

**Press Release**

**19<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

**Literacy and Food Education (LEAF) invites you to collect free seed packs at your local library to grow your own food.**

LEAF a new seed growing initiative to support people in County Wexford grow their own food, was launched in Gorey Library by An Cathaoirleach of Wexford County Council Cllr. Pip Breen, today.

This LEAF literacy and food education programme is a partnership between GIY, (Grow it Yourself), Wexford Libraries and Libraries Ireland.

To take part you are invited to register with the LEAF programme at [www.libraryleaf.ie](http://www.libraryleaf.ie) and call to your local library at Wexford, New Ross, Gorey, Enniscorthy or Bunclody to collect your free seed packet of peas, beans and spinach.

Speaking at the launch, An Cathaoirleach of Wexford County Council, Cllr. Pip Breen said *“I was delighted to meet local growers from Gorey Tidy Towns, the Edible Towns and the Wexford Environmental Network here in the library this morning to launch LEAF. This campaign that supports you to grow your own food, and gives you resources and online supports to do so, is an example of another timely initiative from your local library. I encourage as many people as possible to register to take part, to pick up your packet of seeds, sow them and watch nature happen”*

This programme is being delivered from libraries across south east Ireland who will now reach out to people who have never tried to grow food before and to those who have information and experience to share. In the coming months Free seed packs, and information packs, information events along with digital resources and 'how to' videos will be made available in libraries and online to help you grow, to help sow seeds of empathy and nurture a culture of sustainable living.

For more information and to register to take part, call to your local library and visit the [LEAF Programme - Library LEAF](#) website.

LEAF is funded under the Community Climate Action Programme (CCAP Strand 2) is a pilot programme with GIY (Grow it Yourself Waterford). It is supported by Libraries Ireland and Government of Ireland.

**ENDS**

For more information, see

[LEAF Programme - Library LEAF](#) and [GIY – Grow It Yourself - GIY Ireland Ltd](#)

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(L to R): Sinead Carey ( Library Assistant), Mary Kearney (Executive Librarian), Meaghan Keenan ( Gorey Library), Hazel Percival (Senior Executive Librarian), Cllr. Pip Breen (Cathaoirleach of Wexford County Council), Willie Masterson (Gorey Tidy Towns), Claire Mc Creagh (Edible Towns/Wexford Environmental Network), Philip Knight (Gorey Municipal District Manager)