



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

# Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Corporate Plan 2024 -2028 Our Council, Our Plan

Impact Report  
October 2024 –  
March 2025  
(Reporting  
Period 2)



## Overview

This Impact Report provides a summary of the Council's progress towards its [Corporate Plan 2024-2028 'Our Council, Our Plan'](#) core priorities and objectives for reporting period 2 of 8 (1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025). An analysis of the Council's Corporate Measures will be undertaken and published in autumn 2025, when all relevant data is available.







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All activity related to the Council's Corporate Plan is strategically aligned to the [Fermanagh and Omagh 2030 Community Plan](#) and is further aligned and supported by the Council's annual [Performance Improvement Plan \(PIP\) Improvement Objectives \(IOs\)](#).

The diagram below provides a snapshot of progress across the four core priorities and 43 objectives; of which 100% are demonstrating good progress and are on target for delivery.

**Diagram 1: Progress update at 31st March 2025**

 <p><b>Climate Action: Embed sustainability to ensure progress towards Net Zero by 2040</b></p> <p><b>11 Objectives</b> (100%) have demonstrated good progress and are on target for delivery within timeline/cost/deliverables identified.</p>	 <p><b>People and Communities: Provide opportunities for everyone to live well</b></p> <p><b>10 Objectives</b> (100%) have demonstrated good progress and are on target for delivery within timeline/cost/deliverables identified.</p>
 <p><b>Shared Prosperity: Drive an inclusive economy and aid prosperity across our district</b></p> <p><b>10 Objectives</b> (100%) have demonstrated good progress and are on target for delivery within timeline/cost/deliverables identified.</p>	 <p><b>One Council: Ensure an efficient, effective and agile Council founded on good governance practices.</b></p> <p><b>12 Objectives</b> (100%) have demonstrated good progress and are on target for delivery within timeline/cost/deliverables identified.</p>



## Core Priority: Climate Action

Appendix 1

Embed sustainability to ensure progress towards Net Zero by 2040

Core Objective	Summary of achievements
<b>1.Sustainable Assets</b> Ensure our Council owned estate is accessible, safe, and clean and meets the needs of residents and visitors, focusing on sustainable, low carbon and renewable energy solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grange Office (Phase 1) work completed (i.e.100+ new energy-efficient windows and insulation).</li> <li>• Omagh Leisure Complex upgraded with 450+ LED lights.</li> <li>• 11 Energy Assessments completed on Priority 1 buildings; the Council can now do these in-house.</li> <li>• Car Park Plan reviewed - new tariffs approved at 3 locations starting April 2025.</li> <li>• Storm Response Procedures activated successfully during Storms Darragh and Éowyn.</li> <li>• £250k Minor Works Programme approved.</li> <li>• 36 Building Condition Surveys completed to guide 10-year improvement plans.</li> <li>• Park Management Plans have been developed for Gortin Glen Forest Park, Ecclesville, Broadmeadow, Grange Park and Forthill Park and maintenance plans for others.</li> <li>• Waste Transfer Station at Drummee Landfill Site: waste transfer station completed, with approval to install solar panels due to commence in May 2025</li> </ul>
<b>2. Effective and Efficient Waste Management</b> Identify, agree and implement waste and recycling service reforms that demonstrate statutory compliance and meet the needs and expectations of residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Addendum to Waste Management Plan agreed and available on <a href="#">Council website</a>.</li> <li>• Elected Member Waste and Recycling Working Group established and meeting monthly.</li> <li>• Review of working arrangements for waste operatives concluded on 31 March 2025 with Trade Union Collective Agreement.</li> <li>• Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO)'s use as an alternative fuel has been successful, with trial extended to cover all fleet at Gortrush depot.</li> <li>• Review of Street Cleansing Standards completed.</li> <li>• Work ongoing regarding harmonisation of Household Recycling Centres (HRCs) and progression of online booking system.</li> <li>• Engagement with Health &amp; Safety Executive NI (HSENI) to review workplace transport safety at 15 HRCs across the District.</li> </ul>
<b>3. Protect and Enhance our Environment</b> Nurture and support academic, business, community and other partnerships to build capacity to protect and enhance our environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peatland Project: £270k funding secured for peatland restoration at Cuilcagh and Gortin Lakes</li> <li>• PeacePlus 'Environment for All': £257k project secured to promote biodiversity and cross-community climate action through workshops and conservation.</li> <li>• Nature Recovery Fund: £346k application for native woodland restoration across 4 sites to support biodiversity and community involvement.</li> <li>• Tree Packs: 200+ native trees given to 17 local schools and groups for planting.</li> </ul>



- Climate Workshops: Over 3,800 people took part in local environmental education sessions.
- Nature Makes Sense: Two inclusive nature events welcomed 434 participants with additional needs.
- Farmers' Markets: Four pilot events drew 15,800 visitors and £46k in sales.
- The Sperrin & Erne Food Partnership continues to flourish, focusing on promoting sustainable local food and funding opportunities.
- Integrated Climate Action Network (I-CAN) established and meeting regularly to progress joint work on Net Zero across public bodies.
- Public Body Reporting (PBR): FODC involved in NI-wide pilot to improve emissions reporting for public bodies.
- MSW Net Zero Business Event: Hosted 50 local business reps to learn about green finance and carbon reduction.



## Core Priority: People and Communities

Provide opportunities for everyone to live well

Core Objective	Summary of achievements
<b>4. Address Poverty and Disadvantage</b> Support people and communities to minimise the impact of poverty and inequalities on their quality of life and work to provide equal opportunities for all.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 204 households - comprising 656 individuals - benefited from taking part in the Western Response Against Poverty (WRAP) Programme.</li> <li>• £86,800 funding has been secured from the Department for Communities to increase the reach of debt advice in Fermanagh and Omagh.</li> <li>• Continue to facilitate the Omagh Traveller Inter Agency Group to establish a new Traveller Led Project in the Omagh Area.</li> <li>• A draft Omagh Traveller Strategy 2025-2028 has been prepared through consultation with various stakeholders including the Omagh Traveller community.</li> <li>• Positive Ageing month took place in October with a variety of activities including chair-based exercise, quizzes, driving safely, arts and a democracy event.</li> <li>• The Council's Anti-Poverty Officer was named Local Government Employee of the Year, being recognised for her work and support to people and communities within the district to minimise the impact of poverty.</li> </ul>

<p><b>5. Improve Citizen Wellbeing</b> Improve population wellbeing and tackle health inequalities to give everyone the opportunity to lead a healthier life.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inclusive Activity Week took place across the district in December 2024, in partnership with Disability Sport NI, and local disability groups to support the 'All Active, All Equal' campaign.</li> <li>• Dementia Awareness Training was delivered to 35 staff at Omagh Leisure Centre by the WHSCT Dementia Navigator.</li> <li>• 'Thrive and Flourish' Programme reached 78 people across four towns, promoting mental wellbeing and building cross-community relationships.</li> <li>• Positive Ageing Month involved over 300 participants in a range of activities for older people.</li> <li>• Sports Events were supported, including the Fermanagh Secondary Schools Championship (Nov 2025) and E-District Cross Country (Feb 2025).</li> <li>• Health and Fitness Programmes delivered under the Healthy Towns initiative included Couch to 5K, PARS, Move More, and Cardiac Rehab, reaching 256 people.</li> <li>• Community Engagement and Collaboration continued with the Integrated Wellbeing Network, local sports bodies, and leisure centres to improve promotion, support, and participation.</li> </ul>
<p><b>6. Support Communities</b> Work to build and empower, resilient, thriving, and safe communities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Community and Voluntary Sector (CVS) Forum held 4 meetings, adding 7 new member organisations.</li> <li>• A 'Collaborative Working Protocol' to improve joint working between community groups and statutory partners is in the advanced stages of development.</li> <li>• 33 Wellbeing Plans have been developed across the district, leading to 192 community activities in Oct 24 – March 25</li> <li>• Funding Support: Two Funding Fairs and seven local Funding Clinics were held to help groups identify and apply for council and capital grants.</li> </ul>
<p><b>7. Value and Enrich our Heritage</b> Protect, enhance, and make accessible the rich, diverse, natural, built and cultural heritage of our district.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lough Erne Pilgrim Trail (Phase 1): Work completed at 11 heritage sites.</li> <li>• Lough Navar Masterplan: Design completed up to RIBA Stage 3 (detailed design phase).</li> <li>• Castle Caldwell Conservation Plan is at its final stage.</li> <li>• €6 million funding secured through the Shared Island initiative for a major masterplan of Cuilcagh Mountain</li> <li>• MSW Growth Deal: A Strategic Outline Case (SOC) for the Cuilcagh Lakelands Landscape Project was approved.</li> <li>• The development of a Conservation Management Plan for Enniskillen Castle has commenced.</li> <li>• Pilgrim Trail Ambassadors: Ambassador programme completed, including private sector involvement, with branding and website launched.</li> </ul>

- A new Draft Heritage Plan developed and is subject to public consultation.
- A wide range of heritage-led events and educational activities were delivered, demonstrating strong levels of engagement and community interest.



## Core Priority: Shared Prosperity

Drive an inclusive economy and aid prosperity across our district

Core Objective	Summary of achievements
<b>8. Inclusive Economy</b> Support delivery of a strong local economy through a focus on inclusivity, productivity and environmental sustainability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of Inclusive Economy Action Plan is progressing, including the Go Succeed Programme, Go Succeed Grants and Digital Transformation Flexible Fund.</li> <li>• DfE Sub Regional Economic Plan: A funding commitment of £4.5m over three years has been secured to develop and implement a Sub Regional Economic Action Plan in the District. As part of this work, a Local Economic Partnership has been identified to oversee the work.</li> <li>• MSW Growth Deal: Heads of Terms were signed with the UK Government to secure a £252m funding commitment to support infrastructure, tourism, and regeneration, as well as digital and innovation projects.</li> <li>• Tourism Conference held in Feb 2025 which had 150+ attendees and received excellent feedback.</li> <li>• Shared Island Unit confirmed that the local region will benefit from investment of up to €12m to develop trails across both Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Geopark and the Sliabh Beagh area. An additional €2m will also be allocated to Tourism Ireland to promote the two projects.</li> <li>• REAP Programme: 134 new participants; 83 into jobs, 46 into training; 368 certificates awarded, with funding secured for a further year.</li> <li>• Labour Market Partnership: Letter of Offer received to deliver new projects from June 2025 including a Female Entrepreneur Programme, Employment Led Disability Programme and a range of training academies.</li> </ul>
<b>9. Capital Investment</b> Develop and deliver a sustainable capital programme and wider capital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capital Projects completed include playparks, Tully Castle, Omagh shopfronts, and the Omagh running track. Funding continues to be sought for future projects.</li> </ul>

investment aligned with strategic priorities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus on Sustainability: All building projects now include energy-saving upgrades (such as LED lights and triple glazing), and new grants will reward projects that help the environment.</li> <li>• Planning for the Future: Work is underway to develop Cuilcagh Lakelands Geopark and help local industries reduce carbon emissions, with business consultations starting soon.</li> </ul>
<b>10. Quality Places</b> Ensure that decision making, policies and land use zonings are in place to deliver sustainable development and recognise our unique rural characteristics and place shaping approach.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council was a finalist for the Planning Authority of the Year 2024 at the regional RTPi Awards in London in November 2024.</li> <li>• The Council's Local Development Plan: Plan Strategy 2030 has been nominated for an RTPi Award 'Excellence in Plan Making Practice' in Northern Ireland 2025.</li> <li>• There is continued collaboration with DfI, in relation to the FODC Transport Plan and Active Travel Delivery Plan which integrates land use planning and transport.</li> <li>• Improving Planning Services: Local and regional planning improvements are ongoing. A new enforcement strategy and updated checklist will be implemented from 12 May 2025.</li> <li>• New Planning Guidance: A set of planning guidance documents was approved and will also commence on 12 May 2025 to support better decision-making.</li> <li>• Planning Portal Updates: The Council is helping improve the NI Planning Portal with new features and better user engagement and is awaiting a revised agreement.</li> <li>• The Rural Affairs Sub-Committee sought and analysed data in relation to expenditure on key infrastructure in the Fermanagh and Omagh district in comparison to other districts, highlighting spatial inequities in infrastructure investment.</li> </ul>



## Core Priority: One Council

Ensure an efficient, effective and agile Council founded on good governance practices

Core Objective	Summary of achievements
<b>11. Strong Governance</b> Manage a transparent and effectively governed Council that is responsible to our citizens, while also maintaining strong financial discipline to ensure that we operate within our budgetary limits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council meetings now allow in-person and remote attendance; all are live-streamed on YouTube.</li> <li>• Council responded to 16 public consultations to represent local views on key issues.</li> <li>• A 3.76% rates increase was approved to raise £45.4 million for services and projects in 2025–2026.</li> <li>• Fermanagh and Omagh have the lowest non-domestic rate and sixth lowest domestic rate in NI.</li> <li>• £31.25 million capital investment planned, with £22.7 million from external funding.</li> <li>• Council secured €8.4 million PeacePlus funding for rural regeneration.</li> <li>• Staff development continues through training, hybrid work, and health-focused policies.</li> </ul>

	<p style="text-align: right;">Appendix 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New actions include a review of menopause and domestic violence policies, and a taskforce for reducing sickness absence.</li> </ul>
<p><b>12. Citizen Focussed</b> Listening and engaging collaboratively with our citizens, communities and partners across the district to deliver services efficiently and to a high standard every day</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A new communication plan, branding, and 10th anniversary campaign to celebrate the formation of FODC was developed.</li> <li>• Social media content and the website were improved using new photography and design.</li> <li>• Press queries are managed effectively through the new Communications Protocol.</li> <li>• 65 complaints were received in reporting period 2 with 90% resolved on time. Most complaints were resolved at early stages with none escalating further.</li> <li>• Programmes delivered for people with disabilities in rural areas - Reaching Rural: 93 children supported; Fine Motor Skills: 53 adults supported.</li> <li>• Equality and Disability Action Plans created with clear priorities and actions identified for two years. Positive feedback from public consultations received on these plans.</li> <li>• A new Rural Hub project identified key challenges in rural areas such as funding and service access. A briefing paper called 'Reaching Rural' was produced with proposed actions to reduce inequality.</li> </ul>
<p><b>13. Innovation and Continuous Improvement</b> Continuously improve and simplify the delivery of our services, looking at new ways to work and innovate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New secure devices provided to staff and elected members.</li> <li>• Preparing for Windows 11 upgrade before Oct 2025.</li> <li>• Full Fibre Network set up at 80 sites (min 100Mbps).</li> <li>• Server and network hardware upgrades ongoing.</li> <li>• Online Registrar Portal launched for birth and marriage appointments.</li> <li>• Cybersecurity training with phishing simulations rolled out.</li> <li>• Staff Hub and Wi-Fi systems are being reviewed and improved.</li> <li>• Award-winning projects at the recent staff recognition awards include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Anti-Poverty Strategy</li> <li>◦ Geopark Sustainability Training</li> <li>◦ Fleet Decarbonisation</li> <li>◦ Sustainable Food/Farmers' Markets</li> <li>◦ Staff Hub Review</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Ongoing staff engagement and 3 employee events held.</li> <li>• Menopause and Domestic Violence policies updated.</li> <li>• New Sickness Absence Taskforce to support employee health launched.</li> </ul>



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If you have any queries regarding this report, or the Council's corporate reporting process, please get in touch by:



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**SignVideo:** For people who are deaf or are hard of hearing



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