

**PRESS RELEASE 21 June 2023**

**Wexford County Council welcomes €1.5m from Community Recognition Fund**

This national initiative from the Department of Rural and Community Development will provide €50 million to support communities across Ireland that have welcomed people from Ukraine and other countries. The €50 million has been allocated across all local authorities based on the number of new arrivals located there. Wexford County Council has been allocated €1,509,870 from the fund. The funding is specifically targeted at those villages and towns in the county where the **highest levels** of new arrivals are located and where a **clear need for investment** is **identified. Chief Executive Tom Enright said ‘**the fund will support a diverse range of projects across Wexford, delivering facilities that will benefit people of all ages in their own communities including improvements to playground facilities, walking tracks, community gardens and other community infrastructure.’

**The type of projects being supported include:**

* The upgrade of community facilities such as play areas, walkways, parks and community gardens.
* The purchase of equipment to benefit local clubs, festivals, music and arts organisations.
* The refurbishment of local sports clubs and facilities
* The enhancement of school or parish facilities that are open to the wider community after hours or on weekends.
* Transport infrastructure such as community vehicles and bus shelters

The projects will be delivered by community organisations in conjunction with Wexford County Council. Wexford County Council Cathaoirleach, Cllr. George Lawlor said ‘he was not surprised that Wexford received the full allocation from this fund which acknowledges the efforts of local communities in welcoming people from Ukraine and other countries and helping them to adjust and integrate into everyday life in Wexford.’

At the launch of the fund held in County Hall yesterday (20th June) attended by recipient groups Leas-Chathaoirleach of Wexford County Council, Cllr. Michael Whelan said, ‘the people of Wexford have welcomed people from Ukraine and other countries into our towns and villages and and it is great to see these communities being rewarded for their commitment under the Community Recognition Fund.’

**In Wexford, the areas with the highest numbers of new arrivals from Ukraine and other countries are Rosslare, New Ross, Enniscorthy, Courtown, Gorey, Wexford, Bunclody and Kilmuckridge.**

**The funding was allocated as follows:**

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| **District** | **Applicant** | **Project** | **Proposed Allocation** |
| Enniscorthy | Enniscorthy Community Allotments | Geodesic Dome for Training Centre | € 20,000 |
| Enniscorthy | Templeshannon Community and Childcare LTD | Energy Efficient upgrade for heating system for centre | € 38,308 |
| Enniscorthy | Enniscorthy District | Purchase of 2 special needs bicycles | € 12,000 |
| Enniscorthy | St. Aidan's Hall, Bunclody. | Improvements to the Community Centre - St. Aidan's Hall | € 30,000 |
| Enniscorthy | Wexford Co Council | Amenity project at Belfield Enniscorthy | € 110,000 |
| Gorey | Riverchapel Community Freecycle committee | Equipment for the "freecycle" centre at Riverchapel Community Complex | € 5,000 |
| Gorey | Riverchapel Community Complex Development Group | Extension to the community indoor facility at the Riverchapel Community complex | € 120,000 |
| Gorey | Ballycanew Ballyoughter Community Development Association | Improvments to the Training facility at Ballycanew | € 20,000 |
| Gorey | Gorey Family Resource Centre | Development of facilities at new Family Resource Centre building in Gorey | € 63,278 |
| Kilmuckridge | Gorey/Kilmuckridge Municipal District | Phase 1 development  of playground at Kilmuckridge village | € 75,000 |
| Kilmuckridge | Gorey/Kilmuckridge Municipal District | Upgrade to heating system at Kilmuckridge community centre | € 25,000 |
| New Ross | Templeudigan Parish | Refurbishment of play equipment at community park | € 4,000 |
| New Ross | St. Abban's National School Community Garden | Development of community garden | € 20,000 |
| New Ross | New Ross Municipal District | Sensory garden at Pearse Park, The Quay, New Ross | € 30,000 |
| New Ross | Fethard Community Development Association | Community garden at designated site adjacent to national school | € 30,000 |
| New Ross | St James GAA Club | Refurbishment of walking track | € 20,000 |
| New Ross | 36th Ramsgrange Scouts | Scout Yard upgrade | € 5,000 |
| New Ross | Fethard Community Development Association | Improvements to the Community Centre - St. Mary's Hall | € 122,703 |
| New Ross | Duncannon AFC | Redevelopment of club grounds | € 40,000 |
| Rosslare | Rosslare District | Public realm improvements including bus shelter/public lighting/safe crossing at Killinick | € 85,000 |
| Rosslare | Write By The Sea - Audio Visual equipment in Stella Maris Centre | Audio Visual equipment at Stella Marris Centre | € 4,000 |
| Rosslare | Rosslare Harbour Development Board CLG | Additional resource rooms at back of Community Resource Centre at Rosslare Harbour | € 200,129 |
| Rosslare | Cois Barry Community House | Updating of toilets at Cois Barry Community House | € 10,000 |
| Rosslare | Wexford Co Council | Redevelopment of the Playground at Kilmore Quay | € 145,000 |
| Wexford | Wexford Co Council | New MUGA at Ferndale Park adjacent to new proposed boxing club | € 100,000 |
| Wexford | Wexford Co Council | Trail improvement works at The Rocks in Maudlintown | € 94,858 |
| Wexford | Access 2000 | Energy Improvements to building | € 5,000 |

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