



Chief Executive Report June 2026

Longford County Council

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Active Travel

Ballymahon Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme

Tenders are currently being evaluated for the appointment of a contractor for the construction phase. This project will see the creation of new walking and cycling facilities on the R392 between St Matthew's National School and the Moygh Road Junction. The project will involve a boundary wall setback, footpath construction on both sides of road and a new two-way cycle track. Other project features will include new surface water drainage, road narrowing, provision of new public lighting, removal of overhead ESB lines, road realignment and raised pedestrian crossings. Construction works are expected to commence later this summer.

StonePark to Silver Birches Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme

The tendering phase of this project is nearing completion, and a construction contractor is expected to be appointed in the coming weeks. This project will see the creation of a new shared pedestrian and cycle facility linking the housing estate at Silver Birches to Stone Park school and GAA grounds over a distance of 700 metres. Overhead telecom cables and poles will be removed along the route as part of this project. Other features will include upgrading of the existing crossing at the school to a raised Zebra crossing, new surface water drainage and boundary treatments.

Bus stop enhancements in Drumlish

Construction works have commenced on two new bus stops in Drumlish. The works will incorporate junction realignment at entrance to Church View Drive and will include the installation of two new bus shelters and pedestrian crossing points. As part of these works the temporary junction tightening at the Garda station junction which was installed in 2024 will be constructed with permanent kerbing, footpaths and landscaping and will include a new raised crossing point for pedestrians.

New raised crossing on Park Road at Skate Park

In Longford Town, a new raised zebra crossing has been installed on Park Road adjacent to the skatepark at the old dog track. This crossing greatly improves accessibility to the canal and recreational facilities in the area for the surrounding residents. It also serves as a traffic calming measure in significantly reducing speeds to help create a safer environment for everyone.



Active Travel

Aghafad Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme

Works are continuing on the construction of this new shared pedestrian and cycle facility. The old asbestos watermain along the route has now been fully replaced, which paves the way for the progression of new surface water drainage. This will be followed by the shared path construction in the coming months. Works are also ongoing within Slashers GAA grounds where the shared path connection will link onto the Royal Canal Greenway.

Official opening in Granard

The Minister of State at the Department of Transport, Sean Canney officially opened the Market Street to Barrack Lane and R194 (Longford Road) Active Travel Scheme in Granard on Monday, 15 June, marking the completion of a major investment in walking, cycling and public realm infrastructure in the town.

The scheme, delivered by Longford County Council, represents a combined investment of approximately €1 million and has been funded through the National Transport Authority's Active Travel Programme, with additional cofunding for the Barrack Lane car park provided by Longford County Council and antidumping initiative grants.

The project has been delivered in three connected elements. The first provides a new permeability route for pedestrians and cyclists between Market Street and Barrack Lane,

including a new 150 metre link road, widened footpaths, raised crossings, public lighting and drainage works. This route significantly shortens journey times and improves safety, particularly for students attending Ardscoil Phadraig, Cnoc Mhuire Secondary School and Sacred Heart National School.

The second element extends the active travel network along the R194 Longford Road, delivering 460 metres of upgraded infrastructure with widened footpaths, traffic calming, junction improvements and a new zebra crossing linking directly to Ardscoil Phadraig.

The third element is the new Barrack Lane public car park, which provides 31 offstreet parking spaces, including five electric vehicle charging bays, four accessible spaces, a covered bicycle shelter and a fully accessible bring centre in County Longford.



Town Centre First

Derelict Sites

Longford County Council continues its work to tackle derelict and vacant properties, with significant progress already made this year. A total of 11 properties have been subject to derelict site levies in 2026, building on a number of enforcement actions taken throughout 2025.

The Council continues to prioritise this area as neglected buildings have a direct impact on communities, affecting safety, appearance, and local confidence. Through active enforcement and strategic interventions, Longford County Council is working to transform unused sites into assets that contribute to thriving towns and villages. The Council's initial focus is on town centres and re invigorating town centres.

Under the Derelict Sites Act 1990, the Council has a clear set of tools to address problem sites, including:

- Issuing notices requiring owners to clean up or improve their properties
- Taking legal action where owners fail to comply
- Using Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPOs) when appropriate to ensure longterm dereliction does not continue unchecked
- The Council's approach combines enforcement with support. The aim is not only to address dereliction but also to encourage renewal, encourage owners to take action, and bring properties back into use—

whether for housing, business, or community benefit.

- The Vacant Homes Team continues to engage with individuals in relation to supports through the Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant and evidence of this is visible throughout the county with many vacant and derelict properties being brought back into use.

Town Centre First

The TCF Department have been working closely with local communities in Ballymahon, Granard and Newtownforbes in the preparation of funding applications under Just Transition Fund START, Town and Village Renewal Scheme Building and Land Acquisition Measure and Rural Regeneration and Development Fund. Announcements on successful applications are expected in the coming months.

Granard Town Team

A number of very encouraging meetings were held with the Granard community with regard to the setting up of the Granard Town Team. The community are in the process of putting a committee in place. The TCF Department will work closely with the Granard Town Team over the coming months to develop an Action Plan and bring forward projects for implementation.

Town Centre First

Vacant Homes Unit

Under the new Housing Plan, Delivering Homes, Building Communities a commitment was given by Government to provide additional support for the refurbishment and conversion of above the shop vacant space for use as homes.

The Vacant Homes Unit is consistently working with the public to support the upgrading of vacant and derelict properties throughout the county. The recently expanded Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant offers significant financial support for refurbishing of vacant or derelict properties. New expanded grants include:

- VPRG – Above the Shop Grant
- VPRG – Commercial to Public Use Building
- Expert Advice Grant Scheme

Up to date data on the Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant as follows:

- Total Applications 289
- 86 paid out to date
- 200 approved in total (166 approved in full, 34 approved in principal)
- 34 withdrawn
- 18 rejected
- 37 currently being processed and are at various stages of assessment

The following are some before and after photos of properties where the VHRG was availed of:



Town Centre First



Housing

Project (Number of Houses)	Status
Cranleymore, Abbeylara (3)	On site. Substantially complete. Handover early July 2026.
Lamagh, Newtownforbes (6)	Commenced on site Dec 2025. Due for completion ahead of schedule in early Q3 2026.
Granada View (Cnoc na Greine), Granard (7)	Commenced on site June 2026.
Canal Walk, "Fondermans" (2)	Awaiting Stage 4 approval.
Radharc na Muileann, Lanesborough (22)	Stage 3 in progress for submission in Q2 2026
St Rita's Park Road (15)	Revised stage 2 approved. Awaiting Part 8 approval.
Aghaboy, Killoe, Ennybegs (7)	Stage 2 approved. Part 8 to be submitted June 2026.
Casey Court, Keenagh (2)	Infill site. Stage 2 approved. Awaiting Part 8 approval.
Houricans Hotel, Granard (10, and parking)	Stage 2 approved. Awaiting Part 8 approval.
Butchers, Market Street, Granard (3)	Stage 2 approved. Preparing for Part 8 submission June / July 2026.
Bothairin na Carraige, Ballinalee (9)	Stage 2 approved. Preparing for Part 8 submission June / July 2026.
Drynan, Ballymahon (13)	On Hold. Awaiting update on WWTP upgrade by Uisce Éireann.
Willow Park Halting site (2)	In discussions with CENA regarding proposal for 2 units. Stage 1 to be submitted Q3 2026.

Turnkey Housing Development Schemes and/or land for the Provision of Social and Affordable Housing

Following on from the 2025 Expressions of Interest where Longford County Council received a positive response to the advertisements seeking Expressions of Interest from developers, contractors, land and property owners with regard to the provision of schemes of houses

and/or land within the county, six submissions are at various stages.

Of the six identified for progression, two of the sites have received department approval resulting in approval for a total of 17 housing units. A further submission has been

Housing

made for an additional site comprising four units and negotiations are ongoing on three further sites.

Actively working with Approved Housing Bodies (AHB) to deliver at least a further 19 units by mid 2027.

Affordable Housing

Longford County Council launched its Affordable Homes Purchase Scheme with 25 A-rated homes at Cúirt an Easpaig, Ballinalee Road, Longford on the 23 February 2026.

The scheme which is primarily aimed at first-time buyers who do not currently own a property, officially opened for applications via Longford County Council's online portal at 10am on Monday, 30 March 2026, and applications are currently being accepted.

There has been a very positive response to the scheme and all completed applications are assessed in line with Longford County Council's Scheme of Priority.

The development comprises of five, two-bed terrace homes, eight, three-bed terrace homes and twelve, three-bed semi-detached homes. All properties are built to an A-rated energy standard, ensuring lower energy consumption, improved comfort, and reduced household running costs for purchasers.

Full details, including eligibility criteria, application requirements and the Scheme of Priority, are available on the Council's website www.longfordcoco.ie/affordable-housing

Enquiries in relation to the Affordable Homes Purchase Scheme can be

directed to affordablehomes@longfordcoco.ie



Housing

Housing Pre-Let and Voids Programme

Refurbishment works have been completed on 21 units under the pre-let and voids programme to date in 2026. In addition, works are currently underway on a further six units to facilitate their re-letting during the year.



Climate Action – Energy Retrofit Programme

Longford County Council has a target of 65 units from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in February which is an increase on the 2025 allocation of 50 units. Energy retrofitting works are now complete on 28 units to date in 2026. All these upgraded units achieved a post-works BER rating of A3 or B1. A contractor has been appointed, and works have commenced on site for the 35 houses at the Hollows Longford. Works are scheduled to be completed by late September. These works involve the installation of new windows and doors and a renewable Air to Water heating system and bring the post works Energy rating of the properties to an A3 standard.

Private Rent Inspections (PRI)

Longford County Council's Private Rent Inspections (PRI) target for 2026 is 546 properties.

The completed initial inspections to date is 459, which represented 84% of the target.

The actual number of inspections carried out to date is 521. This included follow up inspections of properties to achieve compliance.

2026 Inspections (521)

	Pass	Fails
Total	160	361

Housing

Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and People with Disability – Private Households

2026 Data / Scheme	Number of Approved Grants	Number of applications awaiting approval
Housing Adaptation Grant for Disabled People	11	15
Mobility Aids Grant	26	16
Housing Aid for Older People Grant	44	31
Total:	81	62
Value of 2026 Grants awarded to date	€665,607.00	

County Longford Housing Stock

Housing Stock	2026 (Q1)
No dwelling in ownership of LCC (2026 Opening Stock)	2,249
The percentage of the total number of LA owned dwellings that were vacant	1.83%

Social Housing Applicants

Longford County Council has an overall social housing need of 709. A total of 364 applicants are not in receipt of any form of social housing support. The remaining of that number are already in receipt of support and were seeking a transfer from existing local authority, approved housing body or Housing Assistance Payment tenancies. An additional 153 applications, inclusive of 19 transfer requests, are currently being assessed by the housing department.

Allocations

Longford County Council has allocated 23 properties to date:

PROPERTY ACQUISITION METHOD	Total
AHB	5
LA Acquired Property	17
RAS - Housing (Private)	1
Grand Total	23

Housing

Homeless Supports & Services

Longford Homeless Services prepare a monthly report which is produced by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. In April 2023 Longford recorded 23 adults accessing emergency accommodation during the week 20-26 April 2026.

Two allocations are recorded as exiting homeless with one tenant allocated a tenancy through the RAS scheme and one allocated a local authority property.

Homeless HAP, is a specific use of the standard HAP scheme designed to support households in securing private rented accommodation, this can be to move households out of emergency accommodation or as an intervention to prevent homelessness. One tenancy has been supported through homeless HAP.

To-date 135 individuals who presented as homeless or at risk of homelessness have been provided with advice and/or supports as appropriate.

Better Estate Awards 2026

Longford County Council held an awards ceremony on Wednesday, 13 May, in Áras an Chontae.

The Better Estates Awards is an initiative of the Council to honour groups and individuals who have worked hard to help maintain the appearance of their estates. Categories included awards for large, medium and small estates, with additional prizes that acknowledge new groups and notable mentions.

Estates within the county that have active residents' groups are the most in demand by prospective tenants and are among the most attractive estates in County Longford.

Winners in the large, medium and small estate categories are:

Large Estate Category Winners

- First place: Annaly Park, Longford Town
- Runner up: Church View, Lanesboro

Medium Estate Category Winners

- First place: Smithfield, Legan
- Runner up: Foxhall Crescent

Small Estate Category Winners

- First place: River Crescent, Ballinalee
- Runner up: Parkside, Ballymahon

In addition, there were a number of other themed/special awards.

- **Biodiversity Award:** St Emer's Longford County Council
- **Inclusive Estate:** Mill Race, Drumlish
- **Best Estate Improvement Plan Award:** Church View, Lanesboro
- **Community Pride and/or Resident Engagement Award:**

Housing

Devine Crescent, Edgeworthstown
& Park Villas

- **Best New Estate:** Campbell's Drive, Longford



Community

Longford Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

A meeting of Longford LCDC was held on 12 May and 23 June 2026.

LEADER 2327 Programme

Three projects were approved at the May LCDC meeting to a value of €51,338 and six projects were approved at the June meeting under the 'Targeted Call 2026 - Upgrade of Community Facilities & Infrastructure Projects' to a value of €327,657 and one rolling call project to a value of €28,003.

Comhairle na nÓg

On Friday, 1 May 2026, Longford Comhairle members joined 174 young delegates from Comhairle na nÓg's across Ireland in Dáil Éireann to debate the critical issue of Education, one of the biggest topics of concern to young people in Ireland. The outputs of Dáil na nÓg were submitted to the Convention on Education for their deliberations.



Wiktorja Niespodzianska, Alesha Purcell, Daithí McLoughlin, Sarah Taitt, Olachi Alajemba & Sebastian Cummins pictured at the recent Dáil na nÓg.

Following Dáil na nÓg, Longford Comhairle alongside Monaghan Comhairle were invited to speak on Shannonside Northern Sound with presenter Joe Finnegan. Both Daithí McLoughlin & Sarah Taitt had the opportunity to speak on the different themes discussed at Dáil na nÓg with a heavy emphasis on the winning topic, the Irish language.



Daithí McLoughlin and Sarah Taitt pictured with Joe Finnegan of Shannonside FM.

Africa Day 2026

Africa Day took place on Friday, 5 June 2026 in the Backstage Theatre. The Africa Day 2026 celebration was delivered under the theme 'Many Nations, One Community' and featured a diverse programme of cultural, educational and family-oriented activities including:

Community

- Live performance by Yankari Afrobeats Collective, a 13-piece African music ensemble
- African cultural performances by the Yoruba Cultural Group and Uganda Cultural Group
- Dance performance by members of the Indian Community (Desi Girls)
- African food and cultural displays representing several African countries
- Children's entertainment and family activities
- Longford African's Network Community Achievement Awards presentation
- Public information and awareness raising on African cultures and the contribution of African communities to Irish society
- Community networking and intercultural engagement activities
- Display stands by Inter Agency Groups
- Vendor stalls



The theme 'Many Nations, One Community' was reflected throughout the programme, creating opportunities for intercultural exchange and strengthening relationships between communities. Approximately 400 people attended throughout the event.



Community

CLÁR 2026 Measure 1

Longford County Council opened online applications for CLÁR 2026 Measure 1 Developing Community Facilities & Amenities in early May 2026, with a deadline of Monday, 8 June 2026.

Measure 1 will support a variety of capital projects provided that they contribute to the enhancement of existing, and/or the development of new, accessible Community Recreation Facilities. All community amenities funded under this programme must, in so far as practicable, be accessible to all abilities and ages.

Applications were received from both community groups and sports clubs throughout the county, and these are currently being reviewed.

Longford County Council can submit a prioritised list of up to 14 proposed projects to the Department for its consideration.

A minimum grant of €5,000 and maximum grant of €65,000 will apply to Measure 1. To facilitate projects of a slightly greater scale, each local authority can submit two applications seeking grant funding of up to €100,000. Longford County Council will also provide up to 5% funding towards each approved project.

The Minister is expected to make his funding announcement in November 2026.

Longford Community Safety Partnership

On 19, 20, and 21 May 2026, Longford Community Safety Partnership (LCSP) attended the Public Participation Network (PPN) plenary meetings in Granard, Longford, and Ballymahon. At these events, Coordinator Janine Bartley delivered presentations on the Community Safety Survey and outlined plans for upcoming public consultations.

LCSP continued its strong engagement and collaboration with An Garda Síochána through a range of joint initiatives. In partnership with An Garda Síochána, LCSP hosted a Crime Prevention Clinic and Property Marking event, providing practical advice and supports to assist communities in protecting their property and enhancing personal safety. LCSP also supported a Parent Internet Safety Talk, delivered in collaboration with An Garda Síochána for parents of children aged 11–13, helping families to better understand and navigate online safety.

On Thursday, 28 May, LCSP organised the Longford Garda Community Spirit Sports Day in conjunction with An Garda Síochána and Longford County Council. This event promoted positivity, inclusion, and community engagement among participants.

On Wednesday, 27 May, the LCSP Coordinator and Administrator, alongside Chairperson Seamus Boyle, attended the National LCSP Networking Event in Athlone, engaging with partnerships from across the country and sharing best practice.

Community

Longford Community Safety Partnership officially launched the Longford Community Safety Survey on 28 May 2026. The survey provides members of the public aged 16 and over with an opportunity to contribute to and shape the forthcoming Longford Community Safety Plan. The survey will remain open until Wednesday, 1 July 2026.

A series of public consultation meetings have been scheduled to support the survey process and encourage community participation:

- 10 June – Longford Library (6:30–8:30pm)
- 16 June – Granard Library (6:30–8:30pm)
- 18 June – Ballymahon Library (6:30–8:30pm)
- 22 June – Lanesboro Community Centre (6:30–8:30pm)
- 24 June – Moyne Latin School (6:30–8:30pm)
- 30 June – Edgeworthstown Library (6:30–8:30pm)

In addition to the public meetings, targeted focus groups are being conducted with a range of community stakeholders to ensure a broad and inclusive representation of views and experiences across the county.



Environment and Climate Change

No swan left behind!

Following a report of a distressed swan on the Camlin River in Longford, a coordinated multi-agency response was initiated by the Longford Dog Wardens. The operation involved the Dog Wardens, personnel from the Environment Section, Longford Civil Defence, County Longford Scuba Divers Search and Recovery, and the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), all working together to safely rescue the bird. The successful outcome demonstrated the value of strong inter-agency cooperation, with each service contributing its expertise and resources to ensure the welfare of the swan.

NPWS kindly provided an update following the rescue. The swan was transported to a veterinary clinic in Ballymahon, where it was examined and administered oral antibiotics. Thankfully, there were no signs of any major visible injuries. While the swan's left wing was sore, its overall weight and condition were reported to be good. If the swan continues to recover well, it will be transported to a wildlife rescue centre for further care and rehabilitation.

This incident was an excellent example of effective collaboration, communication, and community service, highlighting what can be achieved when local agencies come together to respond to an animal welfare concern.



Environment and Climate Change

Irish Business Against Litter (IBAL) Survey 2026

Longford Town achieved an excellent result in the 2026 Irish Business Against Litter (IBAL) survey, ranking 14 out of 40 towns and cities surveyed nationally and is now 'Clean to European Norms'. This represents a significant improvement from the same period in 2025, when Longford ranked 30 out of 40. The results represent one of the town's best performances to date.

The report commended a number of locations, including Teffia Park, the N4 Axis Centre and the N4 approach from the Padraic Colum Roundabout, all of which achieved Grade A ratings. The overall result reflects the ongoing commitment of Longford County Council, Longford TidyTowns, local businesses and community groups in maintaining and improving the town's environment.

With TidyTowns adjudication taking place during June and July, a continued and ongoing effort is required to retain the town's current gold medal status and hopefully improve its overall ranking in the annual TidyTowns Awards.

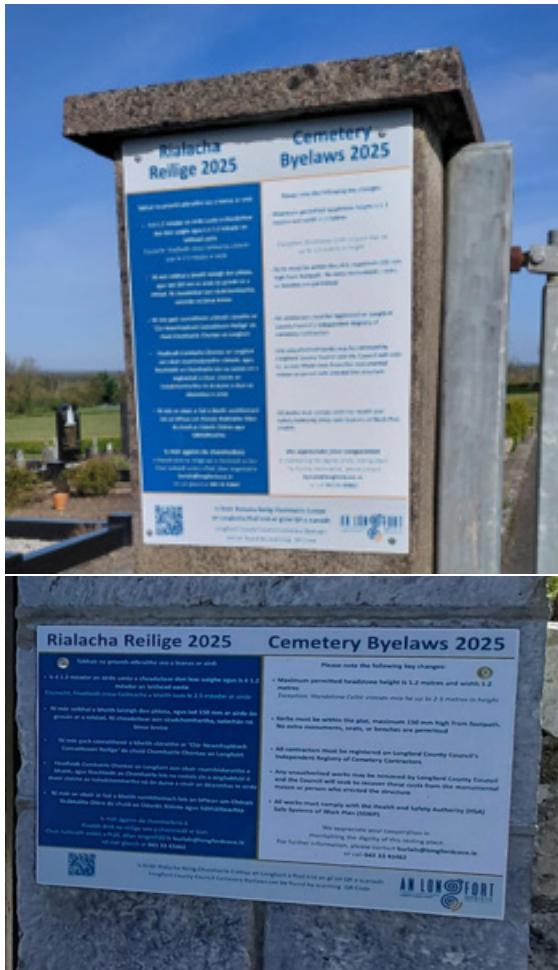


Cemetery byelaws and signage

Following the adoption of the Longford County Council Cemetery Byelaws 2026, new bilingual signage has been installed at all Council-owned cemeteries throughout the county. The signage highlights key provisions of the byelaws and provides visitors with information on acceptable cemetery practices, including grave maintenance responsibilities, waste disposal requirements and the need to obtain prior approval for certain works. The introduction of the new signage will help raise awareness of the byelaws, promote consistency across all cemeteries and support the

Environment and Climate Change

respectful, safe and sustainable management of these important community assets.



coverage at a bottle bank location experiencing persistent dumping, a residential area and a rural bog road that has been identified as a recurring dumping hotspot. Further locations will be assessed on an ongoing basis, with CCTV forming an important element of the Council's enforcement and environmental protection measures.



Use of CCTV in tackling illegal dumping and littering

Longford County Council continues to utilise CCTV surveillance as part of its ongoing efforts to combat illegal dumping and littering. Working in partnership with RiteView Solutions, CCTV is currently in operation at one known litter black spot and is assisting in monitoring and deterring illegal waste disposal activities.

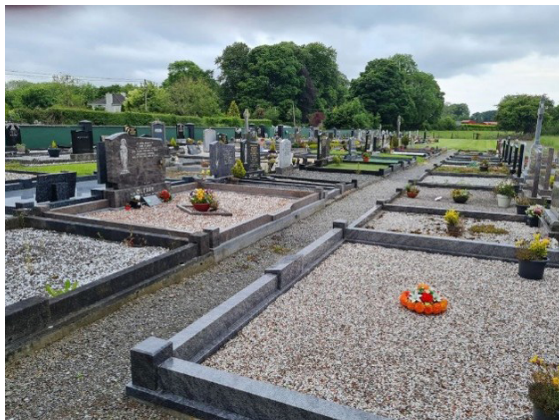
Applications have also been submitted for additional CCTV

Environment and Climate Change

Cemetery Support Scheme 2026

The Environment Section are in the process of advertising, the Cemetery Support Scheme 2026, with applications opening on 4 August 2026 and closing at 12 noon on 1 October 2026. The scheme provides financial assistance of up to €400 per cemetery, to community and voluntary groups involved in the maintenance and upkeep of cemeteries throughout County Longford. Payment is subject to provision of valid receipts and the number of applications received.

The scheme recognises and supports the valuable contribution made by local volunteers in maintaining burial grounds, carrying out grass cutting, boundary repairs and general



improvement works. Following the strong level of engagement with the scheme in previous years, Longford County Council looks forward to continuing its support for community-led efforts to preserve and enhance cemeteries across the county.

Agricultural Booklet

The Environment Section has prepared an agricultural booklet and accompanying information fact sheet. The booklet serves as an advisory guide outlining best farming practices and providing clear guidance on slurry and fertiliser spreading. It offers practical advice to farmers on protecting water quality in their day-to-day activities. It also includes a detailed map of waterbodies in County Longford and their current status, as well as guidance on what

FARMER INFORMATION FACT SHEET
Closed periods, buffer zones and practical steps to protect our water and prevent pollution



1. CLOSED PERIODS FOR SPREADING FERTILISER IN LONGFORD

TYPE OF FERTILISER	DATES (NO SPREADING)
 Chemical Fertiliser	15th of Sept – 29th of Jan
 Organic Fertiliser (other than FYM)	1st of Oct – 15th of Jan
 Farmyard Manure (FYM)	1st of Oct – 15th of Jan

2. BUFFER ZONES

FROM WATERCOURSES

- 2m – Chemical Fertiliser
- 5m – Slurry/organic manure (increase to 10m for 2 and last 2 weeks of the spreading season)
- 25m – From wells, springs, or boreholes
- 200m – From public water supply sources

FARMYARD MANURE STORAGE OUTSIDE FARMYARD

- 20m from surface water
- 50m from borehole, spring or wells
- 250m from public supply wells *

UMBILICAL SYSTEMS FOR SLURRY SPREADING

- Only use when land is trafficable.
- Ensure buffer zones are adhered to.
- Applying slurry to saturated soils is not permitted.
- All farms over 100kg N/ha need to use umbilical system.

3. LAND SPREADING – DO NOT SPREAD WHEN:

 Land is waterlogged or frozen

 Heavy rain is forecast within 48 hours

 On a farm passageway / roadway

NOTE: 50% of slurry on derogation farms must be applied by June 15th annually; after this date, only low emission equipment may be used for application.

4. ROADWAYS

Since January 1st 2021 there shall be no direct runoff of solid waste from farm roads to all surface waters.



5. CONTACTORS

Make sure you talk to farm contractor to make sure all rules are followed.



6. BALED SILAGE

- Slilage bales must not be stored outside farmyards within 20m of a watercourse.
- Bales must not be stacked more than 2 high unless stored on a concrete slab that is channelled to a tank.



* This distance depends on population equivalent supply.

Environment and Climate Change

farmers can expect during a site inspection.

The aim is to create a single, comprehensive information resource where all relevant guidance is easily accessible to farmers. Awareness stickers for tractors have also been produced, highlighting buffer distances to help promote and protect water quality.



Longford schools honoured with prestigious An Taisce Green Schools Flags

Longford County Council has extended congratulations to eight local schools recognised at the An Taisce Green-Schools Awards Ceremony, held at the Radisson Hotel, Athlone, on Thursday, 21 May 2026. The Green Schools Programme encourages students to protect the environment through practical

actions like recycling, conserving energy, and promoting sustainability, helping schools and communities develop environmentally responsible habits. This commitment not only benefits the environment, but also helps schools reduce costs related to waste, water and energy. The successful Longford schools were:

- Melview National School – Biodiversity Flag
- Forgney National School – Biodiversity Flag
- Mercy Secondary School, Ballymahon – Biodiversity Flag
- Scoil Bhríde, Killasonna – Global Citizenship Litter & Waste Flag
- St. Therese's National School, Clontumper – Global Citizenship Energy Flag
- Colehill National School – Global Citizenship Travel Flag
- Cloontagh National School – Global Citizenship Travel Flag
- Cnoc Mhuire Secondary School, Granard – Global Citizenship Food & Biodiversity Flag

The achievements of all eight schools are a testament to the power of education in shaping a more sustainable future. The commitment shown by students, school staff, and their wider communities is truly commendable, and reflects the values of pride and responsibility that define Longford. An Taisce Green Schools in County Longford were supported by Carla McGoey, Environmental

Environment and Climate Change

Awareness Officer, Longford County Council.



Pictured is Mercy Secondary School, Ballymahon who were awarded their Biodiversity Flag.



Pictured is Melview National School who were awarded their Biodiversity Flag.

Official opening of new material recycling facility in Mulleady's Drumlish

In May 2026, members of the Longford County Council Waste Enforcement Section were delighted to be invited to attend the official opening of the new Materials Recovery Facility at Mulleady's in Drumlish. The facility was officially opened by Minister for Climate, Environment and Energy Darragh

O'Brien alongside Minister of State at the Department of Finance Robert Troy. This state-of-the-art plant features advanced sorting technology, enabling the efficient separation and processing of recyclable materials to a very high standard. It represents a significant investment in sustainability, helping to improve recycling capacity and support a more circular approach to resource use. The facility will have a very positive environmental impact for County Longford and the surrounding region, strengthening local recycling infrastructure and promoting more sustainable waste management practices.



Fire Services

Training

- Manual Handling Training completed across all five Fire Stations.
- Abrasive Wheel Training completed across all five Fire Stations.
- Three -one day Compartment Fire Behaviour Refresher Courses held in Ballinrobe Training Centre for 18 LFS Firefighters.
- Winch Instructor Course completed for six LFS Firefighters.
- Emergency Services Driving Standard training completed for six LFS Firefighters.
- Electric Vehicle course with the Institute of the Motor Industry completed for 12 LFS Firefighters.

Operations

- Total callouts of 79 in the two-month May - June 2026 period.

Fire Prevention & Building Control

- Five Fire Safety Certs were processed in May – June 2026.
- Two Disability Access Certs were processed in May – June 2026.
- Seven Planning Referral Reports returned in May – June 2026.

Recruitment

- Recruitment is ongoing to fill the five outstanding vacancies in Granard & Lanesborough.
- Driver Mechanic position to be advertised in June for Granard & Lanesborough.

Equipment

- Traffic management wands were purchased for all five Fire Stations.

Major Emergency Management

- Longford County Council Major Emergency Plan updated.
- Longford County Council Major Emergency Plan appendices updated.
- Information Manager refresher training completed for seven Longford County Council Personnel.

Longford Civil Defence

Duties and Taskings

Local Authority events

- Better Estate Awards
- Cathaoirleach Awards
- Men's Health week (two events)
- National Broadband plan event
- Road opening Granard
- Launch of the new Visit Longford Tourism Website.
- National Refugee week

Sporting Community and Welfare events

- Longford Town soccer matches (four events)
- Tri a Tri
- Darkness into Light
- Ballymahon and Longford Vintage shows
- Showjumping, Granard
- Gaelforce swim, Lanesborough
- Community Games (three events)
- Garda Sports Day
- Blood bank clinic (three days)
- Aquathon
- Community Games
- Honda run
- Ballinalee Connemara pony show
- Young event horse series



Training and operations

- Four new recruits are currently undertaking mandatory training.
- Seven volunteers travelled to Lourdes as part of the Defence Forces International Military Pilgrimage to Lourdes. Two volunteers received their Lourdes service medal.



Longford Civil Defence

- The Civil Defence Officer (CDO) and Assistant Civil Defence Officer (ACDO) attended training in relation to emergency generators.
- One Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) was successful in their exams and received their practitioner licence.
- One volunteer attended an information day in the Environmental Protection Agency laboratory ahead of the National radiation exercise that took place.

