

TUARASCÁIL MHÍOSÚIL BAINISTÍOCHTA MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT Feabhra / February



Launch of Offaly's Local Enterprise Week programme

Offaly's three TDs attended Banagher College's 'Bog Pod, podcast studio. In partnership with Laois & Offaly Education and Training Board (LOETB) & Offaly County Council



TV3 weatherman Deric Hartigan visited Lough Boora Discovery Park

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- *LEO Grant Workshop Events 11th, 13th, 24th March and 01st, 10th, 14th, 17th April.*
- *Upcoming Conference for Enterprise, Tourism and Communities in the Midlands, Wednesday 26th March 2025*

Climate Action Environment Water & Transportation

ENVIRONMENT

CLIMATE ACTION

Climate Action Team in collaboration with Offaly Libraries were delighted to launch a seed library at **Edenderry Library** on the 12th of February 2025. The seed Library was launched by Leas Cathaoirleach Ollie Brynt, Senior Executive Librarian Jackie McIntyre and Climate Action Coordinator John McNally.

Expert Horticulturist Aoife Munn



attended and gave a talk to the public with tips on growing vegetables and herbs from home and in an

allotment. The Seed Library is a collection of organic vegetable seeds available free of charge for the community to borrow. A seed library operates similar to a traditional library but instead of a book you swap seeds! Members of the community can 'check out' seeds at the beginning of the growing season, plant them, and at the end of the season harvest them and return a portion of the seeds they have saved if possible to do so. Through this project it is hoped that members of the community will tap into their 'green side' and create a



resource within the community that is self-sustaining and invites people explore the gardener within themselves.



CLIMATE ACTION KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Friday 31st January saw the deadline for local authorities to submit their 2024 data towards LGMA Local Government Climate Action Key Performance Indicators annual report. Offaly County Council Climate Action Team successfully returned data on such measures as Climate Action Plan progress on Adaptation/Mitigation, Climate Action mainstreaming through CA Staff and CA Teams, together with required information around Severe Weather Responses during 2024. The LGMA will also gather local data on social housing retrofits, active travel projects, green for micro, greenhouse gas reductions, community climate action programme and training from agencies such as NTA, SEAI, LASNTG, Enterprise Ireland, DECC and LGMA (HDCO). Following strong showings in the 2021, 2022 and 2023 annual reports, Offaly County Council expect to continue preforming well when the 2024 Annual Report results are published in Q4 2025

Climate Action Key Performance Indicators Report



The end of February sees NBS EduWORLD entering the final 6 months of its 3-year programme. This is an EU Funded Horizon project which sees Offaly County Council partner with 15 other agencies from across 10 European countries in order to facilitate the integration of Nature Based Solutions into the education system. The main goal of the project is to enable a community of Nature-based solution professionals and education providers to effectively teach/incorporate NBS into the schooling environment, ensuring free and easy access to high quality NBS knowledge and resources.



ENERGY

31st January saw the initial deadline for submission of Offaly County Council's energy related information onto the SEAI Monitoring & Reporting (M&R) portal. Having successfully completed this exercise, the SEAI will calculate increases in energy efficiency and reductions in energy use and publish a 'provisional scorecard' for all public bodies by April 2025. Currently Offaly County Council are achieving approximately a 40% increase in energy efficiency from the predetermined baseline years, with a target of 50% increase in energy efficiency and 51% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions

by 2030. The next M&R deadline will follow in May 2025, and Offaly County Council Energy Team will be working towards demonstrating continued improvements throughout the year.

Offaly County Council continues toward ISO 50,001 Energy Management accreditation with a detailed briefing delivered to Management, which will be a key driver in achieving energy targets. We received approval of an organizational wide 'Energy Policy' which is a key requirement during ISO auditing during February. This new Energy Policy will be communicated internally and externally to help embed energy management across all our projects, programmes and services.

Offaly County Council also continues to collaborate with SEAI on their 'Pathfinder Programme' in order to deep retrofit our largest significant energy using buildings. Tender documents were published for the appointment of a 'Multi-Disciplinary Design Team' (MDDT) to lead the process, submission have been received and evaluated and associated letter to be issued imminently to successful/unsuccessful tenderers.

Offaly County Council have joined many other public bodies such as hospitals, universities and other local authorities in partnering with Office of Public Works on their 'Optimising Power at Work' campaign. This is a free service which is aimed at a statewide staff energy awareness programme supporting participants in energy saving efforts. The goal of the programme is to identify and eliminate energy waste, optimizing building controls while also engaging and encouraging staff towards behavioural change.

ENVIRONMENT

LITTER MANAGEMENT PLAN

Offaly County Council has an obligation to adopt a Litter Management Plan under the Litter Pollution Act, 1997. The most recent Plan was published in January 2022 and expired in December 2024. An annual report encompassing a review of the current Litter Management Plan was presented to the SPC on 19th February 2025.

It was recommended that the current Litter Management Plan is robust and fit for purpose and it provides stability during the transition to changes underway in the coming months, such as the new CCTV Scheme for waste and litter and the recent national Deposit Return Scheme for bottles and cans. The CAERW Section proposed to extend the existing plan for a further three years until December 2027, an option provided for under the legislation. This was agreed by the SPC members for recommendation to full Council. The making, review, amendment and replacement of the Litter Management Plan is a function reserved for the elected members. Accordingly, it will be put to the elected members at the full County Council meeting in March.

CCTV SCHEME

The use of CCTV for waste and littering has been approved by the Data Protection Officer. A Business Case for the use of CCTV at Bring Centres will now be brought forward to the Oversight Board. Upon approval, the Section can move forward with installing CCTV to detect, enforce and prevent illegal dumping.



ENVIRONMENT COMPLAINTS

Summary of Complaints Received by Environment Section for February 2025 and investigated - Total number of 68 complaints.

Category	Number
Abandoned Vehicles	1
Air Pollution	4
Control of Dogs	6
Control of Horses	7
Litter Control	42
Noise Pollution	5
Waste Enforcement	3
Water Quality	0
Building Control	0
Total	68

BURIAL GROUNDS

Cemetery Committees: We are looking forward to working with the 20 cemetery committees on projects in 2025. We are also planning on the formation of other committees to improve the upkeep of our cemeteries.

There are grants and assistance available from the CA-ENV-RW section and we welcome engagement from groups that are currently maintaining their local cemetery or planning on forming a committee to do that.

St. Mary's Cemetery, Edenderry: We are tendering for the landscaping in February/March of 2025, and finalising the project works.

Minor works: We are commencing a series of minor works in 2025, including the construction of additional plinths in St. Michaels Cemetery, Portarlinton, which is nearing capacity.

We have been removing fallen trees from a number of burial grounds including Walsh Island and Portarlinton following the recent high winds associated with Storm Éowyn. Visual assessment are being carried out on standing trees which may have sustained damage.



RURAL WATER SERVICES

Capital: We are currently awaiting the Rural Water Unit's Expert Panel decisions on the remaining Multi-Annual Rural Water Programme 2024 to 2026 capital grants.

They have recently announced their decision on a portion of the grants applied for under the Multi-Annual Rural Water Programme 2024 to 2026, and we have advised the Group Water Schemes of that decision.

Subsidy: in 2024, we paid a total of €1,069,594.00 in subsidy support to 15 group water schemes.

Grants: Information and grant application forms for Well Grants, Domestic Lead Remediation Grants, and Domestic Wastewater Treatment are available on www.offaly.ie or from the CAERW section by contacting 057 9357403.

VETERINARY

CONTROL OF DOGS: In 2024 we cared for over 214 dogs in the dog shelter and on average 15% of the dogs are reclaimed by their owners, 15% are rehomed by the

Care of Dogs Team and the other 70% are rehomed through animal rescue charities.

The Control of Dogs team has also dealt with 7 complaints so far in 2025, including dog licence issues, straying dogs, and dealing with dangerous dogs.

In October 2024 new regulations were issued by the Dept. of Rural and Community Development regarding the keeping and registration of XL Bully dogs. We carried out a media campaign, including a press release and social media posts and held open days in the 3 MDs to raise awareness about the need to register XL Bullies with OCC and apply for a Certificate of Exemption.

The deadline for receipt of applications was 31/01/2025. We received 31 applications and have issued 19 exemption certificates and are awaiting further information on the remaining 12.



XL Bully Registration Information Sessions



CONTROL OF HORSES: In 2025, we have dealt 10 complaints, there have been no seizures to date.

TRANSPORTATION

2025 ROAD GRANT ALLOCATIONS: We received our 2025 Department of Transport Grant allocations on Friday the 14th of February. The total allocation amounts to €17,235,400 as compared to €15,754,150.00 in 2024, an increase of €1,481,250 or 9.1%. While most programs received a modest uplift or stayed as 2024, the main focus of our increase in 2025 lies within the Restoration Improvement Program and our Specific Improvement and Strategic Regional and Local Roads Grant. Due to our ability to design schemes in house we have been able to position ourselves for funding in 2025;

- to complete the delivery of the Birr North Distributor Road,
- commence construction of the Monasteroris Road Widening Scheme,

- deliver Phase 2 of the R400 Peat Pilot,
- complete a review and assessment of the Clara Western Relief Road and establish at what point on the Transport Appraisal Framework it sits and restart the scheme,
- commence Design Works on the Birr South Eastern Distributor Road.

We have already received our 2025 NTA funded Active Travel allocation which equates to €3,250,000 which includes €500,000 for Bus stops and represents a reduction of €250,000 from 2024.

The allocations have been assigned to each of our respective Municipal Districts and the formulation of the Annual Roads program is ongoing

Grant Allocations

Offaly County Council	
Restoration Improvement	€7,244,000
Restoration Maintenance	€909,500
Supplementary Restoration Maintenance	€796,000
Discretionary Grant	€1,769,500
Bridge Rehabilitation	€407,400
Specific Imp. Grant	€2,600,500
Strategic Regional & Local Roads	€140,000
Safety Improvement Works	€399,000
PSCI: Survey Support	€16,000
Training Grant	€47,500
Drainage Works	€402,500
Former National Roads	€540,000
Speed Limits Review Signs	€216,000
Climate Change Adaptation & Resilience Works	€379,000
Community Involvement Scheme	€368,500
Pilot scheme for rehabilitation of roads over peat	€1,000,000
Total Allocation	€17,235,400

PUBLIC LIGHTING MAINTENANCE CONTRACT: PUBLIC

LIGHTING: The following is a breakdown of the Public Lighting failures across the County. There are **250** faults on the system presently. **78** of these faults require third party intervention and as such cannot be repaired by the maintenance contractor.

Therefore, the current actionable faults amount to **172 faults or 1.84 %** of the lighting stock.

The breakdown of the **172** faults across each MD are as follows:

Municipal District	No Of Faults	Total No of Lights in the MD	% fault of MD Lights Only	% fault per MD of the Countywide Public Lighting Stock
Birr MD	85	2962	2.87	0.91
Tullamore MD	43	3933	1.09	0.46
Edenderry MD	44	2405	1.83	0.47

Housing & Integration

To assist us in streamlining the delivery of Housing Services we encourage the use of the following email addresses:

Service	Email Address
HAP Enquiries	hap@offalycoco.ie
Rebuilding Ireland Home Loans	homeloans@offalycoco.ie
Housing Inspections – HAP, Leased, Private, etc.	standards@offalycoco.ie
General Enquiries, Maintenance Issues, etc.	housing@offalycoco.ie
RAS & Leasing Enquiries	RAS@offalycoco.ie
Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and People with a Disability Scheme	HousingAidGrants@offalycoco.ie
Anti-Social Behaviour	ASB@offalycoco.ie

Housing Update

- There are 568 on the Social Housing Support List at the end of February 2025.
- A further 456 active tenancies are currently being supported under the Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) Scheme, 4 signed up for HAP and 6 exited from HAP in February.
- At the end of February 45 single people and 17 couples/families were being supported in emergency accommodation.
- Number of maintenance requests received for month of February was 333.
- Total of housing stock at end of February is 2216.
- 2025 Annual Rent Review, for local authority tenants commenced on Thursday 23rd January with 2,137 rent

assessment forms posted to tenants. As of 28th February, 1,634, (75%) signed rent assessment forms have been received from tenants. 13% of rent assessments forms have been assessed. On the 21st February 2025, 667 letters reminder letters were issued to tenants who have failed to return their rent assessment forms.

New rents will be effective from the 12th July 2025.

Housing Capital Programme Update:

- Dargan Drive, Chancery Lane (20 Units) – Part 8 approved in May 2022. Tenders received for Japanese Knotweed removal. Stage 3 to be submitted to the Department once JKW is removed and ESB lines on the site are undergrounded.
- Circular Road, Daingean, Site 2 (10 Units) –Part 8 to be adopted. Tenders received, awaiting tender evaluation/report.
- Group Housing, Croghan Road, Birr (4 Units): Completion Q1 2025
- Sycamore Drive, Ballycumber (10 Units) – Stage 3 application to be submitted Q2 2025

Integration

The Integration Team has continued to engage with refugees in accommodation centres across the county. A total of 13 clinics were held over the course of the month engaging with 98 individuals and families. Services provided included signposting and information provision to services such as English classes and adult education courses with Laois Offaly Educational Training Board, employment readiness courses with Offaly Local Development Company, volunteering opportunities and assistance contacting the HSE. The Team also continues to liaise with

stakeholders such as Offaly Sports Partnership, Offaly Volunteer Centre and Offaly Libraries to ensure that existing and new opportunities for integration are fully utilised.

Approved Housing Bodies Schemes:

- Respond Housing: 77 Units under construction @ Kingswood, Ardan Lane with full completion in 2025. Phase 1 tenancy agreement sign-ups for 31 units occurred 20-02-2025.
- Sofia Housing: 37 Units with Stage 2 approval @ Presentation Lands, Portarlinton. Planning Granted in November 2023. Stage 3 (permission to go to tender) being prepared and to be submitted Q2 2025.
- Silverbrook, Tullamore: 15 Units – Complete Q1 2025. Nominations submitted by Housing Officer to the AHB.

Turnkey Developments/Part V:

- MacRegol III, Birr (12 Turnkey Units) – 5 Completed, with the remaining 7 units to be delivered by the end of Q2/2025
- Cois na hAbhainn, Ferbane (2 Turnkey Units) – Completion Q3/2025.
- Forest View, Birr (8 Part V Units) – Completion Q1/2026.

Retrofit Programme

In deciding on a works programme, local authorities are urged to choose a mix of properties across a range of BERs to allow for homes which need significant expenditure to be balanced out by those needing lesser spend so as to achieve the overall average cost of €34,000 per property. A BER rating of B2 must be achieved.

- 40 Units allocation for 2025

Community Development Programme

- Estate Management Funding allocated in Budget 2025 for Birr, Edenderry and Tullamore Municipal Districts for projects. Tullamore projects have been

agreed, and work is ongoing on finalising Birr & Edenderry proposals.

- Community Liaison Officers are continuing to support established resident committees and the development of their communities, with particular emphasis on LA new estates including the exploration of a new community facility and scheduling of the Games on the Green alongside Offaly Sports Partnership.

LAND USE, PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Development Management

	To end February 2025	To end February 2024	Total 2024
Planning Applications	70	83	735
Extensions of Duration Applications	0	1	12
Warning Letters and (Enforcement Notices) issued	4 (0)	21 (5)	71 (36)

Forward Planning

Draft Portarlington Joint Local Area Plan 2025-2031

The Chief Executive's Report regarding submissions received in relation to the Draft Portarlington Joint Local Area Plan 2025-2031 was issued to the elected members on February 12th, 2025. The CE Report is to be discussed at the full Council meeting on Monday March 24th 2025 where the Local Area Plan will be adopted or material alterations will be proposed by the elected members.

Residential Zoned Land Tax

The Draft RZLT Map for 2026 was published by the Council on February 1st, 2025. Submissions can be made to the Local Authority by April 1st requesting that lands be removed from RZLT mapping or requesting a change of zoning of their site in the County Development Plan.

Just Transition

Local Economic and Community Plan Scheme.



On **25th February 2025**, the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications, Mr. Darragh O' Brien, announced that €1million in funding from the EU Just Transition Fund 2021-2027 has been awarded for the upgrading of the Dalton Centre in Shannonbridge. The funding application submitted by Offaly County Council, entitled **'The Dalton Centre – Enabling the Transition to Net Zero,'** identified the requirement for the provision of essential services to the building and surrounding site, in order that it can be used for training or job creation in the construction and renewable energy sectors. With the assistance of the EU Just Transition Fund, an upgraded building and site will now be offered to parties willing to enter into a long-term lease with Offaly County Council. Interested parties must be committed to economic diversification or training which supports the development

of skills that are now required for the new and emerging businesses. The project will be managed by the staff of Birr Municipal District with a completion date of **31st March 2026**.

Heritage, biodiversity and creative communities programming.

The key focus for the heritage and biodiversity officers in January and February is grant applications for annual funding. The following schemes have been applied to

- Heritage Council – delivering the Heritage Plan 2023 – 27 and Biodiversity Action plan 2025-30
- Local Biodiversity Action Fund – 75% funding
- Community Monuments Fund – 100% funding -

In addition, the call has been made by OCC for applications to the Creative Ireland community engagement grants where an aspect of heritage is explored by a community with an artist. These have been received and are currently being assessed.

Support is being provided to community groups applying for the Heritage Council Community Grant scheme which is open until 14th March. This fund changed to 100% funding in 2024.

Wildflowers of Offaly series has recommenced in 2025 with the first of the series posted on youtube featuring winter aconite.

Offaly Archive Service

Having collaborated with the Offaly Historical Society with a SLA running the County Archive Service up to 2025 – the

Heritage Council has now opened a scheme for local authorities to apply for a county archivist and an application has been made. If successful the SLA will continue to operate managing the Council and Historical Society's archives with the Council employing the archivist.

Birr Courthouse

Collaborating with Birr MD and Regeneration team to prepare a tender for the business plan required for a RRDF application.

Killaun Bog – Explorers' Route

Working with Birr 2020 Vision Group to develop the Explorers Route.

Publications

Working with authors on the final stage of '*That Beats Banagher*' publication and with John Feehan on '*The Silver River*' due mid-year.

TOURISM

HOLIDAY WORLD SHOW

Ireland's biggest holiday show returned to the RDS from 24th – 26th January. Offaly Tourism once again exhibited for the 3-day event. It was a hugely successful show with great interest from a captive audience.



EU JUST TRANSITION INVESTMENT GRANT-AID SCHEME FOR PRIVATE & COMMUNITY SMEs

Significant progress has been made in advancing regenerative tourism in Offaly, particularly through the oversubscribed Regenerative Tourism and Placemaking Scheme (Scheme B). With strong engagement from local enterprises and communities, the next two years will focus on project delivery, strengthening tourism networks, and positioning Offaly as a key sustainable tourism destination. Our Tourism Activator provided extensive support to applicants throughout the application process. The scheme attracted 29 applicants, resulting in 27 successful

applications. These included:

- 5 Digital Transformation applications
- 2 Accessibility funding applications
- 22 general funding applications, including micro-grants (<€10,000)



To enhance applicants' success and project sustainability, they were facilitated with:

- Training sessions with Offaly Local Enterprise Office (LEO) for 4 applicants and One-on-one mentoring for 12 applicants.
- Sourced and shared relevant additional information, stats and insights to strengthen applications.
- Online information sessions with Fáilte Ireland and other Activators.

Due to GDPR restrictions, only signed grant agreements or those voluntarily disclosed outcomes to the Activators are known. Applications are still being evaluated by Fáilte Ireland, and it is hoped there will be more successful applicants in the coming weeks.

UPCOMING CONFERENCE FOR ENTERPRISE, TOURISM AND COMMUNITIES IN THE MIDLANDS

The Tourism Activator is working closely with Midlands Ireland on preparing for the upcoming conference: Together We Thrive: Realising Sustainable Economic Opportunities for Enterprise, Tourism and Communities in the Midlands on

Wednesday 26th March 2025, in the Tullamore Court Hotel

The conference will explore how enterprise, tourism and communities across the Midlands, in addressing and responding to climate change, are realising unique business opportunities, diversifying and strengthening both the local and regional economy. It will provide insight into available supports, case studies and will provide important lessons for enterprise, tourism, communities and local authorities alike, to create new projects, employment opportunities in taking positive and effective climate action.

It is supported by the Midlands Regional Enterprise Plan Pathway for Transition, which is co-funded by the Irish government and the EU Just Transition Fund, 2021-2027 and Regenerative Tourism and Placemaking Scheme for Ireland's Midlands 2023-2026, working collaboratively with regional partners.



EU JT DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME

The tourism team are continuing to partake in the EU JT Digital Transformation Programme. Training is ongoing over a number of highly important topics. We have been approved for a redesign of our tourism website www.visitoffaly.ie. The tender brief has been submitted to a number of website developers. Evaluation of replies and a final decision on the successful tenderer will take place in the coming weeks.

TV EXPOSURE

The Tourism team organised a trip from the infamous TV3 weatherman Deric Hartigan to visit Lough Boora Discovery Park on 4th February.

Deric interviewed Lisa Kealey, Land Use Manager at Bord na Mona and Lisa described all of the wonderful amenities and sites to be seen in the Parklands. Deric also met with the proprietors of Ballycommon Bakehouse and Jonathan O'Meara from Mid Ireland Adventure. He even had time for a spot of archery – a great fun way to showcase what Lough Boora has to offer to a large market.



PUBLIC RELATIONS

A new Public Relations consultant has been appointed by Offaly Tourism for a period of 8 months up to Mid-October 2025. The appointed PR specialists will focus on spotlighting the county across national media, print and online, including engagement with travel journalists and selected suitable social media influencers.

FUNDING APPLICATIONS

The tourism team have been busy preparing funding applications over the last number of weeks. An ORIS Measure 1 application was submitted to the Department of Rural and Community Development. on 14th February. The application is led by the tourism team in OCC in collaboration with Laois County Council. The project involves the marketing of the Slieve Bloom as a leading destination for outdoor recreation and will encompass three elements: a digital marketing campaign, creative destination content showcasing the region through photography and the printing of maps and promotional material. Offaly Tourism Marketing is once again applying for LEADER funding for promotional projects for Summer 2025.

CONDÉ NAST TRAVELLER

Congratulations to Birr Castle Demesne which was rightly featured on Condé Nast's list of the '19 of the most beautiful places to visit in Ireland'! Condé Nast Traveler is a luxury and lifestyle travel magazine published by Condé Nast, a global mass media company, who has their headquarter in New York. The list included well renowned Irish attractions; The Ring of Kerry, The Cliffs of Moher, Newgrange and our very own Birr Castle Demesne.

LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE



LOCAL ENTERPRISE WEEK 2025 IN OFFALY!

Thank you to the Cathaoirleach, Councillors, and Chief Executive for their support in launching Offaly's Local Enterprise Week programme of events on Monday, 17th February. Big thanks also to the teams in Edenderry Library and Birr Library for generously providing their spaces for our business advice clinics.

Small businesses and budding entrepreneurs will have the opportunity to attend numerous events aimed at helping them start or grow their business as part of this year's Local Enterprise Week in Offaly which takes place from 3rd to 7th March across the county.



Full details and photos from each event are

Local Enterprise Week

Local Enterprise Office

3rd - 7th March 2025

Offaly's Local Enterprise Week

Visit: www.localenterprise.ie/offaly to book your place today!

Email: LocalEnterprise@offalycoco.ie
Phone: 057 935 7480

Making it Happen

Start, Grow, Innovate and Export with LEO Offaly – Your Partner in Success.

In-person events

Monday 3rd Business Lunch
Time & Venue: 12:00 - 2:30 p.m. In The Bridge House Hotel
• SUCCESS EQUALS DISCIPLINE: Six Simple Disciplines to Grow Your Sales, Profits, and Free Time

Tuesday 4th Student Enterprise County Final
Venue: The Tullamore Court Hotel

Wednesday 5th Innovate to Elevate: Exploring Future Trends
Time & Venue: 9:30 - 2:30 p.m. In The Bridge House Hotel
• Transforming Business: Future Trends in Machine Learning and Robotics
• Innovating with AI Workshop
• Lunch, networking & opportunity to have a professional headshot taken

Wednesday 5th Business Advice Clinics
Time & Venue: 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. – One-to-one in Birr Library and Edenderry Library

Thursday 6th Start Your Own Business Information Session
Time & Venue: 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. In The Bridge House Hotel

Thursday 6th Inspire and Empower: Celebrating International Women's Day
Time & Venue: 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. In The Bridge House Hotel
• Celebrate with other women and accelerate your business success.

Thursday 6th Digital Marketing Programme
Digital Marketing and Website Mentoring Clinic

available on the LEO website:
localenterprise.ie/offaly

THE STUDENT ENTERPRISE PROGRAMME is an educational and fun-packed initiative that teaches second level students what it's really like to be an entrepreneur and set up and run their own business over the course of the academic year.

Over 600 students from 12 schools from all over County Offaly participated. 106 students made it to the County Final on 4th March 2025 in the Tullamore Court Hotel. The overall winners in the Senior, Intermediate and Junior categories will go forward to the National Finals which will be held in the Mullingar Park Hotel in May 2025.



Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil Uíbh Fhailí
Local Enterprise Office Offaly
is delighted to invite you to the

**2025 STUDENT
ENTERPRISE AWARDS
COUNTY FINAL**

Tuesday, 04 March 2025
Tullamore Court Hotel, from 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm

localenterprise.ie/offaly

Enterprise Ireland | Comhairle Chontae Uíbh Fhailí | Oifig Chontae Uíbh Fhailí | Rialtas na hÉireann

LEO GRANT WORKSHOPS

LEO Offaly have a number of in-person Grant Application Workshops planned for 2025. These workshops provide valuable insights on navigating the application portal, avoiding common errors, and providing essential

financial information for Feasibility, Priming, and Business Expansion Grants. Participants will also learn about projections, cash flow vs. profit & loss, budgeting, and creating an impactful short video. A great resource for anyone applying for a grant.

TRAINING EVENTS

Most of our courses are **FREE OF CHARGE!** Whether it is starting a business or growing a business there is something suitable for everyone. Full details and links to book are here: <https://bit.ly/3B5LTku>

**UPCOMING
EVENTS LEO OFFALY**

MAR 11	START YOUR OWN BUSINESS DAY COURSE (IN PERSON)
WEBSITE HEALTH CHECK (1:1 MENTORING) CLINIC 2025	MAR 13
MAR 18	HOW TO USE THE LATEST AI TOOLS FOR YOUR MARKETING
BOOKKEEPING USING EXCEL SPREADSHEETS (IN PERSON)	MAR 24
APR 1	FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT FOR ENTREPRENEURS
ONE TO ONE FREE MARKETING MENTORING SESSION	APR 10
APR 14	MAXIMISE EFFICIENCY AND ACHIEVE YOUR GOALS
GRANT APPLICATION WORKSHOP	APR 17

WWW.LOCALENTERPRISE.IE/OFFALY

Community, Culture and Emergency Services

Local Community Development Committee:

Offaly Local Community Development Committee held its monthly meeting 13th February 2025. Members approved the LCDC Annual Report 2024; the Social

Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2024 – 2028 Annual Performance Review 2024 and Annual Progress Report 2024 and

the SICAP Annual Plan 2025. Members also approved 5 projects under the Community Recognition Fund 2024 (Window 3). An update in relation to the Local Enhancement Programme (LEP) was provided to members.

Membership of the LCDC was updated, with two new members joining the meeting from the ‘Local and Community Interests’ Sector. Funding opportunities available to communities and individuals were detailed to members.

Community Recognition Fund 2024:

The Community Recognition Fund (CRF) was first introduced on 24 January 2023 to recognise the huge efforts made by communities, villages and towns where the highest level of new arrivals are located and where there is a clear need for investment identified. Under CRF 2023 funding of €636,691 was allocated to 26 projects with works completed during 2023-2024. A second Fund of €1,002,542 was allocated to Offaly in March 2024 for projects over €50k in value. Eleven projects were approved under Window 1 in August 2024 valued €702,000. Offaly LCDC decided not to

utilise Window 2, but to allocate the remaining €300,542 in 2025 under Window 3, which will be announced in May 2025.

Sixteen applications were received for the remaining funding of €300,542 in January 2025. The LCDC Evaluation committee met on 7th February 2025 to assess the applications, and their project recommendations were adopted at the LCDC meeting on 13th February 2025. Community Section submitted details of the projects to DRCD on 28 February 2025. DRCD will evaluate these projects in the coming months and will announce the successful Window 3 projects in May 2025. All projects under CRF 2024 must be completed and funding drawn down by October 2026.



Local Enhancement Programme (LEP) 2025

The LEP 2025 was launched on 7th November 2024 with Offaly allocated €186,553 in total. The breakdown in funding is shown in the table below. The closing date for receipt of applications was 12th February 2025, with a total of

LCDC	Capital works allocation	Current Expenditure Allocation	Local Authority Admin Fee 5%	Total allocation
Offaly	€150,575	€26,650	€9,328	€186,553

147 applications received. The LCDC evaluation committee is due to meet on 5th March 2025 to assess the applications and make recommendations for approval to the LCDC meeting on 13th March 2025.

Public Participation Network:

Offaly PPN attended the Midland Regional PPN meeting, which was hosted by Meath PPN. Both staff and members from the Secretariat represented Offaly. The meeting focused on the level of PPN growth in the past 10 years with little growth in funding. Bridie Offaly PPN and Siobhan Longford PPN presented on the growth both in a local context and from a national level in the 10 years.

Municipal meetings took place in February in Edenderry, Tullamore and Birr.



All meetings were well attended with the following items of interest:

- The PPN: Overview
- Reps providing info on their roles/ Becoming a Rep- The Benefits
- Round Table Discussions: 1. Community & Voluntary, 2. Social Inclusion 3. Environment
- Feedback and possible solutions from groups:
 - High cost of Insurance: Tidy Towns expect it to be rectified for them soon via the Local Authority, but this is not an option for other groups
 - Grants: Pay for items/works first and claim back: A huge challenge for many groups who do not have reserve funds and must borrow funds to undertake actions.
 - Loans via Clann Credo, Community Finance, Credit Union
 - Not really an option for Residents groups
 - Need for training for online Grant applications
- Training & Capacity Building online Survey and in Person Survey at the Municipal District meetings
- A training schedule is being put in place for March/April 2025
- Other Areas covered also:
 - Vacancies on the Secretariat

ARTS PROGRAMMING



2025 Youth Arts Commissions

The 2025 Youth Arts Commission 2025, deadline is now closed, and we received 5 applications. The evaluation process will take place on February 26th. Following the assessment, the selected applicants will be contacted and contracts signed. The Youth Arts Commissions enables artists to work with youth groups and communities to develop projects that will enable engagement between professional artists and young people (13+), facilitated by youth organisations, youth leaders and schools.



Mini Movies Programme 2025

The Mini Movies programme will take place in March - April

in selected Offaly schools. The Arts Office Team is co-ordinating the schedule and communication between the facilitators and the schools. Mini Movies are both action and stop motion short movies created by children and young people. 3 rural schools: S N Seosamh, Blueball, Tullamore, Coláiste Naomh Cormac, Kilcormac, Geashill NS, Geashill, will engage with the project. The final versions of the short movies will be screened during the OFFline Festival in October.

Arts Newsletter

The Arts Office continues to produce a bi-monthly newsletter *Offaly Arts Alert*, offering updates and information on Arts Office event and opportunities etc. as well as promoting and sharing funding and bursary opportunities that might be of interest to artists and communities that have a shared interest in the Arts. The Newsletter for Mar – April will be disseminated at the beginning of March by email and on social media.

FilmOffaly

The first round of financial and non-financial reporting on our EU funding for Pobal was completed at the start of February. We were successful in achieving the targets that we set for the reporting period. The financial report has been approved by Pobal and the council has been reimbursed for 2024's project expenditure.

FilmOffaly held a screening of previous FilmOffaly award winners at Esker Arts in Tullamore at the end of January. There was good attendance despite cold weather and the extensive damage from the storm that week. The screening served to raise awareness of the work of FilmOffaly and the selection of films was well received.



The 2025 FilmOffaly Short Film award has officially launched, and entries are already starting to come in. To publicise this year's award there has been a push on our social media channels (FilmOffaly is now also on Instagram and Bluesky), press coverage in local newspapers and Irish film sites. Our Film Officer was also interviewed on Midlands 103. The closing date for the competition is 18th March.

Last year's Film Award winners, *For The Cure*, are still in post-production and are running on schedule to deliver the final version in March. They have had favorable feedback so far from the rough cuts they have submitted. As a result, their second tranche of funding has been authorised for payment.

FilmOffaly has been working on producing detailed plans for the rest of the EU funding window. This represents a marketing refresh and a full calendar of potential training events and mentorships from the start of 2025 through to March 2026. It has been based on consultation with stakeholders and is grounded in the reality of what we can achieve given the timeframe, resources and the need for flexibility. The main goal has been to provide a wide variety of training which will empower and encourage people to go out and make their own content. If successful it should sow the seeds for future success by building a community of screen creatives working together on their own projects in the local community.

The first event in our calendar is a screen careers day, in conjunction with the National Talent Academies (Crew East and Film & TV), which will take place on a weekend in early April. It is hoped that this event sets the tone for the rest of the

year's training activities, providing a forum and place for local talent to connect. The academies are experienced in holding similar events across the county, and this is one of the first to be held in the Midlands.

FilmOffaly is in contact with Kilcormac Development Association with the aim of holding some film courses there later this year. Discussions are currently in place to plan a small training event to help launch their new hub which is expected to be completed at the end of February.

FilmOffaly was also represented at the Screen Ireland slate and strategy unveiling in Galway. This was a useful session to network with screen professionals based in the West, and also to understand how Screen Ireland's priorities for 2025 and beyond align with FilmOffaly's own goals.

Funding Opportunities

Offaly County Council Arts Office offers several grant schemes to assist in the development and promotion of the Arts across the county. The Arts Act Grant and Professional Artist Support Grants have been allocated, and successful applicants have been invited to accept their grant offers. The processing of grants is now in progress.

The Festivals Grant deadline is now closed and the evaluation by an independent panel will be held in mid-February.

In addition to the annual Arts Grants, the Arts Office also offers professional supports to artists, through contributions to national awards. These awards are organised in collaboration with national arts organisations. For 2025 the Arts Office is offering two

awards to Offaly based theatre/dance artists to attend *The Gathering* Conference organised by the Performing Arts Forum, plus one award to an Offaly-based writer as part of the National Mentoring Programme, organised by the Irish Writers Centre. Both awards were advertised as open calls and promoted in the Arts newsletter and on social media.

The Arts Office Team is also preparing the Birr Writers Residency award brief for a residency call-out, continuing its long-standing collaboration with the Tin Jug Studio (Brendan House), Birr. The call out is planned to be announced at the beginning of March and advertised nationwide.

Collaborations

Birr Writer's Residency Review is nearing completion, and a final report is expected to be delivered by end of April. Culture Works are conducting final surveys and interviews with stakeholders and cultural partners in Birr. The review considers the potential growth of the residency going forward and has included a consultation process with key stakeholders. Consultants Culture Works were awarded the commission following an open call and evaluation process. The review started in September and is currently ongoing and due to be completed in 2025.

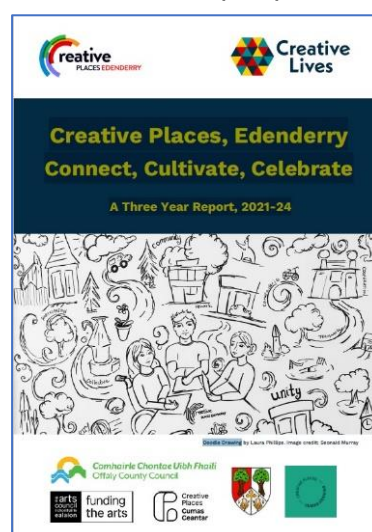
Business Development Report – OFFLine Animation Residency

Following an open competition and an assessment process with an independent panel, the arts and culture consultancy, Culture Works has been selected to conduct the OFFline Animation Residency Report in Birr. The first meeting with the stakeholders will take place in early March in Birr.

Creative Places Edenderry

CP Edenderry Co-ordinator presented the Three-Year Report at the January Edenderry MD Meeting. The Report reflects on the first three years of the Creative Places, Edenderry Project, the theme of which was Connect, Cultivate, Celebrate.

Creative Places, Edenderry works with people of all ages and backgrounds to create a richer, more inclusive, cultural environment for all people of Edenderry.



Creative Places, Edenderry, a project funded by the Arts Council, led by Creative Lives in partnership with Offaly County Council Arts Office and Edenderry Municipal District was awarded a 4th year of funding by the Arts Council and goes from strength the strength hosting an array of different arts-based activities, workshops and events in a wide range of art forms including Visual Arts, Music, Poetry, Playwriting, Creative Movement; Dance; Ceramics; Drama; Radio, Photography.

www.creativeplacesedenderry.ie

INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Public Art Commission: Esker Arts in collaboration with Lough Boora



Following an open call for public art commission proposals for Esker Arts, in conjunction with Lough Boora Sculpture

Park, an independent evaluation panel shortlisted 5 professional artists for Stage 2. Stage 2 proposals have been received by the Arts Team, and the evaluation panel will meet on February 27th to evaluate them. The applicants will be contacted, and the contract will be awarded at the beginning of March.

Lough Boora Sculpture Park

The Arts Office funded by Creative Ireland and supported by Bord na Móna continue to work on the maintenance programme for Lough Boora Sculpture Park to take place through 2024-2025. Artist Michael Burke, Sculpture Works, carried out a review and report in 2024 and works have been taking place throughout 2024 and will continue into 2025.

Edenderry Library and Arts Base

The Arts Office continues to work in close collaboration with the county librarian in the development of plans for a multi-purpose Arts space and Artist's Studios to be incorporated into the planning of the new library for Edenderry including the audience and participant development as part of the Creative Places Edenderry project.

HEALTHY OFFALY



The process of inputting of all progress and financial reporting data began in January. All the previous month's work of gathering in the invoices, bank statements and progress reports was beneficial to ensure a smooth inputting of all required information. This work will be concluded on 28th February when the 2024 returns are submitted to Pobal.

The final reports of our eight evaluated Healthy Offaly actions have been received and are now available for viewing at the following link: [G:\Healthy Offaly\HIF Round 4 Year 2 Results](#)

We are delighted to report positive findings for the second year running. Huge credit must go to the implementing partners for delivering on stated aims and we are very grateful to our partners and Edufit for gathering the data and compiling the results.



Participants at 'Exercise your way to wellness' class Edenderry



'Step it Up' class Edenderry

In summary the projects that were delivered in 2024 successfully achieved their aim of either increasing adult physical activity participation (an increase of 40% among the participants), child physical activity participation (an increase of 86.4% among the participants) or decreasing total body weight among adults in Offaly (a weight decrease of 0.99% among the participants). The goals of making a positive health and wellbeing contribution to the target groups who participated in all eight actions were met. When considering the similar success of the year 1 actions this demonstrates that the actions implemented have been effective in improving physical activity levels and thus health outcomes within the community. These findings highlight the success of the initiatives in fostering healthier lifestyles and reinforcing the impact of targeted physical activity and health interventions.

SPORTS



Congratulatory notes/Good wishes

Congratulations to the Federation of Ireland “Volunteer in Sports Award 2024” winner for Offaly, Jude Feehan of Offaly Community Games



Funding

€12,942 secured to support the delivery of Bike Week activities across Offaly from 10th to 18th May 2025

Human Resources

Emmanuel Haastrup of the South East Technological University in Carlow is currently undertaking a three month work experience placement with Offaly SP.



Emmanuel is supporting the Sports Development Officers in the delivery of their sport and physical activity programmes; and delivering schools and after schools’ programmes as part of Offaly SP’s integration through sport programme.

Programme highlights from January and February include: -

Future Stars

Offaly SP in association with Athletics Ireland and TUS Athlone hosted the second annual Future Stars events for primary and secondary schools in January.

Over 700 students from 36 schools across 10 counties took part across the two days





Her Moves Boxercise

As part of Offaly SP's HER Moves programme, a new six week Boxercise programme for 15 girls commenced in February in Killeigh Community Centre.

The programme will conclude during Women in Sport week on 10th March.



Two dormant account funded initiatives managed through the Sport4Empowerment Programme:

-FIITS (Fitness & Integration Through Sport) is an after schools' project delivered in Banagher, a community which hosts an international protection accommodation centre.



Currently there are 34 children, 50% of those being from the accommodation centre, taking part in a fun programme of sport and fitness in association with children from the host community. It is anticipated that the programme will encourage children from the centre to become better integrated within the local community; and as a direct result of this initiative, several of the participants have joined the newly established Banagher Athletics Juvenile Club.

Water Sports (swim, kayak & rescue) Programme

for adults of an ethnic minority background residing in South and West Offaly.

The programme have been developed to equip



them with the competencies to pursue future training for leadership or work in

water-based sports. There are currently 12 adult participants on this programme, eight men and four women

Various Community Sports Development Programmes including:

o50s boccia – the last of the o50s boccia round robin fixtures in the Men, Women and Mixed leagues have been completed. Results are being collated with the semi finals and finals of each league taking place in March

Pickleball in Mucklagh – the Pickleball programme in Mucklagh continues to go from strength to strength. Over 25 older adults are participating on a weekly basis and the programme has been extended from one to two hours on a Monday morning in the community centre due to the increase in numbers



Gentle fitness for older adults – three eight week programmes (St Mary's Youth Centre Tullamore, Killeigh Community Centre and High Street) are currently up and running for over 55 older adults.



Social Walking with Durrow GAA – as part of their Healthy Clubs programme, Durrow GAA is being supported to deliver a six week social walking programme with activator poles for 40 older adults.



Various Sport Inclusion Development Programmes including: -

Adaptive Mountain Biking session on the Slieve Bloom Mountain Bike Trails

Offaly SP's sport inclusion development officer was delighted to be present at Cycling Ireland's Adaptive Mountain Biking session in January.

10 wheelchair users experienced mountain biking on the day.

Two of these adapted mountain bikes will be stored in Kinnitty so that people with disabilities can access them and use them on the Slieve Bloom mountain bike trails.



Horse riding programme

In February students from the first year Laochra class in St Mary's Secondary School Edenderry began a horse-riding programme in Annaharvey Farm.

The programme has been a huge success, with students enjoying the interaction with the horses and growing in confidence with most progressing to riding independently since the start of the programme.



Ballycumber sports hub

A new activity timetable for quarter 1 2025 in Ballycumber Sports Hub was released in January.

Various programmes (boxercise for women, gentle fitness and walking football for older adults, pickleball for adults, pilates and social darts) catering for over 100 people have continued from 2024.

Two new programmes (womens' circuits and beginners' bootcamp) have commenced with over 30 people attending these sessions.

For more information on the work of Offaly Sports Partnership, check out

Activity Programme for Jan/ Feb/ Mar 2025 Classes start back week of Mon 6th of Jan 2025	Adult Pickleball Tuesdays eve 8.00 - 9.00pm Thursdays morns 10.00 - 12.00am	Older Adult Gentle Fitness Classes Wednesdays mornings 10.00 - 11.00am
Pilates Ballycumber - Mondays 7.30 - 8.30pm Oson Gae Hall - Tuesdays - 7.00 - 7.30 Gentle chair pilates (pregnant & Older Adult) 7.30 - 8.30 Adult Pilates	OFFALY SPORTS PARTNERSHIP Ballycumber Activity Centre and Community Sports Hub	Female Boxercise Wednesdays 6.30 - 7.30 Walking Football Wednesdays 7.30 - 8.30 Beginner Bootcamp for Men and Women Wednesdays 7.45 - 8.45
Mens Strength & Conditioning Mondays 8.30 - 9.30pm All fitness levels and abilities	Social Darts Club Wednesdays 12.00am - 1.30pm All levels and abilities welcome	Circuit Class for Females With Caroline Tuesdays 7.00 - 8.00 All levels and abilities welcome

www.offalysports.ie or our social media feeds on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram

LIBRARY SERVICE



visits to our libraries.

We thoroughly enjoyed celebrating **Ireland Reads Day** on **Tuesday 25th February** with some amazing author



Tullamore Library received an overwhelming response to our Ireland Reads event with award-winning author, **Donal Ryan**. Claire O'Brien of Midlands 103 led a fantastic interview, and 50 attendees thoroughly enjoyed a Q&A session afterwards.

Similarly, visitors to Edenderry Library on Wednesday, 26th February were thrilled to meet with international best-selling author, **Anne Griffin**.



On the same date, visitors to Birr Library enjoyed an evening with **Patricia Gibney**. Attendees were delighted to hear there are

several more books planned in the Lottie Parker series.



Library members can [access their library account](#) online to view their loans, reserve and even order books from other libraries around country. Visit Offaly.ie/libraries for more.

My Account Login



Catalogue Search



Forgot Password



'What Working in a Library is Really Like'
– Read our Latest Blog Post



If you think working in a library just involves issuing books to patrons, think again.

There is so much more that goes on behind the scenes to ensure your library delivers the services you need, as well as a plethora of literacy and social events throughout the year to help communities connect and grow.

[Continue reading the fantastic blog here.](#)

Successful Launch of Seed Library in Edenderry Library

In partnership with Offaly Climate Action, Offaly Libraries are proud to have launched our first Seed Library in Edenderry Library this past February.



The launch was celebrated with a 'Grow Your Own' gardening talk, delivered by Aoife Munn to 18 attendees.

All those interested in learning more about this exciting new initiative are invited to [contact Edenderry Library directly.](#)

Seachtain na Gaeilge

In honour of Seachtain na Gaeilge, we are celebrating and promoting the Irish language through a variety of events between March 1-17.



Special story times, crafts and scavenger hunts will be on offer for children.

Building upon the success of our Tráth na gCeisteanna for students last year, our libraries will also be offering evening events for adults in partnership with Offaly County Council's Irish Language Officer.

So, bígí linn and [get in touch with your local library](#) for more information. Our Seachtain na Gaeilge celebrations are kindly co-funded by Creative Ireland.



Is Teanga Bheo í an Ghaeilge i Leabharlanna Uíbh Fhailí

An raibh a fhios agat? Tagann Ciorcail Comhrá le chéile gach seachtain i roinnt dár leabharlanna!

Leabharlann Bhiarra	11.00 gach Satharn
Leabharlann Thulach Mhór	18.45 gach Máirt
Leabharlann Chlóirtheigh	15:00 gach Céadaoin

Tá tuilleadh eolais ar fáil [ar líne anseo.](#)

Arts and Craft Sessions

In addition to story times, Lego Freeplay sessions and Boardgames, our libraries across the county also deliver regular art and crafts session for children.



From Finger Painting in Ferbane Library on a Saturday morning, to creating Valentine's Day cards in Clara Library on a Friday afternoon, Offaly's budding artists are sure to find a space to create in their local library.

Find out more about upcoming events on offaly.ie/find-your-local-library

Upcoming STEAM Celebrations, March 2025

Offaly Libraries enjoyed a busy start to March with the annual celebration of two library STEAM festivals:

➤ **Engineer's Week, March 1st – 7th**

On Saturday, 1st March, Tullamore Library offered four workshops with Designer Minds for 90 children to explore STEAM subjects through a variety of activities



and experiments.

As always, Lego Freeplay sessions, themed book displays, story times and crafts are on offer in our libraries across the county to encourage young minds to

engage with engineering in a fun and dynamic way.

Irish Astronomy Week, March 1st – 8th



Now in its third year, **Irish Astronomy Week** invites all those interested in the night sky to look '*From your Garden to the Stars*'.

Tullamore Library host Midlands Astronomy Club meetings every two weeks and we will welcome them back on Thursday, 6th March for a special talk during Irish Astronomy Week.

Offaly Libraries are proud to support this initiative with astronomy themed book displays, story times and craft sessions on offer throughout the county.

[See offaly.ie/libraries](http://offaly.ie/libraries) for updates.

LOETB's 'Hug Your Book' Family Literacy Workshop in Birr Library

LOETB will be delivering a 'Hug Your Book' course of workshops, beginning on March 12th at 10.00 and continuing every Wednesday for 4 weeks.





Hug Your Book' encourages families to bond over their favourite reads, fostering a love of books and shared learning experiences! For more information, [please contact Birr Library](#) directly.

Take a Tour of Offaly Libraries!

Did you know that we have completed Virtual Tours for each of our library branches?

Tour Birr Library below, with its breathtaking architecture, stained glass windows and high ceilings, it truly is one of the most beautiful libraries in Ireland!



Take a tour of Kilcormac Library, which was given a smart new look and has become our newest My Open Library branch.



Take a peek at each of our fabulous spaces online by visiting offaly.ie/find-your-local-library

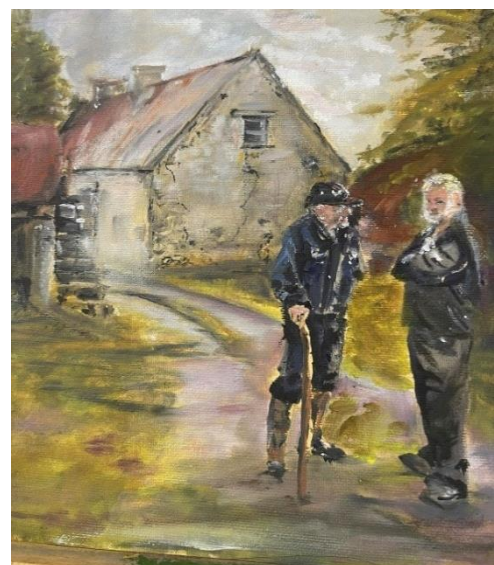
Edenderry Library presents 'The Bog, The Canal & Other Magical Places'



Presented by Creative Places Edenderry, 'The Bog, The Canal & Other Magical Places' exhibition will be on display in Edenderry Library throughout March.

Genevieve Murphy Exhibition in Tullamore Library

Local artist, Genevieve Murphy, is proud to showcase her first solo exhibition in Tullamore Library during March and April 2025.



Inspired by the history and beauty of her home county of Offaly, Genevieve delivers a broad range a mixed-media works ranging from conceptual landscapes, portraits and still life.

The exhibition will be officially launched by Rory O'Connor of Rory's Stories fame on Thursday 3rd April in Tullamore Library. All are welcome to attend the launch from 18:30.



Sign up for our Library Newsletters

A quick reminder that the best way to keep up to date with all library programmes, developments and new services is via [Offaly Libraries Newsletter](#) and by following our social media channels.

Currently we have **10,000+ subscribers** to the general newsletter and **134 teachers** subscribed to the school newsletter.

[Click here to subscribe!](#)

Anna Marie Delaney, Chief Executive

Finance

Revenue Account Grant Income & Payroll Summary To 28th Feb 2025 Draft Consolidated Revenue Account Income & Expenditure Summary by Service Division To 31st December 2024

	Expenditure €	Income €
Housing & Building	22,643,152	22,233,122
Road Transport & Safety	29,863,458	22,260,434
Water Services	5,872,788	5,128,461
Development Management	20,372,811	12,964,274
Environmental Services	12,227,226	4,047,128
Recreation & Amenity	5,819,553	324,694
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	839,460	452,679
Miscellaneous Services	11,859,320	11,177,486
Local Government Fund / GPG		11,974,590
Gross Rates Income		19,339,797
	109,497,768	109,902,665
Surplus to 31st December 2024		404,896

Revenue Account Grant Income & Payroll Summary To 28th Feb 2025

OFFALY COUNTY COUNCIL	Full Yr Budget 2025 €m	Preliminary Value to Feb 2025 €m	% Year To Date
Payroll costs	40.01	4.86	12.2%
Grants and Subsidies Income	56.55	3.35	5.9%

OCC to 28th Feb 2025	<u>Rates</u> <u>€m</u>	<u>Rents</u> <u>€m</u>	<u>Loans</u> <u>€m</u>
Opening Balance Jan 1st, 2025	1.92	0.49	0.04
Net Invoices & Adjustments, waivers	3.27	1.40	0.05
2025 Cash Collected to end of Feb**	0.29	1.48	0.09
Closing Balance Feb 28th, 2025	4.89	0.41	0.00

**Cash collections posted up to 14th Feb

<u>2024 Cash collected to Feb 29th</u>	1.50	1.46	0.06
% Collection at this point in 2024	19%	102%	150%

Bank Overdraft to 28th Feb 2025	-	% YTD
Number of days Overdrawn in Bank year to date	10	17%
Bank Interest and non conforming charges to Feb 28th 2025 YTD (Estimate)		€5,279
Bank Administration and transactional charges to Feb 28th 2025 YTD (Estimate)		€6,325