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## REBUILDING & REGENERATION

### 71 Circle VHA

The new build route to resolve the housing crisis is always going to be a long-term plan.

### 72 Apartment Living Report

A report, commissioned by Clúid Housing and the Housing Agency, highlights a range of issues specifically relating to Owners' Management Companies.

### 77 Clúid Housing

Clúid Housing's Maintenance Guide establishes the framework for the maintenance of its properties.

### 81 Threshold

Threshold is asking the Government to increase the upper limits on Housing Assistance Payments.

### 83 Housing Agency

The Housing Agency says Ireland needs to ensure that existing homes are more energy efficient.

### 84 ICSH Awards

Focus Housing Association was the Overall Winner of the ICSH Allianz Community Housing Awards 2019.



## 4 NEWS UPDATES

- OPR rolls out planning programmes for councillors
- Longford Councillor elected AILG's new President
- Report indicates increase in social housing supply
- Irish Planning Institute Awards 2020
- E-Government Award for Mayo Broadband Project
- Contract for €12.5m housing scheme in Clonakilty
- Donegal Airport lands €coMerit Environment Award
- Fingal's new smartphone app gets local feedback
- Waterford's Chief Executive takes over CCMA Chair
- Civil Defence HQ given the All Clare in Ennis!



Planning Regulator  
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## 16 EUROPEAN FOCUS

During this year's European Week of Regions and Cities (EWRC) in Brussels, discussions focused on the future roles for EU regions and cities in developing a greener, more socially integrated and smarter, and a more connected Europe. The event also saw the official launch in Belgium of Galway 2020's programme of cultural events for the year ahead.



Innovation In Politics  
Page 24

## 18 PLANNING REGULATIONS

Ireland is the first country in Europe to appoint an independent planning regulator, reflecting a determination to learn from past lessons and to establish new mechanisms that effectively implement public policies, which have developed in recent years.

## 24 INNOVATION IN POLITICS AWARDS

Nine impactful and diverse Irish projects have reached the final of the European Innovation in Politics Awards 2019, for the second year running. Now all 80 finalists will find out if they have won any accolades at the gala ceremony taking place in Berlin on 4 December.



PEL Waste Reduction  
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## 30 CHAMBERS IRELAND AWARDS

With 22 local authorities shortlisted across 16 categories in this year's Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards, which will be presented on 28 November, the addition of a new 'Age Friendly Initiative' category aims to showcase the efforts by local authorities in making Ireland a great place in which to grow old.



Kilkenny Energy  
Towns  
Page 93

## 37 SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL

South Dublin County Council's new PlaySpace Programme is one of the SDCC's five projects shortlisted by Chambers Ireland for an Excellence in Local Government Award. The five-year initiative has provided a template to develop a greater number of play spaces for children and to support active community engagement in the county's neighbourhoods.

## CLIMATE ACTION UPDATES

- 43 Climate Action Regional Offices
- 51 Meath County Council
- 54 Climate Action Charter
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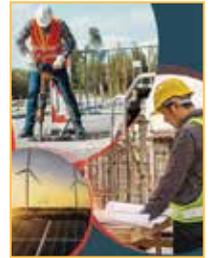
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## 89 PEL WASTE REDUCTION EQUIPMENT

A recent Irish Times Innovation Award winner for its solar-powered compacting litter bin, Mayo's PEL Waste Reduction Equipment has designed and rolled out its SolarStreetBin™ to a number of councils and municipal districts both at home and abroad. The company is now confident the bin will generate considerable cost-saving measures for other local authorities who embrace this technology to improve the efficiency of their litter collection services.



Supplier Engagement  
Page 96

## 93 KILKENNY ENERGY TOWNS

Having scooped €100,000 plus additional supports in September on winning Kilkenny's Energy Town competition, the county's small town of Callan is leading the way in this inaugural landmark sustainable and renewable energy initiative, which the organisers hope could catch on not just in Ireland but has the potential to be replicated globally.

## 96 PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

InterTradeIreland and the Local Government Management Agency organised a Local Government Supplier Engagement event in October, in association with Dublin's four local authorities and those in Kildare, Meath, Louth and Wicklow. Based on the success of the event in CityWest Convention Centre, there are plans to roll it out in other regions across the country.



European Green Leaf  
Page 105

## 105 EUROPEAN GREEN LEAF

Limerick has become the European Green Leaf for 2020, in conjunction with Mechelen in Belgium. The announcement was made following adjudication by a panel of international experts at an event in Oslo, Norway, which currently holds the European Green Capital title for 2019.

## 107 AILG BREXIT PAPER

A discussion document on Brexit, published by the Association of Irish Local Government, outlines the ways in which the local government sector in Ireland could respond to issues arising from Brexit, and highlights potential consequences to the sector.



AILG Brexit Paper  
Page 107

## 113 COUNTY MUSEUM DUNDALK

The multi-award winning County Museum in Dundalk is one of Ireland's best loved museums. Located in a restored late 18th Century warehouse, the museum celebrates the story of County Louth's rich social, cultural and industrial history from the pre-Christian era to the present day over three galleries of a permanent exhibition.

## 115 SLIGO DIGITAL TOWN

Selected as this year's Digital Town, Sligo was chosen for its achievements in cultivating a digital environment in the town, and for fully embracing the digital age for its residents and local businesses.



Sligo Digital Town  
Page 115

## 117 PORTOBELLO DEVELOPMENT

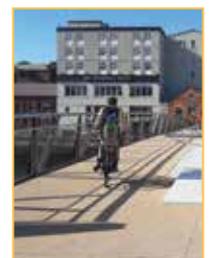
An Bord Pleanála has given the green light for a new €40 million hotel development in Portobello in Dublin. Construction is set to begin at the site overlooking the Grand Canal on a 178-room boutique hotel, which will feature a night-time venue with live entertainment, and is due for completion towards the end of 2021.

## 119 CROSS-BORDER TRADE

A trade and investment mission to the United States on 15 November, led by Donegal County Council and Derry City & Strabane District Councils, included third level and further education providers and development organisations including Ulster University, Letterkenny Institute of Technology, the North West Regional College, Donegal ETB and Catalyst.

## 120 CORK CITY COUNCIL

Cork's newest River Lee crossing – the Mary Elmes pedestrian and cycling bridge – has been designed to enhance connectivity in the city by cutting daily journey times for about 11,000 pedestrians and cyclists, and promises to become a critical piece of public infrastructure.



Cork City's New  
Bridge  
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