Council continues to make progress with investment in the Donabate peninsula

Fingal County Council is continuing to progress its plans to deliver a sustainable community on the Donabate Peninsula by delivering physical and social infrastructure and improving connections between the new and existing communities.

Donabate and Portrane have been recognised by the Council as having the potential to support a high quality of life for residents with the offerings of culture and heritage, ease of access to the coast, waterways and Dublin city & Airport. Council-funded amenities on the Donabate peninsula include Newbridge House and Demesne, Corballis Golf Club, Donabate Community Centre and Library as well as the all-weather playing facility and other pitches. At present there are 134 housing units under construction in Donabate while work has not yet started on further 806. The Portrane National Forensic Mental Health Service Facility is also currently under construction.

A planning framework for the sustainable development of Donabate is already in place, having been developed in consultation with the community. Development in Donabate is set against the policies and objectives of the Fingal Development Plan 2017–2023 and the Donabate Local Area Plan 2016–2022. Together these documents identify the strategic spatial planning issues and the vision for structured development and balanced growth for Donabate. The Council’s investment in the Peninsula in the coming years will focus on road and amenity improvements.

In addition to the normal annual maintenance that is provided in the area on an ongoing annual basis by Fingal County Council, there are three additional distinct streams of investment in the Donabate Peninsula: 2018 Current Investment, 2019 Planned Investment and Future Investment up to 2020.
Current Investment
Construction on the multi-million euro Donabate Distributor Road is currently ongoing and is expected to be completed in 2019. This will provide a much-needed by-pass of Donabate, a quicker route to Portrane, a second bridge over the railway line and will also open up the lands in Ballymastone for development.

Newbridge House and Demesne continues to be an important piece of community amenity infrastructure with its 370 acres containing walkways through parkland and woods as well as the historic house, coffee shop, farmyard, walled garden, playground and sports facilities. Almost €1million will be spent in Newbridge to ensure it continues to be one of the major community facilities in Fingal.

The 2018 €370,000 works programme for Donabate and Portrane includes road resurfacing, drainage works, provision of pedestrian crossings & footpaths and an agreed programme of works with the local Tidy Towns association.

Some of the projects currently underway and to be commenced in 2018 include:
- Pedestrian works at St Patrick’s, Turvey Avenue and Hearse Road.
- A Pedestrian crossing to Newbridge Demesne from Turvey Avenue
- A Pedestrian Crossing, Signing and Lighting at The Links
- Improvement Works at the junction of Smyths pub and Main Street which includes relining and the erection of traffic lights
- Widening of Hearse Road at Prospect House and removing the bad bend near the village.
- Road resurfacing at Beaverstown Road and Corballis Road
- Drainage work at Corballis Road.

2019 Planned Investment
A Recreational Hub at Ballymastone and a Nature Park at Corballis are both planned. The Ballymastone Hub is a key component for the development of Donabate and will provide three schools as well as sporting and recreational facilities.

Fingal County Council is currently seeking market soundings in relation to the lands at Ballymastone. This is the latest step in a process that has already seen extensive consultation with the community in Donabate and they will also have another opportunity to participate when the project moves into the statutory planning process.

A notable feature of Fingal County Council’s approach to land use planning across Fingal is extensive consultation with the community and this occurs in Donabate through on-going dialogue with local councillors and with the local community through the Community Council and the Liaison Committee.
Fingal County Council is also currently working with the local community through the Fingal Coastal Liaison Committee to address issues of coastal erosion and flood prevention in the Rogerstown Estuary and The Burrow in Portrane.

**Future Investment up to 2020**

Plans are in place for Green Routes along Portrane Road, Turvey Road and the Rahillion Loop Walk while the Broadmeadow Greenway, a cycle and pedestrian route across the estuary, is expected to be completed by 2020 at a cost of €6.6m and will link Donabate to Malahide as part of the Fingal Costal Way. Preparations have also begun for a Pedestrian Bridge over the railway line.

David Storey, Director of Operations at Fingal County Council, said: “We are very aware of the need to ensure that we build sustainable communities and provide the necessary infrastructure for the community to grow and prosper. We already have a strong portfolio of community facilities on the Donabate peninsula and we are continuously improving the infrastructure as the area continues to grow. We work very closely with the local councillors and the community and have structures in place to ensure there is awareness of what is needed and what is being done.”

ENDS

For further information please contact press@fingal.ie