comhairle chontae na mí
meath county council

Monthly Management Report for Elected Members

November 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 Services

EU Presidency Visit Builds on Meath–Italy Partnership



Meath County Council was delighted to welcome a diplomatic delegation to County Meath from 19 – 21 October, as part of Ireland's EU Presidency 2026 and the Italy–Meath County Pairing Programme.

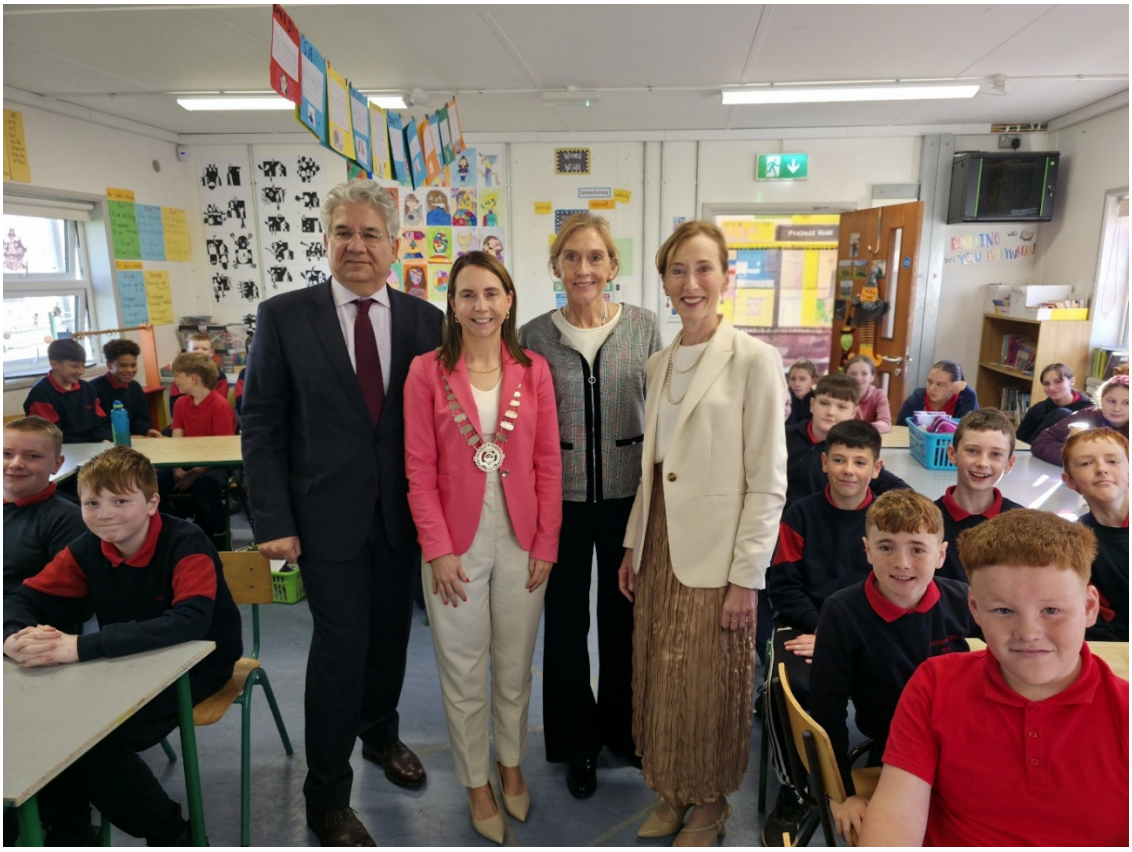
The three-day programme saw An Cathaoirleach of Meath County Council Cllr Sarah Reilly with Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade and Minister for Defence Helen McEntee TD, Minister of State for European Affairs Thomas Byrne TD, and Chief Executive Kieran Kehoe welcome Ambassador of Italy to Ireland Nicola Faganello and Ambassador of Ireland to Italy Elizabeth McCullough and their teams to the Royal County for a special three day tour to learn more about Meath.

Through a programme of institutional, educational, enterprise, cultural and heritage engagements, the visit showcased the county's key priorities and strengthened existing links between Meath and Italy.

The programme included engagements at the Thrive Centre of Business Excellence and EU Grange, alongside visits to Ratoath College, Dalgan Park, Navan Rugby Club, the Vanilla Pod (for a Boyne Valley Flavours Dining Experience), Carnaross National School, Sheridan's Cheesemongers, Trim Castle, the Swift Cultural Centre (where guests experienced the work of local creative collective Meath Made), and visits to Trim Library, Newgrange and the Brú na Bóinne UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The visit provided a valuable platform for further collaboration and lasting connections between Meath and Italy.





Meath Civil Defence Headquarters Reopens Following Restoration

Meath Civil Defence Headquarters officially reopened on 3 October following a major restoration project after the facility was extensively damaged by fire in December 2025.



The reopening marked an important milestone for Meath Civil Defence, whose volunteers maintained operational services throughout the restoration period, ensuring continued support for communities across the county.

The event was attended by An Cathaoirleach Cllr Sarah Reilly, Minister for Defence Helen McEntee TD, Minister of State Thomas Byrne TD, Chief Executive Kieran Kehoe, Elected Members, Council staff, Civil Defence volunteers and invited guests.

The occasion also included the presentation of 75 Years of Civil Defence Commemorative Medals and 15 Long Service Medals, recognising the dedication and longstanding contribution of volunteers.

Meath Cares About Older People 2026 A Great Success

Meath Cares About Older People 2026 took place on 7 October at the CityNorth Hotel and Conference Centre in Gormanston.

Organised by Meath County Council in partnership with the Meath Age Friendly Alliance, the event brought together older people from across the county for a day focused on information, wellbeing and community connection.



Attendees met representatives from a wide range of organisations and learned about supports relating to health, active ageing, independent living, social participation and community services.

The strong attendance and positive engagement highlighted the importance of supporting older people to remain informed, active and connected within their communities.

Fire Safety Week Promotes Prevention Across Meath

Meath County Council Fire and Rescue Service marked Fire Safety Week with a countywide programme of community engagement and education, promoting the message: “Know Your Room, Know the Risk, Know the Person.”

As part of the campaign, Nobber Fire Station carried out a Hot Strike following a recent fire in a local housing estate. Firefighters visited neighbouring homes to speak directly with residents, provide practical fire prevention advice and reinforce the importance of installing and maintaining working smoke alarms.

The campaign also encouraged householders to consider the different fire risks that may be present in kitchens, living rooms and bedrooms, as well as the needs of family members or residents who may require additional assistance in an emergency.

Fire safety education was extended to younger members of the community through a visit by Nobber firefighters to KC’s Crèche in Kilmainhamwood. Interactive discussions introduced the children to simple but important lessons about recognising potential hazards and staying safe.

Throughout Fire Safety Week, personnel engaged with schools, childcare facilities, community groups and members of the public across Meath. The programme provided an important opportunity to bring potentially lifesaving advice directly into local communities and strengthen awareness of the practical steps everyone can take to reduce the risk of fire.



LAMA Recognise Cllr Brian Fitzgerald's 40 Years Service



The Local Authority Members Association (LAMA) recently had an event recognising Councillors nationally for 40 years' service, including Meath County Council's own Cllr Brian Fitzgerald.

First elected to Meath County Council in 1985, Cllr Brian Fitzgerald has devoted more than 41 years to representing the people of Meath. He has been returned to office on seven successive occasions and has served as Cathaoirleach of Meath County Council three times, reflecting his longstanding commitment to public service and local government.

Cllr Fitzgerald also served as a TD from 1992 to 1997 and as Labour Party Whip. During this period, he continued to advocate for County Meath at national level and contributed to the work of the Forum for Peace and Reconciliation during an important period in the Northern Ireland peace process.

His wider public service included 13 years as a member of the North Eastern Health Board, where he worked to ensure that local communities had a strong voice in the provision of essential health services.

Among his many contributions to Meath was his involvement, alongside Kevin Stewart and the late Joe Horan, in establishing the twinning relationship between County Meath and Cary, North Carolina. The partnership continues to create valuable connections between both communities and celebrated its 25th anniversary with a programme of events in Meath in August.

Local Lens Highlights Collaborative Approach to Community Safety

The latest episode of Local Lens (released in early October) shines a spotlight on the collaborative work taking place across County Meath to address domestic abuse and support safer communities.

Community Safety in Action: Working Together to Address Domestic Abuse in Meath features conversations with representatives from Meath Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP), Willow Domestic Abuse Services and Zero Tolerance Meath, highlighting the importance of partnership, prevention and community awareness.

The episode coincided with the inter-agency conference on Responding to the Risk of Domestic Homicide and explores how local organisations are working together to ensure that those affected by domestic, sexual and gender-based violence can access support and services when they need them.



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			
Main Street, Ashbourne	60	Q2 2028	Q4 2029
Blackcastle House, Navan	100	Q2 2029	Q2 2031
Robinstown	3	Q3 2027	Q3 2028
Riverside, Carnaross	5	Q3 2027	Q3 2028
Trim Road, Balreask	4	Q3 2027	Q3 2028
Friars Park, Trim	4	Q3 2027	Q3 2028
Church Street, Kells	3	Q3 2027	Q3 2028
Total	**179**		
PART 8 PLANNING & DETAILED DESIGN			
Ratoath Age Friendly Development	14	Q2 2027	Q4 2028
Johnstown Town Centre	21	Q2 2028	Q4 2029
Kells, Archdeaconry	22	Q2 2027	Q3 2028
Carrick Street Regeneration, Kells	47	Q3 2027	Q3 2029
Planning & Design Total	**104**		
TENDER FOR CONSTRUCTION			
Church View, Rathmolyon	22	Q1 2027	Q3 2028
Haggard Street, Trim	4	Q3 2026	Q3 2027
Total Tender for Construction	**26**		

CONSTRUCTION STAGE			
Abbott Mews, Abbeylands, Navan	6	Q3 2025	Q1 2027
Blackhill Crescent, Donacarney	2	Q1 2026	Q1 2027
Construction Total	8		
OVERALL TOTAL	**317**		
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
Newtown, Drumconrath	1		21/06/2026

Meath County Council Approved Capital Assistance Scheme, Part V & Turnkey up to 8th October 2026.

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT TYPE	NO. OF UNITS
Ashbourne	Part V	71
Athboy	Part V	4
Ballivor	Part V	2
Bettystown	Part V	4
Drogheda	Part V	32
Duleek	Part V	2
Dunboyne	Part V	59
Dunshaughlin	Part V	38
Enfield	Part V	5
Kells	Part V	12
Longwood	Part V	12
Navan	Part V	95
Oldcastle	Part V	8
Rathmolyon	Part V	9
Ratoath	Part V	47
Summerhill	Part V	4
Trim	Part V	33
Kells	Turnkey	8
Navan	Turnkey	43
Navan	CAS	12
Slane	CAS	1
Trim	CAS	2
Oldcastle	CAS	6
Total		**509**

Meath County Council Approved CAS, Part V & Turnkey – Delivered as at the 8th October 2026.

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT TYPE	NO. OF UNITS
Ashbourne	Part V	30
Drogheda	Part V	4
Dunshaughlin	Part V	1
Enfield	Part V	22
Kells	Part V	1
Kilcock	Part V	4
Navan	Part V	29
Oldcastle	Part V	5
Ratoath	Part V	2
Summerhill	Part V	17
Drogheda	Turnkey	30
Navan	Turnkey	62
Total		**207**

Starter Home Purchase Scheme

Meath County Council currently have 5 Starter Homes Schemes open for applications

Current Live Schemes		
PROJECT NAME	**Scheme Status**	**NO. OF UNITS**
Bennetstown Dunboyne	Portal opened 7th May	55 units all allocated
Brackinrainey Wood Longwood	Portal opened July 2nd – 2 allocated	4 units in total
The Hollies Ballivor	Portal opened July 9th – 0 allocated	2 units in total
The Furrows, Ratoath	Portal opened Sept 24th – 7 units allocated	14 units in total
Foxwood Kells	Portal opened October 1st – 6 units allocated	8 units in total
Upcoming Schemes approved by the Department		
Limebrook, Navan	Q 4 2026	9
Coach, Ashbourne	Q 1 2027	92

Cluain Lionn Grove Oldcastle	Q 2 2027	6
Larrix Grove Duleek	Q 4 2026	1
Fosterfields Athboy	Q 4 2027	12
Athcarne Manor, The Commons, Duleek	Q 4 2026	1
Submitted to the Department		
Sommerville, Navan	Q 4 2026	6
Oakfield, Dunboyne	Q 4 2026	6

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 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	**131**	
Applications awaiting works to date for 2026	**83**	
Works underway	**07**	**€ 69,941.47**
Works completed to date in 2026	**39**	**€ 362,262.45**
Remaining funding		**€ 26,330.29**

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	Recoupable	
Jan- Feb 26	€612,974.63	77	€520,084.91	Up to End of Feb
Mar - April 26	€835,601.93	106	€710,261.69	Up to End of April
May - June 26	€795,707.69	102	€676,232.82	Up to 30th June

Jul/Aug/Sept 26	€1,415,118.09	178	€1,202,850.38	Up to 30th Sept
Oct 26*	€			
Nov Dec 26				
Total	€3,659,402.33	463	€3,109,429.68	
Balance Remaining	**€2,014,668.67** *Combined*		**€1,713,530.32** *Department*	

*Recoupment currently being prepared

815 grants awarded totalling €6,553,249.49

Active files ready to issue grant awards: -

For recommendation 40 €279,962.86

OVERALL TOTAL 855 €5,898,977.20

Awaiting final inspection / payment & not recouped

179 €1,424,673.23

Local Authority Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme (EERP)

Energy retrofit works on occupied properties are ongoing. Up to 14th October 2026 7 claims have been submitted for 61 properties for a total of €2,210,442.51. All 6 previous claims have been recouped from the department in the amount of €2,004,735.00. Only basic works are now being carried out on void properties to bring them up to minimum rental standards as per DOEHLG instruction.

Appointment of the Obligated Parties has been completed, and batches have been issued to the successful parties (4 No.). These contractors will provide Meath Co Co with detailed energy reports to determine what retrofit works are required on the relevant property. The return time on the reports should considerably speed up the time taken to issue task orders on stock listed on the EERP.

Standards in Rented Accommodation/Rental Tenancy Board Inspections

2,214 Inspections were carried out on rented properties in Meath from 1st January to 2nd October 2026. Of this 985 were first inspections and 108 properties passed after their first inspection. 113 Improvement Notices and 18 Prohibition Notices were served to 2nd October 2026. 43 Improvement Notices have been withdrawn as the matters referred to in the Improvement Notices were remedied.

Multi-Unit Developments (MUDs)

The tender documents for the Property Management Contract have been assessed and Contractor Notification letters have been issued. Appointment of the successful tenderer is imminent pending clarification of H&S issues.

Local Authority Planned Maintenance

1158 Stock Condition Surveys have been completed in Meath from 1st January 2026 to 12th October 2026. An overall total of 2644 surveys have been completed on stock houses to date. Information gathered from these surveys will form the basis of planned maintenance works.

Radon detectors continue to be placed in stock houses. Collection of these detectors is ongoing and results are being collected. Two houses so far have shown slightly higher than accepted levels of Radon, both houses have had works completed to address this.

Contracts:

- A contractor has been appointed to carry out retrofit works in 3 houses in Cherryhill Court, Kells – works are close to completion
- Following inspections a surveyor has issued a report regarding the party/fire walls between properties in Blackwater Park, Enfield. A tender for remedial works to these houses is being prepared
- Contractor is being appointed for the energy upgrade works in Claremont Estate; a pre-start meeting will be held soon
- Appointment of a contractor for the energy upgrade works in Magdelene Court, Kells is being completed, a pre-start meeting will be held soon
- Documents are being prepared for tender for the St Mary's Villas, Donore (energy upgrades on 11 houses) and St Benildus Villas, Navan (energy upgrades on 4 houses).
- The heat pump servicing tender has been assessed and the winning contractor will be appointed in the coming weeks

Local Authority Vacant Units Currently Unavailable for Allocation

Two voids claims for 2026 have been submitted for a total of 34 properties in the amount of €374,000; €176,000 of which has been recouped from the department. A third claim will be submitted by the end of November.

As of 12th October 2026 we are progressing works on 64 voids. Table 1 below shows a summary per Municipal District of the number of vacant properties that currently require works before they can be re-tenanted as of 12th October 2026. 1 unit was completed this month, 7 units were added this month. 8 units are subject to energy retrofit works. See Table 1 below for breakdown of void works per municipal district.

Table 1

	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	6	4	3	3	10
Navan	9	5	12	10	16
Ashbourne	1	1	1	2	1
Laytown/Bettystown	7	2	1	3	7
Ratoath	1	0	0	0	1
Trim	6	3	2	4	7
TOTALS	**30**	**15**	**19**	**22**	**42**

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	Q2 2027
Dunboyne Heights, Dunboyne	52	Iveagh Trust - CALF	Q2 2027
Frederick Court Ashbourne	26	NEHA - CALF	Q2 2027
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	Q4 2026
Slane	1	St. John of Gods	Q1 2027
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	**150**		

Homelessness – September 2026

	Single Adults / Couples	Households with Children	Total Households
Placements at 30th August 2026	197 (213 Adults)	92 (133 Adults & 177 Children)	289
Placements at 30th September 2026	191 (203 Adults)	96 (146 Adults & 183 Children)	287

Of the households with children, 86 families are placed in short-term private rented accommodation (house/apartment) through the Settlement Team's intervention, 10 Families in Family Hubs.

91% bed allocations were availed of by service users

9% 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 LA's will also engage with these LA's. This includes Louth, Fingal, Westmeath & Kildare.

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

Reason for EA Presentations	Total Numbers
NTQ	14
Family Circumstance	23
Hospital | Prison | Care	17
Couch Surfing | Cannot Afford	14
Rough Sleeping	3
Other	0
Total	71

EA Exit Figures:

- **Families:**
  - 7 Families exited EA in September. This comprised 7 Adults & 11 Children in September.

Reason for EA Family Exit	Total Numbers
MCC Allocation	4
Not availing of Bed	1
Return to Family / Friend	0
HAP	2
Private Rented	0
Other	0
AHB Allocation	0
Total	7

- **Singles/Couples:**
  - 31 Singles/Couples exited EA in September.

Reason for EA Singles/Couples Exit	Total Numbers
MCC Allocation	3
Not availing of Bed	9
Return to Family / Friend	5

HAP	1
Private Rented	0
Hospital/Treatment/Prison	2
Terminated	10
Other	0
Declined EA	0
AHB Allocation	1
Total	31

Age profile of clients in emergency accommodation on 30/09/2026

Age profile	Clients	0-4	04-11	11-18	18-25	25-40	40-65	Over 65
Families	146	0	0	0	37	68	41	0
Couples	24	0	0	0	5	4	13	2
Singles	179	0	0	0	37	41	87	14
Children	183	73	73	37	0	0	0	0
Total	532	73	73	37	79	113	141	16

Homeless / HAP Placefinder - 1st September – 30th September 2026

Total	**3**
Exit from Emergency Accommodation	1
Homeless Prevention	2
In Progress	5

Tenant Liaison September 2026

Anti-Social Behaviour Investigation	Complaints	Cases
Frequent serious disturbances	**149**	**60**
Occupancy of dwelling	**82**	**53**
Garden upkeep/maintenance	**64**	**30**
Dog/Horse/Pet Control	**9**	**7**
Total	**304**	**150**
ASB Investigations on going at (month end)	**105**	
ASB Investigations completed (month end)	**45**	

Number of Pre Tenancies completed in September 2026	**32**
Abandonments for September 2026	**0**
Houses taken back into stock for September 2026	**10**

Warnings Issued 2026

Warnings	Jan'26	Feb'26	Mar'26	Apr'26	May'26	Jun'26	July'26	Aug'26	Sept'26
Verbal	**1**	**6**	**1**	**3**	**1**	**3**	**0**	**1**	**7**
Written	**2**	**4**	**0**	**5**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**4**	**0**
2nd Written	**1**	**0**	**1**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**1**	**0**
Statutory	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
Advisory	**34**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**3**	**0**	**5**
Total	**38**	**10**	**2**	**8**	**1**	**3**	**3**	**6**	**12**

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	4	0	5	0	0	3
June	8	0	0	2	3	0
July	1	0	5	1	0	1
August	3	0	6	3	0	2
September	4	0	5	1	2	0
October						
November						
December						
Total	33	0	25	12	8	12

Social Housing Supports - for period 1st September – 30th September

- 136 applications received for Social Housing
- 55 Applications approved onto the Social Housing List
- 23 applications unsuccessful

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

Allocations/Housing Supports	**Number**
MCC Direct Allocations	40
(of which) Transfers	4
Approved Housing Bodies	3
Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)	0
Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)	16
Long Term Leasing (inc Private MTR)	2
Mortgage To Rent (Approved Housing Bodies)	0
TOTAL	**65**

Breakdown of Social Housing list by Citizen Status for 2026 (Figures taken as of 7/10/26)

Citizen Status	**Total**	**% of Overall**
Irish	2,035	73.15%
Other EEA	525	18.87%
Non-EEA	205	7.37%
UK	17	0.61%
Total	2,782	**100%**

Breakdown of Allocations by Citizen Status for 2026 (Figures taken as of 7/10/26)

Citizen Status	**Total**	**% of Overall**
Irish	284	69.44%
Other EEA	95	23.23%
Non-EEA	27	6.60%
UK	2	0.49%
Not Captured	1	0.24
Total	409	**100%**

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.
N2 Slane Bypass & Public Realm Enhancement Scheme - €650K	On Oct 9th 2026 the N2 Slane Bypass was up for mention in front of the courts to get a date for an appeal hearing. A date of Jan 22nd 2027 was set for the appeal hearing.
N52 Grange to Clontail - €2.0M	Enabling works contracts expected to commence in the coming months. Land compensation agreements ongoing. Notice to Enter served on the lands Oct 2026.
N2 Rath to Kilmoon	Phase 3 works ongoing, preparing statutory documents.
N52MH_034.0 Balrath Cross RSIS	Design report currently being progressed.
N51 Tullaghanstown Bog Rampart Scheme	Phases 1 to 4 – Consultants appointed.
N51 Pavement Schemes	Tenders received. Tenders currently beng assessed.
N2 Glassallen Pavement Scheme	Tenders received. Tenders currently beng assessed

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)	€9,278,630 Local Tertiaries €450,000 Community Involvement Scheme €327,369 Restoration Maintenance
Total	**€10,055,999**
Scheme	Update
Phase 1 (Recycle, Overlay & Surface Dressing):	30 of the 31 schemes completed
Phase 2 (Surface Dressing):	Contract Complete
Phase 3 (Overlay & Surface Dressing):	Contract Complete
Phase 4 (Wearing Course):	Contract Complete
Community Involvement Scheme	Works scheduled to be completed by the end of October
Local Tertiaries	Contract Complete
Local Improvement Schemes	Works commenced on site

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

Grant Allocation	**€1,225,000**
Scheme	Update
R156/R125 Mullagh Cross	Detail design progressing. Discussions re land acquisition still ongoing. Draft tender documents for construction contract expected Q4 2026.
R155 Curragha	Consultants appointed and initial review of data underway. Site visit completed and options being considered.
R132 Julianstown Traffic Relief Scheme	Option Selection process progressing. Public Consultation re potential options closed 31st August. Submissions being reviewed along with technical assessment of potential options.
L6210 Newtownmoyaghy	Awaiting confirmation of decision from An Coimisiun Pleanala re NIS application.
R108 / L16111 Bey More Junction safety scheme	Emerging preferred Option identified and 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	Signing and lining tenders being assessed.
R-154 Piercetown	Signing and lining tenders being assessed.
R-162 Lisnagrow	Location is being reviewed and options being considered
R-159 Rathmolyon	Signing and lining tenders being assessed.
R-152 Riverstown	Signing and lining tenders being assessed.
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	Signing and lining tenders being assessed.
R-161 Manorland	Signing and lining tenders being assessed.
L-1006 Cabinhill	Signing and lining tenders being assessed.

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	Works substantially complete
L3405 Aclare Bridge	Works substantially complete
L28013 Graultys Bridge	Works substantially complete
R164 Piercetown Bridge	Works have commenced on site
L6833 Ballybeg Bridge	Consultants appointed. Repair works requirements being compiled
L8603 Edengora Bridge	Consultants appointed. Repair works requirements being compiled
L7418 Knockumber Bridge	Consultants appointed. Repair works requirements being compiled
Minor Bridges Works	Minor bridge works and repairs ongoing on various bridges around the county

2 (e) Climate Change Adaptation & Resilience Works

Grant Allocation	**€540,000**
Scheme	**Update**
R160 Cloncowan €185,000	Meeting with the DOT to discuss the progression of the project towards the end of October 2026.
Headfort Park €40,000.00	AA screening report for further works completed. Jetting of lines pipes completed. CCTV of lines completed. Damage manhole and pipework repaired. New entrance gate procured and installed.
L-80045-5 Church Road, Athboy €25,000	Works complete
R130 Greenogue Flood Alleviation Scheme €80,000.00	Works complete
R108 Clintstown Flood Alleviation Scheme €80,000.00	Works complete
L-34036 Kearnstown, Drunconrath €25,000.00	Further funding to be agreed with DOT

2. (f) Former National Road Rehabilitation Works

Grant Allocation	**€750,000.00**
Scheme	**Update**
R-147-36 Navan to Kells Road at Martry	€750,000 Scheme completed

3. Active Travel Grants

Funding Source	**NTA**
Grant Allocation	€10M allocated for 2026
Scheme	**Update**
NA1: R147 Martha's Bridge to Circular Road	Works continued at the Marthas Bridge junction, including kerbing and footpath works following installation of new signals. Binder course laying works commenced on the main line from Academy Street junction to Marthas Bridge junction. Construction works to the boundary wall and piers to Ardboyne Hotel on Swan Lane recommenced. Kerbing and bus stop works on the R147 at the pumping station continued.
NA1: R147/N51 Poolboy Bridge to Kells Road Roundabout	Preliminary design work is continuing on the proposed two-way cycle scheme on the riverside of the R147 from Poolboy Bridge to the LDR4 Junction. Works are progressing on the upgrade of the bus stop adjacent to the Blackwater Retail Park.
Flowerhill Cycle & Pedestrian Scheme	Flower Hill Public Realm Enhancement Scheme Design work is continuing on the finalisation of the drawings and documents for the upcoming Part 8 process for the Flowerhill Public Realm Enhancement Scheme (Watergate Street/Poolboy junction to the Round 'O' roundabout). Preliminary design work continues on the section from the R147/N51 junction to the Round 'O' roundabout.
Navan Public Realm: Trimgate Street Pedestrianisation	Design work is continuing the finalisation of the drawings and documents for the upcoming Part 8 process.

Navan Contract 5: Fairgreen, Church Hill, Bakery Lane, Old Cornmarket, Preston Place and Fairgreen Carpark.	Safety file has been collated and submitted. The remaining snag items and minor outstanding works items are continuing to be closed out.
Convent Road to Metges Road & Trim Road: Beechmount to Balreask Manor Active Travel Schemes	Design work is continuing on the finalisation of the drawings and documents for the upcoming Part 8 process.
Trim Road Phase 2 – Circular Road Solstice Roundabout to R147	The Consultant continued to finalise the Gateway 5A documentation, including the final tender pack.
Tara Na Ri Junction Upgrade	Draft tender layout drawings have been prepared and are under review.
Trim Road Phase 3 - Beechmount to Balreask Manor	The Consultant has undertaken modelling of a proposed junction layout for the Balreask crossroads. Further design work and modelling is to continue to identify the optimum junction treatment and to identify potential land requirements. The drawings for the remainder of the proposed scheme are currently being reviewed in advance of the commencement of an internal pre-Part 8 consultation process.
Trim Road Phase 4 Balreask Manor to Borallion Junction	The Consultant has undertaken modelling of a proposed junction layout for the Balreask crossroads. Further design work and modelling is to continue to identify the optimum junction treatment and to identify potential land requirements. The drawings for the remainder of the proposed scheme are currently being reviewed in advance of the commencement of an internal pre-Part 8 consultation process.
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. Scheme 1 – Dunboyne to Clonee – Consultant appointed for Phase 5-7. Currently working on detailed design until October 2026. Surveys for additional information works are out to tender.

	Scheme 2 – Dunboyne Cycle Network - Work is progressing on the Preliminary Design. Land take discussions ongoing with land owners.
Castle Street Ashbourne	Gateway 2 drawings and documents issued to NTA for approval prior to progressing to Phase 3 Preliminary Design. Awaiting approval before proceeding.
Johnstown Village Active Travel Scheme	Active Travel, Public Realm and Housing combined projects ready for Part 8. Awaiting comments from the Department of Housing on funding and if and changes are required.
Eastham Road Cycle Facilities	Advanced Works Contract issued for tendering. Continuing engagement with landowners on individual agreements. Main scheme detailed design continuing.
Bus Stop Enhancement Programme	Works continuing to progress the upgrade of 40 stops throughout the County. A further package of bus stops upgrades is continuing to be designed.
Safe Routes to School	
Round 2 Schools St. Colmcilles and Our Lady Of Mercy, Kells	Final stages of statutory consent (Part 8) process concluding, a contractor has been procured and necessary land agreements progressing.
Round 3 Schools Duleek Boys' National School, Scoil Naomh Seachnall, Dunshaughlin St Oliver Plunkett's National School, Navan St Paul's National School, Navan	Initial high-level options have been developed. Engagements with all Stakeholders progressing to determine which options to take forward, with 'front of school' construction works anticipated in the school summer holidays 2027 subject to NTA funding allocations.
Round 4 Schools Gilson National School, Oldcastle Navan Educate Together NS	An Taisce finalising the Delivery Plans for each school on interventions required. It is anticipated 'front of

Scoil Naomh Bríde, Boardsmill St Ultan's NS Bohermeen	school' construction works will take place in the school summer holidays 2028 subject to NTA funding.
Round 5 Schools Scoil Mhuire, Abbey Road,Navan St. Finian's National School, Clonard St. Patrick's National School, Slane Whitecross National School, Julianstown	The National Transport Authority (NTA) with the Department of Transport and An Taisce has announced four schools in Meath will join the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Programme as part of Round 5. An Taisce administer the programme and it is anticipated 'front of school' works will take place in 2029 subject to funding.

4. Roads & Sustainable Transport Schemes

Funding Source	**Primarily DoT & NTA**
Grant Allocation	(covered under TII)
Greenway Resurfacing	Plan to overlay the Greenway from Nobber to Kilmainhamwood in Q3/Q4 2026. Tenders returned 02/10/26. Awaiting TII approval to proceed.

5.Other/Projects

Scheme	**Update**
Broadmeadow Riverwalk Ratoath	Works contract commenced on the 3rd of September. Due for completion Q2 2027. Works ongoing on phase 1.
Oldcastle Public Realm Scheme	MCC have acquired land for a new car park to serve the town centre. Awaiting to secure the site with a fencing contract. RRDF application for funding submitted in July 2026
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. Tobins working through comments and Road

	Safety audit before finalising revised documentation for NTA and RRDF approval.
Trim Pedestrian Bridge	New bridge installed 18th September and expected to be opened to the public on 29th October 2026 once paving and fencing etc completed.
Footpath Rehabilitation Programme	Works recently completed at Balreask estate in Navan and Beymore Road, L-B MD. Works ongoing on the Boyne Road, Navan
New footpaths to Community Centres	Work has commenced on new footpath at Skyrne.
New footpaths to Schools	Contract awarded for new footpath at Newtown-Creevagh NS.
New pedestrian crossings	New pedestrian crossing completed at Kildalkey Road, Athboy with works commenced at new crossings at Delvin Mews Stamullen and Hunters Lane Ashbourne.
Mosney Road & Martins Road Footpath Scheme	Detailed design phase completed, and Tender Pack issued for tendering.
Athboy Bus Stop & Carlanstown Pedestrian Improvement Scheme	Detailed design phase completed, and Tender Pack issued for tendering.

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 are continuing in relation to further properties that are participating in the scheme. 36 properties are substantially complete and consultations with all property owners will continue

7. THRIVE

Scheme	**Update**
County Archive and Community Hub	Acceptance letter issued to successful contractor

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**
Ratoath Civic Centre	URDF, Cat1B €7.5m funding allocation. Project proceeding to full design
Solstice – Frontage	No further updates since the last report

10. National Speed Limit Review

Scheme	**Update**
National Speed Limit Review	Ongoing due for completion June 2027

11. Housing Infrastructure Investment Fund Schemes

Scheme	**Update**
Dunboyne Eastern Distributor Road	Detail design, planning compliance and tender doc preparation progressing. Approval in Principle received from Irish Rail re new bridge.
Dunboyne Business Park link to the R157	Tobins Consulting Engineers progressing detailed design and drafting tender documents for the construction

	contract. Land acquisition and Developer Agreements being progressed.
Ratoath Outer Relief Road Phase 2	Detail design progressing and Uisce Eireann requirements being reviewed.
Kells Frontlands	Consultants being procured to progress detailed design and prepare construction contract tender documents.
LDR1A Navan	Progressing detailed design and drafting tender documents for the construction contract. Approval in Principle application submitted to Irish Rail re bridge structure.

Economic Development, Enterprise & Tourism



Bringing Meath Businesses Together Through Networking and Collaboration

Businesses from the Manufacturing & Engineering, Agriculture, Food & Beverage, and Professional Services sectors attended a joint networking event hosted by Meath County Council's Economic Development team on 7th October. The event brought together the three industry networks for the first time, with guest speakers Siobhán Keogh, Mid East Regional Skills Manager and Mark Graham, Intertrade sharing insights on skills development, business supports, collaboration and innovation.



Meath Careers Expo

Over 50 employers exhibited at the Annual Meath Careers Expo in the Ardboyne on 8th October.



Now in its eighth year, the Expo run by County Meath Chamber and sponsored by Economic Development at Meath County Council, brings businesses and job seekers together to create valuable connections and support opportunities to work closer to home.

European Week of the Regions and Cities

Members of the Economic Development Team attended the European Week of Regions and Cities in Brussels in October, building networks, identifying EU funding and partnership opportunities, and gaining insights into key policy developments relevant to Meath's economic growth and competitiveness. They also attended alongside the East Border Region Network delegation, with a particular focus on the PEACEPLUS-funded BRIDGE project.





The events provided opportunities to showcase the project, strengthen cross-border partnerships through engagement with MEPs and key EU stakeholders, including visits to the European Parliament, the Northern Ireland Executive Office and the Irish Regions European Office (IREO), while expanding regional and national networks.



National Women's Enterprise Day (NWED)



National Women's Enterprise Day (NWED) 2026 was successfully held on 15 October at Dunboyne Castle Hotel, marking Local Enterprise Office Meath's first standalone NWED event. Attracting 120 attendees, the event featured keynote speaker Clare McKenna, MC Bláthnaid Ní Chofaigh, and a panel discussion with local entrepreneurs Amy Bracken and Laura McDermott.

Blas na hÉireann Awards 2026

Meath businesses were strongly represented at national level, with:

- **10 Meath food businesses recognised as finalists** at the Blas na hÉireann Irish Food Awards.
- **Baska Bakery** awarded:
    - Gold Award.
    - Best in County Meath
    -

These results are a strong endorsement of the quality and ambition within Meath's food sector. They also show how LEO-supported food businesses continue to succeed and gain recognition on the national stage.





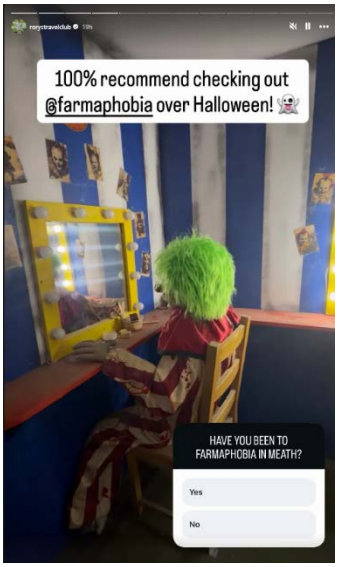
Local Enterprise Office Key Figures for September

Grant Approved/Mentoring Sessions/Training	
Mentoring Assignments Approved	20
Attended Online Training Courses	155
Attended Digital Marketing Clinics	12
Attended AI for Business Clinics	-
Attended Website Health Check Clinics	8
Attended Finance Advice Clinics	3
GREEN for Micro Applications	6
Digital for Business	4
LEAN for Micro	2
Energy Efficiency Grant	3
LEO Grants	1

Boyne Valley Home of Halloween Campaign

The Boyne Valley Home of Halloween campaign is now live. It promotes four festivals: Spirits of Meath, Lú Festival of Light, Púca Festival and the Samhain Festival of Food & Culture. The campaign targets consumers across Ireland and North America, and consists of social and digital advertising, print media, radio, leaflets, digital screens and billboards. A new website, www.boynevalleyhomeofhalloween.ie has been established.





Boyne Valley Dining Week 2026

The inaugural Boyne Valley Dining Week took place from 9–18 October 2026, with 42 food and hospitality businesses participating across Meath and Louth.



Participating businesses showcased local produce through specially created dishes, menus, events and promotions throughout the week with a comprehensive marketing and PR campaign in the lead-up and throughout Dining Week. The campaign aimed to encourage consumers to support participating businesses and choose local produce when dining out.

Centre of Food Culture

Regional Food Networks

The Centre of Food Culture Ireland hosted a first All-Island Gathering of Ireland's Regional Food Networks on Tuesday 22nd September in Portlaoise, with over 145 attendees representing 20 of Ireland's regional food networks, as well as national agencies and representative bodies including Teagasc, Irish Organics Association, Failte Ireland, and the Local Enterprise Office.



Meet the Maker and Farm Walks Events

The Centre of Food Culture Ireland wrapped up its nationwide Meet the Maker and Farm Walks series with an event with Ballykilcavan Brewery on 10th October, this marked the end to a series of 12 events throughout the year and across Ireland, welcoming over 300 attendees to producers' farms to learn directly from them.

Rural Regeneration



Derelict Sites	2026 total
Derelict Sites Register (no. of properties)	32
No. of statutory orders issued	32
CA - Derelict Sites Act - Completed in 2026	2
CA - Derelict Sites Act - Commenced in 2026	4

Vacant Homes	2026 total
Vacant Homes Identified	19
CPO - Housing Act - Completed in 2026	4
CPO - Housing Act - Commenced in 2026	5
CPO - Housing Act - Withdrawn by MCC in 2026 (action taken by owner)	5

Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant	2026 total
Approved Applications	216
Approved in Principle Applications	99
Applications In Progress/Info Requested (not commenced)	16
Rejected Applications	7
Withdrawn Applications	91
Completed / Paid Applications	168
Total Applications Received	424
Total Approved/Approved in Principle Funding	€17,396,484
Total Paid Grant Funding	€9,204,220

Rural Regeneration Project Progress	Funding
Part 8 Process (Oct'26)	
Littlewoods Part 8 - Submission period closed	ORIS PDM
Nobber School (Artist Studio's) - P8 going on display 22/10/2026	MCC / Arts
Works Commenced (Oct'26)	
Summerhill Playground - Contract signing	MCC
Duleek Linear Park (Fr Ryans Park) upgrade works	TVRS

Works Completed (Oct'26)	
Tender process for the appointment for Kells Sensory Garden	TVRS
Site Investigation Works - Kells Community Hall	RRDF

Community Development



Meath Age Friendly

The annual Meath Cares About Older People event was held at the City North Hotel, Gormanstown, on 7 October 2026. More than 250 older people attended the event, making it another successful celebration of the services, supports, and community initiatives that help older people to remain active, informed, and connected.

The event featured over 35 information stands showcasing the wide range of supports and services available to older people throughout the county.

Attendees had the opportunity to attend presentations and avail of one-to-one consultations on topics including legal matters, downloading and using the HSE App, and neurotherapy. Through a series of breakout sessions, delegates also learned more about local community groups and activities, including the Duleek Bridge Club, Meath Coast Men's Shed, and East Coast Women Together Shed.

The Irish Blood Transfusion Service was on hand throughout the day, offering delegates the opportunity to learn their blood type. The event concluded with a lively and engaging panel discussion titled "Safety, Security and Support: Working Together for Older People", which generated significant interest and debate among attendees.





Public Participation Network (PPN)

PPN staff and four Secretariat members attended the National PPN Conference in Athlone, hosted by Roscommon PPN. Under the theme *"Connect, Collaborate and Empower"*, delegates took part in discussions, workshops, site visits, and presentations. Minister Buttimer delivered the keynote address, highlighting the important role of PPNs in participative democracy and reaffirming the Department's support for PPNs nationally.

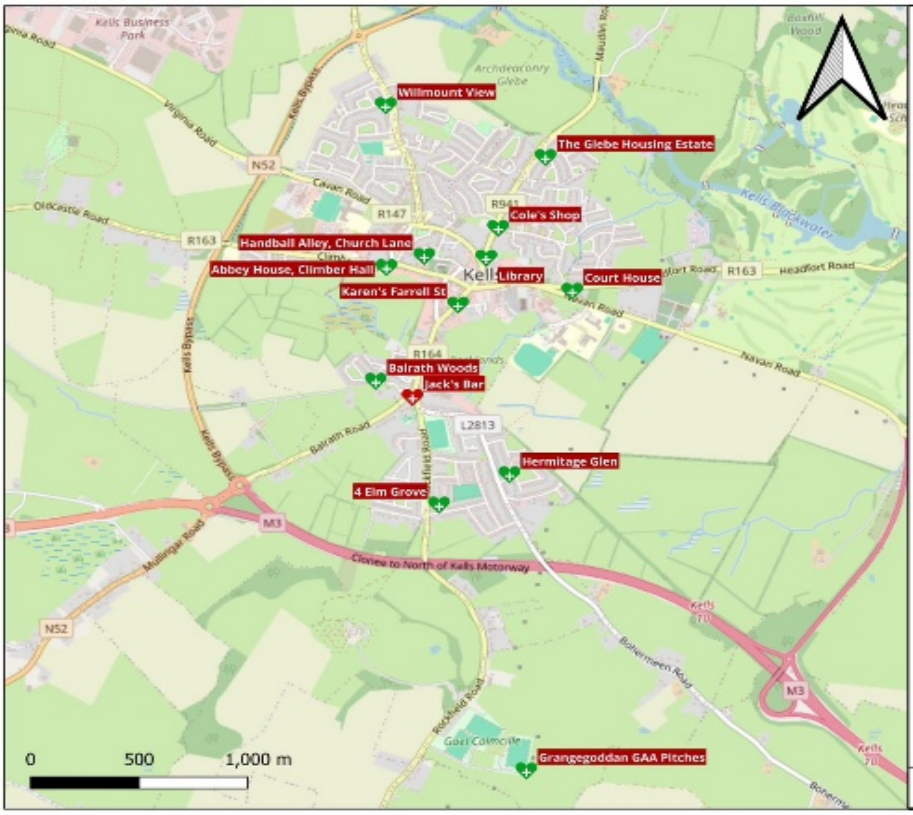
Meath PPN presented at a Health and Wellbeing event in Ashbourne, focusing on practical ways to encourage discussions around mental health and anxiety. Participants received a copy of the *Louie and Frankie* book.

Staff also attended the *Meath Cares About Older People* event at the City North Hotel, promoting opportunities for older people to become more active in their communities.

In partnership with Blackwater CFR, Meath PPN helped launch a Defib Map for the Kells area. The maps identify AED locations and access codes and form part of a wider county-wide initiative to support volunteer-led community first responders' groups.



LAUNCH OF KELLS AED MAPS WITH BLACKWATER CFR GROUP



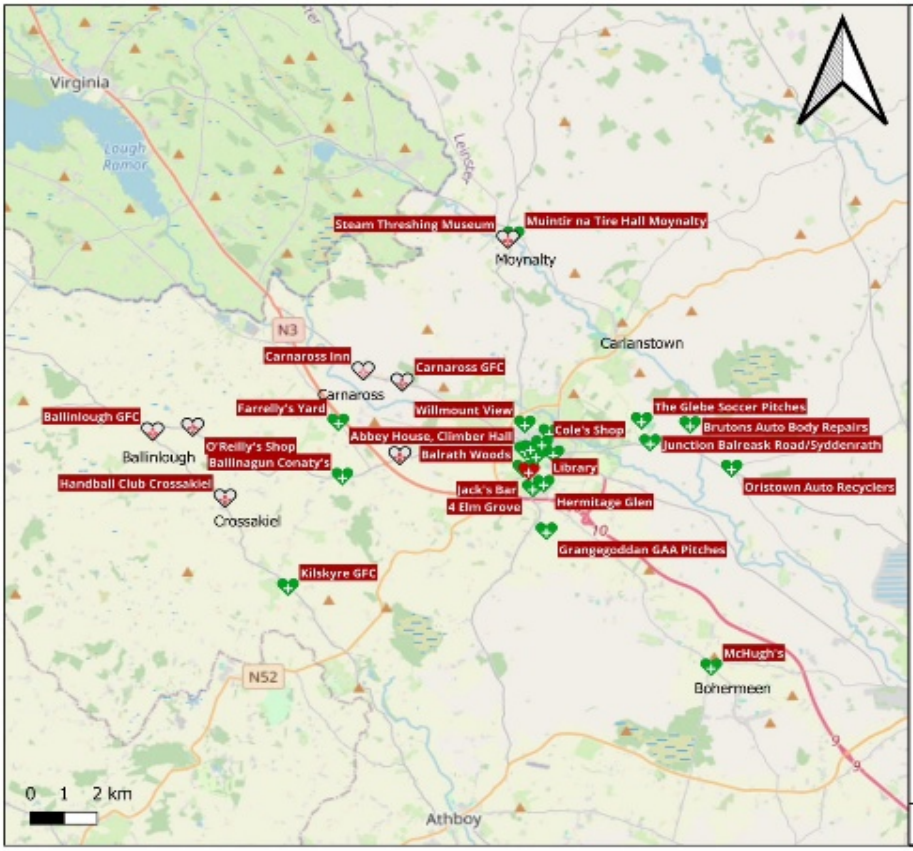
BLACKWATER COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS

Public Access AEDs in Kells

AED Codes
- C1234
- C999
- No Code

CALL 999/112 IN AN EMERGENCY

Date: 25/09/2026



BLACKWATER COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS

Public Access AEDs in Kells Area

AED Codes
- C1234
- C999
- No Code

CALL 999/112 IN AN EMERGENCY

Date: 25/09/2026

Sports Bursary

Following the October Full Council meeting, the Meath County Council Sports Bursary Scheme was unanimously approved by the Elected Members. Successful applicants have now been notified.

Comhairle na nÓg

The Meath Comhairle na nÓg Annual Youth Conference will take place on 22 October 2026 in the Ardboyne Hotel, Navan. The conference provides an opportunity for members to showcase their work, network with one another, share information on successful initiatives, and voice their views on the future development of Comhairle na nÓg in County Meath.

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

The most recent meeting of the Meath Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) took place on 25 September 2026. At the meeting, the LCDC:

- Approved the 2026 SICAP Case Study.
- Approved the SICAP 2025 Internal Audit Report.
- Noted the Mid-Year Review of the Cultúr Migrant Centre Community Development Programme.
- Received an update from the Meath Public Participation Network (PPN).

The next meeting of the LCDC is scheduled to take place on 23 October 2026 at the THRIVE Centre of Business Excellence, Navan.

Local Action Group (LAG)

The Local Action Group met on 25 September 2026 and considered recommendations from the Independent Evaluation Committee relating to applications received under the LEADER 2023-2027 Programme.

The next meeting is scheduled for 23 October 2026

Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP)



The Meath Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP) supported Willow Domestic Abuse Services in hosting the *8 Stages to Domestic Homicide Timeline* conference in Navan for professionals from An Garda Síochána, the HSE, Tusla and Meath County Council. The two-day event enhanced understanding of domestic abuse, coercive control, homicide risk factors and effective interagency responses.

Attendees heard from leading experts, including Professor Jane Monckton-Smith OBE, Sarah Ellis and Meena Kumari, on topics such as homicide risk, coercive control and honour-based abuse. Jason Poole shared his family's experience following the murder of his sister, Jennifer, and outlined his campaign for the introduction of "Jennie's Law". James Brannigan of The Katie Trust also highlighted the importance of advocacy and support for bereaved families.

The conference strengthened collaboration between statutory and community organisations, promoted information sharing and supported a coordinated response to domestic abuse and gender-based violence in County Meath.

Healthy Meath

On 2 October 2026, Healthy Meath hosted the *A Morning for Me* event at the Pillo Hotel, Ashbourne. The event attracted 60 attendees and featured sessions on healthy eating, physical activity, mental wellbeing and breathwork, offering practical advice to support health and wellbeing.





A MORNING FOR ME EVENT IN ASHBOURNE.

The CommUnity Connect Louth & Meath website was launched ahead of World Mental Health Day on 10 October. The website provides a central hub for local supports, services, groups, activities and events that promote positive mental health and wellbeing across Louth and Meath.

Healthy Meath supported the Meath Cares About Older People event at the City North Hotel and participated in a HSE Community Suicide Preparedness Workshop.

Five Community Health Check Days were delivered in Enfield, Duleek, Navan, Wilkinstown and Ashbourne, providing residents with access to health information, wellbeing services and health monitoring.

The October edition of the Healthy Meath Newsletter is now available, featuring recent activities, upcoming events and opportunities to support health and wellbeing.

Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT)

LAIT continues to support new arrivals, with 22 referrals resolved since the last reporting period. Ten cases remain active, while 334 cases have been successfully resolved year-to-date, reflecting strong collaboration between members of the Community Integration Forum.

LAIT Clinic Work

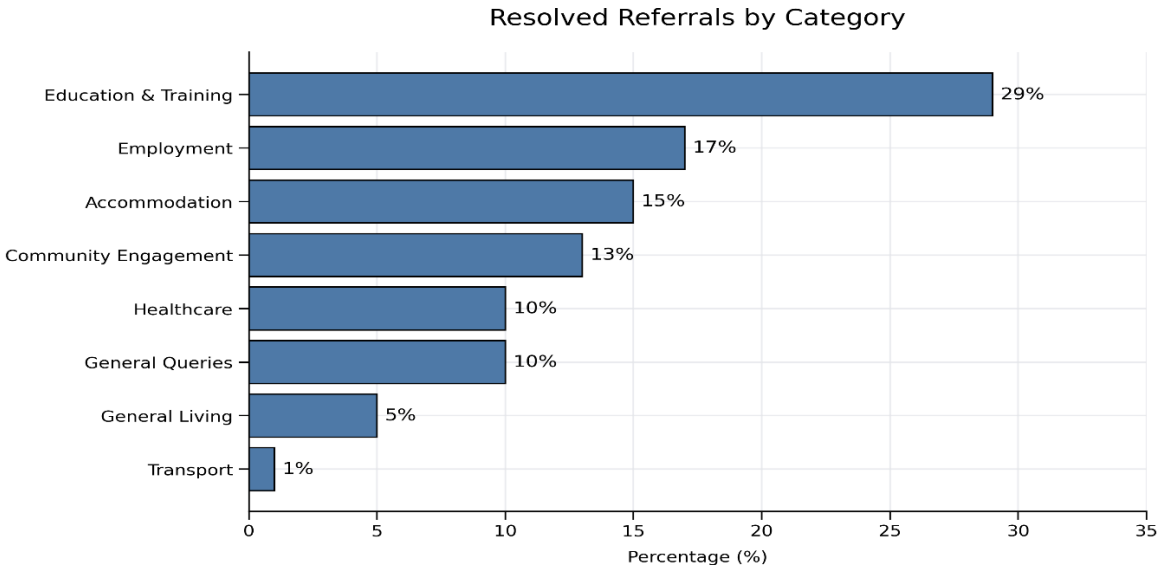
Fourteen outreach clinics were held in local accommodation centres during October (to the date of reporting), providing on-site support to residents.

Customer Service Cases Logged 2026:

Customer Service Cases	**September**	**October**
Number of Customer cases assigned/in progress/still active	7	10
Number of Customer cases closed	312	334

Figures for Accommodation Centres:

Accommodation Type	**Numbers accommodated Sept 2026**	**Numbers accommodated Oct 2026**
UKR	412	392
IP	1034	1072



Recent LAIT involvement in Events

LAIT continues to support the weekly Meath Traveller Network Culture Café, which runs until Christmas. LAIT is encouraging residents of local accommodation centres to participate and become more integrated within their communities.

LAIT attended and hosted a stand at Meath Cares About Older Persons Event at the City North Hotel. Thirteen residents from Gormanston Park attended, with transport provided by Local Link.



An Integration Support Worker on the stand at the Meath Cares About Older Persons' Event in CityNorth hotel.

Age Friendly Ireland Shared Service



National Age Friendly Awards 2026

Hosted by Limerick City and County Council and MCed by RTÉ's Marty Whelan, the National Age Friendly Recognition and Achievement Awards took place at the Limerick Strand Hotel on 8th October. The Awards celebrate practical initiatives improving everyday life for older people and showcase Age Friendly innovation that can be shared and replicated across Ireland.

This year, the awards were also an EU Associated Presidency event. These are events organised independently of Ireland's Presidency of the Council of the European Union which align with the themes and priorities of Ireland's EU Presidency.

The awards have attracted increasing numbers of applicants, with shortlisted projects selected through a competitive process. The 2026 event featured a Judges' Special Recognition Award, presented to the GAA, and introduced the Best Age Friendly Programme category, sponsored by Irish Public Bodies Insurance (IPB), with the inaugural award going to Westmeath Age Friendly Programme.

Winners of the 2026 National Age Friendly Recognition and Achievement Awards included projects helping older people prepare for severe weather in Longford, supporting recovery and active living following illness in Dublin, and bringing retail experiences directly to older people in residential care homes in Clare. An Age Friendly Housing development was also among the award winners.









Age Friendly Ireland Programme Updates

Regional Manager Mary Fitzsimons presented to the DCU Generations at Work conference, speaking about Meath's Age Friendly Workplace Pathfinder project that is developing guidelines for employers around supporting older workers and creating Age friendly working environments.





Community Linkage Project

The Nursing Home Community Linkage Project was presented to a meeting of affiliates in the WHO Global Age Friendly Cities and Communities Network. Project Co-ordinator Alison Lynch spoke about her work to increase community engagement with nursing home residents and presented on the project's evaluation findings.

New funding positions announced for HAFH Programme

Minister O'Donnell announced additional funding for 5 new staff positions for the Healthy Age Friendly Homes Programme.

Planning



1. Planning Applications (Section 34)

1386 planning applications were lodged in the period 01.01.2026 to 30.09.2026. This is compared to **1206** in the same period in 2025.

85% of the applications received in 2026 have been lodged via the online portal – ePlan.

2. Commencement Notices

53 Valid Commencement Notices and 14 Valid Seven-Day Notices were received in the period 01/9/2026 to 30/09/2026. This is compared to 44 commencement notices and 3 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	22
Multi-Units	109 Units
Extensions	19
Other*	9

* 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	28 Units
Other*	11

* 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 01/9/2026 to 30/09/2026.

3. Development Contributions (Section 48)

Receipt Period: Jan – Sept 2026
Total Receipts € 5,349,980
Recoupments received – refund €1.6 m € 3,256,861

Total Received € 8,606,841

Target Collection Jan - Dec 2026: € 8,000,000
Actual Collected Jan - Sept 2026: € 8,606,841
% collected: 108%

Please note the collection figures shown above are **inclusive** of Uisce Eireann receipts (€ 30,882) and Irish Rail receipts (€874,394).

The total collected (receipts plus recoupments received) in the same period in 2025 was € 10,820,153.

Further refunds will be due to the Department as more units are delivered as social/affordable units or are incomplete at 31/12/2026.

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

- **300** Planning Enforcement complaints received since 01/01/2026
- **94** new planning enforcement cases were opened from 1.01.2026 to 30/09/2026

New Cases to be Investigated -	**28**
Warning Letters	**158**
Enforcement Notices	**68**
Referred for Legal Proceedings	**5**
Closed	**99**
Court Attendances* This number does not include cases for Judicial Review or Meath County Council as Notice party	**28**

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

Climate Action and Environment



Food Waste Prevention



As part of Climate Action Week, the wonderful Catherine Fulvio delivered an engaging and inspiring cookery demonstration highlighting how small, everyday changes in our kitchens can make a real difference in reducing food waste, saving money, and protecting the environment.

Food waste remains a significant issue, but Catherine showed that with a little planning, creativity, and inspiration, every household can play a part in tackling it. Her Halloween-themed recipes demonstrated how to make the most of the food we already have, transforming commonly wasted ingredients into delicious, family-friendly dishes.

The session was practical, fun, and full of achievable tips, leaving attendees motivated to adopt simple habits that support both their wallets and the planet.

Household Hazardous Waste Day in Kells Recycling Centre



A highly successful Household Hazardous Waste Day was held at Kells Recycling Centre on 3rd October, providing residents with a safe and convenient way to dispose of hazardous household materials. The event operated through a ticketed system, ensuring steady traffic flow, efficient processing, and safe handling of all items received. The event was funded by the Regional Waste Management Planning Offices.

A standout achievement was the exceptional paint reuse outcome. The Rediscovery Centre collected **nearly a full year's worth of paint for re-use** in a single day, demonstrating both strong public engagement and the significant potential for circular economy initiatives. Alongside paint, a wide range of hazardous materials—including oils, chemicals, aerosols, and varnishes—were safely managed and directed to appropriate treatment or recovery routes.

The event delivered clear environmental benefits by diverting hazardous waste from disposal, improving household safety, and raising awareness of responsible waste practices. Positive feedback from attendees highlighted the value of providing dedicated disposal opportunities for materials not accepted during routine recycling centre operations.

Leaf Mould Project



Julianstown Community Garden

Master Composter Craig Benton undertook a comprehensive programme across County Meath to establish Leaf Mould Composting Schemes aimed at managing seasonal leaf fall in a sustainable and community-driven manner. Over the course of the project, Craig visited 18 locations throughout Meath, meeting with local groups, assessing suitable sites, and providing hands-on guidance on the setup and operation of leaf mould systems.

Libraries Services



Children's Book Festival 2026 – *A Right Royal Read!*

Children's Book Festival 2026 delivered a countywide programme promoting reading, creativity and cultural participation among children and young people. As a core Right to Read initiative, it included author visits, storytelling, illustration workshops, music, theatre and interactive activities exploring literacy, Irish folklore, history, adventure and language. The programme also supported cultural initiatives linked to Ireland's EU Presidency.

Participatory workshops in illustration, bookmaking, creative writing and puppet-making were complemented by the countywide *Decorate a Door* competition and *Big Book Quiz*, strengthening engagement between libraries, schools and communities.

A total of 97 events were planned across Meath's library network, the Solstice Arts Centre and Swift Cultural Centre, comprising 70 primary school events and 27 public events on Saturdays and during the mid-term break. Digital content from local author Kieran Fanning enabled countywide school participation. Expected attendance was approximately 6,000.

The festival supported the Library Service's strategic objectives in literacy, culture, creativity and community engagement through accessible and inclusive opportunities to engage with reading, learning and the arts.



Creative Ireland – Rainbow Library Navan

Rainbow Library Navan was launched in September 2026 as a creative initiative for LGBTQIA+ young people aged 17–23. Monthly workshops, facilitated by Creative Writing Lecturer Morgan Lyons, provide opportunities to engage in creative writing and visual arts, develop artistic skills and build confidence and peer connections in a supportive, neurodivergent-friendly environment.

The programme supports creativity, wellbeing, inclusion and community participation, while strengthening the library's role as an accessible cultural and learning space.

Meath Libraries and Boyne Memories Café

The Boyne Memories Café was launched at Trim Family Resource Centre on 2nd October 2026 to support people affected by dementia and their support networks. Following consultation between Committee Chairperson Yvonne Gannon, the Dementia Advisor Service and Executive Librarian Mary Murphy, Trim Library, a formal partnership was established with Meath Libraries. The Library Service will contribute expertise and resources in cognitive stimulation and wellbeing initiatives.

The launch was attended by elected representatives and representatives from the health, education and community sectors, including Nina Carberry MEP, Deputy Aisling Dempsey, Senator Linda Nelson Murray and Councillors Joe Fox and Paul O'Rourke.

My Open Library Service – Ashbourne Library

The My Open Library (MOL) service has been introduced at Ashbourne Library, extending the service already operating in Trim, Enfield, Kells, Nobber and Slane.

MOL provides registered members with access to the library daily from 8.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m., including weekends and public holidays. Members can use Wi-Fi, library PCs, study spaces, printing and photocopying facilities.

The service is available to adults aged 18 and over and to students aged 16 and over with guardian permission. Uptake has been particularly strong among local students seeking a quiet and accessible study space.

Skills for Life – Financial Literacy

As part of the Skills for Life initiative, Meath Library Service hosted a financial literacy event with Certified Financial Planner Eoin McGee at Trim Library and Swift Cultural Centre on 22 September 2026. The session attracted a diverse audience and provided practical financial guidance, followed by an interactive question-and-answer session. Strong audience engagement indicated demand for accessible financial education within the community.

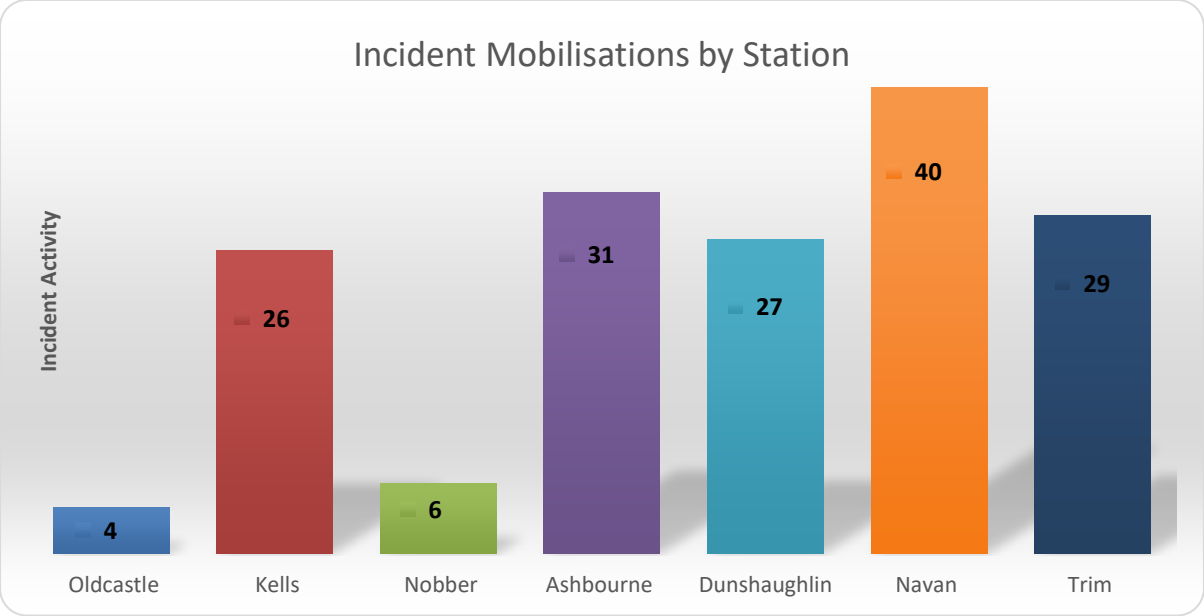


Fire Service



Incident Mobilisations Per Station Summary

Station	Incident Activity	% of Total
Oldcastle	4	11.1%
Kells	26	72.2%
Nobber	6	16.7%
Ashbourne	31	100.0%
Dunshaughlin	27	100.0%
Navan	40	100.0%
Trim	29	100.0%
Total	**163**	



Fire Safety Certificates

Fire Safety Certificates recommended for grant with conditions	**19**
Refusal	**1**

Community Safety

As part of its ongoing commitment to community safety and stakeholder engagement, Fire Service engaged with the Meath Local Community Safety Partnership through the provision of a strategic Community Fire Safety briefing. The engagement reinforced the importance of prevention, risk reduction, and collaborative working, while supporting a coordinated multi-agency approach to enhancing community safety, resilience, and public wellbeing across County Meath.

Finance



Housing Loans :

LAHL Data 1st January 2026 to 18th October 2026		
Applications Received	33	2026 applications
Fully Completed Applications	28	2026 applications
Awaiting Recommendation from Housing Agency (Underwriters)	0	2026 application
Invalid Applications	5	2026 applications
Awaiting Further Information from applicants	2	2026 applications
Approved by Credit Committee	20	2026 applications
Refused by Credit Committee	4	2026 applications
Awaiting Decision by Credit Committee	2	2026 application
Active Approvals	10.31	9 relate to 2026, 0.15 relate to 2025, 0.48 relate to 2024, 0.68 relate to 2023
Expired	13	8 relate to 2026, 5 relate to 2025
Drawdown by Customer	6.30	3 relates to 2026, 2.68 relates to 2025, 0.22 relates to 2024, 0.40 relates to 2023

Figures above related to activity from 1st January 2026 to 18th October 2026 and in some cases relate to applications from 2023, 2024 and 2025. Previously expired loans may be extended in some cases.