



Fermanagh & Omagh
District Council
Comhairle Ceantair
Fhear Manach agus na hÓmaí

in-FO

in Fermanagh & Omagh
Residents' Magazine

Issue 11 | Winter 2021

Christmas in the District

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Support Local

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Love this Place

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Contact Us

Tel: 0300 303 1777



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Useful Information

If we can't help, we know who can.

Electricity	
Northern Ireland Electricity	Tel 0345 764 3643 www.nienetworks.co.uk
Rates	
Land and Property Services	Tel 0300 200 7801 www.nidirect.gov.uk/rates
DFI Rivers	
Fermanagh Area	Tel 028 6638 8529
Omagh Area	Tel 028 8225 4900
Flooding	
Flooding Incident Line (24hr)	Tel 0300 200 0100
PSNI	
Emergency	Tel 999
Non-emergency	Tel 101
Health Issues	
GP Out of Hours	Tel 028 7186 5195
South West Acute Hospital	Tel 028 6638 2000
Omagh Hospital & Primary Care Complex	Tel 028 8283 3100
Scams	
Nldirect.gov.uk/scamwiseni	
Housing	
Housing Executive	Tel 0344 892 0900 www.nihe.gov.uk
Roads, potholes, street lights, footpaths, bridges and on-street car parking	
Department for Infrastructure	Tel 0300 200 7894 www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk
Water and sewerage including septic tank clearance	
Northern Ireland Water	Tel 0345 744 0088 www.niwater.com
Penalty Charge Notice issues at off-street car parks	
NSL	Tel 0300 200 7895 www.nidirect.gov.uk/challengeparkingticket

For a full list of Council Services visit:
www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/az-services/

Welcome

Chairman's Foreword

Welcome to the Winter 2021 edition of in-FO.

The theme of this edition is health and wellbeing and the revitalisation of our district as we recover from the impacts of the Covid-19 health pandemic.

Investment in key infrastructure is a focus with the £5.2 million Enniskillen Public Realm Project nearing completion and a £10 million capital programme to revitalise our places and spaces across the district in progress.

Improvements to Gortrush and Drumree Integrated Waste Transfer facilities have future-proofed our waste management needs while the launch of the 'C, D, E, F' awareness campaign, shows how we can all work together to improve the district's recycling rate by ensuring all items placed in the blue household recycling bins are Clean, Dry, Empty and Flat.

The Council continues to support small businesses with free advice and mentoring services and

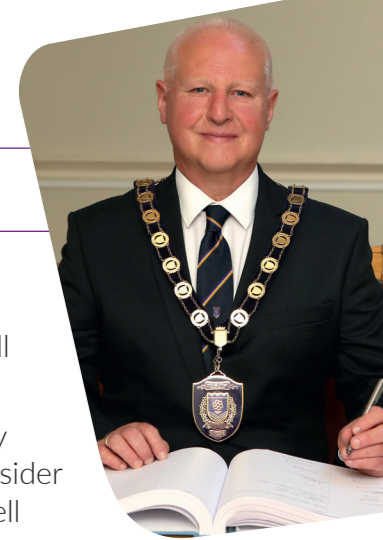
works with communities and partners from across the district to support overall wellbeing of residents.

The recent Residents' Survey has highlighted that you consider the Council is performing well and progressing in the right direction. The Council is committed to continuous improvement in how it delivers its services to you; if you have any queries or feedback about anything in the magazine or indeed any Council services, please get in touch.

As we approach the festive season, I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Councillors and staff, to wish you all a joyous Christmas and New Year.

Councillor Errol Thompson

Chairman
Fermanagh & Omagh District Council



Chief Executive's Message

For more than 18 months, whether in family, community or work settings, we have all been learning to live through the most challenging of times as a result of Covid-19.

Covid has impacted on the management and delivery of our services. It has required us to be innovative and to implement collaborative working to an extent not previously envisaged.

From the outset, the Council prioritised the health and wellbeing of its staff and those who live, work in and visit the district. This edition highlights some of the interventions implemented, from financial assistance, tailored community and business support programmes, through to physical improvements across its facilities, as well as town and village centres.

The Council has formalised relationships with neighbouring County Councils, and worked with Cavan County Council to rebrand Cuihcagh Lakelands Geopark,

which has just had its UNESCO status reconfirmed. Work with our partners on the Mid, South West Growth Deal is also progressing well.

In recent weeks, as part of COP26, our Council became the first in Northern Ireland to publish its Climate Change Action Plan. The challenge for a rural district such as ours is very significant, and the Council's focus is to fulfil our commitments as detailed in the plan, and to do all we can to embed the principles of a Just Transition.

As 2021 draws to a close, I would like to thank all my Council colleagues for their support, dedication and commitment and on behalf of all Council staff, to wish you all a peaceful Christmas and Happy New Year.

Alison McCullagh

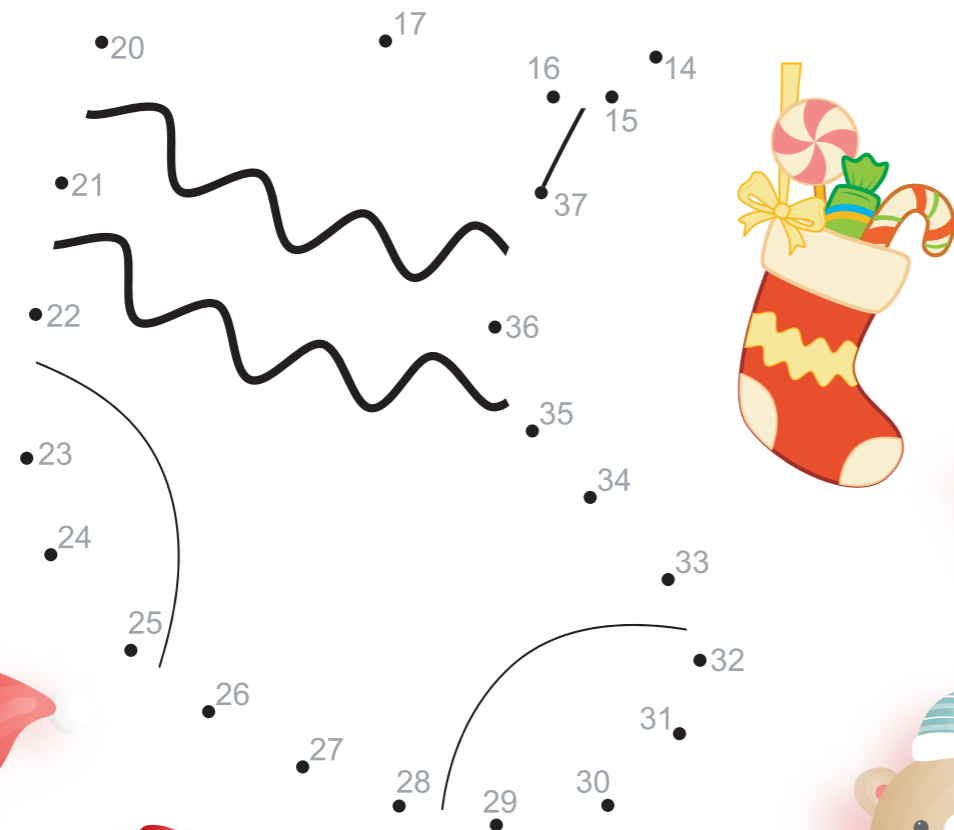
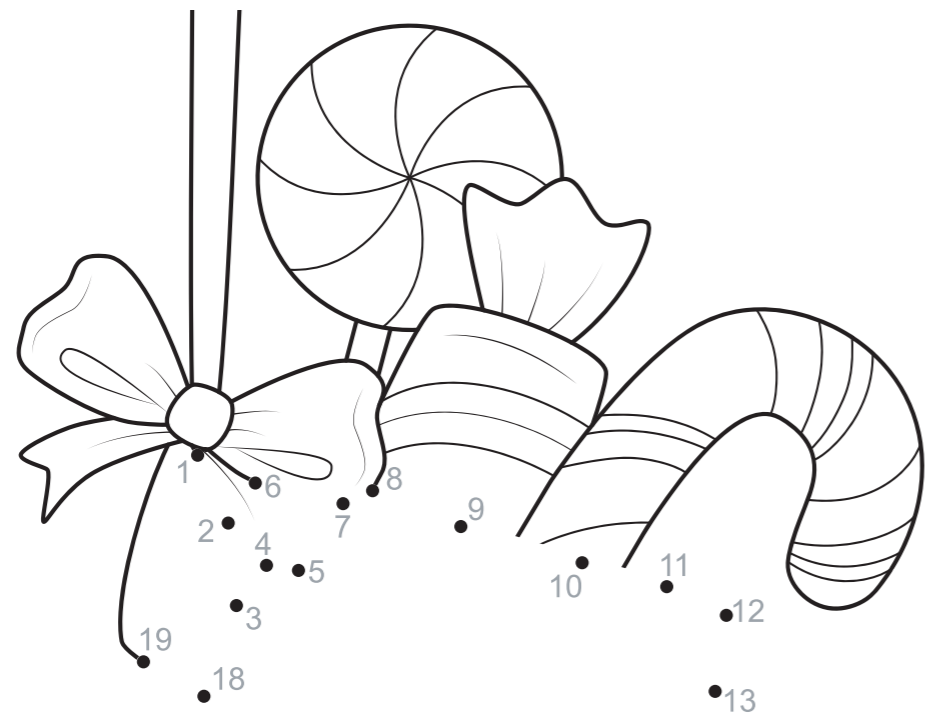
Chief Executive



Our **Annual Performance Report** and **Annual Statement of Accounts** for 2020/21 have been published and are now available to view on our website.

This magazine is available in alternative formats on request. Requests can be made to the Marketing team. All information is correct at time of going to print, however, may be subject to change.





DOT TO DOT



World of wonder awaits at Christmas Lights Festival

The Council's second 'Christmas Lights Festival' is currently taking place across the district.

Facades of buildings in Enniskillen and Omagh town centres come alive from 5pm each evening with festive light shows and displays suitable for the whole family.

A festive programme of street music and animation is also taking place in both town centres as well as family events at Enniskillen Castle and Strule Arts Centre.

Light displays on various buildings in Carrickmore, Dromore, Fintona, Irvinestown and Lisnaskea are also taking place, adding an extra touch of magic to our rural towns over the festive season.

The Christmas Lights Festival runs until Wednesday 5 January 2022.

i For further information on the Christmas Lights Festival please visit www.fermanaghomagh.com/events-and-festivals/



Improvements across the District

Investment across the district

Every year the Council manages a programme of works across the district to improve local facilities, spaces and places for the wellbeing

Your rates helped to support a

£10m capital investment programme

of communities and to provide the best quality experience for those who visit the district.

Your rates helped to support a £10 million capital investment programme of works across the district last year (2020-2021), with a further £10 million capital works programme currently underway (2021-2022).

Many of these works are co-funded by partner organisations. The sourcing of external sources of funding by the Council ensures that the cost to the ratepayer, reflected in the annual rates bill, is

kept to a minimum. We have also awarded more than £400,000 over the last two years to local voluntary clubs, societies, community and sporting organisations to undertake their own capital improvement works within their local communities through our Capital Grant Aid Programme.



Village Renewal Scheme, Trillick

Some key capital works recently completed or ongoing across the district:



Kinawley a 1km loop around the GAA Grounds which can be used by everyone all year round. 1 of 16 villages across the district to benefit from the Rural Development Programme's Village Renewal Scheme which delivers local positive change in partnership with local communities.

➤ **Status: Complete**

This project was part-funded under Priority 6 (LEADER) of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, and the European Union.



Ballinamallard development of the existing Mill Race walk providing a new section of pathway, picnic benches, information boards and fencing. Another village benefitting from the Rural Development Programme's Village Renewal Scheme.

➤ **Status: Complete**



Gortin Glen Forest Park transformation into a must visit destination with new state-of-the-art play park, walking and mountain bike trails, horse riding facilities and visitor amenities.

See page 19 for more.

➤ **Status: Complete**

Part funded by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs.



Enniskillen Workhouse conserving and restoring Enniskillen Workhouse Entrance Block into a business enterprise and heritage hub, in partnership with South West College.

➤ **Status: Ongoing**

Part funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, made possible by money raised by National Lottery players.



Drumree, Enniskillen and Gortrush, Omagh Integrated Waste Management sites

upgrade of facilities to improve people's experience on site to support recycling and reduce waste going to landfill.

➤ **Status: Ongoing**

Funded by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs.



Cavan Development Association

Capital Grant Aid Programme 2019-2021

Funding awarded to over 25 projects across the district including £8,055 to Brookeborough Methodist Church to install a new storage unit at the church hall and £20,000 to Cavan Development Association towards the construction of an extension to their community hall.

➤ **Status: Complete**

To see some more of the major projects underway in the district please turn to the next page ➤➤

Still to come 2021 - 2022: A number of investment projects are soon to get underway across the district as part of this year's capital plan



Magheraveely Village Renewal Scheme



➤ **Play Park Strategy 2030** to develop, transform and upgrade the Council's play park estate. To include upgrade to 11 playparks across the district including the creation of a new destination playpark at the Grange Park, Omagh over the next year.



➤ **Campsie Revitalisation Project** proposed environmental improvement works to the Campsie Road area of Omagh. Design works ongoing with anticipated construction works commencing late 2022. Steering group in place which includes representatives from local business community, residents and Access and Inclusion Group.

Enniskillen improvement works near completion

The £5.2 million Enniskillen Public Realm Scheme has entered its final phase of works with the entire project due to complete Spring 2022.

The scheme, funded by the Department for Communities and the Council, is enhancing the appearance of the town centre with improvements to footpaths, street lighting, landscaping and street furniture.

Most improvement works to pavements are now complete, with paving works to the Diamond and its connecting side streets, Eden Street and Water Street, starting in January 2022.

Works are being undertaken by contractor FP McCann.

The Council and contractor appreciate the continued cooperation and patience from town

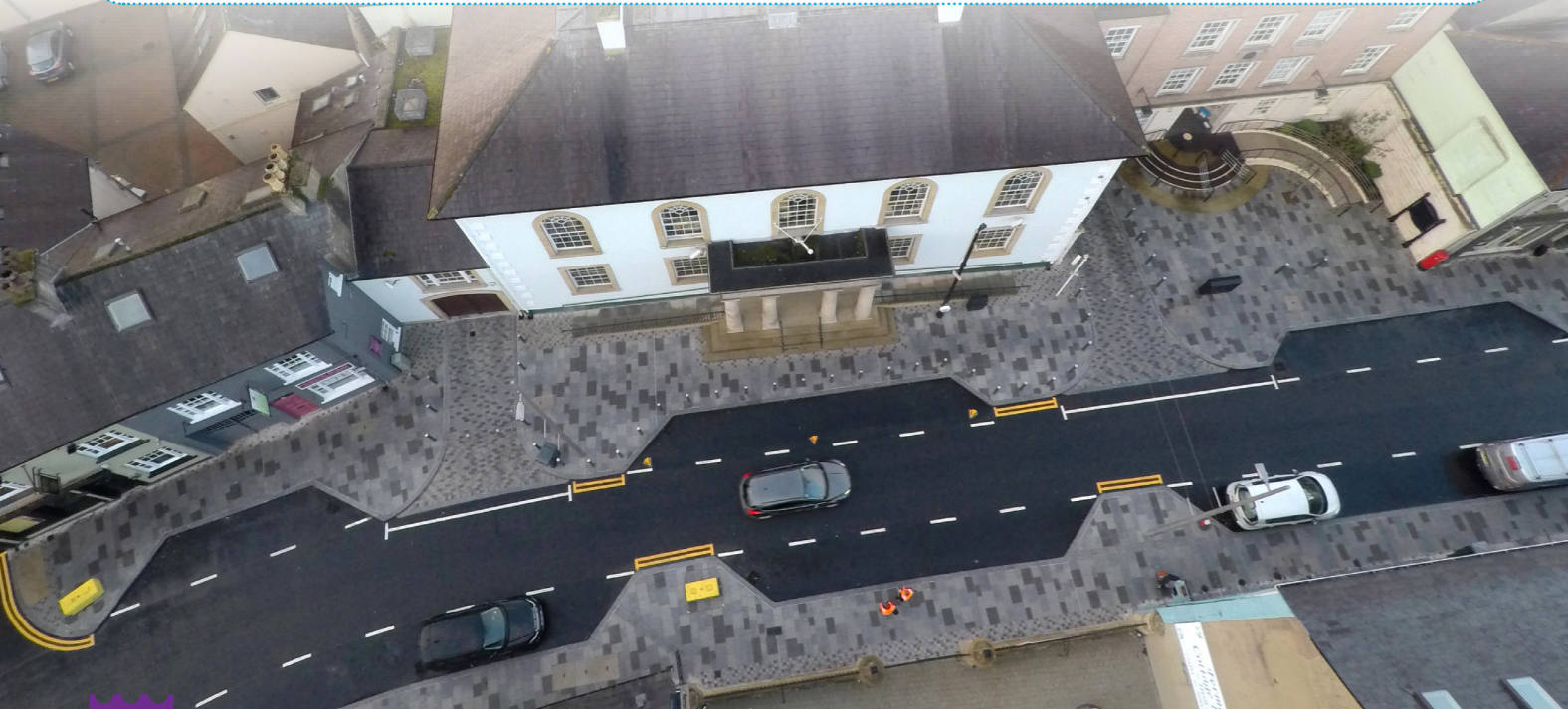


centre traders and members of the public while site works are ongoing to progress this much needed project for Enniskillen.

We also appreciate the ongoing support of the Project Steering Group, which includes representation from Enniskillen Business Partnership and Enniskillen BID.

Did you know?

- › New street lighting columns and lanterns have been installed to achieve the lighting levels required for vehicular and pedestrian traffic in a modern, accessible town centre environment. The existing lamp standards from the Diamond area will be retained by the Council and used in future projects where appropriate.
- › The existing seating benches from the Diamond area will be refurbished and installed within the grounds of Forthill Park in Enniskillen. New seating benches will be installed in the Diamond next year, in keeping with the overall design of the public realm scheme.
- › The number of on-street accessible car parking spaces within the scheme area will double from 11 to 22.



In Brief

Improvement to Full Fibre broadband network in district

Broadband is being installed at 104 public sector sites across the district as part of the Full Fibre NI Project (FFNI) representing an investment of £4.3m in critical local infrastructure.

These sites will make it easier for suppliers to provide full fibre to nearby businesses and domestic properties through separate commercial investment plans.

FFNI is a ten Council Consortium bid, which includes Fermanagh and Omagh District Council. FFNI secured £24m from the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), Local Full Fibre Networks Challenge Fund to support digital infrastructure development across NI.

Project due to complete Spring 2022.



An additional **£25 million** has been made available to boost rural broadband connectivity in Northern Ireland via Project Stratum. To check if your premises will benefit from the broadband improvement scheme visit www.hyperfastni.com and enter your postcode.

Eating out or ordering in over the festive season?

Eating out or ordering in this festive season?

Check the Food Hygiene rating of food businesses online at ratings.food.gov.uk.

The Food Hygiene Rating Scheme (FHRS) is a partnership scheme between local councils and the Food Standards Agency and provides information on the standards of hygiene found in food businesses when they are inspected by Environmental Health Officers.

Ratings range from '5' meaning food

hygiene standards are very good to '0' meaning urgent improvement is necessary.

All food businesses included in the FHRS are required by law to publicly and clearly display their current up-to-date rating by use of a sticker at all entrances into their establishment.



Support Local



Supporting our town centres

Our town centres are vital to our local economy and our social and cultural life.

Over the past year we have worked with partner organisations to help to revitalise our town centres and recover from the impacts of Covid-19.

New improvements



Buttermarket, Enniskillen

New paving to improve accessibility



Urban Garden, Omagh

Transforming a grey space into a green social space



Connect

Works to better connect Enniskillen and Omagh town centres with other key areas in both towns.

These capital projects were made possible with funding from the Department for Communities, the Department for Infrastructure and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council.

Key support over the past year has included:



Administering over £442,000 of recovery funding to businesses



Business support, training and mentoring programmes



Improving town centre experience with public art, additional planting and cleansing



Events to encourage people to visit and support town centres



Marketing campaign to showcase Enniskillen and Omagh as a place to love, live, work and invest in



Physical improvements to our town centres to support them as economic, social, accessible and sustainable places

Business Support

The Council's Economic Development team continues to support local businesses through a range of free mentoring support programmes and regular topical and engaging webinars.



In 2020-21, the Council provided support to 362 businesses

- ✓ delivering 632 mentoring days
- ✓ supporting 30 businesses to develop a new website for their business

requirements. Our expert advisors are there to offer businesses practical advice and support where needed.

Support covers a wide range of topics including marketing and social media; writing winning tenders; understanding customs; tariffs and taxation; exploring new customer markets or getting started if you have a new business idea.

If you are a business based within the district and would like to request free, customised mentoring support get in touch with our team today.

Business mentoring available

Mentoring is tailored to meet the business needs and delivered on a one-to-one basis by qualified, experienced business mentors to help local businesses survive, develop, and grow through these challenging and uncertain times.

Our team will partner a dedicated mentor to a business to help address their specific business

i To keep up-to-date with business support available please visit the Council website and search for 'free business support' to register for our weekly newsletter. Alternatively email businesssupport@fermanaghomagh.com for further information and to request a call back from the Economic Development team.

Business support programmes include:

Go for It | Innovating Business Growth | Advancing Business Growth | Tender for Success
Digital Support | Website Development | First Stop Shop | Social Economy | Tourism Excellence

What's next?

We are developing 'Place Shaping Plans' for Enniskillen and Omagh with our partners.

These plans, which will be unique to each town, will help to create places where people want to live, work, visit and invest.

We are also progressing the Mid South West Regional Economic Strategy with partners.

This Strategy sets out investment priorities and interventions to boost productivity and drive inclusive sustainable growth for the region over the next 10-15 years.

Remember to support your local town centre this festive season.



This project is part funded by Invest Northern Ireland and the European Regional Development Fund under the Investment for Growth & Jobs Northern Ireland (2014-2020) Programme.

Biodiversity action

Through our Local Biodiversity Action Plan, we have been delivering Biodiversity Action across the district to support the local environment and to meet our Biodiversity Duty and other wildlife legislation.

Key actions include:

Protection of biodiversity

- Reducing our cutting at 35 locations (40 Ha) across the district to encourage native grasses and wildflowers to flourish and support pollinators.
- Raising awareness of Invasive Alien Species (IAS) in partnership with Lough Erne Landscape Partnership and surveying and controlling key IAS on Council estate.



Maintaining, enhancing and restoring biodiversity

- Planting over 7,000 trees since 2017
- 5,000+ wildflower seeds distributed to public and schools.
- 400+ children taking part in pollinator workshops each year.
- 120+ heritage apple trees planted through 'Trees for Bees'.

Promoting understanding of biodiversity

- Visiting 40 schools per year and delivering biodiversity sessions to 1,000 pupils.
- Art competition with 600 entries.
- In partnership with Northern Ireland Forest School Association, 500+ pupils taking part and 20+ teachers trained to deliver outdoor learning.
- Ongoing marketing and communications about local biodiversity reaching 430,000+ people on social media.



What's next?

We have drafted a new Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2022-2027 and would love to hear your thoughts on our proposed local action for biodiversity. Visit our website to read about our proposed plans and to have your say.

Love this place, leave no trace

We are now an official member of Leave No Trace Ireland, underpinning our commitment to the long-term sustainability and care for our environment.

The Leave No Trace Seven Principles encourage us all to take steps to protect the environment and conserve our natural and cultural heritage so everyone can enjoy the beauty of our district and benefit from being outdoors.

So, when outdoors, remember to love this place, leave no trace.

Did you know? It costs each ratepayer **£46** per year to keep our streets clean within the district – this is one of the highest figures in NI.

*Source Keep NI Beautiful



Walk down memory lane with new reminiscence trails

Take a trip down memory lane with a visit to the reminiscence trail, 'Around the Meadow', installed along the Broadmeadow pathway from Enniskillen Castle to Fermanagh Lakeland Forum.

Installed as part of our 'Age Friendly Strategy' and with funding from the Department for Communities, the trail includes signage with photographs, some local history and a little poetry to reawaken memories of bygone days or to discover more about old times at the 'Meadow'. An exhibition to complement the trail is currently running at Enniskillen Castle until Christmas.

A reminiscence trail is now being developed in Omagh. To get involved please email us at age.friendly@fermanaghomagh.com or telephone our Community Services team.



- Sign up today to receive a copy of the next edition of **Happy @ Home** – a magazine produced in partnership with South West Age Partnership – which includes lots of useful information and details on events and activities for the over 60s living within the district. **To order your copy please use the contact details above.**



Taking climate action now!

Your Council is committed to playing its part in the fight against climate change. In February, Council approved its first ever Climate Change and Sustainable Development Strategy, Restore, Revive, Thrive – Our Environment. This sets out the practical steps we can take over the coming years to minimise climate change impacts and identifies ways in which we can try to counter the severity of the Climate Emergency.

In September, the Council approved the Climate Change and Sustainable Development Action Plan detailing the actions behind our Strategy. The Plan includes how we will focus our efforts on reducing Council emissions in areas such as energy & buildings, resource management, transport and land use, whilst at the same time embedding Just Transition principles



into our actions to support a net zero and climate resilient economy in a way that delivers fairness and tackles inequality and injustice. We will be the first Council in NI with a Climate Change Action Plan.

- i To find out more about what we are doing to minimise climate change impacts, please visit our website www.fermanaghomagh.com



Is your local AED registered on 'the circuit'?

We are working in partnership with the NI Ambulance Service (NIAS) to improve provision of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) within the district.

AEDs are a compact, portable device which can be used by anyone on a person who has had a sudden cardiac arrest. AEDs, used along with cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), can save a life.

It is vital that AEDs are registered on 'the circuit'.

'The circuit' is a live national defibrillator database connected to the NIAS. When a person dials 999 the operator can check the database and direct the caller to the nearest AED.

There are over 170 AEDs registered on 'the circuit' within the district, however, there may

In Case of Emergency (I.C.E.) cards

I.C.E cards are a simple way to carry emergency contact details and medical information with you in case an emergency strikes.

Having all the essential information in one place could help save lives, provide the best help and care, and make sure your next of kin can be contacted promptly.

Fermanagh and Omagh Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) is working in partnership with the Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service, the NI Ambulance Service and the Council to make I.C.E cards available to residents.

Pick up your I.C.E card today – simply call into the Council's Connect Centres, located at Strule House, 16 High Street, Omagh and County Buildings, Enniskillen.

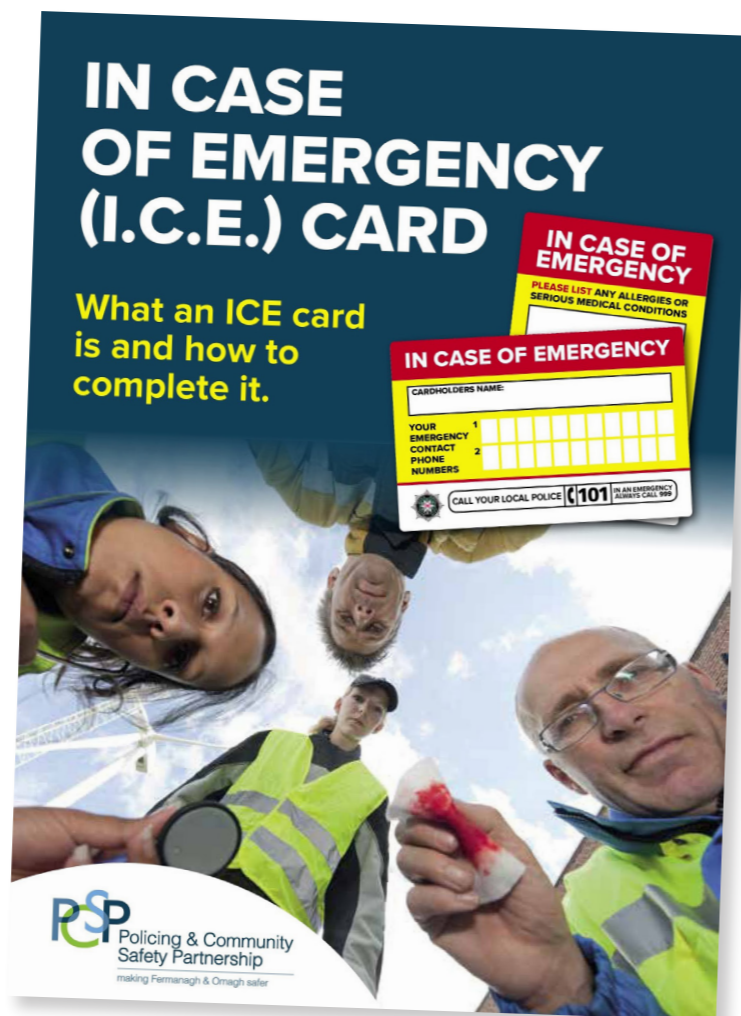
i For further information please contact Fermanagh and Omagh PCSP using contact details on page 2.



be others not yet registered. To register an AED within your community visit www.thecircuit.uk.

For information on AEDs currently registered on 'the circuit' please visit the NIAS website.

i For further information or to get involved contact: Resus.aed@nias.hscni.net or keith.collen@fermanaghmagh.com



Slow cooking your way to affordable tasty meals

Did you know that slow cooking your meals is a great way to prepare family friendly, affordable, nutritious meals?

As well as being an energy efficient method of cooking, slow cooking is also popular due to its hassle free and time effective nature with most meals only taking moments to prepare before they are popped into the slow cooker pot. The longer cooking time often means cheaper cuts of meat can be used and the large pots allow for easy batch cooking.

We have been working with the Western Health and Social Care Trust to promote the benefits of slow cooking.

If your community or voluntary group is interested in hosting a slow cooker training session, please register your interest by emailing eh@fermanaghmagh.com.

Easy slow cooker Veggie Curry

Serves 4-6
Preparation time 15 mins
Time in slow cooker
8-10 hours LOW
4-6 hours HIGH

You will need...
4 tablespoons of curry paste
1 large onion
1 cauliflower
1 sweet potato
1 carrot
1 parsnip
1 reduced salt vegetable stock cube
2 peppers
400ml can of reduced fat coconut milk

Method...
Preheat your slow cooker on HIGH. Wash, peel and chop your vegetables into small pieces. In a jug add the curry paste to coconut milk and add to pot. Add the stock cube dissolved in boiling water and cover the top of the ingredients. Place lid on slow cooker and leave to cook. Season to taste.

i Why not try adding any vegetables you like and bulk it up with lentils, potatoes, beans or fish.



Local households benefit from energy efficiency schemes

With the price of fuel increasing, many residents have benefited from domestic energy efficiency grants for insulation and home heating upgrades.

Eligibility criteria between grants differ, however, fully funded grants may be available to those with a total annual household income of less than £23,000.

i For further information please contact our Health Improvement team on **0300 303 1777**

Top tips for a warmer winter

- i** **Shop around** for the best price for oil or electricity.
- i** **Budget for fuel** throughout the year. St Vincent de Paul Oil Stamp Scheme is available in many areas across the district.
- i** Telephone **'Make The Call'** on 0800 232 1271 to see if you are eligible for additional income through a benefit entitlement check.
- i** Consider buying **gift vouchers** from energy suppliers for a loved one.
- i** **Contact** our Health Improvement Team on details above.



Button battery safety

Button batteries are commonplace in our homes, particularly in many popular Christmas toys and gifts, however they pose a potential hazard to children and should always be kept out of children's reach.

Keep children safe by:

- ✓ Storing spare batteries securely and out of children's reach.



Animation to help prevent kids choking

The Public Health Agency, in association with local Councils, has developed an animation to warn adults of potential choking hazards for young children and provide practical advice on what to



- ✓ Making sure the button battery compartment is secure on all gadgets and toys.
- ✓ When you remove a 'dead' button battery store it securely and recycle it properly and promptly.
- ✓ Act fast if you suspect a child has swallowed a button battery. Take them to the nearest Emergency Department or call 999 for an ambulance.

i For further information please visit www.fermanaghomag.com

do if your child chokes.

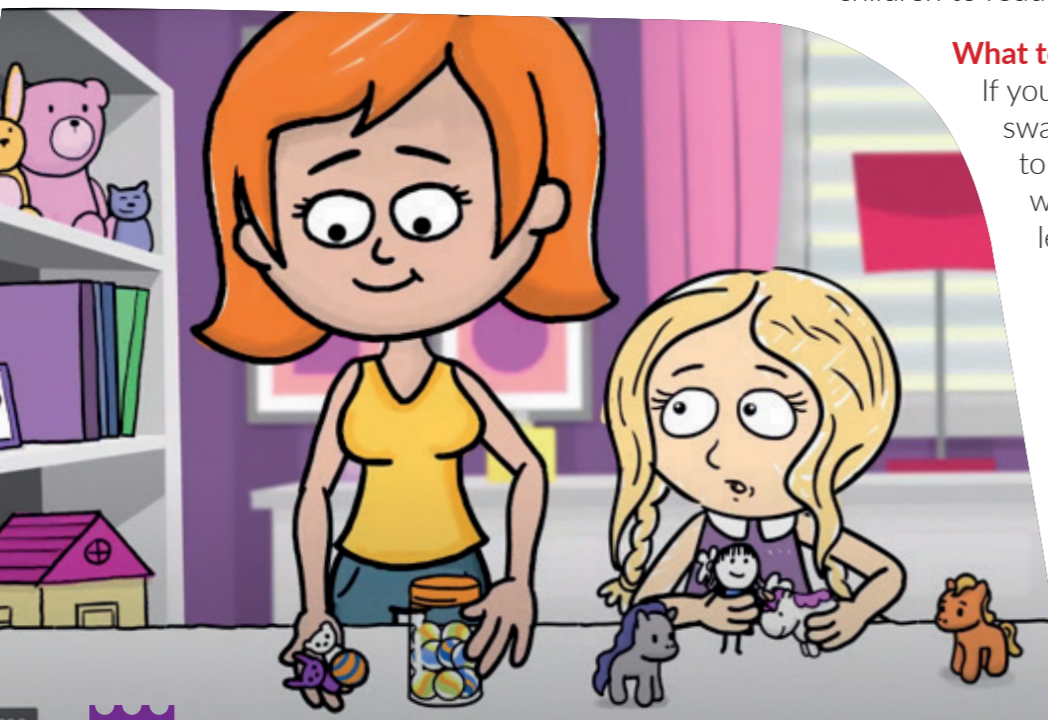
Food, small objects and toys can all be risky for young children. Make sure food is cut into small pieces and keep small items out of reach of children to reduce the risk of choking.

What to do if your child is choking

If your child is coughing after swallowing an item, encourage them to carry on coughing to bring up what they're choking on, but don't leave them alone.

If your child's coughing isn't effective, they are silent or they can't breathe in properly or speak, call for help immediately on 999.

i For further advice and to watch the animation please visit www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/choking



Covid wellbeing

Many of us are feeling worried or stressed about Covid-19 and the effect it is having on our lives and loved ones. Now, more than ever, it is important to look after our mental health and wellbeing.

The Covid Wellbeing NI website features helpful tools and resources, which can be used to take positive actions around wellbeing:

Mental Health Information

A range of fact sheets on topics including stress, anxiety, relationships, alcohol and drugs.

Guided Self-Help Toolkits

A range of programmes designed to help us take steps towards better resilience and mental health.

'Take 5 Steps to Wellbeing'

A quick list of ideas and suggestions to get people thinking creatively about how to build these steps into daily life.



Helpline and Support Services

Information on supports accessible across Northern Ireland. A range of these services are ready and willing to help.

i For more information please visit www.covidwellbeingni.info

Free, independent advice services

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council and the Department for Communities fund Community Advice Fermanagh and Omagh Independent Advice Services to provide free, quality, independent advice services to residents on a range of issues including:

- Social Security matters
- Disability Benefits including the completion of benefit application forms
- Debt and Money Advice issues

- Tax Credits
- Employment Rights
- Housing
- Consumer problems
- Community Care
- Provision of free representation at Social Security & Disability Appeal Tribunals and Industrial Tribunals
- Provision of free representation at Bankruptcy Hearings
- All other aspects of Social Welfare Law

If you need advice contact:

Community Advice Fermanagh, Fermanagh House, Enniskillen
Telephone 028 6632 0210

Omagh Independent Advice Services, Omagh Community House
Telephone 028 8224 3252



District Electoral Areas

Focus on Enniskillen DEA



Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is made up of seven District Electoral Areas (DEAs).

In this issue of in-FO we take a closer look at Enniskillen DEA which is made up of six electoral wards - Castlecoole, Erne, Lisbellaw, Lisnarick, Portora and Rossorry. As well as the town of Enniskillen, the DEA also encompasses the villages of Lisnarick and Lisbellaw.

Interesting Facts

Home of the renowned Ardhoven Theatre and the award-winning Enniskillen Castle Museums.

Enniskillen is Ireland's only island town.

Notable features are the Townhall designed by William Scott and constructed in 1901, and Cole's Monument dated 1857, in Forthill Park.

Hosted the G8 meeting of the World's eight leading economies in 2013.

Enniskillen awarded prestigious Purple Flag for excellence in evening and night time economy.

Named one of the best places to live in the UK in 2019 by The Times.

Home to the state of the art South West College Campus at Cornagrade; the world's first and largest passive house premium rated building.

Lisnarick was formerly known as Archdalestown, in recognition of its proximity to Castle Archdale. Lisnarick was burned in 1641, by Rory Maguire to mark the commencement of the Irish rebellion in Fermanagh.

Some of our notable people

Adrian Dunbar; Actor

Samuel Beckett; Playwright

Joan Trimble;
Composer and
Concert Pianist

Kathryn Dane;
Ireland International
Rugby Player

Holly Nixon;
International Rower

Jim Cleary; NI
International Footballer

Michael McGovern; NI
International Footballer

Gavin Noble, Olympian, Triathlon, London 2012

James Gamble; Co founder of Proctor and Gamble, and Old Portorian

William Scott, Artist



The Great Outdoors

Marble Arch Caves - open all year

Did you know the Marble Arch Caves is now open all year round?

The Marble Arch Caves, one of NI's top visitor attractions, nestled within the Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark, has extended its traditional opening season so people can enjoy the spectacular showcaves and surrounding area throughout all seasons.

Guided cave tours are now available all year (weather permitting, please check before you visit) while a range of 'above the ground' experiences are also on offer for all age groups.

The popular family 'Elf Trail' also makes a return to the Marble Arch Caves this festive season.



Visitor Information, toilet and café facilities are also available for those visiting the area.

i For further information please visit www.marblearchcaves.co.uk or telephone 028 6632 1815.

New facilities at Gortin Glen Forest Park

Visitors to Gortin Glen Forest Park can now enjoy a whole range of new facilities thanks to our ongoing partnership working with the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA).

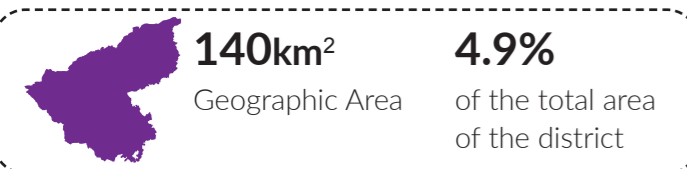
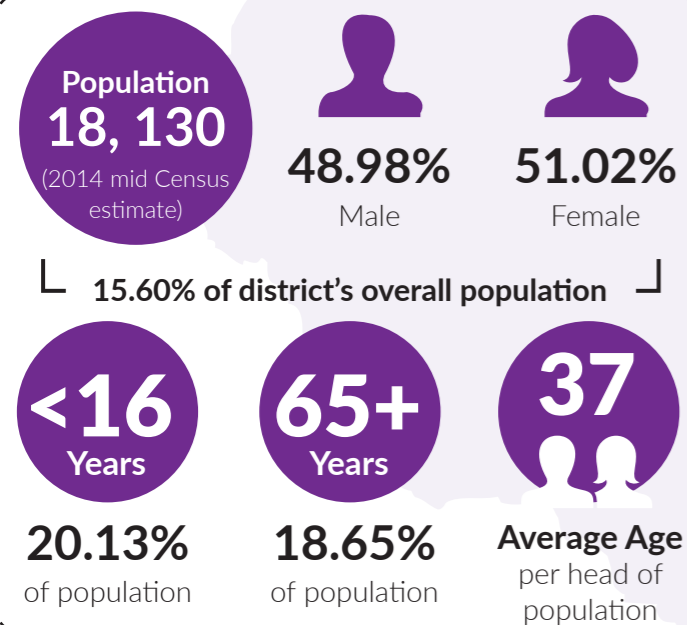
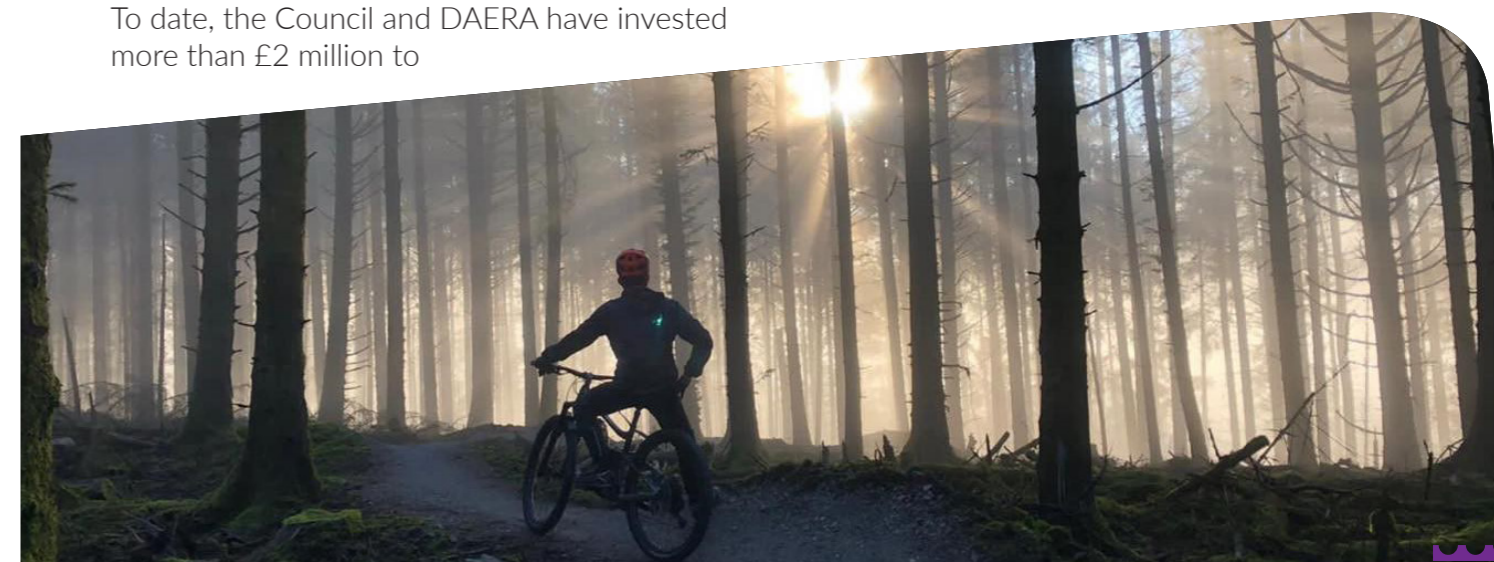
Following on from the opening of the state-of-the-art destination play park and development of walking trails in 2020, the park now boasts 13km of award winning red and blue grade mountain bike trails, horse riding facilities, improved campsite, new BBQ and picnic shelters, additional parking plus much more!

A bike hire and uplift service and café facilities are also available on site.

To date, the Council and DAERA have invested more than £2 million to



transform Gortin Glen Forest Park into a family-friendly destination welcoming up to 100,000 visitors per annum to the Forest Park.



Residents' Survey

Earlier this year a representative sample of 1,002 residents from across the district took part in a Residents' Survey to share their views, via telephone interviews and focus groups, on the Fermanagh and Omagh district and Council services.

What you said:

Council Performance

84% satisfied with Fermanagh and Omagh District Council (14% increase in satisfaction from 2018 survey (70%)) This is significantly higher than the 67% average satisfaction rating of NI and GB Councils.

81% felt Council responded well to challenges of Covid-19 pandemic.

Fermanagh and Omagh district

91% satisfied with their local area as a place to live.

92% say their local area is welcoming to others.



Things that make you proud of your district:

- Community spirit (looking after each other)
- Scenery including mountains, lakes and farmland
- Outdoor spaces clean, tidy and well maintained
- The people



Health & Wellbeing

81% rate their health as excellent or good.

This latest survey follows on from the first Residents' Survey carried out by the Council in 2018.

The outcome of the most recent survey shows that we are progressing in the right direction, delivering the highest quality services at the best possible value for money to the satisfaction of most residents.

However, the findings also showed a high proportion of residents are unclear as to the services Council is responsible for, For example,

80% mistakenly believed that the Council is responsible for roads maintenance when this is the responsibility of the Department for Infrastructure.

We will continue to work to highlight which services are delivered by other agencies and have included a useful guide on page 2 of this edition of in-FO.

The overall findings of this survey will be used to help us identify and target services to support the wellbeing of residents and the district as a whole. They will also help to inform what we do and how we do it.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to participate in the survey and focus groups.

Councillor Contact

Your Councillors

The Council comprises 40 Councillors representing seven District Electoral Areas (DEAs). Councillors attend monthly Council and Committee meetings, at which they make decisions on your behalf about local services and local matters. Council and Committee meetings are live streamed on the Council's YouTube channel.

Councillor email addresses follow the standard format: firstname.surname@fermanaghomagh.com



Enniskillen - includes Castlecoole, Erne, Lisbellaw, Lisnarick, Portora, Rossorry

Paul Blake SDLP M: 077 6358 2853	Keith Elliott DUP T: 028 6632 3750 M: 077 3897 6891	Robert Irvine UUP T: 028 6638 7780 M: 078 3465 6788	Tommy Maguire Sinn Féin M: 077 1580 9051	Donal O'Cofaigh Cross Community Labour Alternative M: 073 7553 0941	Howard Thornton UUP T: 028 6632 3541 M: 078 1263 8598
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Erne East - includes Brookeborough, Donagh, Lisnaskea, Maguiresbridge, Newtownbutler, Rosslea

Sheamus Greene Sinn Féin T: 028 6638 1122 M: 078 1486 0908	Eamon Keenan Independent M: 077 1335 5766	Garbhan McPhillips SDLP M: 077 4320 2898	Thomas O'Reilly Sinn Féin T: 028 6773 8741 M: 078 5576 7739	Paul Robinson DUP T: 028 8952 1196 M: 078 4110 2607	Victor Warrington UUP M: 079 7652 1191
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Erne North - includes Ballinamallard, Belleek and Boa, Ederney and Kesh, Irvinestown, Tempo

Diana Armstrong UUP M: 079 7096 8304	John Coyle SDLP M: 077 3177 9330	Siobhán Currie Sinn Féin M: 078 9906 2870	John McClaughry DUP Vacant at time of going to print M: 077 7557 6933
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Erne West - includes Belcoo & Garrison, Boho, Cleenish & Letterbreen, Derrygonnelly, Derrylin, Florencecourt & Kinawley

Alex Baird UUP T: 028 6634 1383 M: 078 4110 2604	Anthony Feely Sinn Féin T: 028 6865 8086 M: 078 7198 1976	Adam Gannon SDLP M: 077 0777 9562	Chris McCaffrey Sinn Féin M: 079 0725 5317	Bernice Swift Independent T: 028 6864 1418 M: 079 6883 8863
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Mid Tyrone - includes Beragh, Drumnakilly, Gortin, Owenkillew, Sixmilecross, Termon

Sean Clarke Sinn Féin T: 028 8164 7961 M: 078 7962 5719	Sean Donnelly Sinn Féin T: 028 8076 1453 M: 077 6547 3518	Catherine Kelly Sinn Féin M: 074 8327 7394	Pádraigín Kelly Sinn Féin M: 075 4222 9273	Emmet McAleer Independent M: 079 7916 5757	Bert Wilson UUP T: 028 8224 5132 M: 078 7654 5201
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Omagh - includes Coolnagard, Camowen, Dergmoney, Gortrush, Killyclogher, Strule

Matthew Bell UUP M: 075 7727 6261	Josephine Anne Deehan Independent M: 077 4095 8788	Stephen Donnelly Alliance M: 075 4222 9277	Anne Marie Fitzgerald Sinn Féin T: 028 8076 0454 M: 077 4264 8521	Barry McElduff Sinn Féin T: 028 8225 3040 M: 078 8798 8365	Errol Thompson DUP M: 079 0933 1084
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West Tyrone - includes Dromore, Drumquin, Fairy Water, Fintona, Newtownsaville, Trillick

Mark Buchanan DUP M: 077 6492 8829	Glenn Campbell Sinn Féin T: 028 8225 3040 M: 077 4815 8909	Ann-Marie Donnelly Sinn Féin M: 078 9906 2935	Mary Garrity SDLP M: 075 2542 0687	Stephen McCann Sinn Féin T: 028 8225 3040 M: 079 1277 5085	Allan Rainey MBE UUP T: 028 8556 8656 M: 077 1110 8531
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i | All Councillor contact information can be found at www.fermanaghomagh.com/your-council/councillors/

Let's get back on track

The last 18 months have been difficult for everyone. With many of us spending more time at home due to the Covid-19 health pandemic and an increase in the use of disposable items such as face coverings, it is not very surprising that there has been an increase in household waste and a drop in our recycling rate.

Recycling rate

49.12% (2020) 47.13% (2021)

As we continue to move forward, let's look to a brighter future and get our recycling back on track by recycling at every opportunity.

If everyone in Fermanagh & Omagh recycled just one more plastic bottle every week, 6.1 million more would be recycled annually. That's 165 tonnes!

C, D, E, F - Clean, Dry, Empty, Flat

What and how you recycle really matters.

What?

A handy guide for what you can place in your blue recycling bin is available on page 23. Cut it out and keep it at home as a useful reminder for your everyday recycling or download the 'Binovation' app for up-to-date information on recycling and household bin collections.

How?

When placing your items in the blue recycling bin, remember they should be C, D, E, F



- Clean** Please wash plastics, bottles and cans
- Dry** Wet paper and cardboard turn to mush and can stick to other materials
- Empty** Never stack or place items inside each other as they are difficult to separate at the recycling facility
- Flat** Flatten items to save space in your bin and avoid other items being placed inside

Following **C, D, E, F** will ensure valuable recyclable material is not lost.

Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

As we all try to reduce our waste, think 'refuse' first.

Saying no to single use plastic, where you can, is a great first step to cutting down on plastic pollution.

To support this, from January 2022, bans or restrictions will be applied in Northern Ireland on the supply or sale of 10 common single use plastic items.

These include cotton buds, cutlery, plates, straws, drinks stirrers, balloon sticks, expanded polystyrene food containers and beverage cups for take aways, plus more.



Blue Bin Recycling

Your guide to what can be recycled in your blue recycling bin. Remember to ensure your items are:

Clean, Dry, Empty & Flat

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper Newspapers Magazines Letters and Junk mail Envelopes (not padded) Computer paper Phone books Catalogues & brochures Tissue boxes Sugar bags Calendars Wrapping paper Post-It notes School copy books 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plastic Containers Mineral & Water bottles Juice bottles Milk bottles Salad dressing bottles Yoghurt pots Butter tubs Bathroom & cosmetic bottles Mouthwash bottles Household cleaning bottles Laundry detergent bottles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Glass Soft drinks bottles Wine bottles Beer bottles Medicine bottles Sauce jars Jam jars Baby food jars
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cardboard Food boxes Cereal boxes Packaging boxes Kitchen towel tubes Toilet roll tubes Juice cartons Milk cartons Egg boxes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove pumps from bottles before placing in the bin 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do Not Place In Your Blue Bin Light bulbs Batteries Crisp packets Plastic food & bread bags Garden cuttings & soil Polystyrene Food waste Old baby feeding bottles Nappies and sanitary products (including baby wipes) Contaminated packaging (greasy, dirty or with residue)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove any plastic inserts from cardboard boxes before placing in the bin 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aluminium & Steel Cans Food cans Biscuit tins Aluminium drinks cans Clean foil trays Empty deodorant cans (detach plastic lid) Pet food cans Tin Foil 	

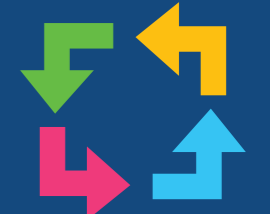


Did you know you can download our FREE Bin-ovation app for all your waste and recycling information.

It is available from the App Store and Google Play.



www.fermanaghomagh.com





Mark your own bin collection calendar

No one likes to miss a bin collection so why not mark yours for the coming year on this handy calendar?

You can find your bin collection dates on our website: www.fermanaghomagh.com

Or download our **FREE** waste and recycling app, Bin-ovation



Bin Collections 2022



January

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

July

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

August

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

September

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

October

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

November

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	