

# Hundreds of Louth pupils donating old shoes to underprivileged children in South Africa



Comhairle Contae Lú  
Louth County Council

Part XI of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)  
Part 8, Article 81 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001  
(as amended)

Living in Carlingford Visiting Carlingford Regeneration Scheme,  
Carlingford, Co. Louth

Louth County Council hereby gives notice of its intention to carry out public realm enhancements to Carlingford town centre, The Ghan Road, the R173 and the Liberties areas within the greater Carlingford area as consisting of:

- Upgrade of footpath materials and widths to give greater comfort to pedestrian traffic;
- Traders Facilities;
- Upgrade of traffic and pedestrian management within the town to give greater emphasis to pedestrians and create a clear hierarchy that puts pedestrians before vehicular traffic within the town centre. This will be achieved by reducing road carriageway widths, widening footways, creating shared surfaces and inclusion of tactile paving at crossing points;
- Traffic calming ramps and pedestrian crossings;
- Demolition of existing toilet block and construction of a new one;
- Resurfacing of existing road pavements;
- New railings, bollards to discourage illegal parking;
- Bicycle parking;
- Street furniture including bins and seats;
- New trees and vegetation;
- New signage;
- New/replacement of functional street lighting. New feature lighting in the form of strip lighting to be introduced to some pedestrian areas and tall feature lights will be used in a functional manner at the civic and park areas;
- Public lighting;
- Removal of some existing car parking and provision of 63 car parking spaces, of which a minimum of 5% will be accessible parking bays i.e. a reduction (by 57 no. spaces) in car parking within the town centre area;
- Removal of existing public tennis courts and associated walls;
- New utility services/upgrading of existing services (if required), including water mains, foul, storm and water drainage, ESB services, WiFi, Broadband and ducting also the undergrounding of existing overhead cables where possible.

The public realm improvements within the town centre area of Carlingford as set out above will result in a reduction of car parking spaces and the change of use of an existing tarmac public tennis court area to become a new public realm focal point. To mitigate the potential negative impacts of these changes, Louth County Council are proposing to construct a new car park facility. The proposed car park and associated works are within the Liberties area of Carlingford, within approximately 550m of Carlingford town centre and will affect the Ghan Road and the R176 within its vicinity and will include:

- 148 no. car parking spaces including accessible parking bays, potential electric car charging parking bays, parent and child parking bays. Parking bays to be constructed of permeable paving block setts;
- 2 no. new porous asphalt public tennis courts, complete with lighting and fencing (approx. 5m high). Tennis court drainage to consist of filter drain system connecting to closed pipe network;
- New gully and pipe drainage network tying into the existing network on Ghan Road;
- New ESB substation, comprising of an above ground steel cabinet of dimensions approx. 2.6m x 2.2m x 2.0m;
- Public lighting, ducting for communications and electrical services requirements;
- Pedestrian network including concrete footpaths connecting to the existing footpath network on the Ghan Road. A linkage to the existing footpath network along the R176 will be provided and a proposed new pedestrian crossing point to provide a continuous linkage for pedestrians into Carlingford town centre from the proposed car park along this route;
- Internal asphalt road network with road markings;
- Bus set down bays and campervan parking;
- Landscaping.

In accordance with Article 81 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as amended, Louth County Council has concluded from a preliminary examination pursuant to the provisions of article 120(1)(b)(i) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as amended that there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development and that an Environmental Impact Assessment is not required.

Where any person considers that the proposed development would be likely to have significant effects on the environment, he or she may, at any time before the expiration of 4 weeks beginning on the date of publication of this notice, apply in accordance with the provisions of article 120 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as amended to An Bord Pleanála for a screening determination as to whether the development would be likely to have such effects.

In accordance with the provisions of article 250 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as amended, Louth County Council has carried out a screening of the proposed development to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge, if the development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would be likely to have a significant effect on a European site. Accordingly, Louth County Council has determined that the proposed development would not be likely to have a significant effect on a European site.

Plans and particulars of the proposed development may be inspected or purchased, at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, from Tuesday, 18th April 2023 until Tuesday, 16th May 2023 (inclusive) at the offices of Louth County Council at:

- Louth County Council, County Hall, Millennium Centre, Dundalk, Co. Louth. (Inspection and purchase - during public opening hours between 9.00am and 5.00pm Monday to Friday)
- Carlingford Library, Newry Street, Carlingford, A91 N226 (Inspection only - during public opening hours, Monday - Closed, Tuesday 10am-1pm; 2pm-5pm; 6pm-8pm, Wednesday 10am-1pm; 2pm-5pm, Thursday closed, Friday 10am-1pm; 2pm-5pm, Saturday 10am-1pm)

Plans and particulars are also available to view online at [www.louthcoco.ie](http://www.louthcoco.ie)

Submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development, dealing with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which the development would be situated, clearly marked "Living in Carlingford Visiting Carlingford Regeneration Scheme" may be made in writing to the undersigned at Louth County Council, County Hall, Millennium Centre, Dundalk, before 5.00 pm on Tuesday, 30th May 2023.

Dated this 18th April 2023

Olivia McCormack, Senior Executive Officer,  
Placemaking and Physical Development, Louth County Council

County Hall, Millennium Centre, Dundalk, County Louth A91 KFW6  
t 042 9335457 w [www.louthcoco.ie](http://www.louthcoco.ie) e [info@louthcoco.ie](mailto:info@louthcoco.ie)  
Community Call Number 042 9335457 View Alerts at [www.mapalserter.ie/louth](http://www.mapalserter.ie/louth)



Jason Newman

[jason.newman@dundalkdemocrat.ie](mailto:jason.newman@dundalkdemocrat.ie)

Pupils from across Louth will take part in a national campaign from April 17th to 28th to collect tens of thousands of gently worn shoes from all over Ireland and send them to underprivileged children in Southern African townships.

Some of the Louth National Schools who are already registered to take part in the campaign include:

- Scoil Náisiunta Naomh Feichín, Termonfeckin, Drogheda
- Knockbridge NS
- Scoil Mhuire Gan Smal, Kilkierley, Dundalk
- Scoil Bhríde, Shelagh, Hackballscross

Hundreds of schools nationally have already registered to take part in the campaign.

Parents nationwide are being sent up into attics and under the stairs, to dig out pairs of sports shoes which are still in good condition, but which have been outgrown by their owners in Ireland.

'Meet & Greet' collection campaigns are also being run by some League of Ireland soccer clubs, where fans can donate shoes to a team player over a designated afternoon.

The campaign is being run by In My Shoes, who in the pre-Covid world, worked with schools and families across Ireland to collect 15,000 pairs of used sports shoes and send them to school children in South Africa and Lesotho.

This year they have greatly expanded the campaign to ship thousands more pairs of shoes to help underprivileged children.

Shoes are more than just foot protection in an African township; they can be the difference between a hopeful or bleak future.

Helping to improve regular school attendance and completion, where a walk to school can be miles, they give learners safety, improve self-esteem and open doors to after school sporting activities.

The campaign has struck a chord with Irish children, parents, and teachers. Schools have been very engaged with prior campaigns, as it

allows them to promote giving, from one child to another, and gratitude for what we have.

When the shoes are collected, they will be brought to a pop-up sorting facility in Sligo designed to check, sort and pack up to 15,000 pairs of shoes a day.

The sorting blitz will run for two weeks and be 'staffed' by teams of volunteers with diverse backgrounds, from Transition Year students, to corporate teams, and even a team made up from the new Ukrainian community in Sligo.

In My Shoes have attracted some significant support from major corporations for this campaign:

International courier UPS have partnered to collect donated shoes from every national school in Ireland.

Smurfit Kappa are producing thousands of custom designed boxes to carry donated shoes to Africa.

In My Shoes are working with a host of South African NGOs and organisations who are in need of shoes to help deliver their aims - these include the more well-known Connect Support Academy, Catch Trust and Masi Sports, as well as many more.

In My Shoes began a few years ago as an idea floating around in the mind of Sligo native Ciarán McHugh, seeing township kids in South Africa going barefoot.

He felt that every child should be afforded the basic necessity of a pair of shoes. This idea has now evolved into an expanded plan to send thousands more pairs of shoes to the needy children.

Ciarán said:

"I have never been involved in a project before where so many wanted to do so much for so little. In My Shoes seems to be a cause of its time.

"A simple idea but one with the potential to impact thousands of lives, in however small a way, by connecting individual acts of kindness.

"With shoes come school, and education, a hopeful future"

To get involved with the 2023 'In My Shoes' campaign visit [inmyshoescharity.org](http://inmyshoescharity.org).

The campaign runs from 17th-28th April, and schools are encouraged to register via the website.