

Key Facts and Projects

NSO 1 - Compact Growth

- 2,845 new social housing builds in the Eastern and Midland Region in 2021.
- 11,919 total new dwelling completions in the Eastern and Midland Region in 2021.
- 18 projects approved from second call of Urban Regeneration and Development Fund.

NSO 2 - Enhanced Regional Connectivity

- M50 Enhancing Motorway Operation Services (EMOS) progressing.
- M11 Capacity Enhancement (Phase 1 and Phase 2) preferred option published.
- Sallins Bypass Construction completed in 2021.
- N2 Slane Bypass preparation on statutory approval documents and Business case ongoing.
- Athy Southern Distributor Road Construction programme commenced in 2021.
- Laytown to Bettystown Link Road Construction completed in 2021.

NSO 3 - Strengthened Rural Economies and Communities

- 5 projects approved for funding from the third call of the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund.
- 37 projects approved funding from Town and Village Renew and 74 projects from Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Schemes.

NSO 4 - Sustainable Mobility

- BusConnects Dublin rollout of network redesign.
- Metrolink work ongoing on preliminary business case; Green Line Capacity Enhancement- complete.
- Dart +- Initial sequencing of investment will focus on electrification among other things.

NSO 5 - A Strong Economy, supported by Enterprise, Innovation and Skills

- 149,470 in IDA supported employment, 105,067 in El supported employment.
- 2,922 Local Enterprise Office clients in 2021.
- 38 successful applications under Call 3 of the Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund.

NSO 6 - High Quality International Connectivity

- Dublin Port is progressing a major infrastructural investment at the port to accommodate larger sea-going vessels and to increase capacity.
- The North Runway Project at Dublin Airport is due to be operational before the end of August 2022. A new visual control tower at Dublin Airport is also in development.

NSO 7 - Enhanced Amenity and Heritage

- Work ongoing on National Cultural Institutions.
- 14 successful applicants from the last round of the Large Scale Sports Infrastructure Fund.

NSO 8 - Climate-Resilient Society

• 40 flood relief schemes are progressing or planned for the Eastern and Midland Region.

NSO 9 - Sustainable Management of Water and other Environmental Resources

96 water and wastewater projects planned, 36 in progress and 11 completed in the Region.

NSO 10 - Access to Quality Childcare, Education and Health Services

- 25 schools projects over €1 million were delivered in the Region in 2021.
- A further 498 schools projects were at various stages of planning, design and construction.
- National Forensic Mental Hospital, Portrane, a number of primary care centres, additional capacity projects and acute service projects completed in 2021.

Project Ireland 2040

This document sets out the regional projects and programmes which are being planned and delivered in the Eastern and Midland Region as part of the public investment detailed in Project Ireland 2040 - the Government's National Planning Framework and National Development Plan.

While this document does not provide an exhaustive list of all public capital expenditure in the region, it does serve to highlight the diverse range of investment being made by the State under Project Ireland 2040. Project Ireland 2040 set out ten National Strategic Outcomes (NSOs), built around the over-arching themes of well-being, equality and opportunity. This document sets out the main achievements under each NSO in 2021, for the Eastern and Midland Region.

The document draws on information from a wide range of publicly available sources as well as material provided by Government Departments and Agenciesa list of the major projects in the Eastern and Midland Region is contained in the Appendix.

The Eastern and Midland Region covers the administrative areas of twelve local authorities—Longford, Westmeath, Offaly, Laois, Louth, Meath, Kildare, Wicklow, Fingal, South Dublin and Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Councils and Dublin City Council. The Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly (EMRA) is part of regional governance in Ireland, established under local government reform in January 2015.

Athlone

Due to strategic location and scale of population, employment and services, Athlone has an influence that extends to part of all three Regional Assembly areas. Given the importance of regional interdependencies, it will be necessary to prepare a co-ordinated strategy for Athlone at both regional and town level, to ensure that the town and environs has the capacity to grow sustainably and to secure investment, as the key regional centre in the Midlands.

National Strategic Outcome 1 - Compact Growth

This outcome aims to secure the sustainable growth of more compact urban and rural settlements supported by jobs, houses, services and amenities, rather than continued sprawl and unplanned, uneconomic growth.

Table 1: Social Housing Completions in 2021

Eastern and Midland Region	Total New Build
Dublin City	355
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown	186
Fingal	425
South Dublin	247
Kildare	533
Meath	219
Wicklow	234
Laois	108
Longford	69
Louth	301
Offaly	63
Westmeath	105
Total	2,845

Source: Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

There were 2,845 social housing new builds in the Eastern and Midland Region in 2021, with more planned for 2022

There were 11,919 new dwellings completed in 2021.

Table 2: Total Housing Completions in 2021

Eastern and Midland Region	New Dwelling Completions
Dublin City	2,054
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown	1,360
Fingal	1,844
Kildare	2,027
Laois	392
Longford	125
Louth	667
Meath	1,265
Offaly	246
South Dublin Co. Co.	943
Westmeath	248
Wicklow	748
Total	11,919

Source: Central Statistics Office

Table 3: Total Planning Permissions in 2021

Planning Region and County	Houses	Multi development houses	One off houses	Private flats/ apartments	Total
Dublin City	198	96	102	10,222	10,420
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown	296	239	57	3,656	3,952
Fingal	495	401	94	3,404	3,899
Kildare	915	752	163	634	1,549
Laois	404	234	170	161	565
Longford	105	15	90	6	111
Louth	415	162	253	534	949
Meath	1,138	513	625	563	1,701
Offaly	306	110	196	52	358
South Dublin Co. Co.	204	168	36	1,626	1,830
Westmeath	575	421	154	423	998
Wicklow	1,114	907	207	642	1,756
Total	6,165	4,018	2,147	21,923	28,088

Source: Central Statistics Office

Urban and Rural Development Fund (URDF)

The Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) was launched in 2018 to support more compact and sustainable development. The Fund is providing part-funding for applicant-led projects that will enable a greater proportion of residential and mixed-use development to be delivered within the existing built-up footprints of our cities and large towns, while also ensuring that more parts of our urban areas can become attractive and vibrant places in which people choose to live and work, as well as to invest and to visit.

In keeping with the aims of the National Planning Framework and Project Ireland 2040, the URDF demonstrates a new and more tailored approach to the provision of Government support. Over its planned duration up to 2030, URDF support in excess of €2 billion will be targeted in an integrated, dynamic and responsive way to support the regeneration and rejuvenation of our towns and cities.

Through the URDF, successful applicants receive targeted integrated support for innovative holistic solutions to the issues that have hindered the regeneration and rejuvenation of our large towns and cities.

To date there have been two Calls for proposals under the URDF with a total of almost €312 million allocated so far in respect of the 87 projects approved under Call 1, while in March 2021 URDF funding support of €1.3 billion was announced in respect of

a countrywide programme of a further 45 proposals approved under Call 2.

The 45 proposals approved under Call 2 in 2021 builds on the existing pipeline of URDF supported projects launched under Call 1. This URDF supported programme of projects will ultimately contribute significantly to the transformative regeneration and development of our large towns and cities, and to the achievement of NPF and Project Ireland 2040 objectives.

Table 4a: Successful Applicants under the Urban Regeneration Development Fund (URDF)

Eastern and Midland	Total per County
Dublin City	10
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown	6
Fingal	4
South Dublin	4
Kildare	7
Meath	5
Wicklow	4
Laois	3
Longford	2
Offaly	2
Westmeath	6
Louth	3
Total	56

Source: Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

Table 4b: Successful Applicants under Call 1 of the Urban Regeneration Development Fund (URDF)

Applicant	County	Project	Description
Department of Tourism Culture Arts Gaeltacht Sport and Media	Dublin	No. 11 Parnell Square	Department of Tourism Culture Arts Gaeltacht Sport and Media are supporting Poetry Ireland and the Irish Heritage Trust in redeveloping the historically significant No 11 Parnell Square as a state of the art all-island institution celebrating poetry. The project compliments other development projects in the area.
Dublin City Council	Dublin	Rutland Street School	Rutland Street School was used as a school until 2007 before being partially occupied on the lowest floors by local community groups providing services to the area. In this project, the building will be redeveloped as a community development project. Ultimately, the building and site will contain not only provision for the existing community groups, but also, a wide range of other uses.
Dublin City Council	Dublin	Santry River Restoration Project	The Santry River restoration project is intended to demonstrate initially through pilot projects how compact regeneration and development can be facilitated while simultaneously complying with environmental and sustainability objectives, including the Water Framework Directive. Immediate first actions include a project office and scoping study.

Applicant	County	Project	Description
Dublin City Council	Dublin	Artist' Workspace	Funding for two feasibility studies for creative community campuses on two Dublin City Council owned sites in Dublin 8.
Dublin City Council	Dublin	Inchicore - St Michael's Estate and Environs Regeneration	The funding is for a range of associated plans for the area including a proposed socio-economic study in relation to the development of a mixed use neighbourhood in St. Michaels Estate and environs, including long-term cost rental, improving the Camac River and development of Kilmainham Mill site.
Dublin City Council	Dublin	Park West/ Cherry Orchard Industrial Lands Analysis	Funding to carry out a detailed analysis of these primarily industrial lands to assess their potential for high density residential and employment uses taking account of Project 2040.
Dublin City Council	Dublin	Naas Road LAP lands	Funding for a study relating to the impediments to development of these key lands in the Naas Rd Local Area Plan.
Dún Laoghaire- Rathdown County Council	Dublin	Dundrum Community, Cultural and Civic Action Plan	To support the local authority's development of a community cultural and civic action plan for Dundrum, to assess current provision and make recommendations on future requirements.
Dún Laoghaire- Rathdown County Council (DLRCC)	Dublin	Spatial and Economic Action Plan for Dún Laoghaire	To support DLRCCs development of a spatial and economic action plan for Dún Laoghaire and make recommendations on the future economic potential for the town.
Dún Laoghaire- Rathdown County Council	Dublin	Cherrywood Public Parks, Greenways and Attenuation	This project supports the provision of elements of green infrastructure, such as public parks, greenway and attenuation ponds in Cherrywood Strategic Development Zone (SDZ).
Dún Laoghaire- Rathdown County Council	Dublin	Stillorgan (Public Realm works)	Stillorgan village is zoned as district centre and this project will support transformative public realm improvements as set out in the "Stillorgan Village Area Movement Framework Plan".
Fingal County Council	Dublin	Balbriggan Rejuvenation	Funding to support the planning and design of a suite of projects to make improvements in Balbriggan and its environs.
Fingal County Council	Dublin	Sustainable Swords	"Sustainable Swords" is a place-making strategy and funding is provided to complete the development of this strategy in order to improve the resilience of the local economy and provide for an enhanced, accessible, inclusive, child friendly and healthy urban environment.
South Dublin County Council	Dublin	Tallaght Town Centre	This project relates to the provision of a number of key infrastructure, services, civic, residential and amenity projects in Tallaght town centre, which upon delivery will act as a catalyst for the wider and long-term growth of Tallaght, as a living town and the thriving heart of South Dublin County.
South Dublin County Council	Dublin	Naas Road/ Ballymount	This project involves a range of studies to develop a plan led approach with a view to develop the brownfield lands into a sustainable, vibrant mixed-use urban quarter.

Applicant	County	Project	Description
Trinity College Dublin	Dublin	Campus at Grand Canal Quay (Public Realm Re-use)	This relates to the development of the Grand Canal Innovation District. This project is led by Trinity College Dublin.
Kildare County Council	Kildare	Naas Library (including Public Realm works)	The proposal is for the redevelopment and rejuvenation of Naas Town Hall to provide a library and cultural centre.
Kildare County Council	Kildare	Celbridge to Hazelhatch Link Road	Technical assistance for the advancement of the Celbridge Southern Relief Road and Second Liffey Crossing.
Kildare County Council	Kildare	Newbridge Cultural and Civic Quarter	Project relates to plans to reinvigorate the historic heart of Newbridge and enable the creation of a Cultural and Civic Quarter. Funding will allow for project establishment, stakeholder engagement and feasibility study.
Kildare County Council	Kildare	Canal Quarter Naas	Technical assistance to develop area known as Canal Quarter in Naas, as the cultural and creative district of Naas.
Meath County Council	Meath	Ashbourne Road and Public Realm Improvement	This project involves significant public realm improvements and enhancement of cycling and pedestrian infrastructure in relation to the Miltown Road Works and Main Street.
Meath County Council	Meath	Flowerhill Regeneration Project	This project provided technical assistance for the development of an urban regeneration and development framework for the Flowerhill area of Navan.
Meath County Council	Meath	Navan Active Land Management Project	This URDF supported project involves the remediation of certain derelict sites as part of the wider regeneration of the County town of Navan.
Meath County Council	Meath	Railway Street Regeneration and County Archive	Technical assistance for urban regeneration plan for entire lands comprising St. Patrick's classical school and the Council's former offices in Navan.
Wicklow County Council	Wicklow	Bray Public Transport Bridge	This URDF supported project involves the provision of a new public transport bridge over the river Dargle. This will unlock lands at the former Bray Golf Club site and adjoining brownfield opportunity sites within Bray.
Wicklow County Council	Wicklow	Arklow Historic Town Core	This project will transform the streetscape and public realm in the historic core of Arklow, including a plaza and rationalisation of the existing courthouse building.
Wicklow County Council	Wicklow	Wicklow Tow	This project involves the relocation, upgrading of the library, Fitzwilliam Square upgrade, and street improvement.
Laois County Council	Laois	Portlaoise - A Cultural Quarter	This project involves the creation of a Cultural Quarter around the original historic settlement core of Portlaoise. The works will also complement housing projects being supported by DHLGH.
Laois County Council	Laois	Portlaoise - A Low Carbon Town	This project will assist in delivering on elements of Portlaoise 2040 – A Vision for Portlaoise – a strategy for a better town centre which identified the need to remove car dominance from the town centre, address the poor pedestrian experience, and facilitate and encourage the modal shift to cycling and walking throughout the wider town.

Applicant	County	Project	Description
Longford County Council	Longford	Longford Connected - Public Realm Marketsquare	This project involves public realm works to address accessibility and connectivity in Longford Town. Funding will allow for the initiation of works in Market Square.
Offaly County Council	Offaly	Tullamore Urban Area - Public Realm	Funding will be provided towards the Tullamore Street Enhancement Scheme which will see a variety of works carried out in the town.
Westmeath County Council	Westmeath	Loughanaskin	This area is strategically located in the centre of Athlone. This URDF supported project involves the masterplanning of this area to provide for integrated enterprise/commercial/ residential development.
Westmeath County Council	Westmeath	Canal Avenue and Environs Regeneration Project	This URDF supported project provides for technical assistance for the development of a project in the eastern quadrant of Mullingar's urban core, in order to revitalise the area including improving connectivity to the royal canal.
Westmeath County Council	Westmeath	Athlone Tourism Cultural Quarter	This URDF supported project provides for technical assistance for the development of a project to the West side of Athlone.
Westmeath County Council	Westmeath	Blackhall, Mullingar	Site assembly and technical assistance for the development of a project to unlock the potential for comprehensive regeneration and redevelopment of the southwest quadrant of Mullingar's urban core.
Westmeath County Council	Westmeath	Athlone Town Centre Regeneration and Enhancement	Technical assistance to expedite the Council's planning and design work for improvements to the public realm, unlocking derelict strategic sites and a programme of streetscape improvements.
Louth County Council	Louth	Long Walk Quarter Dundalk	Development of the Long Walk Urban Framework Plan, a rejuvenation scheme intended to reinvigorate the Long Walk Quarter by establishing a new living and working quarter at the heart of Dundalk town centre.
Louth County Council	Louth	Westgate Vision Drogheda	Technical assistance including project management, concept development, feasibility and detailed design and planning associated with "Westgate Vision". Narrow West Street in Drogheda and its environs, known as Westgate is characterised by vacancy, dereliction and underuse of buildings and this project relates to an urban design vision for the area.

Source: Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

Table 4c: Successful Applicants under Call 2 of the Urban Regeneration Development Fund (URDF)

Applicant	County	Project	Description
Dublin City Council	Dublin	North Inner City Concept Area 1	The North Inner City project involves the regeneration and redevelopment of several areas of the north city that have suffered from dereliction and decline over a number of years. The main objective of this project is to achieve long term sustainable regeneration around the redevelopment of various areas centred around the Fruit and Vegetable Market, Parnell Square Cultural Quarter and Mountjoy Square alongside other complementary Projects.
Dublin City Council	Dublin	South Inner City Concept Area 1	The aim of the South Inner City project is to consolidate urban development and link several strategic areas of the south city through the delivery of a number of complementary projects in order to address existing public realm fragmentation, pockets of deprivation and further enhance areas of redevelopment potential.
Dún Laoghaire- Rathdown County Council	Dublin	Cherrywood Public Access, Permeability and Amenity	The Cherrywood Public Access, Permeability and Amenity project is about creating a safe and friendly environment where people can live, work and play with the benefits of sustainable, integrated transport, transforming the area into a compact, mixed-use and rail-based community underpinned by the principles of quality urban design and development and place-making.
Dún Laoghaire- Rathdown County Council (DLRCC)	Dublin	Dundrum Community, Cultural and Civic Hub (CCCH)	This URDF support is providing an initial catalyst for various targeted areas to be encompassed within a new strategic design strategy for Dundrum.
Fingal County Council	Dublin	Balbriggan Rejuvenation	The Balbriggan Rejuvenation project involves the significant enabling of existing assets centred around its public realm, coastal and architectural character, underutilised brownfield sites by harnessing economic and development opportunities.
Fingal County Council	Dublin	Dunsink Feasibility Study - Transportation and Surface Water Assessments	This URDF supported project will involve feasibility studies in relation to the strategic land bank at Dunsink, in particular assessments relating to transport and surface water. These assessments are required to facilitate the future sustainable development of the area by addressing the need to incorporate national and regional transport policies and objectives into the local level land use plan.
South Dublin County Council	Dublin	Adamstown	The Adamstown project relates to the provision of key elements of supplementary strategic infrastructure in the SDZ (Strategic Development Zone) Planning Scheme, which upon delivery will facilitate the development of the Adamstown town centre element of the SDZ lands, and the continued roll-out of suitably located and scaled housing. This project relates to the provision of supplementary strategic town centre infrastructure.

Applicant	County	Project	Description
South Dublin County Council	Dublin	Clonburris	Clonburris is a Strategic Development Zone (SDZ) and occupies one of the most strategically important landbanks in the state. URDF support for the Clonburris proposal will act as a catalyst for the wider regeneration and development of one of Ireland's largest underutilised sites, the wider South Dublin area and the Dublin region at large. The delivery of the Clonburris SDZ has the potential to be a transformative project of national, regional and local significance in terms of regeneration and urban development. The project will facilitate the provision of distinctive and attractive places where housing can be delivered in tandem with state-of-the-art public realm, green infrastructure and community facilities. The Clonburris proposal involves the provision of critical supplementary strategic infrastructure that will be essential to the appropriate further development of this unique and complex site.
Kildare County Council	Kildare	Maynooth Town Centre Renewal - Strengthening the Grid	This project will support the preparation of a Masterplan informed by an urban design analysis and extensive stakeholder and public consultation to maximise the development potential for the urban block structure and the preparation of key town renewal projects so as to increase town centre living.
Kildare County Council	Kildare	Naas Town Renewal Masterplan	The project will support the preparation of a Naas Town Renewal Masterplan with a strong urban design, public realm, economic and transportation focus for the historic core of Naas. Place making, liveability and connectivity is at the forefront of this proposal to initiate the transformative regeneration of the town centre in a plan led, evidence based approach.
Kildare County Council	Kildare	Celbridge to Hazelhatch Link Road	This project supports essential infrastructure to support compact consolidated development in Celbridge by realising the full potential of zoned lands south and east of the River Liffey. It will facilitate the delivery of social infrastructure in close proximity to the town centre, public transport services, schools, community facilities and employment hubs and support wider strategic impacts on the public realm and the expansion and development potential of the town centre.
Meath County Council	Meath	Flowerhill and Abbeylands Regeneration	This is a pivotal public realm, amenity enhancements project with a historic refurbishment at its core. This will be the catalyst for development within an area of decline and dereliction that was in the past a hive of activity.
Wicklow County Council	Wicklow	Bray Harbour Area Integrated Regeneration	This project focuses on the regeneration of the Bray Harbour Area and release of various sites for future development through a series of integrated project elements. The overall vision is to re-imagine and regenerate the strategically located waterfront area of Bray; to increase economic activity, amenity, and connectivity to public transport, the sea-front and esplanade, thus delivering a vibrant public amenity which will be of great benefit to residents and visitors alike.

Applicant	County	Project	Description
Laois County Council	Laois	Portlaoise: A placemaking project for a Low Carbon Town Centre	Portlaoise is Ireland's first designated Low Carbon Town. This project will complement and build on the implementation of other Low Carbon town developments under the previously approved Call 1 project such as cycle routes, E-Car Charging Points, Low Energy Public Lighting, and will also augment the work already underway on the Cultural Quarter.
Longford County Council	Longford	Camlin Quarter Regeneration	Building on and further integrating the "Longford Connected" proposals under URDF Call 1, this project involves the development of connections between critical functions of the town core to promote sustainable mobility, social equity and environmental integrity. This project aims to address long standing legacy issues in order to create an attractive environment for living, commerce and investment.
Offaly County Council	Offaly	Tullamore Urban Regeneration Development 2020	This project provides for compact and sustainable development in Tullamore town centre and supplements the Public Realm works carried out under Call 1. The proposed Tullamore Regeneration Framework will be the principal impetus for compact mixed use urban development in the town centre of Tullamore, regenerating vacant and underused town centre sites in a coherent and integrated manner.
Westmeath County Council	Westmeath	Athlone Town Centre Regeneration and Enhancement	This project involves public realm and streetscape enhancement works to unlock the potential of a derelict prominent town centre site. This project is the follow on capital element to the strategic planning and urban design project supported by the URDF under Call 1.
Louth County Council	Louth	St. Nicholas Quarter and Backlands Regeneration	The main aim of the St. Nicholas Quarter and Backlands Regeneration Project is to strategically regenerate St Nicholas Quarter, an area that has experienced high levels of vacancy, including piecemeal/adhoc development and dereliction over the last 30 years.

Source: Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

National Strategic Outcome 2 - Enhanced Regional Connectivity

A core priority under NDP is to enhance and upgrade accessibility between urban centres of population and their regions, in parallel with the compact growth of urban centres.

There is one major regional transport project planned for Dublin, the M50 Enhancing Motorway Operation Services (EMOS) Project. This project involves 4 separate but interdependent tender competitions to deliver the project:

- Motorway Traffic Flow Optimisation (MTFO)
 Intelligent Transportation Systems Deployment
 Contract Contractor appointed and equipment install ongoing on site.
- MTFO Civils Contract Tender Assessment completed Works commenced in summer 2021 and are expected to be completed in quarter 3 2022.
- 3. Network Intelligence and Management System Contract Contractor appointed and development ongoing. System Implementation is ongoing and currently used to operate digital signage from Junction 4 to Junction 9.
- Motorway Operations and Control Centre Expansion – Fully operational with final account being prepared.

There are five major regional transport projects planned for the Eastern and Midland Region, including M7 Naas to Newbridge Bypass Widening, the M11 Capacity Enhancement (Phase 1 and Phase 2), the Sallins Bypass, the Slane Bypass, the Athy Southern Distributor Road and the Laytown to Bettystown Link Road. The status of the projects is as follows:

- M11 Capacity Enhancement (Phase 1 and Phase 2) Pre-appraisal plan and Phase 1 Feasibility stage have been completed. Phase 2 Option Selection stage is ongoing. A feasibility study has also been completed on the provision of dedicated bus lane on a section of this route. Wicklow County Council commenced the display of the Preferred Option on 30 August, 2021 which ran until 4 October, 2021. The Options Selection report was published in December and is available on the project website, accessed via www.n11m11.ie.
- Sallins Bypass Construction completed in 2021.
- N2 Slane Bypass The preferred route was published in May 2020 and preparation on the statutory approval documents and Business case is ongoing. This scheme will be progressed

- to planning in conjunction with public realm improvements for Slane.
- Athy Southern Distributor Road Construction programme commenced in 2021.
- Laytown to Bettystown Link Road Construction completed in 2021.

A core priority under Project Ireland 2040 is the essential requirement to enhance and upgrade accessibility between urban centres of population and their regions, in parallel with the initiation of compact growth of urban centres.

Growth enablers for the Dublin Belfast Corridor include improved accessibility and service by rail, road and communication between Dublin and Belfast.

One of the road projects currently in Project Ireland 2040 is the Ardee Bypass which will serve to reduce congestion and delays within the town. The project is presently in the planning system. The proposed scheme will be a Type 2 Single Carriageway and comprise six road junctions, including a proposed roundabout on the N2, and two river bridge structures.

Other projects in the Eastern and Midland Region include:

- Edenderry Inner Relief Road preparatory work, including site investigations, undertaken.
- Athlone Railway Link Road land acquisition and preparatory work carried out.

Heavy Rail Network 2021

Construction of the National Train Control Centre (NTCC) progressed significantly in 2021, with an expected opening date of 2024. The NTCC is a key enabler for expansion of rail services as it will enhance rail traffic management and will underpin both the planned and potential future expansion of rail services across the entire rail network.

The NTA and larnród Éireann progressed the order for an additional 41 Inter-City Railcars (ICRs) which are expected to enter into service in 2023. As with the bimodal units under the DART+ Programme, the ICRs will further enhance and expand the rail fleet.

In 2021, the significantly enhanced 5-year funding programme for the maintenance and renewal of the rail network (the IMMAC) was increased further, meaning Exchequer funding provided under Project Ireland 2040 for IMMAC 2020 to 2024 amounts to in excess of €1.1 billion. Much of the additional funding

will go towards line speed improvements on the Dublin to Cork line.

Project Ireland 2040 also commits toward an evaluation of the economic benefits and value for money of high-speed rail on the main inter-urban rail network against improvements to existing and planned line speeds along the lines. In 2020, it was decided to expand the scope of this evaluation into an all-island Strategic Rail Review. In consultation with the Department for Infrastructure in Northern Ireland and other relevant stakeholders, terms of reference were agreed and consultants appointed.

The Review commenced in September 2021 and a final report is expected in Quarter 4 of 2022. As well as the potential for high/higher speed rail, the Strategic Rail Review will consider inter-urban and inter-regional connectivity, regional connectivity, and connectivity to our international air and sea ports, including the potential for rail freight.

National Strategic Outcome 3 – Strengthened Rural Economies and Communities

The Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF), launched in 2018, is providing the investment needed to support rural renewal, strengthen and build resilience in rural towns, villages and communities and deliver on the objectives of Project Ireland 2040.

The RRDF is administered by the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD) and is complemented by a range of additional programmes and schemes delivered under the Department's Rural Regeneration Programme as part of Project

Ireland 2040, including the Town and Village Renewal Scheme and Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme, which help maintain and develop the growth and vitality of rural areas and supports communities and organisations to meet their needs.

Five projects located in the Eastern and Midland were approved for funding of €19,526,316 from the third call for Category 1 applications to the RRDF. In total, 37 projects located in Eastern and Midland Region were approved funding of €4,468,553 under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme and 74 projects were approved funding of €4,574,006 under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme. ORIS also funded two nationwide projects. Inland Fisheries Ireland were awarded funding of €491,317 for their Angling Access Maintenance 2022 project and Údarás na Gaeltachta were awarded funding of €500,000 for their Bealach Shéanadh Mhacha / Discover Shéanadh Mhacha project which includes development of a walking/cycling looped trail and nature trails.

Table 5: Projects approved for funding under the RRDF Category 1 third call in the Eastern and Midland Region

Lead Body	Project Name	County	Project Description	Total RRDF Funding
Laois County Council	Heritage Led Regeneration of Portarlington Market House and Square	Laois	This project is for the refurbishment and immediate reuse of the Market House located in the centre of Portarlington. The Market House will be reimagined as the central focus of the town with a range of public and community uses including community meeting space and an event and exhibition space.	€1,094,880
Longford County Council	Ballymahon 'Pobal le Chéile'	Longford	This is a transformational regeneration project for Ballymahon to address the social, economic and physical needs of the town. The project will bring a number of vacant buildings located in the centre of the town back into use to provide key services for the local community including enhanced family support services, a new dedicated youth club, enhanced elderly care services and a new rural working hub.	€6,664,799
Louth County Council	Omeath Village Regeneration Strategy: Phase 1: Omeath Placemaking Strategy	Louth	This project will regenerate and revitalise the centre of Omeath Village and will provide a new shared space, pedestrian priority zone and improved linkages to the Great Eastern Greenway. The project will support the development of the village as a destination on the greenway, attracting users to the village centre, facilitating the creation of visitor-focused local businesses and contribute to the overall sustainable social and economic growth of Omeath.	€2,864,642

Lead Body	Project Name	County	Project Description	Total RRDF Funding
Meath County Council	Enfield Community and Enterprise Hub	Meath	This project will renovate and refurbish a long-unoccupied building in the centre of the town to create a new Community and Enterprise Hub.The Hub will provide greatly-needed community facilities in a town which has experienced significant population growth and will support the delivery a range of cultural, educational and social activities, events and programmes for the local community.	€727,215
Westmeath County Council	Kinnegad Regeneration	Westmeath	This is a transformative project for Kinnegad that will enhance the attractiveness and appeal of the town and bring social and economic benefits to the entire community. The project will deliver a state-of-the-art modern library, an education and training facility, as well as a town park and additional community facilities. This multi-faceted project for the centre of Kinnegad will restore its vitality and vibrancy, delivering the social infrastructure needed to meet the social and economic needs of the town.	€ 8,174,780

Source: Department of Rural and Community Development

Tourism

Project Ireland 2040 recognises the vital contribution tourism makes to the policy goals of strengthening rural economies and communities (NSO 3) and enhancing amenity and heritage (NSO 7). Tourism contributes to essential employment in all counties, especially in regional locations, outside of the main cities where other employment opportunities are limited.

Fáilte Ireland Capital Investment:

Platforms for Growth

Fáilte Ireland is currently investing in large-scale tourism attractions and experiences through its capital investment programme, Platforms for Growth (2019 to 2022). This programme has run two investment platforms to date – a programme of funding to support and expand immersive heritage and cultural attractions and an investment programme, in partnership with Local Authorities, to develop activity facility centres for water-based activities. Both of these platforms completed their assessment processes in 2021 and announced the projects to be supported. Further focused calls on themed platforms may be announced during the life of the Programme.

Fáilte Ireland's first call for applications (Platforms for Growth 1), in 2019, focused on the platform of immersive heritage and cultural attractions, inviting proposals for large-scale projects of €2.5 million upwards. Through this platform, Fáilte Ireland aims to ensure strong economic growth by investing in heritage and cultural attractions of scale that will motivate visitors to travel, either to and/or within Ireland, but without displacing the existing attractions of a destination or disturbing the competitiveness already in mature destinations. The overall objective is to deliver brilliant experiences that allow visitors connect with Ireland and bring the national and local culture, heritage and people to life, while also delivering greater regional and seasonal spread of tourism. Significant Fáilte Ireland investment totalling over €44 million was announced in June 2021 as part of this first platform to develop four new world-class tourist attractions including:

"This is Ireland' Dublin City - €10 million: This project involves the development of a state-of-the-art flight simulator, "This is Ireland", in Dublin's city-centre in line with a concept that has already delivered a successful tourist attraction of scale in Amsterdam and Vancouver. The "This is Ireland" attraction will offer an immersive experience consisting of multiple shows, with its principal feature being a simulated flight experience, allowing visitors experience the story of Ireland in a breath-taking and engaging way.

The second platform (Platforms for Growth 2), launched in December 2020 and involving a targeted call for applications from local authorities, aims to develop activity facility centres at waterside locations across Ireland. In April 2021, €19 million worth of investment was announced for this platform, to be used to develop world-class facility centres at 20 locations across the country where water-based activities are a key visitor attraction. These facilities, designed to serve as a hub in each locality from which multiple water-sports operators can base themselves, will provide hot showers, changing and toilet facilities, secure storage, induction spaces, equipment washdown and orientation points. In the Eastern and Midland region, the DLRCC Killiney Beach Facilities Project, in conjunction with Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council was a successful recipient of funding under this initiative.

Other Fáilte Ireland grant-aided capital projects

Five New and Enhanced Visitor Attractions and Experiences (relevant to both NSO 3 and NSO 7) were formally launched in 2021. These included:

- The Irish Racehorse Experience at the National Stud (Kildare);
- The Customs House, Dublin;
- Shackleton Gardens, Dublin.

Other projects supported by Fáilte Ireland that were progressed in 2021 include:

- Records Tower, Dublin Castle.*
- Avondale Treetop Walk, Wicklow. *
- Knowth visitor centre, Meath.

*Delivered through Strategic Partnerships

In addition to its large grants schemes and strategic partnerships, Fáilte Ireland also provides capital supports to tourism attractions and experiences in Ireland through a range of regional small grants schemes and makes direct investment into developing infrastructure for the four tourism experience brands including Ireland's Ancient East.

Fáilte Ireland also continues to invest in cultural and heritage tourism attractions through strategic partnerships with the OPW; Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage; National Parks and Wildlife Service; Coillte and Waterways Ireland.

These critical partnerships continue to deliver capital projects that realise the tourism potential of the State's natural and built heritage assets. Through these strategic partnerships, and other collaborations with Government Departments and agencies, Fáilte Ireland is able to invest in the enhancement of visitor attractions and activities and advise on further experience development and marketing.

Fáilte Ireland has developed an approach to destination development, as set out in its new Destination Development Framework, centred on collaborative local tourism development plans ("DEDPs") that identify agreed priorities for sustainable tourism development of the destination. In 2021 the Ancient Destination Experience Development Plan, covering Louth and Meath, was launched. This is a five year plan designed as a roadmap to enhance the existing Ancient visitor proposition to achieve the objectives of addressing seasonality, increasing visitor numbers, improving dwell time and visitor dispersion across the destination. The DEDP "Thoroughbred Country" also launched in 2021 to drive and sustain tourism in Kildare and Tipperary by developing new and enhanced visitor experiences across both counties.

RRDF-funded projects of tourism significance

In 2021, Fáilte Ireland and Coillte continued to partner on progressing the International Mountain Biking Proposition for Rural Ireland, which received €13.6 million in RRDF funding, administered by D/RCD, in 2019. A strategic, large-scale project, it is considered to be of particular importance for developing the activities tourism offering in Ireland and includes the following projects in the Eastern and Midland region:

- Ticknock (Dublin) and Ballinastoe (Wicklow)
 Mountain Bike Centres;
- Slieve Bloom Mountain Bike Centre;

Despite periods of lockdown throughout the year, significant progress was made in the development of new trails during 2021. In total, 52km of new trails were completed during the course of the year.

COVID-19

COVID-19 continued to provide challenging circumstances for the tourism industry into 2021 and Fáilte Ireland delivered two investment schemes specifically designed to support the tourism and hospitality sector adapt to the ongoing challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and a shift in consumer behaviour.

• Under the Outdoor Dining Enhancement Scheme a total of €23 million was awarded to Local Authorities. Strand A of the scheme provided support to almost 5,000 individual independent hospitality and tourism businesses towards the cost of equipment to provide additional outdoor seating and facilitate these individual independent businesses to increase their outdoor dining capacity for summer of 2021. Strand B Grants were awarded to 22 different local authorities for a total of 39 different projects totalling just under €10 million - this funding provides for additional infrastructure and weatherproofing in towns and cities across the country.

 Under the Urban Animation Scheme investment of €4.2 million was awarded to six projects in Cork, Dublin, Galway, Louth, Kilkenny and Waterford to support local authorities in ambitious, creative, innovative and sustainable public realm projects that are inspired by the unique identity of place and integrated into a long-term vision to reimagine and transform the destination.

Cultural Regional Infrastructure

A sum of €78,000 was invested in enhancing local arts and cultural infrastructure to create and maintain opportunities for creativity, participation and creation across Dublin in 2021. This included support for projects under the Arts and Culture Capital Scheme and the Regional Museum Exhibition Scheme. Organisations supported under these schemes were Irish Gallery of Photography and the Pavilion Theatre, Dun Laoghaire, the National Transport Museum and The Little Museum of Dublin.

Stream D of the Cultural Capital Scheme 2019-2022 - a new capital scheme which was established in 2020 as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic to assist the arts and culture sector at this time continued to be progressed further in 2021. €108,000 was drawn down by 16 arts and culture organisations in the Dublin area under Stream D for capital adaptations or equipment necessary to assist them re-open safely after COVID-19 and prevent its spread. Organisations supported under Stream D included Black Church Print Studio, Pallas Projects Ltd, Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann and The Seamus Ennis Arts Centre, among others.

Under the Regional Museum Exhibition Scheme, the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media provided support to County Museum Dundalk's exhibition 'Faraway Hills' and Marsh's Library's exhibition 'The Wild Elephants of St. Patrick's Close'.

The National Planning Framework (NPF) recognises the value of cultural heritage and sporting facilities as a key component of, and contributor to, the attractiveness and sustainability of our cities, towns, villages and rural areas in terms of developing cultural creative spaces, quality of life, private inward investment, and attracting and retaining talent and enterprise. Almost €183,000 was invested in enhancing local arts and cultural infrastructure across the Mid-East and North East areas in 2021 (Kildare, Louth and Meath). This included €157,000 provided under Stream D of the Cultural Capital Scheme which supported Duffys Circus in Meath (under Traditional Circus), Oriel CCÉ Centre in Dundalk and The Moat Club CLG in Kildare among others

and two organisations under the Regional Museum Exhibition Scheme. Over €457,000 was invested in enhancing local arts and cultural infrastructure across the Midland in 2021. This included funding of over €423,000 for Offaly County Council under the Arts and Culture Capital Enhancement Support Scheme (ACCESS II) and funding of €34,000 under Stream D of the Cultural Capital Scheme 2019-2022. Organisations supported included the Dunamaise Arts Centre in Laois, Dean Crowe Theatre in Athlone, Áras an Mhuilinn (CCÉ) and Dún na Sí (CCÉ) both in Westmeath.

Develop the Creative industries and a vibrant Media Production and Audiovisual sector

Screen Ireland is supporting the establishment of 2 Regional Talent Development Academies and 3 Regional Crew Development Hubs (one to be based in Wicklow) to support skills, talent and workforce development in the regions with a particular focus on equality, diversity and inclusion. The Academies and Hubs will provide access opportunities for new entrants and upskilling opportunities for more established talent and crew. One of the new Crew Hubs will be led by Clermont Enterprise Hub in Wicklow. Its activities will also be open to those in other areas covered in the Eastern region, including Louth, Meath, Dublin, Kildare, Carlow, and Wexford. Other areas in the Midland region will have access to the Crew Hub led by Innovate Limerick.

The skills team in Screen Ireland will continue to address ongoing skills needs in the regions through its courses, funding schemes, through the talent development academies and crew development hubs, and through its work in relation to the skills requirements of the S481 tax credit.

Screen Ireland's Inward Production Unit, both in Ireland and in L.A., promote locations throughout Ireland for filming. They have started a new initiative for the regional film offices to enable them to access, manage and upload locations from their database pertaining to their county.

The Creative Futures fund was launched as part of Screen Ireland's commitment to grow strong and resilient companies throughout the country. The fund is designed to help support companies strengthen and hone their expert creative capabilities and ambitions and build cultural resilience to enable high quality cultural projects, including companies based in Dublin and Wicklow.

Screen Ireland launched Building Back Audiences: the Cinema Stimulus Fund, a special initiative to support the exhibition sector in recovering from the severe impact of COVID-19 closures. 17 cinema

venues and a number of cultural cinema networks in the Eastern and Midland region benefited from the fund, recognising the immense challenges that Irish independent cinemas face as they reopen their doors and rebuild their businesses.

In 2021, 26 Screen Ireland funded productions used locations in the East and Midland of Ireland.

Sustaining Gaeltacht Communities and Promoting the Irish Language

Investment in the Irish Language supports and strengthens the use of Irish both outside traditional Gaeltacht areas and as the principal community language in the Gaeltacht regions. In 2021, just under €14 million in capital funding was advanced to Údarás na Gaeltachta for the refurbishment and development of Gaeltacht business infrastructure to support job creation, employment stabilisation and develop new initiatives. These refurbishment works and business improvements are key in attracting companies to the Gaeltacht.

There were 194 full-time jobs in Údarás client companies in the Meath Gaeltacht at the end of 2021. While 20 new jobs were created in the Meath Gaeltacht during the year when the number of job reductions is taken into account, there was a net decrease of 21 jobs on the previous year in the county.

Irish Language

The development of a flagship Irish language centre at 6 Harcourt Street, Dublin (Conradh na Gaeilge Headquarters) was progressed with planning permission obtained in late 2020. This centre will be a central place for Irish language learners and for Dublin's Irish speakers and will add a great deal to the visibility of the language and to the status of the Irish language in the capital. The overall cost of the project is estimated to be circa €12 million.

Regional and Local Roads

There are three major regional and local road transport projects in the Eastern and Midland Region, including the Sallins Bypass, the Athy Southern Distributor Road and the Laytown to Bettystown Link Road.

- Sallins Bypass Construction completed in 2021;
- Athy Southern Distributor Road Construction programme commenced in 2021 and
- Laytown to Bettystown Link Road Construction completed in 2021.

The National Broadband Plan

- The National Broadband Plan (NBP) is the initiative to rollout high-speed broadband to the 1.1 million people living and working in almost 560,000 premises, including almost 100,000 businesses and farms, along with 679 schools, where commercial operators will not commit to deliver the service. It is expected that eventually over 600,000 premises will be served by the NBP, including new builds.
- Broadband Connection Points (BCPs) are public locations which have been selected to receive high-speed connectivity as part of the NBP in areas with poor broadband coverage including many of our offshore islands. By the end of 2021, about 270 BCPs were in place throughout the country and about 250 of these were open for business. These are located in places of community importance including community centres, library hubs, local sports facilities, tourism locations and other public places.
- In the Eastern and Midland region, over 100 BCPs were in place by the end of 2021, 92 of which were open for business and providing high speed broadband services to communities. This includes 32 schools in the Eastern and Midland region that had a connection installed by the end of 2021 and 22 of these schools were provided with high-speed connectivity. The installation of BCPs and the delivery of public BCPs throughout the country is almost completed. NBI is working to accelerate the rollout of high-speed broadband to schools across the State.

Enhance sport facilities throughout Ireland

The Sports Capital Equipment Programme is the main channel of Government support for developing sports facilities and purchasing sports equipment for sports clubs and organisations across Ireland. The 2020 round of the SCEP closed for applications on Monday 1st March 2021. Over 3,100 applications (the highest ever) were submitted seeking over €200 million. Approximately one thousand of the submitted applications were for 'equipment-only' projects.

These applications were assessed first and grants with a total value of €16.6 million were announced on 6th August, 2021. The remaining capital applications were then assessed and 1,865 individual grant offers with a total value of over €143.8 million were announced on Friday, 11 February, 2022. This represented the highest level of allocation ever made under the SCEP with 1,865 individual grant offers and over 40 different sports funded. All valid applications received a grant offer. Overall, grants of over €61 million were allocated to the Eastern and Midland region including over €17 million allocated to projects deemed to be of "regional" significance. Such projects include regional centres of excellence, Local Authority Projects and sports facilities at third level institutions.

Agriculture Food and the Marine

At Howth Fishery Harbour Centre, the Middle Pier Berthing Project (under the Department's 2021 Fishery Harbour and Coastal Infrastructure Development Programme), is an integral part of the overall strategy to segregate the fishing and leisure activities. A contract to the value €5.5 million (ex VAT) was awarded for the construction of 134 metres of new quay wall, dredge, stabilisation and infill of subsea material and creation of new lands to the tune of 0.16 hectare. Works commenced on site in October 2020 and were ongoing in 2021. The works are scheduled for completion in 2022.

National Strategic Outcome 4 - Sustainable Mobility

The expansion of attractive and sustainable public transport alternatives to private car-based transport will reduce congestion and emissions and enable the transport sector to cater in an environmentally sustainable way for the demands associated with longer-term population and employment growth envisaged under Project Ireland 2040. Projects planned under this National Strategic Outcome (NSO) for Dublin include the new BusConnects, Metrolink and DART+.

BusConnects

BusConnects Dublin is one of the flagship investments to be delivered under Project Ireland 2040.

The programme is made up of a number of different components namely:

- Building a new network of improved bus and cycle lanes:
- Redesigning and expanding the network of bus services;
- Introducing simpler fare structures and new ticketing technology;
- · Implementing a new bus livery;
- Providing new and improved bus stops and shelters and new park and ride sites; and
- Transitioning the entire urban Public Service Obligation (PSO) bus fleet to low emission technologies.

The National Transport Authority (NTA) began the roll-out of the bus network redesign in 2021, which relates to the proposed new bus routes, centred on 9 new 'spines'.

The first of these spines – the H-Spine – launched in June 2021 and serves the Howth corridor. The second spine – the C-Spine –launched in November 2021. This serves the Lucan/Leixlip/Celbridge corridor and also introduced a much-improved local area network of services, as well as 24-hour services. Three more Spines are due to be launched in 2022.

Work continued through 2021 on the documentation required for submission of planning applications in respect of the 16 Core Bus Corridors. The first of these will enter the planning process in 2022, following Government approval of the BusConnects Preliminary Business Case in March 2022.

Next Generation Ticketing (NGT) is another important element of the BusConnects programme, involving the upgrade of fares and ticketing systems across bus services in Dublin. The NTA continued to progress the procurement phase through 2021, identifying 5 Pre-Qualification Questionnaire (PQQ) candidates and tender documents will issue in 2022.

261 new buses for PSO bus fleets delivered in 2021: 179 double deck hybrids (including 23 from the 2020 order); 29 single deck coaches and 53 double deck coaches.

MetroLink

Metrolink is the largest single scheme included in Project Ireland 2040 and among the most ambitious infrastructure projects Ireland has seen. The preferred route, finalised after public consultations in 2018 and 2019, will run from Charlemont in Dublin's south city centre out to Swords via Dublin Airport.

The NTA and Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) continued to work on planning, design and the Preliminary Business Case for MetroLink through 2021. The Preliminary Business case will be submitted for Government decision in 2022 in line with the requirements of the Public Spending Code.

The Luas Green Line Capacity Enhancement Project was completed in 2021. The project consisted of three elements:

- Expansion of the Sandyford Luas maintenance depot, completed in 2019;
- Extension of the 26 original Luas Green Line trams; and
- Purchase of 8 additional 55 metre-long trams.

By Q1 2021, all of the trams and extensions had been delivered and entered service. The project increases capacity on the Luas Green Line by almost 30%.

Following the public consultation in 2020 on Luas Finglas Emerging Preferred Route, planning and design work continued on the Preferred Route, with a second public consultation held in December 2021.

DART+

As part of Project Ireland 2040, the funding priority in relation to the DART+ (formerly DART Expansion) Programme is to ensure delivery of the non-tunnel elements of the programme up to and including 2027. The initial sequencing of investment will focus on:

- electrification of the Northern Line to Drogheda;
- · electrification of Kildare Line to Hazelhatch;
- electrification of Maynooth Line to Maynooth and M3 Parkway;

- better utilisation of the Phoenix Park Tunnel;
- purchase of additional bi-modal rail fleet and;
- other measures such as re-signalling and junction/ station changes.

The DART+ Programme will provide fast, high frequency electrified services to Drogheda on the Northern Line (DART+ Coastal (North)), Celbridge/ Hazelhatch on the Kildare Line (DART+ South-West), Maynooth and M3 Parkway on the Maynooth/Sligo Line (DART+ West). In 2021, Government approved the Preliminary Business Case for the DART+ Programme. This allowed for DART+ West to enter the statutory planning system with a Railway Order application expected to be submitted during 2022. Government approval also allowed for the NTA and larnród Éireann to conclude a 10-year procurement framework contract for additional DART fleet with an initial order of 95 new carriages (65 battery-electric and 30 electric units) placed. These units, delivery of which is expected in 2025, will greatly expand the fleet as part of the broader DART+ Programme.

Public consultations on both DART+ West and DART+ South-West were undertaken in 2021 with similar for DART+ Coastal (North) and DART+ Coastal (South) to be undertaken in 2022.

Pelletstown train station was officially opened in September 2021. This station will be served by enhanced services provided under the DART+ West element of the overall DART+ Programme.

Construction of the National Train Control Centre (NTCC) continued in 2021, with completion expected in 2024. The NTCC is a key enabler for expansion of rail services as it will enhance rail traffic management and will underpin both the planned and potential future expansion of rail services across the entire rail network and in particular, the planned expansion of DART services under the DART+ Programme.

TFI Local Link Rural Transport Programme provides quality community-based public transport across rural Ireland. Local Link provides both demand-responsive, door-to-door services on request, as well as scheduled bus services on fixed routes.

Active Travel

Project Ireland 2040 commits toward delivery of a comprehensive network of walking and cycling networks in all our major cities and this delivery is supported by a significantly enhanced funding programme.

Projects supported through the design stage and expected to start construction in 2022 include the following:

- Clontarf to City Centre Cycle Route in Dublin City.
- Sandyford to Clonskeagh (UCD to the Dodder)
 Cycle Route in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown.

- Churchfield Roads off Road Cycle Track and Footway in Fingal.
- Ashbourne R135 Frederick St to Ballybin Road Upgrade in County Meath.

Significant projects being constructed during 2021 and will continue to be worked in 2022 include the following:

- Blackglen Road Walking and Cycling Scheme in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown
- Belmayne Main Street Bus and Cycle Scheme in Dublin City

Projects completed in 2021 include the following:

- Broadstone Plaza in Dublin City
- Dodder Greenway Section 2 Bridges in South County Dublin -

As part of the bridges phase of the Dodder Greenway initiative, South Dublin County Council has built three new pedestrian and cycle bridges, 750 meters of new pathway and 2.6km of upgraded paths. This phase of the project cost approximately €5.8 million and was delivered by South Dublin County Council with funding provided by the National Transport Authority (€4.3 million) and the European Regional Development Fund's S&E Regional Programme (€1.5 million).

 Sandyford Cycle Route (Kilgobbin to Drummartin Link Road Section) -

Planning began in 2014 and construction began in mid-2020. It's a 1.6km scheme crossing the M50, a strategic link from Sandyford to the Drummartin Link Road and is part of the overall Sandyford to Clonskeagh scheme and includes several permeability connections to adjacent residential areas. Total project cost is approx. €3.95 million.

Hartstown Ring Road Rapid Deployment Scheme in Fingal.

Greenways

During 2021, ancillary works animating the Royal Canal Greenway in Meath and Kildare concluded leading to the official opening of the greenway in March.

The Grand Canal Greenway from Aylmers Bridge to Sallins has reached pre-construction with a view to commencing construction in 2022. A further section of the Boyne Valley Greenway which will run from Navan to Kingscourt is also at pre construction, which will extend the existing cycleway from Nobber to Kingscourt.

The Grand Canal, Sallins to Clonkeen and the Blessington Lake Loop are at Planning and Design. The Fingal Coastal Way, from Donabate to Balbriggan together with the Boyne Greenway from Drogheda to Navan are at pre planning. These projects will be further progressed in 2022.

National Strategic Outcome 5 – A Strong Economy, supported by Enterprise, Innovation and Skills

Table 6: Agency Supported Employment in the Eastern and Midland Region in 2021

Total Employment	254,537
IDA Ireland Employment	149,470
Enterprise Ireland Employment	105,067

Source: CSO and Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment

A competitive, innovative and resilient enterprise base is essential to provide the jobs and employment opportunities for people to live and prosper in all regions. Achieving the ambitious employment targets in the National Planning Framework in the context of increased global uncertainty, Brexit, the response to COVID-19 and technological disruption, underlines the importance of building competitive regional clusters and generating an uplift in enterprise export competitiveness to secure sustainable jobs and growth.

The Enterprise Development Agencies continued to support an innovative and resilient enterprise base in 2021.

IDA Ireland

The Eastern and Midland Assembly Region is made up of the IDA Dublin, Midland, and Mid-East Regions.

The Dublin region is home to 905 IDA client companies employing 123,708 staff. The region has repeatedly attracted significant investment across all sectors and activities with prominent investment in ICT, International Financial Services, Pharmaceuticals and Global Business Services. FDI in Dublin also has a high concentration of R&D investment particularly in the Tech sector. The Dublin region has a significant ecosystem of well-established companies across, Technology, Life Sciences, International Financial Services, Engineering and Consumer Content.

There are 103 IDA client companies in the Mid-East Region, employing 18,894 people. The FDI performance in the region has been consistent over the past five years with employment among IDA clients increasing by 8%. The Mid-East has a significant ecosystem of well-established companies across Technology, Life Sciences, International Financial Services and Engineering and Industrial Technologies. It has also won significant investment in the Food and the Film sub-sectors. This region also benefits hugely from the direct and indirect

employment generated by IDA client companies located in Dublin.

There are 49 IDA client companies in the Midland Region, employing 6,868 people. The existing FDI base of client companies in the region continues to perform well in terms of their operational sustainability, job retention and ongoing transformation.

The IDA is targeting 465 investments for these regions in the period 2021 to 2024 (25 Midland; 40 Mid-East and 400 Dublin) investments for the Midland region in the period 2021 to 2024.

The number of IDA client companies and total people employed across the Region are set out in the Table below:

Table 7: IDA Supported Employment in the Eastern and Midland Region in 2021

County	No. of	Total
	companies	Employment
Dublin	905	123,708
Louth	35	4,588
Meath	16	1,911
Kildare	32	9,748
Wicklow	20	2,647
Total	103	18,894
Westmeath	27	4,099
Offaly	11	1,302
Laois	5	157
Longford	6	1,310
Total	49	6,868
Total Eastern and Midland	1,057	149,470

Source: Employment Survey 2021

Property programme central to regional delivery

2021-2024 Targets



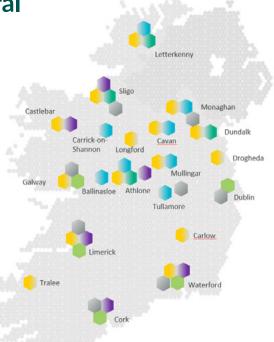
Regional Growth Centres

Proposed ABS Locations

Building Programme Partnerships

Infrastructure Investment

Strategic Land Acquisition



Under the new property programme 2021-2024, IDA will:

- Complete significant infrastructure upgrade works at Clonshaugh Business and Technology Park;
- Deliver Advanced Building Solutions in Drogheda and Dundalk;
- Partner with Meath County Council for the delivery of an advance planning permit for an Advanced Technology Building in Navan, Co. Meath;
- Deliver Advanced Building Solutions in Athlone, Mullingar and Longford;
- Partner with Offaly County Council to secure planning permission for an Advanced Technology Building in Tullamore;
- Acquire additional strategic sites in the region for development;
- Progress or commence upgrade works at IDA Parks;
- Continue to partner with local authorities to secure the provision of available lands for potential future development and
- Continue to work closely with the private sector to secure the provision of appropriate and costeffective building and property solutions for client companies.

Grant Payments to IDA clients in the Region over the last 5 years

Grants paid in a particular year are not necessarily linked to either the investments won, or the jobs created in that 12-month period. Grants are generally drawn down over the lifetime of a project, which is normally over a period of three to five years. Some investments, which result in job creation may not be grant aided and some well-established firms may no longer be receiving grant payments.

Table 8: Grant Payments to IDA clients in the Region over the last 5 years by County

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Dublin	€25,308,465	€26,872,060	€24,794,941	€22,157,870	€19,949,601
Louth	€397,633	€2,022,330	€9,139,112	€1,428,041	€924,060
Meath	€140,496	€107,719	€0	€182,259	€0
Kildare	€1,042,553	€34,650	€2,004,030	€66,865	€2,096,053
Wicklow	€5,000	€3,420,440	€557,577	€487,818	€321,734
Total	€1,585,682	€5,585,139	€11,700,719	€2,164,983	€3,341,847
Westmeath	4,814,567	747,350	4,557,617	3,146,661	2,078,588
Offaly	368,352	0	1,195,208	201,335	960,089
Laois	0	4,950	0	24,850	24,500
Longford	2,037,478	928,877	3,565,809	2,440,323	3,297,973
Total	€7,220,397	€1,681,177	€9,318,634	€5,813,169	€6,361,150
Eastern and Midland Total	€34,114,544	€34,138,376	€45,814,294	€30,136,022	€29,652,598

Table 9: Announcements made throughout 2021 in the Eastern and Midland Region

Company Name	Month, Year	Brief Description	Jobs/ Investment	Town
Udemy	Jan 2022	Expansion of EMEA HQ	120 Jobs	Dublin
Amgen	Dec 2021	Announced a new \$100 million construction project of a vial filling line at its site in Dun Laoghaire.	\$100 million	Dublin
Intercom	Dec 2021	Expansion of Dublin office.	150 Jobs	Dublin
ClickUp	Dec 2021	Established its European HQ.	200 Jobs	Dublin
Greenhouse Software	Nov 2021	Expansion of EMEA HQ.	100 Jobs	Dublin
Riot Games	Oct 2021	Opening of a new Remote Broadcast (RBC) and Content Production Centre in Dublin.	120 Jobs	Dublin
Square	Oct 2021	Expansion of European HQ.	30 Jobs	Dublin
Sendoso	Oct 2021	Expansion of European HQ .	100 Jobs	Dublin
Trinseo	Oct 2021	New GBS function to be established.	130 Jobs	Dublin
Hannover Re	Oct 2021	Investing in a new R&D programme aimed at delivering next generation digital innovation in the underwriting space.	16 Jobs	Dublin
WHOOP	Sep 2021	New international office to be established serving multiple business functions.	50 Jobs	Dublin
West	Sep 2021	Establishing a new global finance shared service model here in Ireland.	60 Jobs	Dublin
AstraZeneca	Sep 2021	Establishment of a new manufacturing	100 Jobs	Dublin
		facility.	€360 million	
Gate One	Sep 2021	Launch of Irish office as part of its global expansion, targeting well-established cluster of indigenous and global life sciences companies, retail, consumer goods, financial services, and public sector.	50 Jobs	Dublin
Edwards	Sep 2021	Opened its new flagship Service Technology Centre (STC) in Blanchardstown, Dublin.	20 Jobs €7.5 million	Dublin

Company Name	Month, Year	Brief Description	Jobs/ Investment	Town
Amazon	Sep 2021	Opening its first-ever fulfilment centre in the Republic of Ireland.	500 Jobs	Dublin
Thrive Global	Aug 2021	Establishment of engineering office in Dublin.	40 Jobs	Dublin
TikTok	July 2021	Establishment of Regional Fusion Centre.	50 Jobs	Dublin
Strava	July 2021	Opening of new office in Dublin	10 Jobs	Dublin
Notion	July 2021	Establishment of EMEA HQ.		Dublin
Equiom	July 2021	Launch of Equiom Fund Solutions Ireland Limited.		Dublin
Medable	July 2021	Establishment of EMEA HQ.	50 Jobs	Dublin
Bio-Techne	June 2021	Expansion of European Operations.		Dublin
Qorvo	June 2021	Expansion of presence in Ireland with increased focus on next-generation technologies and products.		Dublin
3M	June 2021	New research and development technical centre in Dublin.	100 Jobs	Dublin
Accenture	June 2021	Expanding its innovation capability at the Accenture Labs in Dublin, specifically in the area of quantum computing.	500 in Dublin and Cork	Dublin
Moonshot	June 2021	Establishment of a Software Development Centre in Dublin.	37 Jobs	Dublin
TripActions	June 2021	Opening of a dedicated sales hub in Dublin.	24 Jobs	Dublin
Pfizer	May 2021	Expansion of the Grange Castle site to allow for the extra production of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine.	75 Jobs	Dublin
Etsy	May 2021	Expansion of Dublin team in product and engineering roles.		Dublin
Blacksquare	May 2021	Establishment of EMEA HQ.	20 Jobs	Dublin
Neuroons	May 2021	International expansion creating job roles in Data Science, Data Engineering, and DevOps.	20 Jobs	Dublin
LogicManager	May 2021	Establishment of EMEA HQ, representing its first full direct subsidiary expansion in Europe.	30 Jobs	Dublin
Albany Beck	April 2021	Launch of EU Operations Centre.	100 Jobs	Dublin
ServiceNow	April 2021	EMEA expansion with engineering and digital sales focused roles along with select hiring across marketing, finance, legal and other corporate functions.	300 Jobs	Dublin
Workday	March 2021	Expansion of European HQ in job roles such as product and technology development and sales.	400 Jobs	Dublin
Stripe	March 2021	Expansion of European operations, as well as its global payments and treasury network.	1,000 jobs	Dublin
BT Sourced	Feb 2021	Procurement Company and Innovation Hub.	70 Jobs	Dublin
Fidelity investment	Feb 2021	Expansion of Technology Team	30 Jobs (Dublin)	Dublin
Personio	Jan 2021	Expansion of its International Business and Software Engineering Hub	140 Jobs	Dublin

Company Name	Month, Year	Brief Description	Jobs/ Investment	Town
Becton Dickinson	Dec 2021	BD announced the creation of 100 jobs with a €62 million investment in new equipment to expand its production of BD PosiFlush™ syringes	100 Jobs €62 million	Drogheda
Prometric	Nov 2021	Prometric announced a successful 10 years of its EMEA operations centre and the positive impact on the region	-	Dundalk
Hiab (Cargotec)	Sep 2021	Hiab, a load handling equipment provider announced an investment of over €50 million to develop a new Factory of the Future	100 Jobs €50 million	Dundalk
ITRenew	Sep 2021	ITRenew, a global leader in circular cloud and sustainable data centre infrastructure announced it will establish an Ireland Headquarters and Logistics Centre in Drogheda	40 Jobs	Drogheda
Simply NUC	May 2021	Simply NUC, a systems integrator specialising in mini PCs established its EU HQ and manufacturing centre in Dunleer	30 Jobs	Dunleer
TrustLabs Inc	May 2021	TrustLabs, a privately held blockchain fintech company, announced the establishment of its European Headquarters in Dundalk	20 Jobs	Dundalk
N'Ware Technologies	July 2021	Official announcement of new EU HQ in support of company's EMEA software sales and services	25 jobs	Mountrath

Enterprise Ireland

- In 2021, 66,704 people were employed across 1,697 Enterprise Ireland supported companies in the Dublin region. In 2021, 20,426 people were employed in 419 Enterprise Ireland (EI) supported companies in the Mid-East Region. In 2021, 11,416 people were employed across 207 Enterprise Ireland (EI) supported companies in the Midland region. In the Louth region there were 6,521 people employed by 127 companies in 2021.
- Enterprise Ireland supports all sectors with success in Construction, BPO, Fintech, Food and Lifesciences. As part of Project Ireland 2040, El supports all sectors with success deriving from sectors, such as manufacturing of wood and wood products, manufacturing of food and beverages, and mining and quarrying activities.
- From 2019-2021, payments of €161 million, €37 million, €36 million and €17 million were made to companies in Dublin, Mid-East, the Midland and Louth region respectively to assist them to start, scale and grow in international markets.
- The COVID-19 Enterprise Centres Fund was developed to provide financial support to enterprise centres impacted by COVID-19, providing them with financial support for the

- implementation of a 6 to 12 month Recovery Plan. One for profit and sixteen not for profit enterprise centres were approved €1.7 million in Dublin. Five not for profit enterprise centres were approved €486,000 in the Mid-East region. One for profit and six not for profit enterprise centres were approved €451,000 in the Midland.
- Enterprise Ireland administers the Regional Enterprise Development Fund and the Regional Enterprise Transition Scheme on behalf of Government, to support significant regional initiatives to build on sectoral strengths and/or to better leverage identified resources to improve enterprise capability. To date, 7 projects in Dublin have been approved totalling €12.4 million under these schemes; 6 projects in the Mid-East (Louth, Meath, Kildare and Wicklow) have been approved for €13 million in funding; and 6 projects in the Midland (Longford, Westmeath, Offaly and Laois) have been approved for €7.2 million under these schemes.
- El supports and collaborates with the Technological University of the Shannon (Midland) through Innovation supports such as the Commercialisation Fund, Innovation Partnerships and Innovation Vouchers. In 2019-2021 payments of €9.9 million were made to this institution.

- El supports and collaborates with HEIs in the Dublin region, including ITT, ITB, DCU, DIT, NCAD, RCSI, TCD, UCD and IADT through Innovation supports, such as the Commercialisation Fund, Innovation Partnerships and Innovation Vouchers. In 2019-2021 payments of €74.7 million were made to thse institutions. El supports and collaborates with Higher Education Institutes in the Mid-East region, including Maynooth University through Innovation supports such as the Commercialisation Fund, Innovation Partnerships and Innovation Vouchers. In 2019-2021 payments of €4.7 million were made to this institution. El supports and collaborates with Higher Education Institutes in the Louth Region, including the Institute of Technology Dundalk through Innovation supports such as the Commercialisation Fund, Innovation Partnerships and Innovation Vouchers. In 2019-2021 payments of €2.3 million were made to this institution.
- The Technology Centre Programme is a joint initiative between Enterprise Ireland and IDA Ireland, allowing Irish companies and multinationals to work together in these centres. Technology Centres are collaborative entities established and led by industry. These centres are resourced by highly qualified researchers associated with research institutions who are empowered to undertake market focused strategic R&D for the benefit of industry. There is one Technology Centre located in the Midland region.
- El has co-funded, with local enterprise
 development groups, 175 Community Enterprise
 Centres across the country, including 18 in
 the Midland. These Centres provide space in a
 supportive environment for budding •
 entrepreneurs and serve to help the development
 of entrepreneurship locally.
- Enterprise Ireland administers the Disruptive
 Technologies Innovation Fund (DTIF) on behalf of
 Government. DTIF funding supports enterprises
 in Ireland to collaborate together and with the
 public research system on disruptive technologies
 innovation, build on research in Ireland and
 leverage that research for commercial impact
 and foster deeper and wider RD&I collaborations
 between the public and private sectors in key
 technology areas.

Local Enterprise Office update

In 2021, the LEOs operating in the Eastern and Midland Region supported 2,922 businesses, employing 13,753 jobs. There was a decrease of 181 in the number of client businesses in 2021 relative to 2020, with the number of jobs increasing by 244 in the same period. This can be seen in the table below.

The Dublin Region is served by its Local Enterprise Offices (LEOs) in Dublin City, Fingal, Dun Laoghaire–Rathdown, and Dublin South which are co-located with the Local Authorities. In 2021, the LEOs operating in the Dublin region supported 1,165 businesses employing 5,282 people. The number of client businesses decreased by 182 in 2021 relative to 2020 with the number of jobs declining by 114 in the same period.

Louth is served by its Local Enterprise Office also colocated with its Local Authority, supporting 232 client companies in 2021, and 898 jobs. The number of client businesses decreased by 15 in 2021 relative to 2020, with the number of jobs increasing by 14.

The Mid-East Region LEOs in Kildare, Meath and Wicklow, which are co-located with the Local Authorities. In 2021, the LEOs operating in the Mid-East Region supported 663 businesses employing 3,320 jobs. The number of client businesses increased by 10 in 2021 relative to 2020 with the number of jobs increasing by 174 in the same period.

The Midland Region is served by its LEOs in Laois, Longford, Offaly and Westmeath, which are colocated with the Local Authorities. In 2021, the LEOs operating in the Midland supported 862 businesses employing 4,253 jobs. The number of client businesses increased by 6 in 2021 relative to 2020 with the number of jobs increasing by 170 in the same period.

Regional Enterprise Development Fund

The Regional Enterprise Development Fund is about supporting every region to build on its unique strengths and ultimately create sustainable jobs.

Collaboration is at its core – among the public and private sectors, within and across regions. Almost €100 million in funding has now been approved for 68 projects across three competitive calls under the Fund to date, with projects approved in every

Table 10: Local Enterprise Offices in Eastern and Midland Region in 2021

Regions	Client Numbers 2020	Client Numbers 2021	Client Change 2020-2021	Total Jobs 2020	Total Jobs 2021	Net Job Change 2020	Net Job Change 2021
Eastern and Midland	3,103	2,922	-181	13,509	13,753	-524	244

region, ranging from the development of new startup/enterprise hubs to nationally significant sector focused applied research and innovation facilities that build on specific regional specialisms.

The Regional Enterprise Transition Scheme (RETS) was introduced in 2021 to provide funding to existing regionally based not-for-profit clients of Enterprise Ireland and Údarás na Gaeltachta who have received previous support under the REDF and BEDF. The RETS helps eligible enterprises in sectors and regions negatively affected by COVID-19 and the consequences of Brexit. In October 2021, 24 projects were recommended for funding with a total grant aid request of €9.3 million.

Table 11: Successful Applicants for the Regional Enterprise Transition Scheme in the Eastern and Midland Region

Project	County
Irish Manufacturing Research CLG	Westmeath
Louth Meath ETB	Louth
Community Enterprise Association Ireland (CEAI)	Louth
Social and Local Enterprise Alliance DAC	Dublin

Source: Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment

Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund

The Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund (DTIF) was established in 2018 as part of the National Development Plan and committed €500 million in funding over the period to 2027 for co-funded collaborative projects involving the enterprise and research sectors. DTIF projects focus on the development and deployment of disruptive technologies to deliver new solutions through investment in the development and implementation of innovative products and services that will alter markets or the way business operates.

Since 2018, DTIF invested €235 million in 72 collaborative disruptive innovation projects with strong commercialisation potential under the first three calls of the Fund. Of these, 38 projects with the lead partner located In the Eastern and Midland Region were awarded €112 million. The projects cover areas such as life sciences, medical devices, ICT, artificial intelligence, manufacturing and environmental sustainability. Details of 14 of the projects in the region that were awarded almost €45 million under call 3 are set out in the table below.

A fourth DTIF call was launched in November 2021 and the eligible projects received are currently being evaluated.

Table 12: DTIF Call 3 - Funded Projects with Lead Partner based in Eastern and Midland Region Midland

County	Project name and short description	Amount awarded	Status of project
Dublin	Using Artificial Intelligence to create fast cell analytics for biomanufacturing, for use in media screening and bioprocess controllers.	€1,681,475	Commenced
Dublin	E-Crop will develop innovative agri-technologies that provide farmers and agri-advisory industries with the tools needed to monitor and improve crop health.	€1,506,224	Commenced
Dublin	Using nanotechnology to generate 40% energy/emissions savings in thermal management of commercial and industrial cooling/heating systems e.g. data centres and high energy technologies.	€2,856,549	Commenced
Dublin	Developing the first innovative plasma sampling device for inflammatory diseases.	€1,779,479	Commenced
Dublin	Catheter sensor technology to significantly increase Atrial Fibrillation treatment efficacy and safety while reducing the enormous burden on healthcare systems globally.	€5,087,400	Pre-contract
Dublin	Development of minimally invasive treatment solutions for Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia (BPH) that can be carried out in an office-based setting. Will provide BPH sufferers with a safe, effective treatment solution that can be performed in the doctor's office in a simple 5-minute procedure under local anaesthetic.	€2,941,512	Commenced

Westmeath	The FlowAssist Pouch helps improve the skin condition of ostomy pouch users, while introducing novel usability discrete-design features, dramatically improving their lifestyle and management of their medical condition.	€2,674,570	Commenced
Dublin	Harnessing artificial intelligence to develop a tool to identify breast and prostate cancer patients with early-stage disease.	€2,993,376	Commenced
Dublin	CAMEO seeks to develop a new platform to unlock the potential of Earth Observation (EO) data for non-specialist users, with the aim of developing a sustainable internationally trading Earth Observation services sector in Ireland.	€6,429,134	Commenced
Kildare	Software platform to predict human sensory quality attributes of food products for great taste, health benefits and minimal waste.	€1,870,031	Commenced
Kildare	A digitalised cellular engineering system to produce cell therapy cancer treatments for cell therapies with a focus on allogenic (off-the-shelf) therapies and those for solid tumours.	€4,398,828	Commenced
Westmeath	The overall objective of PerPET is to transform the plastics industry: drastically reducing the amount of fresh petroleum extracted virgin material used, and positioning PET recyclate as a valuable, perpetually reusable resource.	€1,890,308	Commenced
Meath	Establishing a prototype centre of excellence on the St James' Hospital/TCD campus to discover & deliver next generation precision cell therapeutics for solid tumours through 'modular GMP in a box'.	€6,773,750	Commenced
Dublin	A-EYE Construction Visualisation Platform is a control tower that provides full visibility of the project and enables the most natural, visual communication, combining novel solutions with Al-software and sensor equipment.	€2,094,199	Commenced

Science Foundation Ireland Programme activity

SFI funds research that makes a real difference to our society and economy, now and into the future.

The agency funds research in Ireland's Higher Education Institutes (HEIs) - often in partnership with Industry or other national and international research funders. Through this funding we are ensuring that Ireland has the skills, ideas and technologies that we need to be a true global knowledge economy and that we are addressing societal challenges.

SFI funding opportunities are open to all HEIs across the country and through an extensive peer review process funding is awarded based on the available budget.

New research investments awarded to eligible institutions in the East and Midland are approximately €85 million. The vast majority of these awards are under multi annual programmes which run for a number of years. The benefits of these investments are very often shared in other regions due to the collaborative nature of research in Ireland.

A key goal of SFI's Strategy, Shaping our Future, is to "increase geographical involvement and engagement across the country, including through the SFI

Research Centres, and increased collaboration with the new Technological Universities and the Institutes of Technology to ensure that benefits arising from our activities are realised across the entirety of Ireland."

In support of this goal, a new funding programme, SFI Frontiers for Partnerships was launched in April 2021. The SFI Frontiers for Partnership call is open to research proposals led by the Technological University (TU) / Institutes of Technology (IoT) sector with partners from the established University sector.

This investment will not only increase financially supported collaboration between the sectors but importantly will provide leadership opportunities for the TU/IoT sector. The programme is being run in partnership with the Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI) and Sustainable Authority of Ireland (SEAI). 85 eligible applications were received and are currently under review. Award announcements are expected to be make in 2022.

SFI provides funding programme to enable deep industry academic collaboration across the country. The SFI Industry RD&I Fellowship seeks to support academia-industry interactions to address industry-informed challenges. Awards under this programme are made to academic researchers (at faculty and postdoctoral level) wishing to spend time in industry through the temporary placement of academic

researchers with an industry partner. 27 researchers have been funded to undertake projects with companies in areas such as VR, chatbots, biotech, coastal erosion and breast cancer representing investment of €2.1 million to support these collaborations. 10 of the 27 placements awarded will be in companies in the Eastern and Midland Region. The programme is also supported by IDA and applications for the 2022 competition are now open.

SFI Research Centres

Since launching in 2012, the SFI Research Centres have transformed the research ecosystem in Ireland, creating an environment where multi-institutional and multi/inter-disciplinary collaborations are now the norm and where industry (both SMEs and MNCs) can effectively join and collaborate with these academic networks.

The SFI Research Centres are helping to improve the quality of people's lives through healthcare, informing public policy on climate change mitigation and they have been instrumental in the delivery of SFI's Education and Public Engagement strategy, including increasing engagement with underserved and underrepresented communities across Ireland.

SFI Research Centres will play a critical role in helping Ireland recover from and succeed in the face of unprecedented global challenges such as Brexit, future pandemics and climate change. Such threats also present opportunities to harness Ireland's scientific human capital to create innovative solutions through research and innovation, to ultimately create a more resilient economy and society.

A key objective of the Centres programme is to support SME competitiveness through R&D collaborations, an objective that is critically important in terms of realising the potential for Centres to positively impact on rebooting of the Irish economy.

The researchers that Science Foundation Ireland supports in the Higher Education Institutes are collaborating heavily with enterprise in Ireland. In 2021 SFI researchers reported 379 formal collaborations with MNCs and 428 collaborations with SMEs in the Eastern and Midland region.

SFI currently supports 16 SFI Research Centres, 7 of which are hosted in Higher Education Institutes within the Eastern and Midland Region.

These Centres are:

ADAPT, is a world-leading SFI Research Centre for Al-driven Digital Content Technology and combines the expertise of researchers at seven higher education institutions with that of industry partners to produce ground-breaking innovation in digital content that is revolutionising the way people interact with content, systems and each other.

AMBER, the SFI Research Centre for Advanced Materials and BioEngineering Research is a dynamic, multidisciplinary partnership between world-leading material scientists, bioengineers and industry. The Centre works collaboratively to address fundamental research questions and create solutions with impact for society in ICT, MedTech, energy and sustainable industrial technologies.

BiOrbic, SFI Bioeconomy Research Centre is a national collaboration of over 100+ researchers, focused on the development of a sustainable circular bioeconomy. BiOrbic researchers work on selectively separating and extracting valued compounds from renewable materials, converting those resources into novel bio-based products and processes, delivering market and industry-scalable sustainable resources.

CONNECT is the Science Foundation Ireland Research Centre for Future Networks and Communications. Its mission is to research and develop innovative solutions for the communications challenges facing society today. The Internet of Things, 5G/6G networks and future communications services are the Centre's main areas of focus.

FutureNeuro is the Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) Research Centre for Chronic and Rare Neurological Diseases. The Centre aims to change the patient journey through research informed by the needs of both patients and neurologists. This includes developing rapid and accurate tools for diagnosis, the development of therapies to correct damaged brain networks, technologies to enable patients to monitor their own health and well-being, and linking this to Ireland's national imaging, diagnostics and eHealth infrastructure.

iCRAG is the SFI Research Centre for Applied Geosciences. The Centre is developing innovative science and technologies to better understand the Earth's past, present, and future and how people are connected to it. Comprising 150 researchers, eight research institutions and collaborating with more than sixty industry partners, the Centre's vision is to be a world leader in applied geoscience research, discovery, and public understanding of Earth's critical resources and environment for a sustainable society.

I-Form, the SFI Research Centre for Advanced Manufacturing, is delivering the next level of understanding and control for complex manufacturing processes. The Centre aims to shape the future of manufacturing through high-impact research into the application of digital technologies to materials processing. I-Form brings together a nationwide pool of expertise in materials science, engineering, data analytics and cognitive computing.

The current SFI investment in these Centres through the SFI Research Centres Programme is over €202 million.

It is important to note that although the Higher Education Institutes with responsibility for these Research Centres are based within the Eastern and Midland Region (Dublin) their academic and industry partners are located right across Ireland. Equally, HEIs within the Eastern and Midland Region that are not hosts of the other 9 SFI Research Centres are academic partners on those Centres. A good example of this is the company Nova Leah – a medical device cybersecurity compliance risk company based in Dundalk Co. Louth but is a spin-off company of Lero, the SFI Research Centre for Software which is hosted in Limerick.

SFI funds 6 Centres for Research Training (CRTs) that are collectively hosted across a partner network of 10 research bodies. The purpose of the SFI Centres for Research Training is to build on research excellence and to provide cohorts of academically outstanding future research leaders with the skills and knowledge required to address the future challenges of an everchanging work environment.

Two of the six CRTs are hosted in the East and Midland Region:

1. SFI Centre for Research Training in Machine Learning, hosted at University College Dublin

SFI Investment €15.5 million

The SFI Centre for Research Training in Machine Learning will address the urgent industry demand for Machine Learning talent. The centre will bring together leaders in their field to supervise and train students. Students will benefit from world-class, interinstitutional programmes, led by active researchers as part of a mature interdisciplinary environment that emphasises cutting-edge research with an industry relevant and entrepreneurial focus.

2. SFI Centre for Research Training in Digitally Enhanced Reality, Trinity College Dublin

SFI Investment €17 million

This CRT focuses on the development of digital skills for next generation human-centric media technology, including machine intelligence-based sensing and understanding of digital content and information, its transformation and personalisation, its multimodal interaction and delivery via speech, text, video, image and VR/AR, and its impactful application in multiple industry and societal settings.

As with the SFI Research Centres, the CRTs have academic and industry partners all over Ireland that are benefiting from these investments.

Higher Education

Project Ireland 2040 is bringing significant investment in higher education in the Eastern and Midland Region.

Construction continued during 2021 on the Central Quad at Grangegorman, which reached service commencement in Q1 2021. Together the East and Central Quads provide c.52,000 m² of academic space, and accommodate a total of sixteen schools within TU Dublin's College of Sciences and Health, College of Engineering and Built Environment and College of Arts and Tourism. The buildings provided for an additional 10,000 students (c.50% of the TU Dublin student cohort) and 600 staff to move to the Grangegorman site.

Eleven major infrastructure projects will be delivered around the country as part of a Public Private Partnership Programme for the higher education sector. Three of the eleven projects on the programme are in Dublin including on the TU Dublin Tallaght and Blanchardstown campuses and in the Institute of Art, Design and Technology, Dún Laoghaoire (IADT). In the Midland, a new STEM building in Athlone Institute of Technology (AIT) will be delivered as part of this Programme. A Preferred Tenderer was appointed for these Bundle 1 projects in 2021.

A new phase of the Energy Efficiency and Decarbonisation Pathfinder Programme (cofunded by the SEAI) was agreed, with the number of projects increased from eight to sixteen. Under this expanded programme, one further project was approved for UCD in 2021 to progress to stage 2a. This is in addition to a previous project approved for UCD under the 2020 Energy Efficiency and

Decarbonisation Pathfinder Programme (EEDPP). Dublin City University (DCU), Trinity College Dublin (TCD), Institute of Art, Design and Technology, Dun Laoghaire (IADT) and Maynooth University (MU) were also among the eight higher education institutions approved in 2020 and significant progress was made on the design, planning and delivery of these projects during the course of 2021. These projects will test and demonstrate energy retrofit approaches, build scale, and inform key stakeholders.

In addition, a decarbonisation pathways analysis was completed for the higher education sector in 2021.

Co-funding was approved for a new Sports Science, Health and Recreation building at TU Dublin Tallaght. The institute has high demand for courses in this area and the Tallaght campus will provide the hub for Sports Science within TU Dublin. The project continued to progress on site in 2021 with completion expected by 2022.

Exchequer funding of €15 million has been approved in principle towards a co-funded major project for the Engineering, Environment and Emerging Technologies (E3) learning foundry on TCD's main campus. The new building aims to integrate engineering, technology and the natural sciences in order to strengthen technological innovation and natural capital through world-leading research, education and entrepreneurship. Enabling works to facilitate the construction of the new building including phase 2 of the demolition works were completed in 2021. The construction of the new building began on site in September 2021. TCD are also advancing planning for Trinity East, a new campus at Grand Canal Dock.

UCD's Future Campus Phase 1 Project, which includes a Centre for Creativity and Centre for Future Learning, is one of five projects approved in principle in 2019 under the Higher Education Strategic Infrastructure Fund. The Future Campus Phase 1 Project progressed through the pre-tender stage with the design being completed in 2021. UCD also has plans for a further upgrade and extension of its Science Centre. UCD's Student Residence Phase 1 project was completed in 2021.

As part of Project Ireland 2040, funding has been approved for a major phased refurbishment and upgrade of the North and South Blocks at Dundalk Institute of Technology (DkIT), which house the Institute's STEM facilities. This is a phased project being supported under the Higher Education Infrastructure Upgrade and Refurbishment Fund. Approval to proceed to award the contract was conveyed to DkIT in 2021 in respect of the STEM Extension. The STEM Extension progressed to site in 2021 and is expected to be completed in Q4 2022.

A major capital development is underway at the Royal Irish Academy of Music's (RIAMs) Westland Row Property. This project will present a new centre of excellence in music performance education. The exchequer contribution to the project is being allocated by the DFHERIS and the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media. This major project went on site in May 2020. Significant on site progress was made in 2021 and the project is due to be completed in Q3 2022.

Maynooth University (MU) Technology Society and Innovation Building is one of five projects approved in 2019 under the Higher Education Strategic Infrastructure Fund (HESIF). The project continued on site throughout 2021 and is due to be completed in 2022.

Further Education

The NDP provided for the first time a dedicated capital envelope for the FET sector. Expenditure increased from €5.5 million in 2018 to €20.8 million in 2021.

This supported 9 Emergency Health and Safety Works (EHSW) projects, 2 of which went to site in 2021. 13 capital projects spanning a range of objectives in the Eastern and Midland Region were also supported.

Targeted support was also provided during 2021 for 19 apprenticeship equipment projects across the six ETBs in the Eastern and Midland region to support new and modernised apprenticeship syllabi, for off-the-job training in ETB training centres. In addition, a Devolved/Minor works Grant of just over €3 million was split across the six ETBs in the region to provide funding for minor capital projects and equipment renewal.

National Strategic Outcome 6 - High-Quality International Connectivity

As an island, continued investment in our port and airport connections to the UK, the EU and the rest of the world, is integral to underpinning international

competitiveness. It is also central to responding to the challenges as well as the opportunities arising from Brexit.

The Region will benefit from its close access to Dublin Airport and the ongoing construction completion of the North runway, as well as Dublin Port, which is progressing a major infrastructural investment at the port to accommodate larger sea-going vessels and to increase capacity.

The North Runway Project at Dublin Airport will provide increased runway capacity and support wider economic development as part of Project Ireland 2040. Works are progressing and the runway is due to be operational before the end of August 2022.

A new visual control tower at Dublin Airport is also in development to facilitate tower control services in a parallel runway environment. The construction phase of the project was completed in Q1 2019. The tower is complete and operational.

Dublin Port is progressing implementation of its Masterplan in order to ensure that the Port can provide for future sustainable growth and changes in facilitating seaborne trade in goods and passenger movements to and from Ireland and the Dublin region in particular.

Works include the redevelopment of existing berths, creation of new berths, deepening of the port's navigable channel from 7.8 meters to 10 meters draught, upgrading of the road network, provision of unified state services facilities for control and inspections and improvements in utility infrastructure.

Approximately 25% of the overall project has been completed to date, with considerable work completed on the Alexandra Basin Redevelopment, which is the first of three Strategic Infrastructure Developments projects. Works are also commencing on elements of the MasterPlan 2 (MP2) Project, which is the second major capital development project from Dublin Port's Masterplan 2040. Between the ABR Project and the MP2 Project, Dublin Port Company has now secured all of the planning permissions required for the major development works planned on the northern side of the port. The company is also progressing the third and final Masterplan project, the 3FM project, with the commencement of the pre-planning stage and

in particular the preparation of the detailed project design and the environmental impact reports. It is expected that the company will be lodging a planning application with An Bord Pleanála in 2023.

National Strategic Outcome 7 - Enhanced Amenity and Heritage

Project Ireland 2040 recognises the value of cultural heritage and sporting facilities as a key component of, and contributor to, the attractiveness and sustainability of our cities, towns, villages and rural areas in terms of developing cultural creative spaces, private inward investment, quality of life, and attracting and retaining talent and enterprise.

National Cultural Institutions Investment Programme

The Department of Tourism Culture Arts Gaeltacht Sport and Media continues to work to implement its sectoral plans 'Investing in our Culture, Language and Heritage, 2018-2027' and the relevant parts of 'Linking People and Places', published by the former Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport.

As part of the plan to invest €460 million in our National Cultural Institutions – most of which are located in Dublin - over the ten years of the NDP, a number of projects were advanced in 2021, notwithstanding the impact of COVID-19, including:

- Whilst the impact of COVID-19 continues to affect progress of the National Archives project, it is anticipated that the tendering process will now progress in 2022. This project will provide a secure environmentally controlled Archival Repository to safeguard the national archives for the future;
- The second phase of the ongoing works at the National Library to redevelop the West Wing as part of a multi-phase capital project to upgrade, expand and refurbish this iconic structure is continuing. This included opening up the existing fabric of the West Wing to allow for a full structural survey which is helping to define the next phase of work to include specialist conservation repair works to roof, windows and doors:
- Progression, under the Public Spending Code, in developing strategic assessment reports and preliminary business cases for other significant institutions, such as IMMA, the National Gallery, the National History Museum, National Concert Hall, Chester Beatty Library and the Abbey Theatre.

In addition to the above, final business case planning continued in relation to the redevelopment of No. 11 Parnell Square, Dublin 1, an important 18th century Georgian townhouse as a culture hub in the Parnell Square area. This project, which is being progressed in partnership with the Irish Heritage Trust and Poetry

Ireland, is partly funded by a URDF grant of €3.8 million.

Cultural Heritage - Digitisation

Over €1.27 million was disbursed through the Cultural Digitisation Scheme in 2021, which will preserve and enhance the accessibility of our cultural heritage. A flagship initiative under this scheme is the commitment to invest in the Beyond 2022 digitisation and research project led by Trinity College Dublin which was progressed during the year. This project seeks to rediscover and restore much of the archival material lost in the destruction of the Public Record Office in 1922. The Virtual Record Treasury of Ireland (an outcome of this five-year State funded programme of research) was launched on 27th June 2022. The project has combined historical investigation, archival conservation, and technical innovation, to re-imagine and recreate through digital technologies, the Public Record Office of Ireland, which was destroyed on 30th June 1922 in the opening engagement of the

The project has been endorsed by the Expert Advisory Group on Centenary Commemorations as a meaningful and permanent legacy for the State's Decade of Centenaries Programme 2012-2023. Phase II of the project (2019-2022) is supported through a capital grant allocation of €2.5 million from the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, under Project Ireland 2040. In 2021, €1,006,888 was drawn down from this overall allocation to support the ongoing project development and research collaboration costs. The project is grounded in the strength and generosity of the engagement from the international and all-island archival partners and participating organisations, currently 70 in total. The core archival partners comprise: the National Archives, the National Archives (UK), the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, the Irish Manuscripts Commission, and the Library of Trinity College Dublin.

Visitors to the free, open-access web application will be able to search a large and growing collection of digitised records, drawn from archives and libraries at home and from around the world. All these are replacement records for the originals lost in 1922. Machine-assisted transcription will make over 50 million words of content searchable.

The Virtual Reality model will be used as an interactive tool for engagement, enabling visitors to browse the virtual archive and delve deeper into the

digitised collections, identifying connections between people and places across 7 centuries of Irish history.

Sport Facilities

The Large Scale Sport Infrastructure Fund (LSSIF) was launched in 2018 to provide support for larger sports projects where the level of exchequer support is greater than that available under the Sports Capital Expenditure Programme (see details of the SCEP

under NSO 3). The fund initially focused on the requirements and development plans of National Governing Bodies of sport and Local Authorities. Following a detailed assessment process, provisional and formal allocations of €86.3 million have been announced for 33 successful applicants. A number of projects have commenced, while the majority of the projects are undergoing examination of economic analyses and financial workings or completing legal formalities before commencing on site.

Table 13: Large Scale Sport Infrastructure Fund Successful Projects in the Eastern and Midland Region

Advocates	Summary of Project	Total Grant
Dublin City Council, TU Dublin, Grangegorman Development Agency, Mountaineering Ireland, Volleyball Ireland, Basketball Ireland, Paralympics Ireland.	Grangegorman Campus - The development of an Indoor Sport Centre. Phase 1 will comprise of a Sports Hall, Gym, Fitness Studio and Changing Accommodation. Later phases will include a swimming pool with changing accommodation, squash and handball courts and indoor jogging track.	€1,747,500
Dun Laoghaire - Rathdown County Council, Irish Sailing and Irish Underwater Council	A National Watersports Campus in Dun Laoghaire including a centre for community watersports activities and public slipway and a High Performance Coaching Centre. A mixed use space for hosting international sailing championships, swimming, triathlon, rowing and canoeing. Accommodation facilities for NGB's and Campus tenants.	€441,893
Dublin City Council, Football Association of Ireland	Redevelopment of Dalymount Park creating a new four sided stadium around a re-orientated pitch. The stadium and pitch will be UEFA Category 3 compliant. The overall capacity will be 6,000. The stadium will provide a home ground for Bohemians FC and Shelbourne FC.	€918,750
Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, Archery Ireland, Fencing Ireland, Triathlon Ireland, Cycling Ireland, Special Olympics Ireland, Athletics Ireland, Gymnastics Ireland.	St Thomas's Community Multisports Complex, Tibradden Road, Whitechurch - Multisport Campus including a multisport gymnasium, hall and an indoor sprint track area. The outdoor area includes track and field facilities as well as a jogging trail around the site and a specialist outdoor archery area.	€5,250,000
R.D.S., Horse Sport Ireland, Irish Rugby Football Union	RDS Main Arena Redevelopment - Construction of a two-tier capacity grandstand to replace the existing Anglesea stand and terrace.	€10,000,000
Irish Athletic Boxing Association	Ringside Training and Education Centre - Construction of a viewing gallery and a new boxing ring. Upgrade of facilities including a new mezzanine floor and a new entrance lobby.	€300,000
Dun Laoghaire - Rathdown County Council	Samuel Beckett Civic Campus - Construction of a new Sports Building, a linear park connecting the spectator areas to the path to be suitable for wheelchairs, jogging and running.	€5,000,000
Kildare GAA, Kildare County Council, Gaelic Athletic Association, Ladies Gaelic Football Association, Camogie Association.	St Conleth's Kildare GAA Ground redevelopment, Newbridge - Construction of a new 3000 seated stand including changing facilities and public toilets. Installation of floodlighting, upgrade works to pitch including a new playing surface.	€4,875,000

Advocates	Summary of Project	Total Grant
Meath GAA, Gaelic Athletic Association, Ladies Gaelic Football Association, Camogie Association	Redevelopment of Páirc Tailteann including 4,000 Seater stand and refurbishing facilities such as dressing rooms, re-alignment of pitch and new floodlights.	€6,273,139
Meath County Council, St. Peter's GAA Club (Dunboyne)	Rooske Road, Dunboyne, Co. Meath - Linear walkway, sports playing fields, changing facilities	€2,012,276
Wicklow County Council	Wicklow Swimming Pool and Leisure Centre - Refurbish and upgrade the swimming pool facilities. Improve building accessibility for wheelchair access.	€864,177
Wicklow County Council	Charlesland Athletics Track - Replace the running track at Shoreline Sports Park	€309,642
Laois County Council	Essential safety improvement works to Portarlington Leisure Centre Swimming Pool.	€300,000
Louth County Council	Dundalk Leisure Centre Refurbishment and upgrade - Upgrade of swimming pool wet changing village with major emphasis on disability access.	€300,000

Tourism

Tourism development plays a key role in enhancing amenity and heritage (NSO 7) around the country, in conjunction with its role in strengthening rural economies and communities (NSO 3).

With specific regard to State-owned or managed built and natural heritage sites and amenities, Fáilte Ireland has developed a series of strategic partnerships with key State bodies (OPW and Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage; NPWS; Coillte; and Waterways Ireland) that own and manage attractions and sites considered to be of vital importance to tourism. Through these partnerships, Fáilte Ireland can assist with the refurbishment and enhancement of key visitor attractions and advise on further experience development and marketing, thereby assisting these bodies to unlock the tourism potential of Ireland's natural and built heritage assets and meet the growing international demand for world-class outdoor tourism experiences.

Fáilte Ireland also has, since 2018, a partnership in place with the Department of Rural and Community Development on the funding of that Department's Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme. The Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme provides funding for the development of new outdoor recreational infrastructure or the necessary maintenance, enhancement or promotion of existing outdoor recreational infrastructure in Ireland. The scheme seeks to support those sporting and recreational pursuits based on use of the resources of the countryside that contribute to healthy active lifestyles and the economic and tourism potential of the area for both local communities and tourist visitors alike.

Fáilte Ireland-supported amenity and heritage related projects advanced in 2021

In 2021, despite a second year of COVID-19 restrictions, work continued on the following Fáilte Ireland-funded amenity and heritage projects:

- The Shannon Tourism Masterplan [developed under strategic partnership between Fáilte Ireland and Waterways Ireland and in collaboration with the 10 Local Authorities along the navigation] was launched in March 2021. The Plan sets out an ambitious roadmap with 120 actions to support the Shannon to become an iconic visitor experience for Ireland's Hidden Heartlands.
- Work continued on development of the Dublin Visitor Orientation Programme, which includes the creation of a coastal trail to encourage visitors to explore and experience the Dublin coastline.
- Fáilte Ireland and Coillte progressed the
 International Mountain Biking Proposition for
 Rural Ireland, comprising four separate projects

 due to deliver four national trail centres across
 seven counties and over 300km of trails. This
 is considered to be of particular importance
 in developing the activities tourism offering in
 Ireland. The proposition includes two projects in
 the Eastern and Midland Region.
- Mountain Bike Centres in Ticknock, Dublin and Ballinastoe, Wicklow; and
- The Slieve Bloom Mountain Bike Centre, Laois/ Offaly.

In 2021 the following was delivered

- 5km of the 21km Slieve Bloom trail in Laois;
- 7km of the 17.5km Slieve Bloom trail in Offaly; and
- 2.5km of the 10.8km Ballinstoe trail.

In addition to the above projects, which are all aimed at developing the outdoors/activity offering, Fáilte Ireland also progressed its strategic partnership with the OPW and Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. This led to the completion and opening of a tourism development at the Customs House, Dublin, in 2021.

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS)

In 2021, the ORIS scheme awarded investment of €3.5 million for 189 small scale projects across the country and €15.5 million to develop 66 outdoor recreation projects and development funding for a further 18 projects. Fáilte Ireland contributed €4 million towards these projects in partnership with DRCD in 2021.

Urban Animation Scheme

Fáilte Ireland's Urban Animation Capital Investment Scheme is a pilot capital grants scheme for Local Authorities. Launched in April 2021, this scheme is aimed at supporting sustainable tourism development through public realm and urban animation projects that have the potential to transform and re-imagine urban centres for visitors and communities. Following a competitive assessment process, €4.2 million in funding was awarded to urban animation projects in six counties, where the local stories, culture and heritage will be brought to life through a variety of large-scale outdoor performance spaces, public art and light installations.

Eastern and Midland Locations (Funding):

- Dublin City Council (€847,487)
- Louth County Council (€672,208)

Platforms for Growth

Fáilte Ireland is currently investing in large-scale tourism attractions and experiences through its capital investment programme, Platforms for Growth (2019 to 2022). This programme has run two investment platforms to date – a programme of funding to support and expand immersive heritage and cultural attractions and an investment programme, in partnership with Local Authorities, to develop activity facility centres for water-based activities.

Fáilte Ireland's first call for applications (Platforms for Growth 1), in 2019, focused on the platform of immersive heritage and cultural attractions, inviting proposals for large-scale projects of €2.5 million upwards. The aim is to ensure strong economic growth by investing in heritage and cultural attractions of scale that will motivate visitors to travel, either to and/or within Ireland, but without displacing the existing attractions of a destination or disturbing the competitiveness already in mature destinations. The overall objective is to deliver brilliant experiences that allow visitors connect with Ireland and bring the national and local culture, heritage and people to life, while also delivering greater regional and seasonal spread of tourism. Significant Fáilte Ireland investment totalling over €44 million was announced in June 2021 as part of this first platform to develop four new world-class tourist attractions, including the project "This is Ireland' in Dublin City.

The second platform (Platforms for Growth 2), launched in December 2020 and involving a targeted call for applications from local authorities, aims to develop activity facility centres at waterside locations across Ireland. In April 2021, €19 million worth of investment was announced for this platform, to be used to develop world-class facility centres at 20 locations across the country where water-based activities are a key visitor attraction. These facilities, designed to serve as a hub in each locality from which multiple water-sports operators can base themselves, will provide hot showers, changing and toilet facilities, secure storage, induction spaces, equipment washdown and orientation points.

The National Sports Campus

The development of a National Velodrome and Badminton Centre was included in the National Development Plan published in October 2021. The objective of the National Velodrome and Badminton Centre project is to contribute to the success of high performance programmes and to increase participation in both track cycling and badminton, with positive impacts for both national pride and social well-being. The high class indoor facilities that will be included as part of this national infrastructure will have a significant impact on Ireland's international track cycling programme in particular and will further the development of track cycling and badminton. A Preliminary Business Case in respect of the project was approved by the Minister in November 2021. Design work and preparation for a planning application is underway.

3.8

National Strategic Outcome 8 - Climate-Resilient Society

Project Ireland 2040 highlights the centrality of this NSO to all other elements of spatial policy. The themes highlighted in the NPF focus on the role of spatial policy in influencing where we live, where we work and how we travel. These are all directly relevant to the pattern of energy use and in particular, the current level of harmful greenhouse gas emissions to which Ireland is committed to achieving substantial reductions.

Project Ireland 2040 continued to see major investment by the commercial state sector in energy. EirGrid and ESB have two major investments planned in the area:

- The North-South Interconnector has secured planning in both jurisdictions and a judicial challenge in Northern Ireland upheld the planning decision. Progress has been made on landowner engagement, surveys and borehole investigations at tower sites.
- The Kildare Meath project to strengthen the electricity network between the Dunstown substation in Kildare and the Woodland station in Meath has made strong progress throughout 2021. Underground Cable was identified as the best performing technology option in April and a 12 week public consultation was held on draft route options concluding in November 2021. Landowner engagement is underway on the 50km route with the majority of landowners already met.
- EirGrid/ESB are in the construction phase of an electricity project to reinforce the network in the general Laois-Kilkenny region. Works are on-going on the reinforcement project, with stakeholder interactions and discussions continuing.
- East Meath North Dublin is a proposed development to reinforce the network in that region to meet growing demand for electricity in the east of the country and will support the flow of renewable energy to meet this demand from other parts of the country. Feasibility assessments have been undertaken on technology options to inform public consultation which will commence in 2022.
- ESB enacted their first battery storage projects at Poolbeg and South Wall in Dublin.

Climate Action Fund

The South Dublin County Council Tallaght District Heating Network is well underway with €4.45 million in support being provided from the Climate Action Fund. This project will see waste heat from a data centre used to heat surrounding buildings, including the Tallaght campus of the Technological University Dublin and other civic buildings. The first phase of the project will be completed and operational in Q3 2022 The network, when completed, will result in an estimated reduction in carbon dioxide emissions in the South Dublin County area of nearly 1,500 tonnes per year.

Up to €20 million is also being invested to develop the Dublin District Heating System from the Climate Action Fund. The system will capture waste heat generated at industrial facilities, in particular, the Dublin Waste to Energy Plant in Ringsend and piping it into homes and businesses in the Poolbeg, Ringsend and Docklands areas of Dublin city. The preliminary business case for this project has been prepared.

Climate Action Regional Offices

Four Climate Action Regional Offices (CAROs), www.caro.ie, were established in 2018 to facilitate effective climate action at regional and local level. The CAROs are operated by a lead Local Authority in four different regions around the country. The four Dublin Local Authority areas are covered by the Dublin Metropolitan Region CARO, which is operated by Dublin City Council. Counties Kildare, Meath and Wicklow are covered by the Midland and Eastern Region CARO, which is operated by Kildare County Council. The Midland Region is covered by the Midland and Eastern Region CARO which is operated by Kildare County Council.

In 2021, the CAROs played a key role supporting the delivery of actions for the local authority sector in the Climate Action Plan across a number of headings including Governance and Partnership, Adaptation, Mitigation, Communication and Engagement, Training and Educations and Knowledge Development. The Midland and Eastern Region CARO with support from Tipperary County Council and the Local Authority Services National Training Group supported delivery of the Local Authority Climate Action Training Programme. This Programme aims to develop capacity within the Local Authority sector to deliver ambitious climate action measures at local level. Under the Programme in 2021, climate action training was

delivered online or in person to close to 9,000 LA staff across all grades.

Flood Relief Schemes in the Eastern and Midland Region

There were 40 flood relief schemes underway or planned for the Eastern and Midland Region in 2021 across the following counties:

Table 14: Flood Relief Schemes in the Eastern and Midland Region

County	Number of Schemes
Dublin	16
Kildare	7
Laois	3
Louth	5
Meath	1
Offaly	1
Westmeath	1
Wicklow	6

These include the River Poddle Flood Alleviation Scheme, Dundalk Flood Relief Scheme and the Arklow Flood relief scheme. They also include four schemes at construction the Athlone Flood Alleviation Scheme, the Morell River Flood Management Scheme, the Ashbourne Flood Relief Scheme and the River Dodder Flood Relief Scheme. These schemes when complete will provide protection to more than 600 properties.

3.9

National Strategic Outcome 9 – Sustainable Management of Water and other Environmental Resources

The National Planning Framework (NPF) highlights the centrality of our sustainable water resources to underpin our environmental and economic well-being into the future, against the backdrop of the significant deficits in the capacity and quality of our current provision.

A major milestone was reached in 2021 with the completion of the Leixlip Water Treatment Plant. Irish Water invested over €12 million to reduce the risk of any future boil water notices and safeguard drinking water to 600,000 people in the Greater Dublin Area.

There are currently 45 water and waste water projects planned in Dublin.

Table 15: Irish Water Projects in the Eastern and Midland Region

County	Completed	In Progress	Planned
Dublin	4	20	45
Kildare	2	5	10
Meath	2	3	12
Wicklow	0	2	8
Laois	0	0	2
Longford	0	0	3
Offaly	3	0	3
Westmeath	0	2	3
Louth	0	4	10
Totals	11	36	96

The Ballycoolen to Kingstown Trunk Water Mains project started construction in 2021 and involves the construction of a new trunk water main to serve parts of Dublin North City and North County Dublin benefitting residents, businesses, hospitals and agriculture. The existing water main is operating beyond its capacity, which results in low water pressure across the region during periods of peak demand. As the water main is a critical part of the supply network, it cannot be taken out of service to be upgraded.

The absence of additional infrastructure in the region prevents Irish Water from diverting available drinking water supplies to areas experiencing a loss of supply whilst emergency works (or planned improvement works) are underway on the existing water main. Moreover, the current water main does not enable future growth across the region.

The new additional trunk water main will improve the security of supply and resilience of the network; enable long-term social and economic development in the wider Fingal area; and ensure that water pressures are maximised.

The Saggart Reservoir started construction in 2021. This strategically important project involves the construction of a new 100 million litre covered treated storage reservoir that will help to safeguard the water supply to homes and businesses in the Greater Dublin Area. The construction of the new reservoir and associate pipelines is expected to be completed within 3 years. The upgrade marks the first significant investment in the existing Saggart waterworks since it was built in the 1950's.

There are currently 8 water and waste water projects in progress in the Mid-East, e.g. The Upper Liffey Valley Sewerage Scheme project is in progress. Irish Water is upgrading the waste water infrastructure in Newbridge as part of the Upper Liffey Valley Sewerage Scheme; Sallins, Clane, Naas and Kill are served by a waste water network which is no longer fit for purpose. This can cause overflows and flooding during storms. Irish Water is investing over €38 million to solve the problem and to provide additional capacity for future growth in these towns.

A major milestone was reached in the elimination of raw sewage, with construction starting on the Arklow Wastewater Treatment Plant in 2021. The project will provide wastewater treatment through the development of a new, state of the art, wastewater treatment plant at the Old Wallboard Factory, North Quay, Ferrybank in Arklow. The project will also include the construction of two interceptor sewers (along the North and South Quay) to bring untreated wastewater to the new treatment plant, and a marine outfall pipe to safely discharge the treated effluent into the Irish Sea.

Eliminating the discharge of untreated wastewater into the River Avoca continues to be a key priority for Irish Water and this project is critical in ending this current practice and safeguarding the wastewater system in Arklow for the future. The new wastewater treatment plant will have significant benefits for both residents and businesses as well as tourists that visit the area as it will improve the water quality in the River Avoca and enable future economic growth.

Landfill Remediation Grant Programme

Total funding of €20.2 million million was provided in 2021 to support landfill remediation work on 70 sites across 21 local authorities. Of this, a total of €14.7 million of the expenditure was for the completion of the final stage of works at the former landfill site at Kerdiffstown, Kildare. In 2020 Kildare County Council successfully awarded tender for remediation works and the creation of a recreational park, which is the largest landfill remediation project in the State. Work commenced in November 2020. The contract term is for 54 months with completion date scheduled in 2025. The Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications is committed to supporting completion of the Kerdiffstown landfill remediation project on an annual basis. The creation of Kerdiffstown Park at the site delivers a remediation solution which is acceptable to the local community and integrates sustainable design and development in both the remediation works and the operation of a multi-use public park. Kerdiffstown Park is designed to be fully accessible and will include sports and recreational facilities including pitches and changing areas, art installations and will be considerate of local ecological protection. Kildare County Council has engaged extensively with the local community to identify and meet local needs in the course of developing long term site management.

3.10

National Strategic Outcome 10 - Access to Quality Childcare, Education and Health Services

Access to quality primary education, health services and childcare, relative to the scale of a region, city, town, neighbourhood or community is a defining characteristic of attractive, successful and competitive places. Project Ireland 2040 provides significant public investment in education and health infrastructure to meet current infrastructure needs, cater for an estimated population growth of one million and respond to Ireland's changing demographic profile.

There were 70 school building projects delivered under the Large Scale and Additional Accommodation Scheme in the Eastern and Midland Region in 2021 of which 25 (listed in the table below) were of a value in excess of €1 million.

Table 16: School Building Projects in excess of €1 million delivered in the Eastern and Midland Region in 2021

No.	County	School	School Type
1	Dublin	Coláiste Eoin	Post Primary
2	Dublin	Donaghmede Howth Dublin 13 Primary School	Primary
3	Dublin	Howth NS	Primary
4	Dublin	Lusk Community College - Phase II	Post Primary
5	Dublin	Pobalscoil losolde, Palmerstown	Post Primary
6	Dublin	Scoil Iosagain	Primary
7	Dublin	St Oliver Plunkett, Malahide	Primary
8	Dublin	St Patricks NS, Castleknock	Primary
9	Dublin	Stepaside ETSS D16	Post Primary
10	Dublin	Maryfield College	Post Primary
11	Kildare	Maynooth ETNS	Primary
12	Kildare	St Joseph's NS, Kilcock	Primary
13	Laois	Heywood Community School	Post Primary
14	Laois	St. Francis Special School, Portlaoise	Special Education
15	Longford	St Christopher's Special School, Battery Rd, Longford Town	Special Education
16	Meath	Ratoath Community College	Post Primary
17	Meath	SN Cros Ban, Whitecross, Julianstown	Primary
18	Meath	St Paul's NS, Abbeylands, Navan	Primary
19	Meath	Boyne Community School, Trim	Post Primary
20	Meath	Coláiste Rioga	Post Primary
21	Offaly	Killina Presentation Sec School	Post Primary
22	Offaly	Scoil Cholmain Naofa	Primary
23	Westmeath	Diarmada NS, Castlepollard	Primary
24	Wicklow	Community National School Greystones	Primary
25	Wicklow	Scoil Naomh Iosaf, Baltinglass	Primary

Source: Department of Education

A further 498 schools building projects were at various stages of planning, design and construction of which 316 have a value in excess of €1 million.

Table 17: Status of ongoing School Building Projects being delivered in the Eastern and Midland Region in 2021 which have a value in excess of €1 million.

Status of Ongoing Project (EMR)	Eastern and Midland
Project Brief	48
Stage 1 (Preliminary Design)	116
Stage 2a (Developed Sketch Scheme)	30
Stage 2b (Detailed Design)	55
Stage 3 (Tender Stage)	30
Onsite	37
Grand Total	316

Source: Department of Education

Health

In 2021, COVID-19 continued to impact the programme of capital works in the health sector. Progress was made on a number of COVID-19 specific projects but also other projects completed construction such as the National Forensic Mental Hospital, Portrane, a number of primary care centres and additional capacity projects. In 2021, acute service projects completed in the Eastern and Midland region included the specialist Neuro Interventional Radiology Thrombectomy Service at Beaumont, the New Children's Hospital Paediatric Ambulatory and Urgent Care Centre at Tallaght University Hospital; and the provision of a second MRI at St Vincent's University Hospital.

As part of the CNU programme, the upgrade, extension and refurbishment of Clarehaven and Seancara were completed and became operational. In addition, three new Primary Care Centres were delivered by lease agreement (Ballyboden, Banagher / Kilcormac and Rathdrum) together with an extension to Kildare Primary Care Centre, again by lease agreement. Also in 2021, the refurbishment of Stanhope Terrace was completed and will provide accommodation for those currently in the Weir Home.

Table 18: Health capital projects completed and operational in the Eastern and Midland Region in 2021

Facility	Project details	Completed	Operational
Ballyboden, Co. Dublin	Primary Care Centre, by lease agreement	2021	2022
Beaumont Hospital, Dublin 9	Development of a specialist Neuro Interventional Radiology Thrombectomy service	2021	2021
Beaumont Hospital, Dublin 9	Emergency Department treatment bay – reconfigure space to provide additional assessment bays 9 and remodel existing space in ED to expand existing general waiting area	2021	2021
Beaumont Hospital, Dublin 9	Recovery area necessary to satisfy C-19 requirements and creation of 16 (additional) endoscopy beds.	2021	2021
Beaumont Hospital, Dublin 9	Respiratory and Infectious Disease Assessment Unit – reconfigure open ward area to provide isolation cubicles and support rooms for respiratory assessment and direct admission	2021	2021
CHI, Tallaght, Dublin	Paediatric Ambulatory and Urgent Care Centre	2021	2021
Clonskeagh Hospital, Dublin 6	Fire alarm and emergency lighting replacement	2021	2021
Connolly Hospital, Dublin 15	Connolly Wing additional waiting areas	2021	2022
Connolly Hospital, Dublin 15	Laboratory extension	2021	2021
Connolly Hospital, Dublin 15	Segregate within ED for COVID-19 positive patients and social distancing measures	2021	2021
Kildare, Co. Kildare	Primary Care Centre, by lease agreement (extension of facility)	2021	2021

Facility	Project details	Completed	Operational
Midland Regional Hospital, Tullamore, Co. Offaly	Upgrade fans and ventilation ductwork throughout hospital	2021	2021
National Forensic Mental Health Services Hospital, Portrane, Co. Dublin	Phase 1: National Forensic Central Hospital (100 replacement and 70 additional beds	2021	2022
Our Lady's Hospital, Navan, Co. Meath	Modifications to theatres and increased recovery area to make second theatre operational for elective surgery	2021	2021
Rathdrum, Co. Wicklow	Primary Care Centre, by lease agreement	2021	2021
Sean Cara, Co. Dublin	Upgrade, extension and refurbishment to achieve HIQA compliance	2021	2021
St. James's Hospital, Dublin 8	Reconfiguration of current Catheterisation Lab Unit and replacement of the equipment	2021	2021
St. Mary's Hospital, Phoenix Park, Dublin	Upgrade of heating system in original main building	2021	2021
St. Vincent's University Hospital, Dublin 4	Provision of a second MRI	2021	2021
Stanhope Terrace, Dublin North Central	Refurbishment of Stanhope Terrace to provide accommodation for people currently in the Weir Home	2021	2022
Banagher / Kilcormac, Co.Offaly	Primary Care Centre, by lease agreement	2021	2021
CHI, Temple Street, Dublin 1	Interim Works including: ECG room, Admissions Unit, Cochlear Implant / Audiology Facility, Rapid Access Clinic in ED, Endoscopy and Radiology upgrade and Neurology Unit.	2021	2021

Source: HSE Capital and Estates

Appendix

Major Project Investment Tracker - May 2022 Edition

Details of a wider selection of projects are available on the Project Ireland 2040 map MyProjectIreland at gov.ie/2040.

Name of Project	Brief Description of Project	Location	Construction Commencement Date (Year)	Construction Completion Date (Year)
Hammond Lane Development	The project involves the development of the Family Law Courts.	Dublin	2024	2026
Criminal Courts of Justice - PPP: Ongoing Unitary Charge Payments	The Criminal Courts of Justice is the principal courts building for the criminal courts in Ireland.	Dublin	2009	2035
Abbey Theatre	The project involves the development of a new theatre, addressing longstanding shortcomings of the current building and creating a 21st century building to house Ireland's National Theatre.	Dublin	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
Chester Beatty Library	The project encompasses enhanced display, storage and educational facilities in conjunction with OPW Dublin Castle Masterplan.	Dublin	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
Irish Museum of Modern Art	The project includes an update of the existing plan for the full site at the Royal Hospital Kilmainham.	Dublin	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
National Archives	The project encompasses the provision of secure environmentally controlled Archival Repository in full compliance with internationally accepted archival storage standards. The project will convert the existing single-story warehouse to a two-storey Archival Repository with increased storage capacity.	Dublin	2022	2024
National Concert Hall	The project will provide a new development plan for the Earlsfort Terrace complex including a newly refurbished and extended main auditorium; improved musician's facilities and a reorganisation of public facilities.	Dublin	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
National Gallery of Ireland	The project will provide the Phase 4 Master Development Plan plus buildings on Merrion Street - dedicated spaces for Conservation, Education, Library and Archive services and visitor flow reorientation	Dublin	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
National Library of Ireland	The project involves the reimagining of the National Library to enhance the building, visitor experience and collections.	Dublin	2018	Subject to Appraisal
National Museum of Ireland	Under this project, a separate masterplan will be developed for each National Museum of Ireland site. Phase 1 will see the upgrading and redevelopment of the Natural History Museum with priority actions in relation to accessibility, health and safety.	Dublin	2022	2027
North Runway Project at Dublin Airport	Construction of a second parallel runway at Dublin Airport to provide increased runway capacity.	Dublin	2016	2022

Name of Project	Brief Description of Project	Location	Construction Commencement Date (Year)	Construction Completion Date (Year)
DCU Future Tech Building	New building to expand university capacity in key STEM areas, c9,500sqm.	Dublin	2022	2024
Technological University Dublin Grangegorman	This major project will see the development of a new city campus for TU Dublin in Grangegorman. The PPP element of Programme II comprises the Central Quad (Food, Sciences, Health and Engineering) completed in March 2021 and East Quad (Creative and Cultural Industries) of the campus completed in December 2020.	Dublin	2018	2021
E3 Trinity College Dublin	GDA to date (the PPP Quads were procured by the NDFA on behalf of the Minister for Education, with the GDA acting as Sponsoring Agency). The building extends to 12,600 m2 and will be an academic, social and cultural hub for the new campus.	Dublin	2021	2023
Maynooth Post-Primary schools - 70700A and 76193Q	A new 1,000 pupil post-primary school and a 1,000 pupil replacement post-primary school with a stand-alone shared PE Hall.	Kildare	2017	2021
Royal Irish Academy of Music (RIAM) redevelopment	The project involves the redevelopment of RIAM premises on Westland Row to facilitate expansion in student numbers and quality education and cultural spaces.	Dublin	2020	2022
Swords Community College - 76475D	A new school building to cater for 1000 pupils plus a 4 class SEN base	Dublin	2019	2020
Technological University of the Shannon: Midland Midwest (Athlone campus) STEM building	A new STEM Building which, with decanted space elsewhere on campus, will increase capacity of the institution in areas of key skills needs in the Midland region. Part of the Higher Education PPP Programme.	Westmeath	2022	2024
IADT Digital Media Building	A new Digital Media Building, which will include computer labs, design labs, classroom spaces, and the main campus restaurant. In conjunction with decanted space elsewhere on campus, the new building will increase capacity of the institution by 360 students. Part of the Higher Education PPP Programme.	Dublin	2022	2024
TU Dublin Blanchardstown Teaching Building	A new Teaching Building which will increase capacity of the institution by 500 students. Part of the Higher Education PPP Programme.	Dublin	2022	2024
TU Dublin Tallaght Culinary Arts, Hospitality and Tourism, and Engineering Building	A new Culinary Arts, Engineering and Teaching Building and will include labs, lecture theatres, kitchens and classrooms. In conjunction with decanted space elsewhere on campus, the new building will increase capacity of the institution by 1,118 students. Part of the Higher Education PPP Programme.	Dublin	2022	2024
Maynooth University Technology Society and Innovation Building	The project will enable an increase of 3,370 students in areas such as business, law, design, biochemical sciences and environmental and climate sciences. The project is being cofunded under the Higher Education Strategic Infrastructure Fund.	Kildare	2019	2022

Name of Project	Brief Description of Project	Location	Construction Commencement Date (Year)	Construction Completion Date (Year)
UCD Future Campus Phase 1	This project will include a new Centre for Future Learning and a Centre for Creativity as Phase 1 of a planned transformative process for the Belfield campus. The project will facilitate enrolment growth in UCD of 3,300 additional students. The project is being co-funded under the Higher Education Strategic Infrastructure Fund.	Dublin	2022	2024
Garda Station - Military Road Dublin	This project is the construction of a major Garda facility, Military Road, D8, designed to replace Harcourt Sq.	Dublin	2020	2022
Beaumont Emergency Department	The project will bring a new Emergency Department and reconfiguration of existing facilities.	Dublin	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
Beaumont Hospital Radiation Oncology Unit	This project is the Phase 2 development of facilities on Beaumont Hospital Campus.	Dublin	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
Beaumont, Radiation Oncology	Linacs Refreshment/Replacement Programme (equipping Phase 2)	Dublin	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
Rotunda Hospital West Wing	West Wing Redevelopement and extension.	Dublin	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
Coombe Hospital at St James's	The project includes the relocation of services. At present, the project brief is being developed in accordance with the Review of Maternity Services.	Dublin	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
Mater Dublin Clinical Laboratory Replacement	The project will see investment in the provision of a new Laboratory.	Dublin	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
Mullingar Theatres	This project (phase 3) includes the replacement ward accommodation, Theatre Department and Emergency Department.	Westmeath	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
National Forensic Mental Hospital on Portrane campus (Central Mental Hospital)	The provision of a replacement for the Central Mental Hospital including accommodation for Adolescents and persons with an Intellectual Disability.	Dublin	2017	2021
National Maternity Hospital	The relocation of the National Maternity Hospital in line with maternity strategy.	Dublin	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
National Rehabilitation Hospital Redevelopment - Phase 1	Phase 1 - provision of 120 replacement beds and associated therapy space.	Dublin	2017	2019
New Children's Hospital	The project will provide a tertiary paediatric hospital (384 Beds) on the St James's Hospital campus and satellite centres on the Connolly and Tallaght campuses.	Dublin	2017	2024
Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda (Phases 2-4)	This project will (Phases 2-4) involves the construction of a ward block to accommodate a Clinical Decision Unit, 58 replacement beds (single rooms), new theatre department and Emergency Department expansion.	Louth	2016	2020

Name of Project	Brief Description of Project	Location	Construction Commencement	Construction Completion
			Date (Year)	Date (Year)
Tallaght Renal Dialysis Unit	This project encompasses the upgrade and replacement of the existing Renal Dialysis Unit and Reverse Osmosis water system.	Dublin	2018	2020
New Visual Control Tower at Dublin Airport	This project will develop a new visual control tower at Dublin Airport to facilitate tower control services in a parallel runway environment.	Dublin	2017	2021
Arklow Sewerage Scheme Wastewater Treatment Plant	The Arklow Sewerage Scheme project will include the development of a new Waste Water Treatment Plant and associated network to stop the discharge of untreated wastewater to the Avoca River.	Wicklow	2021	2025
Athlone Sewerage Scheme	The Athlone Sewerage Scheme Project will address requirements of the Environmental Protection Agency Waste Water Discharge Licensing and provide critical new infrastructure to address existing shortcomings.	Westmeath	2022	2025
Ballycoolen Trunk Main (Ballycoolen/ Kingstown)	The Ballycoolen to Kingstown Trunk Water Main scheme will provide immediate security of supply and provide adequate water supplies for future developments in the Mid and North Fingal area.	Dublin	2021	2024
Blanchardstown Sewerage Scheme	The Blanchardstown Sewerage Scheme will provide for future development in the catchment inclusive of parts of Meath and Kildare and prevent uncontrolled overflows to the Tolka.	Dublin	2019	2023
Drogheda and Dundalk Water Supply Schemes	The project invested in the upgrade of the 2 water sources for Louth namely Drogheda and Dundalk Water Supply Schemes.	Louth	2017	2020
Greater Dublin Drainage	The Greater Dublin Drainage (GDD) project will develop a new regional wastewater treatment facility and associated infrastructure to serve Dublin and parts of the surrounding counties of Kildare and Meath. GDD represents the next major step in the development of the wastewater treatment infrastructure in greater Dublin, recognising its continued growth. GDD will provide capacity to treat wastewater for up to half a million people in north county Dublin and parts of Kildare and Meath.	Dublin	2025	2029
Kilkenny Wastewater Network	Irish Water is progressing the drainage area planning phase of the Kilkenny City Wastewater Network. The objective of this project is to upgrade the wastewater network.	Kilkenny	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
Leixlip Transfer Pipeline	The Leixlip Transfer Pipeline project will included the construction of a new rising main and gravity sewer and upgrade to the wastewater network in Leixlip to cater for additional demand.	Kildare	2020	2022

Name of Project	Brief Description of Project	Location	Construction Commencement Date (Year)	Construction Completion Date (Year)
Old Connaught/ Woodbrook Water Scheme	This scheme involves the provision of strategic reservoir storage and associated water mains connections which will provide network resilience and flexibility to the designated supply area which includes parts of Southeast Dublin (Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council) and parts of North County Wicklow. The area is currently dependent on a single source, the Vartry Water Treatment Plant, with limited reservoir storage.	Dublin	2023	2025
Peamount to Saggart Pump Station and Rising Main	This project enabled Leixlip WTP to supply additional treated water to Saggart Reservoir and thereby provide additional treated water to Dublin City and South Dublin County.	Dublin	2018	2020
Ringsend - Rathmines and Pembroke - Wastewater Network	Irish Water are progressing the drainage area planning phase of the Ringsend - Rathmines and Pembroke Wastewater Network. The objective of this project is to upgrade the wastewater network.	Dublin	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
Ringsend Wastewater Treatment Plant Project	The Ringsend Wastewater Treatment Plant project provides over 40% of Ireland's wastewater treatment capacity. The plant is currently overloaded and unable to comply with the standards of the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive. In addition, further capacity is required to support development in the Greater Dublin Region. The project will increase the capacity of the plant to 2.4 million population equivalent which will bring benefits to Dublin city and surrounding areas in terms of health, environmental protection and improved water quality for all and provide for future growth.	Dublin	2018	2025
Saggart Reservoir	The scope of the project involves the provision of storage reservoir at Saggart which will address storage deficits in downstream reservoirs (Ballyboden, Cookstown, Peamount and Belgard) and takes cognisance of the proposed East and Midland Water Supply project.	Dublin	2021	2024
Regional Biosolids Storage Facility	The Regional Biosolids Storage Facility is a facility for the storage of treated biosolids produced from wastewater treatment plants in greater Dublin. The new biosolids storage facility will form a key part of the upgraded wastewater treatment network for greater Dublin and will facilitate its continued social and economic growth while protecting the environment.	Dublin	2022	2024

Name of Project	Brief Description of Project	Location	Construction Commencement Date (Year)	Construction Completion Date (Year)
Upper Liffey Valley Sewerage Scheme 2B	The aim of this project is to provide an upgrade of the existing waste water collection networks within the catchments in the Osberstown agglomeration through the development of existing pumping stations and construction of new rising mains and gravity sewers. This is required to facilitate the effective collection and transfer of the waste water generated within the collection network to the Waste Water Treatment Plant at Osberstown. It is also to provide a scheme which is in line with modern practices and compliant with current environmental legislation and sustainability principles.	Kildare	2019	2022
Upper Liffey Valley Sewerage Scheme Phase 3 Contract 2A	Irish Water is progressing the Upper Liffey Valley Sewerage 2A which includes the construction of a new interceptor sewer to connect Newbridge to the Osberstown Wastewater Treatment Plant.	Kildare	2019	2020
Vartry Water Supply Scheme	The Vartry Water Supply Upgrade project will provide a population of 200,000 with safe and sustainable drinking water. It will ensure compliance with requirements set out in the European Union Drinking Water Directive and National Drinking Water Regulation and will enable the removal of the scheme from the Environmental Protection Agency's Remedial Action List, which identifies water supplies that are in need of improvement. The project involves the replacement of the existing Vartry water treatment plant with a new plant on the same site, a new pipeline, the Vartry to Callowhill link, to replace the existing Vartry tunnel, upgrade works to the Vartry Reservoir, a new covered storage reservoir at Stillorgan and associated works.	Wicklow	2017	2022
Water Supply Project - Eastern and Midland Region	The Water Supply Project - Eastern and Midland Region will represent the first major comprehensive upgrade of 'new source' infrastructure in over 60 years and will meet the domestic and commercial needs of over 40% of Ireland's population into the medium to long term.	National	2025	2030

Name of Project	Brief Description of Project	Location	Construction Commencement Date (Year)	Construction Completion Date (Year)
Dodder Valley Sewer Reinforcement	This project provides for the implementation of the measures identified from the Drainage Area Plan to address the highest priority risks namely storm water overflows to the River Dodder and sewer flooding from the Dodder Valley Sewer which is a strategic sewer within the Ringsend agglomeration. The Dodder Valley Sewer is a foul sewer however it conveys significant storm flows in response to rainfall and these flows have increased over time due to increased impermeable area being connected to the network, primarily through misconnections. In order to provide for growth and future development measures will be required including reinforcement works on the Dodder Valley Sewer to manage storm flows.	Dublin	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
Kilkenny Regional Water Supply Scheme - Upgrade of Troyswood Water Treatment Plant	Kilkenny City Regional Water Supply Scheme will provide adequate water supply with respect to quality and capacity. This project will include the installation of a new treated water trunk main from Troyswood Water Treatment Plant to Radestown Water Treatment Plant for storage, upgrade of Troyswood Water Treatment Plant including storage and sludge treatment facilities.	Kilkenny	2021	2023
Lower Liffey Valley	The primary objective is to focus on storm water overflow compliance and provide for growth.	Kildare	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
Maynooth Transfer Pipeline	Provision for increase in pass forward flow transfer capacity between Maynooth and Leixlip Wastewater Treatment Plant to protect environment and facilitate growth. To eliminate existing flows from Maynooth being pumped through an overloaded network in Leixlip.	Kildare	2023	2026
Forensic Science Laboratory	This project will see the construction of a new Forensic Science Laboratory at Backweston, Co. Kildare	Kildare	2020	2022
Carlingford Flood Relief Scheme	This project will deliver a new Flood Relief Scheme for Carlingford.	Louth	2025	2028
Dundalk Flood Relief Scheme	This project is a Flood Relief Scheme for Dundalk.	Louth	2024	2027
Hawkins House	Assessment of Site and possible development.	Dublin	2021	2022
Leeson Lane redevelopment	Redevelopment of the Leeson Lane site for office accommodation.	Dublin	2022	2023
Merrion Square/Fenian Street	Redevelopment of site for office accommodation and deep retrofit of existing historic buildings.	Dublin	2026	2028
Tom Johnson House	Redevelopment of Tom Johnson House for office accommodation.	Dublin	2022	2023
National Convention Centre Unitary Payments	Unitary payments are related to the estimated cost of Design Build Finance Operate and Maintain (DBFOM) over a 25 year period.	Dublin	1998	2010

Name of Project	Brief Description of Project	Location	Construction Commencement Date (Year)	Construction Completion Date (Year)
Children's Science Centre, North Wing, National Concert Hall	Development of Children's Science Centre at the North Wing of the National Concert Hall Campus, including interactive science spaces, a lecture and planetarium space.	Dublin	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
Distillers Building Smithfield	Fit-out of office accommodation	Dublin	2022	2024
Ardee bypass	The proposed scheme will be a Type 2 Single Carriageway and comprise six road junctions, including a proposed roundabout on the N2, and two river bridge structures.	Louth	2022	2024
Athy Southern Distributor Road	Construction of a Distributor Road to the south of Athy connecting to the N78	Kildare	2022	2024
Luas Cross City	This project is to provide Capacity Enhancement for the Luas Green Line and includes: a) lengthening of the 26 existing Green line trams from 43 metres to 55 metres, significantly increasing their passenger capacity; b) procurement of eight new 55 metre-long trams to cater for the forecast increased passenger demand to 2027; and c) extension of the Sandyford Depot to accommodate the maintenance of the longer trams.	Dublin	2013	2017
Luas Green Line Capacity Enhancement	This project is to provide Capacity Enhancement for the Luas Green Line and includes: a) lengthening of the 26 existing Green line trams from 43 metre to 55 metre, significantly increasing their passenger capacity; b) procurement of eight new 55 metre-long trams to cater for the forecast increased	Dublin	2017	2021
	passenger demand to 2027; and c) extension of the Sandyford Depot to accommodate the maintenance of the longer trams.			
M11 Capacity Enhancement (Phase 1 and Phase 2)	The corridor under consideration is the existing corridor of the N11/M11. The scheme extends from Junction 4 (M11) to Junction 14 (Coyne's Cross). The scheme is 22km in length with approximately 4km in Dún Laoghaire –Rathdown County Council (DLRCC) and the remaining 18km within the jurisdiction of Wicklow County Council (WCC). There is a Section 85 Agreement in place between DLRCC and WCC with WCC acting as the Sponsoring Agency.	Wicklow	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
M50 Enhancing Motorway Operation Services (EMOS) - M50 Traffic Flow Optimisation	The project involves the implementation of demand management measures on the M50 including mandatory Variable Speed Limit Systems and Lane Control Signalling.	Dublin	2017	2022

Name of Project	Brief Description of Project	Location	Construction Commencement Date (Year)	Construction Completion Date (Year)
M7 Naas to Newbridge Bypass Widening	The scheme involves the widening of the M7 motorway from a 2-lane into a 3-lane carriageway, in each direction, starting from the 3 lane N7 dual carriageway east of Junction 9 Naas North to the M7 and M9 merge at Junction 11 in Co. Kildare (13.5 km). The scheme includes the removal of the existing on/off access ramps at Junction 10 Naas South and the construction of a new interchange, immediately south of the existing Junction 10.	Kildare	2017	2020
MetroLink	The MetroLink project is the development of a north-south urban railway service that will run between Swords and Charlemont, connecting key destinations including Dublin Airport and the City Centre along the 19km route. There will be a total of 15 new stations, 3,000 additional Park and Ride spaces, and a journey time of approximately 25 minutes from Swords to City Centre.	Dublin	2025	2034
N2 Slane Bypass	An N2 bypass of Slane is required to alleviate traffic congestion in the village and to reduce the potential for serious vehicular accidents due to the steep approaches to the very narrow Slane Bridge and the high commercial vehicle content in the traffic flow.	Meath	2024	2026
National Indoor Arena Phase 2	This project will provide indoor pitches and ancillary facilities mainly for use by rugby, football and Gaelic games, though they can be used for all field sports.	Dublin	2017	2019
National Train Control Centre	This project will deliver a modern replacement Centralised Traffic Control Centre that will integrate signalling and communications control across the entire larnród Éireann network, and thereby optimise rail traffic management and origin-to-destination performance. The National Train Control Centre, which will also act as a co-located traffic management centre (Dublin City Council, Gardai and others).	Dublin	2017	2025
R407 Sallins Bypass	R407 Sallins Bypass will be located to the West of Sallins Town commencing at the proposed M7 Osberstown Interchange and tying into the existing R407 Clane Road to the North of Sallins Town. The bypass will be approximately 3.6kms in length. Two link roads - Sallins Link Road and the Distributor Link Road are included in the scheme.	Kildare	2017	2021
R498 Latteragh Upgrade	The R498 Realignment at Latteragh is on the Nenagh to Thurles Road. This is an important regional road carrying significant levels of traffic. The proposed realignment would provide an improved section of road to cater more safely for all road users.	Tipperary	2023	2025

Name of Project	Brief Description of Project	Location	Construction Commencement Date (Year)	Construction Completion Date (Year)
Velodrome and National Badminton Centre	A 250 metre cycling track, 12-16 Badminton Courts in the in-track area, spectator seating and ancillary facilities including office space.	Dublin	2023	2024
Bunratty Road (Phase 1c)	This project is intended as one of the pilot projects for a wider volumetric roll-out. 78 units are expected to be delivered and Stage 4 Approval issued 07/06/2019	Dublin	2019	2022
Springvale, Chapelizod	This project is intended as one of the pilot projects for a wider volumetric roll-out. 71 units are expected to be delivered and Stage 4 Approval issued 07/06/2019	Dublin	2020	2022
Nangor Road, Clondalkin	This projects involves the construction of 93 units on Council owned land, and is a mix of 1/2/3 bedroom apartments and 2/3 bedroom homes.	Dublin	2022	2023
Cornamona, Ballyfermot	This scheme will deliver 61 new social housing units and was stage 4 approved 12/03/2019 and is currently on site	Dublin	2019	2022
Bonham Street, Dublin 8	This project is intended as one of the pilot projects for a wider volumetric roll-out. 57 units are expected to be delivered and Stage 4 Approval issued 07/06/2019	Dublin	2019	2022
Cork Street, Dublin 8.	This project is intended as one of the pilot projects for a wider volumetric roll-out. 55 units are expected to be delivered and Stage 4 Approval issued 07/06/2019	Dublin	2020	2022
St. Teresa's Gardens	St Teresa's Gardens was identified as a regeneration site in the 1990's. The first phase will deliver 54 new social housing homes and is currently on site	Dublin	2019	2020
Dominick Street (East Side)	This Regeneration development will comprise 72 social housing homes with commercial space and a community centre. The proposal also includes a basement car park with 48 car parking spaces, cycle parking and ancillary accommodation accessed from Dominick Place to the east of the site	Dublin	2018	2021
Mount Avenue Dundalk Co Louth	Provision of 93 new social housing units.	Louth	2023	2024
Naas Community College -76194S	A new 1,000 pupil post-primary school building plus a 2 classroom SEN Base.	Kildare	2020	2021

Name of Project	Brief Description of Project	Location	Construction Commencement Date (Year)	Construction Completion Date (Year)
Blessington Lake Greenway	This project will allow for a 42km looped Greenway around the Blessington lakes and adjacent towns. The new Greenway will cover approximately 33kms of walking and cycling trails mostly through the forest and woodlands taking in some spectacular scenery adjacent to the shoreline of Poulaphouca Reservoir – more commonly referred to as Blessington Lakes. The Greenway will link into the existing 6.5km Greenway to the south of Blessington Town which links the town with the Palladian Mansion at Russborough House	Wicklow	2022	2024
Dublin Port Masterplan 2040	Delivering the objectives of Dublin Port Company's 'Masterplan 2040' so as to provide additional throughput capacity to cater for the projected growth in port tonnage over the period up to 2040. Works include redevelopment of existing berths, creation of new berths, deepening of the port's navigable channel from 7.8 metres to 10 metres draught, upgrading of road network, provision of unified state services facilities for control and inspections, improvements in utility infrastructure, heritage and amenity initiatives, relocation of non-core activities to Dublin Inland Port, development of Southern Port Access Route to serve the southern port area, rationalisation and consolidation of terminal operations, and redevelopment of specific areas for transit storage of unitised cargo.	Dublin	2015	2040
Poolbeg West Strategic Development Zone	Wastewater Network Infrastructure extension to facilitate housing development in the high growth area of Poolbeg Strategic Development Zone. The purpose of the project is to facilitate the development of housing	Dublin	2023	2026
Drogheda and Baltray Flood Relief Scheme	This project will deliver a new Flood Relief Scheme for Drogheda and Baltray	Louth	2026	2030
Arklow Flood Relief Scheme	Flood Relief project for Arklow Town, Co Wicklow	Wicklow	2023	2025
Beaumont Hospital Ward Block	This project involves the construction of a new 95 Inpatient Bed Accommodation.	Dublin	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
Mater Misercordiae University Hospital Ward Block	This project involves the construction of 112 bed Ward Block	Dublin	2020	2023
St James Hospital, Radiation Oncology Facilities	This project will provide Phase 2 facilities at St James's Hospital.	Dublin	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
Church Fields Phase 2B, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15	Provision of 69 new social housing units on local authority land.	Dublin	2021	2022
Ballymastone, Donabate, Co. Dublin	Provision of 238 social housing units	Dublin	2022	2026

Name of Project	Brief Description of Project	Location	Construction Commencement Date (Year)	Construction Completion Date (Year)
52 St. Stephen's Green (2 part project). 1. Historic Building at front of building. 2. 1970s building at Rear of building	Deep Retrofit on office accommodation and Historic Property	Dublin	2022	2024
Edmond Rice College - 68306H	A new school building to cater for 1000 pupils plus a 4 class SEN base	Dublin	2021	2023
Kilcarbery Grange, Clondalkin, Dublin 22	Provision of 310 social housing units	Dublin	2022	2025
Technological University Dublin Grangegorman Academic Hub	The Academic Hub, which is part of the largest single contract to be placed by the GDA to date is part of Programme III. The building extends to 12,600 m² and will be an academic, social and cultural hub for the new campus.	Dublin	2022	2024
	The Academic Hub is primarily a single integrated campus library, but will also accommodate a range of student and staff academic supports, including careers, assistive technologies, the maths learning centre and the academic writing centre. It is centrally located on campus and will bring together library facilities and support services that are currently scattered across numerous current and former TU Dublin buildings. The development will incorporate the North House, a major protected structure.			
St Columcille's Hospital Acute Mental Health Unit	This project consists of a 50-Bed Acute Mental Health Unit, (includes a 6 Bed HDU, general Adult and Old Age Beds, Therapy and support services).	Dublin	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
National Cycle Network - Galway to Athlone Cycleway (Part of the Maynooth to Galway Greenway)	The Galway to Athlone Cycleway will complete the over 300km car-free corridor between Galway and Dublin for cyclists and walkers. The scheme is complete from Maynooth to Athlone, Athlone Bridge is under construction and an emerging preferred route has been published for the section from Athlone to Galway.	National	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
Shannon Monastic Greenway - Shannon Bridge to Athlone	28km of Greenway mostly in Co. Offaly from Athlone, Co. Westmeath to Shannonbridge, Co. Roscommon, at early planning stages.	Offaly	Subject to Appraisal	2026

Name of Project	Brief Description of Project	Location	Construction Commencement Date (Year)	Construction Completion Date (Year)
Boyne Greenway and Navigation Scheme - Oldbridge Est. Entrance, Navan	This is a 27km greenway which extends from Oldbridge Estate (near Drogheda) to Navan. The Boyne Greenway and Navigation Restoration Scheme includes the provision of a high-quality walking and cycling route and restoration of the Boyne Navigation including the canal sections and associated locks. The project would be in the order of approximately 26.5km long. The proposed scheme would extend from Councillor Andy Brennan Park in Navan Town to the main gates at the Oldbridge Estate. The route of the scheme is adjacent to some of Ireland's most significant visitor attractions including Slane Castle, the Battle of Boyne site and the UNESCO World Heritage site at Brú na Bóinne. The proposed restoration of the Boyne Navigation would extend from Oldbridge Guard Lock to the canal harbour in Navan.	Meath	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
Fingal Coastal Way Greenway - Donabate - Fingal Co. Boundary, North of Balbriggan	This is a 32km coastal greenway which extends from Donabate to Balbriggan. The Fingal Coastal Way proposes a high quality, safe, attractive and environmentally sympathetic coastal walking and cycling route linking Donabate, Rush, Loughshinny, Skerries and Balbriggan and the wider North Fingal area.	Dublin	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
Mater Misercordiae University Hospital, Acute Mental Health Unit	This project consists of a new 55-Bed (51 replacement and 4 new) Acute Mental Health Unit.	Dublin	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
St. James's Hospital Acute Mental Health Unit	This new 38-Bed Acute Mental Health Unit will replace the existing 22-Bed Dean Swift Unit.	Dublin	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
Trinity College Dublin Old Library	Conservation and fire-protection works to TCD Old Library	Dublin	2023	2026
Shanganagh Castle	Mixed Tenure Development to provide 200 Social Housing units under wider development to provide 597 homes	Dublin	2022	2024
Cromcastle and Woodville, Coolock, Dublin 5	156 Units to be provided under Volumetric framework	Dublin	2023	2025
Bluebell Phase 1A	Regeneration proposal to provide 140 Social Housing Units	Dublin	2023	2025
O'Devaney Gardens - Social Housing from Mixed Tenure Project	Mixed Tenure Development to provide 275 Social Housing units under wider development to provide 1,047 homes	Dublin	2022	2024
Liberties Cluster Phase 1, School Street, The Liberties, Dublin 8	Regeneration proposal to provide 115 Social Housing Units	Dublin	2023	2025
Constitution Hill Dublin 7	Regeneration proposal to provide 130 Social Housing Units	Dublin	2023	2025

Name of Project	Brief Description of Project	Location	Construction Commencement Date (Year)	Construction Completion Date (Year)
Dorset Street, Dublin 7	Regeneration proposal to provide 97 Social Housing Units	Dublin	2023	2025
St. Anne's Court, All Saints Drive, Raheny, Dublin 5	Construction project to provide 102 Social Housing Units	Dublin	2024	2026
Matt Talbot Court	Regeneration proposal to provide 92 Social Housing Units	Dublin	2023	2025
Lands at Emmet Road	Mixed Tenure development to provide 112 Social Housing Units and 382 cost rental units	Dublin	2024	2026
25-26 Ushers Island Ushers Quay Dublin 8	CAS construction project to provide residential treatment centre under Dublin Simon Community	Dublin	2021	2024
St. Laurence's Park, Stillorgan	Construction project to provide 89 Social Housing Units	Dublin	2023	2024
Kildonan Road	Construction project to provide 75 Social Housing Units	Dublin	2023	2024
Pearse House, Sandwith Street Lower, Dublin 2 (Blocks L,M,N and P)	Regeneration proposal to provide 130 Social Housing Units	Dublin	2023	2025
Lott Lane, Kilcoole	Provision of 75 social housing units	Wicklow	2023	2024
Elective Capacity Dublin	This project will provide Elective capacity in Dublin	Dublin	Subject to Appraisal	Subject to Appraisal
Old Greenfield Road, Maynooth	Provision of 65 Social Housing Units	Kildare	2023	2024

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