Fingal County Council

Press Release

Monday 17 September 2018

Fingal County Council performs better than the national average in Digital Readiness Assessment

The standard of Fingal County Council’s digital capability is higher than the national average, according the National Digital Readiness Assessment report released by the Department of Rural and Community Development.

The Department of Rural and Community Development contracted Indecon Economic Consultants to undertake a Digital Readiness Assessment (DRA) of each local authority. The DRAs provide an overview of each county’s digital maturity, highlighting strengths and weaknesses and can be used as a guide to measure progress.

The DRAs look at local authority public services and infrastructure, citizens, businesses, as well as the activities of the Council itself.

The report sets aside a seven pillar approach to digital maturity. The seven pillars identified are:

- Transitioning to Digital
- Infrastructure
- Digital Economy & Employment
- Digital Services
- Digital Skills
- Innovation & Entrepreneurship
- Community & Culture

Fingal County Council performed higher than the national average on each of the seven pillars and is performing on par with its peer group (urban areas with a rural population below 30%). A summary of findings from the DRA for Fingal County Council can be found at: http://fingal.ie/news-and-events/press-releases/ below this press release.
The DRA classed Fingal County Council as ‘Highly Developed’ in terms of digital infrastructure and ranks the Council as ‘Transformational’ in digital economy and employment. The report also ranked Fingal County as ‘Developed/Highly Developed’ with regard to the provision of digital services.

Fingal County Council plans to use this report to aid the development of the County’s Digital Strategy, plans of which are currently underway.

Welcoming the report, Fingal County Council’s Assistant Head of IT, Dominic Byrne said: “Fingal has implemented a number of initiatives to improve our digital capabilities to make our services more accessible and effective for all residents. These have included increased digital resources in libraries across the county and the provision of digital self-service and online services that are designed to be easily used by residents of all ages. The Digital Readiness Assessment report also helps us to assess the areas that we can improve in the future.”

Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Anthony Lavin said: “The Digital Readiness Assessment report clearly illustrates the progress being made by the Council to embrace technological advances and become more innovative, efficient and engaged in the provision of our services to Fingal residents.”

Fingal County Council Chief Executive Paul Reid said: “With a fast-growing population of skilled and diverse young people, it is essential that we continue to develop and enhance our digital abilities to reflect their needs. As we make the transition, we also support older residents as we make online services more accessible, efficient and easy to use.”

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For more information, please contact press@fingal.ie