



Dillon Daly's stunning shot of Trim Castle and the River Boyne.

Kells area recorded highest death rate

North Meath area also had the lowest birth rate in Meath in 2021 according to Central Statistics Office

THE Kells area had the highest death rate and also the lowest birth rate in Meath in 2021 according to figures recently released by the Central Statistics Office (CSO).

Of the six electoral areas in Meath, Kells had by far the highest death rate at 7.2 per 1,000 of the population compared to Trim at 4.8, Navan at 4.6; Laytown/Bettystown 4.5, Ratoath at 4.3 while Ashbourne was the lowest at 4.2.

In 2021, 1,091 deaths were recorded in the county. Of these, 257 were in Kells, 187 in Navan, 175 in Laytown/Bettystown, 166 in Ratoath, 163 in Trim, and 143 in Ashbourne.

Looking at the average age of those who died in 2021, Kells recorded the highest average age at 77.9 years, while the average age of those who died in Navan was the youngest at 74 years.

Kells also had the lowest birth rate at 11.5 per cent per 1,000 of the population while Ratoath had the highest at 14.2 per cent.

Of the 2,850 babies born in Meath in 2021, 546 were to parents in the Ratoath electoral area, 520 in Navan, 475 in Laytown/Bettystown, 472 in Ashbourne, 429 in Trim and 408 in Kells.

There were just 151 more births than deaths in Kells compared to a natural increase (births less deaths) of 380 in Ratoath LEA, 333 in Navan LEA; 329 in Ashbourne LEA; 300 in Laytown/Bettystown LEA and 266 in Trim LEA. This equates to a natural increase rate per 1,000 of the population of 9.9 in Ratoath, 9.7 in Ashbourne, 8.1 in Navan, 7.8 in Trim, 7.7 in Laytown/Bettystown and just 4.3 in Kells.

Ratoath also had the highest fertility rate at 57.6 per cent. While birth rates is per 1,000 of the population, the fertility rate is the rate of births per 1,000 women aged from 15 to 49. The LEA with the second highest fertility rate was Ashbourne at 57.1, followed by Trim at 52.2, Kells at 50.6, Navan at 49.9 and Laytown/Bettystown at 48.8.

Nationally, Carrick-On-Shannon had the highest fertility rate in the country in 2021 with a 61.2 fertility rate per 1,000 women aged between 15 and 49. Enniscorthy, Co Wexford, was second with a rate of 60.8 and Ballybay-Clones, Co Monaghan, was third with 60.6. The lowest rate was recorded in the South-East Inner City in Dublin which had a rate of 29.8.

Coastal call for ISPCA golf fundraiser

LAYTOWN & Bettystown Golf Club will be the venue for the ISPCA's inaugural charity golf event which takes place on Friday, 30th August.

The event aims to raise much-needed funds to support the

ISPCA's mission of rescuing, rehabilitating, and rehoming Ireland's most vulnerable animals.

The ISPCA has teamed up with Lorraine Keane, TV & radio presenter, content crea-

tor, golfer and dog lover.

Lorraine said: "This is a wonderful initiative and a great way to raise awareness about responsible pet ownership, while enjoying a lovely day out to network and have fun on the

golf course at the same time.

For more information about the golf event, including registration details and sponsorship opportunities, please visit the ISPCA's website at: www.ispca.ie



comhairle chontae na mí
meath county council

Planning and Development Act 2000- 2022 (Part XI)

Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2023

(Part 8)

Planning Notice Part 8

Poles Cross Greenway Carpark & Greenway Footpath Link

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the regulations of the above, that Meath County Council proposes to undertake the following development in the Townlands of Ballynaclose and Lisnagrow, Kells, Co. Meath.

The proposed development will consist of:

- **New 2m wide footpath along R162, 850m in length, providing pedestrian access to the Boyne Valley Lakelands Greenway Crossing at Poles Cross. The footpath will extend along R162 from the Gypsum Plant, traverse the Greenway entrance, and continue to L74034 Ballynaclose Junction**
- **Provision of car park facilities to accommodate 19 car parking spaces, which includes two disabled parking spaces at the Poles Cross Greenway Crossing in the townlands of Lisnagrow and Ballynaclose**
- **The car park is proposed to have footpaths, boundary treatments and ancillary features**
- **Ancillary site development/ground works including minor infrastructural excavation works, installation of road gullies, utilities, surface water drainage, installation of soakaway infrastructure, etc**

The Development has been subject to an Appropriate Assessment Screening in accordance with Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC) and the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2022. In accordance with Article 81 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2023, Meath County Council has concluded from a preliminary examination under Article 120(1)(b)(i), 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.

Any person may, within 4 weeks from the date of this notice, apply to An Bord Pleanála for a screening determination as to whether the proposed development would be likely to have significant effects on the environment.

The plans and particulars of the proposed development will be available for inspection or purchase at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy during office hours at the offices of Meath County Council from **Friday, 16 August to Monday, 16 September 2024** (excluding weekends, Public Holidays, and Bank Holidays) at the following locations:

- Planning Department, Meath County Council, Buvinda House, Dublin Road, Navan, Co Meath, C15 Y291 (Opening Hours 9am to 1pm

and 2pm to 4pm Monday to Friday) (Inspection and purchase)

- Meath County Council, Municipal District of Kells Office, Town Hall, Headfort Place, Kells, Co Meath, A82 W2R3. (Opening Hours 9am to 1pm and 2pm to 5pm Monday to Friday) (Inspection only)
- <https://planning.localgov.ie/> under Part 8 Reference: **PT8MH148**

Submissions and 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, may be made on the National e-planning portal <https://planning.localgov.ie/> under Part 8 Reference: **PT8/MH148** or in writing to the Local Authority: Planning Department, Meath County Council, Buvinda House, Dublin Road, Navan, Co Meath, C15 Y291 on or before **Monday, 30 September 2024**.

Roads Act 1993
Road Regulations 1994

Temporary Closure of R153 from Kentstown to N2 Balrath Cross, County Meath

Meath County Council has made an order to temporarily close R153 in Co Meath from R153/R150 Junction in Kentstown to R153/N2 Balrath Cross junction.

The closure will be from 10am on Monday, 2 September 2024 to 8pm on Monday, 27 January 2025 for 24 hrs. per day.

The closure will take place in various phases as follows:

R153/R150 Junction Kentstown to R153/L1001 (Trim Road) Junction from 10am on Monday, 2 September 2024 to 8pm on Sunday, 10 November 2024 for 24 hrs. per day.

R153/L1001 (Trim Road) Junction to R153/N2 Balrath Cross Junction from 7am on Monday, 16 September 2024 to 8pm on Monday, 27 January 2025 for 24 hrs. per day.

Both phases will not be closed concurrently.

This road closure is required to facilitate the installation of new infrastructure (Duleek to Navan Trunk Main Pipeline Project) on behalf of Uisce Éireann.

Alternative Routes

Eastbound: At R153/R150 junction in Kentstown take R150 to its junction with N2 at Flemingstown, turn right onto N2 and continue southbound to its junction with R153 at Balrath Cross.

Westbound: At R153/N2 Balrath Cross junction take N2 northbound to its junction with R150 at Flemingstown, turn left onto R150 and continue to its junction with R153 in Kentstown.

Diversion and information signage will be in place. Access for residents and property holders will be facilitated throughout the closure period.

www.meath.ie

