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ISSUE 22
DEC/JAN 2020

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EDITORIAL

Ho, Ho, Ho! Merry Christmas. This edition of Little Village is jam packed with local news, important announcements, some local success stories and even our very own Christmas Mince Pie recipe for you to try.

Read all about the success story which was the Marathon Kids event which took place in Morton Stadium, Dublin. This truly was a great initiative and in turn a great experience for all the primary schools who trained hard in school where they completed the distance of a marathon in school culminating in completing the final mile in Morton Stadium. Each child who participated received their very own medal, the first of many we hope. In other schools' news, be sure to read about the announcement by An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar TD, that six local schools in Dublin West will undergo improvement works next summer thanks to funding provided under the Government's Summer Works Scheme.

In local transport news, please read suggestions put forward by Green Party Dublin West candidate, Cllr Roderic O'Gorman on page 14. He has suggested an amendment

to the 2nd draft of the BusConnects route maps, whereby the new B3 bus route would be re-routed along Clonsilla Road. He made this proposal as part of a range of changes he suggested in his submission. Also, please check out the proposals put forward by the Labour party on page 32. The labour party draws our attention to the fact that over 2,000 submissions were made from Dublin 15 in the first phase of consultation and it is important to have your say on this latest plan, as a far-reaching redesign of bus services is likely to be in place for a long time.

Be sure to read all about Fingal's' Greener Community Awards on page 40 where Many community groups from throughout Fingal participated in this year's event with over 100 entrants across all categories, which range from Best Front Garden to the Biodiversity Award. A total of 40 prizes were awarded on the night. The overall prize was awarded to Whitestown Estate Management for their excellent work and dedication to their area. The full list of winners is available on page 40. Well done to all!

Little Village would like to wish everybody a safe and happy Christmas and we hope Santa is good to you!!!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all at Little Village.

David Whelan, Editor. Tel: 089 472 0266

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- The Greyhound Blanch Village
- The Grasshopper Clonee
- Clonsilla Inn
- The Carpenter Inn
- The Carlton Hotel Tyrrelstown



Ronan Bright
Director / Head of Sales
brightronan83@gmail.com
085 199 8321



Yasmine Beharic
Sales / Marketing
littlevillagemagazine@gmail.com
089 200 8822



Patrick Browne
Graphic Design
hello@patrickbrownedesign.com
086 831 9322

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Donabate Portrane Community Centre Manager Jacinta Lowndes, Fingal County Council's Chief Executive AnnMarie Farrelly, Mayor of Fingal Cllr Eoghan O'Brien and Huntstown Community Centre Manager Chris Sullivan at the launch of 'Connecting Communities' information booklet.

FINGAL COMMUNITY FACILITIES NETWORK

The Fingal Community Facilities Network was set up in 2017 by the Community Facilities Support Unit of the Community Development Office and provides a networking support structure for managers, staff and volunteers of community facilities across the county of Fingal.

The Fingal Community Facilities Network was set up in 2017 by the Community Facilities Support Unit of the Community Development Office and provides a networking support structure for managers, staff and volunteers of community facilities across the county of Fingal. There are currently 60 members registered with the Network.

Members include:

- facility managers
- supervisors and key staff
- volunteer management committee officers
- volunteers who work in community centres

Members can share work experiences and exchange best practices in managing community centres with colleagues. The network promotes the sharing of skills across the 31 community centres and provides expertise in facility management, finance, business planning and offer supports such as training and development in areas like data protection or new changes in legislation.

With a population of 300,000 people, and an annual footfall over one million people per annum Fingal County Council supported facilities offer many avenues for people to come together and be part of their community, to be creative, to meet new people, banish loneliness, learn new skills, borrow a book, access Wi-Fi, play sport, go to the gym, listen to music, dance, sing, learn something new, bring your child to school, talk to other parents, be actively retired, visit an exhibition, the possibilities are endless and thanks to our wonderful diverse population the centres constantly evolve and change to adapt to what's needed.

Fingal Community Facilities Network Launch 'Connecting Communities' Information Booklet

The Fingal Community Facilities Network has launched an information booklet that provides information on the range of services, facilities and activities available across all of the 31 community facilities supported by Fingal County Council's Community Development Office.

The launch of the Fingal Community Facilities Network Information Booklet "Connecting Communities" by the Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Eoghan O'Brien took place at Donabate Portrane Community Centre.

The information booklet, compiled by the Fingal Community Facilities Network, provides a snap shot of what each community centre offers. It includes opening hours, activities, volunteering opportunities and what happens on a daily basis in any of the 31 Fingal County Council supported community facilities across Fingal, from Dublin 15 to Balbriggan and along the coast from Howth to Rush.

Each centre is a dynamic and independent not-for-profit community organisation with programs and services aimed at fostering social connections and wellbeing. By listening to community needs and interests the centres management teams identify what is needed and popular in each area.

In an effort to ensure no one is excluded, the information booklet will also be available in Irish, Polish and French languages and will be available on community centre and Fingal County Council web sites.

Speaking at the launch, Mayor of Fingal Cllr Eoghan O'Brien said: "Community Facilities help to build Communities and extends a hand of friendship to those living in isolation. Fingal County Council supported Community Facilities can offer a lifeline to people who have no support network, while providing spaces for groups to grow and develop significantly impacting their local Community. They offer opportunities for children and young people to engage in a wide range of activities and initiatives. They play a key role in building stronger communities."

Fingal County Council's Director of Housing and Community, Margaret Geraghty said: "The publication of the information booklet will undoubtedly prove to be an important source of information for our residents in finding out more about what our community centres have to offer. Our community centres play a vital role in bringing people together and reducing isolation and encourage people to take part in both educational and recreational activities."

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MARATHONKIDS FINAL MILE IN MORTON STADIUM

87 schools and over 5,500 5th & 6th class students completed 25.2 miles over 8 weeks, training 4 times a week in school before completing the last mile at a specially organised 1-mile event on November 13th. Fingal County Council's Chief Executive AnnMarie Farrelly and Mayor of Fingal Cllr Eoghan O'Brien were in attendance at the final mile.

The MarathonKids Ireland Programme sees students train four times a week to run 25.2 miles over an eight-week period. Over 5,500 primary school students attending Fingal, South Dublin & Dublin City primary schools completed the final mile of their marathon on Wednesday 13th November in Morton Stadium, Santry.

Speaking at the event Mayor of Fingal Cllr Eoghan O'Brien said; "MarathonKids is a fantastic opportunity for 5th and 6th year students to get active as well as to learn about the importance of sports. I am delighted to see its return each year and to be here in Morton Stadium for the final mile. It was a pleasure to be joined by the Lord Mayor of Dublin, Paul McAuliffe and the Mayor of South Dublin, Vicki Casserly at the event."

Fingal County Council Chief Executive AnnMarie Farrelly said; "It is wonderful to see the rise in the numbers of students taking part in MarathonKids over the past four years, going from 800 students in 2015 to 5,500 this year. This really shows how worthwhile the programme is. I look forward to seeing its continued success for years to come."

This is the 5th year of the programme, which sees former Olympian and 400m European Champion, David Gillick, and MarathonKids Ireland Ambassador working with Fingal County Council, South Dublin County Council, Dublin City Sport and Wellbeing Partnership and Dublin Marathon to promote the programme.

The students are supplied with a workbook, which highlights the benefits of sport and is used as both a training guide and learning tool for in classroom use. Over the years that the MarathonKids programme has taken place and it has seen the numbers grow from 800 students and 22 schools in 2015 to 5,500 students from 87 schools this year.

Inspired by a similar programme in the US, Fingal County Council Sports Officer Niall McGuirk and MarathonKids Ireland Director Neil Kennedy created a programme that combines four running sessions per week with a class workbook that links into the SPHE subject in the school curriculum. The workbook highlights the benefits of sport and contribution to a child's overall physical and mental well-being.

Former Olympian and 400m European Champion and MarathonKids Ireland Ambassador David Gillick visited schools in the council areas to talk about the programme and the importance of students being aware of the benefits of physical activity.

David praised the inclusive nature of the programme as being beneficial to children who don't have an interest in sports but want to be active: "As someone who was involved



Above, l-r: David Gillick, former Olympian and 400m European Champion, AnnMarie Farrelly Chief Executive Fingal County Council, Cllr Eoghan O'Brien, Mayor of Fingal and Jim Auhney, Dublin Marathon



in all sports in school, I also appreciate that there were other kids who didn't do as much activity. MarathonKids is open to everyone regardless of their ability and a fantastic opportunity for kids to get active."

SOAPBOX SUCCESS FOR BLANCHARDSTOWN EUROPE DIRECT INFORMATION CENTRE

The Blanchardstown Europe Direct Soapbox champion has her sights set on Brussels after a landmark win at the National Final at 6 Kildare Street on November 20.

Beverley Joseph, who works with e-Bay in Blanchardstown, first impressed judges to top the 19 and over competition at the Regional Soapbox round in Blanchardstown Library on November 5, with her impassioned speech on the theme 'Climate Change is not my Problem'.

A radio host and YouTuber in her spare time, Beverley was convinced to enter the competition after her mother saw the event advertised in Blanchardstown Library. The topic of Climate Change, as it turns out, is one which has always been close to her heart.

"My Mum saw the flyer at the library, brought it home and nudged me saying, 'I think you'll be good at this,'" Beverley explained. I've cared deeply about the environment since my primary school days, and I was reminded by my Mum that I won a Poster Competition for recycling when I was eight years of age."

When Beverley was 18 on a scholarship programme to Brazil, (The Prime Minister's Global Fellowship Programme headed by the then [UK] Prime Minister Gordon Brown), she interned for the Multi National Corporation KPMG under its Corporate Social Responsibility Department.

"I had the privilege of hearing passionate activists talk about the impact of Climate Change and have taken it rather seriously since then."

Representing Blanchardstown's Europe Direct Information Centre alongside the Under 18 regional champion Emily O'Shea from Portmarnock Community School, Beverley was ecstatic to win the top prize of €1,000 and a trip to Brussels, where she will receive a tour of the European Parliament and other EU institutions.

"I feel great," she smiled. "It's really a privilege. It was such a nice event as well and there was a really great atmosphere."

Looking forward to the trip to Brussels, Beverley is also excited to publish her first children's book early next year under Olympia publishers entitled 'Ernest and the Prince of Peace'.

Congratulating both Beverley and Emily on their fantastic performances at the National Final, Manager of the Blanchardstown Europe Direct Information Centre, Siobhan Walshe added; "Beverley was a worthy winner at the Regional Final in Blanchardstown, and her passion for the topic shone through her speech. We are delighted for Beverley, and we would like to thank both Beverley and Emily for representing our Europe Direct Centre at such a high standard on the national stage."

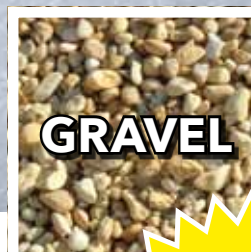
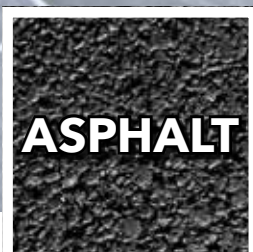
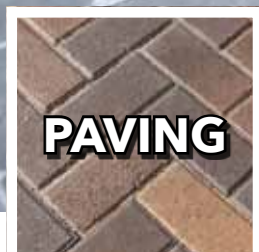


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AnnMarie Farrelly, Chief
Executive with Mayor of
Fingal Cllr. Eoghan O'Brien.



ANNMARIE FARRELLY APPOINTED AS THE NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Fingal County Council has formally appointed AnnMarie Farrelly as its new Chief Executive.

At a special meeting today (Friday, November 1), the Elected members of Fingal County Council passed a resolution to appoint Ms Farrelly to the Chief Executive position. The Corporate Policy Group had last week unanimously supported the recommendation of the Public Appointments Service.

Welcoming the appointment Mayor of Fingal Cllr Eoghan O'Brien said: "I was delighted to support the recommendation of the Public Appointments Commission to appoint AnnMarie Farrelly. I firmly believe that she is the right person to lead our Local Authority. She is an exemplary public servant whose knowledge of the sector is second to none. AnnMarie Farrelly is a true professional and someone who displays the utmost respect for her colleagues in Fingal County Council and the Elected Members."

Ms Farrelly becomes the sixth person, and first woman, to take over the role of Chief Executive/County Manager of Fingal County Council, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. She has held the position of Interim Chief Executive since May following the departure of Paul Reid to become CEO of the Health Service Executive.

Speaking on her appointment, Ms Farrelly said it was an "honour and a privilege" to be appointed as Chief Executive of Fingal County Council.

"I have achieved this ultimate leadership role because of the tremendous experience and career opportunities local government has afforded me. It has always been a privilege to work in local government and to work in a County like Fingal makes it even better."

"The County has transformed since the Council was established in 1994. Over the past 25 years, for example, our population has doubled to 300,000. Our rates income, which was €3.7m back in 1994, has risen to €129m this year. This level of growth is an indication of our success but has also presented some challenges, which we will continue to address."

She added: "I want to build on our achievements to date and I will work with the Council to ensure that the County continues to prosper and to ensure we protect the quality of life of the people who live here by helping to address their housing, economic and recreational needs."

"I also want to ensure that Fingal remains a vibrant, outward-looking and well-run council and that we embrace opportunity and diversity. We will need to take a lead on issues such as Climate Action, public transport improvement, employment and housing."

"As a local authority we need to protect, manage and improve what we have and to plan and prepare for our future sustainable growth and expansion. It is also important that we perform our core responsibilities well and I do intend to keep a focus on this area, particularly on our roles as regulator."

Ms Farrelly concluded: "I will continue with my management team and staff, to deliver essential projects including housing delivery on public lands at Donabate, the continued transformation of Swords, the regeneration of Balbriggan, the Coastal Way, as well as important projects in Dublin 15 such as the Snugborough Interchange Upgrade, and to ensure a good quality of life for all our citizens both young and old."



Merry Christmas!

Christmas Set Menu

Choose one starter and a main for only 16.95

Starters

TURKEY GYOZA

turkey with garlic chives, ginger wrappers served with a wasabi-cranberry sauce

CRISPY VEGETABLE OR HOI SIN DUCK SPRING ROLLS

served with plum dipping sauce

CAMILE CRISPY TOFU

served with tamarind-peanut & coriander dip

Mains

WOK-FRIED ROASTED DUCK

with scallions, pickled plums, broccoli, scallions, bok choy, garlic, ginger and goji berries.

PAD THAI NOODLES

Thai classic with prawns and chicken

GREEN CURRY*

classic Thai curry with red chilli and sweet basil

PAD KING STIR FRY*

fresh sliced ginger and Thai Mushroom stir-fry V



*choose main ingredient from chicken, beef, duck, prawns or tofu & veg on dishes marked with an *. Dishes marked with a V are available as a vegan/vegetarian option & dishes marked with GF are available as gluten free



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Fingal Libraries receives Right to Read Champion Award

Fingal County Libraries has received a Right to Read Champion Award in recognition of its ongoing efforts to support literacy development through the library service.

Minister of State at the Department of Rural and Community Development Seán Canney presented the Right to Read Champion Awards, which is part of a collaborative cross-government initiative that provides a nationally coordinated framework for literacy support and reading development in all local authorities.

The Awards, which were hosted by the LGMA at Local Government House in Dublin, were presented to 30 library authorities in recognition of the support and promotion of literacy skills development through initiatives such as the 'Summer Stars Reading Programme' and 'Spring in to Storytime'.

Speaking at the event, the Minister said: "I am delighted to be here today to present the Right to Read Champion Awards to local



Mr Seán Canney TD, Minister of State at the Department of Rural and Community Development, presented Marguerite Drake, Senior Librarian, Fingal County Council, with the Right to Read Champion Award at a ceremony in Dublin on 17 October.

authorities who led on and delivered the Right to Read Programme, it is a great initiative that has committed us, both at a national and local level, to improving literacy standards."

The delivery of the Right to Read programme at local level is led by the public library services in each local authority and the implementation is overseen by a Right to Read co-ordinator in each library service.

Fingal Senior Librarian and Right to Read co-ordinator, Marguerite Drake, who accepted the award, said: "I am delighted to be here today and see the recognition of the work of the public library services to support and promote literacy development. It is an important part of the library service and it is great to see that it is being treated as such."

Mayor of Fingal officially opens state-of-the-art Luttrellstown Community Centre

The official opening of Luttrellstown Community Centre, a new multi-purpose state-of-the-art facility which will provide a focal point for local residents and organisations, has taken place.

Mayor of Fingal Cllr Eoghan O'Brien, in the company of AnnMarie Farrelly, Interim Chief Executive of Fingal County Council, was on hand to open the wonderful new centre in the Dublin 15 area.

Luttrellstown Community Centre opened in June and the modern multi-purpose-built facility includes a full-size sports hall with changing rooms, a dance studio, meeting rooms and a childcare room.

The Centre is located adjacent to Luttrellstown Community College and was constructed under the "Fingal Schools" model, which has been operating successfully across a number of communities since its inception in 2010.

Mayor of Fingal Cllr Eoghan O'Brien said: "Strong communities are a source of social support and well-being for the people who live in them. It is vital therefore that communities have dedicated spaces for people to meet, convene, discuss and play.

"Fingal County Council has a major role to play in developing these communities of Fingal, and in particular newer communities like Luttrellstown, through the work of the Community Culture & Sports Division.

"Now, more than ever, there is a need for cohesion and a sense of community spirit and pride. Fingal County Council has been, and



Mayor of Fingal Cllr Eoghan O'Brien with Interim Chief Executive AnnMarie Farrelly, Luttrellstown School Principal Fionnuala Ni Chaisil and Centre Manager Derek Tipping.

continues to be, committed to engendering this community spirit by the provision of new community facilities."

Interim Chief Executive AnnMarie Farrelly said: "Fingal County Council has been involved in the design, support, operation and management of community facilities across the county for over 20 years. In Luttrellstown we mark the official opening of a new shared community facility that will be a focal point for the local community.

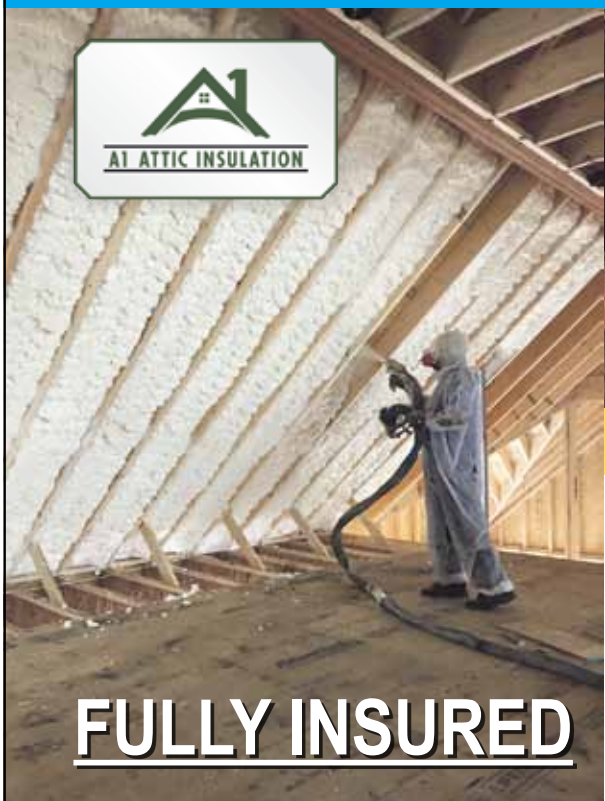
"This new facility in which we are standing today is the result of a very successful partnership between Fingal County Council and the Department of Education & Skills and is a prime example of the "Fingal School's Model", a model which we are proud to have rolled out over the past number of years."

Director of Fingal County Council's Community and Housing Department Margaret Geraghty said: "It is wonderful to see the opening of this new community facility in this emerging area which will be of great benefit to residents and organisations.

"The focus of the Community Development Office is to develop strong, engaged and integrated communities across Fingal where people are proud to live."

The Community Centre is available for hire to the community directly through the Luttrellstown Community Centre and will be available according to demand."

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RTB and Fingal County Council Offer Free Training to Dublin Landlords as Part of Betterlet: Accreditation Scheme

The Residential Tenancies Board (RTB) has partnered with Fingal County Council to deliver the RTB Betterlet: Accredited Landlord training scheme. The RTB and the Fingal Housing Department are inviting landlords in Fingal County and surrounding counties to take part in its free, one-day accreditation course on **Saturday, 30th November at the Clayton Hotel Dublin Airport.**

The Betterlet: RTB Landlord Accreditation scheme aims to support landlords to gain a stronger understanding of their rental rights and responsibilities, as well as equip them with the knowledge of the latest legislative changes that effect their new or existing tenancies.

Commenting on the new partnership and the benefits of the Betterlet scheme, Caren Gallagher, RTB Head of Communications and Research, said; "We are delighted to be partnering with Fingal County Council's Housing Department to jointly deliver this Betterlet training session. Landlords play a vital role in providing healthy and safe homes for people across the country. By delivering these sessions together, we hope to be able to support landlords in navigating the complex regulatory framework governing the rental sector – from the latest rental law changes to guiding landlords through a local authority inspection.

Our accredited scheme enables participating landlords to set themselves apart in the rental sector and be recognised as professionals providing a high-quality service. Accredited landlords will also be better informed and more confident in their ability to apply and adhere to the regulations under which they must operate, helping to mitigate any unnecessary penalties or disputes with tenants."

The accreditation course will take place from 10:00am to 5:00pm and will cover the following areas, which have been updated with the latest legislative changes:

- Pre-tenancy guidance
- How to manage a tenancy throughout from beginning to end
- Rights and responsibilities – landlord and tenant
- Dispute prevention and what to do if things go wrong
- Minimum standards – how to ensure your property is compliant with the minimum standards
- Rent Pressure Zone qualification criteria and exemptions
- How to end a tenancy – information on how to correctly serve notice and what reasons can be relied upon

Participants' accreditation will be subject to a short assessment at the end of the course and once awarded, accreditation is valid

Betterlet
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RTB

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Are You a Landlord?

The Residential Tenancies Board (RTB) and Fingal County Council invite you to join us at our upcoming free landlord training session to become a Betterlet: RTB Accredited Landlord.

Saturday, November 30th
10am-5pm
Clayton Hotel Dublin Airport
Clonsilla, Co Dublin.

This training will help you understand what your rights and responsibilities are as a landlord, including creating an up-to-date overview of the latest legislative changes in rental law.

Betterlet: RTB Accredited Landlords will be able to set themselves apart in the rental sector and will be recognised as professionals providing a quality service. Landlords will be confident in how to apply and adhere to the regulatory framework under which they operate their business.

If you would like to register to the Betterlet training above, please contact us at landlord.accreditation@rtb.ie

Follow the RTB on Twitter @RTBInfo
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For more information, please visit www.rtb.ie and www.fingal.ie

for two years.

Fingal County Council's Director of Housing, Margaret Geraghty, adds; "Fingal County Council is delighted to partner with the RTB in this initiative and is the first of its kind to be rolled out in Fingal.

Fingal County Council recognises the invaluable role landlords have in providing homes for tenants in private rented accommodation within our administrative area. The aim of the Betterlet scheme is to provide free training to landlords designed to better inform them of their rights and responsibilities, policy and regulatory changes in the sector and how to successfully manage tenancies.


In 2017, Fingal set up a new unit in the Housing Department with responsibility for proactively inspecting all private rented properties in Fingal to ensure compliance with the relevant regulations. To date, this unit has carried out in excess of 5,000 private rented property inspections since 2017 and has exceeded the targets set by the Department of Housing for the inspection of private rented dwellings. There are currently 21,034 registered private rented properties in Fingal.

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€580,000 in funding for new equipment & facilities for 10 west Dublin sports clubs – Taoiseach

An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar has welcomed more than half a million euros of Government investment for nine west Dublin clubs under the Sports Capital Programme.

“This is fantastic news for these west Dublin clubs. The funding will be used for a whole host of things including new equipment, upgrading premises, resurfacing courts and playing pitches, or providing new gyms and changing rooms,” An Taoiseach said.

“The Sports Capital Programme was brought back by the last Fine Gael government in 2012, having been cancelled by Fianna Fáil and the Greens due to the economic crash. It’s excellent value for money and a really important investment in people.

“Sports Capital provides funding for new equipment, upgraded pitches and buildings, and other essential maintenance costs. It’s an essential source of funding for



clubs in west Dublin, and right across Ireland. I commend Ministers Shane Ross and Brendan Griffin for this latest round of funding.

“Investment in sport is vital for the health of our population, especially when obesity is growing. There’s no better way to fight obesity, improve mental health, build communities and help to keep people healthy by investing in physical activity. I’m pleased that there has been another round of funding.”

Details are as follows:

Organisation	Amount	Purpose
Castleknock Tennis Club	€116,445	Fitness suite & indoor court resurfacing
Clonee United FC	€15,910	Sport & facilities equipment
Garda GAA	€60,615	Upgrade of floodlighting & existing facilities
Garda Rugby Club	€69,388	Broadening access
Metro St. Brigid’s Athletic	€43,600	Replace prefabs with unit for changing rooms and gym
Oliver Plunketts Eoghan Ruadh GAA	€102,088	Upgrade club rooms/equipment for wider community
Phoenix Cricket Club	€37,634	New pitch equipment & pavilion electrical upgrade
Parslickstown Hall	€113,841	Multi-Purpose Facility
Tyrrelstown Cricket Club	€15,863	Sport investment

During 2019, the property market saw a stabilisation in house prices.

This trend was evident to varying degrees in the Dublin 15 market, with sales up to €400,000 attracting good demand, but at the upper end, price reductions became more commonplace as the year progressed.



While stock levels of second-hand properties remained similar to 2018 levels, the supply of new homes was more evident with many new phases coming to the market. Such Dublin 15 schemes included Hamilton Park, Riverwood Square, Fairhaven, Barnwell Wood, Hansfield, Castlefield Hall, Hollywoodrath, Rathborne Park and Royal Canal Park.

This increased supply is a significant factor for price stabilisation, but the Central bank rules restricting income multiples to 3.5 times of a person's salary, along with deposit requirements, are also feeding into the

market. Throughout the year, the effects of Brexit were also noticed as key dates came and went, and with uncertainty comes lower confidence levels.


With the economy continuing to perform well, and with low unemployment levels, the signs point to another year of steady demand in 2020 with price stabilisation and, in some areas, continuing price reductions, in particular for houses requiring modernisation works. The aforementioned is also somewhat dependent on an orderly Brexit.

Dublin 15 will also see the arrival of more new housing schemes, providing further options for buyers.

Councillor John Walsh

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Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any queries or would like to discuss any issues directly.

LABOUR 

Financial Assistance Scheme for 2020 Events and Festivals

Fingal County Council's Events Unit has launched its call for applications for groups and organisations seeking financial assistance for Festivals and Events taking place in 2020.

Applications will be accepted for existing and/or new events or festivals which animate public spaces in creative and innovative ways and which are focused on developing measurable tourism impacts in the County.

Interested parties must meet a number of other eligibility criteria including:

- Have a general audience appeal and be socially inclusive.
- Clearly demonstrate potential to generate economic, social and/or cultural benefits.
- Complement the County's calendar of events in relation to attracting overseas visitors.

- Meet the Events Unit's objective of compiling a varied programme of events throughout the year including content, seasonal and geographical spread.
- Demonstrate financial sustainability and the capacity to develop the event.
- Have a clear PR and marketing plan including a social media strategy to actively promote the event.

Fingal County Council's Events Unit supports tourism through the Fingal Statement of Tourism Strategy 2017 - 2022 and businesses in our towns through a wide-ranging programme of events.

Since the formation of the Events Unit in 2010, the number of events being held and supported annually has increased year on year. The programme is a combination of Fingal County Council's own events, events in partnership with other bodies that have similar objectives, and events run by external organisers who receive direct funding contributions from Fingal County Council through a financial assistance programme.

The closing date for applications for funding is on Tuesday 17th December 2019 at 3pm for events taking place in 2020.

Councillors approve €619m Capital Programme

Councillors approved a Capital Programme worth €619m at tonight's monthly meeting of Fingal County Council in County Hall, Swords.

The three-year rolling programme runs from 2020 to 2022 across seven divisions and represents a €30.63m increase on the 2019-2021 Capital Programme and a 91% increase on the €324m provided for in the 2017-2019 Capital Programme.

A total of 236 projects are included with an estimated spend of €187m in 2020. The following year, 2021, capital expenditure will be in the region of €233m with €209m earmarked for 2022.

Fingal County Council Interim Chief Executive AnnMarie Farrelly said: "Given Fingal's importance to the national economy and the Greater Dublin region, it is important that our capital budget is spent strategically, and I believe we have achieved this in our 2020-2022 Capital Programme. There is a strong emphasis on housing and infrastructure as well as economic and community development while our commitment to Climate Change is reflected in the continued roll-out of LED Street lighting, Electric Vehicle Charging Points and increased cycling infrastructure."

Almost half of the Capital Programme will be spent on housing as the Council continues its commitment to fully engage with the Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness. Over €94m has been earmarked for housing in 2020 with €208m due to be spent over the following two years.

Planning and Strategic Infrastructure projects, such as the Snugborough Road Interchange in Dublin 15, will account for €36m in 2020 and there is a total commitment of €151m over the three-year period of the Capital Programme.

Provision has also been made for cycling infrastructure

and there is a planned expenditure of €43mm over the three years on Greenway Projects such as the Broadmeadow Way, Fingal Coastal Way and Royal Canal Urban Greenway. Cycling infrastructure is also being included the road investment programme which includes projects such as the R135 North Road, Ballycoolin Road and Swords to Malahide Estuary.

Economic Enterprise and Tourism Development will account for almost €73m with €23m being spent in 2020 on projects such as Our Balbriggan and Howth Courthouse as well as the purchase of development lands and the servicing and improvement of existing industrial lands.

The development of the Swords Cultural Quarter will continue over the next three years and the project is expected to ramp up considerably in 2020 following the announcement that Turner and Townsend have been appointed as Project Manager. The Cultural Quarter includes existing buildings such as Swords Castle, The Atrium at County Hall and Carnegie Hall on North Street while a new Civic Centre and County Library is to be built on the junction of North Street and Seatown Road.

Over €13m will be spent on Community infrastructure over the next three years including the progression of Community Centre projects in Meakstown and Baldoye.

The Council's commitment to introduce LED street lighting continues with €5.3m due to be spent over the next three years including €2.4m in 2020 and 2021.

The Capital Programme is funded from a variety of sources including levies, loans, grants and the Council's own revenue streams.

The presentation of the 2020-2022 Capital Programme to councillors can be viewed at www.fingal.ie/council-meetings

A copy of the 2020-2022 Capital Programme can be viewed at www.fingal.ie/council/service/capital-programme.



Castleknock and Mulhuddart with Clonsilla

Winter Fair

Parish Centre, Main Street, Castleknock.

Saturday 16th November 2019

11.00 a.m. - 2.00 p.m.

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Community Resource Centre, Blackcourt Rd, Corduff, D15


Tel: 085 814 1164

www.thereisasolutiongroup.net
tiasgcorduff@gmail.com

Our group meets every Saturday morning at 11am at the above address, the meeting is open and everyone is welcome to attend and discover what we do. Our members have recovered from a seemingly hopeless state of mind **and** body, to show other alcoholics precisely how we have recovered is the main purpose of our group, for them we hope it will prove so convincing that no further authentication will be necessary. The **only** requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking, there are no fees to be paid. Alcoholics Anonymous is an international fellowship of men and women who have had a drinking problem. It is nonprofessional, self-supporting, multiracial, apolitical, and available almost everywhere. There are no age or education requirements. Membership is open to anyone who wants to do something about his or her drinking problem.

Alcoholism is an obsession of the mind that condemns one to drink and an allergy of the body that condemns one to die. (Dr. Wm. D. Silkworth), this is underpinned by a Spiritual malady that changes our actions and personality for the worse. The spiritual programme of A.A. if lived as a way of life, can expel the obsession to drink and enable the sufferer to become happily and usefully whole.

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Pilot project to engage with unheard voices through the Fingal Voices app is launched by Fingal County Council

An innovative pilot project to engage with traditionally unheard voices through the Fingal Voices smartphone app has been launched by Fingal County Council. Fingal Voices is an app which allows citizens to ask questions, respond to surveys and engage in dialogue with Council departments.

As users engage with the app, they gain points which can be redeemed for various prizes. Geolocation technology is used to match users with questions and surveys relevant to them, such as events they are attending or issues affecting their locality. A beta version of the app is being rolled out which will be evaluated during the pilot project, which will run from October 23 2019 to January 31 2020.

The launch event at Swords Castle chapel involved a showcase of the app by Grégoire Piette, co-founder of Smart Futures who designed the app as part of the Unheard Voices project, a collaboration between Enterprise Ireland, Cork City Council and Smart Dublin.

Speaking at the launch, Chief Executive of Fingal County Council AnnMarie Farrelly said: "Local government is first and foremost about local people, and it is important that people are able to engage with the plans and processes that impact them. "It is especially important that we reach those 'unheard voices' that have not been included before, because local democracy is vital for all members of the community.

The Fingal Voices app is an exciting way of encouraging people



‘FingalVoices02’:

"The Fingal Voices app launch was held at Swords Castle Chapel. L to R: Grégoire Piette, Co-founder, Smart Futures, Marguerite Bourke, SBIR Manager, Enterprise Ireland, Aishling Hyland, Digital Strategy Manager, Fingal County Council and AnnMarie Farrelly, Interim Chief Executive, Fingal County Council"

to get engaged and get involved, and I look forward to seeing its progress during the pilot project. Head of IT at Fingal County Council Dominic Byrne said: "The Fingal Voices app is an exciting development in harnessing the dominance and popularity of smartphone apps to include and engage people.

"The app's use of gamification shows that Fingal County Council is unafraid of trying innovative approaches to drive citizen engagement and involvement in local government. " The Fingal Voices app is available for Android devices at

https://play.google.com/apps/testing/io.smartfutures.fingal.unheard_voices and for Apple devices at <https://testflight.apple.com/join/vOTWO3Qe>.

Hartstown Community School to get new classroom block – Varadkar

An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar TD, has received confirmation from the Department of Education and Skills that funding has been approved for a new classroom block at Hartstown Community School in Dublin 15.

Speaking today the Taoiseach said: "This is really good news for Hartstown. The new building will have six classrooms and 5 rooms for special education and will provide state of the art accommodation for students and staff.

"I know the school has been waiting some time for this announcement, so I hope it will come as some relief for teachers and

staff. The extension will provide much needed extra space for the growing school population.

"The Government is investing more money in education than ever before because we believe a great education is the route to a better future. We'll hire almost 600 new teachers next year and provide 30,000 new school places."



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Fantastic performances at the Respect Cup

Fifteen schools from the Dublin 15 area participated in the FAI / Fingal County Council Primary Schools Futsal Respect Cup in Corduff Sports Centre on Wednesday October 23.

An amazing 26 teams amounting to nearly 300 players enjoyed what was a wonderful showcase for school's futsal.

FAI / Fingal County Council Development Officers Paul Breen and Jamie Wilson also co-ordinated a 'Showed Racism the Red Card' element to the afternoon's showpiece.

The girl's events saw some fantastic goals in which Group One winners St. Ciaran's NS ran out 5-2 winners over Group 2 winners St. Patrick's NS of Castleknock. St. Francis Xavier and Scoil Ghrainne were the group runners up in a highly skilful display.

The boy's final showdown was made up of St. Francis Xavier and Scoil Ghrainne after both were successful in their semi-finals against Mary Mother of Hope and St. Patrick's NS, Castleknock respectively. Scoil Ghráinne were eventual winners with a narrow 1-0 score line in what was an extremely even contest.

The winners of the Art Competition and €100 prize which was sponsored by Safer Blanchardstown was St. Francis of Assisi for an excellent piece which illustrated the theme of 'Respect' in such a creative way! Congratulations to the

School on a huge achievement.

A big thank you to all the following for who without their support the games couldn't go ahead and it shows the great support and collaboration in the community:

- FAI Co-ordinators Paul BREEN and Jamie WILSON
- Corduff Sports Centre for use of their facilities today
- Safer Blanchardstown for sponsoring the Art Prize
- Denis Hyland, Martin Doyle and all the TY Students from the FAI Fingal TY Course for refereeing and coordinating games in such an efficient and timely manner.
- Corduff Football Club for providing the extra set of goals so we could cater for so many teams today and have an extra pitch in play.
- Teachers and all 300 players for their participation this afternoon
- FAI Schools and Fingal County Council Sports Department for supporting such a fantastic event.

Fingal County Council's Principal Sports Officer, Marion Brown also conveyed her thanks to all who made this event such a resounding success especially to the schools and the students who participated in the day. Event such as these which use not only sport but art to communicate the message of respect and anti-racism are extremely important.

List of participating schools: Scoil Choilm CNS, St. Francis Xavier Senior School, St. Ciaran's NS, Scoil Ghráinne, Gaelscoil an Chuilinn, St. Patrick's Senior NS, Powerstown ETNS, Hansfield ETNS, St. Philip's SNS, St. Patrick's NS, Mary Mother of Hope SNS, Scoil Bhríde Cailíní, Scoil Bhríde Buachaillí, Castaheaney ETNS, Ongar Village, Tyrrelstown ETNS.

Christmas Deal 1

1x FRESH TURKEY (5-7KG)
1x BONELESS HAM (4-5KG)
3LB TOP RIB ROAST
1x FULL LEG OF LAMB
1LB HOMEMADE STUFFING
1LB RASHERS, 1LB SAUSAGES
1x RING OF PUDDING

€139



Christmas Deal 2

1x FULL BONELESS CROWN (5-6KG)
1x FULL BONELESS HAM (4-5KG)
3LB TOP RIB ROAST
1LB HOMEMADE STUFFING
1LB RASHERS, 1LB SAUSAGES
1x RING OF BLACK PUDDING

€125



Christmas Deal 3

1x FRESH TURKEY (5-7KG)
1x BONELESS HAM (4-5KG)
3LB TOP RIB ROAST
1LB HOMEMADE STUFFING
1LB RASHERS, 1LB SAUSAGES
1x RING OF BLACK PUDDING

€109.99



Christmas Deal 4

1x FRESH TURKEY (5-7KG) AND
1x BONELESS HAM (4-5KG)

€89



Christmas Deal 5

1x BONELESS TURKEY CROWN (5-6KG) AND
1x BONELESS HAM (4-5KG)

€89



Christmas Deal 6

1/2 BONELESS TURKEY CROWN (2.5-3KG)
1x BONELESS HAM (2-3KG)
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CHRISTMAS MINCE PIE LITTLE VILLAGE STYLE

Christmas time always brings back memories of, and in no particular order; the anticipation of the family getting together, Christmas mass, Santa, Christmas dinner, the hope of a white Christmas and enjoying a mince pie in front of a warm fire! Little Village has decided to share with you a recipe to make your very own Christmas Mince Pies.

INGREDIENTS

- 450g Plain Flour
- 2 Eggs
- 900g of mincemeat (available in all supermarkets)
- 250g of Butter
- Icing sugar
- 250g of Golden caster sugar

METHOD

1. Begin by preheating your oven to 200C.
2. Take out some cooking tins, the same tins as you would use for making buns. Lightly grease the tins with butter, only lightly grease them please!
3. Grab yourself a big mixing bowl as we have used enough ingredients to feed all the extended family! Once you have the mixing bowl to hand, put all the flour and the sugar into the bowl and mix well. It is important to ensure you give the two ingredients a good mix.
4. Next, cut the butter into smaller pieces and place them in the mixing bowl and prepare for your hands to get greasy as you really need to mix the butter through the flour and sugar.



5. Following this, crack the eggs and beat them in a small bowl.
6. Add the eggs to the mixing bowl with some water if needed and mix all the ingredients together.
7. Have your cooking board ready and sprinkle some flour onto the bowl and place the contents of the mixing bowl onto the board and knead.
8. Next you must carefully roll the pastry and cut to whichever shape you want for effect. It is advised to use some cutters; star or circle cutters if you have them available. It is best to cut your pastry to fit the tins you have previously greased.
9. Cut the pastry to the size of the tin and place this in each small bun tin.
10. Following this, place a teaspoon of the mincemeat mix into each bun tin and then place the circle or star shaped pastry on top to complete each mince pie.
11. Place in the preheated oven for about 15 minutes until you can see that the mince pies have turned golden brown on top.
12. Carefully, using gloves remove the tins from the oven and lightly sprinkle your icing sugar over each mince pie.
13. Serve to all your happy and lucky guests and ENJOY!



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Fingal County Council declare Halloween Amnesty for combustible material an overwhelming success

Fingal County Council has declared its Halloween amnesty which allowed householders dispose of combustible material for free as an overwhelming success.

As part of its commitment to protecting the environment and its contribution to the Safer Halloween initiative, the local authority's recycling centres in Swords and Coolmine in Dublin 15 accepted a range of material such as mattresses, sofas and wooden doors on four separate days in the build-up to October 31.

The response was overwhelming from the general public with over 4,000 vehicles passing through the Estuary centre. 86 skips were filled, along with 40 cages of small electrical waste, a huge amount of large electrical items and 35 crates of paint.

In Coolmine, 2,645 vehicles visited which saw 79 skips filled during the four specified days of the Amnesty.

Mayor of Fingal Cllr Eoghan O'Brien commended the local authority for the initiative. "The Halloween Amnesty was a massive success and was enthusiastically supported by the general public. Along with the Festival of Fire initiative, Fingal County Council can be proud of the role it played in ensuring a Safer Halloween for everyone."

Director of Operations David Storey: "This year we made the decision to offer the amnesty to reduce the amount of material which may otherwise be disposed of on bonfires locally with consequent health and safety risks and damage to public open spaces and have are delighted with the overwhelming positive reaction from the public."

"The initiative involved a considerable financial investment from Fingal County Council as part of its commitment to reducing the environmental impact on green areas and open spaces over the Halloween period. The council will now move to dispose of the waste, which we estimate will cost in the region of €45,000."

Healthy Fingal Learning Portal launched by Fingal County Council to support the sports and health education of school children

An innovative online platform to support the sports and health education of school children called the Healthy Fingal Learning Portal has been launched by Fingal County Council.

Fingal County Council's Sports Office created the user-friendly site to enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of its sports programmes.

Videos, tutorials and forums are featured which educate school-aged children on a range of topics, activities and skills which contribute to a healthy and active lifestyle.

Upcoming videos and tutorials are set to cover topics like Outdoor Gym Equipment usage, Parks Orienteering routes as well as links to the recent Balbriggan/Tyrrelstown Sports Hubs.

The launch at Balbriggan Educate Together National School featured an impressive video tutorial of the site,

and tribute was paid to the support rendered by Fingal's IT Department and Healthy Ireland.

Mayor of Fingal Cllr Eoghan O'Brien said: "I'd like to acknowledge the great work of Fingal's Sports Office in collaboration with the I.T. Department and thank all the clubs, schools and community groups for their invaluable feedback in developing this website."

"I look forward to seeing the Healthy Fingal Learning Portal drive improvements in knowledge of sport and physical activity and increase participation throughout the County".

Chief Executive of Fingal County Council AnnMarie Farrelly said: "The Healthy Fingal Learning Portal will support the health and sports development of young people, but its importance does not end there."

"The potential for this platform is huge, as a similar or linked website could be developed for any Fingal Department to deliver training or host public information."

For more information on Healthy Fingal Learning Portal contact the Fingal Sports Office at sports@fingal.ie

The Healthy Fingal Learning Portal is accessible at <https://learning.fingal.ie/>



Fingal County Council hosts launch of 19th edition of Dublin Economic Monitor

Fingal County Council hosted the launch of the 19th edition of the Dublin Economic Monitor where it was revealed that the capital is close to full employment, with the areas of finance, insurance and real estate activities hitting all-time highs, supported by Brexit relocations.

Members of the business community, along with Mayor of Fingal Cllr Eoghan O'Brien as well as local councillors and Fingal County Council's Director of Services for Economic, Enterprise & Tourism Development Emer O'Gorman, attended the launch at Newbridge House in Donabate.

The quarterly report, produced by EY-DKM Economic Advisory, examines a range of economic indicators driving the city's growth, including employment, property and rental prices, housing commencements, hotel rates and public transport use, to determine its economic performance from the height of the boom to the economic crash and subsequent recovery.

Commenting on the report, Ciara Morley, Senior Consultant at EY-DKM Economic Advisory, said: "Dublin Tourism showed growth of 8.3% in Q3, however UK tourist spending contracted for the third consecutive quarter indicating that UK tourists are considering postponing foreign trips as they reassess their expenditure in light of Brexit. The CEO of Tourism Ireland has called uncertainty the most pressing issue for the sector. Budget 2020 provides the tourism sector with a contingency fund of €40 million to insulate against Brexit-related shocks."

Ms Morley added that nationally tourist spend has increased with both USA and China showing consecutive

years of growth and that new opportunities in emerging markets particularly in the East should have positive effects on tourism in Ireland.

Launching the report, Mayor of Fingal Cllr Eoghan O'Brien said: "Fingal County Council continues to work to develop the local economy. The Dublin Enterprise Zone in Dublin 15 is going from strength to strength, now employing over 20,000 people. The Council will continue to support and invest in the Dublin Enterprise Zone and in the Stephenstown Industrial Estate in Balbriggan as part of the Our Balbriggan Rejuvenation Plan."

Fingal County Council Director of Services Emer O'Gorman said: 'Fingal County Council is strongly committed to the economic development of Fingal and will continue to focus on developing a strong, vibrant and prosperous local economy in the county.

Some key indicators included in this issue are:

- Average monthly rent in Dublin in excess of €1,700
- Housing completions & commencements have contracted marking the first quarter of negative YoY growth since 2015
- Tourism visits to Dublin are down from UK as result of
- Brexit uncertainty
- Consumer spending in Dublin continues to grow with retail spend in Dublin exceeding national levels

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A big thank you to all my constituents

As we enter the festive season, I would like to commence with a big thank you to all my constituents for your continued support. Its been an exciting six months as your local councillor and I have been working extremely hard to fulfil your trust and represent you on multiple issues in our area.

I have been scheduling regular meetups with many of you at my office in Ongar or when I called over to you, schools had been called out as a great concern for parents. Not only in terms of availability of places but also the locations of primary and secondary schools. I have now raised this with both An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar and Minister Joe McHugh in the Department of Education and expressed the requirements for our growing area.

In addition, I would like to highlight that the Summer Works Scheme has granted funding as part of the government's ongoing investment programme to improve school infrastructure. Many of works will commence in the summer of 2020.

The Sports Capital programme granted €580,000 funding to Dublin



West sports clubs for new equipment and to improve facilities. This investment is critical to keep people healthy and build our local community by fighting obesity and encourage physical activity to improve mental health. Further grants were also awarded to sports clubs as part of the

Youth Sports initiative by Fingal County Council (FCC).

In relation to Bus Connects, I received multiple queries and people have highlighted their proposals to improve the routes. I have supported their submissions and in addition I have also submitted proposals to the strategic committee at Fingal County Council (FCC) that would further support the proposed improvements.

People have also reached out to me seeking assistance in relation to scrambler bikes, abandoned cars and illegal dumping. On many of the occasions I have managed to directly address and ensure the problems were actioned and resolved.

Separately, I have followed up on improvements to pathways, parks, and children play areas and many of them have been actioned by FCC.

One of the key benefits of An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar representing us in our constituency is that we are able to seek his direct support to resolve many of our local issues. And I would like to thank him for his continued support for our local community.

On that note, I would like to wish all my constituents Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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€95,000 awarded by Fingal County Council under the Youth Sports Grants Scheme

Fingal County Council has awarded over €95,000 to 91 sports clubs throughout Fingal under the Youth Sports Grants Scheme.

At this week's full Council meeting, councillors approved the funding which will see €1,050 allocated to each of the successful organisations.

The purpose of the Youth Sports Grants is to assist existing sports clubs towards the purchase of equipment, refereeing/coaching fees, with the main aim of increasing participation levels in their local communities.

The Fingal Sports Office, part of the network of Sports Ireland Local Sports Partnerships, invited sports clubs to apply for a small grant under this scheme. Successful applicants had to meet a number of criteria such as to have sport for young people as its primary focus and have a voluntary management committee with elected officers.

Mayor of Fingal Cllr Eoghan O'Brien said: "I am delighted to see this allocation of funding to sporting organisations across Fingal, which play such a pivotal role in the health and wellbeing of our young people. I would like to commend all those volunteers who give so freely of their time and energy to their clubs."

Fingal County Council Principal Sports Officer, Marion Brown said: "Sport is an extremely important part of the lives of young people, I am delighted that this is being recognised and that we are able to provide funding to the chosen sports clubs to ensure that young people in Fingal can continue to enjoy playing sport in their local clubs."

Having examined all applications, it was decided to award a grant of €1,050 to the following 91 sports clubs:

- 1 Activmultisport Dublin 15
- 2 Aer Lingus Swim Club
- 3 Balbriggan FC
- 4 Balbriggan RFC
- 5 Baldoyle Boxing Club
- 6 Baldoyle United FC
- 7 Ballyboughal GFC
- 8 Balrothery Balbriggan Tennis Club
- 9 Balrothery FC
- 10 Beann Eadair CLG (Howth)
- 11 Castleknock Celtic FC
- 12 Castleknock Cricket Club
- 13 Castleknock Lawn Tennis Club
- 14 Coolmine Badminton Club (CBC)
- 15 Coolmine Swim Club
- 16 Donabate Golf Club
- 17 Donabate Portrane Tennis Club
- 18 Donabte Portrane Special Olympics Sports Club
- 19 Dublin Sonics Basketball Club (Tyrrelstown)
- 20 Erin go Bragh GAA (Castaheany)
- 21 Fingal Flyers Powerchair Football
- 22 Fingal Ravens GFC (Rolestown)
- 23 Fingal Triathlon Club
- 24 Forrest Little Golf Club (Swords)
- 25 Garda Westmanstown RFC
- 26 Garristown GFC
- 27 Glebe North FC (Balbriggan)
- 28 Grove LTC (Malahide)
- 29 Innisfails Karate Club (Balgriffin)
- 30 Irish Vikings (Balbriggan) Basketball club

- 31 Kadca Junior Badminton Club (Baldoyle)
 - 32 Kinsealy Utd FC
 - 33 Lambay Sports Academy (Donabate/Portrane)
 - 34 Lir Swim Club (Swords)
 - 35 Little Seeds Arc Club (D 15)
 - 36 Lusk Athletic Club
 - 37 Lusk United AFC
 - 38 Malahide Basketball Club
 - 39 Malahide Cricket Club
 - 40 Malahide Fingal Hockey Club
 - 41 Malahide Golf Club
 - 42 Malahide Lawn tennis & croquet club
 - 43 Malahide RFC
 - 44 Malahide United FC
 - 45 Malahide Yacht Club
 - 46 Mid Sutton Gym Club
 - 47 Na Dubh Ghall GAA (Baldoyle)
 - 48 NAC Sharks Special Olympics Club (D15)
 - 49 North County Cricket Club
 - 50 North County Table Tennis Club
 - 51 O'Dwyers GAA (Balbriggan)
 - 52 Oldtown Handball Racket Club
 - 53 Ongar Chasers Basketball
 - 54 Phoenix Cricket Club
 - 55 Phoenix Junior Badminton Club
 - 56 Portmarnock Amateur Boxing Club
 - 57 Portmarnock Swim Team
 - 58 Portmarnock Tennis Club
 - 59 Portrane Athletic FC
 - 60 Portrane Hockey Club
 - 61 PSLC Badminton Club (Portmarnock)
 - 62 River Valley Rangers AFC
 - 63 Rush Athletic FC
 - 64 Rush Cricket club
 - 65 Skerries Athletic Club
 - 66 Skerries Harps GAA
 - 67 Skerries Hockey club
 - 68 Skerries Junior Badminton Club
 - 69 Skerries Lawn Tennis Club
 - 70 Skerries rowing Club
 - 71 Skerries Rugby FC
 - 72 Skerries Sailing Club
 - 73 St Sylvester's GAA Club
 - 74 St Vincents Water Polo (D15)
 - 75 St. Colmcilles GFC (Swords)
 - 76 St. Ita's AFC (Donabate/Portrane)
 - 77 St.Margarets GAA Club
 - 78 St.Mochta's FC
 - 79 St.Peregines GAA Club
 - 80 Suttonians Hockey Club
 - 81 Swords Basketball
 - 82 Swords Boxing Club
 - 83 Swords Celtic Schoolboys
 - 84 Swords Manor Football Club
 - 85 Taekwon-do ITF Warriors Inclusion (Swords)
 - 86 Trackside LTC (Baldoyle)
 - 87 Tyrrelstown Cricket Club
 - 88 Verona FC
 - 89 Westmanstown Gaels GAA
 - 90 Westmanstown Wasps
 - 91 Wild Geese GAA
- TOTAL €95,550**



Internationally, citizens from 157 countries participated in World Cleanup Day across six continents, uniting an estimated 18 million volunteers for a single day of action. By getting involved in the global movement, Blanchardstown Tidy Towns hopes to inspire local volunteerism and achieve a tangible impact on waste in our environment. Across Ireland and around the world, people are encouraged to get up, get out, and help clean up their communities to create a healthier, more sustainable future.

"Over 16 bags of rubbish were collected in two hours by 26 volunteers all across Blanchardstown Village, which shows you the difference only a couple of hours can make. We want as many people as possible to come out with Blanchardstown Tidy Towns to help us in any way they can" said Chair of Blanchardstown Tidy Towns, Gearoid Hodgins.

Council launches new-look fingal.ie website

Fingal County Council's website, fingal.ie, has been relaunched after receiving a major revamp that has resulted in a new look and a platform that has become much more than just a local authority website.

The new ground-breaking website, which has a strong emphasis on easy navigation, stunning imagery and relevant content, revolves around four main pillars called Council, Resident, Business and Visitor with secondary pillars covering News and Events,

The Council pillar is a new-look equivalent of the previous Fingal County Council website while the other three pillars are targeted at specific audiences in order to improve their awareness of what the Council does.

"RED C carried out a Residential Satisfaction Survey for us in 2017 which revealed that only 33% of residents felt they had an awareness of what the Council does," explained Interim Chief Executive AnnMarie Farrelly.

"The website is one of our main communications channels so we have spent the last two years working on creating a website which allows us to better inform citizens, visitors and businesses as to what we do while at the same time making sure that information relating to the hundreds of services we operate is easily available."

The Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Eoghan O'Brien, launched the new website and said it would give citizens a greater insight into the work of the Council.

"The new website is the latest in a series of digital innovations from Fingal County Council and will be a big help in ensuring that citizens are better informed about the many

services the Council is responsible for," said Mayor O'Brien. "The new website is the latest in a series of digital innovations from Fingal County Council and will be a big help in ensuring that citizens are better informed about the many services the Council is responsible for," said Mayor O'Brien.

The new website was a joint project between the Council's IT and Communications Units with the site designed by the award winning Creative Digital Media Agency, Emagine, while software development was undertaken by the multi-award winning team at Annertech. An Irish language version of the new website will also be available.

A detailed development plan will be activated over the next few years to ensure that the new site remains up to date with the latest trends in website development. This will see new features being regularly rolled out as the Council opts for a fluid rather than a static website.

Fingal County Council was the first local authority in Ireland to introduce webcasting of its Council and Area Committee meetings and also operates a consultation portal, consult.fingal.ie, which enables citizens to view proposals and make submissions online. Other digital innovations that the Council has introduced include Digital Libraries, Smart Benches, Public WiFi, Open Data, Wayfinding and Unheard Voices challenges, Digital Customer Care Units and Digital Council meetings. The Council also publishes a digital e-zine, Fingal News, every two months.

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Fingal's Greener Communities Awards 2019

On Thursday 3rd October 2019 the Fingal Greener Communities Awards were held in County Hall, Swords. This important competition has over the years enhanced Fingal County Council's relationship with residents, community groups and individuals of the county. In attendance on the night were Mayor of Fingal Cllr. Eoghan O'Brien and Fingal County Council Chief Executive AnnMarie Farrelly.

The focus this year was on increasing pollinators and biodiversity and on fostering sustainable communities, a key role we can all play in creating a more sustainable future. Communities were also encouraged to play an increasing role in our environmental response to climate change and environmental improvements.

Mayor of Fingal Eoghan O'Brien commented: "The Greener Communities awards foster great community spirit - we owe a great deal of gratitude to those people who encourage the rest of us to take pride in our surroundings"

Chief Executive, AnnMarie Farrelly remarked that "The standard this year was higher than ever before and is a continuing testament to the concern and pride Fingal residents, community groups and individuals have for the environment in which we work and live".

Awards were presented by Craig Benton, Benton Ecological Solutions, Roger Warburton, Rediscovery Centre, Ballymun, John



Overall Winners Whitestown Estate Management - Robyn Ashe, Joseph Bennett and Samantha Hanna with Chief Executive AnnMarie Farrelly and Fingal Mayor Eoghan O'Brien at the Greener Communities Awards Ceremony in Fingal County Council.

Daly Acting Director of Services Environment Climate Action and Water Services Department and Fionnuala May, County Architect, Fingal County Council.

Many community groups from throughout Fingal participated in this year's event with over 100 entrants across all categories, which range from Best Front Garden to the Biodiversity Award. A total of 40 prizes were awarded on the night. The overall prize was awarded to Whitestown Estate Management for their excellent work and dedication to their area.

Sinead Fox and Carla McKenna, Environmental Education Officers who organised the event commented on the outstanding contributions made by all applicants and congratulated all those who received awards. "Biodiversity is an integral part of the web of life and we all have a part to play in protecting and enhancing the biodiversity that exists in our county. Thank you to everyone for making the night a resounding success."

Full list of winners outlined below:

Business & Community

Castleknock Tidy Towns

Best Village

Castleknock

Coastal

Rush Tidy Towns

Skerries Tidy Towns

Biodiversity

Skerries Tidy Towns

Rush Tidy Towns

Balbriggan Tidy Towns

Broadmeadow Community Garden

Sustainable Skerries

Whitestown Estate Management

Front Garden

S. Hayden

B. & R. Barden

E. McSherry

A. Falvey

V. Byrne

Best Town

Lusk

Adopt a Patch

St Lukes NS Tyrrelstown

Melville Meakstown

Whitestown Estate Management

Seabury Tidy Districts Group

Baldoyle Forum Clg

Lanesborough Gardens

Upcycling Project

Seabury Tidy Districts Group

Diana O'Donohoe

Sustainable Skerries

Skerries Tidy Towns

Balbriggan Tidy Towns

Climate Action

Huntstown Community Centre

Rush Tidy Towns

St Finians GAA

Blakestown Drive Community Group

Skerries Tidy Towns

Balbriggan Tidy Towns

Housing Estate

Lanesborough Gardens

Seabury Tidy Districts Group

Rockabill Apartments Skerries

Palmer Court residents Association

Overall Winner

Whitestown Estate Management

Minister confirms €300,000 spent on short-term repairs to pyrite contaminated primary schools

The Minister for Education has confirmed that almost €300,000 has been spent on short-term repairs to primary schools whose foundations are contaminated by pyrite, including St Patricks NS, Diswellstown and Castleknock Educate Together. The information emerged from a Dail question that the Green Party TDs submitted on behalf of Green Party Dublin West candidate Cllr. Roderic O’Gorman.

At a recent meeting with the Principal and Board of Management of St Patricks NS in Diswellstown, I was shown the ongoing damage occurring in the school due to the presence of pyrite in its foundations. Following the meeting, I asked the Green Party TDs to put a question to the Minister for Education regarding how many schools in the country were contaminated with pyrite and how much was being spent on short term repairs”, stated Cllr. O’Gorman

“The Minister responded to say five national schools across Dublin

had pyrite in their foundations and that substantial sums of money had been spent so far in undertaking short term repairs, including €167,000 in St. Patricks NS. Funding has also been approved for Castleknock Educate Together NS deal with damaged floors, doors and paths, though the amount was not announced as it is currently commercially sensitive. In total, almost €300,000 has been spent on short term repairs to these schools, with further costs still being incurred”.

“The Minister also stated that legal action was being taken against some of the companies involved. However, it would appear that until this legal action has been resolved, the long term solution needed for these schools, which is the complete removal of all pyrite from their foundations, will not go ahead. Instead, the schools will have to face the ongoing disruption of gradual damage being caused by pyrite and money being spent on short-term repairs – money which would be better invested in actual education infrastructure”.

“The Minister needs to stop waiting for the outcome of the legal case, and devise a plan to quickly remove pyrite from all these schools. This is going to have to happen sooner or later, and the sooner the Minister acts, the less disruption children and teachers in these schools will face and the less of the Department’s money that will be wasted on continuous, short-term repairs” concluded Cllr. O’Gorman.

Funding for Community Enhancement in Fingal

Fingal County Council has been allocated funds of €150,521.00 under the 2019 Community Enhancement Programme and an additional €13,089.00 for Men and Women’s sheds.

The Community Enhancement Programme is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development. It provides funding to communities to enhance facilities in areas of disadvantage. LCDC’s are responsible for allocating funding to projects in their area as they are ideally placed to identify suitable local projects.

The LCDC met yesterday (Wednesday, October 2) to approve funding for a total of 101 applications for both schemes in the Fingal area. 90 applications were approved under CEP 2019 and 11 applications approved for Men’s & Women’s Sheds Fund 2019.

The Department of Rural & Community Development recommended that funding for sheds should be allocated in a relatively equal manner across eligible sheds who submitted a valid

application. All Men’s Sheds in Ireland affiliated with the Irish Men’s Shed Association were eligible to apply. Women’s Sheds were also eligible to apply.

Under the Community Enhancement Programme. Swords Community First Responders, Balbriggan Cricket Club and Barnardos Corduff were among the 90 groups awarded funding.

Valid applications were received from 10 Men’s Sheds and 1 Women’s Shed in the Fingal area. The Funding Sub Group met and agreed to divide this year’s Men’s and Women’s Shed fund of €13,089.00 equally between the 11 sheds’ as per the Department’s guidelines.

Fingal County Council’s Director of Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development, Emer O’Gorman said: “We are delighted with the funding secured for 2019 which will allow substantial investment in communities across Fingal. We look forward to working with many communities and voluntary groups and assisting them in delivering their projects.”

Fingal County Council’s Interim Chief Executive, AnnMarie Farrelly said: “Fingal County Council is very proud of its record in supporting community groups and community facilities. This funding will help community groups considerably going forward.”

Fingal County Council and FAI launch fourth year of TY Football Development Course



Fingal County Council and the Football Association of Ireland have launched the fourth year of the Transition Year Football Development Course which gives participants an opportunity to meet their educational requirements while developing football skills.

The 2019 - 20 programme was officially launched by Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Eoghan O'Brien and Fingal County Council's Chief Executive AnnMarie Farrelly, in the company of former Republic of Ireland senior international Andy Reid and under 19s international team manager Tom Mohan at Corduff Community Centre today.

Over the course of the 2019-20 school year, the 25 Transition Year students participating in the programme will mix academic subjects such as Maths and English with a range of football coaching courses and modules in Fitness Instruction, Media Skills and Personal Development as well football training and strength and conditioning work. In addition, the participants will undertake an ITEC Fitness Instructors Course delivered by Litton Lane Fitness Training. They will also return to their local primary school one day a week to work with teachers in the delivery of physical education and gain valuable work experience.

"Participants from the last three programmes were given the opportunity to immerse themselves in football for a year while also meeting their educational needs.

Following its success, the programme will be delivered for a fourth year, it is designed to allow the students to commit

to the development of their football skills as well as engaging with their communities without compromising their education," said course co-ordinator, and co-funded FAI Development Officer with Fingal County Council, Denis Hyland.

The programme is being jointly delivered by Fingal County Council's Sports Office and the Football Association of Ireland with assistance from Empower Blanchardstown.

The Mayor of Fingal Cllr Eoghan O'Brien praised the programme: "Fingal County Council's partnership with the FAI has proven hugely beneficial to our residents once again. Education and sport are both demanding and important to young people. I'm delighted to see the implementation of a programme that allows participants to pursue their passion without sacrificing their educational opportunities."

Fingal County Council Chief Executive AnnMarie Farrelly welcomed the students to this, fourth year of the TY Football Development Course: "The programme has shown the benefits that can be reaped when there is investment put into the young people of Fingal. Not only are they developing the skills to balance sport with education, they are given the opportunity to engage with the community through weekly work experience which, as we have seen, contributes positively to their overall personal development."

The course is run with the support of Empower Blanchardstown and Sport Ireland. These previous courses were extremely well-attended and recorded an impressive average attendance rate of 95% throughout the school year.

Marion Brown, Principal Sports Officer with Fingal County Council said: "The success of this project has attracted a lot of positive attention from other local authorities who would also be hugely interested in delivering it to students in their area. I'm confident that the work, preparation and experience brought to this project by Fingal County Council's Sports Office and the FAI will deliver another beneficial course for the programme's participants".

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Launch of Fingal County Council's Arts Plan 2019 – 2025

Swords Castle was the venue for the launch of the new Fingal County Council's Arts Plan 2019-2025 which will set out the strategy for arts in the county for the next seven years.

Mayor of Fingal, Councillor Eoghan O'Brien was joined by AnnMarie Farrelly, Chief Executive of Fingal County Council, Rory O'Byrne, County Arts Officer and special guest speaker Art O'Leary, Secretary-General to the President, in welcoming an audience of artists, cultural policymakers, educators, families and the general public.

Mayor of Fingal, Cllr. Eoghan O'Brien gave an opening address

and stated, 'I'm delighted to be here today to officially launch the Fingal County Council Arts Plan 2019 – 2025, which sets out a vision for the development of the arts over the next seven years. We commend the Arts Office team on their crucial work to date, and look forward, with confidence, to what the future will bring through the implementation of this plan'.

The Arts Office team consists of Rory O'Byrne (County Arts Officer), Sarah O'Neill (Deputy Arts Officer), Julie Clarke (Youth



Above, left to Right Caroline Cowley (Public Arts Co-ordinator), Rory O'Byrne (County Arts Officer), Sarah O'Neill (Deputy Arts Officer), Cllr. Eoghan O'Brien Mayor of Fingal, Julie Clarke (Youth & Education Officer), AnnMarie Farrelly Chief Executive Fingal County Council, Art O'Leary Secretary General to the President, and Margaret Geraghty Director of Housing & Community.



Above, left to right Caroline Cowley (Public Arts Co-ordinator), Margaret Geraghty Director of Housing & Community, AnnMarie Farrelly Chief Executive Fingal County Council, Rory O'Byrne (County Arts Officer), Cllr. Eoghan O'Brien Mayor of Fingal, Sarah O'Neill (Deputy Arts Officer), Julie Clarke (Youth & Education Officer), Art O'Leary Secretary General to the President, and Artist Alan James Burns.

& Education Officer), and Caroline Cowley (Public Arts Co-ordinator), all in attendance. Speaking at the event, Rory O'Byrne stated that, 'We have an extensive Arts Office programme of opportunities and initiatives informed by priority policy areas, complemented by the work of two thriving arts centres - Draiocht in Blanchardstown and the Seamus Ennis Arts Centre in the Naul.'

'This plan takes account of recent developments locally and nationally. Over the next seven years, we will focus our efforts by making space for art, connecting people and ideas, enabling excellence, and developing our capacity to deliver this plan optimally.'

The content of the plan was informed by a process of public consultation that took place over six weeks from May to June 2018. The first stage of public consultation took the form of an online survey. The second stage of the consultation employed the 'World Café' methodology, whereby the Arts Office hosted two half-day workshops with invited stakeholders.

The Arts Office consulted with young people through their Youth & Education Programme to ensure that Fingal's significant youth demographic had their voices heard and considered in the planning and delivery of arts and cultural services in Fingal. In addition, a workshop with the Public Participation Network was hosted by the Arts Office.

AnnMarie Farrelly, Chief Executive, said, 'Fingal County Council is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year, and from the very beginning the arts have been recognised as being essential to the life and wellbeing of our community. We are proud of our service which continues to help shape the culture of our county and to make it a better place to live, work and visit'.

Art O'Leary, Secretary-General to the President, praised the

work of the art office and commented, 'Fingal is evidently a local authority committed to supporting artists and people of all ages through a quality service that reaches out across people, place and practice. It is the best arts plan that I have read to date'.

Guests were invited to experience two special exhibitions programmed for the occasion, which align with the planning and vision for Swords as a site for contemporary art in the context of the proposed new Cultural Masterplan.

Artist Michele Hetherington presented Talk softly, new site-specific work at Swords Castle. Hetherington is a local Fingal artist and was the recipient of the Fingal Arts Graduate Award in 2018.

Alan James Burns presented Silicon Synapse, a Virtual Reality and psycho-acoustic installation in the historic Carnegie Library, Swords. This artwork is jointly commissioned by Fingal County Council and the European Commission's SciArt programme and is funded by Arts Council of Ireland Open Call Award.

The arts plan also features the artwork of photographer Rich Gilligan. Originally a native of Fingal, Gilligan has been commissioned by Fingal Arts Office to document and capture the cultural landscape of the county. This process began in August 2019 and will continue through 2020.

Rory O'Byrne concluded that, 'The arts plan is a celebration of the people and places that define our great county, and we look forward to working with as many people as possible over the coming years to realise our purpose - to bring the arts to life in Fingal and Fingal to life through the Arts'. A copy of Fingal County Council's Arts Plan 2019 – 2025 was available to everyone in attendance and will be made accessible online soon www.fingalarts.ie. For further information please contact: veronica.forsgren@fingal.ie

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