comhairle chontae na mí
meath county council

Monthly Management Report for Elected Members

December 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

Tairseach Seirbhíse do Chustaimeirí – Ag seoladh go luath

Beidh tairseach seirbhíse do chustaiméirí ag teacht go luath agus beidh an tseirbhís seo ar fáil trí Ghaeilge don phobal chomh maith. Tá an tairseach a bhfuil an rannóg IT ag forbairt faoi láthair mar chuid den straitéis uaillmhianach teicneolaíocht faisnéise . Tá an Oifigeach Gaeilge ag cuidiú leis an rannóg teicneolaiocht faisnéise le haghaidh aistriucháin cruinn a chur le chéile ar gach mír den tairseach seo ionas gur féidir an chomhairle contae an tseirbhís seo a chur ar fáil don phobal na Gaeltachta agus dóibh siúd atá ag iarraidh a gcuid cúrsaí a dhéanamh trí Ghaeilge.

Customer Service Portal – launching soon

There will be a new customer service portal coming soon and this service will be available to the public through Irish also. The portal which the IT section are developing at present is part of an ambitious information & communications technology strategy. The Irish Language Officer is assisting the IT section to compile accurate translations of each section of this portal so as to enable the council to have this service available to the Gaeltacht community and to those who want to conduct their affairs through Irish.

Contracts Signed for Martha's Bridge to Circular Road Cycle and Pedestrian Scheme

On Thursday, 30 October, Meath County Council held a contract signing for the Martha’s Bridge to Circular Road Cycle and Pedestrian Scheme at the Thrive Centre of Business Excellence.

The project involves the delivery of over one kilometre of segregated cycling facilities, the upgrade of the traffic junction at Martha's Bridge (linking to Johnstown), and the signalisation of the Academy Street junction, with significant road safety improvements for pedestrians along the route.

Aiming to enhance cycling and pedestrian facilities and improve access to the town centre for all road users, this project also supports the objectives of the Government's Climate Action Plan by encouraging more people to walk and cycle in Navan, reducing reliance on private vehicles for transport.



2025 Mass for the Faithful Departed of Meath County Council

On Monday 3 November, Meath County Council was honoured to host our Annual Mass for the faithful departed of Meath County Council, at Buvinda House, Navan.

With the Parish Priest of the Johnstown-Walterstown Parish Fr. Kevin Heery saying Mass for the many in attendance, we remembered with love all those who have passed away since our last gathering in November 2024.



Empowering Older People to Live Independently



Meath County Council was proud to be represented at a special Age Friendly Ireland conference hosted by MEP Nina Carberry in the European Parliament on Tuesday, 4 November.

With Meath's over-65 population now exceeding 27,000 and a projected 70% increase nationwide by 2040, the event was a timely opportunity to showcase our leadership in age-friendly initiatives.

Cathaoirleach Cllr. Wayne Harding, Chief Executive Kieran Kehoe and Age Friendly Ireland Chief Officer Catherine McGuigan joined a distinguished panel to share Meath's success stories—from Healthy Age Friendly Homes and our housing developments to the Meath Workplace Pathfinder programme and ExWell.

Busy Weekend for Fire Service and Outdoor Crews as Storm Claudia Hits Meath

No major incidents were reported in the county when Storm Claudia hit Meath on Friday, 14 November.

Nonetheless, the Council Fire Service and Outdoor crews were busy dealing with fallen trees, blocked roads, and localised flooding, while a number of communications and safety information was issued to the public via social media over the course of that weekend.

The Council's Severe Weather Assessment Team met several times on Friday 14 November and Saturday 15 November, closely monitoring the impact of the storm and putting the necessary resources in place.

Before the storm even hit, Council crews were busy making sure pumps and sandbags were in place, particularly in areas deemed high-risk for flooding, and a large number of gullies were cleared.



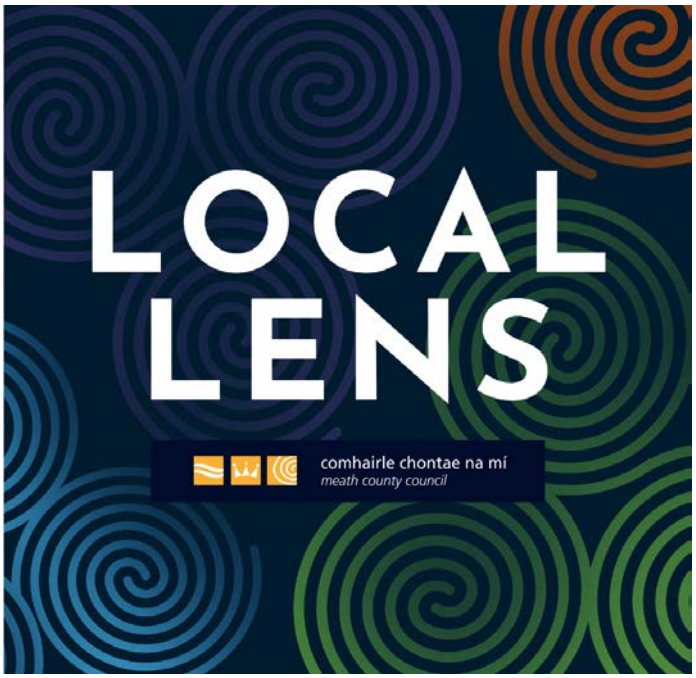
Reducing Isolation and Promoting Social Participation

Meath County Council, Meath Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) and Meath Partnership recently celebrated a joint launch of two complementary initiatives aimed at improving the lives of older people across the county.

The event marked the first-ever public launch of a Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) Case Study by the Meath LCDC, titled "Belonging at Every Age: SICAP's Holistic Support for Older People Across Meath", alongside the introduction of the new Meath Age Friendly Supports and Services Index for Older People.



Meath County Council's Podcast "Local Lens" Season 2 in Pre-Production



November 2025 saw Meath County Council officially enter pre-production for Season 2 of their podcast series "Local Lens". It is envisioned that recording will commence in the coming weeks, and the new series will be available to listen on all major platforms from Q1 2026.

Season 1 has received 2,600 downloads so far and reached as high as second on the Apple charts for Government Podcasts.

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.

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			
Robinstown	3	Q4 2026	Q4 2027
Riverside, Carnaross	5	Q4 2026	Q4 2027
Trim Road, Balreask	4	Q4 2026	Q4 2027
Friars Park, Trim	4	Q4 2026	Q4 2027
Church Street, Kells	3	Q4 2026	Q4 2027
Ratoath Age Friendly Development	14	Q3 2026	Q3 2027
Total	**33**		
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	Q2 2026	Q4 2027
Haggard Street, Trim	4	Q1 2026	Q1 2027
Blackhill Crescent, Donacarney	2	Q1 2026	Q4 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	Q4 2025
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	**234**		

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

High Court Judicial Review lodged March 2024 and struck out November 2025. Negotiations underway to re-engage Design Teams and recommence projects.

Meath County Council Approved Capital Assistance Scheme, Part V & Turnkey up to 14th November 2025

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT TYPE	NO. OF UNITS
Ashbourne	Part V	**43**
Athboy	Part V	**1**
Ballivor	Part V	**2**
Drogheda	Part V	**30**
Duleek	Part V	**6**
Dunboyne	Part V	**9**
Dunshaughlin	Part V	**48**
Enfield	Part V	**27**
Kells	Part V	**13**
Kilcock	Part V	**4**
Longwood	Part V	**12**
Navan	Part V	**81**
Oldcastle	Part V	**13**
Rathmolyon	Part V	**10**
Ratoath	Part V	**23**
Summerhill	Part V	**21**
Trim	Part V	**50**
Bettystown	Turnkey	**1**
Drogheda	Turnkey	**22**
Kells	Turnkey	**11**
Navan	Turnkey	**14**
Kilmoon	CAS	**1**
Navan	CAS	**12**

Slane	CAS	**1**
Trim	CAS	**2**
Oldcastle	CAS	**6**
Total		**463**

Meath County Council Approved Capital Assistance Scheme, Part V & Turnkey – Delivered as at the 14th November 2025.

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT TYPE	NO. OF UNITS
Ballivor	Part V	4
Bettystown	Part V	8
Carlanstown	Part V	2
Clonee	Part V	7
Donacarney	Part V	2
Drogheda	Part V	4
Duleek	Part V	4
Dunshaughlin	Part V	10
Enfield	Part V	1
Julianstown	Part V	2
Kells	Part V	8
Navan	Part V	8
Stamullen	Part V	2
Ballivor	Turnkey	8
Bettystown	Turnkey	20
Clonee	Turnkey	66
Donacarney	Turnkey	16
Kells	Turnkey	25
Navan	Turnkey	12
Stamullen	Turnkey	5
Navan	CAS	5
Total		**219**

Affordable Housing

Meath County Council have two affordable housing schemes open.

Beaufort, Boyne Village, Navan, Co Meath – 9 units. The online portal for applications opened on Thursday 18th September 2025 at 12 noon, assessing applications and 4 offers accepted

Wellfield, Ratoath, Co Meath – 10 units. The online portal for applications opened on Thursday 16th October 2025 at 12 noon, assessing applications and 7 offers accepted.

Robinrath, Navan, Co Meath – 7 Units. The online portal for applications will open on Thursday 27th November 2025 at 12 noon.

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.
- 51 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**.**

797 grants awarded to the value of €6,156,636 up to 13/11/2025

Local Authority Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme (EERP)

At the start of 2025 Meath Co Co received approval to complete energy efficient retrofits on 48 properties. However, additional approvals in June, September and November brought the total to 70 properties approved for 2025.

47 of these properties are voids (38 completed) and 23 properties were occupied (19 completed). Works are ongoing on 12 properties and works have not yet commenced on the remaining 1 property. In addition to the above, 22 properties from previous years were completed in 2025.

Local Authority Planned Maintenance

1147 Stock Condition Surveys have been completed in Meath up to the 12th November 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 12th November 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	3	2	4	6	3
Navan	9	8	13	19	11
Ashbourne	0	0	1	1	0
Laytown/Bettystown	4	2	1	6	1
Ratoath	0	2	0	2	0
Trim	5	3	0	3	5
TOTALS	**21**	**17**	**19**	**37**	**20**

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

Project Name	No. of Units	AHB	Estimated Completion
Bailey Hill, Navan	5	Cluid	Q1 2026
Dunboyne Heights, Dunboyne	50	Iveagh Trust	Q1 2027
Kilmoon	1	Marillac - CAS	Q1 2027
Oldcastle	5	Saint Vincent de Paul - CAS	Q3 2027
Oldcastle	1	DePaul Housing - CAS	Q2 2026
Slane	1	St. John of Gods	Q4 2026
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	**77**		

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	45	CLUID - CALF
Glen Boann, Donacarney	12	CLUID - CALF
Mine View, Athboy Road, Navan	12	Respond - CALF
Emmett St, Trim	12	North & East - CALF
Woodstream, Bailis, Navan	21	Cluid - CALF

Total Number of Units Delivered	**107**	

Homelessness – October 2025

	Single Adults / Couples	Households with Children	Total Households
Placements at 30th September 2025	180 (184 Adults)	86 (123 Adults & 150 Children)	266
Placements at 31st October 2025	181 (186 Adults)	85 (124 Adults & 153 Children)	266

Of the households with children, 76 families are placed in short-term private rented accommodation (house/apartment) through the Settlement Team's intervention, 9 Families in Family Hubs.

96.5% bed allocations were availed of by service users

3.5% beds were available (Kells, Athboy, Navan, Slane, 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.

47 Presentations on homelessness were made. This comprised 23 Families.

Reason for EA Presentations	Total Numbers
NTQ	9
Family Circumstance	21
Hospital | Prison | Care	5
Couch Surfing | Cannot Afford	10
Rough Sleeping	0
Other	2
Total	**47**

Family Figures:

4 Families exited EA in October. This comprised 4 Adults & 4 Children

Reason for EA Family Exit	Total Numbers
MCC Allocation	1
Not availing of Bed	1
Return to Family / Friend	1
HAP	1
Total	**4**

Age profile of clients in emergency accommodation on 31.10.2025

Age profile	Clients	0-4	04-11	11-18	18-25	25-40	40-65	Over 65
Families	124				**27**	**58**	**38**	**1**
Couples	10				**2**	**3**	**5**	
Singles	176				**19**	**49**	**90**	**18**
Children	153	**49**	**59**	**45**				
Total	**463**	**49**	**59**	**45**	**48**	**110**	**133**	**19**

Homeless HAP Placefinder 01/10/2025 – 31/10/2025

Total	**2**
Exit from Emergency Accommodation	1
Homeless Prevention	1
In Progress	5

Tenant Liaison Team October 2025

Anti-Social Behaviour Investigation	Complaints	Cases
Frequent serious disturbances	**100**	**49**
Occupancy of dwelling	**96**	**49**
Garden upkeep/maintenance	**43**	**22**
Dog/Horse/Pet Control	**6**	**4**
Total October 2025	**245**	**124**

ASB Investigations on going at (month end)	**87**
ASB Investigations completed (month end)	**37**
Number of Pre Tenancies completed in October 2025	**33**
Abandonments for October 2025	**0**
Houses taken back into stock for October 2025	**6**

Warnings Issued 2025

Warnings	August	September	October	Total
Verbal	**0**	**0**	**1**	**1**
Written	**1**	**0**	**1**	**2**
2nd Written	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
Statutory	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
Advisory	**0**	**2**	**0**	**2**
Total	**1**	**2**	**2**	**5**

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
September	8	1	6	1	0	1
October	6	1	5	1	0	2
Total	45	4	30	12	9	12

Standards in Rented Accommodation

3598 Inspections were carried out on rented properties in Meath up to the end of October 2025. Of this figure, 1024 were first inspections and 62 properties passed after their first inspection. 143 Improvement Notices and 6 Prohibition Notices were served from January to October 2025.

13 Improvement Notices have been withdrawn from January to October 2025 as the matters referred to in the Improvement Notices were remedied.

Social Housing Supports - for period 1st October to 31st October

- 154 applications received for Social Housing
- 61 applications approved onto the Social Housing List
- 32 applications unsuccessful

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

Allocations/Housing Supports	Number
MCC Direct Allocations	25
Transfers	1
Approved Housing Bodies	15
Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)	0
Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)*	8
Long Term Leasing (inc Private MTR)	0
Mortgage To Rent (Approved Housing Bodies)	0
TOTAL	**49**

*** Housing Assistance Payment -** 161 Households had their accommodation needs met by HAP tenancies between 01/01/2025 – 31/10/2025 and there are currently 1214 active HAP tenancies in Meath.

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 of September granted leave to Mr John Rogers to bring a Judicial Review challenge to the Development Consent for the development of Slane Bypass. ACP and MCC submitted their Statements and Affidavits. Awaiting same from JR. A hearing has been scheduled for the 15th and 16th January 2026.
N52 Grange to Clontail - €1.3M	Tender competition for Phase 5-7 consultant complete. TII approved Gateway to Phase 5 to 7. Finalising pre appointment paperwork before completion of appointment process for consultant.
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)	Contract completed
Phase 4 (Wearing Course)	Contract completed
Community Involvement Scheme	Contract completed
Local Tertiaries	6 no. scheme completed
Own Resources Roads (August)	30 no. schemes completed
Local Improvement Schemes	Contract completed

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

Grant Allocation	**€1,200,000**
Scheme	Update

R156/R125 Mullagh Cross	Archaeological Geophysical survey completed. Ground Investigation procured and detail design progressing.
L6210 Newtownmoyaghy	NIS application lodged with An Coimisiún Pleanála on 8th October 2025.
R132 Julianstown Traffic Relief Scheme	Consultants appointed for Phase 2 Option Selection. Ecological desk top study underway and public consultation relating to Constraints Study Area expected in December.
R108 / L16111 Bey More Junction safety scheme	Option Selection process progressing. Ecological surveys conducted. Traffic survey completed.

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

Grant Allocation	**€470,000**
Scheme	**Update**
R-108 Bey More	Contractor appointed
R-125 Grennoge	Contractor appointed
R-125 Collinstown	Contractor appointed
R-155 Curragha	Contractor appointed
R-162 Nobber	Contractor appointed
R-195 Fennor Oldcastle	Contractor appointed
R-195 Springhall	Contractor appointed
L-1603 Lobinstown	Contractor appointed
L-4007 Clonmalevan	Contractor appointed
L-5054 Kentstown	Contractor appointed

L-5614 Bettystown	Contractor appointed
L-5018 Ballybin	Proposals currently being finalised and landowner agreement being negotiated.

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

Grant Allocation	**€742,250**
Scheme	**Update**
R154 Addanstown Bridge	Bridge works complete. Accommodation works to be completed in Nov 2025.
BAMS Bridge Inventory and Maintenance Inspection€ (2025)	Inspections ongoing
Verdons Bridge	Tenders being assessed
Aclare Bridge	Design stage ongoing
Graultys Bridge	Design stage ongoing
Piercetown Bridge	Consultants appointed.

2 (e) Climate Change Adaptation & Resilience Works

Grant Allocation	**€540,500**
Scheme	**Update**
R160 Clongowan €200,000	Site investigation has been tendered out and due to commence in late November.
Keenaghan Drainage Improvement €35,000	Complete
R-151 Mornington €30,000	Cannot be undertaken due to OPW scheme. Use funding for rock armour along the coastline.

R-191-8 Leitrim Lower Culvert Upgrade Works €30,000	Complete
L-62251- Rathcore €30,000	Flooding issue resolved through liaison with landowner.
L-80045-5 Church Road, Athboy €25,000	Near completion.
L-5615 L-5615 Pilltown Road €10,500	Cannot be undertaken due to local development. Use funding for rock armour along the coastline.

(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	Works continued this month on the R147, including installation of new public lighting columns and 'road crossings' for new road gully connections. Temporary traffic management is in place on the R147 and two-way traffic flow was maintained.
NA1: R147/N51 Poolboy Bridge to Kells Road Roundabout	Design work continued this month.
Flowerhill Cycle & Pedestrian Scheme	Design work continued this month
Navan Public Realm:	The Consultant Team is continuing to work on finalising the Preliminary Business Case and final Gateway 3

Trimgate Street Pedestrianisation	documents for submission to the National Transport Authority.
Navan Contract 5: Fairgreen, Church Hill, Bakery Lane, Old Cornmarket, Preston Place and Fairgreen carpark.	Works continued this month in Bakery Lane, with the installation of new services and construction of the base slab for the new granite paving. Works continued the installation of the public lighting upgrades on Old Cornmarket. A glass cover and lighting were installed to the well at the Old Sheep Fair on Church Hill. The contractor also continued with the installation of street furniture at Fairgreen, Church Hill and Old Cornmarket.
Convent Road to Metges Road & Trim Road: Beechmount to Balreask Manor Active Travel Schemes	A potential further concept option relying on a shared space has been drafted which removes the requirement potential land take. Further design work is to be completed, and the options assessment process revisited with a revised assessment undertaken.
Trim Road Phase 3 - Beachmount to Balreask Manor	Tenders have been received, and a tender assessment process is underway.
Trim Road Phase 4 Balreask Manor to Borallion Junction	Design work (Preliminary Design) continued this month.
Dunboyne and Clonee Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme	Part 8 planning application for the Dunboyne to Clonee Active Travel Links was presented to the October Ratoath MD meeting. Part 8 now live; submissions welcome up to the 1st of December. 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. Bus demonstration days were held at both school in early October.

Newtown Road, Trim footpath	Contract awarded and contractor due to commence on site presently
Safety Measures at Schools	A Contract was awarded to Kelly Brothers for extra Traffic Calming/Road Safety Measures at 12 schools in Meath and these were completed in Q3 2025. The list of schools was: • Heronstown, L-B MD • Stackallen, L-B MD • Gibbstown, Kells MD • Kilbride, Trim MD • Baconstown NS, Trim MD • Lismullen, Navan MD • Kiltale NS, Trim MD • Newtown NS, Laytown -Bettystown MD • Bohermeen NS, Navan MD • Wilkinstown NS, Kells MD • Boardsmill NS, Trim MD • Ughtyneill NS, Kells MD
Safe Routes to School	
St. Stephen's NS, Navan	Works progressing with well with new pedestrian crossing and new paths.
Beaufort College, Navan	Works progressing well with wider footpaths.
Pedestrian Crossings	Works progressing on R125 Ratoath, St Peter's NS Dunboyne and at Dunshaughlin park.

4.Roads & Sustainable Transport Schemes

Funding Source	**Primarily DoT & NTA**
Grant Allocation	(covered under TII)
Boyne Valley to Lakelands County Greenway	
Kilberry to Greenway Footpath & Gibbstown Car Park	Works progressing on the footpath from the Gibbstown Greenway crossing to Kilberry. Bituminous surface

	scheduled to be applied to Gibbbstown car park in November.
Poles Car Park and Footpath, Kilmainhamwood	Works have commenced on the new car park at Poles Greenway crossing Kilmainhamwood. Work also commenced on 500m footpath along the R162 from Poles cross to the Ballinaclose junction. Works to be complete earlier December.
Boyne Greenway	
Navan to Oldbridge	Ecological and environmental surveys continuing. Preliminary design of the horizontal and vertical alignment as well as structures of the Boyne Greenway route progressing.

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. Workshop held with the TII.
LDR4 Navan	Scheme opened to traffic end of October 2025. Traffic and pedestrian movements being monitored. Road Safety Audit completed and snagging underway.
Trim Pedestrian Bridge	Construction contract tenders received and being reviewed.
Footpath Rehabilitation Programme	Works progressing in Ratoath MD and Kells town.

6.URDF

Scheme	**Update**

Former Spicers Bakery, Rampart Carpark & Andy Brennan Park	No further updates since last report
Frontage Improvement Works Flowerhill	MCC to commence consultations with the property owners within the coming weeks.to discuss the implementation of the scheme.

7.THRIVE

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

8. 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

9. Meath County Council Projects

Scheme	**Update**
New Library/Community Building, Amenity Area, and Age Friendly Housing, Ratoath	Part 8 currently being advertised in month of November
Buvinda Council Chambers & Offices	Stage 2 Works tender document preparation is currently under review for Main Contractor & Reserved Specialists.
Solstice – Frontage	No further updates since last report

10. National Speed Limit Review

Scheme	**Update**
National Speed Limit Review	Phase 1 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. This was completed in Q1 of 2025. Phase 2 is the review of built-up urban areas with potential change of speed limit to 30km/ hr in locations that align with the guidelines. New guidelines were Issued by the department of Transport on the 16th of October 2025. Phase 2 is to be implemented by 31st of March 2027.

Economic Development, Enterprise & Tourism



New Business Networks for Meath

Meath County Council is working with a variety of specialized business networks that foster collaboration, peer-to-peer learning, and professional development among its members. The established networks are built around areas such as Tourism, Food Business development and Craft businesses.

In November, three new networks were established focused on Financial and Professional Services, the Agri/Food industry and Manufacturing & Engineering. Through regular events, workshops and in person discussions, MCC is enabling members to share best practices, address specific challenges, and build strong relationships within a trusted environment, supporting both the small to medium enterprises in the county as well as the large companies that are doing business on a global scale.

The intention is that the newly formed networks will meet once a quarter in the Thrive Centre and agree a programme of actions and events for the coming months to address common business challenges.

Centre of Food Culture

The Centre of Food Culture's annual flagship festival; Samhain Festival of Food and Culture took place in Kells and the surrounding area from 6th – 9th November, welcoming a record 7,500 attendees over the course of the weekend (a 50% increase on 2024 attendance) – from the festival grounds featuring the renowned Sheridans Irish Food Fair, kids workshops with Agri Aware, The Cool Food School and Bord Iascaigh Mhara, The Samhain Social tent, cookery demonstrations and funfair, to immersive food and drinks tastings in The Red Chapel and the renowned long table supper in the Headfort Arms Hotel, there truly was something for everyone at this year's Samhain Festival.



The Centre of Food Culture Ireland launched Samhain Festival through its annual symposium event, which this year, focused on the topic of developing a national cohesive and interconnected food policy – welcoming 100+ delegates from across the food system in Ireland to join in round table discussions and a panel session.



The Centre of Food Culture launched Ireland's first island-wide online directory for artisan and farm house food producers, growers, craft brewers, cider makers and distillers at the 2025 Samhain Symposium. The directory can be accessed here





The Samhain Festival Team was delighted to have won Best Tourism Experience/Event at the Meath Business and Tourism Awards on Friday 14th November in Trim Castle Hotel.

Boyne Valley Flavours

New Boyne Valley Flavours Website Launch

Boyne Valley Flavours launched a new website in early October. The new site features an interactive producer directory, showcasing our members and their stories. A calendar of food experiences and events taking place across Meath and Louth, a dedicated membership section that better showcases the benefits of membership to the network. The site also features improved functionality for membership management, event bookings, and digital promotion.
This new platform will help us promote our region's food culture more effectively than ever — driving visitors, awareness, and collaboration.

Boyne Valley Flavours AGM 2025

The Boyne Valley Flavours Annual General Meeting took place in Thrive Business Centre of Excellence on 17th November, beginning with a brief overview of our planned activities for 2026, including the launch of their new website, the continuation of the Boyne Valley Bites campaign, the Boyne Valley Food Series events, and wider strategic initiatives aligned with the Boyne Valley Food Development Strategy 2024–2028.
At the AGM, Tara Walker and Olivia Duff formally resigned from the Board. Both were warmly thanked for their dedication, contribution, and support throughout their term, and for the significant effort they invested in Boyne Valley Flavours over the past year.
Three new members were elected to the Board:

- Gerry Scullion, King of Kefir

- Jennifer Provan, Kitchenetta Catering
- Alan Philips, The Studio Coffee Roasters

Boyne Valley Flavours looks forward to working with the newly constituted Board as they continue to champion the food, drink, and hospitality stories of the Boyne Valley in 2026 and beyond.

Local Enterprise Office

Leo Activity Report – November 2025

Grant Approved/Mentoring Sessions/Training	
Mentoring Assignments Approved	24
Attended Online Training Courses	109
Attended Digital Marketing Clinics	5
Attended AI for Business Clinics	1
Attended Website Health Check Clinics	8
Attended Finance Advice Clinics	3
GREEN for Micro Applications	1
Digital for Business	2
LEAN for Micro	3
Energy Efficiency Grant	3
LEO Grants	5

Tourism

Púca Festival

Boyne Valley Tourism was pleased to participate in the Púca Harvest Market, promoting the Boyne Valley destination and the Samhain Festival of Food & Culture as part of the *Home of Halloween* campaign. The Harvest Market featured a range of engaging talks and demonstrations, alongside a showcase of national craft and food producers.

The festival attracted an estimated 59,500 attendees, marking a significant increase from 49,000 in 2024. Additional visitor insights and data will be available later in December.



Home of Halloween

Meath and Louth local authorities were honoured to be selected as one of the key hubs for Fáilte Ireland's *Home of Halloween Destination Development Scheme*, a pilot initiative launched in March 2025 under the national *Ireland, Home of Halloween* strategy. This programme aims to position Ireland as the authentic global birthplace of Halloween.

The Boyne Valley delivered a dynamic five-week programme anchored by four flagship festivals:

- Spirits of Meath
- Lú Festival of Light (Drogheda)
- Púca Festival
- Samhain Festival of Food & Culture

Strong local collaboration and community engagement were central to the success of this initiative, significantly enhancing the region's reputation as a premier Halloween destination.

Navan Winter Racing Festival

Boyne Valley Tourism supported the Navan Winter Racing Festival, held on the 16th and 17th of November, through the Fáilte Ireland Navan Cluster Fund. Last year's event welcomed approximately 9,500 attendees. Unfortunately, the first day's racing was impacted by the inclement weather but a number of events still took place around the town. Updated attendance figures for this year will be shared as soon as they become available.

Marketing Campaigns

Building on the success of *Traitors Ireland*, Boyne Valley Tourism partnered with local content creator Joseph Murray to produce six promotional videos showcasing destinations featured in the series. These videos are being shared across the Discover Boyne Valley social media channels and Joseph Murray's platforms, which collectively reach over 170,000 followers.

In addition, a Black Friday campaign has been launched for our network of 200 Boyne Valley Tourism members, featuring:

- Blog content
- A dedicated website listing
- A targeted paid social media campaign

Boyne Valley Tourism Brand Review

At the recent Boyne Valley Tourism Board Meeting, Anthony McGuigan from Paul Hogarth & Co. presented the *Reimagined Boyne Valley Drive* project. As part of this initiative, the Boyne Valley Tourism brandmark will be incorporated into destination signage, which is expected to remain in place for 15–20 years.

In line with the recommendation, Boyne Valley Tourism will undertake a comprehensive brand review to ensure the brand is fit for purpose and aligned with the region's long-term strategic objectives. This review will help strengthen the destination's identity and support future marketing and development efforts.

Rural Regeneration



Vacant Homes	2025 total
Vacant Homes Identified	44
CPO - Housing Act - Completed in 2025	4
CPO - Housing Act - Commenced in 2025	7

Derelict Sites	2025 total
Derelict Sites Register (no. of properties)	38
No. of statutory orders issued	31
CA - Derelict Sites Act - Completed in 2025	3
CA - Derelict Sites Act - Commenced in 2025	1

Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant	2025 total
Approved Applications	54
Approved in Principle Applications (not commenced)	51
Applications In Progress/Info Requested	35
Rejected Applications	3
Withdrawn Applications	39
Completed / Paid Applications	89
Total Applications Received	112
Total Approved Grant Funding	€5,773,590
Total Paid Grant Funding	€3,265,192

Rural Regeneration Project Progress	Funding
Part 8 Process (Sept 2025)	
Works Commenced (Sept 25)	
Ballinacree (Muga)	CLÁR 2024
Athboy Convent Community Centre (CCC) - Tender for roof replacement	CRF 2023
Duleek library retro fit and de-carbonisation project -	MCC
Swift Centre Trim - fit out for cinema screen	MCC
Air sampling & fire strategy - Navan Solistice	MCC
Works Completed (Sept 25)	
Dunshaughlin Offices Façade / Glazing	MCC
Moylagh GAA (Carpark)	CLÁR 2024

Moylagh GAA (Bio-diversity corridor)	CLÁR 2023
Newcastle (Carpark)	CLÁR 2024
Trim Aura (Repairs to Astro Pitches)	MCC

Community Development



Meath Age Friendly

This Christmas, Meath Age Friendly Alliance is organising a special project to bring comfort and joy to residents of older person's care homes across Meath. Many of these residents would truly appreciate small, thoughtful items to make the season brighter. Meath County Council staff members have been asked if they would like to donate items to make an older person in a care home feel included this Christmas.



Co Operation Ireland IPB All Island Pride of Place

The IPB Pride of Place awards took place in The Strand Hotel in Limerick on Friday 7th November. Age well from Summerhill were Runners up in the Age Friendly category.



Public Participation Network

Meath PPN will hold their November Plenary in the Ardboyne Hotel on Thursday, November 27th.

A number of speakers and presentations will be given to attendees, representing community groups from across the county.

Meath PPN membership currently stands at 811.

Knockharley Environmental & Community Projects Grant Scheme

The Knockharley Community Liaison Committee secured approval by Full Council at their October meeting for the supply and installation of a Storage Facility at Kentstown Village Park to the value of €165,000.

Funding recommendations for the Knockharley Environmental & Community Project Scheme 2025 to the value of €60,000 were approved by Full Council at their November meeting. All 9 applicants have been notified of the outcome and 6 offer letters for funding have issued.

Healthy Meath

The Meath LCDC Health and Wellbeing Subgroup meeting took place on November 4th. The Healthy Ireland Programme Fund has been extended into 2026; new targets have been set. However, the outcomes and outputs remain the same, and planning is underway for the 2026 workplan.

3000 CommUnity Connect Wellbeing Maps for Meath have are being distributed throughout the county, and 2 CommUnity Connect workshops are scheduled for December in Wilkinstown and Bettystown.



Pride of Place

7 Pride of Place Awards Nights were held in October/November. 123 Awards were presented at Municipal District level and a further 19 were presented at the County Awards in The Ardboyne Hotel. 141 groups took part in the initiative.

Meath Local Community Development Committee

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

The November meeting of the LCDC will take place on 21st November 2025.

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

The November meeting of the LAG will take place on Friday, 21st November 2025.

Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP)

Meath Local Community Safety Partnership Induction took place on the 18th of November, and the 1st meeting of the Meath Local Community Safety Partnership will take place in December.

Meath Community Safety Partnership Staff were delighted to attend the Launch of a Stay Safe Campaign in Trim on the 24th of October an initiative developed by The Community Engagement Garda Edel Dugdale and Prosper Meath Trim service users.

The initiative is aimed at having a safe space for persons with a disability to go if they are worried or require assistance, while maintaining an independent life within their community.

The stickers will be placed in shop windows around Trim town to highlight a place for safety for service users.



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: **159**

Customer Service Cases Logged 2025:

Number of Customer cases assigned/in progress/still active	**23**
Number of Customer cases closed	**406**

Figures

UKR	**720**
IP	**976**

Events

Video recording and production for the Mis/Dis/Mal information campaign was completed in October. The video premiered at the Public Participation Network meeting on 16th October 2025. Since then, the video has been divided into a series of 10 shorter clips, which will be released across Meath County Council's social media channels (Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram) every Tuesday, beginning on 4th of November.

The videos have had a good reach through the social media channels. As of 4pm on Wednesday, 12th of November, the first video had accumulated over 10,650 views. Approximately 52% of Facebook the

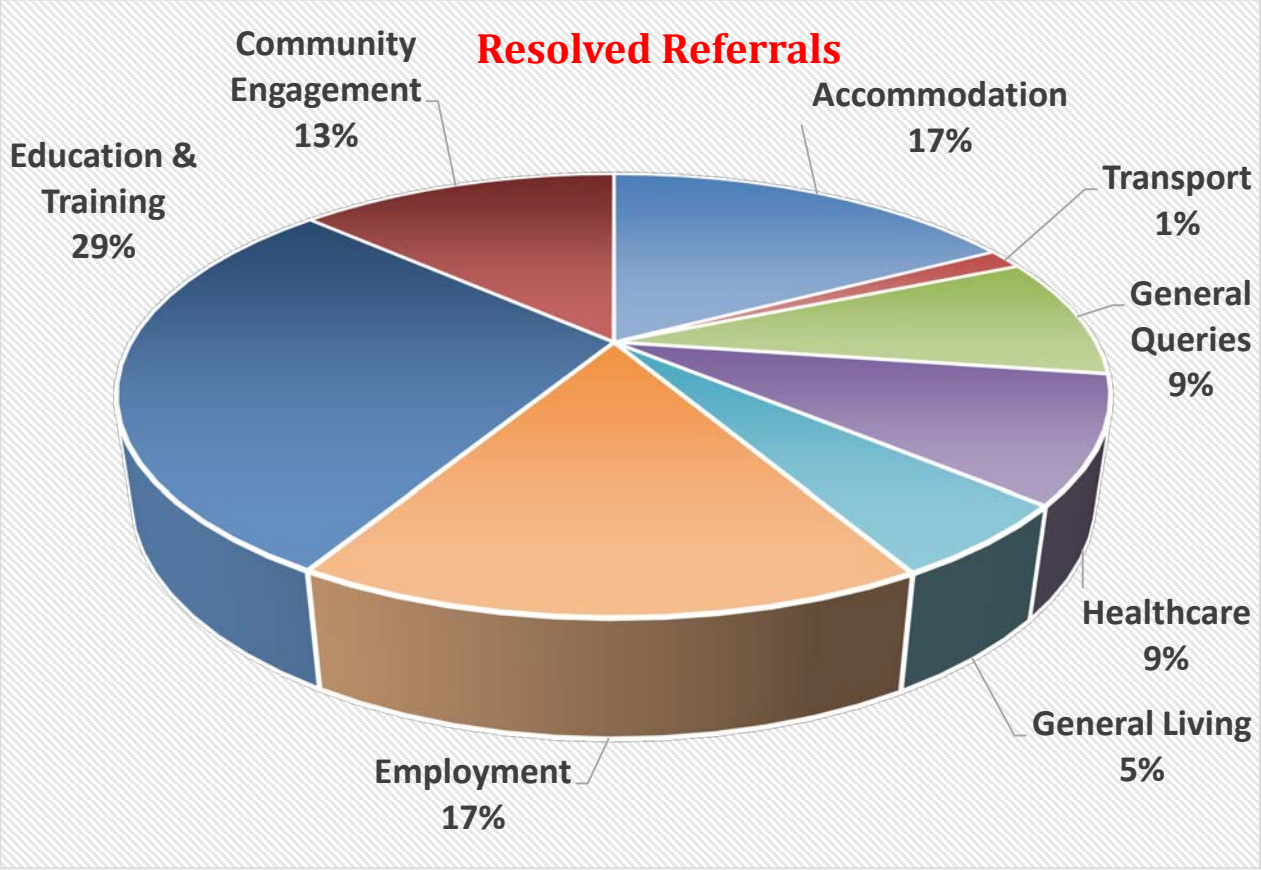
comments were positive. On the second video, approximately 70% of the comments were positive, with the video being viewed over 3,850 times.

The tour of the Father's Day Exhibition has been completed. The exhibition was showcased at the Integration Support Worker's (ISW) Wellness & Care Conference in Limerick, and has been sent to Communications for consideration for the LAMA awards. Thanks is extended from the LAIT to the library service for facilitating the Father's Day Exhibition. The photograph boards have been gifted to exhibition's participants.

There are 120 new arrivals in Gormanston Park. Over 50 Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection (BoTP) attended the October clinic. It was raised at the Integration Support Coordinator's conference, that shortening of the time BoTPs will be accommodated in Designated Accommodation Centres (DAC) will result in a higher volume of accommodation queries.

The role of the ISWs is currently transitioning from signposting to coordinating information sessions for IPs and BoTPs, in collaboration with agencies including Meath Partnership.

The graph below represents the cumulative breakdown of interactions (429 logged [406 closed]) 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.



Mis/Dis/Mal Information Video Campaign

The video campaign developed through the Community Integration Forum has been published to the Councils social media channels. Each video is available to view here.

Video 1: https://www.facebook.com/reel/1372949451053531/
VIdeo 2: https://www.facebook.com/reel/2236058686869535/
Video 3: https://www.facebook.com/reel/1911850516424050/

Viewing figures as at 21/11/25.

Video 1: Integration

Facebook 7.6k
Instagram 1,912
LinkedIn 1,557

Video 2: Employment

Facebook 4,401
Instagram 543
LinkedIn 1,591

Video 3: Education

Facebook: 1,516
Instagram: 277
LinkedIn: 260

Age Friendly Ireland Shared Service



Chief Executive Kieran Kehoe, Cathaoirleach Wayne Harding and Chief Officer of Age Friendly Ireland Catherine McGuigan presented to the 'Europe's Age Friendly Future' summit at the European Parliament on 4th November, organised by MEP Nina Carberry.

Age Friendly Ireland has been nominated by the Department of Health for an international World Health Organization award under the State of Kuwait Health Promotion Foundation's Healthy Ageing Awards.

AFI presented to the Age Friendly Futures Summit, Belfast on 4th November at the request of the Public Health Agency which funds Age Friendly Programmes in the 11 Northern Ireland local authorities.

The National Advisory Group for the Age Friendly Shared Service met on 23rd October.

Work under the Age Friendly Workplace pathfinder project in County Meath is progressing well with the 6th co-creation workshop with employers taking place in early November. The project is on track to launch an Age Friendly Workplace Recognition Programme in 2026 which will support employers to prepare for ageing workforces.

Older People's Councils are feeding into various consultation processes including for the new Community Safety Partnerships, the National Transport Authority's Statement of Strategy and a European Commission consultation on postal services.

Road Safety events for older people took place in Cavan and Mayo. These events will serve as models for wider rollout through Age Friendly Programmes next year.

Age Friendly Ireland held a strategic review day with NGOs in the ageing sector on 9th October, facilitated by independent chairperson Michael Walsh (formerly Chief Executive of Waterford City and County Council). The purpose of the event was to identify collaborative actions to be delivered next year.

Older People's Council members from a number of counties attended tours of The Wayfinding Centre, an initiative of Vision Ireland, in October.

Age Friendly Ireland hosted a visit by Professor Melanie Davern of Melbourne University on 31st October in the Thrive Centre where she shared information about the Australian Urban Observatory and their indicators for the 'liveability' of communities.

The 2025 National Age Friendly Recognition and Achievement Awards, hosted by Galway City and County Councils and MCed by RTÉ's Marty Whelan, were held in the Galmont Hotel, Galway on 23rd

October. Innovative projects tackling energy poverty for older people in Cork plus transforming a historic former convent into age friendly homes in Waterford were among this year's winners. These annual Age Friendly Awards celebrate excellence across eight categories, each aligned with World Health Organization (WHO) Age Friendly themes.

This year Iarnród Éireann received the Judge's Special Recognition Award, acknowledging its leadership in expanding the Age Friendly Train Stations Programme, promoting accessibility and inclusion and setting a benchmark for Age Friendly transport in Ireland. The Award was accepted by the new CEO of Iarnród Éireann, Mary Considine.

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. At a national level in the first three quarters of 2025 Health Age Friendly Homes received 6,374 referrals and 9,754 visits were completed of these 5,653 were initial assessments. In County Meath for the period January to October 2025 the total number of initial assessments was 352 and the total number of additional visits was 163.

The table below outlines the number of Programme Participants we have helped and the supports we have offered to older people in Meath from Jan. 2025- Oct. 2025:

Referrals	331
Total Initial Assessments (Jan. 2025- Oct. 2025)	352
Total Additional Visits (Jan. 2025- Oct. 2025)	163
Total Visits Overall (Jan. 2025- Oct. 2025)	**515**
Total No. Participants Awaiting a Visit	86
Total Supports Offered (Jan. 2025 – Oct. 2025) Medical/Health; Housing; Assistive Technology; Community; Finance and Energy/Climate	1,429



Meath win the National Age Friendly Transport Award at the National Awards Ceremony in Galway



Age Friendly Ambassadors Francis Brennan and Sandy Kelly at the National Age Friendly Awards in Galway

Planning



1. **Planning Applications (Section 34)**

1369 planning applications were lodged in the period 01.01.2025 to 31.10.2025.

This is compared to 1334 in the same period in 2024.

84.44% of the applications received in 2025 have been via the online portal -ePlan.

2. **Commencement Notices**

Six-month survey of **multi development** units:

- Total number of units completed in the past six months is 1,097
- The number of units currently under construction is 2,265
- The number of units which we have received a commencement notice but have not yet commenced is 1,005.

One commencement notice has been lodged in relation to solar farms for the period 01.01.2025 to 30.09.2025

3. **Development Contributions (Section 48)**

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

Receipt Period:	**Jan - Oct 2025**
Total Receipts	€ 4,319,392
Recoupments received	€ 7,290,808

Total Received	**€ 11,610,200**

The collection figures shown above are **inclusive** of:

- Uisce Eireann receipts €38,748 and
- Irish Rail receipts for S49 Clonsilla to Dunboyne Rail €212,408.

The total collected (receipts plus recoupments received) in the same period in 2024 was €15,075,157.

Target Collection Jan - Dec 2025: € 8,000,000

Actual Collected Jan – Oct 2025: € 11,610,200

% collected : 145%

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

257 Planning Enforcement complaints received since 01/01/2025
129 new planning enforcement cases were opened from 1.01.2025 to 31/10/2025

New Cases to be Investigated	4
Warning Letters	239
Enforcement Notices	20
Referred for Legal Proceedings	5
Closed	89
Court Attendances* This number does not include cases for Judicial Review or Meath County Council as Notice party	48*

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

5. **Heritage & Biodiversity**

Community Monuments Fund 2025:

Recoupment submitted to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for projects (4 in total) funded by Community Monuments Fund 2025.

Kells Printworks Project:

Commissioning Phase of Kells Printing Work is continuing with restoration of wood furniture, sourcing and securing additional furniture (drawers, draying racks and archival chests).

Irish Walled Town Network:

Athboy: Conservation Management Plan for Athboy Town Walls completed.

Trim: Conservation works on Trim Town Walls (Section B) at Finegan's Way substantially complete.

Navan: Consultants engaged to undertake a feasibility study and design for the creation of open-air interpretative space and pocket pack at Navan Town Wall, Abbey Road, Navan in accordance with the Irish Walled Town Network Event and Interpretation Fund 2025.

Meath Biodiversity Plan: The Meath Biodiversity Action Plan 2025-2030 will be launched on the 16th December 2025.

Climate Action and Environment



Climate Action

District Heating Feasibility Study Project – Duleek – Drogheda

- Data collection and key stakeholder engagement in progress – report due in December / Early January.
- Route and alternatives being considered in consultation with Louth County Council.

URBACT – In4Green

Meath County Council continues to participate in the URBACT In4Green Project. The In4Green Project is a collaborative network of industrial cities across Europe, aiming to drive transformative changes towards greener, more sustainable industrial practices. Navan is one of nine partner cities under the URBACT In4Green Project.

URBACT Co-funded by the European Union Interreg

The aim of the project is to create an integrated action plan (IAP) in partnership with an URBACT Local Group (ULG), comprised of local businesses, community groups, elected representatives and MCC Departments.



At present, the draft IAP has been submitted for expert review and comment. The next ULG meeting is scheduled for the 2nd of December 2025.

Community Climate Action Programme Fund

Update on the progress and next steps of the Community Climate Action Programme Fund, which aims to foster low-carbon, sustainable communities within the County are detailed below.

The fund totals €811,000 for various project scales under the theme 'Building Low Carbon Communities'.

Phase 1 Summary

Phase 1 of the programme has seen significant progress, with 15 projects completed and 11 currently in progress. An additional project for Bettystown Tidy Towns was approved from the reserve list and is now also in progress.

A summary of the financial status is provided in the table below:

Total Fund Amount	Total Amount Paid Out to Date	Remaining Funds for Pay-out
€811,000	€619,163.89	€191,836.11

Phase 2 Key Dates and Milestones

Phase 2 applications are open, and promotional information sessions are ongoing, with over 70 groups having already expressed interest. Key dates for the application, evaluation, and implementation stages are detailed in the following table:

Milestone	Date
Applications Open	13th October 2025
Applications Close	12 noon on Tuesday, 9th December 2025
Evaluation Period (MCC and DCEE)	15th December 2025 – 31st March 2026
Applicant Notification (Successful/Unsuccessful)	April 2026
Signed MOU's, Deliverables, and Milestones in Place	By 26th April 2026
Project Start Date	27th April 2026
Project Completion Deadline	27th October 2027 (18-month period)

Community groups interested in applying for the fund can seek advice from the Community Climate Action Officer by emailing **climateactionmcc@meathcoco.ie**

Sustainable Energy Communities (SEC)

33 Sustainable Energy Communities have been formed within County Meath.

10 Sustainable Energy Communities have completed Energy Management Plans, these are now available on Meath County Councils website at the following link [Sustainable Energy Communities | Meath.ie]

SECs forming – Meath GAA and Navan

Energy Management Plans Progressing – Slane and Ratoath

Climate Action and SDG Month 2025



During Climate Action and SDG Month, the Climate Action Section successfully hosted over 37 events, focusing on community engagement and sustainable practices. These events were offered to the public free of charge and included a diverse range of activities:

- Energy and information clinics
- EcoChic clothes swaps and craft skills workshops
- Furniture repair café
- Growing food sessions
- Green business networking event
- Beach cleans
- Batch cooking demonstrations
- Library events with schools

Information regarding the events was shared through multiple channels, including:

- Meath.ie webpage
- An Taisce Climate Action Week webpage
- Social media platforms
- The Meath Chronicle Newspaper

- Dedicated information emails to Elected Members and the Public Participation Network (PPN)

Event Impact: Data and Analysis

The 37 events demonstrated significant community engagement and substantial environmental conservation.

Thematic Breakdown of Events

Circularity	Climate Education	Energy	Water	Sustainable Food
15	9	4	4	3

Key Metrics and Environmental Savings

Metric	Quantity	Unit
Attendees	1,152	People
Items Circulated	649	Items

Environmental Savings

Metric	Quantity
CO_2 Conserved	3,500 kg
Plastic Conserved	275 kg
Water Conserved	184,672 Litres

These information highlights the tangible, positive impact of community-focused sustainability events. The successful circulation of items directly reduces waste and the demand for new production, while the diverse range of educational activities builds crucial awareness for future sustainable practices. The success of this Climate Action and SDG Month clearly shows strong community buy-in and a model for effective local environmental action.

The Climate Action Section extends its sincere gratitude to all individuals who assisted in making this month's events successful and to all participants.

The Toy Library

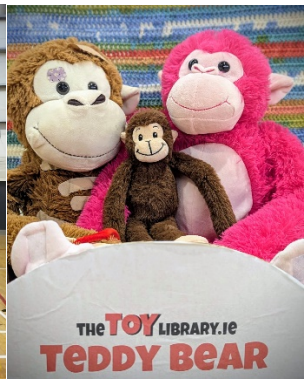
Our Third Toy Library event took place in Trim GAA Club on Saturday 20th September. Thanks to the community coming together, this was another successful event, and we supported new milestones for The Toy Library: it was the first time The Toy Library surpassed 200kg of plastic recirculated, as well as the first time they had more than 300 toys recirculated in a single event! A powerful reminder of what local collaboration can achieve.
Here are the highlights from the day:

- 80 attendees took part
- 334 toys recirculated, given a new life
- 245.3kg of toys diverted from waste
- 220.8kg of plastic saved
- 1,324.6kg of CO_2 saved, equal to 5,519km of driving emissions avoided
- €5,213 worth of toys recirculated back into the community

The Toy Library is a free event designed to promote toy reuse, reduce waste, and encourage Circular Economy principles in communities.
Our final event will take place on 6th December 2025 from 11am-2pm in Simonstown GFC, Proudstown Road, Navan, Co. Meath and will be Christmas Themed.







IKC3 Project

Over 50 participants from a variety of organisations and community groups within County Meath are taking part in a short course, which is designed to equip communities with the skills necessary to address climate change challenges. The project aims to provide participants with the skills and tolls to:

- Recognises the systemic nature of climate change

- Demonstrate why climate, biodiversity and social justice need to be integrated in decision making
- Practice using systems thinking tools to identify local climate challenges
- Reflect on climate, biodiversity and social challenges in your local context

The final month of the project will cover Communicating and Creating Climate Action and Action Plans.



Púca Festival 2025 – The Spirit of Sustainability

Meath County Council's Climate Action Section formally co-hosted the Spirit of Sustainability Tent at the recent Púca Festival, offering numerous demonstrations and resources to attendees. Over the weekend, events provided practical information on utilising Home Energy Saving Kits and distributed complimentary composting caddy bins and related items.

Awareness Initiatives included a diverse programme of events and activities:

- SDGs and You with Climate Ambassador Benny Ennis.
- Weaving Stories with Simon O'Cronin.
- Sustainable Festivals with Shirley Gallagher.
- Beware The Curse of Plastic Fleece with Lorna McCormack.
- The innovative "Future Tapestry" virtual reality experience.

- Interactive Energy Power Bikes.
- Trim Returnable Cup promoted the returnable cup initiative which is available from local coffee shops all year round

The Climate Action Section extends its sincere gratitude to all attendees and the Púca Festival Organisers for their invaluable assistance in facilitating the successful Spirit of Sustainability Initiative.

Samhain Festival 2025



Meath County Council's Climate Action Section was pleased to participate in the recent Samhain Festival held in Kells. The Section engaged with festival attendees to highlight the importance of environmental sustainability, focusing specifically on practical initiatives for reducing household food waste and improving domestic energy efficiency.

Key engagements included informational sessions on composting, with complimentary food waste caddy bins distributed to attendees. The team also promoted the benefits of the Home Energy Saving Kits, which are available for public loan from all local libraries.

Festival programming complemented these efforts through a dedicated Samhain Symposium focused on food-related topics and ongoing promotions throughout the festival duration that provided actionable advice on avoiding food waste.

The Climate Action Section extends its sincere gratitude to all who attended these sessions and thanks the Samhain Festival Organisers for their collaboration and support in facilitating this event.

Energy

Public Lighting

- PLEEP project as commenced June. Approx. 15% completed to date. December 2026 is still targeting completion date.

Fleet

- Temporary 7kW EV Chargers installed in Blackwater Park and Nobber Depots.
- Tender for the supply and installation of chargers for seven depots is currently up on e-tenders, closing on 30th Sept.

- Radiators in Dunshaughlin and Kells Depots are upgraded to programable eco models over the summer.

Environment Awareness

Food Waste Prevention



Passionate food waste prevention advocate and chef, Catherine Fulvio, visited Meath and provided helpful hints and tips on how to plan, shop, batch-cook, store and use the food you buy to ensure you get the most for your money, whilst preventing waste and protecting our environment.

Every household in Ireland wastes up to €700 each year, on food that they purchase and waste. The methods demonstrated by Catherine will assist households to reduce this figure.

Leaf Mould Project



Craig Benton, Master Composter, visited twenty-two locations in Meath, setting up Leaf Mould Composting Schemes for fallen leaves. The schemes will be managed by local community volunteers and provide a sustainable solution for fallen leaves, whilst producing valuable compost for community landscaping projects **Reduce Reuse Recycle Pocket Booklet**



Meath County Council has produced a new Pocket booklet with information for householders on everything you need to know to manage your waste in a cost-efficient and sustainable manner. This handy booklet, in Irish and English, provides up-to-date information and advice on Waste Prevention, Recycling, Food Waste, End-of-Life Vehicles, Bring Banks, Waste Electrical Equipment, Recycling Centers, Green Waste, Home Composting, Backyard Burning and Unauthorized Waste Collectors. It is available in hard copy and online.

Libraries Services



Libraries-Skills for Life

Meath Library Service was delighted to welcome Dr. Harry Barry to a Skills for Life event in Trim Library & Swift Cultural Centre on Tuesday November11th.

A leading voice in mental health, Dr. Barry blends decades of medical experience with a deep focus on emotional wellbeing. Tuesday evening's talk 'Emotional Resilience Skills for Life' offered practical advice about how to build key personal, social and life skills into everyday life.

The interactive talk allowed for lots of audience engagement. Dr. Barry dealt with many queries and concerns, offering practical advice, during the Question & Answer segment.

Dr. Barry's talk brings to a close the busy Autumn/Winter Skills for Life Programme of events with Meath Library Service. Since August members of the public have had access to many workshops and advice sessions with experts including Dr David Coleman and John Lonergan. Audiences gained invaluable insight, skills and inspiring advice on a range of topics from financial, health, digital and media literacy to sustainability and job skills.



Libraries-Science Week

In 2025 Science Week took place from the **9th to 16th of November**. During Science Week, students and the public were invited to take part in captivating science talks and interactive workshops aimed at igniting curiosity.

Programme highlights included the Planetarium Dome experience courtesy of the Armagh Observatory and Planetarium. Students visiting Trim Library embarked on an immersive journey through the universe in the portable planetarium and explored the night sky and the planets.

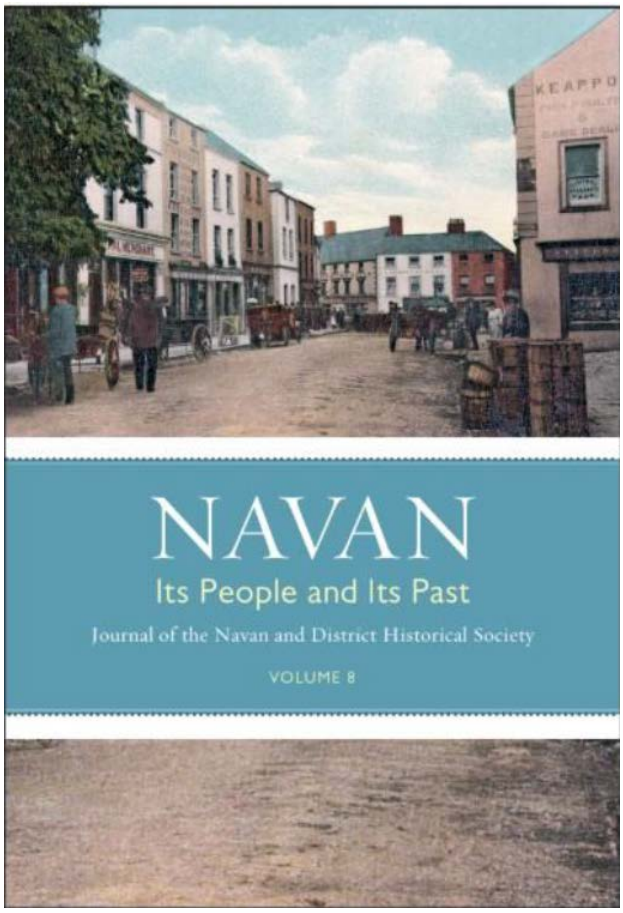




Local Studies

The launch of the ever-industrious Navan & District Historical Society's most recent journal took place at Navan Library on November 27th. This journal is issue no. 8 of a series which began back in

2011, and which has become one of the most anticipated publications in County Meath. Local Studies Librarian Tom French launched the journal.



Archives

A representative of the Gilson trust, Sue Russell, deposited fifteen registration books from Gilson National School in Oldcastle. The books date from 1833 to 1976, and as such they represent some of the oldest deposits of National School registration books in the Archive's current collection. The registration books provide details of the pupil's name, date of birth, religious affiliation, residence, occupation of parent or guardian and details of the last national school attended.



Creative Ireland – Lullaby Leaf Sensory Symposium

Continued professional development has been an integral part of the Lullaby Leaf project, recognising the need to skill share and build community in the emerging area of children's theatre for young children with complex and profound additional needs. As such, Ceol Connected designed a one-day event tailored to the needs of artists, educators and others interested in learning skills and gaining experience in sensory arts for children with complex needs. The Lullaby Leaf Sensory Symposium took place at Garage Theatre in Monaghan town on October 21st, 2025.

This professional development initiative aimed to enhance the skills and experience of participants and foster a supportive network dedicated to creating meaningful arts experiences. At the symposium, thirty artists, educators and sectoral partners from Meath, Cavan and Monaghan had the opportunity to experience the live Lullaby Leaf performance in front of its intended audience and their carers. Attendees also participated in discussions, workshops and reflections. They experienced a range of effective sensory activities and meaningful approaches that can be incorporated into their own practices.

Originally developed in 2019 during Ceol Connected's theatre company-in-residence at Draíocht, since 2023 Lullaby Leaf has been supported by Meath County Council, Cavan County Council and Monaghan County Council with additional support from Music Generation Cavan/Monaghan.



Image of live performance from Symposium ©Rory Geary

Finance



Housing Loans:

LAHL Data 1st January 2025 to 14th November 2025		
Applications Received	39	2025 applications
Fully Completed Applications	29	2025 applications
Awaiting Recommendation from Housing Agency (Underwriters)	0	
Invalid Applications	8	2025 applications
Awaiting Further Information from applicants	2	2025 applications
Approved by Credit Committee	21	20 relate to 2025, 1 relates to 2024
Refused by Credit Committee	6	2025 applications
Awaiting Decision by Credit Committee	0	
Active Approvals	8.57	6.83 relate to 2025, 0.7 relate to 2024, 1.04 relate to 2023
Expired	23	8 relate to 2025, 15 relate to 2024
Drawdown by Customer	14.26	6.17 relate to 2025, 5.3 relate to 2024, 2.79 relate to 2023

Figures above related to activity from 1st January 2025 to 14th November 2025 and in some cases relate to applications from 2023 and 2024. Previously expired loans may be extended in some cases.