comhairle chontae na mí
meath county council

Monthly Management Report for Elected Members

June 2026

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

Oireachtas Members Briefed on Council Priorities and Future Plans

Meath County Council was pleased to host a briefing session with Oireachtas Members representing the County on Monday, 18 May, attended by senior management and An Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Wayne Harding.

The briefing provided an overview of the Council's current activities, with a particular focus on key priorities and strategic initiatives underway across the county. It also outlined planned projects and future developments aimed at supporting sustainable growth and enhancing service delivery. The session facilitated positive and constructive engagement, offering an opportunity to strengthen collaboration between the Council and national representatives in addressing the needs of communities throughout Meath and supporting the county's continued development.

Féile Chorúil agus Uirlise na hUaimhe

Tharla an fhéile Chorúil agus Uirlise na hUiamhe san Eaglais Chaitliceach Naomh Mhuire ar an Domhnach 10 Bealtaine. Thug Comhairle Contae na Mí urraíocht don fhéile seo trí fhorbairt gheilleagrach. Spreagrann ócáidi cosúil leis seo do dhaoine teacht isteach sa bhaile agus tacaiocht a thabhairt do ghnóthaí, fáilteachas agus seirbhísí. Cruthaíonn na himeachtaí seo spásanna sábhailte agus fáilteach do dhaoine a úsáideann an Ghaeilge go poiblí. Bhí TG4 i lathair ar an lá , agus rinne an Oifigeach Gaeilge agallamh gearr leo ar thábhacht an fháile do ghnólachtaí áitiúla agus do shaol an phobail.

Navan Choral and Instrumental Festival

The Navan Choral and Instrumental Festival took place in St. Mary's Catholic Church Navan on Sunday May 10th. Meath County Council sponsored this festival through economic development. Events such as these encourage people to come into the town and give support to businesses, services and hospitality. These events create safe and welcoming spaces for people who use Irish publicly. TG4 was present on the day, and the Irish Language Officer did a short interview with them on the importance of the festival for local businesses and community life.

Municipal District Awards Celebrate Community Contribution

Meath County Council was proud to host the 2026 Municipal District Awards on Thursday, 7 May, at Buvinda House, Navan.

The event recognised 24 award recipients from across the county's six Municipal Districts, honouring individuals and groups who have made significant contributions to community life. The awards highlighted achievements across a wide range of areas, including volunteering, community leadership, sporting excellence, and inclusion. In his address, An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Wayne Harding, commended the recipients for their commitment and the positive impact of their work across County Meath. Director of Services, Des Foley, who acted as Master of Ceremonies, also acknowledged the diversity and quality of contributions recognised.

The Municipal District Awards continue to provide an important platform for acknowledging the dedication and efforts of those who enhance and support their local communities.

Community Leadership Reception Honours GAA, LGFA and Camogie Volunteers

Meath County Council hosted a Community Leadership Reception at Buvinda House, Navan, on Monday, 11 May, recognising the significant contribution of volunteers across GAA, LGFA and camogie clubs throughout the county.

The event provided an opportunity to acknowledge the dedication, commitment and community leadership demonstrated by volunteers in supporting grassroots sport and strengthening local communities. An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Wayne Harding, paid tribute to their ongoing efforts and the vital role they play in sustaining sporting activity at local level.

The reception also featured a panel discussion with notable figures from the GAA community, including former All-Ireland winning captains and experienced management, who reflected on the importance of strong club structures and grassroots participation in underpinning success at county and national level.

Local Lens Podcast Highlights Youth Engagement and Democratic Participation

In early May, Meath County Council released the latest episode of its *Local Lens* podcast, titled *"The Youth Who Help Shape Meath: Voices of the Future,"* focusing on the importance of engaging young people in the democratic process.

The episode features Electoral Commission CEO Art O'Leary, who discusses the role of clear and accessible communication in reaching younger audiences, particularly through digital platforms. It also includes contributions from members of the Council's Register of Electors team, Sheila Sheridan and Sharon McElroy, who provide insight into the ongoing work involved in maintaining the electoral register and emphasise the importance of voter registration.

Showcasing Meath's Natural Heritage During National Biodiversity Week

Meath County Council supported a comprehensive programme of events across the county as part of National Biodiversity Week, which took place from 15–24 May.

With funding from the Heritage Council, the Council organised and co-facilitated a range of activities highlighting the rich biodiversity found across Meath's coastal, river, woodland, farmland, wetland and urban environments.

The programme offered a variety of opportunities for public engagement, including guided walks and field trips focused on native species such as bats, birds and bumblebees. These events also provided participants with the opportunity to explore the diverse habitats that characterise the county, from hedgerows and sand dunes to boglands and other natural landscapes.

National Biodiversity Week formed part of the Council's ongoing commitment to promoting awareness, protection and appreciation of Meath's natural heritage.

National Bike Week Promoted Active Travel Across Meath

Meath County Council supported National Bike Week, which ran from 9–17 May, delivering a countywide programme aimed at encouraging active travel and promoting cycling.

The initiative featured a strong schedule of free, family-friendly activities designed to engage communities and staff, while highlighting the benefits of cycling for health, wellbeing and sustainable transport.

Across the week, the programme provided opportunities for participants to explore local cycling routes, build confidence on bikes and take part in inclusive, community-focused activities. Additional supports, including opportunities for bike checks and minor repairs, were also made available to encourage continued participation.

National Bike Week formed part of the Council's wider commitment to promoting active lifestyles and sustainable mobility across County Meath.

Blue Flag and Green Coast Awards Retained at Bettystown and Mornington

Meath County Council marked the raising of Blue Flag and Green Coast flags at Bettystown and Mornington in May, recognising the continued high standards maintained at these coastal locations.

Bettystown beach was once again awarded Blue Flag status, while both Bettystown and Mornington retained their Green Coast Awards. These accolades reflect the consistent efforts to uphold environmental quality, safety, and accessibility at the county's beaches.

The awards represent a significant national achievement, with a limited number of beaches across Ireland receiving these designations. The dual recognition highlights the quality of Meath's coastal amenities and their importance as valuable recreational and environmental assets.

The achievement reflects the collaborative efforts of Elected Members, local volunteers and Council staff, whose ongoing work ensures these beaches continue to meet the highest standards.

Over 1.7 Million Visitors to Meath Heritage Sites in 2024–2025 Showcases Meath as Heritage Capital of Ireland

Recent figures from the Office of Public Works (OPW) confirmed that Meath's heritage sites attracted approximately 1.76 million visitors across 2024 and 2025, reinforcing the county's position as a leading heritage destination.

Key attractions included the Battle of the Boyne at Oldbridge Estate, the Hill of Tara, Brú na Bóinne, and Trim Castle, all of which recorded strong visitor numbers over the two-year period.

The figures highlight the continued strength of Meath's heritage offering and growing interest in heritage-led tourism. Meath County Council has continued to prioritise the development and promotion of these assets, supporting sustainable tourism growth and enhancing the visitor experience across the county.

Amber Thursday Campaign Promotes Safety Ahead of June Bank Holiday

Meath County Council, in partnership with An Garda Síochána, launched the 2026 Amber Thursday campaign in advance of the June Bank Holiday Weekend, focusing on road, fire and water safety.

The campaign highlighted the increased risks associated with busy holiday periods, including higher traffic volumes and increased outdoor and water-based activity. A strong emphasis was placed on awareness, prevention and responsible behaviour during the fine weather.

The initiative was formally launched at Navan Fire Station, with representatives from Meath County Council, Fire and Rescue Service, and An Garda Síochána in attendance, reflecting the coordinated, interagency approach to public safety.

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	Q4 2026	Q3 2027
Carrick Street Regeneration, Kells	47	Q1 2027	Q1 2029
Planning & Design Total	**69**		
TENDER FOR CONSTRUCTION			
Church View, Rathmolyon	22	Q3 2026	Q1 2028
Haggard Street, Trim	4	Q3 2026	Q3 2027
Total Tender for Construction	**28**		
CONSTRUCTION STAGE			
Newtown, Drumconrath	1	Q3 2024	Q2 2026
Abbott Mews, Abbeylands, Navan	6	Q3 2025	Q1 2027

Blackhill Crescent, Donacarney	2	Q1 2026	Q1 2027
Construction Total	51		
OVERALL TOTAL	**181**		
COMPLETED UNITS			**Completion Date**
Rathaldron Court, Navan	**27**		**24/02/2026**
Pitcher Lane, Kells	**5**		**27/04/2026**
Brews Hill, Navan	**12**		**20/06/2026**

Meath County Council Approved Capital Assistance Scheme, Part V & Turnkey up to 15th May 2026.

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT TYPE	NO. OF UNITS
Ashbourne	Part V	31
Athboy	Part V	4
Ballivor	Part V	2
Bettystown	Part V	4
Drogheda	Part V	26
Dunboyne	Part V	9
Dunshaughlin	Part V	38
Enfield	Part V	6
Kells	Part V	12
Kilcock	Part V	3
Longwood	Part V	12
Navan	Part V	76
Oldcastle	Part V	13
Rathmolyon	Part V	9
Ratoath	Part V	39
Summerhill	Part V	13
Trim	Part V	33
Kells	Turnkey	8
Navan	Turnkey	62
Navan	CAS	12
Slane	CAS	1
Trim	CAS	2
Oldcastle	CAS	6
Total		**421**

Meath County Council Approved Capital Assistance Scheme, Part V & Turnkey – Delivered as at the 15th May 2026.

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT TYPE	NO. OF UNITS
Ashbourne	Part V	13
Drogheda	Part V	4
Dunshaughlin	Part V	1
Enfield	Part V	20
Kells	Part V	1
Kilcock	Part V	1
Ratoath	Part V	2
Summerhill	Part V	8
Drogheda	Turnkey	30
Total		**80**

Affordable Housing Delivery

Meath County Council currently have two affordable housing schemes open for applications.

- Cherryvalley Rathmolyon – The online portal for these affordable housing units opened for applications on 30th April 2026 at 12 noon, 8 units, assessing applications.
- Bennetstown Dunboyne – 60 units, opened for applications 7th May 2026 12 noon, assessing applications

Upcoming Schemes approved by the Department

- Gilson Avenue Oldcastle - 3 units – Opening for applications 18th June 2026 12 noon.
- The Hollies Ballivor – 2 units – Q2 2026
- The Furrows Ratoath (Approval in principle) – 14 units – Q3 2026
- Brackinrainey Wood Longwood – 4 units – Q3 2026
- Cluain Lionn Grove, Oldcastle 6 units Q4 2026
- Coach, Ashbourne 92 units Q1 2027

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)

The Department has confirmed that €227,734.37 in unpaid claims for works completed in 2025 must be deducted from the 2026 LAAWS allocation. After this deduction, the available funding and current commitments for 2026 are set out below.

Status of LAAWS for 2026		**Funding (90% including VAT)**
LAAWS Funding Grant 90% including VAT		€ 633,608.00
Total completed brought forward from 2025	18	€ 227,734.37
Total No. to date of applications for 2026	94	
Applications awaiting works to date for 2026	48	
Works underway	22	€ 244,123.18
Works completed to date in 2026	21	€ 153,572.51
Remaining funding		**€ 8,177.94**

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

Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme for Older People and People with Disability				
Claim Period	Claim Amount €	Individual Grant	Recouped	
Jan- Feb 26	€504,988.09	77	€504,988.09	Up to End of Feb
Mar April 26	€645,396.27	98	€0.00	
May June 26				
July Aug 26				
Sept Oct 26				
Nov Dec 26				
Total	€1,150,384.36	175	€504,988.09	

498 grants awarded totalling €4,224,689.70

PLUS - Active files ready to issue grant awards: -

For recommendation 19 € 96,320.53

OVERALL TOTAL 517 €4,321,010.23

2026 Combined budget €5,674,071

Local Authority Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme (EERP)

Energy retrofit works on energy occupied and void properties are ongoing. The Department confirmed in November 2025 that local authorities may undertake work up to a maximum value of 65% of their 2025 allocation in 2026, as notified in Circular 05/2025. Meath Co Co's requirements for 2026 were submitted on 19th December 2025 – these requirements were an estimate of 58 dwellings to be completed in 2026. There was also a carry-over from 2025 of 25 dwellings for a total of 83 dwellings for 2026 (both void and occupied). Recent circulars from the Department will necessitate a change in approach to void properties energy retrofits will no longer be carried out on void properties and will only be carried out on occupied properties going forward.

Local Authority Planned Maintenance

320 Stock Condition Surveys have been completed in Meath so far in 2026 (up to 14th April 2026). Information gathered from these surveys has resulted in arranging for replacement of smoke, heat and carbon monoxide alarms in stock houses.

Radon detectors are now being placed in stock houses. Collection of these detectors has commenced, and results are being received. One house so far shows slightly higher than normal readings and this house will have remedial measures carried out as soon as possible.

A contractor has been appointed to carry out retrofit works in 3 houses in Cherryhill Court, Kells – works are expected to commence in the coming weeks.

Tendering for other planned works is ongoing as per below:

- Claremont Estate, Navan – Energy upgrades to include external wall insulation
- Magdalene Court, Kells – Energy upgrades
- Blackwater Park, Enfield – Survey of firestops

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 (54 no.) before they can be re-tenanted, as of 14th April 2026.

	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	4	2	2	6	2
Navan	9	6	11	21	5
Ashbourne	1	0	1	1	1
Laytown/Bettystown	4	0	1	2	3
Ratoath	2	0	1	1	2
Trim	5	2	3	6	4
TOTALS	**25**	**10**	**19**	**37**	**17**

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

Project Name	No. of Units	AHB	Estimated Completion
Bailey Hill, Navan	5	Cluid - CALF	Q4 2026
Dunboyne Heights, Dunboyne	50	Iveagh Trust - CALF	Q1 2027
Frederick Court Ashbourne	26	Tuath - CALF	Q3 2026
An Dreoilin, Block B, Bettystown Town Centre	46	Tuath - CALF	Q4 2026
Oldcastle	5	Saint Vincent de Paul - CAS	Q3 2027
Oldcastle	1	DePaul Housing - CAS	Q3 2026
Slane	1	St. John of Gods	Q4 2026
Tailteann, Navan	12	Meath Women's Refuge - CAS	Q3 2028
St. Loman Street, Trim	2	Saint Vincent de Paul - CAS	Q2 2027
Total Number of Approved Units	**148**		

Homelessness – April 2026

	Single Adults / Couples	Households with Children	Total Households
Placements at 31st March 2026	185 (195 Adults)	85 (119 Adults & 156 Children)	270
Placements at 30th April 2026	181 (190 Adults)	83 (120 Adults & 154 Children)	264

Of the households with children, 73 families are placed in short-term private rented accommodation (house/apartment/B&B) through the Settlement Team's intervention, 10 Families in Family Hubs.

96% bed allocations were availed of by service users

4% beds were available (Kells, Athboy, Navan, 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 Local Authorities will also engage with these Local Authorities. This includes Louth, Fingal, Westmeath & Kildare.

47 Presentations on homelessness were made. This comprised 15 Families.

Reason for EA Presentations	Total Numbers
NTQ	18
Family Circumstance	14
Hospital | Prison | Care	11
Couch Surfing | Cannot Afford	3

Rough Sleeping	1
Other	0
Total	**47**

EA Exit Figures:

- **Families:**
  - 6 Families exited EA in April. This comprised 6 Adults & 10 Children in April.

Reason for EA Family Exit	Total Numbers
MCC Allocation	0
Not availing of Bed	0
Return to Family / Friend	2
HAP	1
Private Rented	0
Other	2
AHB Allocation	1
Total	**6**

- **Singles/Couples:**
  - 37 Singles/Couples exited EA in April.

Reason for EA Singles/Couples Exit	Total Numbers
MCC Allocation	3
Not availing of Bed	8
Return to Family / Friend	1
HAP	0
Private Rented	0
Hospital/Treatment/Prison	1
Terminated	17
Other	3
Declined EA	4
AHB Allocation	0
Total	**37**

Age profile of clients in emergency accommodation on 30/04/2026

Age profile	Clients	0-4	04-11	11-18	18-25	25-40	40-65	Over 65
Families	**120**				**28**	**57**	**35**	**0**
Couples	**154**	**63**	**60**	**31**				
Singles	**174**				**34**	**46**	**84**	**10**
Children	**16**				**5**	**3**	**6**	**2**

Total	**464**	**63**	**60**	**31**	**67**	**106**	**125**	**12**

Homeless HAP Placefinder 01/04/2026 – 30/04/2026

Total	**4**
Exit from Emergency Accommodation	1
Homeless Prevention	3
In Progress	5

Tenant Liaison Team April 2026

Anti-Social Behaviour Investigation	**Complaints**	**Cases**
Frequent serious disturbances	**78**	**41**
Occupancy of dwelling	**87**	**55**
Garden upkeep/maintenance	**74**	**57**
Dog/Horse/Pet Control	**5**	**2**
Total	**244**	**155**

ASB Investigations on going at (month end)	**109**
ASB Investigations completed (month end)	**47**
Number of Pre Tenancies completed in April 2026	**15**
Abandonments for April 2026	**3**
Houses taken back into stock for April 2026	**7**

Warnings Issued 2026

Warnings	**January 2026**	**February 2026**	**March 2026**	April 2026
Verbal	**1**	**6**	**1**	3
Written	**2**	**4**	**0**	5
2nd Written	**1**	**0**	**1**	0
Statutory	**0**	**0**	**0**	0

Advisory	**34**	**0**	**0**	
Total	**38**	**10**	**2**	**8**

Tenant Incremental Purchase Scheme						
2026	Applications Received	Invalid	Offers Issued	Offers Accepted	File to Solicitor	Sale Closed
January	6	0	1	2	2	2
February	6	0	3	2	2	1
March	1	0	2	1	0	3
April	4	0	3	1	1	0
May						
June						
July						
August						
September						
October						
November						
December						
Total	17	0	9	6	5	6

Standards in Rented Accommodation

1416 Inspections were carried out on rented properties in Meath up to the end of April 2026. Of this figure, 649 were first inspections and 81 properties passed after their first inspection. 86 Improvement Notices and 16 Prohibition Notices were served in YTD. 22 Improvement Notices have been withdrawn in YTD as the matters referred to in the Improvement Notices were remedied.

Subsequent follow up inspections will be carried out to ensure compliance.

2026	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Inspection	499	324	325	268									1416
1st Inspect	222	154	142	131									649
Passed 1st	19	28	21	13									81
Improve N	21	30	27	8									86
Withdrawn	2	6	8	6									22
Prohibition	5	8	3	0									16

Social Housing Supports - for period 1st April 2026 – 30th April 2026

- 168 applications received for Social Housing
- 65 applications approved onto the Social Housing List
- 27 applications unsuccessful

Outlined below is the number of households that have had their accommodation needs met by Meath County Council in the period 1st April 2026 – 30th April 2026.

Allocations/Housing Supports	**Number**
MCC Direct Allocations	35
Transfers	4
Approved Housing Bodies	2
Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)	4
Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)	23
Long Term Leasing (inc Private MTR)	1
Mortgage To Rent (Approved Housing Bodies)	0
TOTAL	**69**

Transportation Services

1. National Roads

Funding Source	**TII**
Grant Allocation	**8,816,244**
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	High Court Hearing took place on the 15th and 16th of January 2026. A decision on the Judicial Review came out on the 28th of April dismissing the challenge from Mr John Rogers. On May the 11th Mr Rogers stated his intent to apply for leave to appeal. A hearing date for the leave to appeal application will take place at 2pm on the 23rd of June 2026.
N52 Grange to Clontail - €2.0M	Land & Property Valuer- Avison Young Appointed. Follow-up ecology walkover surveys ongoing from May - July. Final tender documents for Archaeology services contract drafted and under review. Land compensation agreements ongoing – 1 case now agreed.
N52MH_034.0 Balrath Cross RSIS	Design report currently being progressed.

N51 Tullaghanstown Bog Rampart Scheme	Phases 1 to 4 – tender documents issued.
N51 Pavement Schemes	Proposals being prepared for submission to TII.

2. Non - National Roads

Funding Source	**DoT**
Grant Allocation	**€26,862,000**

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

Grant Allocation	€14,672,500 Restoration Improvement €3,467,000 Restoration Maintenance €750,000 Strategic Rehabilitation Regional Road (Former National Road)
Own Resources (Local tertiary roads)	€5,278,630 Local Tertiaries €450,000 Community Involvement Scheme €327,369 Restoration Maintenance
Total	**€6,055,999**
Scheme	Update
Phase 1 (Recycle, Overlay & Surface Dressing):	8 schemes complete
Phase 2 (Surface Dressing):	Works will commence on 2nd June
Phase 3 (Overlay & Surface Dressing):	4 schemes complete
Phase 4 (Wearing Course):	Works commenced on 25th May
Community Involvement Scheme	Programme selection complete – offer letters issued
Local Tertiaries	Programme selection complete

Local Improvement Schemes	Programme selection complete

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

Grant Allocation	**€1,225,000**
Scheme	Update
R156/R125 Mullagh Cross	Detail design and discussions re land acquisition progressing. Draft tender documents for construction contract expected Q3 2026.
R155 Curragha	Tender for Consultants published for scheme which includes potential realignment of R155 south of village and traffic calming through the village. Tenders due back 4th June.
R132 Julianstown Traffic Relief Scheme	Option Selection process progressing. Public Consultation re Option Selection expected July 2026.
L6210 Newtownmoyaghy	Further Information request received from An Coimisiún Pleanála and required reports issued 14th May 2026.
R108 / L16111 Bey More Junction safety scheme	Emerging preferred Option identified and initial engagement underway with directly affected landowners.

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

Grant Allocation	**€500,000**
Scheme	**Update**
L-5018 Ballybin	Proposals currently being finalised and landowner agreement being negotiated.
L-16111 Platin (Mounthanover Junction)	Works at L16111/L56131 Junction (Mounthanover Junction) substantially complete.

R-152 Platin	Location is being reviewed and options being considered
R-147 Tara (Ross X)	Location is being reviewed and options being considered
R-147 Philpotstown (Garlow X)	Location is being reviewed and options being considered
R-148 Kilmurry	Location is being reviewed and options being considered
R-152 Duleek at Prioryland	Location is being reviewed and options being considered
R-154 Piercetown	Location is being reviewed and options being considered
R-162 Lisnagrow	Location is being reviewed and options being considered
R-159 Rathmolyon	Location is being reviewed and options being considered
R-152 Riverstown	Location is being reviewed and options being considered
R-152 Keenoge	Location is being reviewed and options being considered
R-159 Jordanstown	Location is being reviewed and options being considered
R-161 Balgill	Location is being reviewed and options being considered
R-161 Manorland	Location is being reviewed and options being considered
L-1006 Cabinhill	Location is being reviewed and options being considered

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

Grant Allocation	**€742,000**
Scheme	**Update**
BAMS Bridge Inventory and Maintenance Inspection (2025)	2026 inspections ongoing

L16011 Verdons Bridge	Contractor appointed. Works now scheduled to commence 8th June 2026. Closure required of L16011 Lougher Road.
L3405 Aclare Bridge	
L28013 Graultys Bridge	Contractor appointed. Works scheduled to commence 15th June 2026. Closure required of L28014.
R164 Piercetown Bridge	Works contract tender assessment ongoing
L6833 Ballybeg Bridge	Consultants appointed
L8603 Edengora Bridge	Consultants appointed
Minor Bridges Works	Minor bridge works and repairs ongoing on various bridges around the county

2 (e) Climate Change Adaptation & Resilience Works

Grant Allocation	**€205,000**
Scheme	**Update**
R160 Clongowan €185,000	Consultant's recommendations report due by 5th June 2026.
Headfort Park €40,000.00	AA screening report for further works on-going
L-80045-5 Church Road, Athboy €25,000	Works near completion
R130 Greenogue Flood Alleviation Scheme €80,000.00	Tender report signed off work will commence in due course
R108 Clintstown Flood Alleviation Scheme €80,000.00	Tender report signed off work will commence in due course
L-34036 Kearnstown, Drunconrath €25,000.00	Pricing of works commencing

2. (f) Former National Road Rehabilitation Works

Grant Allocation	**€750,000.00**
Scheme	**Update**
R-147-36 Navan to Kells Road at Martry	Tender under evaluation

3. Active Travel Grants

Funding Source	**NTA**
Grant Allocation	€10M allocated for 2026
Scheme	**Update**
NA1: R147 Martha's Bridge to Circular Road	The boundary wall and accommodation works continued at the Ardboyne Hotel and Springfield House, including ongoing brickwork at Ardboyne and completion of a retaining wall concrete pour at Springfield House. Granite kerbing works progressed at the Academy Street junction, where installation of the cycle track asphalt also commenced. Kerbing, ducting and drainage works were undertaken along the R147 adjacent to Ma O'Dwyer's Guesthouse. Significant junction works continued at the Martha's Bridge junction, including the installation of a new 525mm diameter foul main, with these works scheduled to continue over upcoming weekend closures. Traffic management arrangements remain effective on the R147 during weekdays, with traffic currently diverted to the southbound side of the R147, and no major changes are anticipated in the coming weeks.
NA1: R147/N51 Poolboy Bridge to Kells Road Roundabout	The appointment process has commenced for additional topographical and GPR surveys required to support the scheme. The Consultant continues to progress the preliminary design work, incorporating previous comments issued by Meath County Council on the LDR4 tie-in towards Blackwater Retail Park.
Flowerhill Cycle & Pedestrian Scheme	Flower Hill Public Realm Enhancement Scheme

	The Consultant is continuing to finalise the drawings and documents for the upcoming Part 8 process. Flowerhill Roundabout The Consultant is completing the detailed design and tender pack following comments arising from internal MCC review. Potential funding, resource and delivery time scales are continuing to be explored. N51-R147 Updated layouts for the junctions at the R147/N51 and Ratholdren Road were prepared. Draft TII reports were updated to reflect the revised option.
Navan Public Realm: Trimgate Street Pedestrianisation	The Consultant is updating documents in preparation of a pre-Part 8 presentation to Councillors at Navan MD on the 17th of June. An application has been made for URDF funding for the proposed scheme.
Navan Contract 5: Fairgreen, Church Hill, Bakery Lane, Old Cornmarket, Preston Place and Fairgreen carpark.	The contractor continued to address snag items during this period. Outstanding works items continued to be addressed also. Works on Bakery Lane and Trimgate Street related to ESB were completed. Works commenced to the steps at Preston Place from Kennedy Plaza.
Convent Road to Metges Road & Trim Road: Beechmount to Balreask Manor Active Travel Schemes	The Consultant continued with preliminary design work on a 'shared space' option the Kentstown Road section, linking Elm Park with Bothar Hodgett.
Trim Road Phase 3 - Beechmount to Balreask Manor	The Consultant has commenced review of available background documents in preparation for commencement of the detailed design.
Trim Road Phase 4 Balreask Manor to Borallion Junction	Further topographical survey data has been reviewed and design work continued during this period.
Dunboyne and Clonee Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme	Part 8 planning permission for the Dunboyne to Clonee Active Travel Links Scheme was adopted with modification at the January 2026 Ratoath MD Meeting. Tenders have been assessed for engineering consultancy services for the detailed design of the scheme. Appointment of Consultant in process. Work is progressing on the next section of the overall Dunboyne active travel network to be brought forward

	for Part 8 planning approval, which includes Rooske Road, Mill Farm, Navan Road, soccer club footpath, R157 bypass, Greenway and Castle Stream Greenway.
Castle Street Ashbourne	Scheme has been extended to include Castle Way, St. Declan's NS and Alderbrook Road. Feasibility and route options selection report being workshopped with the NTA prior to finalising the route.
Johnstown Village Active Travel Scheme	Preliminary design for the public realm, active travel, Mrs. Butterly's community facility and adjacent residential development currently being progressed. Preliminary design due to be presented to the Navan MD meeting in May.
BusIt2School	The BusIt2School scheme is funded by the DOT and aims to encourage primary school pupils to travel to and from school by bus. Participating schools included Navan Educate Together, Scoil Naomh Eoin Clonmagadden and St. Stephens Johnstown. Scheme now complete and the close-out report has been submitted to the Department of Transport.
Eastham Road Cycle Facilities	Continuing works on the required enabling or advance works contract as well as liaison with landowners on agreements.
Newtown Road, Trim footpath	Civil works are almost complete, with energisation of new and improved public lighting awaited.
Bus Stop Improvement Programme	Award of contract for proposed works to 40 new and upgraded bus stop in progress with NTA approval confirmed.
Safe Routes to School	
Round 2 St Colmcilles and Our Lady Of Mercy, Kells	Part 8 application lodged for 750m long permeability link to Gardenrath Road, proposals on public display until the end of June.
Round 3 Schools Duleek Boys' National School, Scoil Naomh Seachnall, St Oliver Plunkett's National School Navan St Paul's National School, Navan	The Delivery Plans for each school have been finalised and procurement of a technical consultant underway.

Round 4 Schools Gilson National School, Oldcastle Navan Educate Together NS Scoil Naomh Bríde, Boardsmill St Ultan's NS Bohermeen	Meath County Council have met with An Taisce who administer the Safe Routes to School programme and all the schools to discuss issues at each school. Parent surveys have been completed.

4.Roads & Sustainable Transport Schemes

Funding Source	**Primarily DoT & NTA**
Grant Allocation	(covered under TII)
Kilberry to Greenway Footpath & Gibbstown Car Park	**Works are now complete, with snagging works remaining.**
Greenway Resurfacing	Works are now complete, with snagging works remaining.
Boyne Greenway	
Navan to Oldbridge	Extensive ecological, environmental and archaeological surveys are continuing over the Summer which will be necessary to support the development application. Engagement with landowners and stakeholders is progressing in developing the design.

5.Other/Projects

Scheme	**Update**
Broadmeadow Riverwalk Ratoath	Tender documents are currently being developed for the delivery of the riverwalk. Consultation is required with adjacent residents impacted by the proposed scheme.
Oldcastle Public Realm Scheme	Tobin Consultant Engineers Ltd. is actively progressing the detailed design. MCC are finalising the acquisition of land for a 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. This scheme has

	been extended along the N51 to address known safety issues. Workshop held with the TII, feasibility report currently being developed for the TII.
Trim Pedestrian Bridge	Temporary Army Bailey Bridge removed. Contract for new bridge awarded. Currently expected new bridge will be manufactured and installed by the end of Q3 2026.
Footpath Rehabilitation Programme	Works recently completed in Trim, Dunboyne and Ard Rí (Laytown-Bettystown MD). Tender award in progress for 2026 works in the Navan MD and Ashbourne MD.
New footpaths to Community Centres	Public Consultation (Section 38 of the Roads Act) to commence for new footpath at Skyrne. Progressing design of footpath extensions at Millbrook, Oldcastle in progress.
New footpaths to Schools	Works awarded to contractor for Ughtyneill NS (Moynalty) and Gaelscoil Bhradain Feasa (Mornington). Designs progressing on new footpaths at Newtown-Creevagh NS, SN Ultan Naofa Baile Ghib, Kilbride NS (Trim MD).

6. URDF

Scheme	**Update**
Former Spicers Bakery, Rampart Carpark & Andy Brennan Park	No further updates since the last report
Frontage Improvement Works Flowerhill	Frontage Improvement Works began on the first property on 26th May, 2026 (predominately painting) and will continue in relation to further properties that are participating in the scheme. Consultations with all property owners will continue.

7. THRIVE

Scheme	**Update**

County Archive and Community Hub	Works stage 2 tender documents, tender assessment complete, clarification process on going

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 the last report

9. Meath County Council Projects

Scheme	**Update**
New Library/Community Building, Amenity Area, and Age-Friendly Housing, Ratoath	An application has been made for URDF funding for the proposed scheme
Solstice – Frontage	No further updates since the last report

10. National Speed Limit Review

Scheme	**Update**
National Speed Limit Review	No further updates since the last report

Economic Development, Enterprise & Tourism

Economic Development

Inaugural Network of EU Officers in Local Authorities (NEUOLA)

On 30th April, the IREO hosted the inaugural meeting of the Network of EU Officers in Local Authorities (NEUOLA) at Athlone Civic Centre, bringing together representatives from Cork, Dublin, Limerick City and County, Meath, Donegal and Galway County Councils, alongside Ireland's 3 Regional Assemblies.

The meeting provided a platform to strengthen collaboration, share experiences and discuss common challenges and opportunities in EU project delivery. Updates were provided on IREO activities, EU funding programmes, preparations for the Irish Presidency and upcoming networks and events.

Economic Development attended the launch of Abelfest 2026, the Tattersalls July Show and Hinterland Festival, as well as the Navan Choral and Instrumental Festival in April & May, proudly supporting events that benefit local businesses, residents and communities and events which showcase all the talent the county has to offer.

Mid-East Regional Skills Forum

The Mid-East Regional Skills Forum held their meeting at the THRIVE Business Centre of Excellence in May, with an excellent opportunity for the forum members to see and hear about the resources and supports available to businesses in Meath.

Enterprise

LEO Activity Report

Grants Approved and Training May 2026

Grant Approved/Mentoring Sessions/Training	
Mentoring Assignments Approved	24
Attended Online Training Courses	37
Attended Digital Marketing Clinics	3
Attended AI for Business Clinics	6
Attended Website Health Check Clinics	5
Attended Finance Advice Clinics	6
GREEN for Micro Applications	3
Digital for Business	5
LEAN for Micro	4
Energy Efficiency Grant	-
LEO Grants	4

Boyne Valley Tourism

Navan Midsummer Festival Launch

The inaugural Navan Midsummer Festival was launched on Tuesday 20th of May in The Central, Navan, with strong attendance from local businesses, community groups and stakeholders. The festival, taking place from Thursday 18th to Sunday 21st of June, will feature a programme of music, comedy, storytelling and family-focused events, alongside a midsummer market and town-based activity, celebrating the area's Celtic heritage and the Summer Solstice, with a focus on quality delivery in year one and potential to grow over time.

Balmoral Show

Boyne Valley Tourism exhibited at the Balmoral Show in Lisburn from Tuesday 13th to Friday 16th of May, promoting the destination to a strong cross-border audience. The stand was supported by a number of industry members over the four days, providing an opportunity to showcase the region's tourism offering and engage directly with potential visitors

Boyne Valley Tourism AGM

The Boyne Valley Tourism AGM took place on Wednesday 7th of May in the Thrive Building, Navan, with members in attendance from across the tourism network. The annual accounts were presented and approved, and the meeting provided an opportunity to review activity and priorities for the year

ahead. The AGM was followed by a presentation and panel discussion on digital supports for tourism businesses.

Boyne Valley Flavours

Regional Food & Drinks Producers Showcase

The inaugural Regional Food & Drinks Producers Showcase took place on 30th April 2026 at Emerald Park, Co. Meath. The event brought together 60 food and drink producers from across Meath, Louth, Cavan, Monaghan, Kildare and Wicklow, showcasing the strength, diversity and quality of the region's food and drink offering.

The showcase welcomed over 80 trade attendees, including representatives from retail, hospitality, tourism and distribution sectors and created valuable opportunities for producers to connect directly with buyers and industry professionals while also strengthening relationships across the wider regional food network.The event was a strong example of the value of regional collaboration and partnership working in delivering impactful industry events.

Members Meet-Up – Carlingford Oyster Company

Boyne Valley Flavours hosted its most recent Members Meet-Up at the Carlingford Oyster Company. The event provided members with an excellent opportunity to network, exchange ideas and strengthen connections within the Boyne Valley Flavours community.
Members enjoyed a tour and insight into the operations of Carlingford Oyster Company, learning more about oyster farming, the history of the business, and the importance of aquaculture within the region's food and tourism offering. The event highlighted the value of member engagement opportunities and the importance of creating spaces for businesses to connect and collaborate.

Ongoing Marketing & Promotion

Throughout May, Boyne Valley Flavours continued the ongoing promotion of members, regional food experiences and upcoming events across digital channels, including Meta platforms, the Boyne Valley Flavours website and newsletters. Work also continued on the development and promotion of the Boyne Valley Bites campaign and positioning the Boyne Valley Flavours website as the leading online destination for food tourism in the region.

Centre of Food Culture

Meet the Maker event

The Centre of Food Culture Ireland held its second sold-out Meet the Maker event of the year with Galtee Honey Farm in Tipperary on 9th May. This event marked the second of twelve events taking place across Ireland highlighting different crafts including beekeeping, cider making, brewing and cheesemaking.

Ballymaloe Festival of Food

The Centre of Food Culture Ireland exhibited at Ballymaloe Festival of Food where the team promoted the pioneering island-wide food producer directory, events series and Samhain Festival of Food & Culture 2026.

Regional Restaurant Awards

Following winning “Innovator of the Year” for County Meath at the Leinster Regional Restaurant Awards in March, the Centre of Food Culture Ireland went on to win the Leinster “Innovator of the Year” title at the Irish Restaurant Awards Final in Dublin on 18th May. This acknowledges the great work being done on the All-Ireland Food and Drink Producer directory and the importance of this to the industry.

Rural Regeneration

Derelict Sites	2026 total
Derelict Sites Register (no. of properties)	35
No. of statutory orders issued	18
CA - Derelict Sites Act - Completed in 2026	0
CA - Derelict Sites Act - Commenced in 2026	3

Vacant Homes	2026 total
Vacant Homes Identified	4
CPO - Housing Act - Completed in 2026	4
CPO - Housing Act - Commenced in 2026	4

Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant	2026 total
Approved Applications	201
Approved in Principle Applications	80
Applications In Progress/Info Requested (not commenced)	17
Rejected Applications	5
Withdrawn Applications	88
Completed / Paid Applications	137
Total Applications Received	389
Total Approved Grant Funding	€16,170,380
Total Paid Grant Funding	€7,381,265

Rural Regeneration Project Progress	Funding
Part 8 Process (May'26)	
Laytown /Bettystown Community Buildin g& Park (Started)	MCC
Works Commenced (May'26)	
Contractor appointed for Fr Ryans Park Duelek	TVRS
River walk projects Ratoath	ORIS
Feasibility /Prelim Design for Part 8 - St Marys Church Kilmessan	TVRS PDM

Works Completed (May'26)	
Deepark Community Lands - walk trials and carpark improvements	ORIS
Lough Lane - Ratoath	ORIS
Rathcairn Footpath	ORIS

Community Development

Public Participation Network

Promotion of the Civic Dollars app, an initiative that rewards community engagement and local volunteering through a digital points system, has continued. Additional locations and community groups now registered. A targeted campaign, in conjunction with Healthy Meath, is in development, including engagement with all five Parkrun locations. This initiative supports community participation, volunteer engagement and local wellbeing. A six-week promotional plan will also be implemented across each Municipal District during the summer period.

An online Grants Writing Workshop for PPN member groups took place on 20 May, with 75 participants representing 86 groups in attendance. The session focused on the Community Sports Facilities Fund and the Community Centres Investment Fund, supporting groups to strengthen applications and improve access to funding opportunities.

The PPN Plenary was held on 21 May at Bective GFC, comprising presentations, workshops and networking opportunities for member groups. The event supported engagement across the network, information sharing and collaboration, with contributions from Meath Community Safety Partnership, TUSLA Fostering and Meath GAA.

As part of National Volunteer Week, community and voluntary groups across Meath were recognised for their contribution to community development, social inclusion and local service provision. This initiative acknowledges the ongoing role of volunteers in supporting community activity across the county.

Membership Update

Meath PPN membership currently stands at 854, representing an increase of 3 groups since April.

PPN Pillar	No of Registrations - April 2026	No of Registrations - May 2026
Community Pillar	711	713
Environment Pillar	26	26
Social Inclusion Pillar	114	115
Total	851	854

Comhairle na nÓg

At the most recent Comhairle na nÓg Coordinator Steering Committee meeting, Meath Comhairle na nÓg members provided updates on national engagement activities. Delegates attended Dáil na nÓg on 1 May, focused on education, including additional needs supports, subject choices and continuous assessment.

Engagement at national level also included participation in Seanad na nÓg and contributions on the upcoming presidency of the Council of Europe. The National Executive of Comhairle na nÓg made a presentation to the Senior Cycle Redevelopment Partners' Forum, where young people presented recommendations on.

- CAO - align with project-based assessments.
- Calendar for project-based assessments.
- Communication on and information about SCR for young people
- Issues of equity and inclusion & access to resources/supports
- Specific training for Guidance Counsellors
- Participation and representation of young people in Senior Cycle Redevelopment

This work supports the Council's community development and youth participation functions by ensuring the views of young people in Meath are represented in national policy discussions and informs local initiatives to strengthen youth voice and engagement.

Community Amenity Project Scheme

Recommendations under the Community Amenity Project Scheme 2025 were approved at the Full Council meeting on 11 May. A total allocation of €600,000 (€100,000 per Municipal District) will support 24 community-led projects across the county, delivering enhancements to social, sporting, recreational, environmental, heritage and cultural facilities. Offer letters issued to successful groups on 12 May.

Carranstown Environmental Projects Grant Scheme

Recommendations under the Carranstown Grant Scheme 2025 were approved at the Full Council meeting held on 11th May. A total of €284,360 was allocated to 22 successful groups. 20 applications were not successful. This funding will provide financial support to community groups for environmental improvement and recreational/community facility projects in the vicinity of the Indaver Waste-To-Energy Facility at Carranstown, Duleek. Offer letters issued to successful groups on 14th May. A list of all applicants and the funding allocation recommendation can be found on our website at www.meath.ie

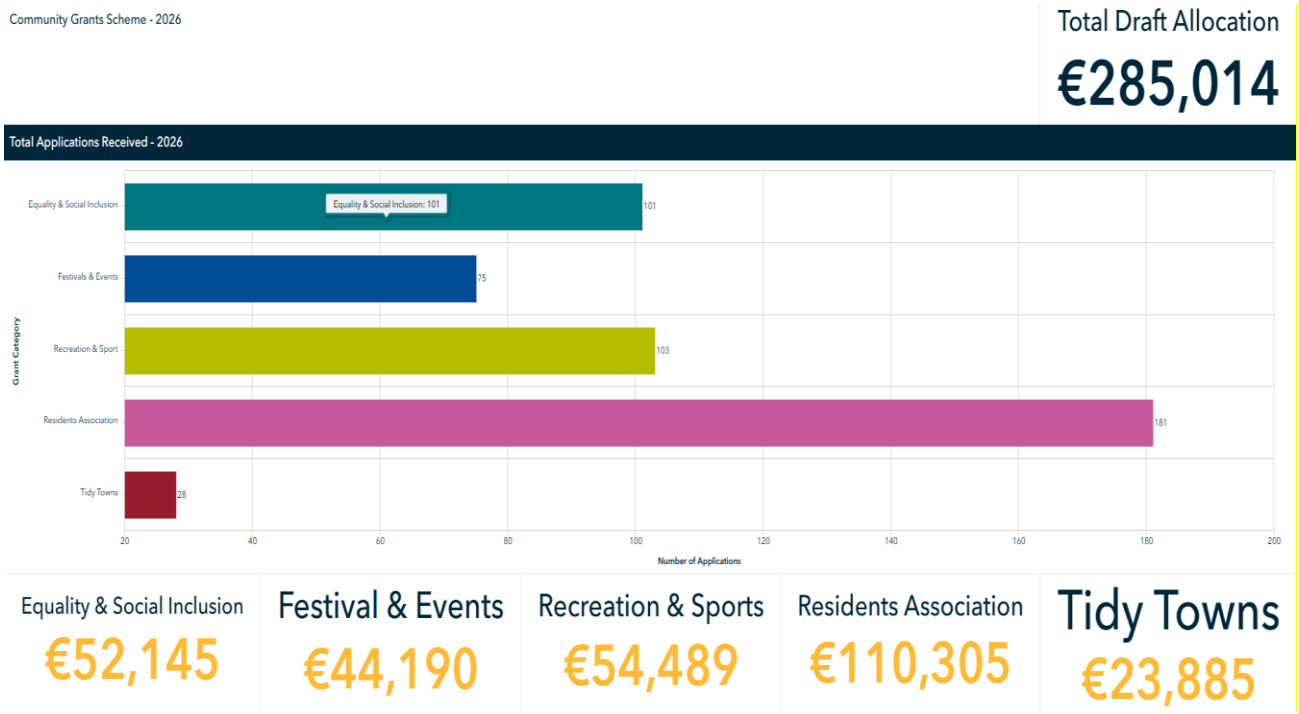
IPB All Island Pride of Place 2026

Following a completion of an Expressions of Interest (EOI) process, Meadowbank Hill, Ratoath and Ratoath town have been selected to represent Meath in the 2026 IPB Pride of Place Awards. Meadowbank Hill will be entered in the Urban Neighbourhoods & Housing Estates category, while Ratoath will be entered in the Population Over 5000 category. The Community Department will support both entrants in the preparation entry to the All-Ireland Pride of Place Awards.

Community Grants Scheme 2026

A total of 565 applications were received 2026 Community Grant Scheme. Following eligibility assessment, 33 applications were deemed ineligible, resulting in 532 valid applications. Proposed allocations were presented to the Community, Cultural Development and Gaeltacht SPC on 24th April

and recommended to full council for approval on 11th May. The total allocation for 2026 is €285,014. Grant notification letters have now issued. *Meath County Council's Community grants support community groups across Meath, in enhancing local facilities, supporting inclusion initiatives, organising events and maintaining shared community spaces. A full list of recipients is available on* [*Community Grant Scheme | Meath.ie*]



The Burial Grounds Grant Scheme

The Burial Grounds Grant Scheme was presented to the Community, Cultural Development and Gaeltacht SPC on 24th April and recommended to full council for approval on 11th May. €30,534.00 was allocated to 43 successful applications. Grant notification letters have now issued. The Burial Ground Grant Scheme provides financial assistance to county-based Graveyard / Burial Ground Committees who work voluntarily to maintain their local graveyards / burial grounds.

The Fáilte Ireland Regional Festivals & Participative Events Grant Scheme

The Festivals & Participative Events Grant Scheme was presented to the Community, Cultural Development and Gaeltacht SPC on 24th April and recommended to full council for approval on 11th May. Grant notification letters have now issued. A total of €21,000 was allocated to 8 successful applications. Regional Festivals Programme funded by Failte Ireland and administered by Meath County Council supports Festivals and Participative Events that drive domestic tourism and help to improve the visitor experience. A full list of successful applicants is available on Regional Festivals and Participative Events Scheme 2026 | Meath.ie

Meath Local Community Development Committee

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)
The most recent of the Meath LCDC took place on Friday 24th April. At the meeting the LCDC

- received a presentation Meath County Council Climate Action team
- approved grant allocations under the Healthy Meath Micro-fund Grant Scheme

The next LCDC meeting us due to take place on Friday 22nd May 2026 at the THRIVE Centre of Business Excellence.

Local Action Group (LAG)
The latest LAG meeting took place on Friday, 24th April 2026 in the THRIVE Centre of Business Excellence. The LAG received and considered recommendations of the Independent Evaluation Committee in relation to applications received under rolling calls under the LEADER 23-27 Programme.

The next LAG meeting is scheduled to take place on Friday 22nd May, 2026 in the THRIVE Centre of Business Excellence.

Healthy Meath

Under the Healthy Meath Micro Fund (HMMF) 2026, 54 applications were received across all Municipal Districts, with funding requests totalling €82,586. A total of 13 projects were approved for funding by the Meath Local Community Development Committee, with a combined allocation of €20,230, supporting initiatives under Healthy Lifestyle and Positive Mental Health themes. The programme supports community-led responses to local health and wellbeing needs and promotes engagement with groups who may not previously have participated in Healthy Meath initiatives.

A resilience and wellbeing programme for adolescent girls commenced in May at St Patrick's GFC and Duleek Bellewstown GFC, with 36 participants attending. The programme will continue over the summer period, supporting positive mental health outcomes for young people.

Activity on the Civic Dollars app continues to expand across the county. A total of 745 visits to participating locations, including parks, sports clubs and community sites, have been recorded since launch, generating 847 Civic Dollars and supporting community participation.

The May edition of the Healthy Meath newsletter is now available to view here.

Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP)

The most recent meeting of the Meath LCSP took place on 20th May. At the meeting the LCSP:

- Discussed preparation of Meath Local Community Safety Plan
- Received a presentation from the Drug Related Intimidation and Violence Engagement (DRIVE) Lead

The public consultation process for the development of the Meath Local Community Safety Plan commenced with the launch of the public survey on 19 May 2026. This marks a key milestone in

engaging with communities, stakeholders and service providers to gather feedback and inform the priorities and actions within the Meath Community Safety Plan. In addition to the survey, a series of targeted focus groups will take place across the county to ensure inclusive engagement with key stakeholder groups and to capture a broad range of perspectives.

In partnership with An Garda Síochána, the LCSP supported a community property marking initiative in Rath Cairn, with over 40 items marked, including power tools, trailers and bicycles. The initiative supports crime reduction by deterring theft and aiding recovery of stolen property, while also promoting positive engagement with local residents.

Property Marking Event in Rath Cairn

Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT)

Schools of Sanctuary Ireland (SoSI) Eureka Kells.

The Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT) engaged with the Schools of Sanctuary Ireland initiative and participated on the monitoring committee for Eureka Secondary School, Kells, as it works towards Champion School status.

This engagement supports the promotion of inclusive and welcoming school environments, particularly for students from migrant backgrounds, and complements wider LAIT work with families in IPAS accommodation.

The initiative contributes to integration at community level through education-based approaches, with potential for further roll-out to additional schools across the county.

Lismullin Cookery School Event

The Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT) delivered a three-week Food Initiative at Lismullin House during April and May, engaging participants from IPAS accommodation, Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection and the local community. The initiative utilised the on-site teaching kitchen to support intercultural exchange through shared food preparation, including Somali, Ukrainian and Irish cuisine.

A total of 10 participants took part, with positive engagement and interaction observed across all groups. The programme supported social integration, relationship-building and cultural awareness at local level.

Participants at the Food Initiative at Lismullin House

Clinic Work

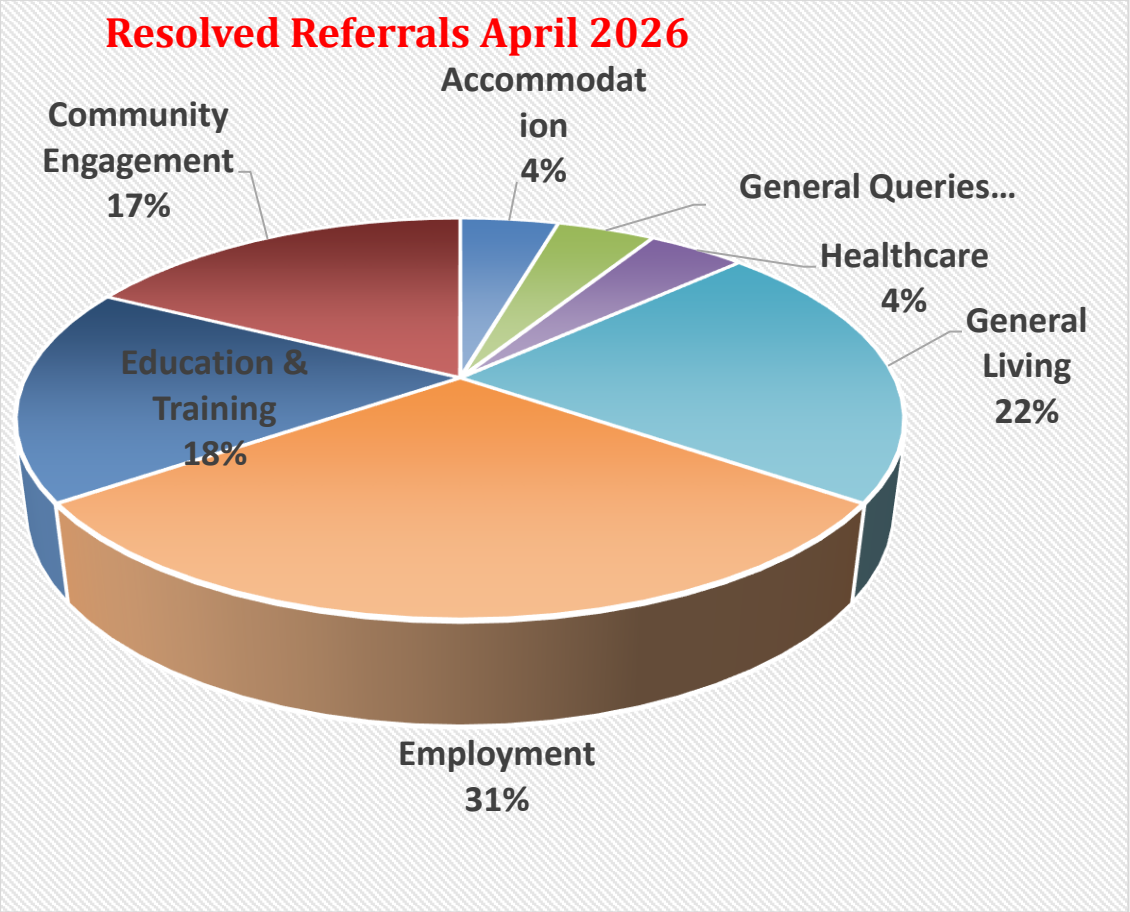
12 outreach clinics in accommodation centres took place in April.

Customer Service Cases Logged 2026:

Customer Service Cases	April 2026	May 2026
Number of Customer cases assigned/in progress/still active	10	6
Number of Customer cases closed	89	103

Figures for Accommodation Centres

Accommodation Type	Number accommodated - April 2026	Number accommodated – May 2026
UKR	510	459
IP	1093	1097


Resolved Referrals April 2026
Accommodation 4%
General Queries...
Healthcare 4%
General Living 22%
Employment 31%
Education & Training 18%
Community Engagement 17%

Age Friendly Ireland Shared Service

National Communications Programme, Operations and Finance

Meath County Council has been nominated for the Better Public Services Awards for the Age Friendly Ireland Shared Service.

The National Convention of Older People's Councils took place in Athlone on 7th and 8th May, hosted by Westmeath County Council and the Westmeath Age Friendly Programme. The highly successful event attracted over 200 older people from all local authority areas and focused on the theme of thriving together and sustainability.

The National Age Friendly Recognition Awards are open for applications until 5th June with 10 award categories this year. The 6 judges will visit the shortlisted projects over the summer.

National Technical Programme

National Technical Manager Declan Gaffney represented AFI and MCC at the World Health Assembly in Geneva in May, at a side event focused on ageing communities.

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage has drafted a new Housing for Older People Plan.

Planning

1. Planning Applications (Section 34)

578 planning applications were lodged in the period 01.01.2026 to 30.04.2026. This is compared to **488** in the same period in 2025.
79.9%% of the applications received in 2026 have been lodged via the online portal – ePlan.

2. Commencement Notices

68 Valid Commencement Notices and 5 Valid Seven Day Notices were received in the period 01/04/2026 to 30/04/2026. This is compared to 41 commencement notices and 10 Seven Day Notice in the same period in the previous year.

The Commencement Notices can be broken down as follows:

Development Type	Number
One-Off House	33
Multi-Units	9 Units
Extensions	15
Other*	4

* Agricultural, Commercial, Recreational etc
**This includes a resubmission of a commencement notice for which the initial valid commencement notice has since been withered.

The Seven Day Notices can be broken own as follows:

Development Type	Number
Multi-Units	8 Units
Other*	3

** Agricultural, Commercial, Recreational etc*

***This includes a resubmission of a Seven Day Notice for which the initial valid Seven Day Notice has since been withered*.

No commencement notices or Seven Day Notice has been lodged in relation to solar farms for the period 01/04/2026 to 31/04/2026.

3. Development Contributions (Section 48)

The collection figures for development contributions for the period January – April 2026 are as follows:

Receipt Period:	**Jan – Apr 2026**
Total Receipts	€ 2,502,716
Recoupments received	€ 4,826,736

Total Received	**€ 7,329,452**
Target Collection Jan - Dec 2026:	€ 8,000,000
Actual Collected Jan - Mar 2026:	€ 7,826,736
% collected:	98%

Please note the collection figures shown above are inclusive of Uiscé Eireann receipts (€8,769) and Irish Rail receipts (€874,394).

The total collected (receipts plus recoupments received) in the same period in 2025 was € 1,483,074.

Circular PL04 2023: Temporary Time Limited Waiver Scheme 25/4/2023 to 31/12/2024. Final recoupment submitted 31/7/2025.

The total units recouped under the Waiver Scheme are as follows:

Total	**Units**	**Value**
Sept – Dec **2023**	558	3,895,702
Jan 2024	47	363,510
Feb 2024	66	472,000
Mar 2024	110	943,758
April 2024	120	862,771
May 2024	102	789,090
Refund paid to Dept. for social units	**-36**	-216,000
June 2024	99	686,780
July 2024	296	1,888,270
August 2024	276	1,792,500
September 2024	336	2,233,500
October 2024	318	2,164,010
November 2024	689	4,496,200
December 2024	333	2,154,297
January 2025	45	367,811
February 2025	31	272,500
March 2025	504	3,198,429
April 2025 (submitted May 2025)	134	871,495
May 2025	66	427,030
June 2025	16	126,000
July 2025	679	4,826,736
December 2025 Refund to Dept	**-221**	**-1,415,500**
TOTAL	**4,568**	**31,200,889**

Please note that further refunds will be made through the year as more units are delivered as social/affordable units.

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

- 151 Planning Enforcement complaints received since 01/01/2026
- 41 new planning enforcement cases were opened from 1.01.2026 to 30/04/2026

New Cases to be Investigated	6
Warning Letters	70
Enforcement Notices	30
Referred for Legal Proceedings	2
Closed	42
Court Attendances* This number does not include cases for Judicial Review or Meath County Council as Notice party	11

*please note these figures relate to actions taken on files in the year 2026 only

5. Forward Planning

Public consultation for Draft Variation No.5 incorporating NPFs revised Housing Targets ended on the 1st May 2026. The Chief Executives Report responding to all submissions received is underway and will be issued to Elected Members on the 28th May.

Issues paper for the revised Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) for the Eastern and Midland Region was placed on public display in late March 2026 until 22nd May 2026. A submission on behalf of Meath County Council issued to EMRA on 21st May.

The Draft Meath CDP 2027-2033 chapters and other associated supporting assessments remain under preparation. Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping of Draft Meath CDP to be issued to statutory bodies by 22nd May.

6. Heritage

Community Monuments Fund (CMF) 2026:

- **Stream 1:** Surveys in advance of conservation works at **Ardcath Graveyard** have been completed – bat surveys and Archaeological Impact Assessment by project archaeologist. Section 14 consent documents and drawings in preparation and will be finalised and submitted to the National Monuments Service in May.

Irish Walled Town Network Fund-Capital- Consent from NMS secured for final phase of conservation works to Trim Town Walls (Section B). Contactor to mobilize to site (May 27th). Scoping for procurement for conservation team to advance conservation assessment in Trim, Navan and Athboy advanced.

Irish Walled Town Network Fund-Interpretation- Following procurement process appointed consultant to develop an interactive story map based on the recent publication *The Medieval Walled Towns of Meath*.

Kells Printing Works Project: Commissioning Phase of Kells Printing Work continues in advance of opening in early June. In preparation for same – branding, signage and planning for event are underway including health and safety for printers and activities and development of programmes (workshops and public tours) and design of initial merchandise. Opening programme of events scheduled for Hinterland weekend.

Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2026: 20 applications were received and assessed in accordance with scheme guidelines. Working with applicants on programme of activities for Heritage Week 2026.

Culture Team: Working with Friends of Columbanus Republic of Ireland to curate a one day seminar on the life and legacy of St. Columbanus to be held in Dalgan Park as part of the support received by Meath County Council from Culture Ireland/Department of Culture, Communications and Sport to support cultural projects/initiatives in Meath as part of EU Presidency Culture Programme – Local Authority Programming Scheme

Biodiversity

National Biodiversity Week took place from the 15th – 24th of May. Meath County Council's Heritage and Biodiversity section organised and supported 15 events across the County.

Local Biodiversity Action Fund (LBAF) Projects: Total funding applied for €96,757. Procurement has begun on a number of 2026 projects

- County Meath Wetlands Survey Phase II
- County Meath Tree and Woodland Survey Phase II
- County Meath Grasslands Survey Phase I

Biodiversity Working Group of the Meath Heritage Forum: Q2 meeting was held in Bettystown Library on the 7th of May, and members of the group joined the Biodiversity Officer for a field trip to Mornington Dunes.

Fig. 1 Biodiversity Working Group members of the Meath Heritage Forum.

Conservation:

Built Heritage Investment Scheme & Historic Thatch Buildings 2026: Acceptance of funding returning from successful applicants. Site visits are ongoing for live projects.

Architects in Schools Programme: Irish Architecture Foundation exhibition in May featuring Meath's contribution with St Patrick's Classical School.

Climate Action and Environment

Decarbonising Zone (DZ) Implementation Plans and Taskforces

Meath County Council is making significant progress towards a greener and more sustainable future through the development of place-based Decarbonising Zone (DZ) Implementation Plans across the county. In each of Meath's 9 DZ, local taskforces are currently in development to drive these efforts forward on the ground at a local level. These local DZ Taskforces will benefit from a range of supports, including workshops, networking events, and review meetings. This structure is designed to ensure the effective local delivery, ongoing monitoring, and long-term engagement of businesses, communities, and stakeholders in the implementation of climate actions.

The Climate Action Section of Meath County Council welcomes the involvement of additional community members, business representatives, and citizens who are interested in climate action. To date there has been two initial meetings with DZ taskforce members, the first online meeting held provided an overview of the DZ programme, and the next steps in relation to progressing DZ's. The second in person meeting, "Workshop of Actions" meeting brought together each DZ taskforce where they developed actions that want to see in their specific DZ Implementation Plan, these actions were developed considering the DZ Baseline Emissions Inventory, along with local knowledge of taskforce members.

The Climate Section are currently working on further developing these actions and will bring the developed version to the taskforces in the coming weeks.

DZ Family Fun Climate Action Days

Meath County Council are currently in the process of hosting nine DZ Family Fun Climate Action Days over May, June and September. These dedicated days are designed to engage the entire family, offering a range of enjoyable and impactful climate action activities for families. Participants will have the opportunity to take part in initiatives such as a toy library, clothing swaps, furniture repair, bike repair, visits from an energy retrofit van, jewellery repair workshops, and biodiversity talks. The events also feature face painting, ensuring there is something for everyone to enjoy while contributing to a more sustainable future. All events are free to the public and run from 11am-3pm.

Our first number of family fun climate actions days have been a huge success with high attendance numbers to each DZ location. Further sharing of these events across community groups would be greatly appreciated to keep attendance numbers high.

For more information on the DZ Family Fun Climate Action Days please visit: https://eventmaster.ie/event/02Y8FzqsA1

Summer Edition		
10/05/2026	Navan	Simonstown GAA
17/05/2026	Ashbourne	Donaghmore Ashbourne GAA
24/05/2026	Laytown/ Bettystown	Scoil Oilibheir Naofa Bettystown
07/06/2026	Ratoath	Ratoath Community College
14/06/2026	Trim	Trim GAA
Autumn Edition		
06/09/2026	Dunboyne	TBC
13/09/2026	Kells	TBC
20/09/2026	Dunshaughlin	Dunshaughlin Community Centre
27/09/2026	Duleek	Duleek Community Facility

SEC Update

Meath County Council continues to support Sustainable Energy Communities across the county by providing bridging loans for the preparation of Energy Master Plans (EMPs), with costs recouped from SEAI on completion. Meath have 35 SECs: 10 EMPs complete, 2 in progress, 21 at learning stage and 2 newly joined. https://www.meath.ie/council/council-services/environment/climate-action/sustainable-energy communities

Indicator	Number
Total SECs in Meath	35
Energy Master Plans complete	10
Energy Master Plans in progress	2
Learning stage	21
Newly joined	2

Community Climate Action Programme Fund

Empowering communities to shape and build low carbon communities and supporting innovative solutions to build climate resilience, energy efficiency and emission reduction.

Phase 1

Phase 1 of the Programme is nearing completion, with

- 26 projects completed.

The final drawdown for Phase 1 will be completed by the end of June 2026.

Phase 2

Meath County Council received 75 applications in total (29 small, 25 medium, 21 large scale projects).

A total of €811,000 was allocated to County Meath, while the total value requested amounted to over €3.1 million, resulting again in oversubscription to the Community Climate Action Programme.

Community Climate Action Programme Fund decision arrived from DECC on Thursday 21st May confirming approved applicants. Community Group applicants were informed of their decisions on 22nd May.

Meath County Council's allocation was also increased from €811,000 to €910,460, allowing for several reserve projects to be included in the applications approved for funding.

Further information regarding project milestone dates and project requirements will issue shortly.

	Funding Distribution Target	% of Fund	Applications Approved	Distribution by projects
Small Projects	91,045.97	10%	12	€ 124,739.96
Medium Projects	364183.88	40%	8	€ 291,642.27
Large Projects	455229.85	50%	7	€ 494,077.49
	Totals	100%	27	€ 910,459.72

CCAP Approved Applicants Listing			
MD	**Organisation**	**Summary of Project**	**Allocation**
Ashbourne	Ashbourne Tidy Towns	Bike repair station at Ashbourne Community Centre, Colaiste De Lacy and Ashbourne United Football Club	6,720.00
	St. Vincents Ardcath	Pollinator Plants, solar panels, bike pump	38,725.00
Kells	Athboy RFC	Solar and battery, bike stand, apple trees and pollinating plants, compost Bins, clothes rails	18,605.07
	Coiste Halla Baile Ghibb	Suspended ceiling with poly enclosed insulation, new lights plus refitting fire sensors and associated works including cavity wall insulation	13,196.43
	Moynalty GFC	Fabric first retrofitting- attic insulation, windows upgrade	8,778.00
	Oldcastle Men's Shed	Wall and attic insulation for meeting room and workshop	5,000.00
	CKCD Company (Deerpark Community hub)	Solar with battery storage, water refill, bike repair, and stand	41,500.00
	Torro United	Solar Panels, outside doors, bike repair station, water fountain	24,908.50
	Rathkenny Community Centre (Village Hall)	Solar panels on roof with grid gateway, LED external lighting upgrade - LED lights along walking track, base for bike rack, planting flowerpots fed from rainwater harvested, replant native plants on scrubland, water refill station	43,000.00
	Kilmainham GFC	LED Floodlighting, Solar PV to Clubhouse, installation of bike racks, a bike repair centre. Introduction of a wildflower meadow and mini-orchard. Creation of a resilience hub - Electricity switch and battery packs. Clothing swap rails	72,300.00
	Ballinlough GFC & Community Centre	2 Thermo panels with 500IT Tank, 69 solar panels and inverter, 5 batteries and 1 EV charger, 5 large electrical smart radiators, ecofill water refill station, bike repair station and composter, rainwater harvesting tank	81,734.69
	Moylagh GAA	Install ground mounted solar and a storage battery, installing 2 EV charger points and planting pollinating shrubs and flowers	81,585.00
Laytown-Bettystown	Woodgrange Res Association	Community Garden, tree maintenance, polytunnel, composters, garden shed and bee hotel	17,133.10

CCAP Approved Applicants Listing			
MD	**Organisation**	**Summary of Project**	**Allocation**
	Sevitt Hall Res Ass	Solar Lights, replace trees (ash trees infected with ash dieback) for individual parkland specimen trees such as oak varieties, beech, Spanish chestnut and conifers such as Wellintonia. Planting a mixed native hedge	15,517.15
	Beachgrove Res Association	Purchase of compost bins and the planting of fruit and native trees	2,791.16
	Bettystown Tidy Towns	E-cargo bicycle and trailer to transport equipment	12,569.30
	Senchalstown GFC	Solar, bike repair, food composter	23,583.00
	Sonairte National Ecology Centre CLG	Bike repair and parking, water refill station, heated polytunnels and associated community garden works, attic insulation	63,510.26
Navan	Bohermeen Community Centre	Upgrade of windows and electric radiators, water refill station, bike repair station, solar battery backup units and gateway switch, fruit trees	19,658.00
	Meath Partnership	Rainwater harvesting system to support the community garden and green space	2,613.75
	Silverlawn Residents Association	Community garden, trees, hanging baskets, grapevines, compost	2,158.00
	Dunderry GAA Club	Solar PV and lighting, water refill	30,857.00
	Johnstown Tidy Towns	Transform the +10,000sqm Chestnut and Elm Estate Public Lawn, Johnstown Wood, into an affordable, climate-resilient, and biodiverse community space	40,467.83
Ratoath	Drumree GAA	LED walkway lighting, bike repair station, water refill, mini forest- native trees and shrubs	48,600.94
	Dunshaughlin & Royal Gaels GAA	Supply and install LED floodlights on Pitch 2. Supply native Irish shrubs for 100m hedgerow on club grounds and supply 6 no. water butts for clubhouse	67,000.00
Trim	Kiltale Hurling & Camogie Club	Clubhouse retrofit with solar, and replacement of external doors, attic and wall insulation. Composting bin, rainwater harvesting system and a bike repair system	€65,809.65
	Trim FRC	Retrofit of office and community drop in building. Composting, clothes rail, shelving and storage boxes, and small orchard	€62,137.89

Environment Awareness

Blue Flag and Green Coast Awards 2026

Meath Beaches received three prestigious Awards at the An Taisce Blue Flag and Green Coast Award Ceremony. The awards were presented by An Taisce at a ceremony hosted by Cork County Council in Mall House, Youghal, County Cork this afternoon.

Minister for Nature, Heritage and Biodiversity Christopher O'Sullivan, TD, said:

"*These awards are testament to the hard work of local authorities and local communities around the country to keep our coastal areas clean. The Blue Flag is one of the world's most recognised environmental awards and I'm proud to see so many Irish beaches and marinas receive this status today. Those who receive this award have demonstrated high standards around water quality, biodiversity protection and have shown strong collaboration with local tourism service providers to lead the way in sustainable coastal management*."

A total of 168 awards were presented today, just one fewer than last year's record-breaking total, with 146 beaches receiving awards, along with one tourism boat, and 9 marinas.

Meath received a Blue Flag for Bettystown Beach and two Green Coast Awards for both Bettystown and Mornington Beaches.

Green Schools 2026

17 Meath schools received their Green Flag at the Green Schools Awards in Dundalk on Wednesday 20th May.

Green Schools is a whole school environmental awareness, action, and award scheme, known internationally as Eco-Schools, which promotes long-term, whole-school action for the environment. It is undertaken by sixteen million students in 82 countries around the world. In Ireland it is managed by An Taisce with support from Local Authorities. The program helps schools reduce waste, conserve energy and water, and increase environmental awareness.

Students from St Brigid's National School, Meath Hill were awarded the title of East and Midlands Regional Energy Schools' Energy Awards on the 6th of May in Portlaoise.

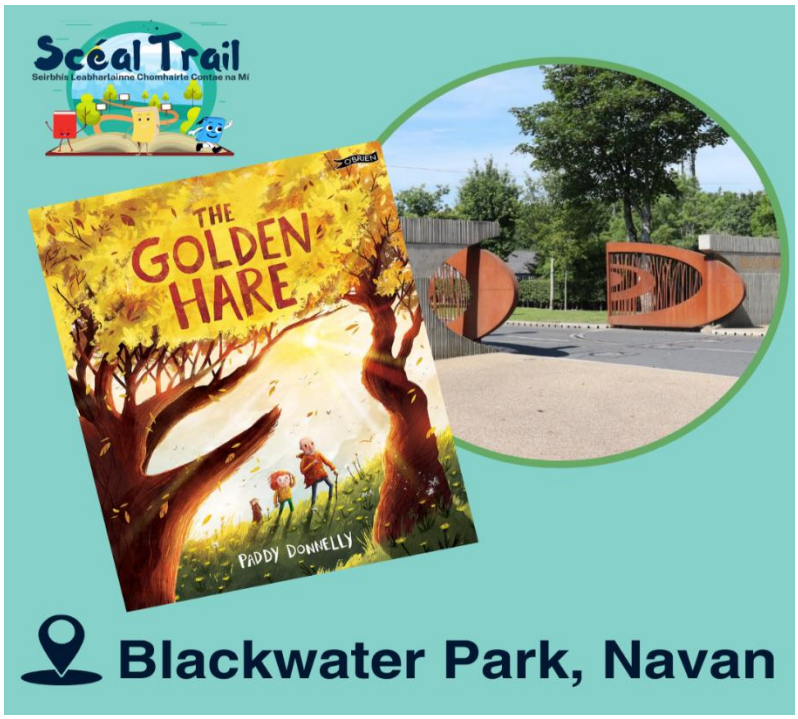
Students from across Ireland taking part in the Green Schools' Energy Theme gathered with their teachers at the award ceremony, where they were presented with the Green Flag, recognising their outstanding work on the theme.

Libraries Services

New Scéal Trail for Blackwater Park

A new Scéal Trail was installed in Blackwater Park to promote literacy in the community as part of the Right to Read Programme. This is the fourth year of the scéal trail initiative, and this year's story is "The Golden Hare" by Irish author and illustrator Paddy Donnelly.

To launch the Scéal Trail, Meath Libraries hosted an online interactive reading and drawing session for primary schools with author / illustrator Paddy. 250 children from Senior and Junior Infants classes from St. Oliver's N.S., St. Paul's N.S. and St. Joseph's P.S. attended the sessions during April.



Local Studies

Dr Peter Connell delivered a lecture titled *The Easter Rising 1916, 110 Years On: Commemoration and History* to a large attendance at Navan Library on Tuesday, 19 May 2026. Dr Connell spoke of The Easter Rising as a foundational series of events in the emergence of the new state and as a reference point in the nation's history that 'triggered a wave of change, sweeping away systems of politics and power that had, indifferent forms, been in place for centuries'. He went on to address the changing character of commemoration over time, starting in 1924, and to look at 1916 in its historical content, before concluding by quoting Prof Diarmaid Ferriter on history being about conflicting interpretations and on the responsibility of historians being to ask the hard questions. The event was supported by Meath County Council and the 2026 Commemorations Fund.

My Little Library Book Bag

The library service took delivery of 2,167 Little Library Book Bags at the beginning of May as part of the national My Little Library initiative. The My Little Library Bag initiative is designed for all children aged 4, 5, and 6 who will be starting school in September 2026. Each child receives a cloth bag containing two books, additional resources to support them in their transition to primary school, and a wallet for their library card. The initiative encourages each child and their family to become a library member and have free access to reading material and other free resources.

Printed invitations for parents and children have been circulated to Early Learning Centres in Meath through library staff outreach. Electronic invitations are circulated by The Department of Children to Early Learning and Care Centres (ELCs) and County Childcare Committees for distribution to parents and guardians. The invites will also be circulated with the Children's Allowance documents through the Department of Social Protection.

My Little Library is a collaboration between the Department of Children, Disability and Equality, the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, and Local Government Ireland and is part of the First Five whole of government strategy.

The initiative was launched locally with a photocall in Navan Library on Friday, 22nd May with Mayor of Navan, Cllr Padraig Fitzsimons.

Bealtaine Festival in Meath Libraries

To coincide with the national Bealtaine Festival a range of events to encourage creativity in older adults has been programmed for May in Meath Libraries. Between 350 and 400 people are expected to participate in the events. Events range from musical performances to dance and crafting. Highlights of the programming include:

1. Crafting Memories Creative Cafés

Each session will be facilitated by a team of library staff members and participants will use paper collage techniques to create a unique piece of art inspired by a favourite place or special memory or inspired by a personal photo/scene.

2. Meath Memories

Local Studies Librarian and poet Tom French hosted two evenings celebrating Meath Memories. Audiences at the event took a trip down memory lane with a presentation of old photos of Meath faces and places, specially curated from the Local Studies collection. The images were punctuated by selected poetry from A Meath Anthology, a 140-page collection featuring poetry with strong County Meath connections.

Biodiversity Week Programme

Libraries marked national Biodiversity Week (May 15th to 24th) with two public talks on "Planting for a Changing Climate" for adults delivered by horticulturist and biodiversity specialist Aoife Munn. Primary School children in Ashbourne and Dunboyne discovered how Ireland's landscapes and habitats shape animals with author and wildlife enthusiast Aga Grandowicz. Bee habitats were the focus of school events with Anyone 4 Science in Navan and Trim libraries where children learned how to make their own bee house.

These events were co-funded by the Biodiversity, Conservation & Heritage section.

Finance

Housing Loans:

LAHL Data 1st January 2026 to 22nd May 2026		
Applications Received	18	2026 applications
Fully Completed Applications	15	2026 applications
Awaiting Recommendation from Housing Agency (Underwriters)	1	2026 applications
Invalid Applications	3	2026 applications
Awaiting Further Information from applicants	1	2026 applications
Approved by Credit Committee	9	2026 applications
Refused by Credit Committee	0	
Awaiting Decision by Credit Committee	4	2026 applications
Active Approvals	15.99	9 relate to 2026, 5.83 relate to 2025, 0.48 relate to 2024, 0.68 relate to 2023
Expired	1	1 relate to 2025
Drawdown by Customer	1.55	1 relates to 2025, 0.15 relates to 2024 0.40 relates to 2023

Figures above related to activity from 1st January 2026 to 22nd May 2026 and in some cases relate to applications from 2023, 2024 and 2025. Previously expired loans may be extended in some cases.