health services.

Work is ongoing on the Age Friendly Workplaces pilot, with the fourth co-design session taking place with businesses and employer representatives in County Meath. The next meeting of the AF Workplaces Steering Committee is on 1st of October. (Pilot project in County Meath to develop an Age Friendly Workplace Recognition Programme. We're working with businesses from across Meath and MCC Directors of Services to hear their ideas on how to develop working environments that support older workers)

A large number of Older People's Council AGMs, Information Days and other events have been taking place around the country. A new Age Friendly Strategy is in development by Dublin City Council, while Kilkenny launched their new Age Friendly strategy over the summer.

Age Friendly Ireland Shared Service are delighted that Galway City and Galway County Councils will host this year's National Age Friendly Recognition and Achievement Awards gala event in the Galmont Hotel on 23rd October. We are really pleased that two local initiatives from Meath were shortlisted and all projects were visited by Judging panel during the month of August.

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.

Age Friendly Ireland attended the 17th International Federation for Ageing Conference in Cape Town on 8th September and participated in a panel on Age Friendly environments. Over 600 delegates from across the world attended the 4 day event which included a range of events. The conference focused on advancing evidence, policy, and practice to create societies where everyone can age with choice, voice, and dignity. From Age Friendly innovations to technology for inclusion, delegates explored solutions to today's most pressing ageing challenges.

On 18th September the national network of Technical Advisors met to discuss national and local updates in relation to the technical aspects of the Age Friendly Ireland programme, which included updates from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage on the new housing plan. Technical Advisors from the Eastern region provided information on recent Age Friendly Housing developments in Swords, Athboy and Coolock.

A group from Age Friendly Ireland Shared Service visited The Wayfinding Centre in Glasnevin on 26th September to understand the work of the centre and the possible collaborative opportunities between the centre and Age Friendly Ireland. The Wayfinding Centre is a collaborative space where people with a disability, transport staff, built environment professionals, designers, academics and policy makers come together to accelerate an inclusive mobility agenda.

AFI are partnering with the NDA, the Irish Wheelchair Association and the Irish Council for Social Housing to deliver a Housing Conference in December |Accessible Housing.

The Age Friendly technical programme supports the implementation of walkability audit reports nationally and ran two training session online for local authority staff.

Government policy is to review the current exempted development regulations; Age Friendly Ireland made a submission on 26th August to the draft regulations in relation to positive opportunities for older people to alter their homes to enable them to age in place.

The Healthy Age Friendly Homes Programme continues to support older people, over 65 years of age, to live in their home for as long as possible and to reduce the need to transfer to long-term residential care. The Health Age Friendly Homes Programme collaborates with a broad spectrum of local agencies, including Local Government, Elected Members, Health Services, Community and Voluntary Groups, Gardai. Since January 2024 to September 2025 there have been 14,093 referrals received and 5,913 of these were received in the period January 2025 to 13th September 2025. Over the period January to September 9,006 Healthy Age Friendly Homes visits have been undertaken by coordinators, averaging approximately 1,000 per month. The total number of support actions year to date was 33,942 and approximately 30% percent were housing related, and 19 percent were medical related. In County Meath the total number of referrals received from January 2024 to September 2025 was 634 and over the period January to September 2025, 395 visits have been undertaken with 2,034 support actions.

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.

Planning



1. Planning Applications (Section 34)

1066 planning applications were lodged in the period 01.01.2025 to 31.08.2025. This is compared to 1047 in the same period in 2024.

84.7% of the applications received in 2025 have been lodged via the online portal – ePlan.

2. Commencement Notices

324 Valid Commencement Notices were received in the period 01/01/2025 to 31/08/2025. This is compared to 631 in the same period in the previous year.

The Commencement Notices can be broken down as follows:

Development Type	Number
One-Off House	111
Multi-Units	99** Units
Extensions	101
Other*	52

* 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 31.08.2025.

3. Development Contributions (Section 48)

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

Receipt Period:	**Jan - Aug 2025**
Total Receipts	€ 3,589,697
Recoupments received	€ 4,496,200

Total Received	**€ 8,085,897**

The collection figures shown above are **inclusive** of Uisce Eireann receipts (€35,202).

The total collected (receipts plus recoupments received) in the same period in 2024 was €10,176,603.

Target Collection Jan - Dec 2025:	€ 8,000,000
Actual Collected Jan – Aug 2025:	€ 8,085,897
% collected:	101%

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

- 183 Planning Enforcement complaints received since 01.01.2025
- 103 new planning enforcement cases were opened from 1.01.2025 to 31.08.2025

New Cases to be Investigated	10
Warning Letters	204
Enforcement Notices	19
Referred for Legal Proceedings	4
Closed	70
Court Attendances* This number does not include cases for Judicial Review or Meath County Council as Notice party	40*

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

5. Forward Planning and Projects

Implementation Plan for Revised Housing Targets Set Out in New National Planning Framework Guidelines	Currently carrying out an assessment of the capacity of all remaining lands zoned within County Meath to assess the adequacy of the existing zoned lands and to determine the need to zone additional lands in accordance with revised housing targets recently published by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. Report to be circulated to Elected Members and DHLGH in the coming weeks.
Variation for South Drogheda	Work on Variation No.5 to carry out a Settlement Capacity Audit (SCA) for South Drogheda that will inform the zoning of appropriate lands to meet the household allocation for the remaining period of the current MCDP 2021-2027 will now be subsumed into the variation that will incorporate the revised housing targets.
Review of Meath County Development Plan 2027-2032	The review of the Meath County Development Plan will commence as a 6-year plan on 22nd September 2025 with the publication of the Strategic Issues Paper. Submissions/observations regarding the Pre-Draft Strategic Issues Paper must be received by the 18th November 2025. 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 finalised with the aim of maximising public engagement, communication and involvement in the upcoming Meath CDP.
Masterplans	The Following Masterplans are under preparation and under review: • Masterplan 13 - Balreask Old, lands between Trim Road and Commons Road. • MP 31 - Lands to the west of Trim which include the OPW building and buildings which front onto Emmet Street.
Award Nominations	Meath County Council have been shortlisted in two categories for the IPI Planning Awards 2025. The projects are: ▪ 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 https://www.meath.ie/council/council-services/planning-and-building/development-plans/public-realm-plans/duleek-heritage-led-regeneration-plan-2025

Heritage Week 2025	Heritage Week 2025 was a great success with a total of 108 events across the county. Over 500 people attended events hosted by the Council and Meath Public Libraries. Quiz and Colouring competition winners have received their prizes
Community Monuments Fund 2025:	Project 1 Ardcath Church – Contractor on site, initial site photographic survey and archaeological recording undertaken by project archaeologist. Vegetation management underway. S14 received consent from the National Monuments Service (NMS). Project 2 – St. Patrick Church, Trim – Contractor appointed by the church owners and on site. Initial baseline archaeological recording complete. Bat and bird surveys were completed. Project 3 – Old Athlumney Graveyard – S12 consent prepared and submitted to the National Monument Service. Project 4: Kilberry Graveyard: On-site meeting held with NMS to agree scope of survey and key issues at the site. Conservation team progressing with survey.
World Heritage Strategic Investment Fund 2025	Funding received under the Pilot World Heritage Strategic Investment Fund 2025 to undertake a site-specific flood risk assessment at Boyne Currach Centre, Donore. Consulting engineers appointed to undertake survey.
County Heritage Plan Fund	Meath County Council is supporting Maynooth University with the Moynagh Lough Project. Moynagh Lough is one of the most significant archaeological sites ever discovered in Ireland. The range of artefacts discovered during the excavations demonstrates periodic settlement there through the Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age and Medieval periods. In 2024 a 34-page interim report in Ríocht na Midhe and two chapters in the book Lakes in Ireland: mirrors of change were published. In 2025, through the County Heritage Plan Fund, we are supporting the preparation of artefacts for submission to the National Museum of Ireland (digitisation, databases, artefact labelling and packing and other relevant tasks).
Meath County Biodiversity Action Plan Development	Members of the public were invited to have their say on the Draft Meath Biodiversity Action Plan in a public consultation between Tuesday 5th August – Friday 5th September 2025. A total of 21 submissions were received. The proposed amendments will be presented to the Biodiversity Working Group on 22nd September. A final draft of the text is to be presented to Senior Management on the 29th of September. Following presentations to the Forward Planning and Development Management Strategic Policy Committee and the Corporate Policy Group, it is hoped a final version of the Meath Biodiversity Action Plan 2025 – 2030 can be brought before the sitting of the full Council in November.
Meath County Biodiversity Action Plan Implementation	Activities facilitated and supported include: National Heritage Week Events National Hedgerow Week Walk and Talk Event at Swainstown Farm. Extensive engagement with the Forestry Division in DAFM, leading to a visit to Meath County Council by Minister of State Michael Healy-Rae and two briefing sessions for Meath County Council Staff and External Stakeholders, including the Balrath Woods Steering Committee, relating to the opportunities for Meath County Council to create and manage woodland assets in Meath with the support of the National Forestry Programme.

Kells Printworks Project	The Commissioning Phase of the project has commenced. Meath County Council has engaged the services of a Creative Associate/Print Studio Technician to set up, develop and deliver a creative, engaging, imaginative, collaborative and inclusive outreach, educational and artistic programme at the new facility.
IWTN – Trim Trim Town Walls Project Athboy Town Walls Management Plan	Contractor on site and conservation works progressing to a section of Trim Town Walls (Section B). Works include raking our joints, pinning and pointing with lime mortar and flaunching of wall capping. Athboy was added this year to Irish Walled Town Network. Meath County Council have appointed Research and Dig Ltd to prepare a Conservation Management Plan for Athboy Town Walls.

6. Heritage & Biodiversity Projects



Hedgreow week Walk & Talk at Swainstown Farm.



Briefing session with Minister of State Michael Healy Rae.

Climate Action and Environment



Climate Action

Community Climate Action Programme Fund



Phase 1

A total of €383,876.57 of the approved €810,908.17 has been paid out to date and recouped back from DCEE. The next drawdown is due in November 2025. 10 Projects are complete, with the remaining 15 in progress.

Phase 2

Information sessions were hosted by MCC Community Climate Action Officer on the forthcoming Phase 2 Community Climate Action Programme Fund. Over 30 community groups and clubs have registered interest in Phase 2 with exciting projects.

The Toy Library

Our second Toy Library event took place in Scoil Oilibhéir Naofa, Bettystown on Saturday 6th September. There was a great turnout at the event with 76 families attending. The right energy, the right crowd, and a fantastic atmosphere was experienced throughout the event. There was 226 toys recirculated with a saving of €2,758.00 in toy value, a 129.6 Kg of plastic saved and 778kg of CO_2 prevented!

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

We have 2 more events scheduled:

Date	Time	Zone	Location
20th September	11am -2pm	Trim	Trim GAA Club, Newhaggard Road County Meath C15 A258
6th December	11am - 3pm	Navan	Simonstown GFC, Proudstown Road, Navan, Co. Meath, Ireland







IKC3 Project

Meath County Council and IKC3 have invited participants from a variety of organisations and community groups within the County to take part in a short course, which is designed to equip communities with the skills necessary to address climate change challenges.
While the course focuses on climate issues, the tools and skills participants will gain can be applied to a range of different scenarios.
The programme will:

- Explore the systemic nature of climate change.
- Identify key climate challenges in your community.
- Co-create climate solutions.
- Scale-up your solutions.

A total of 55 places on the course confirmed with 25 places accredited with Munster Technological University (MTU).
This free programme will be delivered both online and in-person (Buvinda House) from September - November 2025. In-person sessions will be developed and delivered by MCC Climate Action Section.

Meath Climate Action Month 2025

Meath County Council's Climate Action Section will launch Meath Climate Action Month from 19th September to 19th October, in line with SDG Week and An Taisce's National Climate Action Week. There is an array of events planned across the County, across all sectors and themes to promote and inspire sustainability in Meath.

A full event schedule is below and will be communicated via MCC social media:

Date	Event	Description	Venue
04/09/2025	Sewing Workshops with Michelle Power	Sewing Workshops by Michelle Power for 6 weeks	Navan Library
18/09/2025	Energy Clinic	SEC Energy Clinic	Ashbourne Library
20/09/2025	Trim Toy Library	Toy Swap event in Trim GAA Centre	Trim GAA Centre
20/09/2025	EcoChic Event	Clothing Swap, Sewing Workshop, Sashiko Workshop	Trim GAA Centre
22/09/2025	LEO Information Session	Information on LEO grants & supports available	Enfield Library & Community Hub
24/09/2025	Green Pathways	Climate literacy workshop for children designed to spark curiosity about future careers and sustainability, focusing on sustainability-themed books led by a Career Guidance Counsellor	Navan Library
24/09/2025 - 25/09/2025	Life Below Water with Clean Coasts	Children will learn about the Global Goal Symbols, Water Quality, Marine Biodiversity, Shell Identification, Seaweeds and Tides.	Duleek Library, Ashbourne Library, Trim Library, Enfield Library
25/09/2025	Furniture Repair Café	Furniture Repair Café with Sam Agus Nessa	Trim Library
25/09/2025	Energy Clinic	SEC Energy Clinic	Trim Library
27/09/2025	Energy Clinic	SEC Energy Clinic	Duleek Library

27/09/2025	EcoChic Event	Clothing Swap, Sewing Workshop, Sashiko Workshop	Navan O'Mahony's GAA Club
27/09/2025	Bettystown Community Beach Clean	Beach clean event in Bettystown with East Meath Utd	Bettystown Beach
30/09/2025	Wetland Wonders: Mud Magic meets bog in a bottle	Combining two popular Sea School sessions — Mud Magic and Bog in a Bottle — this 90-minute indoor experience reveals the power of bogs, mudflats, and marshes in supporting biodiversity, cleaning water, and capturing carbon.	Navan Library
01/10/2025	LEO Information Session	Information on LEO grants & supports available	Kells Town Council / Kells Tech
01/10/2025	Green Pathways	Climate literacy workshop for children designed to spark curiosity about future careers and sustainability, focusing on sustainability-themed books led by a Career Guidance Counsellor	Trim Library
02/10/2025	IN4GREEN Business Networking Event	ED will host green focus group with key industries to discuss challenges, opportunities they are facing as an industry and what supports are available	Thrive Centre of Excellence
02/10/2025	Furniture Repair Café	Furniture Repair Café with Sam Agus Nessa	Enfield Library & Community Hub
02/10/2025	SEAI Carbon Basics Training	Energy & Carbon Awareness Fundamentals Training	Buvinda House
04/10/2025	EcoChic Event	Clothing Swap, Sewing Workshop, Sashiko Workshop	The Village Hotel
04/10/2025	Bettystown Ecology Talk & Walk	Ecology walk in Bettystown with ecologist Kate Harrington	Bettystown Library & Beach
06/10/2025	LEO Information Session	Information on LEO grants & supports available	Bettystown Civic Centre
06/10/2025	Trim No Idling Zones	Trim Tidy Towns will create no idling zones in school pick up areas encouraging drivers to turn off engines while waiting to reduce emissions	Trim Schools

08/10/2025	Meath Energy Evening	Information on grants & retrofitting from SEC, SEAI, Energy Guru, Codema, Local Business Providers	Buvinda House
11/10/2025	Furniture Repair Café	Furniture Repair Café with Sam Agus Nessa	Dunshaughlin Library
11/10/2025	Furniture Repair Café	Furniture Repair Café with Sam Agus Nessa	Navan Library
15/10/2025	Batch Cooking with Catherine Silvio	Lunchtime and evening cooking session with Catherine Fulvio in Windtown Unity Centre	Buvinda House
15/10/2025	LEO Information Session	Information on LEO grants & supports available	Dunshaughlin Hub
16/10/2025	EcoChic Event	Clothing Swap, Sewing Workshop, Sashiko Workshop	Pillo Hotel
16/10/2025 & 17/10/2025	National PPN Conference - Trim Keep Cup Project Awareness	Presentation on Trim Keep Cup Project and encouraging awareness and project to spread further afield	Trim Castle Hotel
18/10/2025	Play it Green: Meath GAA	Family-friendly event with guest speakers, biodiversity & upcycling workshops, Meath GAA players signing, sports gear clothes swap	Dunganny GAA
18/10/2025	Bettystown Big Beach Clean & Stream Clean	Beach clean event in Bettystown 9am - 10.30am	Bettystown Beach
21/10/2025	Energy Clinic	SEC Energy Clinic	Dunboyne Library
23/10/2025	EcoChic Event	Clothing Swap, Sewing Workshop, Sashiko Workshop	Dunshaughlin Pastoral Centre
25/10/2025	Energy Clinic	SEC Energy Clinic	Navan Library
Throughout SDG Month	Looking After Nature Storytime & Craft	Storytime and craft on looking after nature will take place in all libraries across SDG Month for senior infants and first class	Schools
Throughout SDG Month	SDG Month Colouring Competition	Stay tuned to our social media for information on our colouring competition to celebrate SDG week. Win a collection of books for your school	Schools

Throughout SDG Month	SDG Displays & Social Media Posts for the goals	Selected: SDG 10 Reduce Inequality, SDG 11 Sustainable Communities, SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production, SDG 13 Climate Action and SDG 14 Life Below Water	Schools
Throughout SDG Month	SDG Recommended reads list	A recommended reads list connected to each SDG will also be available as a link on our website	Schools

Energy

Windtown Unity Centre Energy Upgrades





Works have been completed on the Windtown Unity Centre Energy Upgrades Project. The upgrade works focussed on the decarbonisation of the building, by substituting the existing gas heating systems with low-carbon high efficiency heat pumps. Three domestic sized heat pumps will work in cascade to provide the heat for the building as required. A fourth heat pump will provide the domestic hot water requirements for the building. To offset the increased electrical demand of the heat pumps, a 20kWp solar PV array was mounted on the roof which will provide clean electricity to the site. The building will now have zero direct fossil fuel emissions and an overall reduced, cleaner, energy consumption. The project will reduce CO_2 emissions by 15 tonnes annually, contributing to our national 2030 targets of 51% reduction in CO_2 emissions.

Animal & Food Controls Update

The transfer of services undertaken by Local Authorities under its SLA with the FSAI over to the DAFM has been further extended to end of September.
The Environment Department completed the recruitment of a new Dog Warden in September.

Libraries Services and Arts Office



Libraries Services

Skills for Life

Libraries Ireland
Skills For Life
Grow the skills you need at your local library

Meath Library Service is proud to announce its participation in Skills for Life, a new nationwide initiative designed to help individuals build essential life skills. The programme is being rolled out across all local authority library services in Ireland and is free to access for everyone.

Skills for Life offers practical support for everyday challenges. Libraries are trusted, inclusive spaces where people of all ages and backgrounds can access the supports they need to navigate everyday challenges and meet their goals.

The Skills for Life programme offers practical support across six essential areas:

- Helping individuals build basic digital skills for everyday tasks,
- Improving financial literacy for better money management
- Developing media literacy to navigate online information safely
- Providing guidance on employment and business skills
- Promoting health awareness for informed decision-making
- Encouraging sustainable living through environmental education.

An extensive programme of events at Meath Library Service has been curated for Autumn/Winter 2025. This includes classes and workshops on sewing, biodiversity, seed saving, financial literacy, volunteering opportunities, budgeting advice, media literacy and healthy aging for women. Meath Library service is especially pleased to be hosting guest speakers Dr. David Coleman and Dr. Harry Barry for what promises to be very popular and engaging events.

Feedback and participation at events to date has been very positive, many events are booked out with waiting lists for other events.

My Open Library

The My Open Library service (MOL) has launched in Kells and Nobber libraries.

MOL is already successfully established in Trim, Enfield and Slane where it has been embraced by each community.

The MOL service is available daily from 8AM -10PM 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Kells and Nobber libraries are welcoming spaces at the heart of their local communities, and it is even easier to visit now with the introduction of the new My Open Library service.

MOL is perfect for commuters, students, families and adults looking for a quiet space at a time that suits them. MOL members can connect to the Wi-Fi, access library PCs, study, print/ photocopy and enjoy the library space. Adults over 18 and students over 16, with guardians' permission, may join the service.

A broad range of users have already registered for MOL Kells and Nobber-shift workers, families, an author, retirees. They were attracted to the flexibility of MOL; not only to access reading material, but a space to visit with children, a place to write and to study at times that suit.

Pictured are the first MOL Kells users, Rafael and his son Ben. Ben loves going to the library with his Daddy for morning stories.



Arts Office

Meath Culture Night 2025

Culture Night is an annual all-island public event that celebrates culture, creativity and the arts, and took place on Friday 19th September 2025. **19 events** took place across Meath with **15 events** funded under the **Meath Culture Night Event Grant Scheme 2025**. Managed by the Arts Office, these awards are funded by the Arts Council under the Culture Night strand of Meath County Council Arts Office Partnership funding. Aligning with the National Arts Council Culture Night theme *'I am part of this, and this is part of me'*, the Open-Call was particularly suited to venues seeking to encourage new audiences, and organisations such as local arts groups, choirs, theatre companies, book clubs etc. who could host an evening of novel or exciting activities designed to engage new members. Other areas of interest included events that celebrate new communities and underrepresented voices, and which promote and connect artists from marginalized backgrounds and showcase the culturally diverse communities living in the County. We were are delighted to see that a wide range and diversity of community groups and artists responded to this.





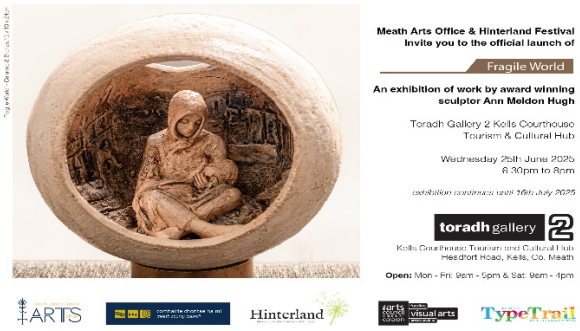
Kells Courthouse Tourism & Cultural Hub – recent activities

Hosted:

- **23 events** *upstairs @ the courthouse* during Hinterland Festival welcoming approx. 1500 attendees over the course of the weekend.
- Born to be Optimistic filming of textile artist Clare O'Connor work took place *upstairs @ the courthouse*

- *Arts Producing Knowhow - making your idea a reality* with Kath Gorman. A professional development morning for artists, emerging producers and local communities who want to put on arts events/develop arts projects. Programmed as part of the Arts Office MAMU artists CPD programme.
- Artists Residency - John Boyle O'Reilly project: music and theatre commission development week with artists Steve Wickham, Wayne Sheehy, Deirdre Kinahan and Jess Kavanagh with Fishamble Theatre director Jim Culleton.
- *Book of Kells* cinema events as part of Heritage Week 2025.

<u>Toradh Gallery2</u>



Presented ***'Fragile World'*** an exhibition of new work by award winning sculptor Ann Meldon Hugh at Toradh Gallery 2, Kells Courthouse and Tourism Cultural Hub. Fragile world was a personal response to the artists environment and experience and featured 30 stunning works in ceramic and bronze capturing the beauty and fragility of our world in a sell-out exhibition.



Bog Bothy Exhibition

Hosted IAF **Bog Bothy** exhibition as part of the Bog Bothy Girley Programme 2025 and Heritage Week.

Continued support of range of activities across the county including *Festivals* – Another Love Story, Type Trail and Meath Film Festival; *Youth Arts* - Act Out Youth Theatre, Music Generation Meath and *Community Activities* including Music & Health Ireland Tea Chats & Tunes on-going programme, five-year celebration at Dalgan Park and partners day at St Joseph's Nursing Home Trim.

Finance



Housing Loans:

LAHL Data 1st January 2025 to 19th September 2025		
Applications Received	34	2025 applications
Fully Completed Applications	26	2025 applications
Awaiting Recommendation from Housing Agency (Underwriters)	0	
Invalid Applications	5	2025 applications
Awaiting Further Information from applicants	3	2025 application
Approved by Credit Committee	19	18 relate to 2025, 1 relates to 2024
Refused by Credit Committee	5	2025 applications
Awaiting Decision by Credit Committee	0	
Active Approvals	12.71	10.83 relate to 2025, 0.7 relate to 2024, 1.18 relate to 2023
Expired	17	2 relate to 2025, 15 relate to 2024
Drawdown by Customer	12.12	5.17 relate to 2025, 5.3 relate to 2024, 1.65 relate to 2023

Figures above related to activity from 1st January 2025 to 19th September 2025 and in some cases relate to applications from 2023 and 2024. Previously expired loans may be extended in some cases.