

Annual Performance Report

1 April 2025–31 March 2026

A Year of Delivery: Our Plan in Action



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

A Shared Vision

Our Vision is of a welcoming, shared, and inclusive Fermanagh and Omagh district, where people and places are healthy, safe, connected and prosperous, and where our outstanding natural, built, and cultural heritage is sustainably managed.

Our Mission

To work in partnership to improve the lives and wellbeing of our communities and to provide the best quality experience for those who visit our district.

Enniskillen

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From the Chair and Chief Executive

As Chair and Chief Executive of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, we are pleased to present the Annual Performance Report for 2025/26.

This year marked an important milestone for the Council as we celebrated ten years since its formation. Over the past decade, we have worked with residents, communities, businesses and partners to help shape a district that is ambitious, resilient and proud of its unique identity. Together, we have delivered significant improvements across a wide range of services while supporting the sustainable growth and wellbeing of our district.

The tenth anniversary provided an opportunity to reflect on the progress made since 2015. The Council has helped to lead major investment in places and infrastructure, strengthened community planning partnerships, enhanced local services and supported initiatives that improve quality of life throughout the district. While much has been achieved, we remain firmly focused on the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.

During 2025/26, the Council continued to deliver against the objectives set out in the Corporate Plan and Performance Improvement Plan. This report sets out the progress made across our priorities, demonstrating how we have worked to support economic development, promote health and wellbeing, protect and enhance our natural environment, strengthen communities and improve the services we provide.

These achievements have been made possible through the commitment of our Elected Members and staff, together with community and voluntary organisations, businesses and public sector partners. We would like to thank everyone who has contributed to our shared success over the past ten years.

As we look to the future, the Council remains committed to delivering high-quality services, listening and responding to our communities and providing strong civic leadership. Building on the foundations established over the past decade, we will continue working together to create a prosperous, sustainable and inclusive district for everyone.

Chair Councillor Debbie Coyle

Chair / Cathaoirleach, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council



Alison McCullagh

Chief Executive, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council

Ann and Jennifer share a smile after a heartfelt surprise from grateful visitors - a thank you for their warm welcome and outstanding service at Strule Arts Centre

Tourist Information



Proud to Serve our People

About This Report

This Annual Performance Report provides a summary, self-assessment and roadmap of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's progress from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026 against key priorities set out in our key strategic plans and against performance indicators and measurements to demonstrate impact.

They include:

1. A Year in Review: 2025–2026:

This section provides an overview of the Council's key achievements, highlighting the impact delivered during the second year of the Corporate Plan 2024-2028, Our Council, Our Plan.

Our Council, Our Plan 2025–2026

2. 10 Year Anniversary Celebration Engagement Activities:

Summary of the activities undertaken to mark the tenth anniversary of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council.

3. Strategic Planning Framework:

The Council's performance management framework and governance arrangements outlined.

4. Driving Improvements: A Look Back at 2025-2026 Improvement Objectives:

An overview and self-assessment of progress made by the Council in relation to the delivery of its Performance Improvement Plan 2025-2026.

Year 2: Continuous Improvement 2024-2028

5. Monitoring Performance using Data:

An overview and comparison of performance in relation to the seven statutory indicators and standards, APSE Core Performance Indicators and other benchmarking indicators.

6. Financial Summary 2025–2026:

A financial overview in respect of the 2025-2026 year.

7. Rural Proofing our Plans and Policies:

An overview of the 17 Rural Needs Impact Assessments completed in 2025–2026.



A Year in Review: 2025–2026

Annual Performance Report 1 April 2025–31 March 2026

This section provides a high level snapshot of the work undertaken from 1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026; demonstrating impact against our Corporate Plan's key priorities over the year.

An overview of activity, and an analysis of the 40 Corporate Plan measures is available here:

WWW



Forthill, Enniskillen

April 2025



Plaque to commemorate the tree planting at Riverview Park

Hospital Road Regeneration

A community event brought together local residents, community groups and Council representatives to enhance the Hospital Road area through environmental improvements, shared activities and the creation of a welcoming community space.

[WWW](#)

Honouring Jimmy Kennedy

A new online digital resource was launched to celebrate Omagh-born songwriter Jimmy Kennedy's legacy on International Songwriters Day 2025.

[WWW](#)

Sensory-Friendly Cave Tours

To mark World Autism Awareness Month, Marble Arch Caves introduced Quiet Tours to provide a calmer, more accessible experience for visitors with sensory needs.

[WWW](#)

Forum Redevelopment Given Go-Ahead

In April 2025, Council approved the redevelopment of the Fermanagh Lakeland Forum, marking a significant milestone in the delivery of a new state-of-the-art sports and wellbeing facility for Enniskillen. The existing Forum closed on 30 April 2025 to facilitate the redevelopment, which will transform the site into a modern leisure, health and wellbeing hub. It is anticipated that the new centre will be completed in 2028.

[WWW](#)

Sept 25

Demolition commence with materials segregated for reuse and recycling

[WWW](#)

Dec 25

Construction Gets Underway

[WWW](#)

Feb 26

Piling Complete at Lakeland Forum

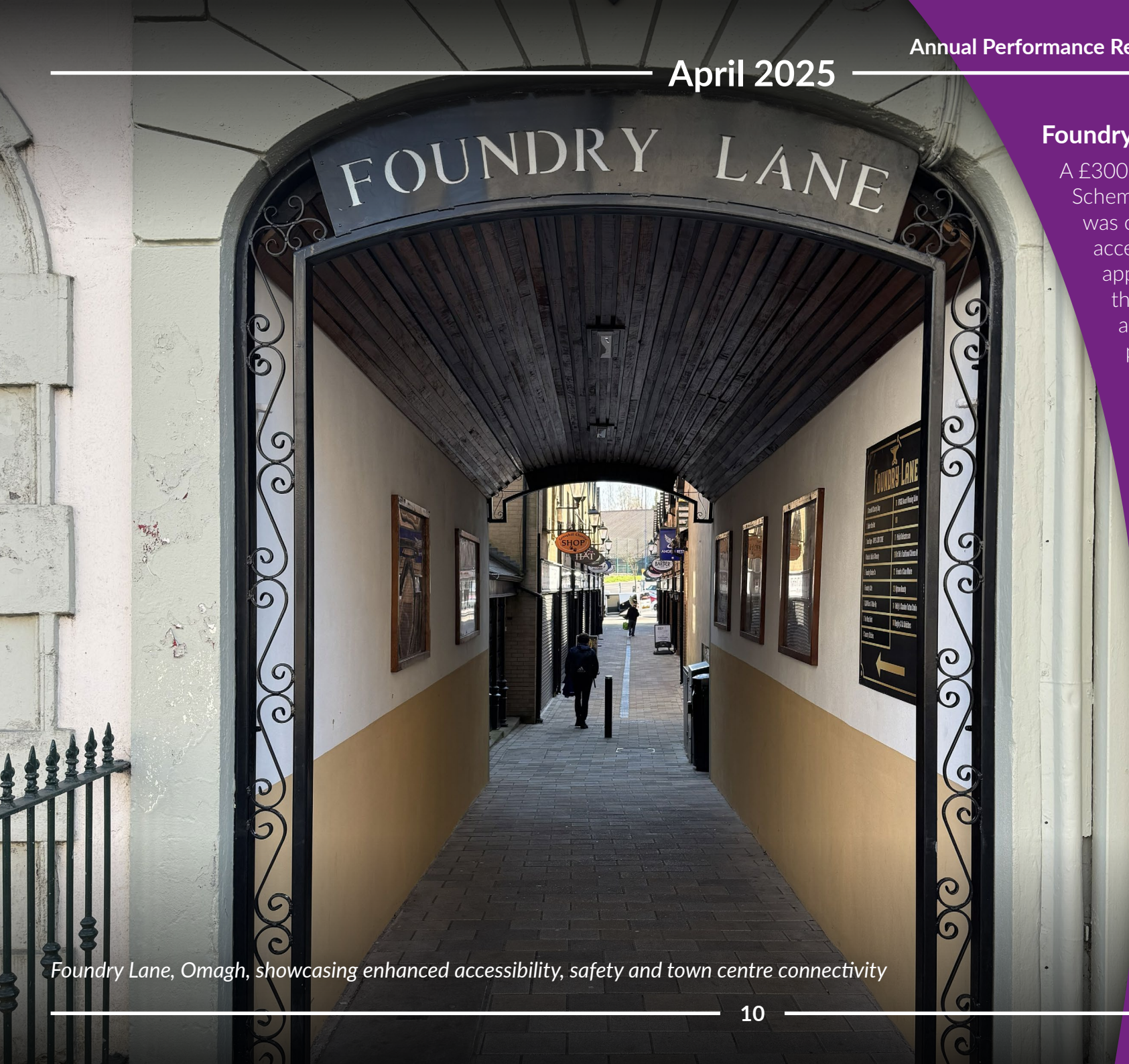
[WWW](#)


Social Value
In 2025/26

1,671
of 5,340 points
achieved

Artist's impression of the new Fermanagh Lakeland Forum (currently under construction)

April 2025



Foundry Lane, Omagh, showcasing enhanced accessibility, safety and town centre connectivity

Foundry Lane Revitalised

A £300,000 Environmental Improvement Scheme at Foundry Lane, Omagh, was completed in 2025, enhancing accessibility, safety and the overall appearance of the area. Funded by the Department for Communities and supported by the Council, the project delivered improved paving, lighting, drainage, signage and inclusive access, strengthening town centre connectivity in line with the Omagh Place Shaping Plan.

[WWW](#)



£13,836,307*

**Expenditure on
Capital Projects in
2025/2026**

* Unaudited figure

Marble Arch Milestones

2025 marked two major milestones for the Marble Arch Caves: 130 years since pioneering French speleologist Édouard Martel first explored the cave system, and 40 years since it opened to the public in May 1985. From its discovery in local folklore to its transformation into a world-class attraction welcoming over 2.5 million visitors, the site has achieved landmark successes including UNESCO Global Geopark status and year-round operations, firmly establishing Marble Arch Caves as one of Ireland's most significant natural heritage destinations.

[WWW](#)

Marble Arch Caves staff mark a double milestone: 130 years of exploration and 40 years as a world-class visitor attraction.

Celebrating
40 YEARS
IN OPERATION
2025
MARBLE ARCH CAVES

May 2025



Classic Fishing Festival

International anglers showcased outstanding skill at the 48th Fermanagh Classic Fishing Festival, attracting 184 competitors from across Ireland, Great Britain and Germany. The event concluded with a thrilling finale on 9 May, set against the stunning Fermanagh Lakelands.

[WWW](#)

Age-Friendly Employer Pledge

Council signed Age-Friendly Employer Pledge, supporting inclusive workforce across ages.

[WWW](#)

Emergency Services Day

Fermanagh and Omagh Policing and Community Safety Partnership's (PCSP) Emergency Services Day welcomed families for an afternoon of live demonstrations and interactive experiences. The event showcased the vital work of local emergency services, strengthening community awareness and connection.

[WWW](#)

Dementia Action Week

Council marked Dementia Action Week by hosting a dementia-friendly "Casablanca" screening with support organisations, promoting awareness, diagnosis, and inclusive support services for Dementia.

[WWW](#)

May 2025

Live Here, Love Here

Live Here, Love Here Community Champion Award winners included Dromore Health and Wellbeing Group, Omagh Men's Shed, and Trillick Community Group.

[WWW](#)

Live Here, Love Here Award winners celebrate their success

May 2025

€6 Million Shared Island Boost for Cuilcagh Geopark's Cross-Border Tourism

Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark is to receive €6 million from the Shared Island fund to support tourism through conservation with a focus on delivering a number of projects identified in the **Cuilcagh Masterplan**.

[WWW](#)

Cuilcagh Boardwalk
welcomed

57,000
visitors in 2025/26

May 2025

There were 17 Council meetings and 47 Committee meetings in 2025–26.

Live recordings are available on the Council's [YouTube Channel](#)

Attendance rate of elected representatives at Council and Committee meetings was **83.6%**



June 2025

Cross Country 2025: Inspiring the Next Generation

The Fermanagh and Omagh Primary School Cross Country Championships 2025 took place at the Bawnacre Centre, Irvinestown, marking its largest event to date. Organised by the Council, it ran over five days in June, with over 1,800 pupils from 43 schools competing.

[WWW](#)

What struck me personally was the happiness and excitement of everyone taking part. This initiative is an excellent way to inspire our children and young people to adopt healthy and active lifestyles.
Cllr Barry McElduff

2,855

Community groups, clubs and organisations working in partnership with FODC through Community Support Programme



Young runners at the 2025 School's Cross Country Event

June 2025

Council launches its new Performance Improvement Plan 2026-2027

Growing Green Minds at Tullyvar

Local primary pupils celebrated World Environment Day at Tullyvar, exploring its transformation from landfill to thriving habitat through hands-on environmental activities including birdwatching, pond dipping, planting, and gardening demonstrations.

[WWW](#)

Schools Inspire Change Through Zero Waste Programme

Three local schools celebrated success in a pioneering Zero Waste programme, empowering pupils to reduce waste through practical sustainability activities.

[WWW](#)

Our Community in Action



2,080

People participated
in litter picks



2,123

Signed up to
Adopt a Spot



479

Registered as Litter
Champions



120

School visits

FODC Climate Education Officer, pictured with pupils
taking part in a pioneering Zero Waste programme

July 2025

Cleaner Streets with New Anti-Gum Funding

A £27,500 grant supported gum removal and prevention, helping create cleaner streets, and promote responsible public behaviour.

[WWW](#)

Play Parks Transformed Across Fermanagh and Omagh

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) funding delivered six revitalised play parks, providing safe, inclusive and engaging spaces for children and families.

[WWW](#)

Promoting Bin Your Gum Campaign in Belleek

July 2025

Sun, Smiles & Summer Schemes

The 2025 Summer Scheme Programme commenced in July and continued throughout July and August, with Council-run schemes delivered across the district. Opportunities were made widely accessible to communities throughout the area.

Making Summer Count

**1,800+**

Participated in 2025
Summer Schemes,
Clubs and Workshops

Children enjoying the Derrygonnelly Summer Scheme

Teddy Bears Picnic Celebrates Music, Culture and Community

The Council supported by Apex, Arbour, Radius and Alpha Housing Associations through the 'Housing for All' Shared Housing Programme hosted a Teddy Bears Picnic in the Grange Park, Omagh. This family fun day attracted large crowds, who enjoyed a range of entertainment, crafts, and live performances.

[WWW](#)

Events that Bring Our Community Together



34

events sponsored by
the Council



£145,748

Sponsorship value



37,310

Corporate Events
Attendance/Spectators



179,999

3rd Party Events
Attendance/Spectators



2,860

3rd Party Volunteers

Teddy Bears picnic in Grange Park, Omagh

Here to celebrate life's big events with you.

In 2025–26:



1169

Births were registered within the District

Top Registered Baby Names

Boys - James

Girls - Fiadh



We conducted

152

Civil Ceremonies



89%

of all bookings made online through our Online Registrar Portal

www.dublin.gov.ie



Hats Off to Forthill Brings Summer Fun to Enniskillen

Over 1,000 visitors enjoyed music, family activities, and heritage experiences at the lively Hats Off to Forthill event in Enniskillen.

[WWW](#)

Art in Our Hands: Bringing Heritage to Life

This innovative project connects communities with local heritage through creative workshops, supporting wellbeing, inclusion, and meaningful engagement with museum collections.

[WWW](#)

>25,000

participations in arts,
cultural and heritage
activity programmes
(direct delivery)

Children enjoying Hats Off to Forthill

August 2025

REAP: Empowering Progress

In August, REAP delivered its Classroom Assistant Fast Track programme, supporting local people into education and work. REAP provides opportunities to support local people through training, mentoring and skills development, benefiting personal and job/career development.

167 participants



22 (12%) participants moved into further education



64 (36%) participants moved into employment



48% of leavers progress to further learning or employment on programme completion



544 course / qualifications were completed



179 participants left the service at the end of the year



WWW

If it were not for REAP I would not be in the position I am in now - employed and ready to face new challenges.



Sheena receiving her Classroom Support Fast Track Programme Certificate

Delivering on Time



87%

of complaints responded to within target time



94%

of service requests received & responded to within agreed timeframe with Council's Regulatory Services Section

September 2025



Almost
230
competitors
conquered FEARmanagh

Side by side, facing the FEAR in Fermanagh

Rising Together Against Poverty

The Council's Anti-Poverty Officer hosted a workshop at the regional "Rising Together Against Poverty" conference, led by Barnardo's NI and Trussell Trust NI. The session highlighted Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's antipoverty strategy, emphasising partnership working, Cash First approaches, and the role of councils in shaping future anti-poverty efforts across Northern Ireland.

[WWW](#)

Shaping an Age Friendly Future

The Council launched a public consultation on its draft Age Friendly Strategy and Action Plan, building on previous work to support older people to remain healthy, active, and connected. Developed with the Age Friendly Alliance, the strategy is informed by extensive engagement, including a district-wide survey with 925 responses and focus groups with older residents.

[WWW](#)

Fermanagh's FEAR Factor

The annual adventure race showcased West Fermanagh's terrain, with participants tackling multi-discipline courses and top performers recognised at an awards ceremony hosted by the Council Chair.

[WWW](#)

Protecting the Past, Inspiring the Future

The Council launched its first **Heritage Plan 2030** during Heritage Week. The Plan sets out key priorities to promote, protect, and celebrate the district's rich heritage. The plan provides a strategic framework to ensure heritage remains accessible, resilient, and central to community life, supporting its continued value for current and future generations.

[WWW](#)**19**

events delivered for
Heritage Week
(8-14 September 2025)

**350+**

responses received
for the Heritage Plan
2030 consultation



Launch of the Council's First Heritage Plan

The Ultimate Pitch

Eight local entrepreneurs showcased their innovation and ambition at Council's 'Ultimate Pitch' competition. Diane Reilly, founder of Endovia, secured first place with her compelling pitch for a digital tool supporting those living with endometriosis. Diane progressed to the regional final. The event highlights the strength of local enterprise and the valuable support available through the Go Succeed business programme.

[WWW](#)

The Council's Economic Development Team are responsible for the management and delivery of key economic development initiatives across the District. To find out more, click the link below.

[WWW](#)

Over

£188Kin Go Succeed grants
awarded to local
businesses (2025/26)*The Ultimate Pitch Finalists*

September 2025

A Year in Colour

Throughout 2025/26, Strule Arts Centre and Enniskillen Castle Museums were illuminated on **56** occasions, supporting a wide range of charities, awareness campaigns, commemorative events and community initiatives. Through these vibrant displays, the Council helped raise awareness, celebrate diversity and recognise causes that matter to communities across the district.

To find out more about the Council's illumination scheme and how to submit a request.

WWW



October 2025

Positive Ageing Month Building Belonging – Celebrating the Power of Our Social Connections

October is Positive Ageing Month and throughout the month over 300 older people participated in a diverse range of activities being held to encourage older people to take part.

[WWW](#)

Tackling Rural Poverty & Social Isolation

The Rural Business Development Grant is delivered by the Council, and funded through DAERA's Tackling Rural Poverty and Social Isolation (TRPSI). The scheme provides capital assistance to enhance productivity, improve sustainability, and support job creation.

[WWW](#)

TRPSI Programme Impact 2025/26


398

Applications


£1.46M

Grant funding awarded


£3.13M

Project Value

“Great wee day - enjoyed the music and food and meeting lovely new people. Hope there are more events like this. Thank you!”



Positive Aging Month Activity in Donagh - Be Fit, Be Happy

October 2025

Four Parks Earn Green Flag Award

The Council was delighted that four parks received the prestigious Green Flag Award in 2025, with Broadmeadow and Grange Park retaining their status, and Forthill Park and Gortin Glen recognised for the first time. The award is an international mark of excellence for well-managed, sustainable green spaces.

[WWW](#)


Almost

£784K

invested in **8** upgrades and
1 play park transformation



66%

of Council Play Parks have
achieved a minimum of
Silver Play Value

Celebrating Green Flag success at Forthill Park and Gortin Glen

The Fermanagh and Omagh PEACEPLUS Programme

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Launched its €5.6 Million PEACEPLUS Local Action Plan.

Here is a snapshot of the PEACEPLUS Projects for FODC



Local Action Plan

[WWW](#)

€5.6m | Lead Partner

13 programmes across 3 key themes:

- Local Community Regeneration & Transformation
- Thriving & Peaceful Communities
- Celebrating Cultures & Diversity



PEAT

[WWW](#)

€19.2m | Delivery Partner

Restoring peatlands, enhancing biodiversity and combating climate change.



STRIDE

[WWW](#)

Smart Rural Innovation Driven Empowerment

€3.5m | Delivery Partner

Tackling challenges facing rural communities in Fermanagh, Tyrone, Leitrim & Sligo.



RESTART

[WWW](#)

Rural Economic & Social Transformation and Resilience Together €8.4m | Lead Partner

Rural Economic & Social Transformation and Resilience Together. Helping communities affected by partition, conflict, economic decline & social fragmentation.



Resilient Neighbours

[WWW](#)

€2.3m | Partnership with Monaghan County Council

Strengthening emergency preparedness, response & community resilience. Delivered with Fermanagh & Omagh DC and Monaghan CC.





Listening, Leading and Shaping Our District

During 2025/26, the Council brought together residents, businesses, community organisations and partners to explore issues central to the district's future prosperity. Through a series of conferences and workshops, expert speakers were engaged to share insights and inform discussion on key themes.

November 2025



The Importance of Sports Clubs in Promoting Community Health and Wellbeing

A well-attended seminar brought communities together to highlight the vital role of local sports clubs, with expert speakers sharing insights on promoting health, wellbeing and lifelong participation in physical activity.



November 2025



Future Housing Provision: Housing Conference 2025

The 'Future Housing Provision: Housing Conference 2025' brought together key voices from government, housing, infrastructure, planning and the community sectors to address the urgent issue of housing supply and need.

[WWW](http://www.fermanagh.gov.uk)



November 2025

Omagh Music Festival

The Strule Arts Centre hosted a weekend of packed performances for the Omagh Music Festival, welcoming over 600 attendees. Delivered by Our Music NI and proudly supported by Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, this year's festival was dedicated to celebrating the life and legacy of the late Arty McGlynn.

[WWW](#)

Community Champions 2025

The 2025 Climate Champions were recognised for their outstanding contributions to environmental protection and sustainability across the district, celebrating individuals and groups making a meaningful impact in their communities.

[WWW](#)

Leid Week

Supported five community groups to deliver Ulster- Scots activities, including heritage talks, poetry and music.

[WWW](#)

Celebrating music, community, and legacy - performers on stage at Omagh Music Festival

Launch of the Age and Access Charter

The Council launched an Age and Access Friendly Charter, a new initiative designed to help local businesses, community venues and public services become more inclusive and accessible for everyone.

WWW



Representatives from across the community come together to mark the launch of the Age and Access Charter

November 2025

Junior Paralympic Fun Day

The Community Wellbeing team, with Disability Sport NI, delivered a Junior Paralympic Fun Day at Omagh Leisure Complex on 2 November 2025, with inclusive activities.

For more information on our Community and Wellbeing programmes, visit:

[WWW](#)

Supporting Health, Wellbeing & Active Communities



381

Activities delivered through Community and Wellbeing Plans



Almost

650K

Leisure Centre Visits



Almost

390K

usages of Council parks and green space



Participants enjoying inclusive activities and celebrating achievement at the Junior Paralympic Fun Day

November 2025

“ I really enjoyed the Female Entrepreneur Programme. It was one of the most enjoyable parts of setting up my business and gave me the opportunity to work alongside some truly inspirational women. ”

Building Futures Through LMP

The Female Entrepreneur Programme, delivered by the Fermanagh and Omagh Labour Market Partnership as part of its 2025/26 programme, successfully supported 13 women to launch their own businesses.

Fermanagh and Omagh LMP, funded through the Department for Communities, focuses on improving employability outcomes and labour market conditions locally by working with partners from across the public, private and community/voluntary sectors.

For more information on LMP

[WWW](#)



Female
Entrepreneur
Programme

18
recruited



Employer
Led Disability
Programme

15
recruited



Level 3 Classroom
Assistant
Academy

31
recruited



Transport
Academy

60
recruited



Childminding
Academy

3
recruited



Plant
Operatives
Academy

20
recruited



Hospitality
Academy

9
recruited



Special
Educational
Needs Academy

19
recruited



Employment
Events

2
events

Planning in Partnership

The Planning Department hosted a well attended workshop for planning agents, bringing together 23 participants for a collaborative session. Attendees received key planning updates and took part in a round table discussion, sharing insights and feedback in a positive and constructive environment focussed on current planning matters.

Did you know...

Our digital planning system enables users to submit applications, make payments, track progress in real time, and access services online—reducing paperwork, improving efficiency, and supporting smarter, more streamlined planning across Northern Ireland?



The Council is on course to meet 2 of the 3 Planning related Statutory Indicators in 2025/26



The average processing time of major planning applications was 37.4 weeks (target: <30 weeks)



The average processing time of local planning applications was 7.6 weeks (target: <15 weeks)



82.5% of enforcement cases were processed within 39 weeks. (target: >70%)

Sharing key insights during the Collaborative Planning Workshop

Creating Connections Through Council-Led Festive Events



Christmas Lights Switch On, Omagh



Santa Visits Enniskillen

December 2025

Be The Change

In December, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council ran “Lights for Change – A Christmas Tree for a Safer Future,” encouraging residents, businesses, and community groups to raise awareness and take action to end violence against women and girls through the #BeTheChange initiative.

[WWW](#)

Making a Difference in 2025/26

In 2025/26, progress was made in supporting local organisations to address violence against women and girls through the Change Fund.



5

Local Projects
successfully
delivered



£69,325

In grants awarded
to support targeted,
community-based
interventions.



900+

participants
engaged

Launch of Be The Change Christmas Campaign

Fermanagh Joins Ireland's Hidden Heartlands Brand

Economy Minister Dr Caoimhe Archibald announced a landmark licensing agreement enabling the Ireland's Hidden Heartlands brand to be used in County Fermanagh for the first time. Developed by Fáilte Ireland, the brand promotes the island's central region, showcasing its natural landscapes and waterways to domestic and international audiences.

To find out more about using the brand

[WWW](#)

Wandering Stickman in Gortin Glens

Families gathered at Gortin Glens for a festive adventure, crafting stick figures before exploring a magical forest trail filled with stories, creativity, and seasonal joy.

[WWW](#)



(L-R): Laura McCorry, Chief Executive of Tourism Northern Ireland, Economy Minister Caoimhe Archibald and Alice Mansergh, Chief Executive of Tourism Ireland

Keeping Residents Safe at Home

Home Safety provides free checks for older residents, young families, and vulnerable adults, offering practical advice, equipment, and risk assessments to help prevent accidents and improve safety and wellbeing at home.

WWW



350+

Home Safety Visits

During 2025/26 the Home Safety team carried out 350 visits to homes with children under 5 years old and adults over 65 years old to provide home safety advice and equipment.

New Sensory Room at Castle Park

The Sensory Room provides a safe, calming, and interactive environment for children of all ages and abilities. This exciting addition reinforces the Council's ongoing commitment to making its facilities as accessible and inclusive as possible for all members of the community.

[WWW](#)

Our Sensory
Rooms were used

2,492+

times in 2025-26

Sensory Room in Castle Park

January 2026

A New Chapter for Destination Marketing

From January 2026, the tourism marketing function, previously delivered by Fermanagh Lakeland Tourism on behalf of the Council, is being delivered by the Council, with the Fermanagh Lakeland Tourism team becoming Council employees, ensuring continuity of expertise and strong industry relationships. This move reflects the Council's commitment to development of the District as a world class sustainable and regenerative tourism destination and to continued work with partners to deliver the tourism strategy for the District

[WWW](#)

Shared Island Funding Boost

Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark and Ballyhoura Development secured €25,000 through the Shared Island Civic Society Fund to deliver a cross-border tourism initiative, strengthening collaboration, innovation and community-led regenerative tourism across Fermanagh, Cavan, Cork and Limerick.

[WWW](#)

Marking a new era for Destination Marketing

February 2026

Fermanagh and Omagh launches Productivity Research

The Council launched landmark research with The Productivity Institute, part of the UK Investment in Productive Places programme, strengthening evidence-led growth, wellbeing and sustainable development ambitions.

[WWW](#)

Reece England Represents Council at Royal Reception

Reece England, Climate Education Officer, represented the Council at a Royal Reception in St. James's Palace, recognising his Employee of the Year achievement and outstanding contribution to public service.

[WWW](#)

Reece England with His Majesty King Charles III at St James's Palace



Listening, Leading and Shaping Our District

In February and March, the conferences and workshops focused on rural communities and the future of Omagh, exploring the key challenges, opportunities and priorities shaping the district's long-term development.

February 2026



Omagh's Future: Challenges & Opportunities

Over 100 participants from the community, voluntary and business sectors attended a conversation on Omagh's future. The event fostered constructive dialogue, with key partners contributing insights and the Council committing to progress actions collaboratively.

[WWW](#)



March 2026



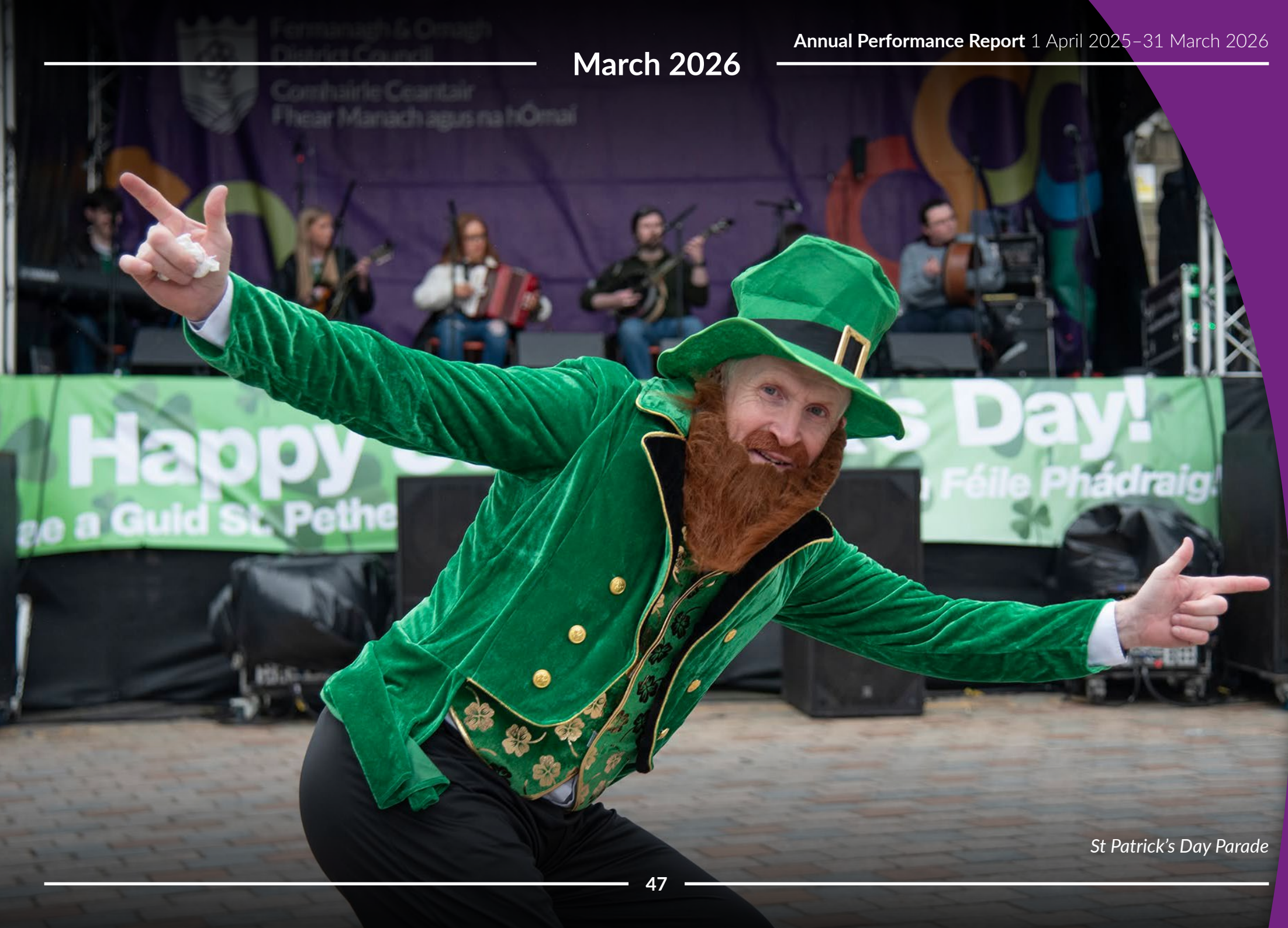
Championing Rural Communities: Vision, Voice and Action

The Council hosted a rural engagement event in Newtownbutler, highlighting rural challenges and opportunities. Participants discussed services, connectivity and enterprise, sharing ideas to strengthen resilience, innovation and sustainable community development.

[WWW](#)



March 2026



St Patrick's Day Parade

“As the impacts of climate change become increasingly evident, it is essential to take a dual approach – reducing the causes of climate change while also preparing for its effects”

Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Plan 2026–2031

Gortin Lakes

Nature Makes Sense

Two Nature Makes Sense events were held at The Grange Park and Smiths Strand, engaging 347 participants through inclusive, nature-based experiences supporting individuals with special educational needs and disabilities.

WWW

Environmental Youth Speak

Primary schools from across the district took part in a highly successful Environmental Youth Speak competition, with pupils delivering inspiring presentations on the theme “The Importance of Reuse & Repair.”

WWW

Public Body Reporting

The Council submitted its first Mitigation Report on Scope 1 and 2 emissions in October 2025, in line with the Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (NI) 2024, and its first Adaptation Report in March 2026.



Net Zero Progress 2025/26



14,049

Trees
Planted



30

Priority 1 Council
buildings have an EPC
Rating



4,682

People engaged
in environmental
stewardship



100%

Bin lorries operating
on Hydrogenated
Vegetable Oil (HVO)

Participants enjoying inclusive, nature-based activities at Nature Makes Sense in The Grange, Omagh

Celebrating



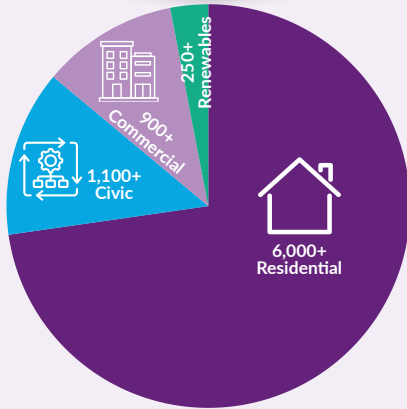
10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

10 Years, One Voice



10 Years of Progress: Delivering for Places, People and Prosperity

Planning for the Future



10,000+
Planning Applications Received



96%
Planning Approval Rate



Play Parks



£3.8 Million (£)
Invested in Play Parks

38
Play Parks upgraded to Gold or Silver Standard



Accessible and Inclusive Communities



4
Changing Places Facilities Created



3
Sensory Rooms Developed



2,200+
Sensory Room Sessions



A Decade of Delivery

Celebrating 10 Years of Making a Difference

In 2025/26, the Council celebrated its 10th anniversary, marking a decade of partnership, investment and progress across the District.

The anniversary year provided an opportunity to reflect on what has been achieved over the past decade and recognise the contributions of communities, partner organisations, elected Members and Council staff in improving the wellbeing of its citizens and wider District over the past decade.

Five short films were created to mark the Council's 10th anniversary, capturing a decade of achievement, partnership and community impact across Fermanagh and Omagh.

**10-years of
Fermanagh and Omagh
District Council**

Watch the Story so Far

[Access & Inclusion](#)

[Biodiversity](#)

[Planning](#)

[Playparks](#)

[Summer Schemes](#)



10 Years of Inspiring Young Talent

As part of its 10th anniversary celebrations, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council recognised the outstanding achievements of young people from across the District at a special Young Achievers' Reception held in Strule Arts Centre.

More than 130 young people were honoured for their success and contribution to their communities across a wide range of areas including sport, volunteering, performing arts, public speaking and charity work.

WWW



Serving Our Community: 10 Years of Elected Members

In September 2025, Elected Members, past and present, came together to mark the Council's 10th anniversary, reflecting on achievements to date and looking ahead to future ambitions.

To find your local councillor and contact details;

WWW



A Shared Vision: 10 Years of Community Planning

Since its introduction in 2015, Community Planning has united partners around a shared vision for the district. Guided by the Fermanagh and Omagh Community Plan 2030, launched in 2017, this collaborative approach continues to strengthen communities, shape places and deliver positive outcomes for the future.

WWW

We have demonstrated that even in difficult times, collaboration works.
Cllr Rosemary Barton



Community in Action: A Decade of Impact

The Council celebrated the contribution of local organisations and volunteers who have strengthened communities over the past ten years. A Community Appreciation Event, celebrated the vital contribution of volunteers, groups and partners. The evening reflected a decade of collaboration, recognising the dedication and community spirit that continue to enrich the district.

WWW

It feels especially meaningful to recognise that the people who continue to champion our communities today are the same dedicated individuals who have done so, unwaveringly, for years.

Chief Executive
Alison McCullagh



Celebrating 10 Years of Our Staff

The 2025 Employee Recognition Awards marked a decade of dedication and achievement. Special anniversary awards, alongside long service and achievement recognitions, highlighted the commitment, talent and resilience of employees who continue to deliver high-quality services to the district.

WWW

“Employees are the heart of any organisation, and we are fortunate to have such a diverse range of talents and expertise within the Council.”
Cllr Barry McElduff

10 Year Recognition Award Winners



A Decade of Growth and Biodiversity

As part of its 10-year anniversary celebrations, the Council introduced a vibrant initiative that brings colour and biodiversity to the heart of the District. Eight designated areas were sown with specially selected flower seed mixes, including Forthill Park and Broadmeadow in Enniskillen, along with the Grange Park and St Julian's Park in Omagh. The displays were timed to bloom throughout the summer months for the enjoyment of local residents and visitors alike.

[WWW](#)

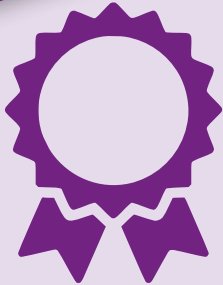
Launched a 10 year climate change and sustainable development strategy in 2020.



Managing **166** hectares of land for biodiversity.

10 Years of Progress: Delivering for Places, People and Prosperity

Leading the Way in Northern Ireland



First Council in Northern Ireland to launch its Community Plan

WWW

First Council in Northern Ireland to publish its Local Development Plan - Plan Strategy

WWW

First Council in Northern Ireland to publish a 10-Year Anti-Poverty Strategy

WWW

Transforming Places



Gortin Glen Forest Park

Transformed into a leading visitor destination



Enniskillen Workhouse

Redeveloped into a business enterprise and heritage hub

Strong Governance

The Council continued to lobby on a cross-council, cross-border basis in relation to many strategic issues.

In total, over the 2025/2026:

- The Council responded to **47** public consultation processes.
- There were **7,057** learning and development opportunities for elected members and officers.

Our work is scrutinised by the Northern Ireland Audit Office and Annual Audit Reports are available to view. The Auditor found that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council has discharged its performance improvement and reporting duties



A Shared Vision and Strategic Planning Framework

Community Planning is a legal duty under the Local Government Act (NI) 2014. It requires the Council to work with partners—statutory bodies, businesses, and the community and voluntary sector—to agree on shared outcomes for the district.

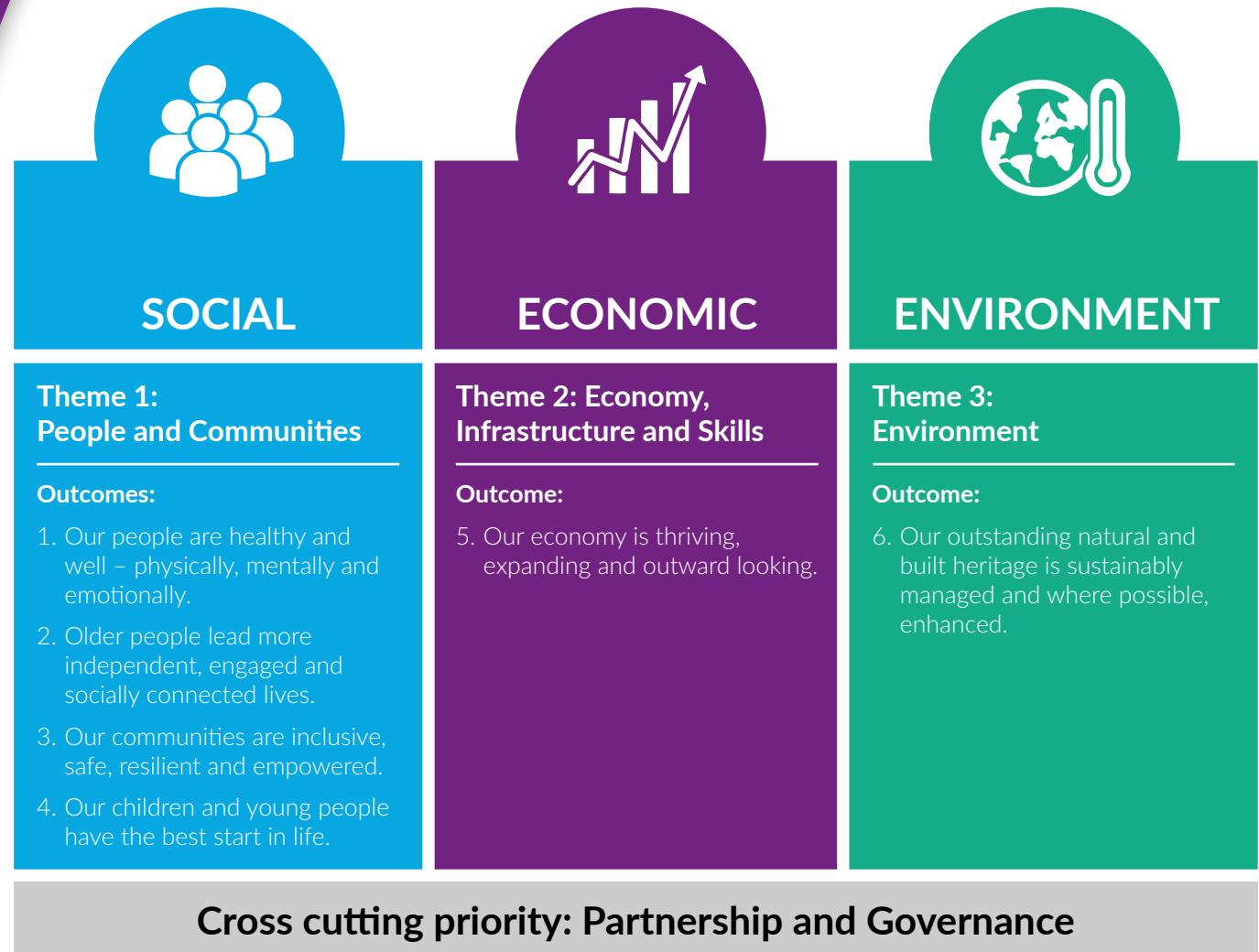
The Fermanagh and Omagh 2030 Community Plan is the long-term strategy for the area. It was developed in partnership and is based on local data, consultation, and engagement. It sets out six key outcomes we want to achieve together.

Every two years, we must report progress in a Statement of Progress. The most recent was published in 2025, and the next one is due by 30 November 2027.

The Corporate Plan supports this work by setting out our priorities and helping us focus our resources. It doesn't cover everything the Council does—but instead highlights the key actions that matter most. Both the Community Plan and Corporate Plan share the same long-term vision, showing our commitment to working together to improve the district.

Diagram 1 outlines the Corporate Plan priorities for the 2024–2028 period.

The three identified themes and six long-term outcomes set out in the 'Fermanagh Omagh 2030 Community Plan and Corporate Plan' **Our Council, Our Plan 2024–2028** were updated in November 2022 by the Community Planning Partnership as part of a wider review and are outlined below:

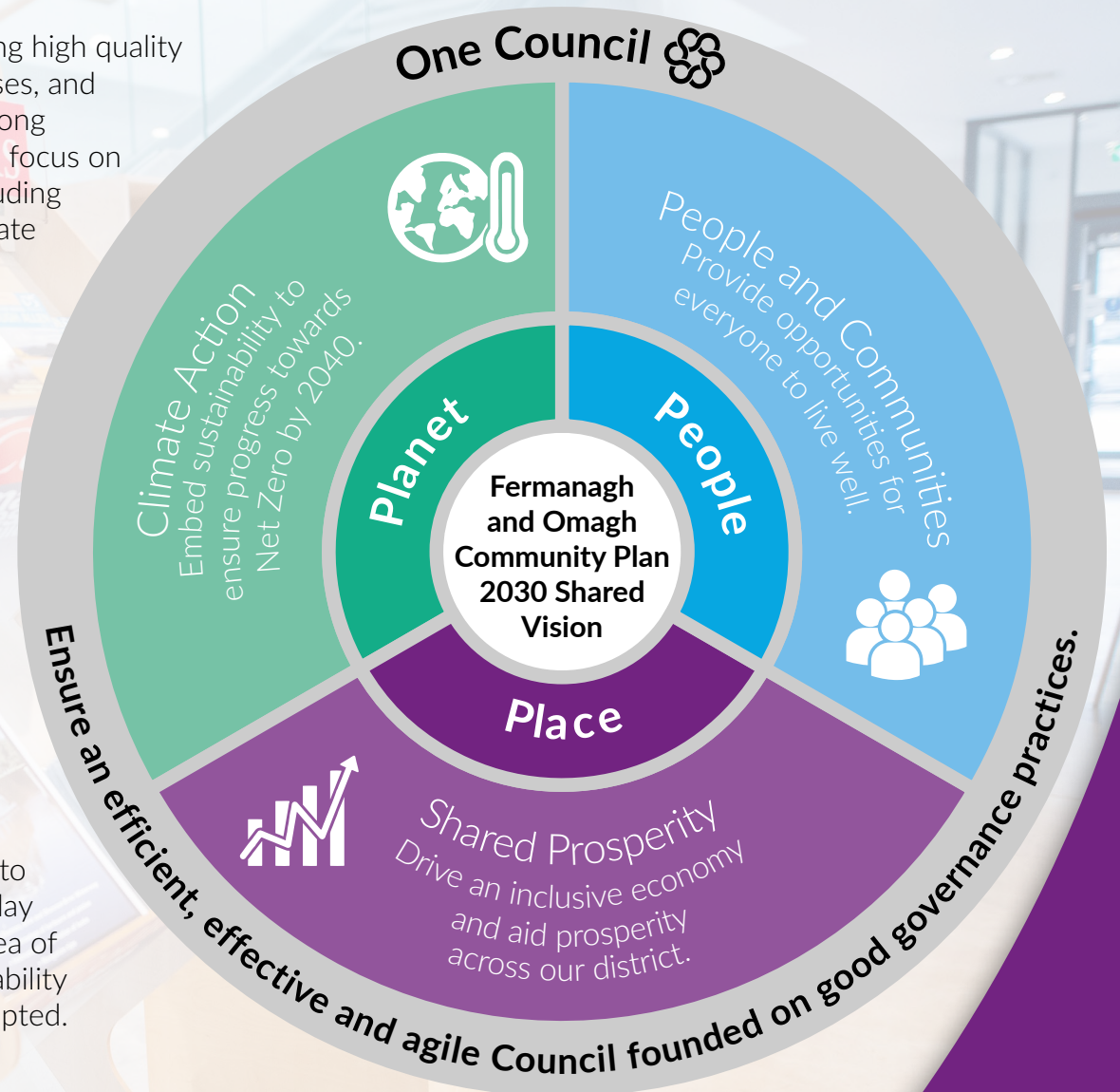


Regional alignment

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is committed to delivering high quality services that enhance the wellbeing of all our residents, businesses, and communities. The Programme for Government (PfG) places a strong emphasis on improving outcomes for all people across NI, with a focus on collaboration, innovation, and tackling persistent challenges including poverty, inequality and environmental sustainability. Our Corporate Plan 'Our Council, Our Plan 2024–2028' aligns closely with these priorities, recognising that local government has a critical role in driving forward shared outcomes at a local level. Our Improvement Objectives are aligned to the corporate priorities and reflect the need to protect and enhance the environment, reduce inequalities, support the health and wellbeing of our communities, strengthen economic growth, and ensure our governance is effective and efficient.

Our Strategic Planning Framework

The Strategic Planning Framework sets out the various components of the planning framework bringing together specific priorities, aims and ambitions of the Council. It seeks to link the overarching Council's commitment to service and individual work plans, making clear the contribution individuals make towards achieving outcomes. Managing and improving performance is not something that should be seen as additional to the day job. It is everyone's responsibility, forming part of everyday management, forward planning and working practice in every area of the Council. This is supported using an outcome-based accountability performance management framework which the council has adopted.



Our Strategic Planning Framework

The linkages across all plans at strategic, operational, and individual level is paramount, as the Council develops a culture that embodies shared responsibility, and supports effective communication at all levels of the organisation; whilst promoting the use of data and evidence to demonstrate need and targeted interventions.

A hierarchy of strategies and plans are in place and continue to guide the Council's strategic policy direction and service delivery arrangements as outlined in the diagram opposite.

Governance arrangements are in place to monitor progress of the Community Plan, Corporate Plan and Improvement Plan every 6 months using Performance Report Cards. Directorate Plans and Individual Plans are continually monitored through team and Heads of Service meetings.



Our Values

The Council adopted the following values – abbreviated to LIAISE – to guide our behaviour in the workplace and how we relate to our work colleagues, our customers, our communities and our partners. The Values Framework highlights the importance of promoting compassionate, collective, transparent, and decisive leadership as the organisation reconfigures teams, re-thinks how resources are deployed and re-engineers longstanding practices and processes to meet new demands as we tackled financial uncertainty, geopolitical instability, and ongoing demands for increased service provision as the cost-of-living crisis worsened.

Leadership

Effectively representing the needs of our district and all its people; building strong leadership at all levels of the organisation and using evidence to determine priorities and focus on what matters most.

Integrity

Acting with honesty and impartiality, treating all in an equitable and respectful manner.

Accountability

Acting in an open and transparent manner, providing clear and accessible information on decisions and performance.

Innovation

Achieving excellence through identifying new ways of working to continuously improve services and deliver on our priorities.

Sustainability

Taking decisions which are in the long-term interests of our district and its people, supporting vibrant urban and rural communities and always mindful of our resources.

Engagement and Involvement

Listening to, understanding and putting the evidence-based needs of our people, across our urban and rural communities at the heart of what we do to create solutions together.

Committed to Continuous Improvement

The Council is required by the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 to keep improving how it delivers services. To support this, an Outcomes Based Accountability (OBA) approach to managing performance has been embedded throughout the Council and supported by the implementation of the Performance Management Framework. This process supports the Council to detail its ambitions and expectations for corporate performance and identify how it proposes to continuously improve on performance year-on-year through the identification of priorities, objectives, and associated measurements. Progress is reported every six months through the relevant Committee Structures, Full Council and Audit Panel. You can view Impact Reports in more detail [here](#).

The Council follows the definition of improvement from official guidance, which means doing things that improve quality of life and the environment, for our communities.

Under the legislation, we must consider improvement in terms of:

- Strategic Effectiveness
- Service Quality
- Service Availability
- Fairness
- Sustainability
- Efficiency
- Innovation

Striving to achieve continuous improvement is vital to how the Council works with its partners and delivers services on an ongoing basis. The Council continues to work to deliver responsive services in the places they are needed most, and this will be maximised further in the future through intelligence arising from utilisation of robust data and evidence at national, regional and local level. The Council has systems and processes in place which work intrinsically together to support achieving success and ensuring continuous improvement. Its integrated Strategic Planning Framework supports the Council to deliver efficiently, manage operational risks, and align programmes with the evolving data needs of the district. It is a composite reflection of long, medium and short-term plans across the organisation and encourages a collaborative approach to service delivery that works from the bottom up and vice versa.

The Council's accepted definition of improvement is taken from the statutory guidance and states that:

“Improvement is...more than just quantifiable gains in service output or efficiency, or the internal effectiveness of an organisation. Improvement for Councils should mean activity that enhances the sustainable quality of life and environment for ratepayers and communities”.

Improvement isn't just about doing things more efficiently—it's about making a real difference to people's lives and the places they live.

Internal Audit and Risk Management

The Council has responsibility for conducting, at least annually, a review of the effectiveness of its governance framework, including the system of internal control and arrangements for performance management and improvement. During this period of reporting the most significant risks relate to financial uncertainties and resilience; cyber security and digital services resilience; legal and compliance issues; climate change and sustainability; and staff recruitment. The Council has an Assurance Framework in place that requires Directors and Heads of Service to consider annually the adequacy of risk management arrangements, internal controls, and wider governance issues within their service areas. It also provides information on the level of compliance with the various elements of the Council's Governance Framework. The Directors and Heads of Services are required to monitor and keep under review the operation of internal controls within their area, and to implement changes, where deemed necessary. Internal Audit is responsible for monitoring the quality and effectiveness of systems of internal control and reports to the Council's Audit Panel. As part of the reporting cycle, the Internal Audit function presented an Annual Report and an overall Assurance Statement for the year ended 31 March 2026. Ten Assurance Audit Reports (all received a Satisfactory Opinion) were completed.

The Audit Panel provides independent assurance to the Council on the adequacy of the Council's risk management framework and associated control environment. It also provides independent scrutiny of the Council's financial and non-financial performance. The Audit Panel also considers and approves any updates to the associated Risk Management Policy and Risk Appetite Statement, considers the effectiveness of the Council's risk management arrangements, and seeks assurances that action has been taken on risk related issues identified by External and Internal Audit. The minutes of the Audit Panel are reported to the Council (from January 2026). The Audit Panel met four times during 2025/26 and satisfactorily discharged its programme of work and is satisfied that the governance arrangements in place are effective and continue to be fit for purpose.

All these processes combine to ensure that the Council effectively manages performance and takes all possible steps to meet the General Duty placed on it to secure continuous improvement in the exercise of its functions. The Council's Annual Assurance Statement is included within the Council's Annual Statement of Accounts which can be viewed on the Council's website (which will be available by 30 September 2026).



100% of the Assurance Audit Reports received a satisfactory opinion

Customer Feedback

Very positive and much better than trying to make phone calls. It's good that you also have a person operating the service who can get 'live' operational.

Can I convey my compliments to the council for facilitating a 4 week block of yoga. The tutor Kathy was excellent.

Congratulations on the success of the Community Showcase Event, your hard work paid off! Thank you from everyone here at Fermanagh Brightstarz, we thoroughly enjoyed the eventing and we are grateful to have been invited to partake.

We had a lovely experience with the registration service at Enniskillen. Mandy was incredibly professional and kind, and all the information was explained clearly and thoroughly.

I contacted Go Succeed as I knew that I needed assistance with digital marketing both in terms of my website and social media presence. The support I received has been incredible.

I want to compliment the men who work the waste collection. They are so friendly, courteous, totally efficient & professional, and do a SUPERB job!



Driving Improvements: A Look Back at 2025–2026 Improvement Objectives

The Council has a statutory duty to identify, consult upon, publish and work to deliver annual Improvement Objectives (IOs). It was agreed that the Council will align its Improvement Objectives to the core priorities outlined in the Corporate Plan 'Our Council, Our Plan 2024–2028'.

The four objectives agreed are:

- **We will prioritise the Council progressing towards Net Zero.**
- **We will work in partnership to tackle disadvantage to ensure our people have access to opportunities.**
- **We will work in partnership to achieve a more inclusive economy and to promote shared prosperity across our district**
- **We will seek to innovate and advance our governance and digital capabilities to improve the quality of our services and the effectiveness and efficiency of the Council.**

The Council reviewed the progress made to date in its 'Taking Stock Report 2025/26' and endeavoured to continue with its IOs from 2025–2026 for 2026–2027 to build on the progress already achieved but have refined some of the associated actions. By maintaining a consistent approach, the council aims to ensure the efficient use of resources, enhance service delivery, and support long term approaches to build on economic development, environmental sustainability and community wellbeing. This continuity has enabled the Council to refine ongoing initiatives, leverage established partnerships and respond effectively to evolving local needs, especially in relation to tackling disadvantage. Additionally, the Improvement Plan aligns to statutory requirements and reflects feedback from relevant stakeholders, ensuring that it remains relevant and community focused.

The **Your Voice, Our Commitment** engagement report provides an analysis of responses that informed the development of the Performance Improvement Plan 2025–2026.

The table overleaf sets out the four improvement objectives identified, their relevance to outcomes and the Corporate Plan priority area. It also identifies the thirteen improvement actions progressed in 2025–2026, alongside a self assessment of the progress for each IO at year end. This progress report was approved by the Corporate Leadership Team, Regeneration and Communities Committee, Full Council and Audit Panel. For a detailed overview please view the Council's **Taking Stock Report 2025/26**.

Thirteen actions aligned to the four Improvement Objectives with 55 performance measures, 44 best ideas (100%) progressed in line with the identified schedule and work plan for the related improvement objectives. The impact the improvement objectives have made over the year can be viewed in the report at pages **8–59** with information provided for 55 performance measures. Each performance measure provides analysis of the data and trends using comparison with annual data provided from the previous year (where available). Where no comparable data is available 'no baseline' is recorded.

Improvement Objectives	Actions		Overview of progress at year end
IO1 We will prioritise the Council progressing towards Net Zero.	IO1 A1	Determine the Energy Performance Rating *(EPC) of our estate to improve our energy management and efficiency.	Fermanagh and Omagh District Council continue to prioritise the energy performance of its estate in support of climate action, sustainability, operational efficiency, and statutory compliance. During 2025/26, the Council completed Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) audits for the remaining Priority 1 buildings. In the 2025/26 reporting period, six EPCs were undertaken, completing EPC audits for the Council's 30 Priority 1 buildings. While the action will be carried forward into 2026/27, the associated best ideas will be updated to reflect a revised focus. This will include undertaking energy assessments for Priority 2 buildings with higher annual energy consumption, alongside detailed analysis of the completed Priority 1 EPC audits. This work will support the development of a targeted programme of works to reduce energy use and promote improved energy efficiency practices across the Council's estate.
	IO1 A2	Increase the % of household waste preparing for reuse, recycling or composting.	Fermanagh and Omagh District Council remain committed to increasing the proportion of household waste that is prepared for reuse, recycled or composted, in line with Northern Ireland waste management targets and wider environmental sustainability objectives. During 2025/26, progress continued through the advancement of the Waste Transformation Project, strengthening governance arrangements and progressing key workstreams to support service improvement. Key developments during the year included the establishment of a Waste Transformation Project Board, progression of health and safety improvements at Household Recycling Centres, engagement with WRAP to explore opportunities to increase organic waste capture through the emerging Enhanced Refuse Collection project, and ongoing community engagement initiatives to promote waste reduction and recycling behaviours. This action will be carried forward into the 2026/27 Performance Improvement Plan, with an additional programme of work to increase the collection of organic waste for composting and recycling.

*An Energy Performance Certificate is a document that provides an energy rating for a building from A (most efficient) to a G (least efficient).

Improvement Objectives	Actions		Overview of progress at year end
IO1 We will prioritise the Council progressing towards Net Zero.	IO1 A3	Reduce the Council's fleet emissions using sustainable fuels.	The Council achieved a significant reduction in fleet-related carbon emissions during 2025/26, with total emissions recorded at 86.96 tCO₂e. This represents a 92% reduction in Scope 1 emissions compared to 2024/25, primarily due to the continued use of Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) across both depots for a full 12-month period. Progress has continued towards fleet electrification, with two electric vehicles purchased in March 2026. Officers are progressing an application to the Depot Charging Scheme to support increased charging capacity at the Council's depots.

Improvement Objectives	Actions		Overview of progress at year end
IO2 We will work in partnership to tackle disadvantage to ensure our people have access to opportunities.	IO2 A4	Provide immediate support for people living in poverty.	During 2025/26, the Council delivered tangible impacts through the Integrated Advice Partnership Fund and the embedding of poverty awareness across services. The Advice Partnership Fund supported 422 individuals over the year to access vital advice services, with 306 cases relating to debt, demonstrating strong demand for targeted financial support among people experiencing poverty. Delivery was strengthened through the successful award of a contract to the Fermanagh and Omagh Advice Consortium, reinforcing a partnership-based approach to advice provision. In parallel, significant progress was made in building organisational capacity to address poverty, with six poverty awareness and leadership training events delivered to 113 staff, laying the foundations for systematic poverty proofing across Council decision-making. Collectively, these actions have improved access to support for residents most affected by poverty while strengthening the Council's ability to recognise and respond to poverty impacts in policy and service delivery.
	IO2 A5	Increase participation in physical activity among targeted groups.	In 2025/26, progress was made in supporting local clubs and organisations to increase opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in physical activity. A key achievement was the delivery of a Junior Paralympic Day at Omagh Leisure Centre in November. In addition, the Council continued to engage with Disability Sport NI to support the establishment of a Wheelie Active Group at Hospital Road Community Centre and the development of a boccia club at Strathroy Community Centre. Engagement with National Governing Bodies, including the IFA, Tyrone GAA, Ulster Rugby and Fermanagh GAA, supported a review and refocusing of activity delivery to ensure greater inclusion of people with disabilities. These actions strengthened partnerships and contributed to the development of more inclusive local sports and physical activity provision. In 2025/26, significant progress was also achieved in increasing participation in physical activity among people with disabilities, exceeding the targeted 15% increase. Participation rose from 1,705 in 2024/25 to 2,823 in 2025/26, representing a 60% increase across leisure and outreach activities. This demonstrates the positive impact of targeted engagement, partnership working, and the development of inclusive programmes and initiatives at a local level. In 2026/27, this Action will be carried forward, with a continued focus on sustaining this growth. Work will centre on strengthening partnerships with clubs, governing bodies and key partners, expanding inclusive opportunities, embedding inclusive approaches within local provision, and maintaining high levels of participation through targeted engagement and continued programme development.

Improvement Objectives	Actions		Overview of progress at year end
IO2 We will work in partnership to tackle disadvantage to ensure our people have access to opportunities.	IO2 A6	Promote positive attitudes to end Violence against Women and Girls.	By the end of 2025/26, Action 6 had successfully advanced the promotion of positive attitudes and behaviours towards women and girls across the district. A coordinated programme of awareness-raising, community engagement and targeted training reached over 900 participants, including Council staff, Elected Members and local communities. These actions strengthened preventative approaches, improved awareness and understanding of Violence against Women and Girls, and embedded stronger organisational and community-level foundations to support sustained cultural change in 2026/27.

Improvement Objectives	Actions		Overview of progress at year end
IO3 We will work in partnership to achieve a more inclusive economy and to promote shared prosperity across our district.	IO3 A7	Develop and Implement Sub Regional Economic Action Plan	This action progressed well during 2025/26, with significant milestones achieved in the development of the Sub-Regional Economic Action Plan (2025–2028). Key governance arrangements were established, including agreed Terms of Reference and a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department for the Economy (DfE) and Invest NI. A consultant was appointed to lead research and stakeholder engagement, and draft priorities and actions were developed and reviewed through the Local Economic Partnership and relevant advisory groups. The draft Action Plan for years 2 and 3 has now been developed, with final approval anticipated in Q1 2026/27. The year 1 Action Plan was approved in February 2026, with a Letter of Offer issued for the value of £68,166. In parallel, a dedicated Local Economic Partnership delivery team was appointed to support future implementation. This action will therefore be carried forward into 2026/27 to allow for formal agreement of year 2 and 3 Action Plan. Once approved, the focus for this action in 2026/27 will shift to project development and the implementation of the agreed actions.
	IO3 A8	Support entrepreneurs to start a business.	At year end, good progress was made against the workplan, although targets for business plans and job creation were not fully met. This reflects a strategic shift in the Go Succeed service, away from a primary focus on business plans towards a more flexible, needs-based delivery model. This action will be carried forward into 2026/27 to continue supporting entrepreneurs to start and develop new businesses through the Go Succeed programme. Engagement activity during 2025/26 successfully increased awareness and access to support, across the district. Delivery in 2026/27 will be shaped by available resources, with revenue funding expected to reduce to approximately 70% of 2025/26 levels. Confirmation of the grant allocation element is anticipated in May or June 2026, following which activity targets and delivery plans will be finalised.

Improvement Objectives	Actions		Overview of progress at year end
IO3 We will work in partnership to achieve a more inclusive economy and to promote shared prosperity across our district.	IO3 A9	Support micro/ small businesses to develop and grow.	At year end, good progress was made in supporting micro and small businesses to develop and grow through the Go Succeed Programme. A total of 172 clients were recruited to the service, with strong demand for tailored one-to-one mentoring. Targets were exceeded for the number of businesses supported through mentoring, with over 2,700 hours of mentoring delivered during 2026/27. This support focused on business development, innovation, research and development, and growth planning. In addition, 141 participants masterclasses delivered as part of the Go Succeed Grow programme. Two calls for grant funding were issued during the year, generating a total of 99 applications. Following assessment, 86 Letters of Offer were issued to local businesses, representing a total grant value of £188,657, equivalent to 87% of the available budget. This action will be carried forward into 2026/27; however, delivery will be shaped by available resources, with revenue funding expected to reduce to around 70% of 2025/26 levels.
	IO3 A10	Create opportunities for those furthest from the labour market to secure quality local jobs.	At year end, good progress has been demonstrated against the agreed workplan and deliverables across both Rural Economic Accelerator Programme (REAP) and the Labour Market Partnership (LMP). REAP made strong progress against delivery targets, recruiting 167 participants against a target of 175 (95.5% achievement, within 10% allowable variance) and recording 179 programme leavers. Progression outcomes exceeded targets, with 36% entering employment (target 30%) and 12.3% progressing to further education (target 10%). In addition, 154 participants achieved 544 qualifications. Within the Labour Market Partnership, 174 participants were recruited against a target of 165. Delivery was impacted by knock-on delays arising from the late issue of the 2024/25 Letter of Offer, which resulted in the continued delivery of the 2024/25 Action Plan up to 31 December 2025 and a reduced delivery window for the 2025/26 Action Plan. Extensions have been approved by Department for Communities (DfC) to allow delivery of the 2025/26 Action Plan beyond 31 March 2026, with recruitment continuing during the extended period.

Improvement Objectives	Actions		Overview of progress at year end
IO4 We will seek to innovate and advance our governance and digital capabilities to improve the quality of our services and the effectiveness and efficiency of the Council.	IO4 A11	Develop a 'whole Council approach' to customer service transformation.	By the end of 2025/26, strong foundations had been established to progress Customer Services Transformation. Key scoping and development activity was completed, including the drafting of Terms of Reference for the Customer Services Transformation Working Group, development of a workplan and vision, and engagement with Heads of Service. In parallel, organisation-wide mapping of customer services provided a clear baseline of existing systems, processes and frontline delivery. This work has improved understanding of current provision and positioned the Council to progress more detailed analysis, efficiency improvements and implementation activity in 2026/27.
	IO4 A12	Maximise the capability of the Councils IT system to improve processes for talent management, succession planning and training and development of employees.	By the end of 2025/26, Action 12 was fully achieved through the successful piloting, evaluation and refinement of the online performance appraisal system. The system was extended to Chief Officers, RP Directors and departmental staff, supported by targeted training sessions, guidance materials and organisation-wide communications. Feedback from participating departments directly informed system and process improvements evidencing positive staff engagement and strengthened management of performance and development. This work has established a robust and well-refined system ready to support wider organisational rollout, with no further activity required within PIP 2026/27.
	IO4 A13	Enhance digital connectivity across Council facilities to enable new technology enabled services and support for residents.	During 2025/26, significant progress was made in delivering Action 13 across connectivity, digital enablement and governance. Full-fibre connectivity was upgraded at 80 sites, with internal network migration progressing across key locations including County Buildings, Townhall and Grange. Replacement of Wi-Fi infrastructure is scheduled for Spring 2026. This programme of work was completed within RP1 and will continue into PIP 2026/27 solely to finalise Wi-Fi upgrades and remaining connectivity enhancements. In parallel, governance arrangements for artificial intelligence were established, including approval of guidance to support safe and controlled use. Staff were provided with access to Microsoft Copilot, with further rollout and communications planned. This element of the action will not continue into PIP 2026/27. In addition, exploratory work progressed during 2025/26 as part of the wider ICT framework, contributing to the development of a long-term digital transformation plan to 2031. This programme of work will continue into PIP 2026/27 in a revised form, focusing on identifying and scoping improved service delivery models enabled through enhanced connectivity.

Key Achievements

People and Communities

422 residents supported with debt advice services across Fermanagh and Omagh.



113 staff participated in sessions including poverty awareness, leadership, and webinars to build understanding of the impacts of poverty



2,823 people with a disability engaged in physical activity programmes. This is a 60% increase from last year.



£69,325 awarded to 5 community projects tackling violence against women and girls through the Change Fund.



Shared Prosperity

139* jobs promoted through Go Succeed Start programme.



231* business plans created.



190* businesses supported through mentoring.



544 qualifications achieved by 154 REAP participants, strengthening employability pathways.



£68,166 secured for delivery of Year 1 of the Sub-Regional Action Plan.



Climate Action

4,682 people engaged in environmental stewardship through litter picks, Adopt a Spot and Litter Champion schemes.



100% of bin lorries transitioned to sustainable HVO fuel.



All **30** of FODC's Priority 1 buildings have an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC)



1,725 tCO₂e emissions avoided through the use of 681,755 litres of HVO.



£39,045 external funding secured for environmental campaigns and programmes



One Council

AI guidance implemented, with **36** staff using Microsoft Copilot licences.



7,009 learning and development activities completed



80 sites upgraded to full fibre connectivity across key locations



89% of registrations completed using Booking system.



1,310 staff trained at year end,



*Figures provided are based on unverified information at time of publication

Challenges identified for the year ahead



Addressing Climate Change and Sustainability

The Council will continue to respond to climate challenges by reducing emissions, improving energy efficiency, and supporting sustainable practices. Working with partners and communities, the focus will be on building resilience, protecting the environment, and supporting the transition to a low carbon economy.



Strengthening Rural Communities and Wellbeing

As the most rural district in Northern Ireland, challenges remain around transport, digital connectivity, access to services, social isolation, and levels of poverty. The Council will continue to support rural communities by improving access, advocating for better infrastructure, and tackling isolation.

Alongside this, there will be a continued focus on promoting community wellbeing, inclusion, and safety. Working with partners, the Council will support vulnerable groups, including those experiencing financial hardship, strengthen local resilience, and ensure that rural communities remain connected, supported, and able to thrive.



Boosting Economic Growth and Local Skills

Economic uncertainty, workforce pressures, and outward migration continue to impact the district. The Council will support business growth, investment, and entrepreneurship, while working with partners to develop skills in key sectors such as digital, green industries, and tourism.

Retaining young people, supporting local businesses, and revitalising town centres will remain key priorities to ensure sustainable and inclusive economic growth.



Maintaining Services Under Financial Pressures

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council remains committed to delivering high quality services despite ongoing financial constraints, rising costs, and increasing demand. The Council will prioritise essential services, improve efficiency, and use digital approaches to enhance delivery. Strong partnership working will be key to ensuring value for money while protecting frontline services.

Protecting 450 Million Years of Natural Heritage

Fermanagh and Omagh District is renowned for its beautiful scenery, with the vast open landscapes of hills, lakes, rivers, woodlands and bog.

The Council continues to support the conservation and sustainable management of the Sperrin Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) through the development of its 10-Year Management Plan and 5-Year Action Plan.

Monitoring Performance Using Data

The Council's approach to performance management is underpinned by a commitment to evidence-based decision making, using data and intelligence to inform the development of plans, service delivery, and actions aligned with the Corporate Plan 'Our Council, Our Plan 2024-2028'. This values-driven, evidence informed approach has supported the development of a strong performance culture. It enables transparent, targeted, and responsive decision-making processes, ensuring that resources are directed where they are most needed.

Ongoing performance monitoring allows the Council to assess its effectiveness against both statutory indicators and self-imposed corporate performance measures, providing a continuous feedback loop for improvement. This ensures that services remain responsive to emerging needs and are refined where necessary to maintain high standards of delivery.

The following sections present the Council's performance for the 2025-2026 financial year, outlining progress against statutory indicators as well as self-imposed corporate performance measures, and comparing performance against other Councils through utilising APSE Performance Networks benchmarking data.

Statutory Indicators

Under the Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015, statutory performance indicators and standards have been established as part of the performance improvement arrangements for district councils. The purpose of these statutory indicators is to monitor performance over time, ensuring that councils fulfil their statutory functions effectively and meet agreed targets. They also promote continuous service improvement and enable comparison between councils across Northern Ireland.

The data for these indicators is collated and verified by the Department for the Economy (DfE) (ED1), the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) (P1, P2 and P3), and the Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) (W1, W2 and W3), and published on their respective websites.

It should be noted that due to timing issues, the data used within this report to assess performance of the statutory indicators may be based on internal management information and thus not verified. Where this is the case, it is clearly labelled within the table.

Once this information is released to Council, it will be incorporated into future analysis of statutory indicators and made publicly available.

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's performance against the seven statutory indicators, including progress and direction of travel, is presented in the following tables. Where available, benchmarking data is also included to allow comparison with the other 10 councils in Northern Ireland. In the 2025/26 year, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council have met 3 of the 7 statutory targets. In 2024/25, the Council met 5 of the 7 statutory targets.

Note: During updating of the Statutory Indicators for inclusion in this plan, it was identified that the figures for ED1 - Number of jobs promoted through business start-up activity published within the Council's Performance Improvement Plan 2026/27 and Taking Stock 2025/26 report were outdated, due to ongoing improvements to the centrally managed CRM system leading to update figures. As such, they do not match the with those quoted in this Annual Performance Report, which are the most recent, but unverified, figures. The figures remain subject to Departmental verification. In addition, the figures reported in the Performance Improvement Plan 2026/27 referring to the performance of ED1 in 2024/25 quoted 136 jobs; this was the unverified figure. The verified figure from DfE was 120 jobs, as quoted in this Annual Performance Report.

Statutory Indicator	2020–2021		2021–2022		2022–2023		2023–2024		2024–2025		2025–2026		RAG Status	Comparison with other Councils
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual		
ED1: The number of jobs promoted through business start-up activity	170	101	170	186	170	186	170	117	170	120	170	139*		FODC were ranked 11 out of 11 Councils, against target, with 139* jobs. 10 out of 11 Councils met their targets this year.

*This figure is unverified. The verified figure from DfE is expected in Autumn 2026.

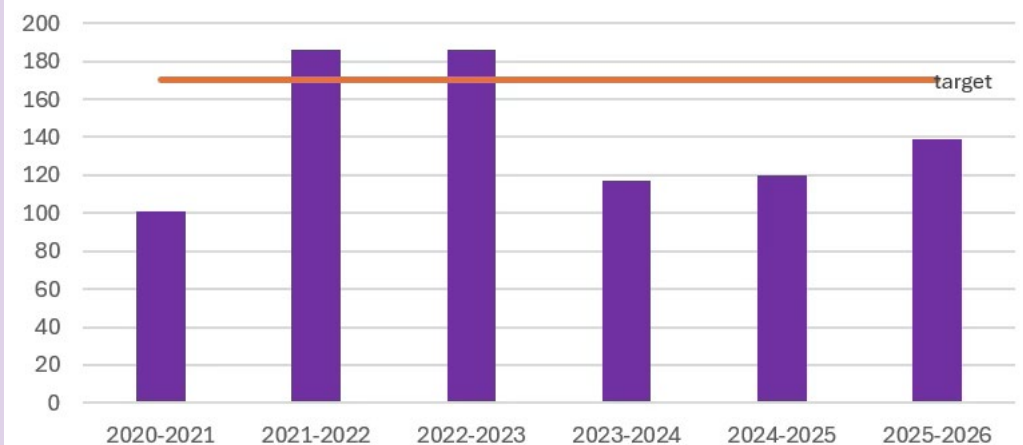
Performance against target: *figures for 2025/26 are unverified*

Targets for the creation of business plans, and thus job creation were not fully met. At year end, 139* jobs were created. This represents a shortfall of 31 jobs against the target of 170, however, it is an improvement on 2024/25.

Performance reflects a strategic shift in the Go Succeed service, away from a primary focus on business plans towards a more flexible, needs-based delivery model. As a result, it is challenging for Fermanagh and Omagh District Council to achieve its statutory jobs promoted figure, which is a calculation based on the number of business plans created.

The delivery agents for the Go Succeed programme in Fermanagh and Omagh have achieved internal targets, but the delivery target no longer aligns to the statutory job creation target.

ED1: The number of jobs promoted through business start-up activity



We will maintain/improve performance by:

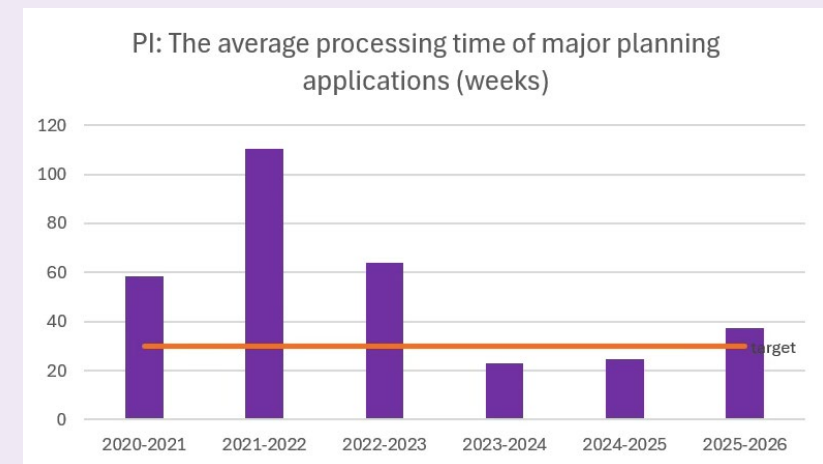
We will continue to deliver a flexible, needs-based service that responds to business requirements and supports business start-up and sustainable growth. A review of the service targets that inform the statutory targets is underway. We will continue to monitor performance regularly, maximise engagement with businesses, and work to improve job creation outcomes year on year.

Statutory Indicator	2020–2021		2021–2022		2022–2023		2023–2024		2024–2025		2025–2026		RAG Status	Comparison with other Councils
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual		
PI: The average processing time of major planning applications (weeks)	30	58.6	30	110.2	30	64	30	22.9	30	24.5	30	37.4		FODC were ranked 3 out of 11 Councils with 37.4 weeks. Only 2 out of 11 Councils met the statutory target.

Performance against target:

The average processing time for major planning applications was 37.4 weeks, outside the 30-week target and above the 24.5 weeks recorded in 2024/2025.

Whilst the Planning Improvement Programme, has improved the quality of new applications being submitted and ensured efficiencies in the decision-making process, performance has been affected by the determination of a number of legacy files and other factors outside the Council's control such as consultee performance.



We will maintain/improve performance by:

As outlined in the 'Our Council, Our Plan' 2024-2028, within the Quality Places Objective within the Shared Prosperity Priority, we will:

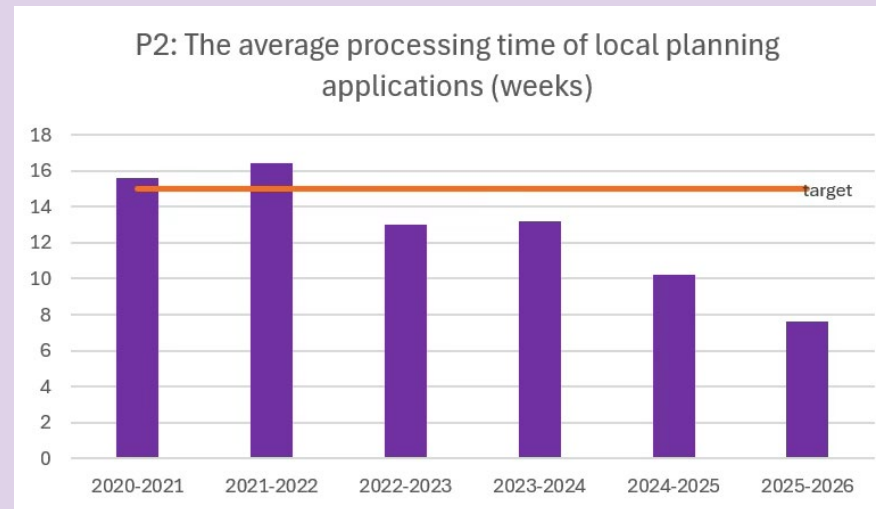
- Deliver quality places, bringing land use and community planning functions closer together to encourage all partner organisations to focus on the issues of greatest importance to local people and local places.
- Develop and deliver a proactive improvement programme in relation to the planning functions which will improve and enhance service delivery, including meeting statutory targets.
- Continue to consider matters of importance to rural communities, utilising statistics, evidence and research to identify rural issues and their scale.

Statutory Indicator	2020–2021		2021–2022		2022–2023		2023–2024		2024–2025		2025–2026		RAG Status	Comparison with other Councils
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual		
P2: The average processing time of local planning applications (weeks)	15	15.6	15	16.4	15	13	15	13.2	15	10.2	15	7.6		FODC were ranked 1 st equal out of the 11 Councils with 7.6 weeks.

Performance against target:

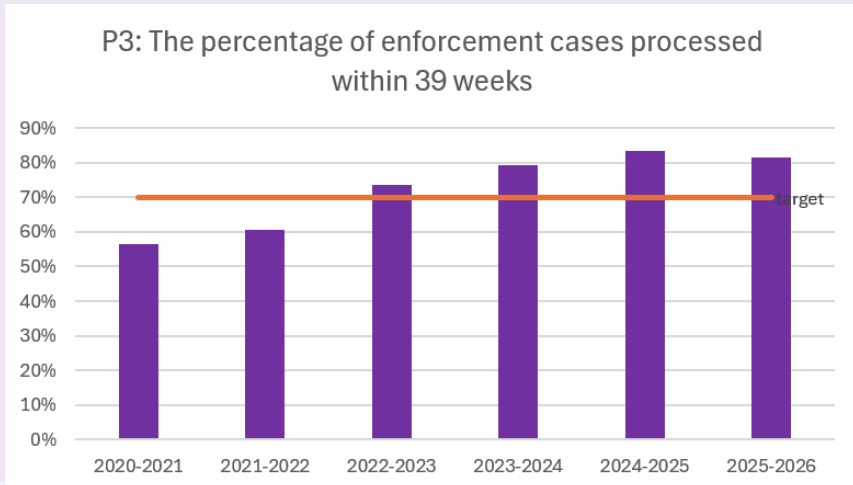
Local planning applications were processed in an average of 7.6 weeks, within the 15-week target and an improvement on the 10.2 weeks achieved in 2024–2025.

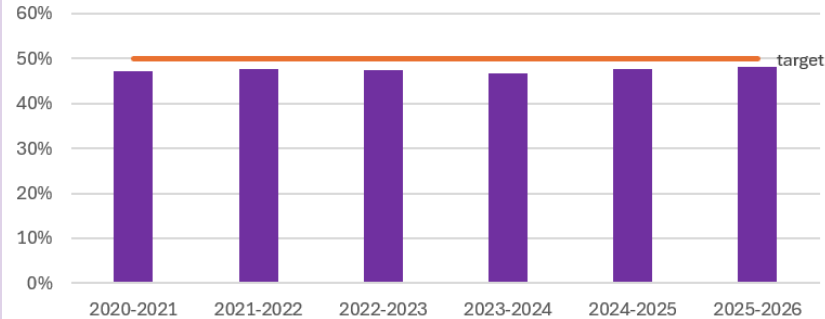
The Planning Improvement Programme, has improved the quality of applications being submitted and ensured efficiencies in the decision-making process.

**We will maintain/improve performance by:**

As outlined in the 'Our Council, Our Plan' 2024–2028, within the Quality Places Objective within the Shared Prosperity Priority, we will:

- Deliver quality places, bringing land use and community planning functions closer together to encourage all partner organisations to focus on the issues of greatest importance to local people and local places.
- Develop and deliver a proactive improvement programme in relation to the planning functions which will improve and enhance service delivery, including meeting statutory targets.
- Continue to consider matters of importance to rural communities, utilising statistics, evidence and research to identify rural issues and their scale.

Statutory Indicator	2020–2021		2021–2022		2022–2023		2023–2024		2024–2025		2025–2026		RAG Status	Comparison with other Councils																					
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual																							
P3: The percentage of enforcement cases processed within 39 weeks	70.0%	56.6%	70.0%	60.6%	70.0%	73.7%	70.0%	79.6%	70.0%	83.3%	70.0%	82.5%		FODC were ranked 3 out of 11 Councils with 82.5%																					
Performance against target: The percentage of enforcement cases processed within 39 weeks was 82.5%, exceeding the 70% target. The updated Enforcement Strategy, introduced in May 2025, sets out the Councils priorities in respect of enforcement matters and ensures the enforcement process is more efficient. The Enforcement Strategy was developed as part of the Planning Improvement Programme.					P3: The percentage of enforcement cases processed within 39 weeks <table><thead><tr><th>Year</th><th>Actual (%)</th><th>Target (%)</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>2020–2021</td><td>56.6%</td><td>70.0%</td></tr><tr><td>2021–2022</td><td>60.6%</td><td>70.0%</td></tr><tr><td>2022–2023</td><td>73.7%</td><td>70.0%</td></tr><tr><td>2023–2024</td><td>79.6%</td><td>70.0%</td></tr><tr><td>2024–2025</td><td>83.3%</td><td>70.0%</td></tr><tr><td>2025–2026</td><td>82.5%</td><td>70.0%</td></tr></tbody></table>										Year	Actual (%)	Target (%)	2020–2021	56.6%	70.0%	2021–2022	60.6%	70.0%	2022–2023	73.7%	70.0%	2023–2024	79.6%	70.0%	2024–2025	83.3%	70.0%	2025–2026	82.5%	70.0%
Year	Actual (%)	Target (%)																																	
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We will maintain/improve performance by:	As outlined in the ‘Our Council, Our Plan’ 2024-2028, within the Quality Places Objective within the Shared Prosperity Priority, we will: • Deliver quality places, bringing land use and community planning functions closer together to encourage all partner organisations to focus on the issues of greatest importance to local people and local places. • Develop and deliver a proactive improvement programme in relation to the planning functions which will improve and enhance service delivery, including meeting statutory targets. • Continue to consider matters of importance to rural communities, utilising statistics, evidence and research to identify rural issues and their scale.																																		

Statutory Indicator	2020–2021		2021–2022		2022–2023		2023–2024		2024–2025		2025–2026		RAG Status	Comparison with other Councils																					
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual																							
W1: The % of household waste collected by district councils that is sent for recycling	50.0%	47.1%	50.0%	47.7%	50.0%	47.5%	50.0%	46.7%	50.0%	47.7%	50.0%	48.1%*		FODC were ranked 10 out of 11 Councils with 48.1%.*																					
										This figure is now verified.		*This figure is provisional and unverified. The finalised figure will be available in November 2026.																							
Performance against target: Figures for 2025-2026 are currently provisional and thus unverified. Household waste recycling stood at 48.1%*. Whilst this represents an increase year-on-year, it is below the 50% target and ranks 10/11 Councils. Landfilling has ceased within the district and the majority of future waste processing will be directed to recycling or refuse derived fuel.				W1: The % of household waste collected by district councils that is sent for recycling (including waste prepared for reuse) <table><caption>W1: The % of household waste collected by district councils that is sent for recycling (including waste prepared for reuse)</caption><thead><tr><th>Year</th><th>Actual (%)</th><th>Target (%)</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>2020-2021</td><td>47.1%</td><td>50.0%</td></tr><tr><td>2021-2022</td><td>47.7%</td><td>50.0%</td></tr><tr><td>2022-2023</td><td>47.5%</td><td>50.0%</td></tr><tr><td>2023-2024</td><td>46.7%</td><td>50.0%</td></tr><tr><td>2024-2025</td><td>47.7%</td><td>50.0%</td></tr><tr><td>2025-2026</td><td>48.1%*</td><td>50.0%</td></tr></tbody></table>											Year	Actual (%)	Target (%)	2020-2021	47.1%	50.0%	2021-2022	47.7%	50.0%	2022-2023	47.5%	50.0%	2023-2024	46.7%	50.0%	2024-2025	47.7%	50.0%	2025-2026	48.1%*	50.0%
Year	Actual (%)	Target (%)																																	
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We will maintain/improve performance by:	As outlined in the ‘Our Council, Our Plan’ 2024-2028, within the Effective and Efficient Waste Management Objective within the Climate Action Priority, we will: - Develop and implement an efficient and effective waste and recycling service that meets the needs and expectations of residents and businesses and complies with legislation, policy and guidance. - Educate and enable residents to take more control of their recycling behaviours to improve waste recycling rates.																																		

Statutory Indicator	2020–2021		2021–2022		2022–2023		2023–2024		2024–2025		2025–2026		RAG Status	Comparison with other Councils
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual		
W2: The amount (tonnage) of biodegradable Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste that is landfilled.	<13,781	14,410	<13,781	14,026	<13,781	13,586	<13,781	14,773	<13,781	8,715 Verified data. This changed slightly from 8,720 unverified figure printed in 2024/25 Annual Report.	<13,781	3,676* *This figure is provisional and unverified. The finalised figure will be available in November 2026.		FODC were ranked 7 out of 11 Councils with 3,676* tonnes.

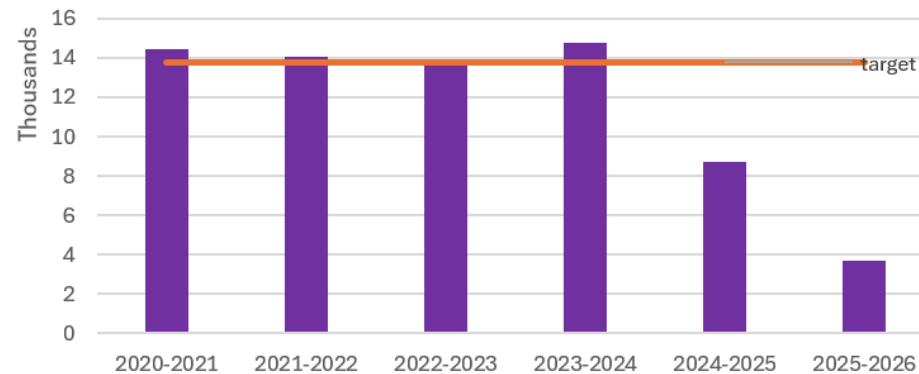
Performance against target:

Figures for 2025-2026 are currently provisional and thus unverified.

The amount of biodegradable municipal waste sent to landfill during this period dropped to 3,676 tonnes, a reduction from 8,721 tonnes in 2024/25 and well below the 13,781-tonne target.

Performance in this statutory indicator is reflective of the Council's closure of landfill sites. Waste is now primarily directed towards recycling and refuse derived fuel.

W2: The amount (tonnage) of biodegradable Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste that is landfilled

**We will maintain/improve performance by:**

As outlined in the 'Our Council, Our Plan' 2024-2028, within the Effective and Efficient Waste Management Objective within the Climate Action Priority, we will:

- Develop and implement an efficient and effective waste and recycling service that meets the needs and expectations of residents and businesses and complies with legislation, policy and guidance.
- Educate and enable residents to take more control of their recycling behaviours to improve waste recycling rates.

Statutory Indicator	2020–2021		2021–2022		2022–2023		2023–2024		2024–2025		2025–2026		RAG Status	Comparison with other Councils
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual		
W3: The amount (tonnage) of Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste Arisings	n/a	58,108	58,108 Baseline 21/22	58,211	58,108 Baseline 21/22	55,362	58,108 Baseline 21/22	56,521	58,108 Baseline 21/22	57,134 This figure is now verified.	58,108 Baseline 21/22	58,735* *This figure is provisional and unverified. The finalised figure will be available in November 2026.		FODC had the lowest tonnage out of all 11 councils.

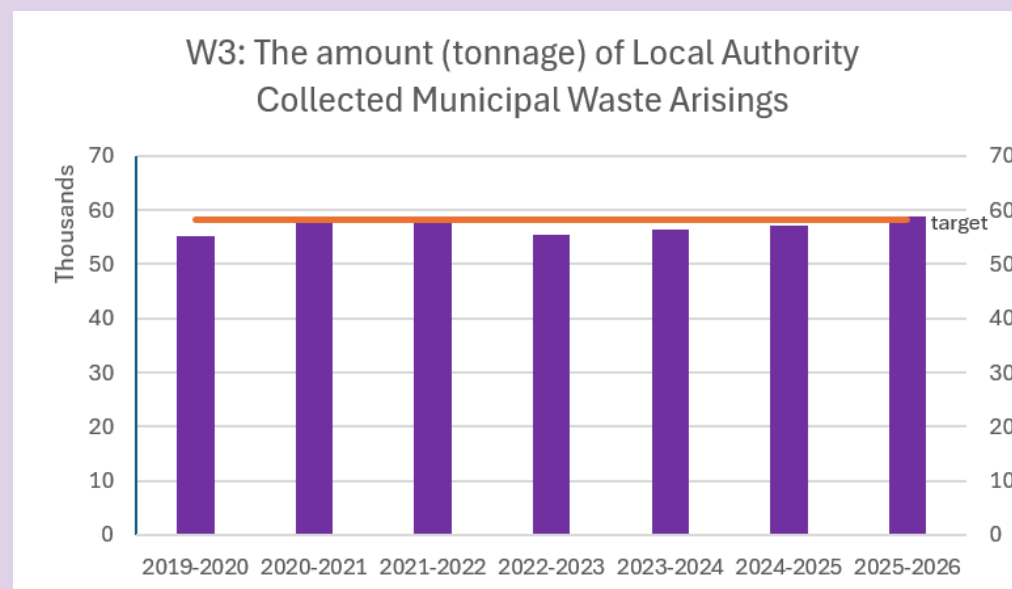
Performance against target:

Figures for 2025-2026 are currently provisional and thus unverified.

The Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste arisings for this period were 58,735 tonnes, an increase on the 57,133 tonnes recorded in 2024/25. This was the lowest tonnage out of all Councils.

However, the Council did not achieve target and thus performance has been assessed as 'Red'.

The increase in waste arisings is the first time since 2021/22 that the Council has failed to achieve target, against an increasing population, vibrant economy and increasing consumerism.



We will maintain/improve performance by:

As outlined in the 'Our Council, Our Plan' 2024-2028, within the Effective and Efficient Waste Management Objective within the Climate Action Priority, we will:

- Develop and implement an efficient and effective waste and recycling service that meets the needs and expectations of residents and businesses and complies with legislation, policy and guidance.
- Educate and enable residents to take more control of their recycling behaviours to improve waste recycling rates.

Corporate Plan Measures

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Corporate Plan 'Our Council, Our Plan' 2024-2028 includes a total of 40 measures, comprising 7 statutory measures and 33 self-imposed measures. The purpose of these measures is to demonstrate the performance of the Council over the full four-year period of the Corporate Plan, rather than to focus on individual year figures or short-term trends. Nevertheless, the performance of the measures is assessed annually as an indicative way of tracking performance, designed to promote continuous improvement over the 4 years of the plan.

'Our Council, Our Plan' was introduced in June 2024. Performance against the core objectives and actions are assessed bi-annually, with performance against the measures assessed annually using full-year data.

Each measure is aligned to one of the Council's key priorities to track progress towards achieving the intended outcomes and improving the lives and wellbeing of our communities, as well as enhancing the experience for those who visit our District. The priorities for this period are:

- Climate Action
- People and Communities
- Shared Prosperity
- One Council

There is now data available for each Corporate Plan measure from 2023/24 (pre-plan, considered the baseline), and two full years (2024/25 and 2025/26). The performance of the measures has been assessed against the previous year's performance, using a combination of statistical trend analysis and consideration of the wider strategic context. The exception to the assessment are measures which are also statutory indicators and thus have a statutory target. Performance for statutory indicators is assessed based on the statutory target alone

The table below provides a summary of performance measures by priority, showing the number of measures and their current RAG status:

Strategic Priority	Number of Measures	Green	Amber	Red
Climate Action	11	7	2	2
People and Communities	10	7	3	0
Shared Prosperity	8	6	0	2
One Council	11	11	0	0
Total	40	31 (77.5%)	5 (12.5%)	4 (10.0%)

A full overview of the Corporate Plan Measures 2025/26 is available [here](#).

Benchmarking – Comparing Performance With Other Councils

Introduction

The purpose of this section is to compare the performance of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council with other Councils, in line with the legislative requirement set out in Part 12 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014. This is commonly referred to as 'benchmarking'.

APSE Performance Networks Core Performance Indicators (Core PIs):

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council became members of APSE Performance Networks upon inception in 2015. This allows the Council to draw on consistent, independently verified performance data that demonstrates the Council's performance in comparison to other local government districts who are APSE Performance Networks members. This is achieved by providing an 'average' and rank for each performance indicator. The data provided to APSE is quality assured as part of the process.

Ahead of the 2024/25 year, APSE and participating Council's collaborated to enhance the approach taken to the collection, collation and analysis of APSE Performance Networks data. This led to the introduction of a reduced set of Core Performance Indicators (Core PIs). This focused approach centred on providing a set of comparable data for benchmarking purposes and increased the veracity of the data by increasing the number of comparators for each PI.

The 2025/26 outturn, detailed on the following pages, represents the second year of this approach. While there were some adjustments to the definitions, and the addition of a new Core PI, the process has largely remained consistent. Any notable amendments made are outlined in the table.

The tables on the following pages provide the data, rank, target, variance, trend and overview of performance, benchmarking Fermanagh and Omagh District Council against the average and noting the rank. This is outlined for the 16 Core PIs where Fermanagh and Omagh District Council were able to provide data, the data passed APSE quality assurance processes, and where there were a suitable number of comparator Councils.

The variance and trend analysis in the table relates to Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's performance in comparison to last year. A more complete trend analysis will be incorporated in future years as a timeseries of data becomes available.

APSE Core PI	2024/25				2025/26			Variance	Trend	Overview of performance
	FODC	NI Avg	FODC Rank	Target	FODC	NI Avg	FODC Rank			
PI 04a - Staff leaving as a percentage of average total staff for financial year (excluding voluntary severance)	10.61%	9.12%	6 of 7	Maintain/improve on 10.61% (Low result desirable)	9.59%	8.22%	4 of 6	-1.02% pts		Staff 'turnover' decreased from 10.61% to 9.59%. Fermanagh and Omagh ranked 4 of 6 councils who submitted data. Fermanagh and Omagh's performance was higher than the average.
PI 04b - New starters as a percentage of average total staff for financial year (excluding voluntary severance)	9.34%	10.25%	4 of 7	Maintain/improve on 9.34% (Low result desirable)	9.34%	10.08%	5 of 6	0.00 % pts		The percentage of new starters remained unchanged at 9.34%. Fermanagh and Omagh ranked 5 of 6 councils who submitted data. Fermanagh and Omagh's performance was lower than the average.
PI 05d - Days staff absence per employee – short term	3.97	2.73	7 of 7	Maintain/improve on 3.97 (Low result desirable)	2.79	4.81	2 of 6	-1.18 days		Short-term sickness absence decreased from 3.97 to 2.79 days per employee. Fermanagh and Omagh ranked 2 of 6 councils who submitted data. Fermanagh and Omagh's performance was lower than the average.
PI 05e - Days staff absence per employee – long term	14.63	13.04	4 of 7	Maintain/improve on 14.63 (Low result desirable)	12.40	13.75	3 of 6	-2.23 days		Long-term sickness absence decreased from 14.63 to 12.40 days per employee. Fermanagh and Omagh ranked 3 of 6 councils who submitted data. Fermanagh and Omagh's performance was lower than the average.

APSE Core PI	2024/25				2025/26			Variance	Trend	Overview of performance
	FODC	NI Avg	FODC Rank	Target	FODC	NI Avg	FODC Rank			
PI 05f - Percentage of staff that have no incidences of sickness absence in the year	46.91%	55.64%	5 of 6	Maintain/improve on 46.91% (High result desirable)	49.83%	56.25%	5 of 6	+2.92% pts		The percentage of staff with no sickness absence increased from 46.91% to 49.83%. Fermanagh and Omagh ranked 5 of 6 councils who submitted data. Fermanagh and Omagh's performance was lower than the average.
PI 37a - Percentage customer satisfaction with the overall service provided by the authority (percentage of users that were 'Satisfied' or 'Very Satisfied')	Fermanagh and Omagh District Council did not submit data for this PI in 2024/25.			(High result desirable)	62.00%	70.97%	3 of 4	NA		Overall customer satisfaction with Fermanagh and Omagh District Council was 62%. Fermanagh and Omagh ranked 3 of 4 councils who submitted data. Fermanagh and Omagh's performance was lower than the average.
PI 38a - Net cost of council service per head of population	The methodology for this PI was revised in 2025/26 and thus is incomparable with previous data.			(Low result desirable)	£383.32	£405.36	1 of 5	NA		The net cost of council services was £383.32 per head of population. Fermanagh and Omagh ranked 1 of 5 councils who submitted data. The Council's objective was to work with APSE and other Councils to amend the formula used for this calculation. This objective has been met. As a result, trend analysis with previous years is not possible due to changes in the methodology. Fermanagh and Omagh's performance was lower than the average.

APSE Core PI	2024/25				2025/26			Variance	Trend	Overview of performance
	FODC	NI Avg	FODC Rank	Target	FODC	NI Avg	FODC Rank			
PI 53a - Percentage of Stage I complaints rectified within target time (5 days)	82.84%	81.86%	5 of 7	Maintain/improve on 82.84%	84.26%	74.20%	2 of 6	+1.42% pts		Fermanagh and Omagh rectified 84.26% of Stage I complaints within the target time and ranked 2 of 6 councils who submitted data. Fermanagh and Omagh's performance was higher than the average.
PI 54a - Percentage of Stage II complaints rectified within target time (20 days)	60.00%	70.93%	6 of 7	Maintain/improve on 60.00% (High result desirable)	84.38%	75.10%	2 of 6	+24.38% pts		Fermanagh and Omagh rectified 84.38% of Stage II complaints within the target time and ranked 2 of 6 councils who submitted data. Fermanagh and Omagh's performance was higher than the average.
PI 55a - Percentage change in Greenhouse gas emissions from base year (2018/19) to current financial year	-23.14%	-18.18%	2 of 3	Maintain/improve on -23.14% (Low result desirable)	-51.32%	-30.75%	1 of 3	-28.18% pts		Fermanagh and Omagh reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 51.32% from the 2018/19 baseline year and ranked 1 of 3 councils who submitted data. Fermanagh and Omagh's performance was lower than the average. Caution is urged when analysing the performance in comparison to other 15 Council's, where only 2 other Councils have provided data.

APSE Core PI	2024/25				2025/26			Variance	Trend	Overview of performance
	FODC	NI Avg	FODC Rank	Target	FODC	NI Avg	FODC Rank			
PI 01b - Percentage of service requests responded to within 3 days. (Environmental Health)	This PI was added in 2025/26.			-- (High result desirable)	98.52%	96.53%	2 of 4	NA		Fermanagh and Omagh responded to 98.52% of service requests within 3 days and ranked 2 of 4 councils who submitted data. Fermanagh and Omagh's performance was higher than the average. As this is a new measure within the APSE Core PIs set for 2025/26, trend analysis is not possible.
PI 49b - Number of public / stakeholder users registered to corporate social media per head of population	0.34	0.439	4 of 7	Maintain/improve on 0.34 (High result desirable)	0.37	0.48	3 of 6	+0.03 users		Fermanagh and Omagh had 0.37 public and stakeholder social media users per head of population and ranked 3 of 6 councils who submitted data. Fermanagh and Omagh's performance was lower than the average.
PI 06a - W1. The percentage of household waste collected by the district council that is sent for recycling (including waste prepared for re-use) (note – unverified)	47.70 % <i>*Figure now validated</i>	51.83%	6 of 6	Maintain/improve on 47.70% (High result desirable)	49.50%* <i>*Note unvalidated figure based on 3 quarters of data</i>	52.30	5 of 6	+1.80% pts		Fermanagh and Omagh recycled 49.50% of household waste collected by the council and ranked 5 of 6 councils who submitted data. Fermanagh and Omagh's performance was lower than the average. Please note this analysis is based on data up to Quarter 3 and is not a whole-year figure as more commonly quoted.

APSE Core PI	2024/25				2025/26			Variance	Trend	Overview of performance
	FODC	NI Avg	FODC Rank	Target	FODC	NI Avg	FODC Rank			
PI 09a - Customer satisfaction with parks, open spaces & horticultural services (% of users that were 'Satisfied' or 'Very Satisfied')	Fermanagh and Omagh District Council did not submit data for this PI in 2024/25.			-- (High result desirable)	82.00%	86.37%	4 of 4	NA		Customer satisfaction with parks, open spaces and horticultural services was 86.37%. Fermanagh and Omagh ranked 4 of 4 councils who submitted data. Fermanagh and Omagh's performance was lower than the average.
PI 30a - Percentage of undisputed creditor invoices paid on time within 10 days	91.63%	68.04%	1 of 7	Maintain/improve on 91.63% (High result desirable)	91.85%	69.83%	1 of 6	+0.22% pts		Fermanagh and Omagh paid 91.85% of undisputed creditor invoices within 10 days and ranked 1 of 6 councils who submitted data. Fermanagh and Omagh's performance was higher than the average.
PI 31a - Percentage of undisputed creditor invoices paid on time within 30 days	96.30%	92.03%	1 of 7	Maintain/improve on 96.30% (High result desirable)	96.64%	92.35%	1 of 6	+0.34% pts		Fermanagh and Omagh paid 96.64% of undisputed creditor invoices within 30 days and ranked 1 of 6 councils who submitted data. Fermanagh and Omagh's performance was higher than the average.

Key

	Moving in the right direction
	No change
	Moving in the wrong direction
	Not enough data

The Council will incorporate insights from the APSE Performance Networks Core PIs into its 2027/28 Performance Improvement Plan, with a focus on maintaining or improving baseline performance, addressing areas below the NI average, and driving continuous improvement.

Financial Summary 2025–2026

Financial Report and Summary Financial Statements 2025/2026 (Audited)

The Audited Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2026 have been prepared in a form directed by the Department for Communities in accordance with Regulations 3(7) and (8) of the Local Government (Accounts and Audit) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 (the Regulations).

The Audited Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2026 will be published on the Council's website by 30th September 2026.

A summary of the Audited Income and Expenditure for 2025/26, compared with the Estimates for the year, alongside a copy of the Balance Sheet is extracted in the tables below:

Table 1 – Audited Net Income and Expenditure – 2025/26

	2025/26		
	Actual (£)	Estimated (£)	Variance (£)
Net Income and Expenditure	44,274,429	45,431,462	1,157,033
Transfers to/from Reserves	3,450,000	2,050,000	(1,400,000)
Transfer from Covid Contingency Reserve	(500,000)	(500,000)	-
Total Transfer to/from	2,950,000	1,550,000	(1,400,000)
Financing of Capital Expenditure			
Minimum Revenue Provision	870,929	1,175,958	305,029
Loan interest	124,042	124,042	-
Direct Revenue Financing	1,000,000	700,000	(300,000)
Total net expenditure to be funded	49,219,400	48,981,462	(237,938)
Central government grant support *	(3,635,602)	(3,525,818)	109,784
Rates income	(45,827,559)	(45,455,644)	371,915
Total Grant and Rates Income	(49,463,161)	(48,981,462)	481,699
Surplus for the year	(243,761)	-	243,761

Table 2 – Audited Balance Sheet as of 31 March 2026

	31 March 2026	31 March 2025
	£	£
Fixed Assets	152,623,752	150,380,541
Intangible Assets	80,000	80,000
Investment Properties	11,835,000	11,835,000
Long-Term Debtors	706,268	3,652,595
LONG-TERM ASSETS	165,245,020	165,948,136
Inventories	360,060	403,177
Short-Term Debtors	8,121,724	16,118,295
Short-Term Investments	21,000,000	13,000,000
Cash and Cash Equivalents	24,064,464	22,762,235
Assets Held for Sale	31,997	294,654
CURRENT ASSETS	57,378,245	52,578,361
Short-Term Borrowing	572,025	595,484
Short-Term Creditors	12,355,452	9,858,353
Provisions	1,077,602	331,500
CURRENT LIABILITIES	14,005,079	10,785,337
Provisions	3,399,946	4,145,601
Long-Term Borrowing	1,480,744	2,052,773
Other Long-Term Liabilities	220,000	221,000
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES	5,100,690	6,419,374
NET ASSETS	199,717,496	201,321,786

Table 2 – Audited Balance Sheet as of 31 March 2026 (cont,)

	31 March 2026	31 March 2025
	£	£
USABLE RESERVES		
Capital Receipts Reserve	1,745,702	1,384,749
Capital Grants Unapplied Account	13,478,221	18,861,959
Capital Fund	9,770,820	9,728,600
Renewal and Repairs Fund	2,589,987	2,463,182
Other Balances and Reserves	5,804,660	5,699,744
General Fund	4,749,015	4,505,254
	38,138,405	42,643,488
UNUSABLE RESERVES		
Capital Adjustment Account	95,626,852	92,307,926
Revaluation Reserve	66,070,056	66,537,499
Pensions Reserve	(220,000)	(221,000)
Capital Receipts Deferred Account	746,268	746,268
Accumulated Absences Account	(1,282,308)	(1,303,553)
Provisions Discount Rate Reserve	638,223	611,158
	161,579,091	158,678,298
NET WORTH	199,717,496	201,321,786

Marble Arch Caves UNESCO Global Geopark

Discovering 340 Million Years of Natural Wonder



Rural Proofing our Plans and Policies

Fermanagh and Omagh is a predominantly rural district except for the two main towns of Enniskillen and Omagh. The Council area is home to 117,700 people, with approximately 70% of the population living in rural areas. The Council acknowledges that rural living is a significant element of the district and ensures that plans, policies, and procedures developed and implemented take account of the needs of all its people and in doing so, supports rural living as much as reasonably practical in its approach.

What is the Rural Needs Act (Northern Ireland) 2016?

The Rural Needs Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 (the Act) came into operation for government departments and district councils on 1 June 2017. The Act requires policy makers and public authorities to have due regard to rural needs when developing, adopting, implementing, or revising policies, strategies, and plans, and when designing and delivering public services.

How has the Act supported better outcomes for rural dwellers?

The Act has helped to further highlight and document the Council's commitment and approach in delivering better outcomes for rural dwellers, ensuring that a formal process is in place in developing, adopting, implementing, and revising policies, strategies, and plans, and designing and delivering public services that considers rural data and evidence in decision making processes. The Act has encouraged the need to further endorse the Council's evidence-based approach and to review data at local level in rural areas. This approach encourages considering implications of policies and service provision on, for example, levels of deprivation, social isolation and or poor health which can sometimes be masked by the lack of available data at district level. It also has encouraged engagement with communities to gain additional information where data gaps may be present and local knowledge beneficial. The outcome is that tailored policies, plans, and services are delivered and reconfigured to meet actual demands. The Council has delivered training to relevant staff across all departments to build their capacity and support the approach adopted. Resources have been compiled and made available on the Council Staff Hub to support staff to effectively complete Rural Needs Impact Assessments. Committee Report templates continue to ensure that Rural Needs are an integral part of the section which outlines the resource implications of the recommendation.

How much did we do?

In fulfilling the Council's obligations under Section 1 of the Act, 17 Rural Needs Impact Assessments have been completed by officers within Fermanagh and Omagh District Council for the year 2025–2026. The Rural Needs Annual Monitoring Report 2025-2026 has been published on the Council's website [here](#).

We want to hear from you – get in touch

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is committed to continuously improving its services and listening to its customers.

We welcome your comments or suggestions at any time of the year on any service area or policy decision.

You can get involved and participate in consultations being conducted by, or on behalf of the Council. Meetings of the Council and its Committees are open to the public, and are livestreamed on the Council's **YouTube channel**.

Or simply get in touch and tell us your issue, concern or when we have done well. We love to hear positive feedback too.

You can get in touch by:

**Phone:**

0300 303 1777

Text Phone:

028 8225 6216

**Email:**

strategicplanning@fermanaghomagh.com



For people who are deaf or are hard of hearing:

SignVideo

**Live Web Chat:**

Available on our website during office hours, Mon–Fri, 9am–5pm

**Writing:**

Strategic Planning and Performance,
Fermanagh and Omagh District Council,
The Grange, Mountjoy Road,
Lisnamallard, Omagh
BT79 7BL



Alternatively, you may wish to speak to your local Councillor – contact details can be found at

**[www.fermanaghomagh.com/
your-council/councillors/](http://www.fermanaghomagh.com/your-council/councillors/)**

For further information on your Council, please visit our website at **www.fermanaghomagh.com**

This document is available in a range of other formats upon request.

Please contact us with your requirements through the above contact details.

