



2026



FEBRUARY

CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT



Comhairle Contae
Loch Garman
Wexford
County Council



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Housing

Capital Housing

Economic

Planning

Water Services

Roads & Transportation

Capital Projects

Community

Environment

Libraries/Arts/Archives

Fire Services

Ukrainian/Integration Teams

Finance

Corporate Services

PHOTO ALBUM FEBRUARY 2026



Enniscorthy Flooding - Wexford Civil Defence Team



HOUSING

Housing Strategy & Services

Under the Housing for All Programme 2022 to 2026, Wexford County Council must build a minimum of 1,159 new housing units within the programme timeframe. The status of overall programme delivery, which includes new built and leasing, is contained in the diagram below. (1,190 below includes leasing)

Housing For All 2022-2026						
1,190 Target	- (1,148 Units Delivered	+	370 Units Projected	=	1,518 Delivery Pipeline
) =	328 Shortfall /Over

It is the Councils intention to continue to deliver new housing, above the target provided under the programme, where demand exists and Department funding is available. The following tables outline the current delivery pipelines and status on projects. For LA Direct Build information, please refer to the Capital Development section of the Chief Executives Report.

Turnkey Delivery - The Housing Section periodically seek Expressions of Interest for the provision of social housing units via Turnkey Acquisition. The next Expression of Interest will run from 14th January to 26th February inclusive. All calls are seeking targeted delivery of smaller unit types (1 & 2 beds) in areas of need identified in the Housing Delivery Action Plan (HDAP). In addition, the process also seeks proposals for purchase of land in areas of need. All proposals received by Wexford County Council under the turnkey process are assessed by an Internal Assessment Committee.

Gorey/Kilmuckridge Municipal District

Project Address (TURNKEY)	Unit Type	Est. Delivery	Total
Tobar Muire, Creagh Demesne, Gorey	7 x 2-bed 22 x 3-bed	Delivered December 2025	29
Mangan, Hollyfort, Gorey	2 x 3-Bed	Q1 2027	2
Spring View, Gorey Hill, Gorey	6 x 3-bed apt 6 x 2-bed apt	Q4 2026	12
Grattan Court, Gorey	10 x 3-bed 4 x 2-bed apt	Q1 2026	14
		Total Turnkey Units	57
Project Address (Part V)	Unit Type	Est. Delivery	Total
Gleann an Ghairdin Phases 3 & 4	2 x 2-bed	Q1 2026	2
Tobar Muire, Creagh Demesne, Gorey	2 x 2-bed	Delivered June & December 2025	2
Spring View, Gorey Hill, Gorey	4 x 3-bed apt 4 x 2-bed apt	Q2 2026	8

Gorey/Kilmuckridge MD - cont'd

Project Address (Part V)	Unit Type	Est. Delivery	Total
Deerpark (Ballowen or Ramsfort Park) Gorey	1 x 3-bed 1 x 2-bed	Q1 2026	2
Deerpark (Ballowen or Ramsfort Park) Gorey	2 x 3 bed	Delivered December 2025	2
Grattan Court Gorey	2 x 2 bed	Q1 2026	2
Sunset Avenue, Riverchapel	1 X 2 bed hse	Q1 2027	1
Millquarter, Knockmullen	6 X 2 bed apt 6 X 3 bed apt	Q1 2026	12
Fermoyle Manor, Kilanerin	1 X 3 bed hse	Q1 2026	1
Ramsbrook, Ramstown Lower	10 X 3 bed hse	Delivering on a phased basis from Q3 2026	10
		Total Part V	42
Project Address (AHB)	Unit Type	Est. Delivery	Total
Ballytegan Rd, Gorey	3 x 1-bed 26 x 2-bed 52 x 3-bed 5 x 4-bed	Q3 2026	86
Riverchapel Road, Gorey	6 x 1-bed apt	Delivered December 2025	6
		Total AHB	92
Overall Total			191

Rosslare Municipal District

Project Address	Unit Type	Est. Delivery	Total
Carrig-on-Bannow (TURNKEY)	5 x 1 bed 5 x 2 bed	5 Delivered Dec 2025 5 due in Q1 2026	10
Carrig-on-Bannow (PART V)	2 x 3 bed	Delivered Dec 2025	2
Murrintown Upper (PART V)	3 x 2 bed hse	Q1 2027	3
Seaview, Rosslare Harbour (AHB)	20 x 2 bed apt 8 x 3 bed hse	Q1 2026	28
Overall Total			43

Enniscorthy Municipal District

Project Address (TURNKEY)	Unit Type	Est. Delivery	Total
Holly-Way, Clonhasten, Enniscorthy	5 x 2-bed	Delivered December 2025	5
Cnoc na Greine, Enniscorthy	3 x 2-bed 9 x 3-bed 2 x 4-bed	2 Delivered December 2025. 12 due in 2026	14
Forgelands, Old Forge Rd, Enniscorthy	7 x 3 bed	Delivering from Q3 2025. 4 delivered Q4	7
		Total Turnkey	26
Forgelands, Old Forge Rd, Enniscorthy (Part V)	4 x 2-bed	2 Delivered December 2025. 2 delivered Q3 2025	4
Holly-Way, Clonhasten, Enniscorthy (Part V)	5 x 3-bed	Delivered December 2025	5
Holly-Close, Clonhasten, Enniscorthy (Part V)	2 X 2 bed hse 1 X 3 bed hse	Q1 2026	3
Cnoc na Greine, Enniscorthy (Part V)	16 x 3 bed hse 2 x 2 bed hse 16 x 1 bed apt	9 Delivered December 2025	34
		Total Part V	46
Milehouse, Phase 2, Enniscorthy (AHB)	7 x 1 bed hse 26 x 2 bed hse	Q1 2026	33
Castle Street, Enniscorthy (AHB)	5 x 1 bed apts	Delivered December 2025	5
		Total AHB	38
Overall Total			110

New Ross Municipal District

Project Address	Unit Type	Est. Delivery	Total
Hewittlands, New Ross (LAGS site) (AHB)	10 x 1-bed 16 x 2-bed 22 x 3-bed	Q2 2026	48
Overall Total			48

Borough District of Wexford

Project Address	Unit Type	Est. Delivery	Total
Ard Uisce, Wexford (PART V)	8 x 2-bed	2 Delivered Q2 2 Delivered Q3 2 Delivered Q4	8
Radharc an Chuain, Castlebridge (PART V)	1 x 3 bed	Delivered December 2025	1
Radharc an Chuain, Castlebridge (PART V)	2 x 3 bed	Q1 2026	2
Turners Way, Coolcotts (PART V)	4 x 2 bed apt	Delivering from Q2 2026	4

Borough District of Wexford cont'd

Project Address	Unit Type	Est. Delivery	Total
Beechfield, Clonard (AHB)	25 x 1-bed, 23 x 2-bed 1 x 3-bed, 1 x 4-bed	Q1 2026	50
Whiterock Hill, Wexford (AHB)	6 x 2 bed 26 x 3 bed	8 Delivered April 2025 17 Delivered August 2025 15 Delivered December 2025	15
Overall Total			80

Support has been offered to AHB's for other proposals amounting to 150 units across all districts. These proposals are subject to Planning and Departmental approval.

District	No. of Units
Enniscorthy	30
Gorey	31
New Ross	9

District	No. of Units
Rosslare	35
Wexford	45
Total	150

Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Programme 2026 is the sixth year of a new 10-year Energy Efficiency/Retrofit Programme to retrofit local authority housing stock. The new programme provides for a significant upscaling in the level of funding available and focuses on ensuring that the fabric of the home is upgraded, and an energy efficient heating system is provided. The table below outlines the targets and number of properties delivered and funded to date, under this programme.

Department Targets for County Wexford		
Year	No of Properties Allocated	No Delivered & Funding Received
2021	54	0
2022	68	37
2023	51	146
2024	116	118
2025	120	120
2026	Awaiting Allocation	17*
Total	409	438

Notes: * 17 units completed in 2025 – not claimed – to be paid from 2026 allocation.



16 January 2026 - Cathaoirleach of Wexford Council Cllr. Joe Sullivan welcomed An Taoiseach, Micheál Martin and Minister for Housing, James Browne TD to Gorey to officially open the new homes at **Radharc Na Beannóige, Ramsfort, Gorey. Co. Wexford.**

The event marked a significant milestone in the delivery of affordable housing in Co. Wexford with the opening of the county's first affordable housing scheme.

The pilot project, led by Wexford County Council, a scheme of 20 A Rated, energy efficient homes, represents the culmination of years of planning and collaboration and delivers a new community of high-quality homes for families taking their first steps to home ownership.



As part of the launch, the Taoiseach and Minister Browne visited a number of new residents, highlighting the real and immediate impact the scheme is having on families in the community.

‘Cnoc na Gréine’ - Applications for the Local Authority Affordable Purchase Scheme at ‘Cnoc na Gréine, Greenville Lane, Enniscorthy has closed. Construction is well advanced with all dwellings expected to be delivered by year end.

‘Coming Soon’ – New Affordable Housing Purchase Scheme ‘Rams Brooke’ Gorey, Co Wexford.



‘Wexford County Council is partnering with Redmond Construction to provide a limited number of new homes for sale under the Local Authority Affordable Purchase Scheme. The housing scheme will be located in Rams Brooke, Gorey. These new homes, which consists of 3 bedroom semi-detached ‘A-Rated’ homes, will be made available to first time buyers and other eligible buyers through an on-line portal which will be available in the coming months other eligible buyers through an

on-line portal which will be available in the coming months. Interested applicants are asked to register their interest in the schemes by emailing affordablehousing@wexfordcoco.ie

Wexford County Council are seeking expressions of interest for the delivery of new dwellings for affordable housing in Co. Wexford. Home builders and housing developers are asked to consider offering properties with planning permission to WCC under an advance purchase turnkey arrangement.

For further information, please visit us on:
<https://www.wexfordcoco.ie/search?find=affordable+housing+expression+of+interest>

Choice Based Letting - 20 properties were advertised on the Choice Based Letting website from 01/01/2026 to 25/01/26. Number of Views & Expressions of Interest are as per table below:-

Municipal District	No. of Properties Advertised	1-bed	2-bed	3-bed	4/5-bed
Enniscorthy	1	0	1	0	0
Gorey/Kilmuckridge	14	0	4	10	0
New Ross	3	1	2	0	0
Rosslare	0	0	0	0	0
Wexford	2	0	2	0	0
TOTAL	20	1	9	10	0

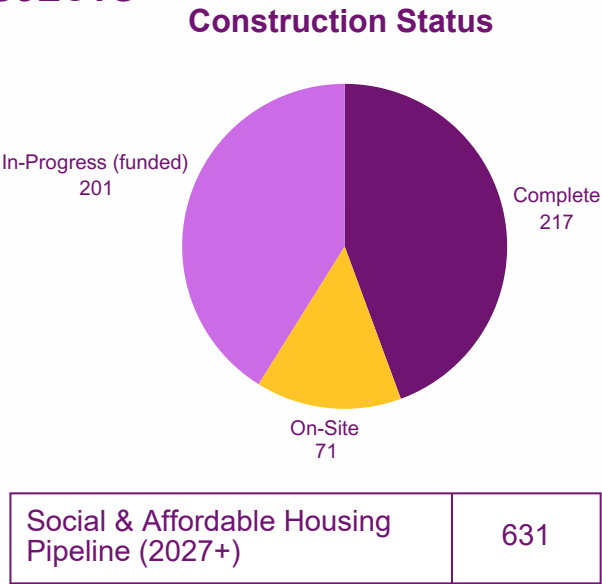
Housing Tenancies 2026 - From the 1st January to 26th January 2026 there were 18 new tenancies.

Area	Re-Lets (Incl. Bays)	Transfers	New Lets	AHBs	MTR	Total
Gorey/Kilmuckridge	1	0	0	0	0	1
New Ross	2	0	0	0	0	2
Enniscorthy	2	0	0	0	0	2
Wexford	1	0	0	5	0	6
Rosslare	1	0	0	6	0	7
TOTAL	7	0	0	11	0	18

Estate Management Cases – Logged between 01/01/2026 and 30/01/2026					
Complaint	Enniscorthy	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	New Ross	Rosslare	Wexford
Abandonment	0	0	1	0	0
Breach of Tenancy	0	5	1	3	7
Damage to Property	0	1	0	0	1
Estate Management	4	3	2	0	0
End of Tenancy	0	0	0	0	0
Unauthorised Occupants	0	1	0	0	1
Verbal Abuse/ Violence/ Harassment/Drugs	1	3	4	1	3
TOTAL	5	13	8	4	12

HOUSING CONSTRUCTION –CAPITAL BUILD PROJECTS

Housing for All 2022 - 2026 SUMMARY	
Dwellings Complete 2022	48
Dwellings Complete 2023	23
Dwellings Complete 2024	54
Dwellings Complete 2025	92
Dwellings to Complete 2026	71
Funded Projects for delivery 2026 / 2027	201



Dwellings Under Construction to complete in 2026

Lacken TAP	1	Monomolin, Gorey	5	Total 71
Killeens, Wexford	60	Ballygillane, Rosslare	5	

Funded Projects for delivery 2026 – 2027					
Bullawn, New Ross	3	Belvedere, Wexford	18	Rosbercon, New Ross	50
Clonard, Wexford	57	Adamstown, New Ross	4	St. Walerans, Gorey (social)	40
Bride Street, Wexford	3	Cluain Fada, New Ross	22	Grogan’s Road, Wexford	4
					Total 201

Projects in Design / Pipeline Social and Affordable Subject to Funding Approval			
Group TAP Housing	5	Kilmore Quay (10 units & 4 serviced sites)	14
Creagh, Gorey	24	Castlemoyle, New Ross	82
The Lyre, Enniscorthy	92	Park, Wexford	12
Bunclody, Enniscorthy (PPP on hold)	65	St Walerans, Gorey (affordables)	35
Ballynagee, Wexford Masterplan (to be phased)	252	Turrett Rocks, Enniscorthy	50
			Total 631

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Local Enterprise Office

Local Enterprise Office Wexford in top 3 nationally supporting the creation of 391 New Jobs in 2025

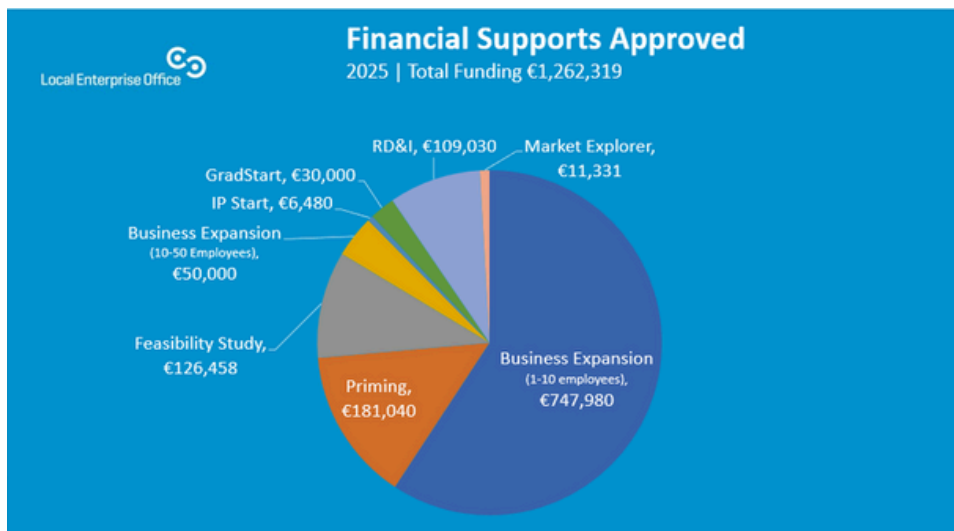
Minister of State for Employment, Small Business and Retail, Alan Dillon, T.D., announced the annual results of the Local Enterprise Offices (LEOs) for 2025 which showed that Local Enterprise Office Wexford supported companies created 391 new jobs in 2025, a net employment gain of 246. This figure represented an increase of 19% on the 329 that were created by LEO Wexford in 2024. The LEO Wexford performance ranks the LEO Wexford 2nd across the LEO Network for net jobs created and 3rd for total new jobs created behind Limerick and Dublin City.



The new figures show that LEO Wexford financially supported 237 small businesses in their portfolio across the county; these companies in turn employ 2,147 people.



The total national figures for the Local Enterprise Offices across the country were announced with the LEOs now financially supporting 40,285 jobs across 7,148 companies. This is the highest level of jobs the Local Enterprise Offices have supported nationally since their inception in 2014.



In 2025, LEO Wexford approved a total of €1,262,319 in Grant Aid to Support Clients in the Manufacturing and Internationally traded Services Sector.



The LEOs also provide substantial support to thousands of other small businesses across the county with programmes such as the Grow Digital Voucher, Lean for Business and Green for Business along with training and mentoring.

Wexford Entrepreneur Kate Wins Sustainability Champion Award at Business of Craft Awards 2026

As part of their national initiative to support design and craft entrepreneurs, the Network of Local Enterprise Offices with Support from Design and Crafts Council and Enterprise Ireland supported businesses from across the country to participate in the prestigious Local Enterprise Showcase Exhibition at Showcase 2026, a significant platform for Local Enterprise Office clients, offering exposure to thousands of national and international buyers.

Wexford craft and design entrepreneur Kate Doyle, founder of EcoKinly in Enniscorthy and client of LEO, won the national title of Sustainability Champion at the Business of Craft Awards announced during the 3 day event, recognising her exceptional commitment to creating high-quality, reusable products that promote sustainable living for families across Ireland.

EcoKinly was one of five Wexford businesses supported by LEO Wexford to feature their products at Showcase 2026, joining Caroline Bergin Art, Potter and Wick /Grainne Moore Pottery, Sully and Juno, and Mavis Nest Cosmetics.



Trinity Wharf

To support the commercial opportunities offered by Trinity Wharf and the associated positive economic benefit for Co Wexford and the South East Region, Wexford County Council launched the next stage in the procurement process for Trinity Wharf on Friday 30th January 2026. The aim of the procurement process is to appoint developers (this may include an investor consortium) who will work in partnership with Wexford County Council to deliver the Trinity Wharf commercial assets.

Using the Competitive Dialogue Procedure under the European Union (Award of Public Authority Contracts) Regulations 2016 (S.I. No. 284 of 2016) (the “Procurement Regulations”, which transposes the requirements of Directive 2014/24/EU (the “Public Sector Directive”) into Irish law), the Competition is being run as a multi-stage procedure. The tender process aims that the contract(s) will be awarded in Q4 2026.

Economic Showcase

An Taoiseach Micheál Martin visited The Hatch Lab in Gorey on the morning of Friday 16th January as part of a programme of engagement with enterprise and business leaders in Co. Wexford.

Welcomed by the Cathaoirleach of Wexford County Council, Cllr. Joe Sullivan, and Cllr. Donal Kenny, Chair of Gorey Kilmuckridge Municipal District, the Taoiseach had an opportunity to meet representatives of companies currently operating from The Hatch Lab, including CSC Global, Qedon, and Activ.ie.



The Taoiseach’s visit to Wexford was an opportunity to shine a spotlight on Wexford and how Wexford County Council support of projects such as the Hatch Lab has contributed significantly to job creation in County Wexford working in partnership with the Model Enterprise Group. WCC was also joined by representatives from Enterprise Ireland and IDA Ireland.

Following the visit to Gorey, the Taoiseach was welcomed by An Cathaoirleach Cllr. Joe Sullivan, Cllr Barbara-Ann Murphy, Chair of Enniscorthy Municipal District, and Minister James Browne, to Enniscorthy Technology Park. Wexford County Council purchased the lands and designated the park to support high growth companies with potential to attract investment and create jobs.



The Taoiseach viewed the new plans with representatives from the IDA and WCC for a new advanced factory which has been lodged for planning permission.

This was followed by a visit to Senan House where the CEO of the High Performance Building Alliance (HPBA) was on hand to discuss the work of the HPBA on promoting sustainability in the built environment and green economy.



High Performance Building Alliance's Net Zero Construction Symposium

The HPBA hosted a highly successful Net Zero Construction Symposium in Wexford on Wednesday, 21st January, gathering leading voices from across Ireland's construction, sustainability, and innovation ecosystems. The event, opened by Cllr. Garry Laffan, Chair of the HPBA Board, brought together an impressive array of technical experts, policymakers, and industry practitioners committed to reshaping Ireland's built environment for a net-zero future. The symposium convened specialists spanning circularity, biobased materials, business support consultancy, modern methods of construction (MMC), supply chain logistics, skills and education, and applied research examining Ireland's pathway to decarbonisation and the modernisation of its housing and construction sectors, especially in the context of accelerating housing delivery amid growing calls for sustainable transformation.

The success of the Net Zero Construction Symposium marked an important step forward both for Wexford's emerging leadership role and for Ireland's wider journey to a resilient, high-performance built environment.



HPBA and Speakers of Symposium in Wexford

Furthering economic and cultural links with China

Building on existing economic and cultural connections with China, Wexford County Council's Economic and Arts Departments in partnership with the Chinese Embassy in Ireland are delighted to mark the Chinese New Year of the Horse Celebrations 2026 in Ireland, with a special performance of the highly renowned Zhejiang Wu Opera Troupe on Wednesday 18th February at 7.30 pm in the National Opera House's O'Reilly Theatre in Wexford. This is the first time this internationally recognised Zhejiang Wu Opera Troupe will have performed in Ireland outside of Dublin.



The Zhejiang Wu Opera Troupe comprises over 30 performers who are travelling from China to Ireland to mark the Chinese New Year Celebrations in Dublin and Wexford in 2026.

TOURISM

‘Tour de Fred Part Deux’ Co. Wexford

T.V. personality Fred Sirieix recently cycled through County Wexford as part of his TV series “Tour de Fred”Part Deux, which followed his very successful first “Tour de Fred” show.



Hook Lighthouse



Irish National Heritage Park



The Village at Wheelock



Kelly's Oysters

Tour de Fred Ireland: Part Deux, is a multi-part travel/gastronomy series where Fred explores the sights and food culture of Southeast Ireland by bicycle. The show aired on the British television channel ITV1 and the online platform ITVM in January 2026. The first episode aired on 10th January 2026, featuring the following locations;

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• JFK Arboretum• Dunbrody Famine Ship• Hook Lighthouse• Johnstown Castle• Irish National Heritage Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kelly Oysters• Slieve Coillte• Enniscorthy• The Village at Wheelock
--	--

The first season of the series was a success, reaching approximately 2 million viewers on television.

Judith Cassidy, Tourism Ireland's Acting Head of Great Britain, noted:

“Following the success of the first series, we are delighted that Fred has returned for ‘Tour de Fred – Part Deux’. His journey through Wexford, Waterford and Cork will highlight not only the stunning scenery and rich heritage of these counties, but also the genuine warmth of the people who call them home. This new series is sure to capture viewers’ imaginations and inspire them to come and explore Ireland for their next holiday.”

Tourism Ireland launches 2026 marketing plans

Tourism Ireland launched their 2026 Marketing Plans at an event in Dublin on Monday 19th January 2026. The event was attended by over 600 tourism stakeholders from around the country. Speaking at the launch, Tourism Minister Peter Burke highlighted tourism’s importance as a key indigenous industry and economic driver and outlined strong government support through the new National Tourism Policy and increased investment in overseas marketing and connectivity.

Alice Mansergh, CEO of Tourism Ireland, outlined ambitions to grow overseas visitor spend through the 2026 Marketing Plans, focusing on market diversification, strategic partnerships, increased promotion for tourism SMEs, and year-round international demand. (Tourism Ireland, 2026).

It is the ambition of Tourism Ireland that Overseas visitor spend on the island of Ireland will grow to €10 billion annually by 2031, an average increase of +6% year on year. They will focus on growth from diverse markets, through strategic partnerships and marketing activity. Tourism Ireland will partner with tourism SMEs, creating +33% more overseas promotional opportunities. Wexford was well represented by stakeholders at the launch event.



Tourism Ireland also unveiled its new global advertising campaign 'Ireland Goes Beyond'. The new campaign celebrates how Northern Ireland and the island of Ireland go beyond people's expectations of a holiday experience, by creating memorable connections with the people and the place.

WCC’s Tourism Officer also had one to one meetings with Tourism Ireland representatives;

ØEileen Pranger, Tourism Ireland Business Partnerships, Great Britain.

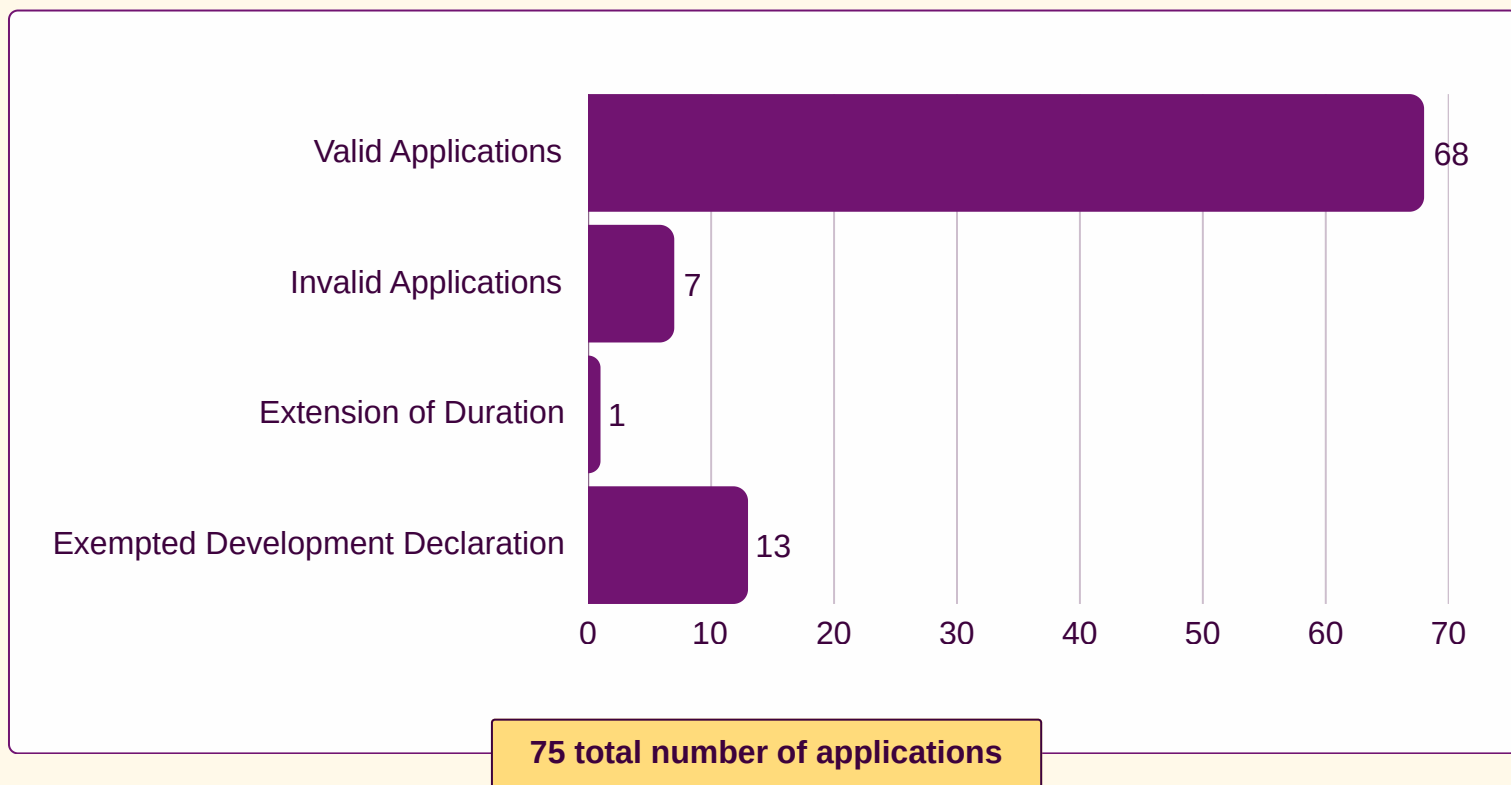
ØSusan Bolger, Tourism Ireland Market Manager for Spain

ØSéverine Lecart, Tourism Ireland Consumer Marketing Manager for France

to look at the success of the initial marketing campaign with the UK and future collaborations with Spain and France. France is a key priority market in view of the Year of the Normans 2027 project.

PLANNING

Planning applications received 1st January 2026 to the 25th January 2026



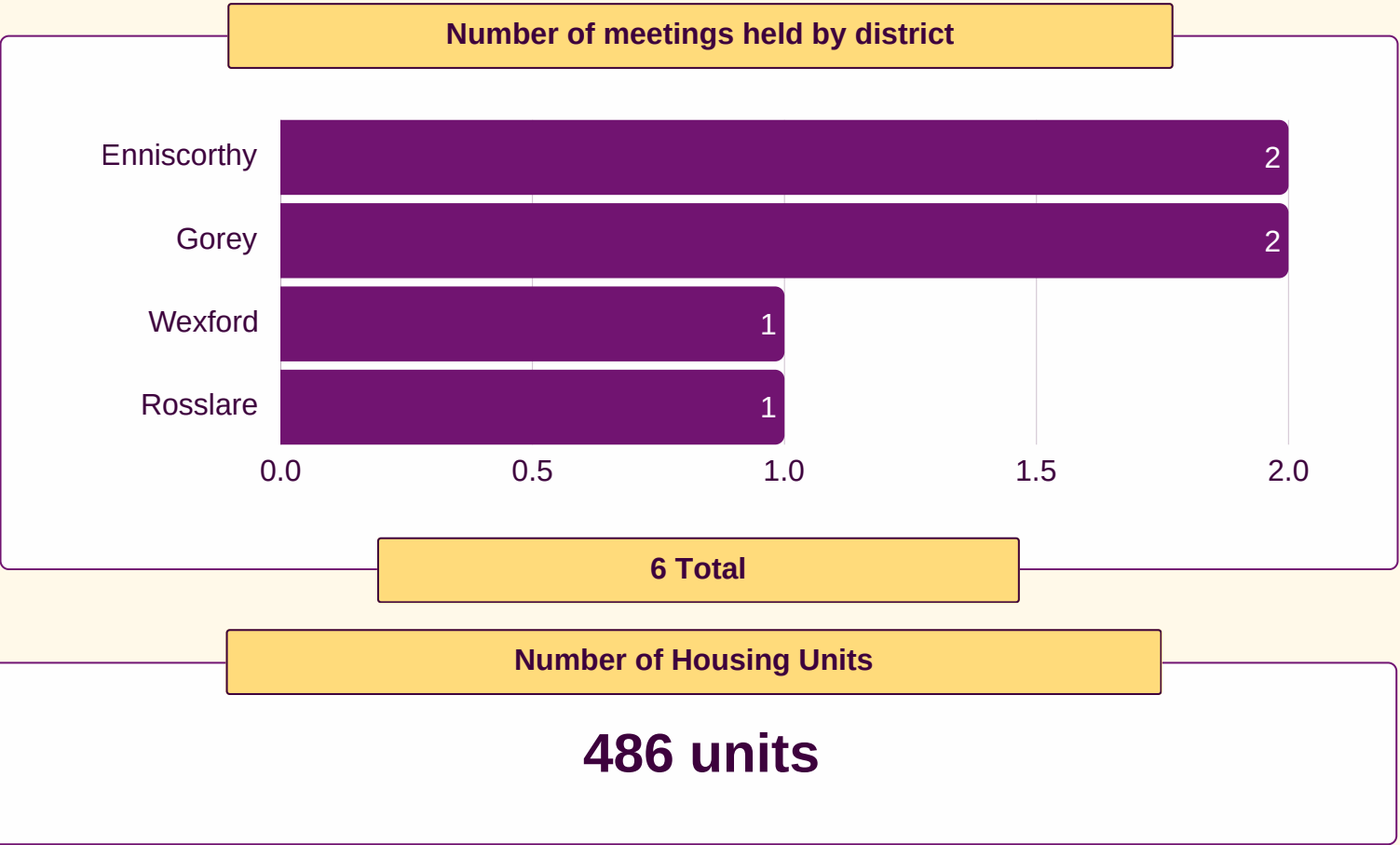
Pre-Planning - applications year to date up to the 26th January 2026

Pre-planning by District	Applications Received	Applications Closed	Open Pre-planning Applications
Enniscorthy MD	7	5	3
Gorey/Kilmuckridge MD	12	15	18
New Ross MD	11	3	10
Rosslare MD	10	4	4
Wexford BD	5	3	6
Total	45	30	41

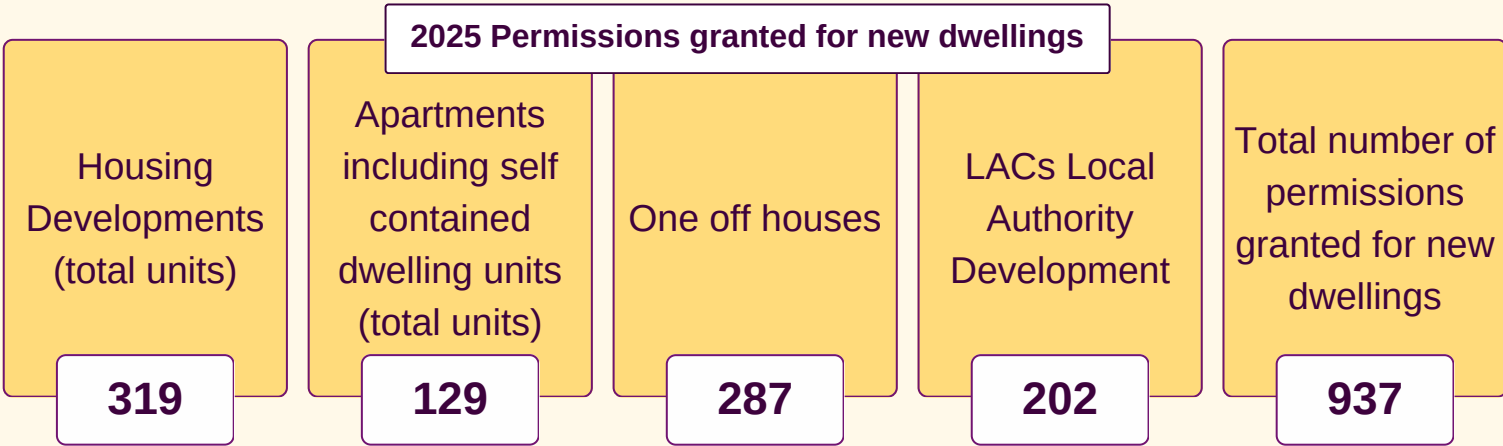
Average days to pre-planning meeting is **32**

PLANNING CONT.

Major Pre-Planning - Year to date to the 25th January 2026



Planning CSO Returns - year to date to the 31st December 2025



Built Heritage Investment Scheme



Wexford has received **€261,989** under the Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2026 and **€46,744** under the BHIS Historic Thatched Buildings Stream. These grants, which are managed by the Heritage Section of Wexford County Council's Planning Dept., will help the owners and custodians of historic buildings to maintain and conserve these important structures.

Forward Planning

Variation No. 1 of the Wexford County Development Plan

The National Planning Framework – First Revision, which issued in April 2025, identified a need to provide 50,000 housing units per annum in the state. The Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage subsequently issued Section 28 Guidelines to implement this target. The Guidelines identify Housing Growth Requirements (HGR) for each County. County Wexford has been allocated the fifth highest percentage increase nationally under the new HGR with an increase from 1,072 units to 1,622 units per annum for the period 2025-2034. To implement the revised Housing Growth Requirements (HGR) arising out of revised National Planning Framework, Wexford County Council will initiate the statutory process for Variation No. 1 of the Wexford County Development Plan. Variation No. 1 amends the Core Strategy and land use zoning and objectives for Enniscorthy and New Ross to replace expire plans. The public display period for Variation No. 1 will run for a 4-week period between mid-February and mid-March, where submission and observations can be made on the proposed land use zonings and core strategy. A series of additional variations are to commence in the coming months, in further response to the National Planning Framework – First Revision.

Planning Enforcement - Year to date up to the 25th January 2026

489

Live cases

18

Cases opened
year to date

4

Cases closed
year to date

Building Control - Year to date up to the 25th January 2026

19

Validated
commencement
notices

24

Building control
inspections

12

Validated cert. of
compliance on
completion

1

Taking in charge
reports sent to
districts

RZLT - Residential Zoned Land Tax

The Final Map for 2026 was published on the 31st January 2026. Owners of such land may make a request to Wexford County Council to change the zoning of this land until 1 April 2026. The tax for 2026 will be due from February and payable to Revenue from 23 May 2026.

The Draft Map for 2027 will be published on the 1st February 2026 which identifies land that may be liable for the tax in 2027. Consultation period will be open from the 1st of February to the 1st of April 2026.

PLANNING CONT.

Dangerous Structures and Places - Year to date up to the 25th January 2026

Notices issued under the Local Government (Sanitary Services) Act 1964

Section 3(1) Notice	Section 3(2) Notice	Live Cases	Files Closed
0	0	16	1



- **Section 3(1) Notice** instructs the owner to carry out works to make the site safe within a timeframe
- **Section 3(2) Notice** the Local Authority carries out the works to make the site safe. The owner is charged the cost of works.

Derelict Sites - Year 2025 to 25th January 2026

149	12	1	300
Sites on the Derelict Site Register	Site inspections/visits carried out	New files opened	Live Cases

Notices issued under the Derelict Sites Act 1990

11 Notices were issued under section 22(2) of the act notifying the owner of site valuation prior to the issue of Derelict Site levies at 7% of the value.

URDF Call 3 - Urban Regeneration Development Fund

193 sites approved on the programme as of the 25th January 2026

19 of the 21 additional properties that were submitted to the Department have been approved, bringing the number of approved sites on the programme from 174 to 193.

- 27 Engagement with Property Owner Commenced
- 4 Process to Purchase Commenced by CPO
- 18 Awaiting initial engagement with property owner
- 4 Property Acquired by LA
- 7 Advertised for sale - property owned by LA
- 80 Brought back into use by Original Owner (closed case)
- 40 Property no longer vacant/derelict following review (closed case)
- 7 Being Dealt with Under Different Programme
- 7 Sold by local authority



PLANNING CONT.

Disability Access Certificates (DACs) Year to date up to the 25th January 2026

Applications for Districts	Total for Districts	Awaiting Assessment	Further Information	Granted	Refused
Enniscorthy	4	0	3	1	0
Gorey	2	0	2	0	0
New Ross	5	0	4	1	0
Wexford	1	0	0	1	0
Rosslare	2	0	2	0	0
Totals	14	0	11	3	0

14 total number of valid DAC applications (including carry over from 2025)

Disability proofing - year to date up to the 25th January 2026

16

LAC/PLAC/LRD and
General Planning Applications

1

Major pre-planning event days

Jam Card Initiative

The JAM Card is a free card or app that helps people with hidden/invisible disabilities or a communication barrier to ask for 'Just A Minute' of patience and support in social or business situations.

To date **530** staff have completed the training here in Wexford County Council, with 221 still to complete so running at just over 70% completed

Civil Defence have 43 out of 70 volunteers completed the training a 61% total completed.



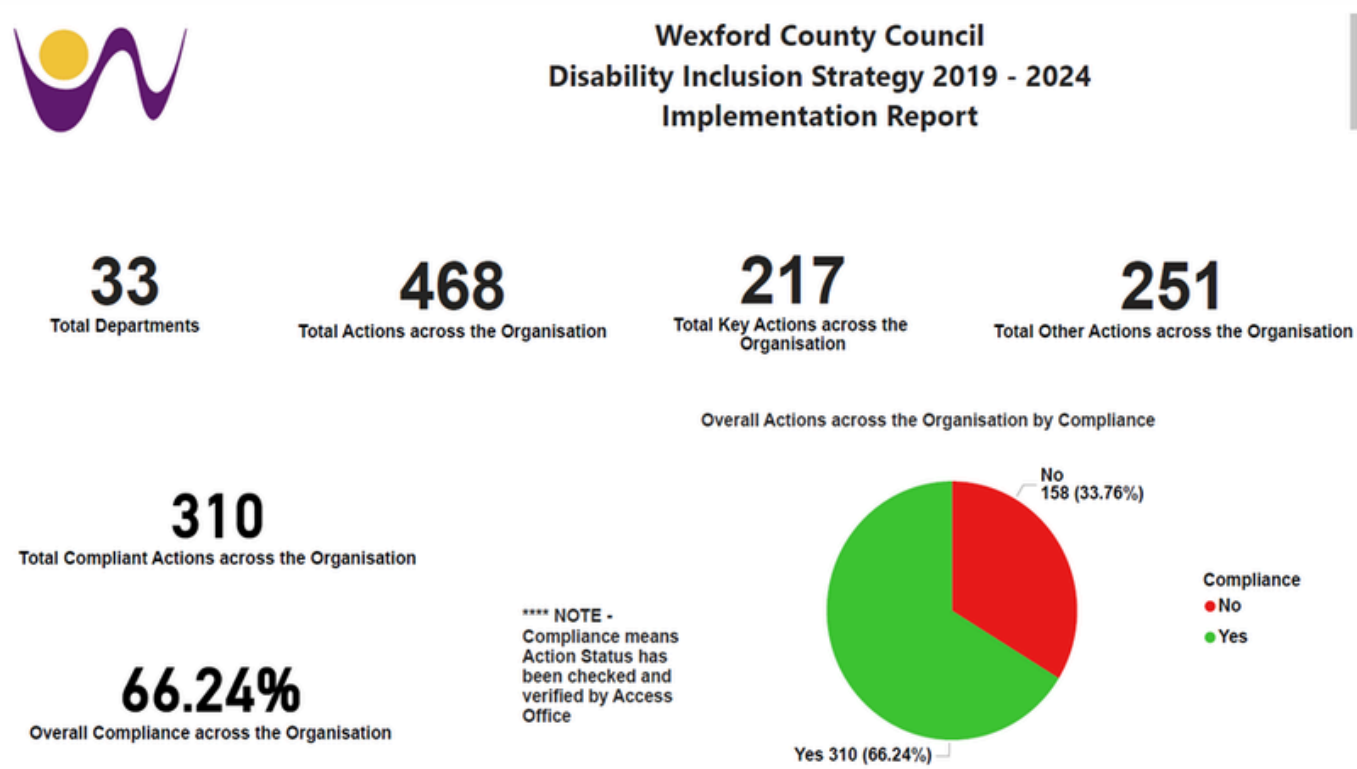
Just a minute

Access Items

Access Activity

Following the launch of the new National Human Rights Strategy for Disabled People 2025-2030 in September 2025, Wexford County Council Access Team, in conjunction with ICT have drafted the final report for the monitoring of our obligations under the previous National Disability Inclusion Strategy.

The extracts below inform of the overall status of WCC in demonstrating compliance based on the entries by each section for actions identified in the National Disability Inclusion Strategy relating to their respective services provision.



REGENERATION UNIT

TOWN CENTRE FIRST

Projects funded under Measures 1,2 and 3 of the 2024 TCF Suite of Supports are now complete and funding drawn down from the DRCDG.

Under Measure 1 Town Teams are established in Castlebridge, Taghmon and Bunclody with meetings scheduled for 2026. We anticipate further roll out of TCF initiatives with these Town Teams in 2026.

Under Measure 2 a Town Centre First Plan is in place for Courtown/Riverchapel and we continue to meet as a Town Team and we will continue to seek funding streams throughout 2026 that will enable us to make this ambitious plan a reality.

Under Measure 3 works are now complete on these project development measures for the St Michaels Theatre New Ross restoration project and Bridgetown water based facility.

A Town Centre First Team meetings are planned for Bunclody, Taghmon, Castlebridge, Courtown/Riverchapel, Enniscorthy and New Ross in February. Further announcements on Town Centre First are expected Nationally in the first quarter of 2026



Vacant Homes

Work is continuing on vacant homes with €9.3m in funding paid to date for 171 vacant properties, which is having a very positive impact on improving vacancy and dereliction throughout the County.

There is strong interest in the recently announced “Vacant above the Shop Grant” and we expect full details of this scheme to issue from the Dept shortly and for it to be operational before end Qtr1 2026.

Croi Conaithe Applications Wexford County Council as at 26-01-26			
Applications Received	569	Awaiting Approval	0
Inspections Required (First)	13	Applications Rejected	7
Inspections Required (Final)	10	Applications Approved In Principle	2
Applications Info Requested	126	Withdrawn By Applicant	13
Applications Approved	423	Funding Issued	171
Total Funding Paid to Date		€9,399,954.40	
Total Funding Approved in Principle		€24,257,852.00	

WATER SERVICES

Multi Annual Rural Water Programme	
Measure 3 – Enhancement of Existing Schemes including Water Conservation	Blackstairs GWS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caim Tank – Works complete. • Reservoir Bypass - Drawdown complete for stage 1 payment. Recouped from Dept. • Majority of funding expected to be claimed and recouped by Q2 2026.
MARWP 2024-2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding approval – €1.2 million for the upgrade of 3.9km Watermain for Blackstairs GWS. • Topographical Survey carried out • Detail design ongoing • Site Investigations contract preparation underway • Notification from DHLGH received stating that Kilanerin funding for nitrate treatment not approved. • Notification from DHLGH received stating that Blackstairs funding for treatment tank and plant upgrade works not approved.
Measure 8 – Individual wells (private or household wells)	Individual Well Grants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 25 new well grant applications were registered in January 2026. • 27 Well Grants have been paid in this period, totalling €56,716.68. • 61 inspections to date carried out to date in January 2026. <p>Total paid out for Well Grants for 2025 is <u>€607,617.05</u></p>
Group Water Scheme Subsidies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subsidy A (payable towards the general operational and management costs of all types of GWS's: € 347,388.21 paid 2025. Reminder letters being sent to GWSs to apply for this years subsidy. • Subsidy B (payable (in addition to Subsidy A) towards O&M costs associated with “bona fide” DBO contracts for GWS's NFGWS have sent on validated figures for Q4 2025. Payments to schemes in progress • Applications for Grant towards Capital Replacement Costs of the DBO GWSs now under review. <p>Total Subsidies Paid to GWS for 2025 is € 725,522.28</p>
Measure A8 – Wastewater Collection & Treatment Needs for Villages & Settlements without access to Public Wastewater Service	New Advance Phase of MARWP 2022-2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ramsgrange – €8.1 Million funding approved to Wexford County Council • Wexford County Council to meet with Uisce Eireann and DHLGH in Q1 2026 to discuss responsibilities
Lead Remediation Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 applications received to date on revised grant, 8 paid, 2 approved but have yet to submit claim for works complete.
Compliance monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 168 private supplies on register for compliance monitoring. • 434 investigative and compliance samples tested. • All but one supply tested at least once (due to seasonality of businesses)

DPI Resolution Project					
	Name	Towland	Expecting Costings	75% Funding Provided	Project Completion/ Programme
DPI Resolution Programme 2019-2021	Cois Cuan	Arthurstown	€152,475	€114,356	Q2 2026
	Kyles Close	Oulart	€107,153	€80,365	Q2 2026
	Mountain View	Ballindaggin	€208,016	€156,012	Q4 2026
	Gleann na gCaor	Monageer	€302,878	€227,159	Q4 2027
DPI Resolution Programme 2023	Beach View	Duncannon	€72,300	€54,225	Q2 2026
	Farrin Carraig	Duncannon	€202,986	€152,240	Q2 2026
	Beechfields	Ballaghkeen	€353,968	€265,476	Q4 2027

- **Cois Cuan, Farrin Carraig & Beach View** – Planning process complete, tender package ready to be circulated to contractors. Critical Path - Awaiting Uisce Eireann engagement.
- **Stonebrook** submitted to Planning for Part XI Planning Approval
- **Kyle Close** submitted to Planning for Part XI Planning Approval.
- **Critical Path** - Awaiting substantial engagement from Uisce Eireann regarding DPI Resolution and connection agreements

ROADS & TRANSPORTATION

MAJOR NATIONAL ROADS PROJECTS

N11/N25 Oilgate to Rosslare Harbour - The Project is in Phase 3 – Design and Environmental Evaluation.

- Project design is progressing, with additional work underway to address Service Area requirements, Active Travel provisions, and Biodiversity considerations.
- Preliminary design of the River Slaney Bridge and the associated Railway Protection Structure (RPS) at the river crossing has commenced. Preparation of the Maritime Usage Licence (MUL) and Maritime Area Consent (MAC) applications are ongoing.
- Updates to the traffic modelling are nearing completion, and environmental surveys remain ongoing.
- Consultation with directly affected landowners is continuing.
- A Real Estate Valuation of the proposed alignment is underway.
- Work on the Environmental, Planning, Design, and other supporting reports is also progressing.

N25 Rosslare Europort Access Road - The project is currently in Phase 5 – Enabling and Procurement.

- Negotiations between real estate valuers and landowners regarding Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) compensation are ongoing.
- Procurement documents for the appointment of Technical Advisors for Phases 6 and 7 have been published on 23rd January 2026, with the return date of 23rd February 2026.
- Procurement documents for the appointment of the Main Construction Contractor have also been completed, and a request to publish the tender has been submitted to TII for formal approval.
- On-site works under the Archaeological Services (Stages I–IV) contract commenced on 19th January 2026 and are due for completion on 3rd February.

NATIONAL ROAD PAVEMENT SCHEMES

SAFETY SCHEMES

National Road	Progress update
N25 Tagoat	Scheme is in detailed design phase.
N30 Leeches Bend West of Clonroche	Works are substantially complete
N25 Larkins Cross	Stage 1 Safety Audit is complete. Proceeding to planning consent phase in Q2/26.

2026 Pavement Schemes - 2026 allocation is pending.

HD28 Pavement Improvements 2025

The following schemes have been identified for surface course replacement for 2025

- N11 Oylegate to Scurlocksbush Roundabout. 1.7km – contractors appointed, Civils works are mostly complete, pavement works will commence once road surface temperatures rise sufficiently.
- N30 Ballymackesy 1.0km – Awaiting confirmation of allocation for 2026
- N30 Leeches Bend includes a HD28 allocation – works complete
- Retexturing of Traffic Lanes for 2.35km on the N11 and N30 – works complete

REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROADS

Notification of the Regional and Local Road Grant 2026 is pending from the Department of Transport.

Storm Chandra, Tuesday 27th January 2026

The county was significantly affected by flooding as a result of Storm Chandra, particularly Enniscorthy, Bunclody and Bridgetown.

An assessment of damage to roads and bridge structures is being carried out across the county.

Specific Improvement Grant

This scheme includes the Wexford, Edermine and Kildavin (Murntown) Bridge Remediation Project. Roughan O'Donovan Consulting Engineers are now appointed to progress this scheme. The works involve bridge inspections, overseeing site investigations and undertaking necessary designs for remediation works.

Winter Maintenance

The Winter Service Plan came into effect on Monday 13th October 2025 and continues to Thursday 30th April 2026.

Salting carried out 30 days to date this season.

ACTIVE TRAVEL UPDATE

Pathfinder projects	
Project & Location	Project Update
Newtown Road Phase 1	A recent survey of motorists’ speed confirmed that comparing the collected data from the 2022 traffic survey and most recent data concluded; Overall the P1 works have been very successful, reducing vehicle speeding and increasing the number of pedestrians and cyclists.
Newtown Road Phases 2 & 3	NTA has given approval to proceed to construction, and issue successful unsuccessful letters. A contractor is recommended to be appointed for the works. Contracts will be signed once procurement standstill period expires.
Hospital Junction Newtown Road	Hospital Junction currently in detail design stage. Advance works involving tree removal to SW boundary began in Dec 25 with further works including the construction of a new wall to begin shortly.
Beechlawn/Clonard Cycle Scheme	Propose to complete permeability paths and front of school works at Kennedy Park School in 2026.
Roxborough Cycle Scheme	CCTV works completed. Planning Part 8 to be completed this year.

Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA)

Enniscorthy Town - Report currently in final draft format, awaiting final review responses from statutory bodies.

Wexford Town - Report currently in final draft format, awaiting review responses from statutory bodies.

Safe Routes to School Schemes (SRS) - The following sites were approved by NTA for funding in 2026:

No.	School	Roll No.	Eircode
1	Kennedy College , New Ross	71660T	<u>Y34 YW08</u>
2	St. Fintan’s NS. Taghmon	17443F	<u>Y35 NP27</u>
3	St . Anne's NS Rathangan	19317K	<u>Y35KT65</u>

Bus Stop Enhancement Scheme - Wexford Co Co have been allocated €500,000 in 2026 for the BSEP scheme. Site surveys of preferred bus shelter locations currently underway in advance of design, application for funding and procurement. Bus shelters are supplied by the NTA and initial delivery of the shelter units for Ireland is April 2026. Works are planned in conjunction with public transport operators on serviced routes.

Active Travel Newsletter - We have launched our “Active Travel Newsletter” to promote all things active travel in County Wexford. This quarterly newsletter will include the latest updates on active travel schemes, public consultations, hints & tips, safety campaigns, etc.

e-Scooter Safety Campaign

Cycling, pedestrian and e-scooter safety has been incorporated into the “Just 1 Life” programme, with the first presentation made to transition year students on 21st January in the National Opera House.

PUBLIC LIGHTING

Public Lighting Development Fund - The following are schemes are being progressed at present:

Scheme	Current Position	Detail to Progress
Saltmills Village	ESB connection applied for awaiting completion of installation	Civil work to be completed next week, ESB connection awaited.
Ballycullane Village	Prices returned and contractor appointed	Contractor appointed, installation to commence February.
Auburn Avenue, New Ross	Awaiting ESB connection	Installation completed by contractor, awaiting ESB connection
Maudlins to Millhouse Care Centre, New Ross	ESB application submitted.	Contractor appointed, works to commence February.
Kilhile Arthurstown	Design returned, awaiting pricing	Further information sought from contractors on design.
Glentire Heights to the Ballagh Village	Works Ongoing	Works 90% completed.
Kiltealy Village	Works Ongoing	Works 80% completed.
Kilrane Manor, Kilrane	All lights replaced with LED lanterns.	Complete
Sean O Byrne Park, Gorey	Installation complete, awaiting ESB connection.	Complete
Clonattin Road, Gorey	Installation completed, ESB connected	Complete
South Quay, New Ross	Out for design and pricing	Assess tenders for replacement of old decorative lighting
Midletown, Riverchapel	ESB connection made in December.	Operational
Carnew Road, Gorey	Works completed, awaiting ESB connection.	Awaiting ESB connection

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Projects at Planning Stages

Project Name	Status	New Monthly Update: January 2026
Ballast Office- a)Essential repair Work	Tender Stage	Construction scheduled to commence February 2026. Completion is expected in May.
b)Refurbishment	Planning Stage	Initial investigations are being carried out into the potential suitability of the building for use as the Borough District of Wexford Offices.
Ballynagee Link Road	Design Stage	Fencing to secure the site is due to be completed in Q1 2026. Surveys and Ground investigation works are anticipated to commence in Q1 2026.
Carrigfoyle Activity Centre Building	Planning Stage	No update
Courtown Coastal Protection & Beach Nourishment Scheme	Planning Stage	It has been agreed to include a LIDO (salt water pool) into the scheme. Submission to ACP will follow receipt of an MAC from MARA, expected towards the end of 2026.
Dunbrody Centre and Extension	Detail Design	Conroy Architects have appointed to design, procure and supervise construction of the works. Site investigations (site survey, trial holes, bore holes etc.) are underway and hope to be concluded in Q1 2026
Enniscorthy Flood Relief Scheme		No update
Phase 1-New River Slaney Bridge Project	Design Phase	An application to MARA for the MAC for Phase 1 is to be submitted in March 2026., Application to ACP for consent will follow following receipt of the MAC (anticipated Q1 2027).
Phase 2		Stage 1 Etenders notice for Prequalification of consultants for Phase 2 is planned to issue w/c/ 9/2/2026. A submission to OPW seeking funding for implementation for interim flood relief measures will be submitted end February.
Enniscorthy Technical Park Access Road Phase 2 420827	Design stage	It is anticipated the tender for construction works will be published in February 2026.
Enniscorthy Technical Park IDA Tech Building 420847	Design stage	The planning application was submitted in December 2025.
Enniscorthy- (A) Town Centre & Tourism Project	Preliminary Design stage	Consultants for detailed design, procurement and works supervision will be procured in tandem with consultants for the Templeshannon scheme. Consultants will be procured using a two-stage process. Stage 1, invitation to pre-qualify, will be advertised in February 2026.
(B) Templeshannon Regeneration Project.		Consultants for preliminary design, planning, detailed design, procurement and works supervision will be procured in tandem with consultants for the Market Square scheme. A consultant framework agreement is to be established on foot of this contract award for use in future Public Realm projects. Consultants will be procured using a two-stage process. Stage 1, invitation to pre-qualify, will be advertised in February 2026
Esmonde Street, Gorey	Tender Stage	Construction works on-site expected to start in February 2026.

CAPITAL PROJECTS - At Planning Stage cont'd

Project Name	Status	New Monthly Update: January 2026
Gorey Market House	Design Stage	Surveys to inform the detailed design are largely complete. Stage 1 (prequalification) of main works tender has been completed with 5no. Contractors shortlisted It is anticipated the main works tender package will be issued to the shortlisted contractors in March 2026.
Gorey Relief Road, Ballytegan Avenue (St Waleran's Link Road)	Design Stage	It is anticipated that the full scheme will progress through Part 8 pre-planning in January 2026 and be submitted for development consent via Part 8 in May 2026. Irish Rail approvals process requires an Irish Rail Pre-Project Assessment to be completed. It is likely the application for this will be submitted in Q1 2026.
John Street Grain Store, New Ross	Planning	A completed planning pack to facilitate an application for development consents for a new public realm to the rear of the property is expected to be submitted to An Coimisiun Pleanála in February 2026.
Riverchapel Community Centre	Design stage	No Update
Wexford Town to Rosslare Greenways	Route Options Stage	Options Selection Report Peer review completed. The Preferred Route Corridor report has been received for Rosslare Strand to Rosslare Harbour. A public information event is being planned for February to announce this. Additional flood modelling is currently ongoing prior to finalising the preferred route corridor for Wexford Town to Rosslare Strand.
Wexfordia		
Irish National Heritage Park	Preliminary Design	A design for a new Visitor Centre to support service requirements at the INHP and to mitigate against future flood events- is now complete. It is planned to submit a planning application for the entire project to An Coimisiún Pleanála in Q3 2026, subject to the receipt of a Marine Area Consent from MARA.
Hook Lighthouse	Preliminary Design	The current design was presented to the Board of Hook Heritage Ltd. at a special Board meeting held in November 2025. Irish Lights have also been consulted on the design. Further environmental assessments are ongoing which may affect the location and final design of the centre on the Hook Lighthouse campus.
New Ross Tourism Project:	Preliminary Design	An application for additional funding for completion of the centre was forwarded to the DCRDG in December 2025. The Norman centre will be an important element in the European wide celebration of the 1000th Anniversary of the birth of William the Conqueror, the first Norman King of England. The Stage 1 (prequalification) advert for the main works contract was published in Q4 2025 and assessment is now complete. The Stage 2 tender documents were circulated to the shortlisted tenderers in Q4 2025 with a current tender return date of February 12th.

Projects Under Construction

Project Name	Status	New Monthly Update: January 2026
Adoration Convent	Construction Stage	Works are progressing well onsite & completion is scheduled for January 2027.
Enniscorthy Sports Hub 420330	Construction Stage	Works are progressing and currently on programme for completion in September 2026

PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Project Name	Status	New Monthly Update: February 2026
Ferndale Gymnasium	Construction Stage	Works are currently expected to be complete in Q1 2026. The completion of the Project is contingent on the ESB and Uisce Eireann connections.
SouthEast Greenway		
Lot 1, Lot 2, Lot 3	Complete	No Update
Rosbercon Trailhead	Preliminary Design	Part 8 process for Rosbercon Trailhead is due to commence in Feb. 2026
Lot 4	Detailed Design	Tender for the main works contract is due to be advertised in Mar. 2026
Lot 4a	Preliminary Design	No Update
Lot 5a	Under construction	We await completion and handover of an access ramp on the North Quays Project to enable us open this section of greenway. Our latest information is that this will happen in March 2026
Lot 5b ,Lot 6,Lot 7	Detailed Design	Site investigation works are ongoing. Detailed design ongoing.
Lot 8	Preliminary Design	No update
Lot 9	Detailed Design	No update
Trinity Wharf	Detailed Design Stage	Irish Rail works are ongoing to construct a new automated level crossing pending the licence agreement confirmation. The deadline for receipt of Stage 1 (pre-qualification)submissions for the next site development works contract (Phase 1A) is 6th February 2026.
Wexford Town and Environs Flood Relief Scheme	Design Stage	Modelling of the current conditions is almost complete, and the scheme will be moving to optioneering in the coming weeks.
Funding & Development Schemes		
Town & Village Renewal Scheme (TVRS) 2025	n/a	The Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, Dara Calleary TD announced on Monday, 22 December 2025 funding of €26 million for 116 projects in rural communities across the country. 5 out of the 6 projects were allocated funding.
Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS)	n/a	<p>These projects have a 24mth timeframe for delivery and will be delivered in collaboration with the local community groups.</p> <p>The following are the successful projects in Wexford:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct roadside trail Coolgreany village to Ballyfad Wood-€197,416 Construct roadside path from Lobster Pot to Carne completing the link from Our Lady's Island to Carne- €500,000. Construction of 1km trail between Wellingtonbridge village and Little Sea Viewing area-€200,000. <p>Wexford Total :€897,416</p>
Rural Regeneration Development Fund (RRDF)	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RRDF (Cat 2) funding approval for Europe's Gateway to Ireland - Rosslare's Sustainable Tourism Experience was announced by Dara Calleary, T.D., Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht on 10th Oct 2025. Coastal Destination Courtown Project was not successful in this round of funding

HEALTHY WEXFORD

Health Home Environments

As part of our activity planning for 2026, Healthy Wexford have sent out an Expression of Interest for community groups to host a Healthy Home Environments Information Series in their communities.

This Healthy Ireland funded programme, developed in Wexford, provides information on how to make your home a healthier place to live in from preventative health actions to ensuring healthy living spaces.

FIT FARMER APP

This Healthy Ireland funded programme, developed in Wexford, provides information on how to make your home a healthier place to live in from preventative health actions to ensuring healthy living spaces.

On 12th January the Healthy County Coordinator attended the Wexford IFA meeting in Enniscorthy to highlight the recent addition of the Wexford specific page. A five minute pre-recorded presentation on the App from founder Laura Tully was shown – <https://youtu.be/dvHiKbtiY7A>



COMMUNITY RECOGNITION FUND

CRF23 Progress to date

Total Fund	€1,509, 869.00
Total fund expenditure to date (86%)	€1,291,978.69 (incl. WCC Admin)
Works complete (24no. of 27no. projects)	89%
Works in progress (0no. projects)	0%
Projects to be started (2no. projects – DRCD granted extensions to April 2026) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Kilmuckridge Playground, (Gorey Kilmuckridge MD) – April 2026 new extensionRiverchapel Community Complex, (Gorey Kilmuckridge MD) – April 2026 new extension	7%
Projects cancelled by Community Group (1no. funding decommitted) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Fethard Community Development Assoc. (New Ross MD)	4%
Total of fund claimed to Q4 2025 from Dept.	€1,099,751.90 (73%)

CRF24 Progress to date

Total Fund	€1,703,377.00
Total fund expenditure to date (68%)	€1,156,002.87 (incl. WCC Admin)
Works complete (8no. of 22no. projects)	36%
Works in progress (9no.)	41%
Projects to be started (5no. projects)	23%
Total of fund claimed to Q4 2025 from Dept.	€1,077,692.24 (63%)

LOCAL ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMME

LOCAL ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMME



**CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF COMPLETED APPLICATIONS IS 27TH FEBRUARY 2026 AT 17:00HRS**

Wexford County Council and Wexford LCDC invite applications for the **Local Enhancement Programme (LEP) 2026**, funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development & Gaeltacht. A total of **€253,226** of funding is available for community groups and disadvantaged areas.

The LEP aims to support community groups by funding repairs, facility improvements, and equipment purchases, especially in disadvantaged areas. It also aligns with Local Economic Community Plans (LECPs) to strengthen community bonds and services. Funding is capped at €5,000 per group for capital projects. 30% of the fund is ringfenced for projects of <€1,000.

This is a capital funding stream **ONLY**. Non-pay operational running costs are **NOT** eligible.

Online application forms and programme guidelines are available at www.wexfordcoco.ie/lep or for queries please call **053-919 6851** or email community@wexfordcoco.ie.



LEP Newspaper Advertisement 26/01/2026

LEP 2026 Launched:

Total Wexford allocation from DRCDG Local Enhancement Programme Fund 2026 - €253,226.56

Projected funding timeline and activity for 2026:

- Special Meeting Wexford LCDC (13/01/26) ratified LEP 2026 criteria
- LEP 2026 (Wexford) funding launched, via online application portal (www.wexfordcoco.ie/lep) – 23/01/26
- LEP Application Closing Date (Wexford) – 27/02/26
- WCC LEP proposal to DRCDG – 03/05/26
- Dept final awarding of the LEP funding can take a further 6+ weeks. The national announcement of awards last year was 12/06/25.

LEP 2025 Review:

Total Wexford allocation from DRCDG Local Enhancement Programme Fund 2025 - €253,227.56.

Last year's baseline had over 340no. applications; with 196no. (57%) successful applications.

- 123no. Capital Funding (€1,765 avg.) = Total €217,052.00 (86% of total fund).
- 73no. non-pay operational running costs (max. €500) = Total €36,175.00 (14% of total fund).
- 182no. (93%) projects completed and claimed.
- 4no. projects decommitted by applicants.
- 5no. new projects awarded from the decommitted funding. Deadline January 2026

Additional Sports Active Activities

Playground Leaders	3 Schools participated in the playground leader workshop in January: Kilnarnagh NS (Boys 12, Girls 8), St. John of Gods (Boys 10, Girls 10), St. Leonard's
Balance Bike Workshop	8 Schools have registered for the Balance Bike Teacher Training Workshop in St. Joseph's Community Centre.
Cornmarket Women's Group	The Cornmarket project supports individuals with addiction and criminal involvement. 10 females participated in a 6-week Pilates block in Marathon Fitness, Wexford.
Cornmarket mixed men & women group	6 individuals have participated in a strength and conditioning 6-week block with Marathon Fitness.
ChairFit	5 women participated in this ChairFit strength and mobility exercise programme in Enniscorthy.



Balance Bike Teacher Training Workshop in St Joseph's Community Centre

LOCAL AUTHORITY INTEGRATION TEAM (LAIT)

Nollaig Na mBan 6th of January

The LAIT organised a Nollaig Na mBan event to acknowledge and celebrate the women of Wexford. The event was attended by Cathaoirleach of Enniscorthy Municipal District Barbara Ann Murphy, Councillor Catherine Walsh, women living under International Protection, along with representatives from Wexford Volunteer Centre, Wexford Local Development (WLD), Friends of Refugees, the Dignity Partnership, Wexford Migrant Health team and the School of Sanctuary.



Councillor Catherine Walsh spoke about the importance of women's voices and emphasised that everyone has a place within the Wexford community. Rosemary from Dignity Partnership highlighted the importance of amplifying migrant women's voices and encouraged women to take opportunities to engage within their communities and help shape the future.

Wexford Volunteer Centre (WVC) and LAIT

The LAIT team attended workshop organised by WVC to exchange experiences and needs of immigrants in Wexford County and look forward to partnering with WVC on a number of projects in 2026.

Wexford Volunteer Centre (WVC) and LAIT - The LAIT team attended workshop organised by WVC to exchange experiences and needs of immigrants in Wexford County and look forward to partnering with WVC on a number of projects in 2026.

Clinics - LAIT continued to support IPAS and BOTP with regular clinics We have hosted 11 clinics in the community in the first three weeks of the year. LAIT have assisted 98 individuals this month with various needs from IPAS and BOTP centres.

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP



A meeting of the Wexford LCSP took place on 29th of January 2026. Ciara Rochford Community Department has been appointed as Temporary Administrator to assist in the administration of the Partnership. The Council’s website has also been updated with the work of the partnership under the heading Local Community Safety Partnership.



A workshop was held with the LGBTQIA+ community on Saturday the 24th Jan 2026 at Wexford Arts centre to discuss community safety issues. The results of these findings will inform the Partnerships 3-year Community Safety Plan. Further workshops with vulnerable groups such as members of the Traveller Community are currently at the planning stage.

FAILTE IRELAND FESTIVAL GRANT SCHEME

The Failte Ireland Festival Grant Scheme for 2026 have been selected, 10 festivals have been funded through this scheme and will run over the course of 2026 around county Wexford.

North Wexford Traditional Singing Festival	The Eugene O’Neill International Festival of Theatre
The Great Revival Fair	Blackstairs Blues Festival
Wexford Uke Festival	Leo Carthy Weekend
Tomhaggard Clean Coasts Connection Fest	Duncannon Village Summer Festival
Festival of Ferns	Rosslare Harbour Festival

Age Friendly

Members of Older People Council Audit of Gorey Library - In January two members of the Older Person Council took part in an Audit of Gorey Library. Accessibility in the library was highlighted in general, with many service users unaware of the height adjustable counters in the library. Updated signage to promote accessible services was observed in the audit.

The Older Person Council had a training session with Caroline Brogan the Regional Age Friendly Manager, to support shared learning and discussion on creating inclusive, accessible communities for older people



UKRAINIAN RESPONSE UNIT

Accommodation

The team continue to place displaced Ukrainian families who are Beneficiaries of Protection Orders (BOTP's) in properties across Wexford, in both rural and urban areas.

<i>Pledge Type</i>	<i>Number of Properties</i>	<i>Number of People Placed</i>
Offer a Home	285	838
Irish Red Cross	32	102

Ukraine Refurbishment Programme

All six Refurbishment Programme properties are now open and operational.

Name	Occupancy	Capacity
Carne Accommodation Centre, Centre	56	68
Unity Court, Wexford	441	57
Michael Street, Wexford	8	19
Borromount Lodge, Enniscorthy	5	37
Rafter Street, Enniscorthy	6	15
Ryland Road, Bunclody	13	21

WEXFORD SLÁINTECARE HEALTHY COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME (SHCP)

Ministers Visit Temple Templeshannon Community and Childcare Centre

Templeshannon Community and Childcare Centre in Enniscorthy hosted a visit on 22nd January by Minister Norma Foley, accompanied by Minister James Brown, to highlight the wonderful, community-led work being carried out at the centre and its positive impact on children, families and the wider area.

Wexford County Council, along with partner agencies and members of the local community, were pleased to attend and were delighted to have the opportunity to meet with the Ministers and engage in constructive discussion on the importance of community and childcare supports for the town.



ENVIRONMENT

COASTAL MATTERS

Seaview Coastal Protection project is in its final stage with beach access has now commenced. Precast concrete segments for the beach access are now half complete. Project completion April 2026.

Fethard Harbour New Slipway and Beach Access - The Department of Environment, Climate and Communications is in the process of finalising a decision on this project The revised Natura Impact Statement (NIS) is being reviewed by the Foreshore license section.

Kilpatrick awaiting AA Screening Report, Hydraulic & Survey reports from consultant.

Killmannock Drainage works: Wayleave application is being progressed to access drainage works area.

Ballyhack & Passage East Car Ferry Infrastructure: AYESA consultant has been appointed and kick off meeting took place on 10th December 2025

Rosslare CRFRS: Ongoing, no date fixed for 2nd Public Participation Day yet, likely to be Q1/ Q2 2026.

Cahore North Beach Rock Armour Enhancement: Preliminary drawing and ecology reports prepared, Public Information evening has taken place on Monday 15th December 5pm to 7pm Ballygarrett GAA club. Drawings to be updated and site marked out. Works now due to be carried out Q3 2026.

Duncannon Old Pier - Truir Construction Ltd now appointed, works ongoing.

Operations -

Pre-planning meeting held with MARA for the reconciliation application for New Ross Marina and debris boom. Application almost complete rechecking possibility of any initial planning circa 2002/ 2003 with Municipal office. Application to be submitted shortly.

MWP have asked for an update on status of Marine Usage License (MUL) application for the Barrow pre dredging surveys. No definitive timeline from MARA. No further update.

Explosive bye laws met with the Dept. of Justice last week. Preparing all final submission of information to them after which they will be sent for Minister approval.

Hydrographic Services contract awarded on 23rd January to Hydro Master Ltd.

Public Conveniences

- Cahore PC: Carpark surfacing, white lining and bollards completed by Contractor.
- Carne PC: Contractor completed the upgrade of toilet facilities.

Septic Tank Inspections

NIP Grants 2025	December 2025 - 3 applications & January - 0 to date (23/1/2026)	2025 - Total €541,095.66	0 outstanding from 2025 for review/documents
-----------------	--	--------------------------	--

No of Verification Inspections

2025 - Verification Inspections = 91	2026 - Verification Inspections = 6
--------------------------------------	-------------------------------------

Court cases

- 5 cases Currently in the court system for failing to comply with Advisory Notices
- 3 new cases have been issued in this period
- 10 cases closed prior to court hearing as work was already carried out.

Ongoing Inspections

- 65 cases closed in year up till the end of December 2025. 6 cases closed in 2026. There are currently 117 open cases.
- All files for 2018 & 2020 are now closed.
- 125 new inspections have been carried out for 2025. 44 passed and 81 failed.
- There were 17 direct discharges to water and 10 discharges onto the surface of the ground noted.
- NIP inspections will continue in 2026 in Piercetown/Murrintown area & Lady’s Island area. 11 inspections have been booked in for February 2026.
- A stand giving out information on septic tank maintenance was at the Bannow Rathangan Show and Climate Action nights in Clonroche and Kilanerin.

Discharge Licences - Currently there are 88 active Section 4 Discharge Licences with scheduled annual, biannual, quarterly, bi-monthly and monthly returns in respect of each individual Licence. The monitoring returns on receipt are assessed by Environmental Technical Staff and actively pursued to address any ongoing issues arising from exceedances in chemical/microbiological and flow parameters as laid down in the Discharge Licence for the site.

No. of Monitoring Submission Returns 1st January to 20th January 2026	123
---	-----

Low Smoke Fuel Areas - The 5 stations in Bunclody, New Ross, Wexford, Enniscorthy & Gorey have now had their monitors updated to measure air quality and noise levels. A new station has been installed in Bunclody and is fully operational. The 18 low-cost sensors installed in Enniscorthy monitoring PM10 & PM2.5 have been removed to be calibrated. 6 low-cost sensors will be reinstalled in Wexford Town in 2026. The TownAir Project to monitor gases NOx, SO2, CO has now been completed. This will be compared with 2016 levels taking during the SAFFIRE project. The project team will give an update once the work is completed. There have been 15 inspections of premises / forecourts / shops who are all selling compliant products.

Air -Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC’s)

DECO Paints: Auto-Refinishers Q4 Website Compliance Register will be updated in December. Site inspections are ongoing, 8 re-Certified since September. 3 Sites identified for enforcement in Q4 report that they have ceased operating, WCC will continue to monitor status. 1 un-registered site inspected in December.

Dry Cleaners: 5 Dry-Cleaners currently registered, 5 of whom are Certified. 2 non-registered premises identified 1 has been Inspected and is now undertaking assessment for certification. 1 inspected in December.

Petrol Stations -PVE emissions: Stage 1 testing & compliance: 9 Inspections since September; 2 Stations have ceased trading. 5 re-certified. 2 Stations awaiting final assessment reports.

Agriculture - Wexford County Council continue to undertake a significant number of farm inspections under the National Agricultural Inspection Programme. Wexford County Council engage with landowners to undertake the necessary rectifications works through encouragement of improvement of farming infrastructure and farming practices.

Section 12 & 23 notices under the Local Government Water Pollution Act 1977-1990 are served upon farms where major non compliances are observed and are open to cross reporting to DAFM.

Under the National Agricultural Inspection Programme, Wexford County Council’s target has remained at 271 inspections for 2026 concentrating in catchments such as Heathpark, Begerin, Owenduff, Boro, Lady’s Island lake, Aughboy, Mangan and the Lask. A team of 4 Assistant Scientists take on this role lead by the Agricultural Scientist in the Environment Section. The team will undertake other agricultural inspections such as sludge use in Agriculture, complaints made by the public, initial and follow up inspections.

A total of 110 Agricultural related Planning Permission Applications have been assessed in 2025 highlighting the continued investment in Wexford Agriculture and maintaining compliance with Good Agricultural Practice Regulations.

Waste/Litter Management

YEAR	Dumping Incidents Reported	% Increase/Decrease	Community Clean Ups	% Increase/Decrease
2024	2389	Down 7%	1021	Down 3%
Jan-Dec 2025	2441	Up 3%	981	Down 4%
1-23 Jan 2026	197			

All environmental complaints are logged by the Customer Service Unit on the DASH CRM system. The total figures for complaints from 1/1/2026 – 29/1/2026 are as follows:

Bring Bank job by Status

Status	Bring Banks
closed	10
Total	10

Work Requests by Waste Area

Waste Area	Closed	Open	Total
Other	0	0	
Waste Area North	5	0	5
Waste Area South	2	0	2
Total	7	0	7

Fines Statistics

Waste Area	Fines	Fines Paid	Fines Cancelled
Other	22	6	17
Waste Area North	789	114	291
Waste Area South	723	62	188
Total	1534	182	496

Community Cleanups

NSC	Logged	Litter Pickers	Gloves	Refuse Bags
No	6557	1283	4311	18900
Yes	418	313	993	2093
Total	6975	1596	5304	20993

Issue/Report Type

	closed	open	Total
Abandoned Vehicle	5	10	15
Air Pollution		10	10
Bring Banks	10		10
Coastal	1	2	3
Community Cleanup	65	5	70
Dog complaint		3	3
Fines	3	12	15
Litter	155	32	187
Noise Pollution	1	6	7
Oil Pollution		2	2
Waste Pollution	5	16	21
Water Pollution	2	7	9
Work Request	7		7
Total	254	105	359

Total Calls to Customer Service - Enviornmental Cases January 2026

Issue Type	#	Issue Type	#
Abandoned Vehicle	14	Litter	184
Air Pollution	10	Noise Pollution	7
Bring Banks	10	Oil Pollution	2
Coastal	3	Waste Pollution	21
Community Cleanup	70	Water Pollution	9
Dog Complaint	3	Work Request	7
Fines	15	TOTAL	355

Court Overview

Month	Heard	Outcome	Litter	Waste	Water	Air	Noise	Dogs
Jan-Dec	16	Total fines	€3100	€1875	NA	NA	NA	€200
		Total costs	€2000	€2425	NA	NA	NA	€250

Litter Overview

	Jan- December 2025
Fixed payment Notices issued	14
Litter fines issued	139
Fines paid litter	63
FPN paid	6
Successful prosecutions	7 litter, 7 waste, 1 control of dogs = 15
Legal proceedings in progress	17 from 2025, 2 2026= 19 cases
Amount collected in fines	€9469.50 litter, €1300 FPN €1200 dogs, Total €11,969.50
Dog fines issued	12

Mattress Amnesty:

As part of the anti-dumping initiative, Wexford County Council held 4 mattress collections points across the county in September. The initiative was well used by households with over 2,000 old mattresses collected. The mattresses will be sent to a recycle center where the springs will be removed for metal recovery and the fabric will be shredded and re-used for packing.

Control of Dogs & Horses - The Council employs one full-time Dog Warden and one part-time Dog Warden. The main pound is Pets First Kennels, Ballycarney, Co Wexford.

Control of dogs	2022	2023	2024	Jan - Dec 2025
Dogs collected	546	575	564	546
Dogs reclaimed	117	128	147	149
Dogs re-homed/transferred	370	404	442	386
Dogs put to sleep	51	38	31	10
Dog Fines	21	14	11	12

Recycling Services:

Bring Bank Network WASTE CATEGORY	No. of Sites Dec 2025	Recycling out Dec 2024 (t)	Recycling out Dec 2025 (t)
Glass bottles		284.8	346.55
Aluminium Cans		3.31	3.14
Total	108	288.11	349.69

Household Recycling Centres - Summary of Activities								
WASTE CATEGORY	Enniscorthy		New Ross		Holmestown		Gorey	
	Recycling out Dec 2024 (t)	Recycling out Dec 2025 (t)	Recycling out Dec 2024 (t)	Recycling out Dec 2025 (t)	Recycling out Dec 2024(t)	Recycling out Dec 2025 (t)	Recycling out Dec 2024 (t)	Recycling out Dec 2025 (t)
Total Recycling out	45	50	50	50	61	70	49	46
Total Domestic Waste in	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	249	265	N/A	N/A
Daily Average Customers Jan-Dec	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025
	87	86	114	116	159	162	83	83

Rapid Response Crew - Our Rapid Response Crew operates out of Holmestown, with a four-man crew servicing Enniscorthy and Gorey MD's and a second six-man crew servicing Wexford and New Ross and Rosslare MD's.

Their headline activities for year to date are summarised below:

Activity	Dec 2024	Dec 2025
Total Illegal Dumping/ Clean Ups	150	175
Gorey *		25
Enniscorthy *		77
Wexford *		34
New Ross*		30
Rosslare		9
Total Bring Site Inspections	718	860

ENVIRONMENT EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

Our aim is to promote awareness and active participation in a range of environmental initiatives.

Green Schools: Closing date for applications for the first green flag Litter & Waste was early December. 3 schools have applied for their first flag; Court NS; Kilnamanagh NS and Galbally NS. Contact with all green schools is ongoing.

School Workshops:

A further 10 schools will participate in the Picker Pals programme in January. Since 2020, 225 classrooms from 100 different schools have taken part in Picker Pals. This represents 97% of all primary schools in the county. In 2025 – 2026 school year 49 classrooms (10 funded by WCC, 32 by DECC & & from corporate / philanthropic donations) from 40 schools are taking part.



Picker Pals Statistics 2020 – 2024	
Participants (children)	4,400
Total participants (family members & participating child)	11,000
Waste removed (2.5kg per person/adventure)	27,500kgs +

Lets Fix Fashion: 3 secondary schools have registered to participate in ‘Lets Fix Fashion’ programme. The programme is all about empowering students to think twice about the clothes we wear and the impact they have on our world. Through fun activities like social media takeovers, upcycling and circular economy webinars, and running swap shops, students explore how fashion can be both stylish and sustainable!

Relove Fashion: The Environment Section is supporting the National Relove Fashion competition which is open to young people aged 12 – 19 details have been circulated to all schools and youth groups. 14 registrations have been received, and promotion of the competition is ongoing.

It is a sustainable fashion competition where entrants are challenged to explore their creative design skills to create a sustainable and wearable outfit using clothing from the treasure troves of charity shops, swap shops, or reused textiles already available at home.

Bag It Bin It Educational Resource: Councillor Joe Sullivan, Cathaoirleach Wexford County Council presented a copy of the educational anti-dog fouling resource pack for primary schools to principal Ms Emer Russell and students at Scoil Ghormáin Naofa, Castletown on Tuesday 20th January. The 'Bag It Bin It' education pack which has been sent out to all primary schools in Co. Wexford aims to bring the topic of dog-fouling into the classroom through a variety of lesson plans and activities. It aims to help children learn about the impacts of dog-fouling, to develop responsible attitudes and behaviours around cleaning up after their pet and allow them to understand the benefits to their own communities and environment. There are 4 lesson plans within the resource linked to the national curriculum. The lessons are primarily aimed at 3rd & 4th class students but can be adapted to younger or older pupils.



Each lesson plan is linked to one or more of the 17 Global Goals with the objective that children will learn about responsibilities and rights as Global citizens, create understanding of individual roles in society, foster a sense of responsibility towards the planet, and create active concern and empathy for others in their communities.

Trees For Wexford Scheme: All 147 applications have received a notification that their allocation of trees will be available for collection on Friday 6th and Saturday 7th February from Holmestown Household Recycling centre.

Circular Cups for Community Events: The "Circular Cups for Community Events" initiative is Ireland's first of its kind programme designed to eliminate single use waste at local, not for profit community events, providing access to high quality reusable cups for various events across the Southern Waste Region. This pioneering initiative was developed by the Southern Region Waste Planning Office in partnership with local authorities across the Southern Waste Region and IRD Duhallow. It was officially launched by Minister of State Alan Dillon TD. The programme is available to a wide variety of not-for-profit organisations within the Southern Waste Region, including local sports clubs, schools, youth organisations, craft markets, and community festivals.

A shared stock of reusable cups is available, including: 12,000 pint cups, 9,000 half-pint cups and 7,000 hot/cold beverage (coffee) cups. The main goal is to significantly reduce single use waste at community events, empower communities to embrace sustainable practices, and drive Ireland's national circular economy ambitions forward.



Christmas Tree Shredding: Tree shredding took place at the following 7 locations in January. Wexford County Council’s 4 household recycling centres: Enniscorthy, New Ross Gorey and Holmestown, at Redmond Park, Wexford, Rosslare Hbr and Bunclody AFC.



Community Clean Ups: Registrations and support for community clean ups continue.

Date	01/01/2026 – 26/12/2026	No. of community Clean Ups	56
------	-------------------------	----------------------------	----

CLIMATE ACTION

WCC is behind on our glide path for Thermal and Transport emissions. If HVO is not used for our fleet, in a significant way, Wexford County Council will not meet our CO2 target of 51% reduction by 2030. Currently we are above CO2 emissions from the baseline years of 2016-2018, so we now require over 51% reduction by 2030. The pathfinder projects will address the thermal requirements.

1. The Climate Action team are working on a number of reporting requirements for the LACAP for 2025 with the following information submitted to the LGMA in the last week of January
- · Data on 10 specific KPI for 2025
 - · Report on the Progress of the 133 actions in the LACAP for 2025.



Over 50 staff members are involved in updating the progress of actions in the Climate Plan.

2. An Implementation report for the elected members on the Climate Plan is currently being prepared. It is proposed that an overview of the report will be provided at the March meeting of the elected members. This is an annual requirement.

3. Promotion of the Over 55s Climate Course continues with video and flyers shared through social media channels- both Wexford County Council and community/voluntary groups. Adverts are also running in all local papers for 3 weeks. The course commences on Wed February 25th and anyone interested is asked to register at climateaction@wexfordcoco.ie or phone 053 9196029.

4. The remaining drivers will complete the practical module for the Eco Driving in February. Nineteen fleet drivers will have completed this training then.

5. Pathfinder Retrofit Programme Update

a) The contract for a 1.6 million energy retrofit of the Apex Leisure centre, New Ross was officially signed on Dec 16th in Wexford County Council. This ambitious retrofit project funded through the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) Pathfinder Programme grant, match funded by Wexford County Council, aims to decarbonise the leisure centres heating systems, improve the buildings overall energy efficiency while reducing its operational running cost. This exciting project will be the first building in Wexford County Councils SEAI funded Pathfinder Programme.

b) Ferrybank Leisure Centre – Emergency Enabling Works (Air Handling Unit Replacement) SEAI have approved match funding (50%) for the Ferrybank LC emergency air handling unit replacement works awarded to Mechanical Contractor Aircon Mech Ltd.

6. The Climate Team in conjunction with the Energy Officer and Environmental Awareness Officer promoted the Christmas Energy Shutdown.

7. The Coastal Engineer presented at the January CASG meeting on a number of coastal protection works/schemes underway.

8. The Climate Connected Web Tool – a national platform where details of the projects and initiatives in the Enniscorthy DZ are available.

9. Enniscorthy DZ – Wexford | CONNECTED. These details are also located on WCC website.

10. The following events and training are coming up in the next 2 months

- Green Public Procurement Training
- KIMO Coastal event
- SEROC Quarterly Meeting – Thomastown 19th Feb
- ZEVI Stakeholder Forum – Aviva 26th Feb
- South East Energy Agency Local Authorities Energy and Climate Seminar – 5th March Waterford . Link to register

Register – Local Authority Energy & Climate Action Information Seminar – Waterford County & City Council, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford

Christmas Shutdown Dec-25
Switch Off before You Take Off

The relative savings achieved from Week 4 against Week 3 for the **December 2025** shutdown were:

- Consumption Saving: 10,316 kWh (**2% Improvement on 2024**)
- Cost Saving: €3,136
- Carbon Saving: 2.3 tCO₂ (National Grid Decarbonising Year on Year)

Again in 2025 In one week this saving equated to the average electricity consumed by 2 average domestic dwellings for a year.*

Christmas Energy Shutdown

Your efforts last Christmas resulted in **10,316kWh** of savings (equivalent to the annual energy usage of 2 domestic houses)

Carbon Saving 2.3 tCO₂

10,150kWh

Switch off

Thank you

COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION PROGRAMME (CCAP)

Wexford County Council has been allocated a further €669,000 under Phase 2 for not-for-profit organisations to undertake Community Climate Action projects. The portal was open for 8 weeks for applications up to 16th December.

36 applications were received for phase 2, totalling €1.46 million. The applications were spread across the five municipal districts. Fifteen applications were received for funding in the small scale funding category with 13 applications in the medium scale and 8 in the large scale funding . These applications are currently being evaluated; applicants are expected to be notified towards the end of March as to the outcome of their application.

The CCCAP Phase 1 projects are still progressing with 11 of the 16 projects fully completed.

Biodiversity

The actions developed during the making of the Wexford Draft Biodiversity Action Plan have been screened for Appropriate Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment. The outcome of the screening process has determined that the actions set out in the draft plan are not likely to have significant negative effects on the environment and the plan can now proceed to public consultation once final edits are made and the document is translated into Irish. These final edits will be complete by end of January and translation complete by mid to late February. Each Municipal District will have a public consultation event during this six week period as well as placing the documents on the Consult portal inviting public submissions.

Local Biodiversity Action funding amounting to €96,000 has been announced from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. This fund is available for the Council to cover County wide projects such as the Wetlands Survey of Wexford (phase 4), Swift surveys of New Ross and Enniscorthy, Invasive species surveys and control, biodiversity events and awareness raising and the Return to Nature and Hare's Corner projects which support faith communities, landowners and community groups to implement actions for enhanced biodiversity on their lands.

Over 124 applications have been received to date for the Hare's Corner initiative by Burren Beo Trust and supported by the Biodiversity office. Inspired by the term 'The Hare's Corner' - an old farming expression for an awkward section of a field which wasn't intensively farmed and so was 'left to nature', the aim of this project is to help create habitats that have proven benefits for biodiversity, climate-action as well as the well being of participants.



COMMUNITY AND CULTURE

Wexford Library Service Statistics 2025

2025 was a busy year for Wexford Library Service. Issues were very strong with 796,165 in total, including online issues.



Library Development Plan – Public Consultation Survey

As part of the preparation of the new Library Development Plan 2026-2030, members of the public are being invited to complete a public consultation survey and have their say in shaping the Wexford library service over the next five years. The survey is available online at [Wexford Library Service Public Consultation Survey](#) | [Wexford County Council](#). It is also available in paper form in both English and Irish from all Wexford library branches.

There are alternative methods and formats to complete this survey

- It is possible to request a pdf or word document for readers.
- Assistive technology is available via the libraries using computer software reader and computer assist hardware. Technical assistance is available if required.
- It is possible to request a survey in another language by emailing libraryhq@wexfordcoco.ie
- Irish language versions can be accessed here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/G3PBKNK>
- Forms can be emailed to libraryhq@wexfordcoco.ie or posted to: Wexford Library Management Services, Wexford County Council, Block D, Level 2, County Hall, Carricklawn, Wexford Y35 WY93.

A separate survey is available to hear views and ideas from young people and are available at the links below.

Suirbhé do Dhéagóirí Irish Version: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8NM55QM>

Teen Survey English Version: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8XBZG6J>

If anyone needs support to fill in the survey, staff are available to help in any library in the county.

Cubbie – Sensory Space

A new sensory space called Cubbie was installed in Wexford Town Library in December 2025, with the official launch scheduled for early February 2026. The Cubbie is a multisensory space that offers personalised sensory experiences to users, who can adjust lighting, visuals and audio to their own needs as required. It is free to use and is suitable for all ages. Following the official launch, the Cubbie will be available for use by library patrons and members of the public. Wexford Library Service would like to acknowledge the involvement of support of Pobal, the Department of Health, Healthy Ireland/Healthy Wexford, Wexford LCDC & Wexford County Council in the provision of this important resource to the public.

Nollaig na mBan - To celebrate Nollaig na mBan, Wexford Library hosted a musical afternoon by the Wexford Ukulele group while Gorey Library celebrated with coffee and a craft circle.



Wexford Gramophone Society - Wexford Library hosted a recital on "Music Composed in Times of Trouble and Strife" with Dr Noel Culleton.

Art Exhibition - Gorey Library hosted the launch of 'The Journey of Life,' a wonderful exhibition by the Alzheimer Society Gorey Day Care. The exhibition runs until the end of January.

Integration Services - Artwork from participants of the recent 'Home is where the Heart Is' project, is currently on display in Bunclody Library. The aim of the project was to help parents, guardians and carers with English as a second language improve their literacy skills, with artist Fernanda Ferari and author Caroline Busher providing art and writing workshops.

Mobile Library Services - Wexford Library Services' mobile library, Mobile North, is currently off the road for essential repairs. Alternative arrangements are being provided to facilitate the school and community stops, as well as a temporary expansion of the homebound services to users in north county Wexford.

LEARNING AND INFORMATION

Skills for Life

CoMUniversity Collaboration 2026 - A collaboration between, Maynooth University, South East Technical University, Wexford Local Development and Enniscorthy Library commenced in January. The purpose of this collaboration is to establish a collaborative framework for delivering the ComMUniversity Programme, a Personal and Community Development initiative designed to build confidence, foster learning, and provide accessible pathways into higher education for socially excluded groups. Over twenty weeks a series of lectures will take place, subjects include Adult Education, Local History, Social Care, Sociology, Politics, Psychology, and other disciplines requested by the community. Digital support classes continued in Wexford Libraries branches in January.

New Ross Library continued their Age Friendly Digital Literacy classes run by WWETB this month. Additional classes have been added due to their popularity. Enniscorthy Library held 1:1 appointments during January demonstrating the range of online resources available to library members. Wexford Library ran 1:1 Digital Skills sessions while Gorey Library held a "Happy To Chat" coffee morning and a retro Movie Matinee.

Borrowbox Workshop - Bunclody Library held a workshop in which participants enjoyed an informal chat exploring the features of Borrowbox and how to customise their reading experience, which included the ability to make any book dyslexia friendly. They also explored the wide range of ebooks, eAudiobooks, eNewspapers and eMagazines available.

Volunteering Information Session - John Bird, the development and placement officer with the Wexford Volunteer Centre, held an information session in Wexford Library for members of the public who were interested in volunteering in their communities.

HERITAGE

Material Culture in the GAA with John Kelly, in collaboration with Uí Cinsealaigh Historical Society. Enniscorthy Library and Uí Cinsealaigh Historical Society invited members of the public to a talk "Material Culture in the GAA - programming the matches" with John Kelly, author of *The GAA Covered - A History of the GAA in Match Programmes*.

Gorey Library held a St. Brigid's Cross Workshop and a traditional song and folklore workshop with Rachel Uí Fhaoláin at the end of January.

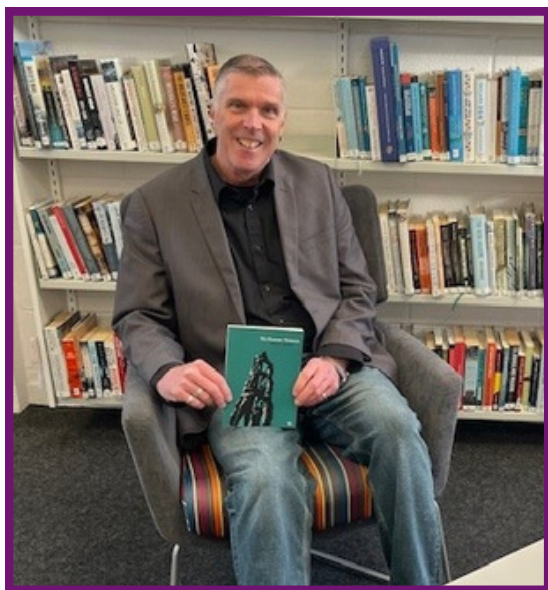
HEALTH AND WELL BEING

Active Adults Tai Chi with Sports Active Wexford - Enniscorthy Library offered a four week course in adult Tai-Chi. The exercises allow participants to ground, connect and engage their whole body through a series of slow gentle movements and physical postures.

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE ACTION

Wexford Science Cafe - Wexford Library held a talk focused on careers in science and the study paths towards them. The discussion was aimed at providing guidance to school students who are considering such options.

Local History - Wexford library had 22 local studies enquiries and 9 genealogy enquiries in January.



READING AND LITERACY: RIGHT TO READ AT YOUR LIBRARY

Ireland Reads Day - Ireland Reads is an initiative of the Government of Ireland to celebrate the joy of reading. It is funded by Healthy Ireland and supported by public libraries and other organisations that promote reading, literacy and the arts. Ireland Reads Day 2026 will be on Saturday 28th February 2026.

In Conversation with Stephen Rossiter

First time author Stephen launched his book in New Ross Library during the month. There was also a discussion where he outlined his writing progress.

Book Launch

Gorey Library held two book launches during the month 'Our Martin' by Jim McVeigh and 'Puisín Beag an Diabhail' by Éire Ní Fhaoláin

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Meet the Garda Story Time - Enniscorthy Library held a unique Saturday story time in January, which was attended by Garda Richenda, who shared stories, encouraged curiosity and helped the children and their families to get to know their local Garda in a relaxing and welcoming way.

Winnie the Pooh Day - Wexford Libraries branches celebrated this iconic childhood character with story times, craft sessions and a film screening.

Schools and Early Learning Centres outreach - Wexford Libraries branches continue to liaise with local schools and Early Learning Centres and cater for weekly class visits for story-times, general book borrowing, and library activities. They also continue to provide Outreach visits in their local areas.

ARCHIVES

Collections management - The reading room was closed during January to allow for an annual stocktake of holdings in the archive strongroom. A total of 48 research enquiries via email, telephone and post were submitted during the month, and ranged from births in Wexford workhouse in 1916; the Archive's holdings on the centenary commemorations of 1798 for a media production company in Northern Ireland; local archival material on the 1918 general election; car registration nos. in the 1950s; sources on the commissioning and public context of the Wexford Pikeman statue by Oliver Shepherd in the Bullring, Wexford, 1905; Wexford Dublin Association records for the 1940s.

Outreach - Following on from the launch in November last year of the exhibition, 'Plucky Ladies' – female representation in local elections in County Wexford, 1899-2024, the Archivist delivered an illustrated talk on the exhibition on 6 January in Wexford library. A series of talks on the exhibition will ensue during this year, both in branch libraries across the county and in other local venues. It is an invaluable means of commemorating and celebrating those women from all walks of life who proactively put themselves forward as candidates to make a difference in their local communities across County Wexford.

ARTS

Wexford Arts and Cultural Festivals/Events Call Out - Expressions of Interest to the EU Presidency Culture Programme - The Arts Department announced an invitation for expressions of interest from Arts and Cultural Festivals/Events taking place in Wexford between July and December 2026, to participate in a cultural programme marking Ireland's Presidency of the Council of the European Union, which will take place during the second half of 2026. The deadline was 3rd February 2026.

ArtLinks Bursary Award 2026 – Record number of Applications received - The Arts Department's Professional and Emerging ArtLinks Bursary Awards 2026 were open for applications in December. These Awards are designed to support artists to develop their practice by providing artists with the time and resources to think, research, reflect and critically engage with their art. The Arts Department's partners with Carlow, Kilkenny and Waterford local authorities. The deadline was 19th January.

Artist in the Community Open call for 2026 – 2027 - The Artist in the Community programme went live for applications in January 2026 via an online application portal on the Wexford County Council website. This is for all Wexford community groups to apply to work on an arts project with an artist from the Artist in the Community Artist panel. The maximum award is €3,000 in match-funding. A further strand is available which supports a max of one collaboration between two or more artists on the Artist in the Community Panel for up to a maximum fund of €5,000. The deadline for community groups to submit their application is 2nd March 2026.

Performing Arts Forum Belfast Gathering Applications - The Arts Department is working with Performing Arts Forum to offer two bursaries for arts practitioners based in County Wexford to attend the Performing Arts Forum Gathering in Belfast on 26/27th May 2026. Deadline for applications is Monday 2nd March, 2026.

Tyrone Guthrie Centre Bursary 2026 - Two bursaries are available in 2026 for artists who are resident in County Wexford at the Tyrone Guthrie Centre. The Tyrone Guthrie Centre is a dedicated residential workplace for artists in County Monaghan. This opportunity opened in December 2025, and closed on 27th January 2026.

Drama League of Ireland Bursary 2026 - The Arts Department is offering two scholarships for the Drama League of Ireland Residential Summer School which takes place at the University of Limerick, August 1st – August 8th, 2026. This opportunity opened in December 2025, closed on 27th January 2026.

Irish Writers Centre National Mentoring Programme 2026 - The Arts Department is offering two places for the Irish Writers Centre's National Mentoring Programme (NMP). This programme offers two Wexford writers the opportunity to receive sustained creative and professional support from an established Irish writer of their choosing. This opportunity opened on 1st December and closed on 16th January.

Cowhouse Parenting Residency Programme 2026 - The Arts Department, with Cow House Studios, is pleased to offer a two-week residency designed specifically for parenting artists. The Parenting Artist Residency makes it possible for two awarded artists to dedicate time to their work by offering childcare and supports during the residency. The deadline was 4th January 2026 and the selection panel took place on 22nd January.

Creative Places Enniscorthy (CPE) - This is a 3-year Arts Council funded initiative in partnership with Wexford Arts Centre, The Arts Department of Wexford County Council and Enniscorthy Municipal District seeking to embed creativity into Enniscorthy.

Threshold Spaces – Enniscorthy Environmental Art Project - Threshold Spaces held its first meeting with an Early On-set Dementia Day group. This project is forged from the outcomes of a Research and Development project 2024; Unity in Diversity – Enniscorthy Land Art Project. The Wexford based artist Mayumi Nakabayashi works with the Ukrainian woman's group looking at boundaries, domains and the threshold space are in the context of community life.

Songs From Our Town – Listening party - A get together took place at Presentation Arts Centre with all 35 + musicians involved in the project and community invited to hear the songs created over the project from last year. This was a project for Enniscorthy locals to work with professional musicians on writing and recordings songs about and around Enniscorthy.

MUSIC GENERATION (MG)

This is an ongoing partnership between Wexford County Council, WWETB and Music Generation supporting performance music education countywide for young people in 25 schools and a variety of youth work contexts.

Music Macky at High Meadows Community Hub - This is a 12-week interactive parent and child music class for ages 0-5. The sessions will be taking place at High Meadows Community Hub, Clonard, Wexford.

Past Windjammers perform at the National Opera House - Five graduates from Music Generation Wexford's Windjammer group performed at the National Opera House with the HFC Concert Band in January. All five graduated attended the Windjammers a weekly session for young brass and wind musicians, to learn and perform together as a band.

CREATIVE IRELAND

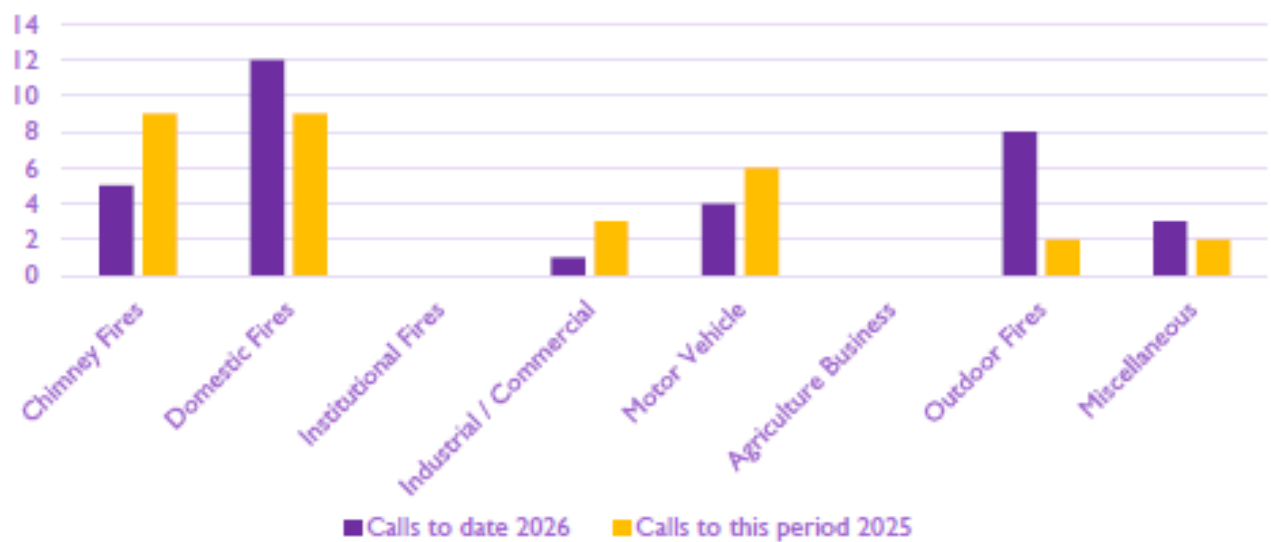
Sound/Audio Project at the Cultural Biodiversity and Heritage Trail at Carnsore Wind Farm - In 2026 the Creative Ireland programme and the Biodiversity Office of Wexford County Council in collaboration with the Rosslare Municipal District sought proposals from sound artists/composers who have extensive experience working with communities. The sound artist/composer will develop an audio response to the site in Carnsore, that reflects cultural and ecological memory and belonging, while also bearing witness to signals of climate change, biodiversity loss and transition. In this way, the response will preserve ecological and cultural knowledge, while also serving as a record of change for future generations.

Community Building and Placemaking through Heritage in Killanne - The Creative Ireland programme and the Heritage Officer of Wexford County Council, in collaboration with the New Ross Municipal District and the Killanne Development Group sought applications from collaborative, socially engaged artists for a project that explores and celebrates community and heritage in Killanne in 2026. Working with residents of Killanne, the project will take a collaborative approach to creativity, that values experiences of and personal connections to, the heritage of the community. The project aims to build upon the established strong sense of community in Killanne and contribute to a sense of place making.

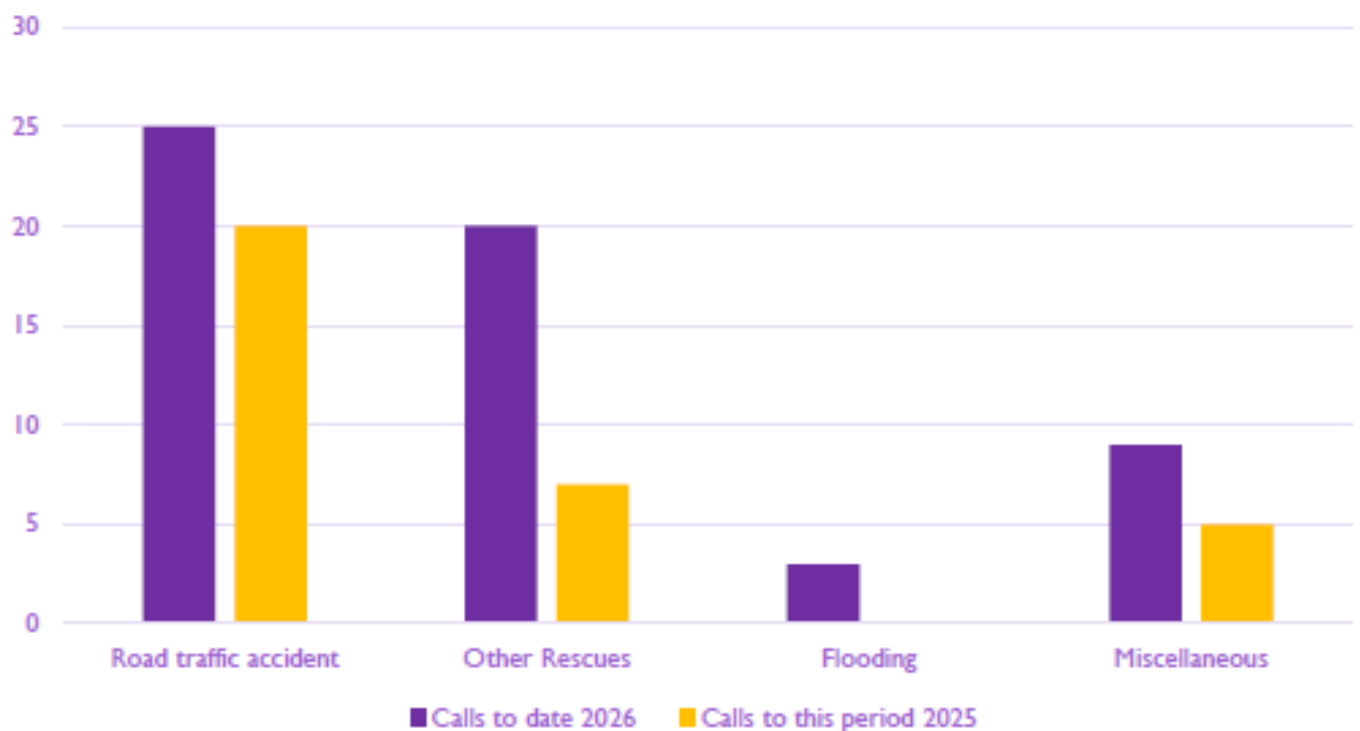
Artist In Residence Sought for Eadan's Glen Housing Estate, Ferns - The Creative Ireland Programme and the Housing Department at Wexford County Council in collaboration with the Enniscorthy Municipal District invited proposals from collaborative and socially engaged artists to complete a residency at Eadan's Glen between February and October 2026. The residency will support the development of the Residents' Association and build upon the sense of community already established there. Taking a community-focused approach that values diversity and belonging, it will celebrate the residents of Eadan's Glen, how they can welcome incoming residents, and shape a sense of place and community pride in the estate. It is intended that this creative residency will meaningfully connect the residents of Eadan's Glen not only to each other, but also to the wider community of Ferns.

Connecting Creatively - Courtown and Riverchapel - The Creative Ireland Programme at Wexford County Council and the Gorey/Kilmuckridge Municipal District in collaboration with the Courtown/Riverchapel Town First Team, invited proposals from socially engaged artists and creatives to address this mindset of separation between the Courtown and Riverchapel communities. Running from February-October 2026, the community art project will build on already established links between the two villages, working with a range of local community groups including the Town First Team. The project will support the consolidation of the town centres, helping the communities to find ways to meaningfully connect through creative activity. Taking a community-focused approach, the project will celebrate relationships and togetherness, and re imagine the identities of the once separated villages as one.

Call Statistics - Wexford Fire Service



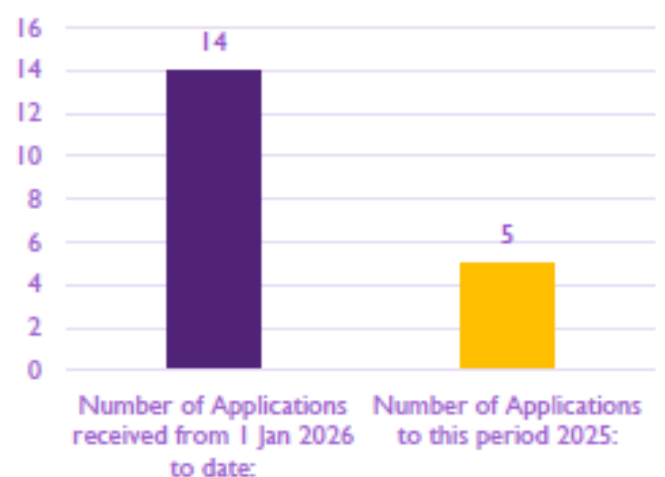
Special Services - Wexford Fire Service



False Alarms



Fire Safety Certificates



CORPORATE SERVICES

CUSTOMER SERVICE UNIT STATISTICS – JANUARY 2026

Task	January 2026
Phone Calls	3,336

TOP 5 CSU PHONE QUERIES

(28%) Housing Maintenance	(7%) Environment	(6%) Housing Grants	(5%) Area Housing Officers	(3%) Personnel
---------------------------	------------------	---------------------	----------------------------	----------------

FOI OFFICE REQUESTS JANUARY 2026

Type	Number
Freedom of Information	23
Customer Complaint	36
Ombudsman Complaint	0
Access to Information on the Environment	3
Data Access Request	2
Total	64

FINANCE

Annual Financial Statement 2025

Work is progressing on the preparation of the 2025 Accounts. The preparation of the annual accounts will take a number of months to complete but it is expected that the Council will meet the submission deadline of the end of March.

Rate Accounts 2026

Rate Demands for 2026 have been issued. The Council continues to promote the use of the portal for eBilling for all Rate Customers and communications were issued to advise that they can access their Rates Bill through the Payment Portal which also provides additional payment options and other features. To date almost 2300 ratepayers have registered on the Payment portal.

Audit Committee/Audit

The annual reports to the Council prepared by the Audit Committee, in accordance with Section 60 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 and Regulation 15 (1) of the Local Government (Audit Committee) Regulations 2014 are included on the agenda as separate item for consideration by Members. The reports include the Audit Committee’s consideration of the 2024 Audited Financial Statement (AFS) and the Local Government Auditor’s Statutory Report on the accounts of Wexford County Council for 2024 together with the committee’s report on their activities during 2025 and their annual work programme for 2026. The next meeting of the Audit Committee is scheduled for 9th March 2026.

Cash Flow/Overdraft

Ministerial Sanction is in place for borrowing by way of overdraft in the amount of €15m to 31st December 2026.

ICT SECURITY UPDATE - JANUARY 2026

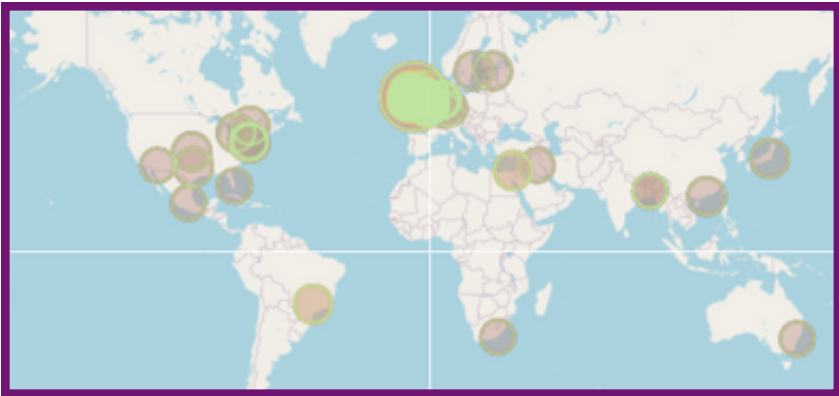
Notable Incidents in Wexford County Council

Phishing email received posed an evolving threat where a single link redirected to different malicious sites each time it was clicked, making it difficult to detect/counteract the threat. The phish was received from a compromised user in a local business, highlighting the importance of verifying unexpected communication even if you recognise the sender.

Incoming Mail


- **925.5k** emails in total, (WexfordCoCo tenant)
- **819.8k** stopped from malicious IPs
- **43** stopped with malicious links/attachments
- **10,137** emails in total (Cllr tenant)


Foreign Login Attempts



In the News

- Interim chief of US cyber defence agency CISA has triggered an investigation by the Dept of Homeland Security after uploading sensitive federal documents to the public, unsecured version of ChatGPT for analysis.
- The public version of the tool uses uploaded data to train its responses to other users, risking the disclosure of sensitive information to unauthorised parties.

**ithelpdesk@wexfordcoco.ie**

**053 9196297**

Weather Posts



650k+ Views

Scam Warning

73k+ Views

There are people in Enniscorthy, Craanford, Gorey and New Ross who are not undertaking private door to door. If you are at your home ask for the person's name and verify their identity. Do not give out your property without being asked.

Events



120k+ Views

CHRISTMAS TREE SHED	
Locations	Christmas Trees can only be left on the date
Wexford County Council's 4 Household Recycling Centres	Friday 2nd January to Saturday 3rd January 2020 Tuesday 6th January to Saturday 10th January 2020 Closed Mondays and Sundays
Enniscorthy Household Recycling Centre, Old Dublin Road, Enniscorthy	Opening Times: Open Tues – Fri 8.15 am – 12 noon 1 pm – 4 pm Open Saturday 8.15 – 12 noon 1 pm – 3 pm Closed for lunch 12 noon – 1 pm
Gorey Household Recycling Centre, Gorey Business Park, Gorey	
New Ross Household Recycling Centre, Hewittsland, New Ross	
Barntown Household Recycling Centre, Barntown, Barntown	Friday 2nd January to Saturday the 10th January 2020 Opening Times: Monday – Sunday 9 am – 5 pm
Wexford Park, Wexford	
Rosslane Harbour / Kilrane Sports & Social Centre, Rosslane Harbour, Rosslane Harbour	Friday 2nd January to Saturday the 10th January 2020 Opening Times: Monday – Sunday 9 am – 5 pm
Buncloody AFC, Buncloody, Buncloody	Thursday 2nd January to Saturday the 10th January 2020 Opening Times: Monday – Saturday 9 am – 6 pm



Flood Preparations

Eddie Taaffe
Chief Executive