

Fingal News

Issue
No 20

August 2021

Your Council,
working for you

THE CLIMATE ACTION ISSUE

13 - 19 September 2021

DUBLIN
CLIMATE
ACTION
WEEK



Local Authorities Leading
on Climate Action

INSIDE

Meet New Mayor Cllr Seána Ó Rodaigh - page 2 & 3

Climate Action Week launches - page 6

Gear up for Bike Week 2021 - page 10

Comhairle Contae
Fhine Gall
Fingal County
Council



Mayor's Message



Ba mhór an onóir dom a bheith tofa mar Mhéara ar Fhine Gall ag an gCruinniú Cinn Bliana i mí an Mheithimh. Táim ag súil le bliain iontach ag obair thar ceann pobail Fhine Gall. Is iad na rudaí a chuirfidh mé in ord tosaíochta ná meabhairshláinte agus ionadaíocht bean i saol poiblí. Tá sé mar aidhm

agam comhoibriú le na trí méaranna eile i mBaile Átha Cliath ar son leas an phobail.

It was a huge honour to be elected Mayor of Fingal at our Annual General Meeting in June. I am looking forward to a great year ahead working on behalf of the people in Fingal. My priorities for the year ahead include mental health and female representation in public life. I will also co-operate with the three leaders in the other Councils in Dublin towards the common good of all citizens of Dublin. A new Twitter account has been set up, @MayorofFingal, if you would like to follow to be kept informed of all that is going on.

My duties so far have given me an insight into the incredibly diverse range of activities that are ongoing in Fingal. I would like to commend all the volunteers who work tirelessly in sustaining and improving our communities. Your ripple effect spreads very far. While trying to adjust to life with Covid, the value of community solidarity has become more apparent than ever before.

I chaired my first full Council meeting on Monday 12 July at which councillors voted to reduce the Local Property Tax by 10% and maintain the rate charged to payers, as has been the case since 2018. Councillors were given an update on Swords Cultural Quarter and heard the welcome news that the design team has been appointed. The project will now proceed at pace and is expected to go to tender in April 2023 with construction works scheduled to commence in Quarter 3 of 2023.

Our public spaces are being used now more than ever and I want to thank everyone who is using them responsibly. Bringing home your own rubbish is one way we can maintain the beauty of our many parks and beaches. I highly recommend a visit to Rush to see the Ros Eo Mural, adjacent to Rush Cricket Club – simply incredible.

Finally it was with great sadness that I learned of the passing of Cllr Freddie Cooper on 29 June. Cllr Cooper was elected in 2019 by the people of Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart and served his community with dedication. His loss will be felt most deeply by his family and Mary, Sarah and Paul are in our thoughts. Solas síoraí dó.

Cllr Seána Ó Rodaigh

Chief Executive's Message



As we near the end of Summer, it has been delightful seeing so many people spending the warm months enjoying the beauty of Fingal. Although Covid-19 is still among us, I am grateful that the efficiency of the vaccination programme has allowed us some freedom over the past few months.

We are so delighted that many of our facilities, such as Newbridge House & Farm and Ardgillan Castle could be utilised throughout the Summer. Our beautiful parks and beaches have also been enjoyed by many which has been wonderful to see. Our teams worked diligently to provide outdoor dining spaces, new public toilet facilities and bins in order to allow for a smooth and enjoyable Summer.

We have had many exciting developments over the past few months, the first being the appointment of an integrated design team for Swords Cultural Quarter. The project will be led by award-winning architects O'Donnell and Tuomey. The Swords Cultural Quarter will become a centre point for knowledge, arts and culture in the area and we are excited to see it unfold.

Recently we saw the completion of the public consultation process for the Royal Canal Greenway. This project will allow us to offer excellent cycling and walking facilities to residents and visitors alike. We recently closed submissions for Ballymastone Recreational Hub in Donabate. This hub will provide a wide range of sporting and recreational activities as a shared public facility. I would like to thank everyone who got involved and left submissions for both projects.

As Climate Action Week is upon us, it is especially crucial to discuss the pressing issues that are facing us today. Fingal County Council encourage people to participate in active travel, save water, pick up rubbish and clean up after pets. There is so much that we can do as a community to halt the pace of climate change. Fingal County Council will continue to make necessary changes as we understand more about our impact.

As children return to school and the weather starts to get colder, I would encourage everyone to continue abiding by public health guidelines for Covid-19.

Thank you for reading this edition of Fingal News. Stay safe.

AnnMarie Farrelly

Councillor Seána Ó Rodaigh Elected as Mayor of Fingal

Councillor Seána Ó Rodaigh of the Labour Party was elected as the Mayor of Fingal at the Annual General Meeting in the Grand Hotel Malahide in June.

Cllr Ó Rodaigh, who represents the Balbriggan Local Electoral Area, was first elected as a councillor in 2019. Based in Skerries, she works as a teacher in St Patrick's Senior National School in the town. Her priorities for the year ahead include mental health and female representation in public life. She is also committed to working with the three leaders of the other Dublin Councils, towards the common good of all citizens of Dublin.

It has been a busy few months for the newly elected Mayor of Fingal. So far, Cllr Ó Rodaigh has had the opportunity to support exciting projects, attend local events and experience the wide range of activities that are ongoing in Fingal. Cllr Ó Rodaigh chaired her first full Council meeting on 12 July at which councillors voted to reduce Local Property Tax by 10%. She also chaired the inaugural meeting of the Women's



Mayor of Fingal Cllr Seána Ó Rodaigh and Deputy Mayor Daniel Whooley

Caucus, launched the Momentum 2021 Public Arts Community Festival, attended the unveiling of the Ros-Eó Mural Wall in Rush and presented The Battle of the Book winners at St Patrick's Boys National School.

Speaking about the new role, the Mayor says: "It was a huge honour to be elected as the Mayor of Fingal

at our Annual General Meeting in June. I am looking forward to a great year ahead working on behalf of the people in Fingal. My priorities for the year ahead include mental health and female representation in public life."

This is the seventh time a woman has led Fingal County Council since the formation of the Council in 1994. Additionally, Cllr Ó Rodaigh is the third woman to be elected as Mayor since the position was established in 2006.

Cllr Daniel Whooley of the Green Party was elected as Deputy Mayor and will support Ó Rodaigh throughout the year. He represents the Ongar Electoral Area and is a student at TUD Blanchardstown where he is studying Cybersecurity.

Tributes were paid at the Annual General Meeting to the outgoing Mayor, Cllr David Healy by councillors and by Fingal County Council Chief Executive AnnMarie Farrelly. Ms Farrelly presented Cllr Healy with a Commemorative Medal and a Photograph Album recording his year in office.



Outgoing Mayor of Fingal Cllr David Healy pictured with Chief Executive of Fingal County Council AnnMarie Farrelly

Design team named in major step for Swords Cultural Quarter

The Swords Cultural Quarter has taken a major step forward with the appointment of an integrated design team. The team will be led by award-winning architects O'Donnell and Tuomey.

With this team now in place, Fingal County Council can begin to progress the project with a public consultation process intended to commence in May 2022. The project is expected to go to public tender in April 2023 with construction works commencing in Q4 2023.

The Swords Cultural Quarter will be located in the heart of Fingal's County Town, and will become a focal point for the local community and a desirable destination for visitors. The space will consist of the Civic and Cultural Centre and a Hub Building adjacent to the existing Fingal County Offices and Swords Castle at the north end of Swords Main Street.

The Civic and Cultural Centre will be a centre point for knowledge, arts and culture which will be a great addition to the area. It will include a library space, a performance venue and an arts venue with several support facilities which can be used for artistic, cultural and community needs.

Speaking about the new space, The Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Seána Ó Rodaigh, said: "The objective of the Swords Cultural Quarter project is to energise this area of Swords in order to make a balanced town that provides places, buildings and spaces for both cultural

and economic activity for all its citizens and to create a new sense of place."

Established in 1988, O'Donnell and Tuomey is an award-winning architectural practice led by Sheila O'Donnell and John Tuomey. Much of their work has involved the meaningful integration of new structures into historically significant contexts, making their team perfect for this project, where medieval and modern architecture will meet.



Their practice has received over 120 national and international awards for their completed buildings. Among their most famous works are the Central European University in Budapest, the Glucksman Gallery at University College Cork, the Lyric Theatre in Belfast and London's Stratford Waterfront Masterplan. They were also involved in the development of Temple Bar, including the design of the Irish Film Institute, the DIT College of Photography and the National Photography Archive.

John Tuomey said: "We are excited by the vision for the Swords Cultural Quarter, with its emphasis on the inherited landscape, its civic-minded programme for public space, its socially-minded

Artists Impression of Swords Cultural Quarter



provision of library, theatre and arts amenities. It was with an ambition to participate in projects like this, where architecture can contribute to the shape of society, that we set out in practice."

Speaking about the design team, Fingal County Architect, Fionnuala May, said: "I am delighted with the appointment of O'Donnell and Tuomey Architects to the Swords Cultural Quarter project. This important milestone heralds the start of the design period for our new County Library and Arts Centre. Our aspiration is for a design that appropriately signals our pride in Swords as our county town and I have no doubt that this will be realised by O'Donnell and Tuomey and their team."

As the project progresses Fingal County Council will continue to share updates on the proposed designs so look out for more news in future editions of the Fingal News.

The Central European University in Budapest designed by O'Donnell Tuomey



Dublin Climate Action Week 2021 Event Programme Launched

The event programme and online registration have launched for Dublin's first Climate Action Week (DCAW21), taking place from Monday 13, to Sunday 19, September 2021.

A range of online and in-person climate action events are now open for registration at www.dublinclimateactionweek.ie

The broad range of events address the theme areas of Energy & Buildings, Transport, Flood Resilience, Nature Based Solutions, Resource Management and Citizen Engagement.

The recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Climate Change 2021 Report, categorically underlines the need for urgent action on climate change by all sectors of society. One of the highlights of the DCAW21 Programme includes a Climate Action Panel Discussion with the Chief Executives of the four Dublin local authorities, taking place online on Tuesday, 14 September 2021 at 10am. A number of online film screenings are planned, and outdoor climate film screenings will take place at venues across Dublin. There are also a range of family events, including workshops for children and guided walks in public parks.

The Cathaoirleach of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, the Mayors of South Dublin County Council and Fingal County Council, and the Lord Mayor of Dublin City Council, have jointly stated in the online Programme Promotional Video: 'The Dublin Region is acting on climate change causes and impacts, and we are making positive changes. We've organised Dublin's

first ever Climate Action Week, to showcase our climate action progress to the people of Dublin and elsewhere. We've launched an exciting programme of events across a range of themes. There is something for everyone. You can register for these events on our Dublin Climate Action Week website www.dublinclimateactionweek.ie. We invite you to join us. Discover more about acting on climate change so we are all Taking Action, Together'.

The week is being organised and delivered by the partnership of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, South Dublin County Council, Dublin City Council, Fingal County Council, Codema - Dublin's Energy Agency and the Dublin Climate Action Regional Office (CARO).

The overall vision of Dublin Climate Action Week 2021 is 'to highlight Dublin's climate action progress to its citizens and demonstrate the leadership role of the four local authorities in conjunction with other partners'.

13 - 19 September 2021

DUBLIN
CLIMATE
ACTION
WEEK



Local Authorities Leading
on Climate Action

The agreed shared objectives of the initiative are:

- Demonstrate progress on the implementation of the four Dublin local authority Climate Change Action Plans, and a regional approach to climate action;
- Engage with a full range of partners to share knowledge on efforts and innovation across sectors;
- Make climate action a 'reality' allowing citizens to see what climate action looks like;
- Promote this initiative so as to fully engage with EU and international cities and our climate peers; and
- Create a legacy so that this initiative can carry forward to subsequent years in a variety of ways.

Keep up to date on Dublin Climate Action Week 2021 at www.dublinclimateactionweek.ie or follow #DCAW21 on social media

Explore the Climate Action Week Event Programme:

	Time	Event	Speakers	Event Format
Monday, 13 Sept 2021	14:30	Rogerstown Park Site Visit-Waste Management in Ireland, and Tips for Households	Ronan O'Reilly, James Walls, Brian Reynolds, Janice Butler	Site Visit
	18:30	ReUse & Repair Initiative in Fingal	Rediscovery reps, Sinead Fox, Community reps	Online Screening
Tuesday, 14 Sept 2021	10:00	Chief Executive of the Dublin Local Authorities	DLR,Fingal,DCC,SDCC, CARO Chief Executives	Online Panel Discussion
	19:00	Living Lightly- Sustainable Living	Elaine Butler	Online Live Webinar
Wednesday, 15 Sept 2021	12:00	St. Ita's Wetland Site Visit- Biodiversity & Climate benefit of Rewetting Wetlands	Hans Visser	Site Visit
	10:00	Rogerstown Estuary Site Visit - Let it Flood	Hans Visser	Site Visit
	16:00	Sustainable Fingal webinar - Highlight Opportunities and Supports for SME's	Aoife Sheridan, Darija Balciunaite	Live Webinar
Thursday, 16 Sept 2021	10:00	Incorporating Sustainable Drainage Systems in Residential Developments	Colin Gallagher, Daragh Sheedy,	Site Visit
	15:00	Forests of Fingal	Kevin Halpenny, Michael Staunton	Live Webinar
	19:00	Conscious Cup Campaign Tidy Towns Workshop	Sorcha Kavanagh	Live Webinar
	13:00	Fast Fashion Panel Discussion	Carrie Ann Moran	Live Panel Discussion
Saturday, 18 Sept 2021	10:00	Composting Made Easy	Craig Benton	Site Visit
	15:00	Composting Made Easy	In Person Site Visit - Bayside Association Community Garden	

Register for events at www.dublinclimateactionweek.ie

Climate Action: Food for Thought

The effects of climate change are becoming increasingly evident year by year in Ireland, Europe and across the globe. Recent reports have reaffirmed the link between climate change and manmade activities; and the outlook long term is for more extreme weather events.

As a society we need to cut carbon emissions. Though this will be challenging, there will be

multiple benefits. Picture a future with warmer / more comfortable homes, green wind and solar energy, cleaner more connected modes of transport, better public transport, cleaner air, healthier lifestyles and thriving ecosystems.

In this section of Fingal News, we will aim to give you tips on how you can be more climate aware and take climate actions in your daily lives.



Globally one third of all food produced each year is wasted, most of this can be avoided. In Ireland we generate over 1 million tonnes of food waste each year, working out at around 117kg per household per annum. To put that into context that's enough food waste to fill Croke Park two-and-a-half times over.

So, what does food waste have to do with Climate Change?

The food production process is highly energy intensive throughout each stage of the production process, from planting, harvesting, transporting, storing and freezing. In addition, it uses natural resources such as water, seeds and land. During each stage of the food's life cycle greenhouse gases (GHG) are being emitted- including at the end of its life cycle when methane is released from food that ends up in landfills. Overall the food we waste is responsible for roughly 8% of global GHG emissions.

However, with a little awareness, thought and planning we can easily alter our food behaviour and reduce our food waste footprint. Here are



some tips on how to take action today.

Weekly Menus

- At the start of each week plan out what dishes you'll cook before you do your food grocery shop. By doing this you will not only lower your food waste, you'll also free up time at dinner.
- Having a list of ingredients, when doing groceries, will help you to only buy what you need for that week's dishes. This will reduce your food waste all the while helping you to save money.
- It is estimated that each Irish household throws out between €400 and €1,000 worth of food waste each year.

Buy Loose Fruit & Vegetables

- Where possible try to buy fruit and vegetables that are loose as this will limit excess food, with the added bonus of avoiding single use plastic bags and packaging.

Freezing is Key

- Chop up and store herbs, garlic, chillies, onions etc in your freezer and when you want to use them simply add them to a sizzling frying pan/pot.
- Why not pre make seasoning cubes by adding minced garlic, chopped chili and herbs to oil or melted butter in an ice cube tray, then simply pop a seasoning cube into a hot pan/pot when cooking.
- Store bread in the freezer and simply take out and toast when needed. Be sure to slice the bread before freezing if it isn't pre sliced.
- Batch cooking dishes allows you to use one now and have another pre made hassle free dish in the freezer, ready for a later date.

Portion Control

- Managing your portion sizes can prevent further unnecessary food waste simply by dishing out a smaller portion. If you're still hungry after one portion you can always go back for a second.

Segregated Food Waste

- One key step to reducing the level of food waste that ends up in landfills is segregating your food waste from other materials. This can be done simply by having a compost bin or food waste brown bin. Be sure to use compostable bin bags if you are lining your bin as these break down easily.
- Once these bins are collected, they will be processed in a facility and turned into compost that can then be used in gardens and fields. By doing this we strengthen Ireland's circular economy.

13 - 19 September 2021



**DUBLIN
CLIMATE
ACTION
WEEK**

Local Authorities Leading
on Climate Action

If you enjoyed this piece and want to learn more about food waste and ways you can reduce your food waste footprint visit: www.stopfoodwaste.ie

Dublin is running its first Climate Action Week from 13 to 19 September 2021. All this week there will be lots of events both online and in person talking all things climate change. For more information please visit: www.dublinclimateactionweek.ie



Intercultural Day
CELEBRATE DIVERSITY

FREE ONLINE ZOOM EVENT

"This Project is supported by the Communities Integration Fund"

SATURDAY | AUGUST 21, 2021 | From 3pm

ZOOM ID: 916 3095 1971
Passcode: 262298

facebook LIVE Streaming

- Showcasing of cultural acts from 10+ countries.
- Learn about the traditions around the globe.
- Fun Filled Interactive Quiz - Many Prizes to be Won.
- Entire event will be Live streamed in FEN FB Page.

To Participate in FEN Intercultural Day event, Fill Participant Registration form before 10th AUG'21
<https://forms.gle/Zm6zwDjrcMRFELW8A>

For more info: 0860633087 / 0857337576 / 0874179640
fen-icd@fingalethnicnetwork.ie fen.ie fb.com/fingalethnicnetwork.ie

Participating Countries Various Countries from Asia, Europe, Africa and South America

Bike Week 2021: 12-19 September

Bike Week 2021 will kick off on Sunday, 12 September and end on Saturday, 18 September. Fingal County Council's Department of Environment, Climate Action and Active Travel are delighted to announce an exciting programme of events taking place across Fingal.

Check out the event agenda below and visit www.fingal.ie/active-travel/bikeweek to register



A variety of exciting free events will take place across Fingal during Bike Week. Whether you're an experienced cyclist or a total novice you're invited to get involved. We've got something for everyone!

Bike Week Events in Fingal

Sunday, 12 Sept	Monday, 13 Sept	Tuesday, 14 Sept	Wednesday, 15 Sept	Thursday, 16 Sept	Friday, 17 Sept	Saturday, 18 Sept
Family Group Cycle Day			Adult Cycling Workshop - Rivervalley	Adult Cycling Workshop - Hartstown	Glow in the Dark Cycle - Malahide Castle & Demesne	Family Fun Day - St. Catherines Park
Pedal for Your Medal - All Week Long						
#CycleThere Competition - All Week Long						
Superhero Cycle - All Week Long						
Learn Bike Maintenance - All Week Long						

FAMILY GROUP CYCLE

Get on yer bike and explore the many beautiful, adventurous and safe cycling routes that Fingal has to offer. Check out our family friendly cycle route maps at fingal.ie/active-travel/bikeweek

ADULT CYCLING WORKSHOPS

Got a bike rusting in the shed? This event will help you get back n the saddle safely. Register online at fingal.ie/active-travel/bikeweek

GLOW IN THE DARK CYCLE

MALAHIDE CASTLE 7PM

A family friendly cycling event designed to encourage participants to enjoy cycling safely. This is a co-hosted event in celebration of Climate Action Week and Bike Week 2021.

FAMILY FUN DAY

ST. CATHERINES PARK

10AM-6PM

People of all ages are invited to enjoy safe cycling activities and learn more about sustainable transport.

- Street Velodrome
- Bike Safety Checks
- Cycling Without Age Tribike rides
- BMX tracks
- Kids cycling safety course
- Bleeperbikes

Comhairle Contae
Fhine Gall
Fingal County
Council



An Roinn Iompair
Department of Transport

Safe Routes to School Works Underway

11 Fingal schools were recently awarded €15m funding in the first round of the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Programme. This scheme is funded by the Department of Transport through the NTA, supported by the Department of Education. Funding will be made available to local authorities for use in delivering and improving the infrastructure along access routes to, and at, the school gate.

In Fingal this work will be undertaken by the Active Travel team. Active Travel is working to develop sustainable and safe transport in the county.

The Safe Routes to School programme intends to create safer walking and cycling routes within communities, by relieving traffic congestion at the

school gates, in suspense to increase the number of students to walk or cycle to school by providing walking and cycling facilities.

Improvements to the school commute range from an upgraded footpath or new cycle lane to a complete reworking of the road outside a school's entrance. Bike and scooter racks will be provided to most schools that are part of the programme.

The programme will create solutions for healthier and more sustainable travel to and from school by promoting walking, scooting and cycling to school to help foster independence and enhance student's wellbeing.

The level of interest in this scheme has been extremely positive, with 932

schools expressing interest and while not all schools have been awarded funding in 2021, a provisional multi-annual programme has been created which will allow for further candidates to be awarded funding in the future.

The National Transport Authority, along with An Taisce and Fingal County Council, look forward to working with communities and make a real difference to schools, families, and the environment.

All schools in the county are eligible to apply to the programme and for more information about the programme. For more information visit www.greenschoolsireland.org/saferoutestoschool

Primary Schools across Fingal to receive weather station rain gauge

Fingal County Council plan to distribute rain gauges to 100 primary schools around Fingal in an effort to produce more detailed rainfall records for the county. The programme was launched in June 2021 by the former Deputy Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Robert O'Donoghue, at the Rush and Lusk Educate Together National School.

Children at schools using these rain gauges will have an exciting opportunity to learn through hands-on experience of monitoring and measuring climate change factors.

Cllr O'Donoghue said: "This is a great initiative as the information gathered will be used to provide a more accurate understanding of river response to different rainfall depths and can be used by the OPW, Met Éireann and Fingal's flood sections. Most importantly the project will help to further students' knowledge of the key challenges faced by society including climate change and flooding."

Speaking about the importance of the project for children, Oliver Nicholson, Head of Hydrology at The Office of Public Works, said: "Children will also learn how these measurements are

used for monitoring climate change, design of flood relief measures, weather forecasting and flood forecasting."

Sarah Gallagher, Head of Observations at Met Éireann, urged schools to get involved in the important initiative: "We fully encourage schools across the county to get involved and help with the collection of important weather information. Not only are weather observations critical in helping meteorologists produce accurate weather forecasts, they provide an historic record of weather conditions that Met Éireann climate scientists use to monitor changes in the climate of Ireland."

The Weather Stations for Schools project is being supported by the Chief Executive's Innovation Fund, set up by the Chief Executive of Fingal County Council, AnnMarie Farrelly.

Ms. Farrelly said: "This is the first of the four projects to be launched and, as well as providing valuable information, the data collection process by teachers and pupils will help to promote an appreciation of

the water cycle and climate change challenges faced by the community".

For the second phase of the project, the Council are seeking champion schools across the seven Local Electoral Areas to host an automatic weather station, which will be visible on Met Éireann's www.met.ie website and will provide real-time weather data. Schools interested in having an automatic weather station installed should email Kevin.Valley@fingal.ie to apply. Applications close on Friday, 10 September, 2021.



Former Deputy Mayor Cllr Robert O'Donoghue testing out the equipment with children at Rush & Lusk Educate Together NS

Fingal Libraries: Serving the Community

Fingal Libraries re-opened their doors to the public on 10 May with a Contact and Collect service which allowed members to avail of a simple process to borrow books, DVDs, and other items as well as self-service printing / scanning / photocopying service from their nearest library branch while adhering to public health guidelines.

Delivery service to cocooners, the housebound, residential services and anyone with health issues continues. The cocooning library service can be contacted at 01 890 6719 or 01 860 4290.

Online services are available to all members of the library, and this includes eBooks, online learning courses, eMagazines, language learning, music streaming, newspapers, and reference databases. These are readily available at <https://www.fingal.ie/council/service/fingal-library-eservices-and-eresources-online>



Summer in Fingal Libraries has been very eventful. Summer Stars is an annual initiative under the Right to Read Programme promoting children's literacy and reading development.

Summer Stars 2021 kicked off from Monday 14 June and will run until Tuesday 31 August. The focus of this programme is to encourage children to develop and continue the reading habit during the summer months.

Children have been enjoying the fun and pleasure of reading and writing book reviews. Summer Star cards, bookmarks, activity, and colouring sheets can be picked up in most library branches. Summer Stars is non-competitive and every child who reads even one book/ e-book is regarded as having completed the programme – and it's all completely free!

For online resources, the Summer Stars Collection on BorrowBox has several titles to encourage children to keep up their reading throughout the summertime. Summer Stars Storytime has been delivered by library staff, available on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram pages!

Library Opening Hours may vary

- please contact your local library to find out their opening hours.

Find phone numbers for all libraries at <https://www.fingal.ie/fingallibraries>



Virtual Book Club for Primary School ages

Fingal Libraries initiated a new project, Virtual Book Clubs for Primary School ages, designed to encourage pupils to continue reading over the summer break, with the intention of maintaining literacy skills gained over the school year, and of course, to have fun!

Virtual book clubs are flourishing as we increasingly engage with the online world, and it has transpired that this digital environment is abundant in literary opportunities for learning. Thanks to the wonders of technology, we can instantaneously connect and share with one another, and this exciting platform affords us the awesome ability to bond in real-time over a good read!

August Online Events in Fingal Libraries

Kids and Adults Online Events for Fingal Libraries in August 2021 can be found in the Summer Brochure, and tickets can be booked on the Eventbrite links.

Donabate Library is on shorter opening hours because it is situated inside the Donabate Portrane Community & Leisure Centre. Monday to Friday: 9.45am – 1.00pm & 2.00pm – 4.00pm. Closed on Saturday.

Blanchardstown Library

Refurbishment is still ongoing, and works are due to finish at the end of August.

Contact and Collect service, printing, scanning and photocopying are available in the branch lobby from 9.45am – 8.00pm Monday to Thursday and 9.45am – 5.00pm Friday and Saturday.

The Mobile Library is parked outside Blanchardstown Library for browsing and borrowing from 10.00am – 5.00pm Monday to Friday.

Our Balbriggan Update



Over 1,000 responses were received when residents of Balbriggan were asked in June for their opinions on the town's streets, squares and park.

This public survey was part of the development of the Public Realm Improvement Strategy & Design Guide and was conducted by the Master Planning Consultants for the Our Balbriggan Project, The Paul Hogarth Company.

The proposed rejuvenation projects can work together to deliver high quality public space for the people of Balbriggan and the 1,000 responses which were received during the two week consultation period are now being collated.



Some of the great ideas submitted through the Our Balbriggan Placemaking Fund have come to fruition over the last month, including a Pride mural from the Fingal Lighthouse Art Group, New Kickstarter units for the kids at O'Dwyers GAA, Artist Thomas Brezing's poetry and reflections and new seating at Millpond from Balbriggan Tidy Towns



Our Balbriggan was the runner-up in the #DigitalTownAwards Urban Town Award category, with a prize of €5,000 for the submission. It celebrated Balbriggans inclusion as a SMART district and its aim to solve local challenges using smart technology projects, innovation and collaboration with a wide variety of local stakeholders.



Open the door to Heritage during National Heritage Week



National Heritage Week 2021 is all about getting as many people involved in heritage as possible. This year, we're trying to connect with groups or individuals in their community who may not feel included in local heritage and to explore aspects of local heritage that are seldom considered or celebrated. Heritage is for all. A wide range of events will be held across Fingal during National Heritage Week from Saturday 14, until Sunday 22, August.

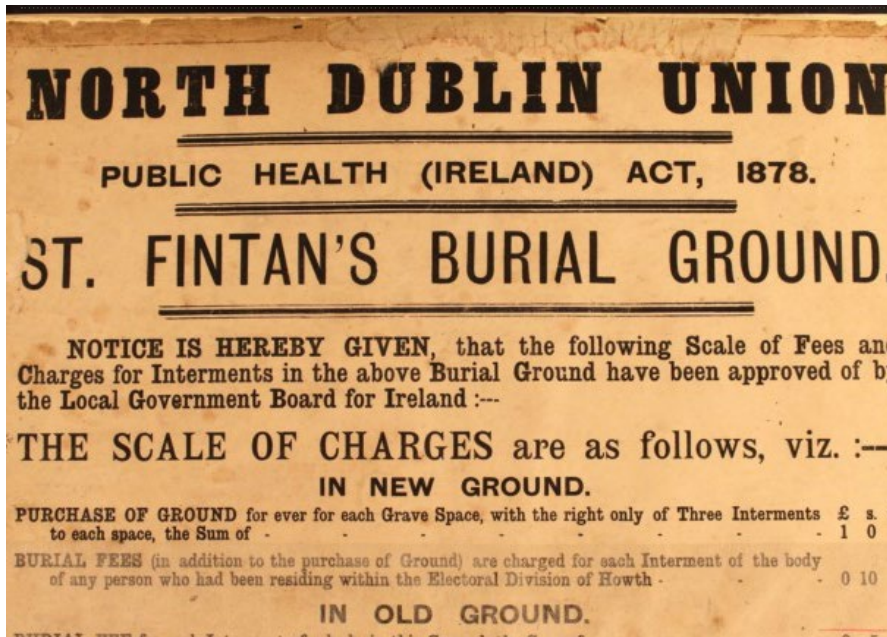
Even if you have just a few minutes you can listen to a one of the stories form the Fingal Heritage: Two Minute talks. Coordinated by Heritage Officer Christine Baker a range of Fingal County Council staff who encounter heritage in their work, share short stories that shows the rich and diverse nature of the heritage of Fingal, whether it is about creativity and heritage or the historic curtains in Newbridge House.

Concerned about the effects of climate change on our heritage? You can take positive action and get involved in

our citizen science project Heritage X Climate.

Fingal Libraries have organised a number of Heritage Week events for young and old from a live online workshop on family records preservation with Fiona Fitzsimons to fun facts, crafts and stories about Round Towers and Vikings in the Dig It Kids workshops. Archivist Karen de Lacey in an online talk traces the history and development of St. Fintan's Cemetery and Dr Maebh O'Regan explores the Irish legacy of the Bronte family.

Local heritage groups, organisers, families and communities have developed projects relating to our built, cultural and natural heritage, that are online and in some cases at in person events (with all public health precautions observed). Be a Farmleigh Tree detective; take a Biodiversity walk on Howth Head; visit the Skerries sea Schiff regatta; hear about the Rock of Ages in Loughsinny; 18th century gravestone in the Naul, the Cúl stories of



Above: Historical artefacts & Fingal County Council Heritage Officer Christine Baker

of Swords or the founder of the Mother's Union.

Mayor of Fingal Cllr. Seána Ó Rodaigh commented "Heritage Week is a great time to engage with and celebrate the many aspects of our Heritage and with the wonderful variety of online and in person events happening in Fingal there is plenty to attract even the 'heritage newcomers' that National Heritage Week aims to connect with this year."

Chief Executive of Fingal AnnMarie Farrelly said "I would like to congratulate all the local groups and Fingal staff on developing these innovative Heritage Week projects. Fingal has a rich cultural, natural and built heritage to be enjoyed and celebrated and the Council is committed to protecting and preserving this for future generations."

'Our connection to our heritage is not just to events in the past but to each other' said Fingal Heritage Officer Christine Baker 'National Heritage Week is a great opportunity to share, explore and enjoy our heritage places and stories that mean so much to local

communities and I encourage everyone to look into and enjoy the heritage in their immediate vicinity'.

The Heritage Council has also announced details of the National Heritage Week Awards 2021, which will recognise successful heritage projects showcased during this year's National Heritage Week.

The county award recognises the best heritage project in each county. There will also be prizes for Heritage Hero, Heritage newcomers, Heritage sharing, Heritage for all ages, Water Heritage, Wild Child. All participants who successfully upload a heritage project on the National Heritage Week website by Monday, 30 August, 2021 will be considered for a National Heritage Week Award.

National Heritage Week 2021 has something to interest everyone. For further details of projects and event in Fingal and beyond see <https://www.fingal.ie/national-heritage-week-fingal-2021> and <https://www.heritageweek.ie>

Celebrating nature & the great outdoors



Clockwise from top left: Daffodils in Ardgillan Castle & Demesne by Íde Ní Liathlin, Butterfly in Herb Garden at Ardgillan by Emma Kelly, Field of Barley by Frances Thompson, Looking out to Ireland's Eye by Jennifer O'Neill



Clockwise from top: Fingal's first Cycle Bus at Castleknock Educate Together NS, Heritage X Climate project launch, Blue Flag awarded to Velevet Strand Portmarnock, Naul Reservoir by Helen Doran



Virtual Tour of St Doulagh's Church Launched



Friends of St. Doulagh's & Heritage Officer Christine Baker launch the virtual tour

Community Archaeology group Resurrecting Monuments, along with the Friends of St Doulagh's have joined with Lensmen Photography to produce a cutting-edge 3D virtual tour of St Doulagh's Church Balgriffin.

St Doulagh's is the oldest stone-roofed church still in use in Ireland. The complex comprises Ireland's only surviving standalone octagonal baptistry, built over a holy well. The Matterport 3D Virtual Tour allows users to examine every aspect of the building online. It also provides a unique opportunity to view close-up detail of the premises, helping people to learn about its history from the comfort of their own home.

Chair of Resurrecting Monuments, Aidan Giblin, discussed how the tour will increase accessibility to the compound: "St. Doulagh's Church is a difficult building to navigate except for the most physically abled visitors. The Virtual Tour will enable much wider access to the general public to this highly significant and interesting building."

He continued saying: "We hope this will be a portal not just for curious tourists but also a platform for academics and students

to further research the sites history and contribute to our knowledge of our past."

Ken McAllister of the Friends of St Doulagh's said: "This Virtual Access Tour will allow all to see that St Doulagh's is not just an interesting archaeological monument with a fascinating history but is still an active place of worship as it was intended when



founded almost 1,500 years ago". Dr. Rachel Moss, Associate Professor of History of Art and Architecture from Trinity College Dublin provides an informative and entertaining introduction to St Doulagh's in the tour.

If you'd like to take a virtual tour of St. Doulagh's Church in 3D you can visit <https://resurrectingmonuments.wordpress.com/st-doulaghs-church-3d-virtual-tour> or find out more about the project at <https://www.fingal.ie/digital-heritage-projects>

Inaugural meeting of Fingal Women's Caucus

The inaugural meeting of Fingal County Council's Women's Caucus took place in Newbridge house on 19 July, 2021. At the meeting Cllr Karen Power and Cllr Joan Hopkins were elected as Chairperson and Vice-Chair respectively.



Fingal's female representatives pictured at Newbridge House for the launch of the Women's Caucus

After chairing the first meeting, the Mayor of Fingal, Councillor Seána Ó Rodaigh, said: "The number of women councillors is on the rise and we hope that the work of the Women's Caucus will inspire more women across the county to get involved in local politics and run for election because everyone benefits from gender balance and equality."

The Women's Caucus envisions the attainment of gender equality among elected members of Fingal County Council and for constituents. It believes that everyone benefits from gender equality. The Caucus aims to have eight meetings per annum.

The Chief Executive of Fingal County Council, AnnMarie Farrelly said: "It's wonderful to be here today surrounded by the inspiring women who make up Fingal County Council's

First Women's Caucus. Fingal County Council were delighted to facilitate the setting up of the Women's Caucus and I look forward to seeing what can be achieved by such a motivated group."

The mission of the Women's Caucus is to bring together women and gender minority representatives from all parties and none. It aims to highlight the benefits of collegiality, create a productive and successful environment that supports everyone to achieve common goals, to foster an environment of mutual respect and to create equality for the benefit of all.

The Caucus also aims to develop and advocate for policy and other initiatives that address issues affecting

women and their families, promote and support women's participation in politics nationally and locally and to advance the agreed agenda of the Women's Caucus within political parties, committee work and other spheres of influence.

The first Chairperson for the Women's Caucus, Cllr Karen Power said: "I am delighted to be voted into the position of Chairperson and feel truly honoured to act as the spokesperson for the Caucus."

The role of the chairperson of the Women's Caucus is to chair meetings, to act as a spokesperson, to liaise with the council on Caucus matters including the preparation of an annual report and to liaise with external organisations on Caucus matters. A new chairperson will be elected annually.

The newly elected Vice-Chair for the Women's Caucus, Cllr Joan Hopkins said: "I am honoured to take on this new and exciting role as Vice-Chair for the Women's Caucus, I will do my very best to support Cllr Karen Power in ensuring the Caucus achieves what it has set out to."



Special Visitors at First FAI Summer Soccer School in Tyrrelstown

The Irish women's national football team head coach, Vera Pauw, and goalkeeping coach, Jan Willem van Ede, visited the first FAI Summer Soccer School to be held in Tyrrelstown on 3 August. Their visit will hopefully encourage the children to keep playing football and to join the Tyrrelstown FC academy which is due to start in September.



They spoke to the children involved, shared some words of wisdom and even did some coaching. Their visit will hopefully encourage the children to keep playing football and to join the Tyrrelstown FC academy which is due to start in September.

The Summer Soccer School was held in Tyrrelstown all-weather pitch where approximately 90 children participated in activities delivered by FAI qualified coaches. This is the first ever FAI camp in the area and was overseen by the FAI and Fingal County Council Football Development Officer, Jamie Wilson, and Head Coach, Sean Fogarty.

The highlight of the week was the visit from the two Dutch coaches Vera Pauw and Jan Willem van Ede who are now involved with Ireland's women's national team. The pair joined in on some of the sessions, displaying some football skills and chatting with the participants. This was an amazing opportunity for the local children who fully embraced the opportunity to interact with two international coaches. They were joined by the Mayor of Fingal and Fingal County Council's Director of Housing and Community, Liam Burke, on the day.

The Mayor of Fingal, Seána O'Rodaigh, said: "Vera and Jan are an inspiration to the younger generation. Their attendance at the Soccer Camp in Tyrrelstown showed the children that they are the future. The engagement and respect between the National coaches and children was a joy to see."

FAI/Fingal County Council Football Development Officer, Jamie Wilson, was delighted to see

Vera and Jan visit the Summer Soccer School: "It's fantastic for the kids and coaches to see people like Vera and Jan go out of their way to visit Tyrrelstown. There are thousands of kids in the area and football has been badly neglected in recent years. With summer soccer schools, the club restarting, and many other events planned for the future, football will be more



readily available for all age groups and for both boys and girls. We hope that Vera and Jan's visit will inspire the kids to take up football and play on a more regular basis."



CONTINUED...

Niall McGuirk, Acting Principal Sports Officer for Fingal County Council said: "It was an absolute pleasure having Vera and Jan at the soccer school. They showed the kids some great tricks and really got involved. It's our first ever

FAI football camp in the area so we were delighted that Vera and Jan could join us and encourage the kids to keep up the sport. We hope that the children feel inspired to join in on the academy starting in the coming months." Tyrrelstown FC academy will

start on Sunday, 12 September for the 6-12 age groups. If you are interested in participating, please email Jamie Wilson at Jamie.wilson@fai.ie.

Partnership with Cricket Leinster continues to grow cricket in Fingal

It has been a long-term ambition of Cricket Leinster to expand its school visit programme in Fingal. Thanks to the financial support from Fingal County Council, this goal has been accomplished. Killian Molloy, Lara Maritz and Mitchell Thompson are now community coaches in schools across Fingal.

Fingal County Council and Cricket Leinster are proud to have delivered an expanded in-school cricket activities programme this year. Despite the challenges presented by Covid-19, the cricket programme was a massive success.

The funding enabled Community Coach Killian to deliver training to hundreds of children across the country. Killian delivered sessions at several schools including Lusk NS, Holy Family NS Swords, and Mary Mother of Hope SNS Littlepace.

David O'Donnell, from Lusk NS, sums up how the special partnership has helped children and the school build stronger links with the community: "As a school, we were delighted with how the programme complemented and enhanced our PE plan, incorporating many strand units and fundamental movement skills. We were also happy to build community links with clubs in the locality."

Michelle Heaney, a teacher from Mary Mother of Hope SNS in Littlepace, has added that the coaching their pupils received was a valuable and positive experience: "Cricket Leinster coaching has been a very positive experience within our school. The coaches are always positive, enthusiastic, knowledgeable about their sport and very supportive towards the children at every session. The children always looked forward to their cricket sessions each week."

It is clear from the feedback and the high engagement among schools in Fingal, that Cricket Leinster will need to return in September to meet the needs and growing demand for cricket coaching at the schools.

Brian O'Rourke, Cricket Development Manager, Cricket Leinster & Fingal County Council concluded: "It remains in Fingal, wherever there is the desire for cricket, we will make the game available. Can I thank, not only the schools who participated, but the outstanding efforts of Killian, Lara, and Mitchell in representing the special partnership of Fingal County Council and Cricket Leinster throughout the school term, in what remain very challenging times with Covid."

More than 1,000 Submissions Received as Royal Canal Urban Greenway Consultation Closes



Artist's impression of the Royal Canal Urban Greenway

Fingal County Council has received more than 1,000 submissions and surveys from members of the public in relation to the proposed route for the Royal Canal Urban Greenway. The most recent six week-long phase of consultation ended on Wednesday, 7 July.

This non-statutory consultation invited the public to share their views on the proposed route. Submissions were accepted through Fingal County Council's Consultation Portal website, via survey or written submission, and written submissions were also accepted by post.

Throughout the course of the consultation Fingal County Council provided the public with access to user friendly images and videos of the proposed Greenway as well as a large number of technical drawings and reports relating to the project. These items remain online, along with recordings of two public information webinars delivered during the consultation period, and can be viewed at <https://consult.fingal.ie/en/consultation/royal-canal-urban-greenway>.

The Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Seána Ó Rodaigh, said: "It is important that citizens engage in the public consultation process and let their views be known. The response to the Royal

Canal Urban Greenway consultation shows the level of interest in the project and it is great that so many took the opportunity to participate."

Fingal County Council is now engaged in reviewing, moderating and publishing all submissions on their consultation portal. Moderation involves the redaction of a submitter's personal details prior to publication. Due to the high level of public engagement, this process is expected to take a number of weeks. Fingal County Council staff have already begun this work with 375 submissions now live on the consultation portal.

The design team will consider all submissions received and assess how to best address the various issues raised. This process will include discussions with other stakeholders, which may include local residents, landowners, the National Transport Authority, Waterways Ireland and Irish Rail.

The project team will review all feedback from the public and a summary report on the consultation will then be published and made publicly available. The submissions will also feed into the final proposed scheme design, and it will be screened for

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA). That screening, likely to take place in Q3 2021, will also help determine whether the planning application will be lodged to Fingal County Council (as a Part 8) or to An Bord Pleanála.

Fingal County Council Chief Executive AnnMarie Farrelly said: "We take public consultation seriously and see it as a valuable and important opportunity to understand the needs of people and the environment they live in.

"The Royal Canal Urban Greenway has the potential to promote connectivity between a number of growing communities in Dublin 15, improving their connection to the wider Dublin area. Throughout the course of this consultation the project team has reached out to the public using webinars, online resources, social media and the press and we believe the very high number of submissions demonstrates that this process works well. While Covid-19 does not allow us to meet large groups in person we remain committed to providing meaningful consultation through technology."

The Royal Canal Urban Greenway is a proposed pedestrian and cycle route along the Royal Canal tow path. The route

will operate from Castleknock travelling through Blanchardstown, Coolmine, Clonsilla and Hansfield to the Fingal County boundary with Kildare. This landmark scheme will deliver a nationally important piece of greenway infrastructure and is being delivered by Fingal County Council in conjunction with the National Transport Authority and Waterways Ireland. You can learn more about the project on fingal.ie/royalcanalurbangreenway.



Artist's impression of the Royal Canal Urban Greenway at the Twelfth Lock

Irish Language Scheme 2021 - 2024

The Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media has confirmed the Fingal County Council 4th Irish Language scheme with a commencement date of 11 May, 2021 and it shall remain in force for a period of three years from this date or until a new scheme has been confirmed by the Minister pursuant to Section 15 of the Act, whichever is the later.

You can download the Irish Language Scheme document here: <https://www.fingal.ie/council/service/irish-language-scheme-2021-2024>.

If you require service through Irish by email please contact eolas@fingal.ie

You can change the language of any page on www.fingal.ie to Irish, and it is available in Irish at www.fingal.ie/ga.

Fingal County Council continues to implement its Irish Language Scheme, as well as all Irish Language Legislation. There is also an Irish version of the fingal.ie website.

Irish Language Training is provided to selected staff through online courses. Forms and publications are made available in Irish including this Fingal News- Nuacht Fhine Gall ezine. The language is promoted within the Council and the County with events usually taking place in Libraries and County Hall. During Covid19, a programme was produced for online Events for Seachtain na Gaeilge and the language was promoted also at other online events. The language is also promoted daily on our social media channels.



The Liffey Valley Trail which stretches from Farmleigh in the Phoenix Park through the villages of Castleknock, Clonsilla, Blanchardstown and Mulhuddart is aimed at promoting visits to the Dublin 15 area from both local and domestic visitors alike. Highlighting 29 places of interest the trail features a rich diversity of historic sites, castles and gardens, visitor attractions, shopping, and many recreational activities which are enjoyed in Dublin 15.

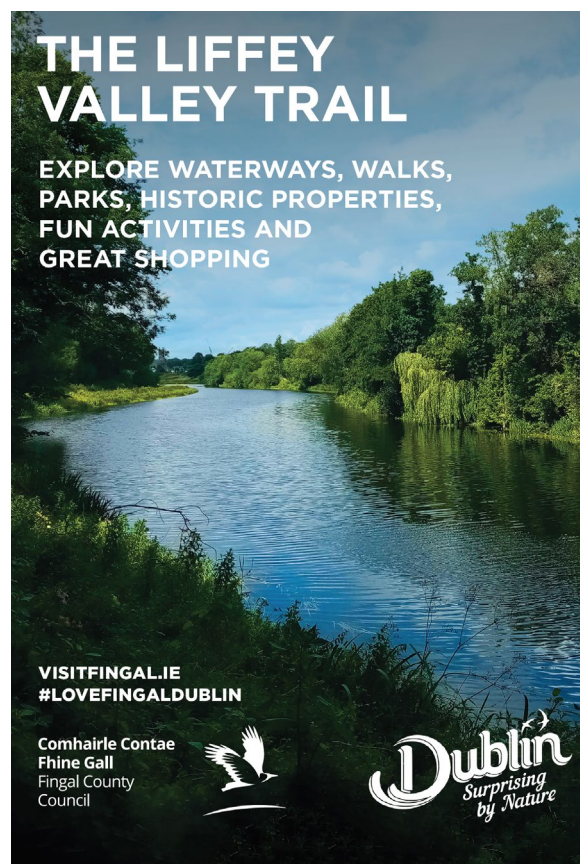
The area has three waterways, the river Tolka, the Royal Canal and the river Liffey which is beautifully contained between steep wooded hills around the famous Strawberry Beds.

Aspects of the area's rich heritage and long history are encapsulated in the many famous buildings, churches, castles, great houses and archaeological sites located in the area. These include Luttrellstown Castle and Farmleigh House, which were in ownership of the Guinness Family for generations, and the nearby Shackleton Mills, once owned by Ernest Shackleton's family, the famous Antarctic Explorer. Shackleton Mills is home to a stunning walled garden due to open to visitors later this year.

The trail was developed by the Fingal Tourism Development Office in conjunction with local councillors Cllr Howard Mahony and Cllr Siobhan Shovlin and Senator Emer Currie.

Following the publication of the trail Cllr Siobhan Shovlin said: "As a member of the Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development Strategic Policy Committee in Fingal County Council it has been great to work on this project with my colleagues which will showcase many of the amazing amenities and attractions which we have here in Dublin 15. I hope that this is the start of something great for promoting our area as a tourism destination with so much on offer.

We have come to appreciate our local community even more recently and this will provide both local



tourists and those from further afield with an opportunity to engage with the landmarks on our doorstep here in Dublin 15 and in turn help local businesses."

Cllr Mahony said he "would like to welcome this exciting new initiative from Fingal Tourism. It offers the tourist the opportunity to experience all that the Liffey Valley has to offer from the peace and tranquility of the Strawberry Beds to history, theatre, shopping, fine dining and a choice of golf courses all within twenty minutes of the city centre."

The Liffey Valley Trail is available for download on <https://www.fingal.ie/directory/liffey-valley-trail>

Castleknock Play Space Survey



Fingal County Council has launched a survey on the location of a proposed neighbourhood play space in Castleknock. The survey will provide an opportunity, to all interested parties in the area, to examine the five proposed play space locations, state which ones they consider most appropriate and leave any feedback.

Following the submission of a resident petition and a motion by Councillors to the Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar Area Committee, the Operations Department D15 have surveyed the open spaces within the Castleknock Area to identify areas suitable for a play space. Factors included:

- Size of open space
- Local demographics
- Parking facilities
- Proximity to transport hubs
- Community facilities
- Topography
- Proximity to residents
- Opportunities for passive surveillance

Their research concluded with five potential locations for a play space in the area; Laurel Lodge Green, Opposite Cas-

tleknock Community Centre, Opposite Oak Tree Green, Opposite Sycamore Avenue and Adjacent to Castleknock Road and Woodpark.

In order to contribute to this research, Fingal County Council wishes to determine the preferences of Castleknock residents and potential users of this amenity. The survey will allow residents to give their feedback on the five potential locations which will then be taken into consideration by the Council.

Following this research, Fingal County Council's Operations Department will forward the results of this survey together with the 5 locations proposed, to the Planning and Strategic Department for their consideration. A statutory public consultation will take place at that time and members of the public and local interest groups will be invited to participate in the consultation process. However, it will take a few years for this project to reach this stage.

Speaking about the project, Executive Parks Superintendent of Fingal County Council, Oliver Hoey, said: "We are currently in the very early stages of this project. We are simply inviting the residents of Castleknock to complete this survey in order to understand their needs and

preferences for a play space in the area. We will take their feedback into consideration before progressing this project any further. We would encourage everyone in the area to get involved with the survey so that we have a better idea of their wants and needs. We'd also like to remind everyone that it will take a few years before this project reaches the formal consultation stage".

Surveys for the proposed play space can be found on Fingal's website at <https://consult.fingal.ie/en/content/proposals-playground-castleknock-online-public-engagement-0>. Residents of the Castleknock area will also receive the survey in the post in the coming week which can be sent back to Operations Department, Fingal County Council, Grove Road, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15. Survey submissions will be open from 16 August until 6 September.

Fingal County Council's website contains significant information with respect to the proposal to provide a play space for children in the Castleknock Area. If you'd like to learn more about the five proposed locations for this amenity and view the proposed project timeline, please go to www.fingal.ie/castleknockplay.

Bringing The Inside Outside

Fingal County Council Community Development Office in partnership with our Community centres across Fingal support community participation, inclusion, health and wellbeing. During the Covid 19 pandemic in compliance with government guidelines and the hybrid restrictions we have continued working to deliver programmes.



In continuing to support community centres across Fingal to reopen safely as an outdoor space for local groups and organisations, the Council provided funding for a number of community centres to purchase outdoor gazebos.

These gazebos have supported in the remobilisation of community centres and bringing the inside out. They have allowed community centres to host numerous summer projects across the Fingal area alongside providing an outdoor space for other community groups to meet. They have also been utilised by community centres across Dublin 15 to host outdoor reception days to reengage the community and showcase the wide range of activities the centre has to offer once restrictions are lifted.

On Wednesday 4 August, 2021, Mulhuddart Community Centre in association with Fingal County Council welcomed the community to an outdoor reception day that was well received by Community groups, service providers and the local Community.

The reception hosted a community photography project exhibition which took place this year in collaboration with Mulhuddart Community Centre, Fingal County Council and Healthy Mulhuddart. Fingal Community Office, Empower, Foroige, Kidzone, The Centre for Independent Living and numerous community groups were in attendance. The showcasing of services and supports for communities and groups at this outdoor reception at Mulhuddart Community Centre was a great success. Discussions over tea and coffee, Healthy Fingal giveaway packs, and Mulhuddart pensioners club first group meeting since the beginning of the COVID pandemic took place during this outdoor reception.

Similarly to this, Mountview Fortlawn Youth and Sports Hub hosted a Community engagement expo on 12 August, 2021. This outdoor event showcased a range of community groups, supports and services including Fingal County Council Community Office,

Empower, Hope Childcare, Ladies Knitting Club, Savage Martial Arts and the Flying Ducks hockey club. Alongside this, Mountview FC were in full swing of their mini leagues which brought a great energy to the event. Champion Taekwondo also gave the audience a wonderful demonstration of their skills while showcasing their trophies and achievements. The event was well received by all in attendance and the community of Mountview look forward to the centre reopening.



Congratulations to Fingal's 5 Olympians!

Five talented athletes represented Fingal on the world stage at the recent Olympic Games in Tokyo. They took part in Sailing, Athletics, Rugby Sevens and Hockey. They have shown it is possible to journey from Fingal to the Olympics and should be extremely proud of their achievements.

Sean Waddilove, of Skerries Sailing Club, and teammate Robert Dickson, of Howth Yacht Club, represented Ireland in sailing at the Olympics. Even though they won the first and final races in the 49er series, it wasn't enough to secure the sailors a place in the medal race. Overall, they finished joint 13th and are looking forward to the Paris Games in three years' time.

Irish 1500m runner Andrew Coscoran progressed from his heat to the semi-final where he finished 10th. The Balbriggan native ran a time of 3:35:84. Although not enough to see him reach the final, it was an incredible Olympic debut for the runner.

Hugo Lennox, a member of Skerries Rugby Club, was a part of the Rugby Sevens team. The team were sadly edged out of a place in the quarter-finals.



Team Ireland

Sarah Hawkshaw of Castleknock was part of the Irish Hockey team who started with a 2-0 win over South Africa, later missing out on a place in the quarter-finals after a 2-0 defeat to Great Britain in their final Pool A clash. The team aim to return to the next Olympics in Paris and push on further.

The Chief Executive of Fingal County Council, AnnMarie Farrelly, gave her best wishes to the participants prior to the Games: "The very best of luck to those representing Team Ireland in the Olympic Games 2021. We are so proud of the Fingal participants who have worked and trained vigorously over the years to get to where they are today. They are an inspiration to many."

"Sport plays an important part in the work of Fingal County Council to build communities and our Sports Office has done tremendous work over the past 20 years to promote participation. Our five Olympians are excellent role models and have shown that it is possible to journey on a path from Fingal to the Olympics."

Two athletes from Fingal will be part of Team Ireland at Tokyo Paralympics from 24 August to 5 September. Orla Comerford from Howth will compete in the 100m (T13) while Greta Streimikyte from Swords will go in the 1,500m (T13).



Live Events Return to Seamus Ennis Arts Centre

Entertainment has returned to Naul with a series of live performances taking place in the Piper's Garden at the Seamus Ennis Arts Centre.

The venue was delighted to welcome audiences back for their first outdoor comedy night 'LOL in Naul' which took place on 23 July, featuring headliner Ardal O'Hanlon of Father Ted fame, MC Gearoid Farrell and comedians Barry Murphy and Julie Jay supporting.

The sold out gig was praised by punters who relaxed in the safe and sheltered outdoor space where socially distanced seating facilitated a night of laughter.

Two further sold out live music nights took place recently with great music from Aoife Scott on 13 August and Mick Flannery and band on 14 August.

Interested in a night of live outdoor entertainment? You can get your tickets for Lisa Canny on 27 August and Mick Flannery on 28 August at tseac.ie



Dom Martin - tickets on sale now



Mick Flannery & Band



Aoife Scott



Conservation Works commence on Estate Wall at Newbridge House

Work has commenced on conservation work on the estate wall around Newbridge House and Demesne in Donabate with the first phase of works focused on a continuous section of estate wall facing Hearse Road and Cobbes Lane.



The conservation works, which are included in the Fingal Capital Plan, are required because the estate wall has partly fallen into disrepair. The repairs will include the re-building of the rubble stone coping. This had been harled to protect it from the elements but had been eroded and washed out by the penetration of rainwater over the years. There has also been some damage from the impact of fallen trees so these sections will be re-built.

The wall at Newbridge is stone built with lime pointing as was traditional practice and evidence suggests it was coated originally by a harling which is a thin render coating of lime, shells and stones to protect the stone from the elements. The original coating has been weathered over centuries and has largely disintegrated leaving the stonework exposed.

Analysis and survey works, including mortar analysis, preceded the commencement of works and found amounts of intact original harling still in place which suggested that this section of estate wall was covered in a thin render.

The formal courtyards beside the main house have a similar protective finish on them which is a sandy-coloured render with pebbles and shells visible on the surface and exposed by weather.

Fingal County Architect, Fionnuala May, said: "It is our intention to carry out conservation works on the entire wall so, as this is the first phase, the conservation team will be working with the contractor to find the best balance of appropriate material which will mellow with age and best match the original. The contractor has been requested to provide sampling of finishes for review with the conservation team as we look to get the best possible finish for the estate wall."

The works, which are intended to be completed by September, are being carried out by James Oliver Hearty & Sons whose previous conservation work has included Grange Castle, Rathfarnham Castle and Rathmullan Battery Fort.



Thin lime 'harling' coat applied

Implementation Group set up to oversee delivery of Fingal Skills Strategy

An Implementation Group has been established to deliver the objectives of Fingal Skills Strategy.

The Group brings together representatives from education and training providers, employers and industry, government agencies and Fingal County Council to ensure that Fingal has the right skills for the future and remains a desirable area to work and invest in.

The Group is chaired by Siobhan Kinsella, former President of both Chambers Ireland and Fingal Chamber. Ms Kinsella was the Chairperson of the Fingal Skills Strategy Advisory Group which originally produced the Fingal Skills Strategy.

The Implementation Group is starting to execute the recommendations of the Fingal

Skills Strategy, taking a fresh approach in light of the post Covid-19 environment. They will regularly review emerging skills needs within the county and actively look at aligning the provision of training and education with the demands of the industry.

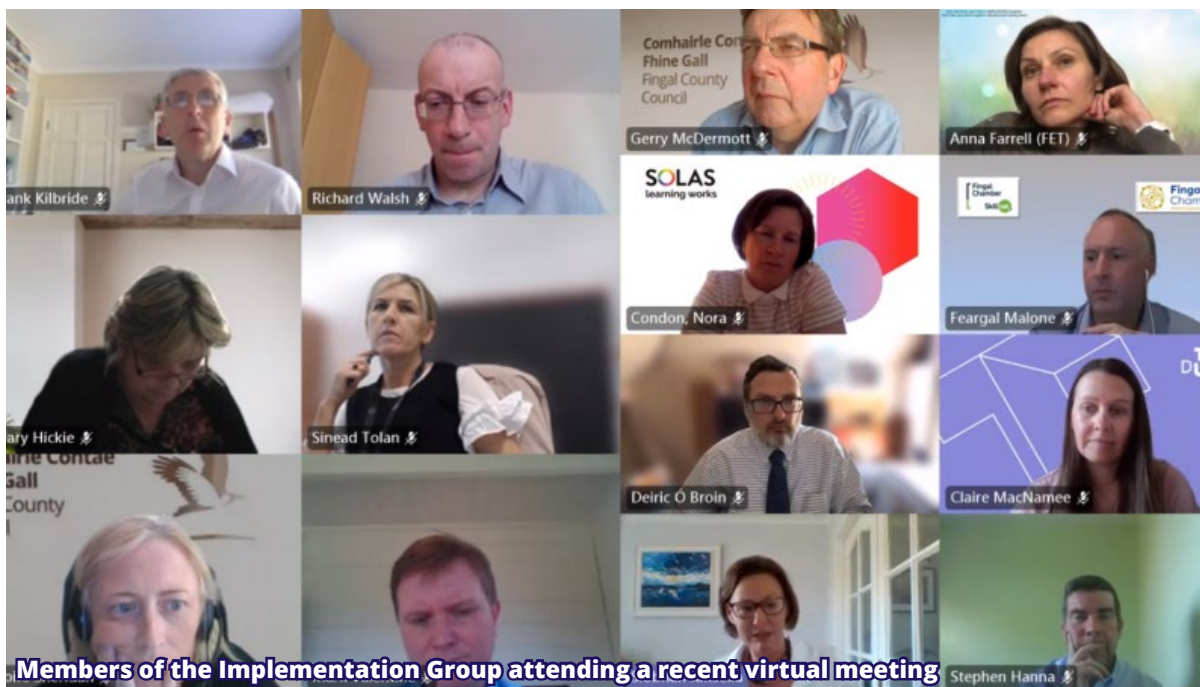
Speaking about the Group, The Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Seána Ó Rodaigh, said: "As we start to emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic, the need to be aware of the skills needed within our labour force has never been greater and it's great to see the Implementation Group up and running."

Speaking of the importance of the Group for Fingal, Chief Executive of Fingal County Council, AnnMarie Farrelly, said: "As the local authority with the youngest population in Ireland, Fingal is looking to embed our Skills

Strategy amongst industry and academia. The report showed a skills gap across all sectors which we need to close to ensure Fingal remains a primary location to invest or grow a business in."

The Chairperson of the Skills Strategy Implementation Group, Siobhan Kinsella, said: "The Implementation Group is made up of relevant stakeholders who have the knowledge, experience and networks to contribute to the implementation of the strategy. The diversity of its membership will ensure that we will have a wide range of champions to promote the Fingal Skills Strategy across the county and beyond."

The group is meeting quarterly and we look forward to sharing updates on their work in future editions of Fingal News.



Members of the Implementation Group attending a recent virtual meeting

Fingal By Numbers

3,174

listens of the Inside Fingal podcast. All podcasts in the series are available at www.fingal.ie/podcast.

3

'Fingal Celebrates' events to be held in Swords Castle Town Park, Ardgillan Demesne and St. Catherine's Park August/early September



111

housing units currently at planning stage as per the Council's Construction Programme.

80,000

The BASE Centre in Mulhuddart has received confirmation of over 80,000 euro in facilities upgrades from Enterprise Ireland.

565

tonnes of glass recycled in June 2021 throughout the Fingal network.

8

estates taken in charge by the Council in June.

76

hires put in place by the Council's Fleet Management and Plant Hire Unit in June.

264

routine Litter Warden patrols carried out during June.

197

Road Opening Licences granted by the Operations and Water Services Department in June 2021.

Your Councillors



Local Electoral Areas



Balbriggan

1. Cllr. Tony Murphy
Independent
tony.murphy@cllrs.fingal.ie
086 277 2030

2. Cllr. Grainne Maguire
Independent
grainne.maguire@cllrs.fingal.ie
087 943 6650

3. Cllr. Seána Ó Rodaigh
Labour Party
seana.ordagh@cllrs.fingal.ie
085 831 3801

4. Cllr. Tom O'Leary
Fine Gael
tom.oleary@cllrs.fingal.ie
087 245 9897

5. Cllr. Karen Power
Green Party
karen.power@cllrs.fingal.ie
089 965 4529

Rush- Lusk

6. Cllr. Robert O'Donoghue
Labour Party
robert.odonoghue@cllrs.fingal.ie
083 0545554

7. Cllr. Adrian Henchy
Fianna Fáil
adrian.henchy@cllrs.fingal.ie
087 681 4485

8. Cllr. Brian Dennehy
Fianna Fáil
brian.dennehy@cllrs.fingal.ie
085 229 8201

9. Cllr. Cathal Boland
Independent
cathal.boland@cllrs.fingal.ie
086 257 7672

10. Cllr. Paul Mulville
Social Democrats
paul.mulville@cllrs.fingal.ie
086 378 7395

Swords

11. Cllr. Darragh Butler
Fianna Fáil
darragh.butler@cllrs.fingal.ie
087 959 5378

12. Cllr. Ian Carey
Green Party
ian.carey@cllrs.fingal.ie
086 307 4004

13. Cllr. Dean Mulligan
Independents4Change
dean.mulligan@cllrs.fingal.ie
087 966 6260

14. Cllr. Joe Newman
Independent
joe.newman@cllrs.fingal.ie
087 245 7729

15. Cllr. Brigid Manton
Fianna Fáil
brigid.manton@cllrs.fingal.ie
086 247 6596

16. Cllr. Ann Graves
Sinn Féin
ann.graves@cllrs.fingal.ie
087 272 4359

17. Cllr. James Humphreys
Labour Party

james.humphreys@cllrs.fingal.ie
083 8560832

Howth - Malahide

18. Cllr. Eoghan O'Brien
Fianna Fáil
eoghan.obrien@cllrs.fingal.ie
086 858 0562

19. Cllr. David Healy
Green Party
david.healy@cllrs.fingal.ie
087 617 8852

20. Cllr. Brian Mc Donagh
Labour Party
brian.mcdonagh@cllrs.fingal.ie
086 385 8979

21. Cllr. Jimmy Guerin
Independent
jimmy.guerin@cllrs.fingal.ie
086 014 3346

22. Cllr. Aoibhinn Tormey
Fine Gael
aobhinn.tormey@cllrs.fingal.ie
087 754 6258

23. Cllr. Anthony Lavin
Fine Gael
anthony.lavin@cllrs.fingal.ie
087 993 1329

24. Cllr. Joan Hopkins
Social Democrats
joan.hopkins@cllrs.fingal.ie
083 1031541

Castleknock

25. Cllr. Ted Leddy
Fine Gael
ted.leddy@cllrs.fingal.ie
087 327 6630

26. Cllr. John Walsh
Labour Party
john.walsh@cllrs.fingal.ie
087 648 6228

27. Cllr. Howard Mahony
Fianna Fáil
howard.mahony@cllrs.fingal.ie
087 0506146

28. Cllr. Natalie Treacy
Sinn Féin
natalie.treacy@cllrs.fingal.ie
085 128 5493

29. Cllr. Pamela Conroy
Green Party
pamela.conroy@cllrs.fingal.ie
086 8462891

30. Cllr. Siobhan Shovlin
Fine Gael
siobhan.shovlin@cllrs.fingal.ie
087 3984778

Ongar

31. Cllr. Tania Doyle
Independent
tania.doyle@cllrs.fingal.ie
085 780 9292

32. Cllr. Tom Kitt
Fianna Fáil
tom.kitt@cllrs.fingal.ie
086 199 5801

33. Cllr. Daniel Whooley
Green Party
daniel.whooley@cllrs.fingal.ie
087 397 8024

34. Cllr. Kieran Dennison
Fine Gael
kieran.dennison@cllrs.fingal.ie
087 259 5949

35. Cllr. Aaron O'Rourke
Sinn Féin
aaron.orourke@cllrs.fingal.ie
087 7042783

Blanchardstown- Mulhuddart

36. Cllr. Mary McCamley
Labour Party
mary.mccamley@cllrs.fingal.ie
087 650 1441

37. Cllr. Breda Hanaphy
Sinn Féin
breda.hanaphy@cllrs.fingal.ie
087 162 0917

38. Cllr. John Burtachaell
Solidarity
john.burtachaell@cllrs.fingal.ie
087 102 9372

39. Cllr. Punam Rane
Fine Gael
punam.rane@cllrs.fingal.ie
089 254 4372

40. Fianna Fáil - Vacant Seat