

Your Council,
working for you

Comhairle Contae
Fhine Gall
Fingal County
Council



April 2022
Chief Executive's
Report on Activities

*Spring in Fingal - Photo by Jennifer O'Neill, Housing
and Community Development Department*



A message from AnnMarie Farrelly, Chief Executive, Fingal County Council

I hope you enjoyed the recent St. Patrick's Festival and the events that took place in your community. To have welcomed parades back to our towns and villages following a two-year absence was indeed a cause for great celebration. The spectacle of colour, music and entertainment from community and sporting groups who participated in 6 parades across Fingal made for a hugely successful day. Many of you will have also experienced the Remembrance and Recognition event held in Malahide on March 18. The evening was dedicated to paying tribute to all those who lost their lives through Covid-19 and those workers across many sectors whose dedication and selflessness helped us navigate the pandemic. A spectacular fireworks display and reflective time with music and light provided us with an opportunity to come together in the spirit of healing and moving forward and it was both an enjoyable and uplifting experience for all spectators.

As is the case across the country and further afield, Fingal has become a place of refuge for many Ukrainian families who have been displaced and left with no option but to seek shelter outside of their country because of the ongoing conflict. Last month, the Ukrainian national flag was raised at County Hall, Swords, by the Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Seána O Rodaigh, in the presence of the Ukrainian Ambassador to Ireland, Her Excellency Ms Larysa Gerasko. This solemn occasion was attended by members of the Ukrainian community, Oireachtas members, Councillors and members of the public all wishing to convey solidarity with the people of Ukraine at this time. As a local authority, Fingal County Council is engaged in assisting with practical arrangements to support those who have arrived to Ireland. Our collective hope for Ukrainian people who have made Fingal their temporary home is that they will settle into their new environs and experience welcome and support at this time.

The Fingal Draft Development Plan 2023 – 2029 has been published and public consultation on the document continues where a series of webinars and drop in events have taken place and with two further opportunities to meet members of the Development Plan team on April 20 at The Lecture Room, Malahide Library, Malahide and April 21 at the Martello Room, The Bracken Court Hotel, Balbriggan. Engagement and consultation are vital aspects of fine tuning the plan which sets out the strategic direction of the county over the next 6 years.

The public consultation will run until May 12 and during that time the document is available for download from the fingal.ie/developmentplan website and can be inspected at Fingal County Council's offices in Swords

and Blanchardstown or any Fingal Libraries branch. I would encourage all interested parties to participate in the consultation process as we endeavour to support the provision of housing, amenities and infrastructure to enhance the creation of sustainable and long lasting communities within the county.

As summer approaches, we will be exceptionally busy here in Fingal with the return of large-scale events such as Flavours of Fingal at Newbridge Demesne, the Malahide Castle Concert series and the highly anticipated Fingal 10k road race. Favourable weather is a huge incentive to enjoy our award-winning beaches, parks, heritage sites and open spaces which are so inviting. Just this month, the Village Green at Malahide has won first prize (Public Authority Category) in the Association of Landscape Contractors of Ireland (ALCI) annual awards. The design and attention to detail in creating an attractive and accessible public space was due to the collaboration between the Fingal County Council design team, Murray and Associates and Peter O'Brien & Sons Landscaping. I congratulate all involved on this accolade and can highly recommend a visit!

As we all endeavour to reduce our carbon footprint and to embrace more sustainable methods of transport, this month I was pleased to have taken part in a study trip to Copenhagen where I joined some Fingal County Council colleagues and councillors in exploring the forward-thinking initiatives that have been employed in Denmark in the areas of cycling infrastructure. It was a very informative exercise which demonstrated how the application of appropriate Active Travel solutions will benefit the user experience and contribute to changing our mindset in respect of walking and cycling. We look forward to utilising the solutions and ideas we witnessed to boost our existing Active Travel infrastructure across Fingal for the benefit of all.

I always welcome feedback from the Elected Members and appreciate that as Fingal staff work hard to deliver on our ambitious plans and projects this also significantly impacts the workload and Council meeting preparation of the Members. To this end we will make every effort, commencing in May, to provide meeting reports to Members on the Thursday before every Council meeting.

AnnMarie Farrelly
Chief Executive

OPEN DATA CLIMATE ACTION CHALLENGE

Applications are **Open** for the Dublin Region Open Data Climate Action Challenge

ENERGY & BUILDINGS | NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS | TRANSPORT | RESOURCE MANAGEMENT | FLOOD RESILIENCE

#ODCAC | SMART DUBLIN | dlr | CARO | codema | Derilinx

OPEN DATA CHALLENGE

Applications open now for the Open Data Climate Action Challenge

Find out more on Page 3

PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE

Conservation works planned for some of our heritage properties

Full details on Page 7



Features

SPRING AT SHACKLETON'S
See Shackleton Gardens in bloom
On Page 9

ON YOUR BIKE!
Active Travel Strategy Planned
Page 14

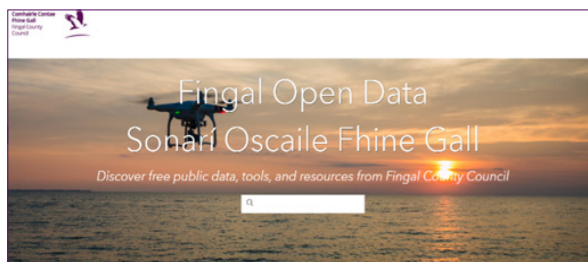
GREEN SCHOOLS
6th Green Flag for St. Patrick's School, Corduff

More on page 15



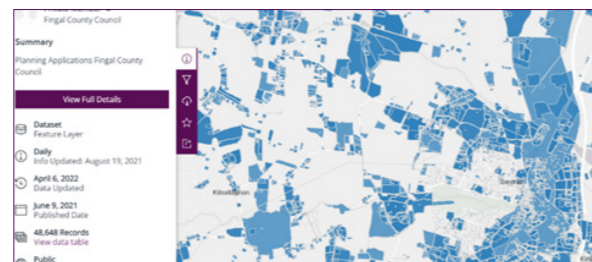


New Fingal Open Data Website Launched



Fingal County Council launched the first Open Data website in Ireland in November 2010. 12 years later, the Council is still spearheading Open Data in Ireland.

The IT Department has recently been working on an upgrade to the Fingal Open Data Platform. The new Open Data Platform was launched on the 14th March 2022.



New features include user friendly search function to view data by categories, map visualizations to show the data in a geolocated viewpoint, and quick links to easily download files.

There are currently 211 datasets on the Fingal Open Data Platform which can be viewed at <https://data.fingal.ie/>

Communication Collaborations!



The Communication Unit is working with the Active Travel and Sustainable Travel teams and assisted in the launch of the Sutton to Malahide Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme and the launch of the Active Travel Strategy.

The Communications Unit also assisted the HR Department at the Empower Careers Fair in Clonsilla on March 24 and the Jobs Expo in Croke Park on March 26 to encourage awareness of Fingal County Council and the career opportunities on offer. Traffic to the jobs page on the fingal.ie website increased by 136% on the day of the Jobs Expo compared to the previous Saturday.

Pictured are Karen Noonan, HR and Maggie Lau, Communications Unit at the Empower Careers Fair

Our Top Tweet of The Month!

Top Tweet earned 43.9K impressions

Find out what the Sutton to Malahide Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme will look and feel like with this preview artists impression of the route at [#VelvetStrand](#) [#Portmarnock](#).
fingal.ie/suttontomalahi...
[#cycleireland](#) [#fingalbeaches](#)
pic.twitter.com/yibZKZpsG

16 replies, 24 retweets, 210 likes

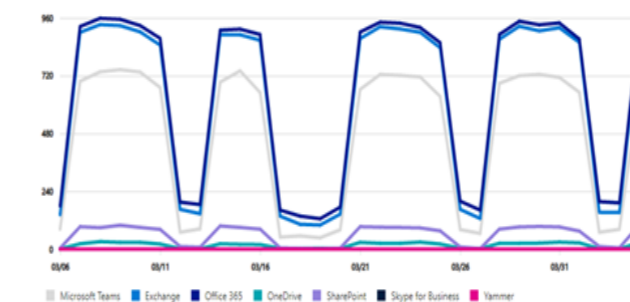
Our Twitter account, @fingalco, had 662,600 impressions during March and an average engagement rate of 2.2% from 368 tweets. The best performing tweet, with 44,905 impressions, 13,530 media views and 3,029 engagements was a post promoting the Sutton Malahide Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme.

On Facebook, there was 61,414 engagements to posts which reached 147,276 people. The number of followers on Facebook is now 27,271 which is a rise of 317 from March. The best performing post, about a fiddle handed in to the Estuary Recycling Centre which was given to a young girl in Emergency Accommodation, had 24,121 impressions and a 7% engagement rate.

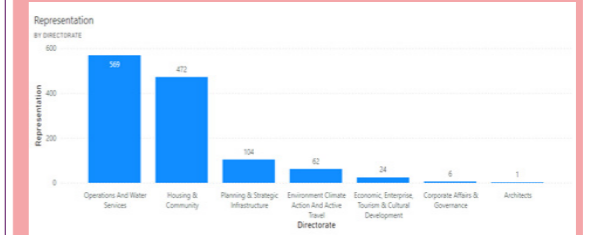
Digital Working

In March staff took part in 7,854 Teams meetings, 27,788 calls took place, and 761,858 emails were received or sent by the Council.

Active users



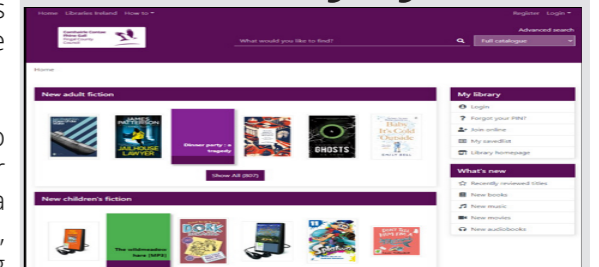
410 Councillors Reps Submitted in March 2022



Staff continue to work on the Customer Relationship Management System (CRM) and issue responses to Councillors representations and complaints submitted by the public. The month of March had a total of 435 Councillor's representations.

The table above shows the total number of Councillor's representations assigned to each Department to date in 2022.

New Library System



Our new Library Management System went live on the 29th March. Highlights of the new system include;

- Enhanced account management (Current Loans, Reservations, Alerts, Recommendations, Contact information, Renewal of membership etc.)
- Combined catalogue search (including eBooks, eAudiobooks, eMagazines, physical books, DVDs, CDs)
- User friendly interface including previews, recommendations & themed bookshelves.
- National sharing of bibliographic records, loans and reservations and digital asset management for Local Studies, Archives collection and Event management.

Customers Calling

For the month of March the Council's Customer Care Agents dealt with -

- 15,261 phone calls
- 513 emails
- 2,201 in person visits to our offices



Parades and a Remembrance Event in Fingal

With an estimated attendance at the Swords, Blanchardstown, Rush, Lusk, Balbriggan and Skerries parades of 100k, the citizens of Fingal really came out in numbers to celebrate our national holiday. Hundreds of community organisations and local businesses enjoyed the fantastic weather and atmosphere.

In what was Fingal’s call to ‘Remember and Recognise’ those who sadly passed due to Covid 19 and show solidarity with all the essential workers, that continued to carry out their duties, over 30,000 people attended the Fireworks Display. In addition to Malahide areas such as Donabate/ Portrane,

Portmarnock were used as viewing points. The event began with the Mayor introducing musician Uilleann piper Sean Potts playing a piece of music while people held up a light.

The Mayor hosted an event in Swords Castle for citizens to reflect on those lost during the pandemic. Candles were placed in the chapel by the public, with members of the emergency services also attending.

Garda Rebecca McGowan and Garda Elaine Duffy pictured with Mayor Seána Ó Rodaigh and Chief Executive AnnMarie Farrelly at the Day of Remembrance at Swords Castle.



Dublin Coastal Trail

Fáilte Ireland in collaboration with Fingal County Council, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, Dublin City Council and Irish Rail officially launched the Dublin Coastal Trail on 25th March.

The trail, stretching from Skerries to Killiney, will entice visitors to include a visit to Dublin’s beautiful coast as part of their city break. Fingal locations which are now part of this trail include Skerries, Malahide and Howth.



A mini-maker festival is planned for Balbriggan Library on the 23rd of April to mark the start of the Balbriggan Loves Learning festival.

This event will include a showcase for makers and creators to be held in the Hamilton Hall and the Library will host a full day programme of activities along the theme of creativity. This is a collaborative project between Smart Balbriggan and Fingal Libraries and is funded by Creative Ireland.

Heritage Properties Conservation Works



The works tenders for major roof repair and window conservation works at both Ardgillan Castle and Newbridge House will be issued this month. A tender has been awarded for significant lighting upgrades at Malahide Castle and Visitor centre. Survey works are scheduled to commence in April.

The tender for the integrated design team for the restoration of Skerries Martello Tower was published on eTenders last month. Two submissions have been received and these will now be evaluated in April. Tenders will issue in April for Phase III of the conservation works at Swords Castle, which includes a full M&E upgrade, conservation works to the North Wall and improvement works to the Knights and Squires Quarter.



Fingal Enterprise Award Winners 2022



Fingal Enterprise Awards took place on Thursday the 10th of March with six finalists battling it out for the coveted prize of winner of the 2022 competition. Hosted in Sonica, Skerries, the evening was also streamed online, highlighting the success of the six finalists from across Fingal:

- **EcoFriendly Cups** (Elaine O’Farrell)
- **Rubberduck EHJC Ltd** (Ben Colwell)
- **Dimension 88** (Nigel & Catriona O’Leary)
- **Life Ahead Ltd.** T/A Farmony who provide vertical farming solutions were announced as overall winners, scooping the top prize of €5,000 and will now represent Fingal Local Enterprise Office at the 22nd National Enterprise Awards at the Mansion House in Dublin on the June 2nd.
- **Love the Mug** (Pamela & Suzanne Hughes)
- **Farmony** (Dan O’Brien & John Paul Prior)
- **Nufields Ltd** (Denis Manzke)



The Creative Ireland Fingal Commission is for the development of artistic and creative content that will engage children/young people (0-18 years) in unique experiences in any artform and in response to any theme - including but not limited to visual art, music, literature, theatre, performance, spoken word, fashion, photography, digital arts, installation art, street art, storytelling, architecture, biodiversity, heritage, archaeology, landscape.

Open Call – Cruinniú na nÓg 2022 Commission Creative Ireland Fingal and Fingal County Council invites proposals from Artists and Creative Practitioners for the development and delivery of artistic projects for children and/or young people for Cruinniú na nÓg 2022.

Cruinniú na nÓg is a flagship initiative of the Creative Ireland Programme’s Creative Youth Plan to enable the creative potential of children and young people. This year it will take place on Saturday 11th of June and is funded by Creative Ireland.

Free Tree Giveaway 2022 is a Tree-mendous Success!

As part of National Tree Week 2022 Fingal County Council gifted 16,000 free trees to the residents of the county. During the week designated pick up locations and times were set up in 5 locations across the county. Ardgillan Demesne, Newbridge Demesne, Malahide Demesne, Ward River Valley Park, Millennium Park & St Catherine's Park.

There was a fantastic turn out and all the trees have now been distributed. This was a cross departmental initiative with Fingal Operations, Environment and Community Departments. Other events included community planting as part of the launch of the Tree Strategy at Skerries Mills Park and other community planting events in Ward River Valley Park and Santry Demesne.



Casual Trading Licences



32 Casual Trading pitches in Fingal have been assigned by lottery.

13 of the pitches have been finalised, 16 are being processed and 4 were rejected by the applicants.

Whitestown & FCC Planting Project

In anticipation of the 40-year anniversary of the Whitestown estate, the Whitestown Estate Management Group in conjunction with the Operations Department organised a planting event which was attended by a large number of residents of all ages in November 2021. The final product can now be seen on a sloped area of the large open space.

The Group have also been shortlisted for a 2021 LAMA award in the 'Best Environmental or Ecological Project or Initiative' category based on their continued efforts to enhance their community, which is a huge achievement for all involved.



Director: Mary T. Daly



Spring is here at Shackleton Gardens



New Aviary Under Construction at Newbridge Demesne



Spring is here and very evident in Shackleton Gardens, which is home to a wide range of rare and exotic plants including an important collection of herbaceous perennials.

As our craft gardener and the willing volunteers continue to work tirelessly to prepare the perennial beds for the summer display, colour is currently provided within walled garden through various plant groups. Aside from the colour it is important to note the value of these plants to bees and other pollinators as they adapt to the move from winter to spring.

This seasonal planting design is key to any successful garden and was no doubt a key component

to the initial composition of Shackleton's Gardens.

The heathers, snowdrops & other pollinator bulbs, Willow & other early flowering trees, along with shrubs such as Mahonia are currently on display and provide easy access to pollen and nectar, prior to the abundance of herbaceous perennials which will bloom over the coming summer months and into autumn as we continue to restore these beautiful gardens.

New opening hours in Shackletons gardens Commencing from 11 th April 2022	
Monday	10am - 4 pm
Tuesday	10am - 4 pm
Wednesday	10am - 4 pm
Thursday	10am - 4 pm
Friday	9 am - 1 pm
Saturday	10 am - 5 pm
Sunday	10 am - 5 pm
Bank Holidays	10 am - 5 pm



Bremore Regional Park Recreational Hub



Following approval through a Part 8 Planning application for Bremore Regional Park, a contractor has been appointed and works have commenced on the first phase of the Bremore Regional Park Active Recreational Hub. This involves the construction of a new full-size grass GAA pitch which is due for completion later in the year. Future sports facilities planned for the remainder of the hub include provision for athletics, basketball, tennis and soccer.

Mayor Launches "Forest of Fingal - A Tree Strategy for Fingal"



The Mayor of Fingal Cllr Seána Ó Rodaigh launched the new ambitious "Forest of Fingal - A Tree Strategy for Fingal" on Saturday the 26th of March during National Tree Week 2022 at a Skerries Tree Planting workshop.

The strategy was led by the Council's Parks and Green Infrastructure Division with support from colleagues in the Operations Department.



Work to commence at Porterstown

In response to extensive engagements with local sports clubs and in line with Fingal County Development Plan objectives to upgrade existing active recreational hubs throughout the County, the construction of the new all-weather running track and 3rd generation synthetic sports pitch are due to commence at Porterstown Park on Monday 4th April 2022.

The project is led by the Council's Parks and Green Infrastructure Division and it is anticipated that the facility will be completed by Q1 of next year, becoming a valuable sporting amenity for the people of Dublin 15 and the wider area.

Following a statutory Part 8 planning approval and the conclusion of a competitive tender process, the contract for the design and construction of the facility has been awarded to a specialist Sports Facilities Construction company. The new floodlit facility will consist of a 6-lane synthetic running track built to approved international athletics standards and perimeter spectator path surrounding a 3rd Generation all-weather pitch built to FIFA approved standards providing for soccer and other sporting codes. Other works to complement the facility include additional connecting paths, blue badge and bicycle parking spaces located for convenient access to the track and pitch.



Sutton-Malahide Pedestrian & Cycle Scheme Consultation

A 6-week public consultation for the preferred route was published on Fingal County Council's Online Consultation Portal on the 24th of March 2022 with online and in person events planned.

The proposed pedestrian and cycle amenity will offer a safe and attractive route to walk and cycle between Sutton, Baldoyle, Portmarnock and Malahide connecting local people to schools, shops, businesses and public transport. The proposed scheme is supported and funded by the National Transport Authority.

The route will form a key part of the NTA's Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network and will link into existing walking and cycling facilities at the Baldoyle to Portmarnock Greenway and onwards to the S2S and the Clontarf-City Centre Cycle Routes.

The scheme design will allow people of all ages and mobility levels to travel safely between these coastal

towns while enjoying the scenic coastline along the route.

Following the closure of this public consultation on the 9th of May 2022, the project team will consider all submissions as they finalise the preliminary design for the scheme.

A planning application is expected to be submitted to An Bord Pleanála in 2023.





€3.9m for 52 New Affordable Homes at Hayestown

The Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage recently approved funding of €3.9m under the Affordable Housing Fund for 52 affordable purchase homes at Hayestown, Rush, Co Dublin.

The €3.9m will be used to fund infrastructure and services on the site and this funding reduces the unit cost and allows homes to be discounted below market prices.

The remaining 10 homes in the project are social homes. The tender for construction will issue in the coming weeks.

FCC Capital Assistance Scheme in Action in Rush

The Mayor Cllr Seána Ó Rodaigh and Minister Darragh O'Brien officially opened the new Ballustree Lodge property in Rush, Co Dublin on Wednesday 30th March, 2022. The Ballustree property is owned and managed by the Approved Housing Body ProsperFingal, and this residential community house provides fully-supported accommodation for five residents.

Government & Heritage and Prosper Fingal.

The Capital Assistance Scheme enables Prosper to provide residential solutions to adults with an intellectual disability who are on the Housing List. It allows the residents to have a greater level of independence in an environment suited to their support needs, whilst reducing the demand on parents and carers. While Capital Assistance Scheme provides the capital funding, the HSE then provides the revenue to deliver the necessary residential support.

The project is supported under the Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS) process in partnership with Fingal County Council, Department of Housing, Local



Fingal Community Facilities Network

The first meeting in 2022 of the Fingal Community Facilities Network members was held in the Hilton Hotel Dublin Airport on March 10.

The agenda included a presentation from FCRS General Manager David McNally on Business Planning for the facility managers and administrative staff in attendance. Other speakers included Senior Community Development Officer Janet Ivers who updated the members on the upcoming plans for new facility operational guidelines. Senior Community Officer Sinead Wiley presented an overview of the Community Development Office work and there was also an additional guide to upcoming funding available to Community groups presented by Senior Sports Officer Niall McGuirk.

Community Centre Area Manager Emma Donegan presented a comprehensive overview of the work carried out by the Community Facility Remobilisation group over the past two years of the COVID 19 pandemic.

Each member in attendance also received a pack of newly designed eco-friendly promotional items from the Community Development Office. All items were designed from biodegradable or recycled materials and ranged from bamboo pens and USB flash drives to cotton shopping bags and re-usable water bottle made from Bio-Shiva sugar cane, making them 100% biodegradable.



Choice Based Lettings Online Portal

The new online portal to facilitate the Choice Based Letting (CBL) scheme has proven efficient with staff and applicants. CBL is an approach used for the allocation of designated Social Housing Units. It allows housing applicants to express an interest in being considered for the allocation of designated Social Housing Units.

Applicants with active applications can access Choice Based Letting by logging onto <https://cbl.fingal.ie> using their unique username and password. To access their unique username and password applicants must contact choicebasedlettings@fingal.ie with their housing reference number and phone number. The housing team has issued over 1,200 secure passwords and usernames to date. Applicants are actively encouraged to obtain their passwords and usernames to express interest in any properties advertised.

Approved Social Housing applicants log in each week to check the dwellings that are available using their username and password.

During March, CBL advertised several properties including, a 3-bed property in Wellview which received 39 expressions of interest. There was a strong expression of interest in the

Cluid Housing apartments in Norseman which included both 2 & 3 bed apartments 113 & 106 respectively. The 3-bed property in Rivermeade, St. Margarets had 650 views with a strong interest of 53 expressions.



Irish Traveller Movement Yellow Flag Awards Held



The Yellow Flag awards took place online on the 3rd of March. There was input from many schools involved in this Anti-Racism Programme which showcased the projects undertaken by the students.

The Community Development Office - Integration Team, work with and provide funding to the Irish Traveller Movement for schools in Fingal to participate and each year we build on this.

The schools currently involved in the programme are: Blakestown Community School Blanchardstown, Broadmeadow Swords, Pobalscoil Neasán Baldoyle and Loreto College Balbriggan. Sharyn Ward sang an Irish Traveller song to encourage the groups to continue their very important work both in school and in their communities.

Fingal Communities Get Moving Fund 2022

Page 1

Community, Culture & Sports Division Communities Get Moving Funding Application Form 2022

The Fingal County Council Sports Office in conjunction with the Sport Ireland invite applications for funding under the Communities Get Moving Fund 2022.

This scheme is open to Voluntary Sporting Organisations who have registered with the Fingal Community County Register (PPN) and whose main focus is NOT sport or physical activity and are working with people in the Fingal administrative area.

The Sports Office through Sport Ireland's COVID-Support Fund is administering the Communities Get Moving Fund (Max €1,200 per org) to community groups and organisations to encourage them to engage in physical activity. The groups whose primary focus is not physical activity will be encouraged to link in with their local community centre or Sports Club to avail of physical activity services. Applications will open on April 1st.

Older Person's Council Annual Conference

A Steering Group was established with the assistance of the Community Officer to organise the Annual Conference which will take place on Tuesday 24th May 2022 in the Marine Hotel, Sutton.

WA number of speakers have been invited to attend to present a range of topics including the Assisted Decision Making (Capacity) Act and the Decision Support Services. An element of fun is included in the event, with music and dance in the afternoon.



Consultants engaged to prepare Active Travel Strategy

The Active Travel team has engaged consultants to prepare an Active Travel Strategy. Strategy update was presented to councillors on the Transport and Infrastructure Management SPC in March 2022.

Feedback recorded and worked with consultant prior to update the draft document. A non-statutory public consultation will be carried out for the draft strategy for seven weeks. This will run from the 4th of April to the 23rd of May 2022. Two webinars will also be run over the consultation period.

Interviews with strategic external stakeholders e.g., Fingal Chamber of Commerce will also be conducted to gain feedback on the draft strategy. In addition, a briefing call to councillors will be carried out prior to the commencement of the non-statutory consultation.



Environmental Awareness Updates

On 15th March the Environmental Awareness Department in partnership with the Rediscovery Centre delivered 14 childrens and adult bikes and scooters to the Migrant Reception Centre at Baleskin. The children using the service will share the bikes and the adults bikes were allocated by the staff.

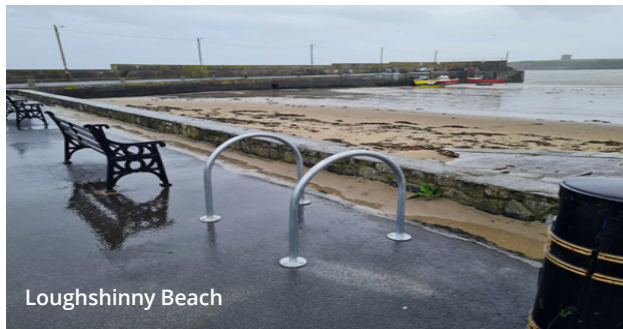
regular litter picks around the school and are linked in with local Tidy Towns Groups. Pictured here St Patricks School in Corduff Dublin 15 who were assessed for their 6th Green Flag – Global Citizenship Litter and Waste.

Fifteen Musical instruments were also delivered during March to the Centre. This fiddle was handed in at the Estuary Recycling Center and given to a girl in emergency accommodation in Fingal.

Green Schools Assessments are ongoing. Several schools have eliminated single-use plastic bottles and carry out



Secure Bicycle Stand Infrastructure in Fingal



Loughshinny Beach



Kettle Park, Drynam, Swords

OPEN DATA CLIMATE ACTION CHALLENGE

Help Dublin deliver Climate Action
Apply Now! Details at www.smartdublin.ie

ENERGY & BUILDINGS | NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS | TRANSPORT | RESOURCE MANAGEMENT | FLOOD RESILIENCE

#ODCAC

The Smart Dublin Open Data Climate Action Challenge will launch on 30th March 2022 organised by Smart Dublin, Climate Action Offices of the four Dublin local authorities, the Dublin Metropolitan Climate Action Office CARO, Codema Dublin's Energy Agency and Derlinx who manage open data publishing and open data for public bodies. Data which is publicly available as open data on National open data portals can be used.

Individuals and groups with an idea for a project are invited to apply and entries can be under five climate action themes of Energy and Buildings, Nature Based Solutions and Biodiversity, Flood Resilience, Transport and Resource Management and the Circular Economy.

€20,000 in prize funding has been provided by DPER's Open Data Engagement Fund as rewards for the best projects. The Challenge looks for analysis, models and visualisations which use data to produce maps, apps, algorithms to support, gamify, raise awareness of and drive Climate Action in the Dublin Region.

Further details can be found at <https://smartdublin.ie/dublin-region-climate-action-open-data-challenge-2022/>



Staff Lunchtime Cycles

Staff were invited to join the Active Travel Team and members from the Smart Mobility Hub for a lunchtime cycle on Wednesday 24th March and what a beautiful day we picked.

The sky was blue and we were delighted heading off into the sunshine for a cycle along the canal. We even managed to entice staff from County Hall to join us.

Our colleagues said they felt refreshed and motivated heading back to the office for the afternoon.

Abandoned Cars



The Abandoned Cars Pilot scheme is continuing with the removal of 3 abandoned cars in March. Final notices have been issued to a further 4 registered owners with a removal date in April if unclaimed.

Details on how to report an Abandoned car can be found on <https://www.fingal.ie/council/service/abandonedvehicles>

Does your dog have a licence?

Purchase at any Post Office or online at licences.ie

Annual Licence Fee: €20.00. Lifetime Licence €140.00.

Failure to purchase a licence can result in on-the-spot fine of €100 or court prosecution and fine of €1,270

The Month in Numbers

4

The number of drop in events facilitated by Fingal County Council to provide information on all aspects of the Draft Fingal Development Plan 2023 - 2029.



48

The number of notices issued by the Dog Warden Service to dog owners who have no licence for their pet.



94

The number of hires which were put in place from 1st March 2022 - 30th March 2022, engaging 22 suppliers.

Hires include: Hire of electric vehicle (EV) for tourist development- events management



16

92.8%

The percentage of all lights which have been switched to LED's.

The Public Lighting Section will continue with the LED Programme in 2022

170m

The length of boardwalk which will be repaired/upgraded and widened to improve access to Portmarnock Beach.



16,000

The number of free trees which were distributed to the people of Fingal as part of National Tree Week. Locations were Ardgilan Demesne, Newbridge Demesne, Malahide Demesne, Ward River Valley Park, Millennium Park & St Catherine's Park.

30,000

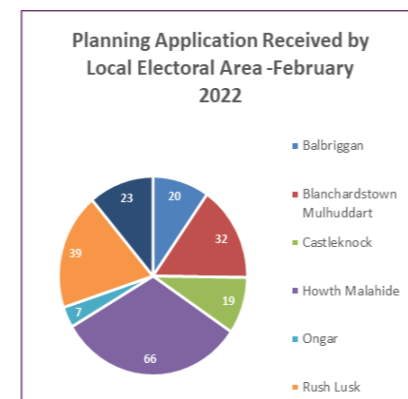
The number of people who attended the fireworks display in Malahide on Friday March 18 which was held as part of a Remembrance & Recognition event.



202

The number of planning decisions which have been made to the end of February 2022.

There have been 167 decisions to grant permission (83%) and 35 refusals of permission (17%). There have been 13 grants of permissions in respect of single house construction, 104 grants of permission for domestic extensions, 39 commercial/retail grants of permission and 5 grants of permission in respect of housing developments of which 3 relate to development of 2 - 20, 1 relates to 20 - 50 and 1 relates to 50-100.



59

The number of new social homes launched at Carr's Lane, Malahide Road.

The project was delivered in partnership with Respond.



12

The number of weeks that the 'Men on the Move' Programme will take place. Men on the Move is a free, twelve-week community-based beginners physical activity programme for inactive adult men. The programme will take place twice a week and is delivered by the Sports Office in partnership with the HSE and the support of the Community Office.



Hundreds of candles flicker at the Chapel in Swords Castle on March 20 as part of a National Day of Remembrance

A Round Up from Fingal



Fingal Mayor Seána Ó Rodaigh and Archivist Karen de Lacey at the launch of the Howth Tram Exhibition.



The Women of Fingal Tapestry, created by artist Agnieszka 'Uisce' Jakubczyk captures aspects of Fingal's women throughout the ages from finds uncovered on the Drummanagh excavations to revolutionary women and was launched in Rush Library by Mayor of Fingal Cllr Seána Ó Rodaigh.



Porterstown Park Recreational Hub Sod Turning attended by Sophie Bell, Castleknock Celtic, Mia Coquart MSB Athletics, Fingal County Council Chief Executive AnnMarie Farrelly, Minister of State at the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media Jack Chambers, Deputy Mayor of Fingal Cllr Daniel Whooley, and Harry Bell, Castleknock Celtic.



Holly and Chloe Oldroyd at the Community Tree Planting Workshop at Skerries Town Park as part of National Tree Week.

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OUR MISSION

To be a vibrant, outward looking,
well run Council that
shows leadership and
embraces diversity
and opportunity

**Comhairle Contae
Fhine Gall**
Fingal County
Council

