

**PRESS RELEASE 13 June 2023**

**A New Local Area Plan for Wexford Town – Public encouraged to have their say on shaping the future of Wexford Town.**

Wexford County Council is preparing a new local area plan for Wexford Town and is encouraging everyone to get involved and have their say on how the town should grow and develop over the period of the plan.

The Council commenced the first round of public consultation on the new plan on Thursday, 8th June 2023 with the publication of the Consultation Paper which sets out why a local area plan is being prepared, the process for preparing a local area plan, key strategic issues and questions for the public to consider, and how the public can inform and contribute to the preparation of the plan. The Consultation Paper is available to view on the Council’s website [www.wexfordcoco.ie](http://www.wexfordcoco.ie) and on the Council’s online consultation portal <https://consult.wexfordcoco.ie> and in hard copy format in Wexford Town Library and in the Planning Department, Carricklawn. Hard copies of the Consultation Paper are also available free of charge from the library and the Planning Department.

Mayor of the Borough District of Wexford, Maura Bell said, “We’d like to encourage as many people as possible to become engaged with and get involved in contributing to the local area plan. We want to hear people’s views, expectations and hopes about how they feel the town should grow and develop in the coming years. Wexford Town has so much potential, and this new plan offers a significant opportunity to guide the development of the town and to make the town an even better place to live, work and do business in. We know that the residents, community groups and business owners have good insight and knowledge into what works for their communities and town, so we want to harness this knowledge to good effect”.

Director of Services for Planning, Liz Hore, said that ‘Wexford Town is well placed as a designated Key Town in the Southern Region and is located on the Eastern Economic Corridor overlooking Wexford Harbour and quayfront. This, combined with the strong foundations for growth which are being laid with the delivery of the new university campus of SETU, complimented by the American University GSU, the new urban quarter development at Trinity Wharf, green infrastructure such as Min Ryan Park in a town proud of its heritage, means that the future is bright for Wexford Town’. She further stated ‘the plan must deliver on quality of life and place, on housing and employment while ensuring that we provide a sustainable, healthy, welcoming and climate resilient town for our citizens and visitors’.

Written submissions and observations received by 4:00pm on Tuesday, 8th August 2023 will be taken into consideration by Wexford County Council during the preparation of the Draft Local Area Plan. Further details of how to make a written submission or observation are available in the Consultation Paper, on Wexford County’s County website [www.wexfordcoco.ie](http://www.wexfordcoco.ie), online consultation portal <https://consult.wexfordcoco.ie/> or by contacting the Planning Customer Unit at 053 9196101 or email planning@wexfordcoco.ie

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