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# 4 NEWS UPDATE

### 16 VACANT HOMES ACTION PLAN

A new Vacant Homes Action Plan has been published, in addition to the launch of a new €150m Urban Regional and Development Fund (URDF) for local authorities to build on ongoing work to tackle vacancy and dereliction and to bring vacant properties into re-use for housing.

#### 18 INNOVATION IN POLITICS AWARDS

Two Irish projects have made the final of the European Innovation in Politics Awards, with the WoMeN's Regional Caucus and the Youth Travel Card initiatives selected in the Democracy Category. The eight overall category awards winners will be announced at a gala event at the Palace of Culture in Warsaw.

# 22 WOMEN IN POLITICS

Cork City Council has partnered with Women for Election to deliver a bespoke training and awareness programme over the coming months, aimed at increasing the number of women running for election in Cork City in 2024 and beyond.

### 28 CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL – LOCAL AUTHORITY OF THE YEAR 2022

Clare County Council was named 'Local Authority of the Year 2022' at the Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards, in addition to also picking up awards as the overall winner in the 'Festival of the Year' and 'Sustaining the Arts' categories.

### 35 LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT

A new training strategy for local authority planning staff has been developed by the Office of the Planning Regulator in collaboration with the County and City Management Association, the Local Government Management Agency and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

# 37 TAILTE ÉIREANN

The new state agency Tailte Éireann, will provide a comprehensive and secure property title registration system, a professional State valuation service and an authoritative national mapping and surveying infrastructure.

# 39 HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES CO

The Housing Infrastructure Services Company (HISCo), a commercial joint venture between the Ireland Strategic Investment Fund (ISIF) and Cork County Council to build supporting infrastructure for housing, has announced details of a substantial investment in County Louth as it rolls out its offering across Ireland.

# 43 LAND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

The Land Development Agency (LDA) is committed to meeting the need for affordable homes for purchase and rent across Ireland, and the Affordable Living programme now aims to provide homes for both purchase and rent, which is a core objective of the Agency.

# 47 CLÚID HOUSING

Clúid Housing's new mixed tenure estate at Ladyswell Square in Mulhuddart, Dublin 15, aims to promote inclusive communities and will provide high-quality, long-term, secure homes for families and individuals from Fingal County Council's housing list.

# 51 MEATH COUNTY COUNCIL

Clúid Housing's latest development of 96 social homes at The Willows, Dunshaughlin, Co. Meath, officially opened by the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Darragh O'Brien TD, represents Meath's first social housing development of the year.

#### 55 SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL – TALLAGHT INVESTMENT

Urban regeneration funding to the tune of €32m, secured by South Dublin County Council, forms part of an overall €110m development programme to deliver a series of enhancement projects across the Tallaght Town Centre, such as the Innovation Square and Centre and Tallaght Stadium.



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Táilte Eireann Page 37



HISCo Page 39



Land Development Agency Page 43



Clúid Housing Page 47



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# SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL – PATHFINDER

South Dublin County Council will focus on the Dublin 24 Rapid Build and Castletymon Neighbourhood Scheme, which will include rapid delivery of a 11km cycle network in Tallaght/D24, and the development of Castletymon as a 10-minute neighbourhood via walking and cycling infrastructure, with public realm improvements.

# 65 DUBLIN CITY'S ACTIVE TRAVEL NETWORK

Dublin City Council has rolled out a series of proposals for an active travel network to transform the way people walk, wheel and cycle throughout the capital, and has a timeline of up to ten years to deliver over 80 infrastructure projects along the 310km network.

# 69 DUBLIN DOCKLANDS TOURISM APP

Dublin Docklands is 'alive alivo' following the launch of the first in a series of unique mobile application-based immersive tourism trails with innovative Augmented Reality (AR). 'Doors into Docklands' – the Dublin Discovery Trails – has been co-funded by Dublin City Council and Fáilte Ireland through the Destination Town Investment Scheme.

# 73 ACTIVE CITIES PROJECT

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A new national campaign has been launched to get as many people participating in physical activity as possible in the country's biggest urban cities. Sport Ireland's 'Active Cities' project is calling on everyone across Dublin, Cork, Limerick, Galway and Waterford to create more opportunities for participation in sport and physical activity through collaboration, partnership and planning.

# 77 MID-EAST ENERGY CLIMATE UNIT

As climate change continues to pose global challenges coupled with significant local impacts, Wicklow, Meath and Kildare County Councils have collaborated to address their combined climate mitigation ambitions through the formation of the Mid-East Energy Unit, which was officially launched at Wicklow County Council's head office in December 2022.

# 81 DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL – INTEGRATION & INCLUSION

The impacts of migration and displacement are now witnessed daily, and Dublin City Council is increasingly challenged to maintain the city as a welcoming, inclusive, dynamic, fair place in which to live, study and work. Following the city's annual week-long Inclusion and Integration programme of work, here's a reflection on the lessons learned.

# 86 DUN LAOGHAIRE RATHDOWN BATHS

Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council's overall vision for Dublin's southside town, which took another step forward with the reopening of the newly restored Dún Laoghaire Baths in December 2022, represents a significant milestone for the local authority.

# 89 DUN LAOGHAIRE URBANISM AWARD

Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council picked up the Great Town 2022 award for Dún Laoghaire, which was chosen by the Great Places Urbanism Awards for the Coastal Mobility Cycle Route, which encourages local commuter and recreational cycling, public realm improvements; connecting urban villages, bathing places, walks and parks along the coast.

# 95 COMMUNITY PROJECTS

The new €50 million Community Recognition Fund will specifically support communities in Ireland that are hosting people from Ukraine and other countries. Applications are being sought from local authorities based on engagement with local communities and clear targeting of proposed projects to areas with the highest level of need.

# 96 EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

The Northern and Western Regional Assembly's new six-year investment programme, totalling  $\pounds$ 217m in European Regional Development Funds (ERDF), has been launched for the region, which has been classified as a 'lagging industrial region' and a region that is 'in transition' by the European Commission.



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Tallaght Innovation Square Page 55



Discover Dublin Docklands App Page 69



Mid-East Energy Climate Unit Page 77



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