



2025

NOVEMBER

CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT



Comhairle Contae
Loch Garman
Wexford
County Council



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PHOTO ALBUM NOVEMBER 2025

CIVIL DEFENCE

Opening Wexford Festival Opera



Head of River Race



National Age Friendly Awards 2025



The Housing award was presented to Wexford County Council's Shay Howell, Therese Nolan and Barry Kelly, architects in the Housing Construction Department, by David Kelly Assistant Secretary of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage with the Minister for Older People Kieran O'Donnell.

Wexford Comhairle na nOg Annual Youth Conference 2025



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. (1218 below includes leasing)

Housing For All 2022-2026						
1218 Target	- (	970 Units Delivered	+	480 Units Projected	=	1450 Delivery Pipeline
						) = 232 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 current Expression of Interest is open until the 13th November. 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	Q4 2025 15 delivered June 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

Gorey/Kilmuckridge MD - cont'd

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	Q4 2025 1 delivered June 2025	2
Spring View, Gorey Hill, Gorey	4 x 3-bed apt 4 x 2-bed apt	Q2 2026	8
Deerpark (Ballowen or Ramsfort Park) Gorey	1 x 3-bed 1 x 2-bed 2 x 3-bed	Q4 2025	4
Grattan Court Gorey	2 x 2 bed	Q1 2026	2
Sunset Avenue, Riverchapel	1 X 2 bed hse	Q1 2026	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	Q3 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	Q3 2025 Q1 2026	10
Carrig-on-Bannow (PART V)	2 x 3 bed	Q4 2025	2
Seaview, Rosslare Harbour.	20 x 2 bed apt 8 x 3 bed hse	Q1 2026	28
Overall Total			40

Enniscorthy Municipal District

Project Address (TURNKEY)	Unit Type	Est. Delivery	Total
Holly-Way, Clonhasten, Enniscorthy	5 x 2-bed	Q4 2025	5
Cnoc na Greine, Enniscorthy	3 x 2-bed 9 x 3-bed 2 x 4-bed	Phased from Q4 2025	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	Q3 2025. 2 delivered Q3 2025	4
Holly-Way, Clonhasten, Enniscorthy (Part V)	5 x 3-bed	Q4 2025	5
Holly-Way, Clonhasten, Enniscorthy (Part V)	2 X 2 bed hse 1 X 3 bed hse	Q4 2025	3
Cnoc na Greine, Enniscorthy (Part V)	16 x 3 bed hse 2 x 2 bed hse 16 x 1 bed apt	Delivering on a phased basis from Q3 2025	34
		Total Part V	46
Milehouse, Phase 2, Enniscorthy (AHB)	7 x 1 bed hse 26 x 2 bed hse	Q1 2026	33
Overall Total			105

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	Q3 2025. 2 delivered Q2 2 delivered Q4	8
Radharc an Chuain, Castlebridge (PART V)	1 x 3 bed	Q4 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
Murrintown Upper (Part V)	3 x 2 bed hse	Q1 2027	3
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 34 x 3 bed	40 Delivering on a phased basis 8 delivered April 2025 17 delivered August 2025 15 to deliver Q4 2025	15
Overall Total			83

Support has been offered to AHB's for other proposals amounting to 188 units across all districts. These proposals are subject to Planning and Departmental approval.

District	No. of Units
Enniscorthy	30
Gorey	45
New Ross	18

District	No. of Units
Rosslare	35
Wexford	60
Total	188

ENERGY EFFICIENCY RETROFITTING PROGRAMME

Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme **2025** is the **fifth** 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 & no of properties delivered and funded to date under this programme.

Department Targets for County Wexford		
Year	No of Properties Allocated	No Delivered & Claimed
2021	54	0
2022	68	37
2023	51	146
2024	116	
2025	120	103

The range of works undertaken in the properties include external wall and attic insulation, new doors, new windows, blocking of fireplaces, low energy lighting, high efficiency boilers, and upgraded heating system and controls. All properties received a minimum of a B2 BER rating after the works were completed.

‘Cnoc na Gréine’ - Application Portal Launching January 2026



Wexford County Council, in partnership with Neville Homes are delighted to launch a new affordable housing purchase scheme for private buyers at ‘Cnoc na Gréine’, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford. The development of new A rated homes will provide first-time buyers and eligible homebuyers the opportunity to buy a newly constructed home.

The new A Rated homes, a range of 2, 3 & 4-bedroom units, will see up to 16 affordable purchase properties made available for sale to eligible private purchasers at a price below the market price of the properties with funding secured under the Governments Affordable Housing Fund Programme. Prices net of the Affordable Dwelling Contribution start from €214,000 for two bed dwellings and €240,00 for three-bed unit, with buyers able to get support through the Government’s Help to Buy Scheme.

Register your Interest ‘Cnoc na Gréine’ Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.

Applications must be made through Wexford County Councils Affordable Housing Portal which is scheduled to open January 2026.

Eligible applicants are advised to register their interest with Wexford County Council by emailing affordablehousing@wexfordcoco.ie or logging onto the Affordable Housing page on Wexford County Council’s website

Homeless Services and Support Unit (HSSU)

The figures below represent the total number of calls to the HSSU - it is not reflective of the number of individuals/families as quite often the same client may make multiple calls to the HSSU.

There were 1260 calls to the HSSU up to 30th October 2025, the following is the breakdown of same:-	
908 (72%)	Provided with advice and support in relation to housing and homeless prevention
140 (11%)	Supported with temporary, short, medium and long-term accommodation and tenancy sustainment support through Place Finder and Social Care Workers
199 (16%)	Calls were ineligible at the time for housing/homeless services. HSSU advised and assisted the caller on regularization of their housing situation.
13 (1%)	Calls received where it was not possible to complete a full assessment.

CHOICE BASED LETTING

The CBL System has had 3 system improvements based on feedback from elected representatives. Properties are now advertised individually with house specific photographs for easier identification and decision making form applicants. Secondly the system is now generating automated e-mails to advise of properties when advertised in an applicants area of choice. Thirdly, unsuccessful applicants are receiving a notification e-mail that a property which they expressed an interest in has been allocated.

199 properties were available for allocation on the Choice Based Letting website from 01/01/2025 to 29/10/25.

Municipal District	Properties Available for Allocation	No. of Properties Advertised	1-bed	2-bed	3-bed	4/5-bed
Enniscorthy	53	36	3	21	11	1
Gorey/Kilmuckridge	62	22	2	11	9	0
New Ross	51	26	6	11	8	1
Rosslare	51	40	1	25	14	0
Wexford	49	36	1	15	20	0
TOTAL	266	160	13	83	62	2

HOUSING ALLOCATIONS

From the 1st January to 30th October, 2025 Wexford County Council allocated 320 properties. There were also a further 102 Approved Housing Body tenancies.

Area	Re-Lets (Incl. Bays)	Transfers	New Lets	AHBs	MTR	Total
Gorey/Kilmuckridge	15	9	79	19	2	124
New Ross	21	5	46	2	2	76
Enniscorthy	19	7	18	25	2	71
Wexford	29	7	29	39	1	105
Rosslare	11	1	17	17	0	46
TOTAL	95	29	189	102	7	422

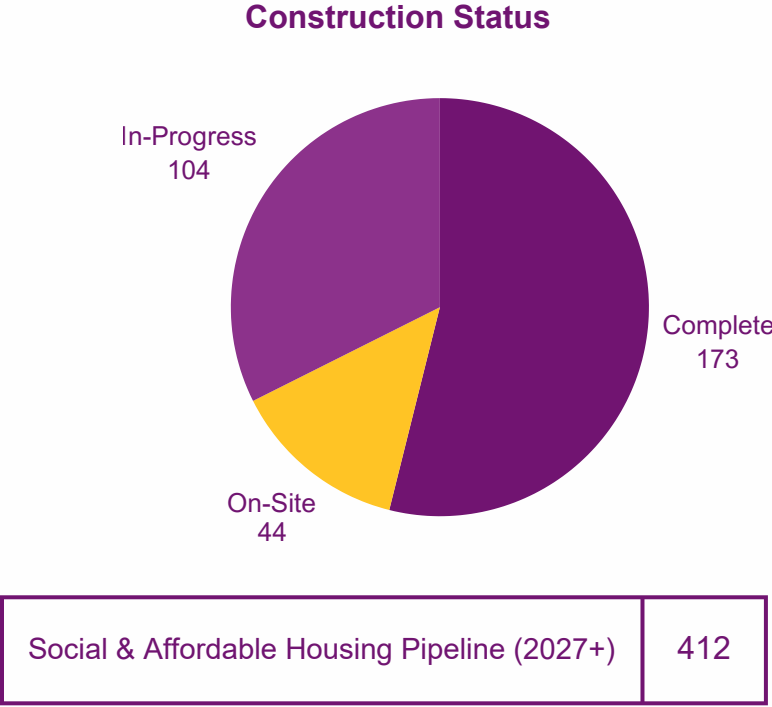
ESTATE MANAGEMENT CASES

The figures below are from 01/01/2025 - 31/10/2025					
Complaint	Enniscorthy	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	New Ross	Rosslare	Wexford
Abandonment	9	1	8	0	0
Breach of Tenancy	18	25	23	2	17
Damage to Property	2	8	6	0	4
Drugs	2	6	0	0	1
End of Tenancy	0	1	0	0	0
Estate Management	22	65	24	2	7
Unauthorised Occupants	1	5	7	0	1
Verbal Abuse/Harassment	12	16	16	3	2
Violence	1	0	0	3	0
TOTAL	67	127	84	10	32

OVERALL TOTAL 320

HOUSING CAPITAL - CAPITAL BUILD PROJECTS

Housing for All 2022 - 2026 SUMMARY	
Dwellings Complete 2022	48
Dwellings Complete 2023	23
Dwellings Complete 2024	54
Dwellings to Complete 2025	48
Dwellings still to Complete in 2025	44
Dwellings to Complete 2026	104



Dwellings Under Construction to complete in 2025

Creagh, Gorey	22 Units	Francis Street, Wexford	2 Apartments
Ramsfort Park, Gorey	20 Houses	Total 92	

Funded Projects for delivery 2025 – 2026			
Monomolin, Gorey	5	Ballygillane, Rosslare	5
Bullawn, New Ross	3	Grogans Road, Wexford	4
Cluain Fada, New Ross, New Ross	22	Killeens, Wexford	60
Adamstown, New Ross	4	Lacken TAP	1
Total 104			

Projects in Design / Pipeline Social and Affordable Subject to Funding Approval			
Clonard, Wexford	55	Castlemoyle, New Ross	82
Group TAP Housing	5	The Lyre, Enniscorthy	50
Rosbercon, New Ross	50	St Walerans, Gorey	40
Bride Street, Wexford	3	Park, Wexford	12
Kilmore Quay, Rosslare	10 Units & 4 Serviced Sites	Belvedere, Wexford	12
Creagh, Gorey	24	Bunclody, Enniscorthy	65 (PPP on hold)
Total 412			

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Local Enterprise Office

Female Entrepreneurs in Wexford Celebrated on National Women's Enterprise Day

Over 100 women in business gathered at the Talbot Hotel Wexford on Thursday, October 16th, to celebrate National Women's Enterprise Day (NWED) 2025 — a flagship event organised by the Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Wexford aimed at inspiring, connecting, and empowering female entrepreneurs across the county.

Centred on the theme “Making It Happen,” this year's event shone a spotlight on insight, growth, and visibility, celebrating the resilience, creativity and innovation of women driving enterprise across Wexford and beyond.

Hosted by presenter Shonagh Lyons, the event featured a stellar line-up of speakers, including keynote speaker Ruth Larkin founder and Managing Director of Lark Bridal Ltd, a serial industry entrepreneur behind multiple multi-million-euro businesses, and a professional consultant, trainer, executive coach and mentor focusing on foreign expansion, commercialisation, and sales and marketing strategy. Larkin's keynote speech inspired attendees to embrace strategic thinking, resilience, and confidence in scaling their businesses.



The Wexford National Women's Enterprise Day Ambassador, Sharon Ginnetty founder of Optimise Marketing, shared her entrepreneurial journey and insights into building a brand from the ground up. She was joined by Deirdre Delaney of Delaney Concrete Ltd. & Bio-Crete and, Niamh Byrne Owner of Ruby Rouge & Director of BuyerPix, for an engaging panel discussion exploring leadership, communication, and the realities of business growth.

Attendees enjoyed an inspiring morning of networking, discussion, and motivation, with opportunities to learn from the lived experiences of established business leaders who have “made it happen” in their respective industries.

SETU partner with Wexford LEO for business support clinics

South East Technological University (SETU) has partnered with the Wexford Local Enterprise Office (LEO) to deliver a series of targeted business support clinics for rural enterprises in the Rosslare area.

This collaboration aims to give local business owners direct access to one-to-one expert advice on key themes vital to the long-term competitiveness and resilience of rural SMEs — digitalisation, innovation, business succession, and sustainability.

The initiative responds to the increasing demand from Rosslare's business community for tailored, practical support in adapting to rapid technological change, planning for generational continuity, and building sustainable operations that can compete nationally and internationally.

The Business Development Clinics are designed to provide businesses with personalised, one-to-one sessions delivered by subject-matter experts drawn from both SETU and the wider LEO mentor network.

Each participating business is offered a confidential consultation to review its current position and identify actionable steps for growth.

Key Focus Areas:

- Digitalisation: How to adopt digital tools, enhance online presence, and streamline business processes.
- Innovation: Developing new products, services, and business models with expert guidance from SETU innovation specialists.
- Succession: Planning for leadership transition, governance, and inter-generational continuity.
- Sustainability: Integrating sustainable practices and exploring green opportunities to future-proof the business.

Expert advisors from both institutions — including SETU lecturers and industry specialists in digital transformation and sustainability, along with LEO-approved business mentors — are providing guidance tailored to each enterprise's needs.

Each business attending the clinics also gains follow-on access to LEO supports such as mentoring, training, and export development programmes, ensuring that the advice received can be turned into practical action.

The partnership will:

- Strengthen Rosslare's small business network through access to expert advice and innovation resources.
- Increase local adoption of digital tools and sustainability practices.
- Support succession planning and long-term viability for family-owned rural businesses.
- Enhance export readiness, leveraging Rosslare's strategic location.

TOURISM

Progress of the 2027 Year of the Normans Project

On the invitation of Hervé Morin, President of the Normandy Region, a delegation from Wexford County Council led by An Cathaoirleach Cllr Joe

Sullivan attended Abbaye aux Dames on 10th October 2025, to review the progress of the '2027 Year of the Normans Project' and to be present for the launch of the shared brand assets for this project.



Speakers on the day included Hervé Morin, President of the Normandy Region, Micheal Tierney, First Counsellor of the Irish Embassy in France, and Liz Hore, Director of Service, Wexford County Council

International Marketing Campaign

In collaboration with Visit Wexford and Tourism Ireland, a new marketing campaign is taking place from November to target Great Britain visitors.



This campaign will operate on the “KAYAK” online travel agent network.

This marketing campaign will run for three months and will have the following reach:

- 300,000 co-branded display
- 600,000 on social media
- 500,000 direct emails

This campaign will be targeted at visitors aged 35+, with a strong 55+ audience who have the time and the spending power for short breaks and cultural getaways. This target market is more than twice as likely as the average traveller to visit historic parks, go to the theatre, and enjoy food and culture — which sits perfectly with what County Wexford has to offer.

This marketing campaign aligns perfectly with the Wexford Destination Development Plan (DEDP) and the International Marketing plan. This will be a fantastic opportunity to raise County Wexford’s profile in one of our key international markets, with a strong digital push, and is focused on driving real bookings.



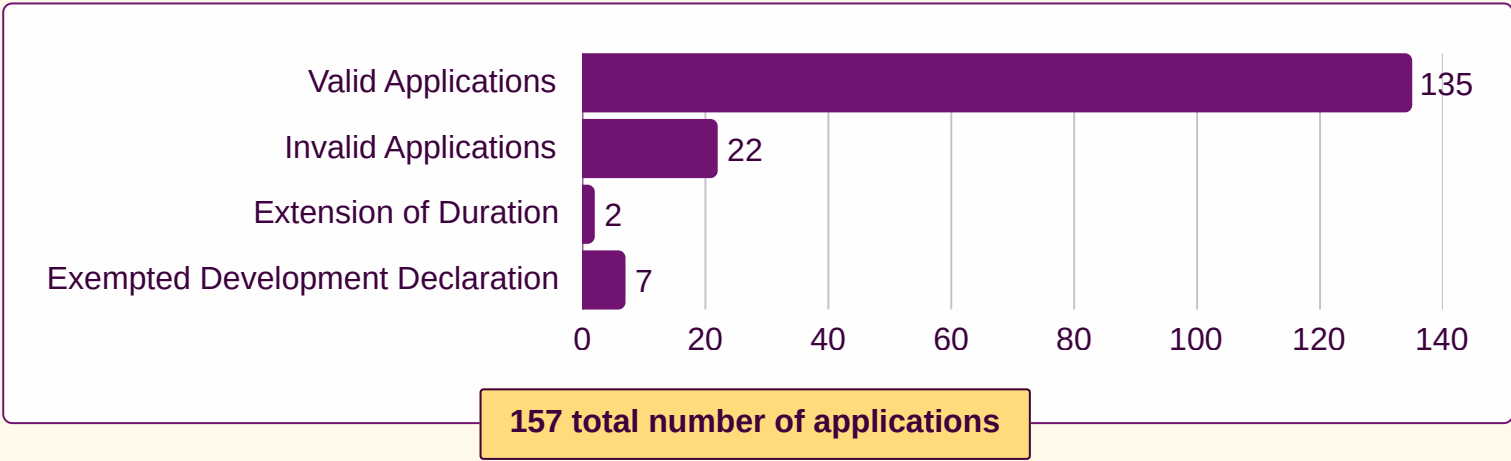
A year-long marketing campaign has also started with “The Irish World” newspaper which is read by the Irish diaspora and people in the UK who already have a connection to Ireland.

This marketing campaign includes a permanent banner ad on digital running across the year, guaranteeing over 300,000 impressions.

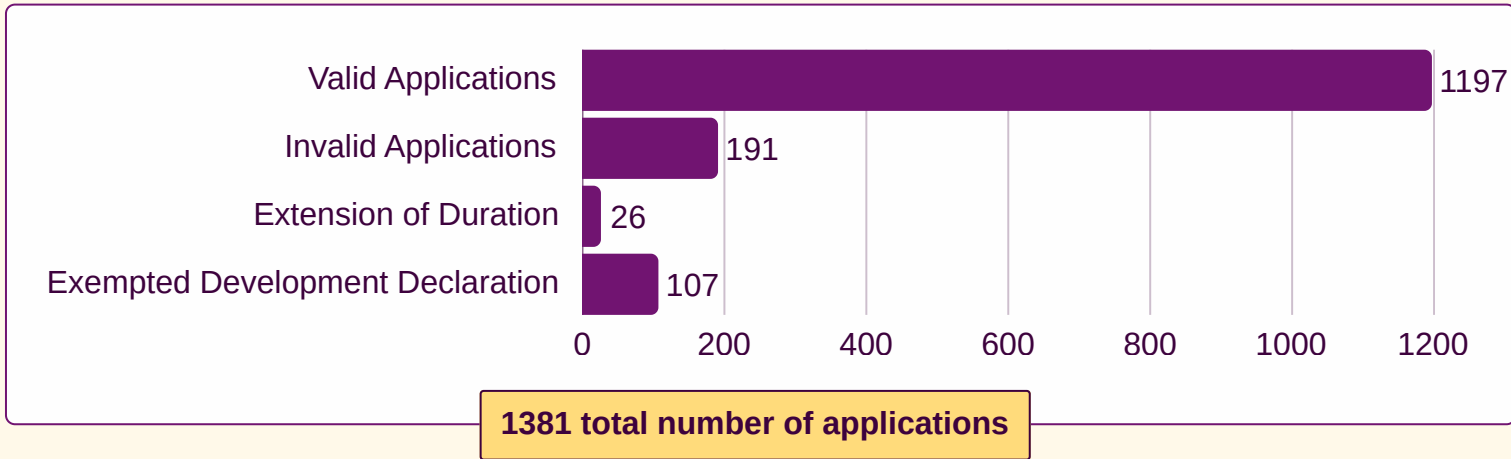


There will also be regular editorial features to keep Wexford in front of our target audience all year round.

Planning applications received 27th September to the 24th October 2025



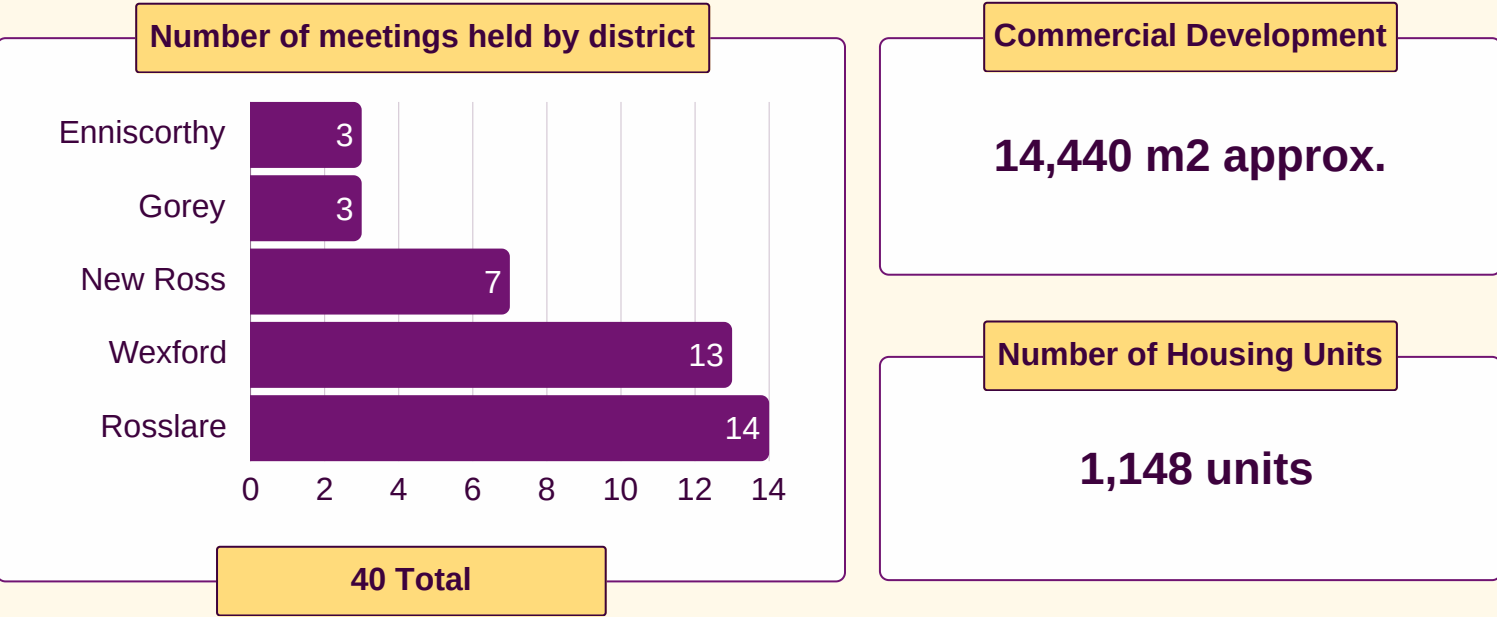
Planning applications received 1st January to 24th October 2025



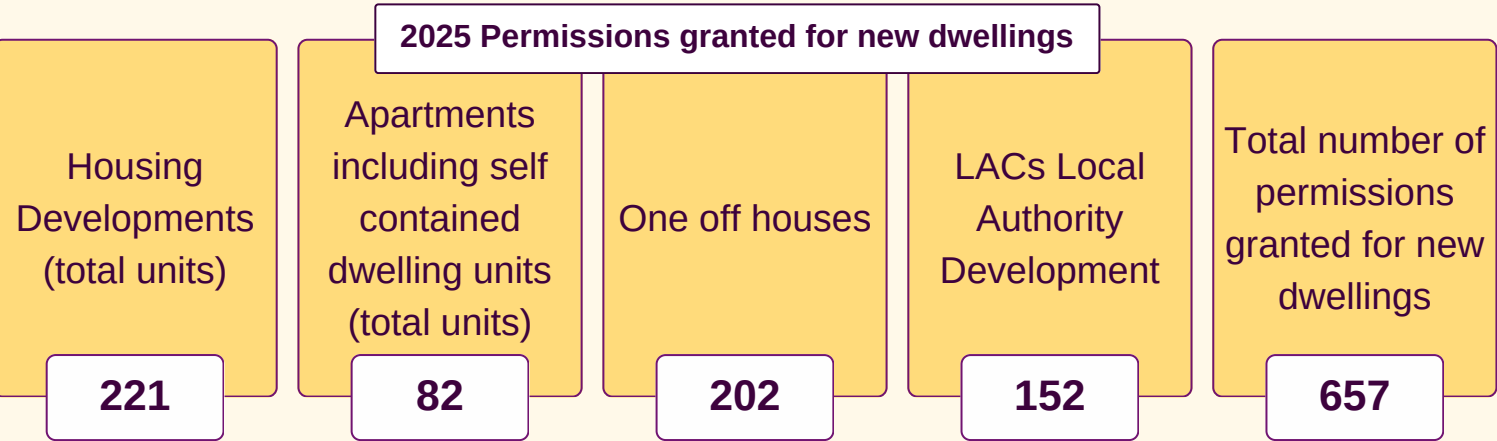
Pre-Planning - applications year to date up to the 30th October 2025

Pre-planning by District	Applications Received	Applications Closed	Open Pre-planning Applications
Enniscorthy MD	65	60	2
Gorey/Kilmuckridge MD	119	101	28
New Ross MD	70	70	4
Rosslare MD	92	75	5
Wexford BD	78	68	12
Total	424	374	51

Major Pre-Planning - Year to date to the 30th October 2025



Planning CSO Returns - year to date to the 30th September 2025



Built, Cultural and Natural Heritage

Conservation Works

The Heritage Section is currently overseeing essential conservation works at Clonmines church, Killag church and Ballycogley castle. These repairs will ensure the survival of these important medieval buildings and will help build resilience in the face of climate change. The work is being funded by the National Monument’s Service’s Community Monuments Fund which has provided **€400,959** in grant aid.



Forward Planning

Housing Growth Requirements

Following the approval of the National Planning Framework – First Revision, the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage has issued new Section 28 Guidelines with regard to the implementation of the new Housing Growth Requirements. The NPF has identified the need to plan for an additional 50,000 households nationally. Wexford has been allocated the fifth highest percentage increase nationally per year under the new housing growth requirement from 2025 to 2034 which will see an increase from 1,072 units to 1,622 units per year.

In addition, additional flexibility has been allocated to planning authorities with an increase threshold from 25% on additional provision of up to 50%.

Local Authorities are required to review the Core Strategy in their existing County Development Plan and, if necessary, amend it to accommodate the revised housing targets. Local Authorities must also review zoned land in within their functional area and determine whether there is adequate zoned land available to serve the revised targets. This work will require a Variation to the Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028. The Chief Executive will prepare and submit a report to the Members outlining his recommendations on the method by which to implement the revised Housing Growth Requirements.

The planning team are currently working on the revised Core Strategy and reviewing a number of settlements to identify appropriate lands to zone. A tiered approach to zoning is being used to identify:

- 1. lands that are serviced
- 2. land that is serviceable within the life of the plan.

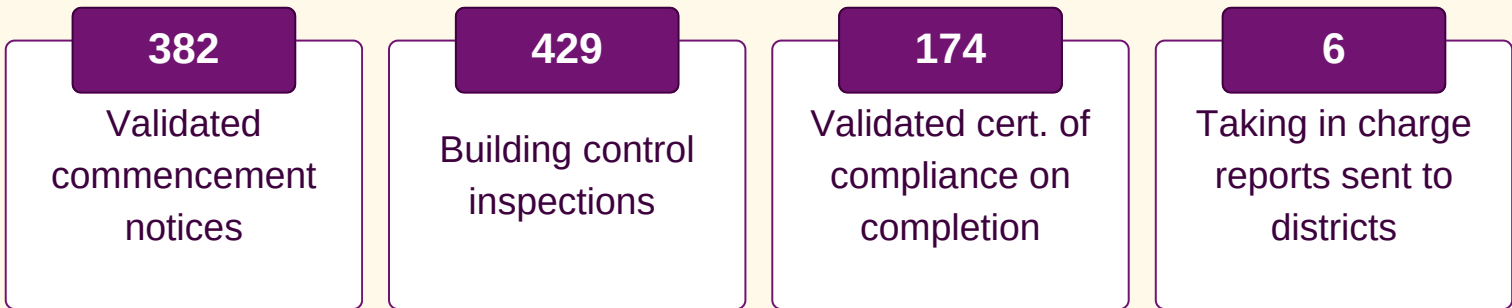
This will ensure that the lands which are proposed for zoning are capable rapid activation and housing delivery.

The proposed Variation will require assessment under the Strategic Environmental Assessment, Habitats and Floods Directives.

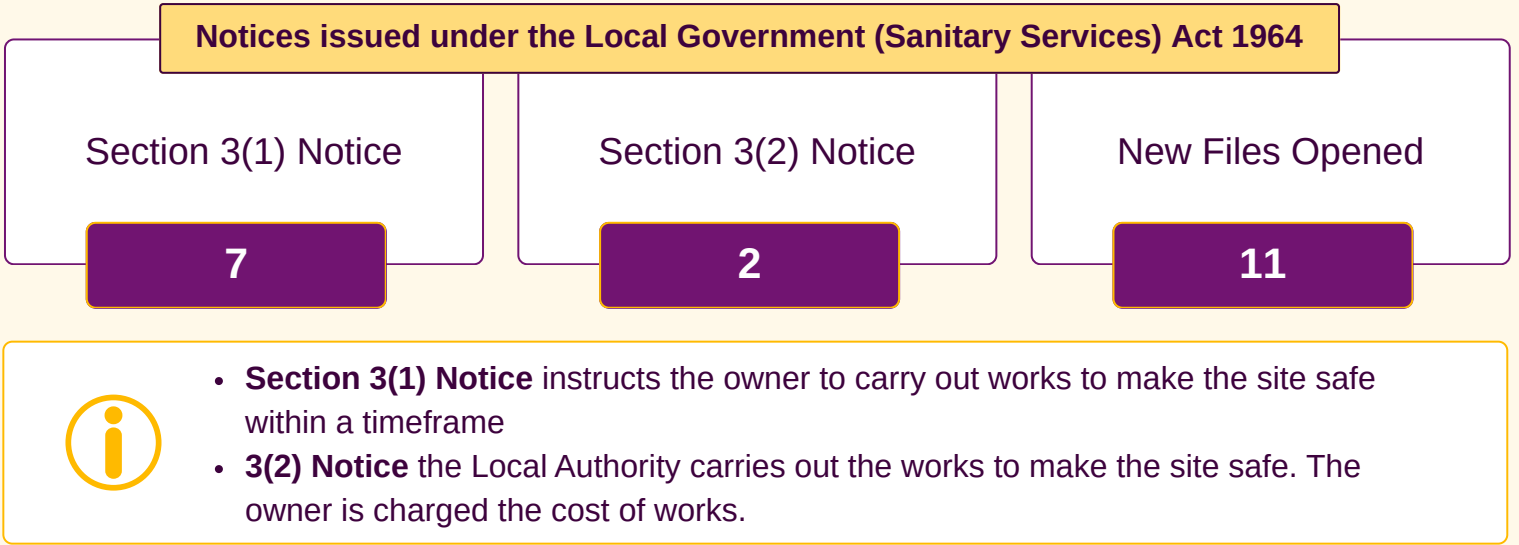
Planning Enforcement - Year to date up to the 24th October 2025



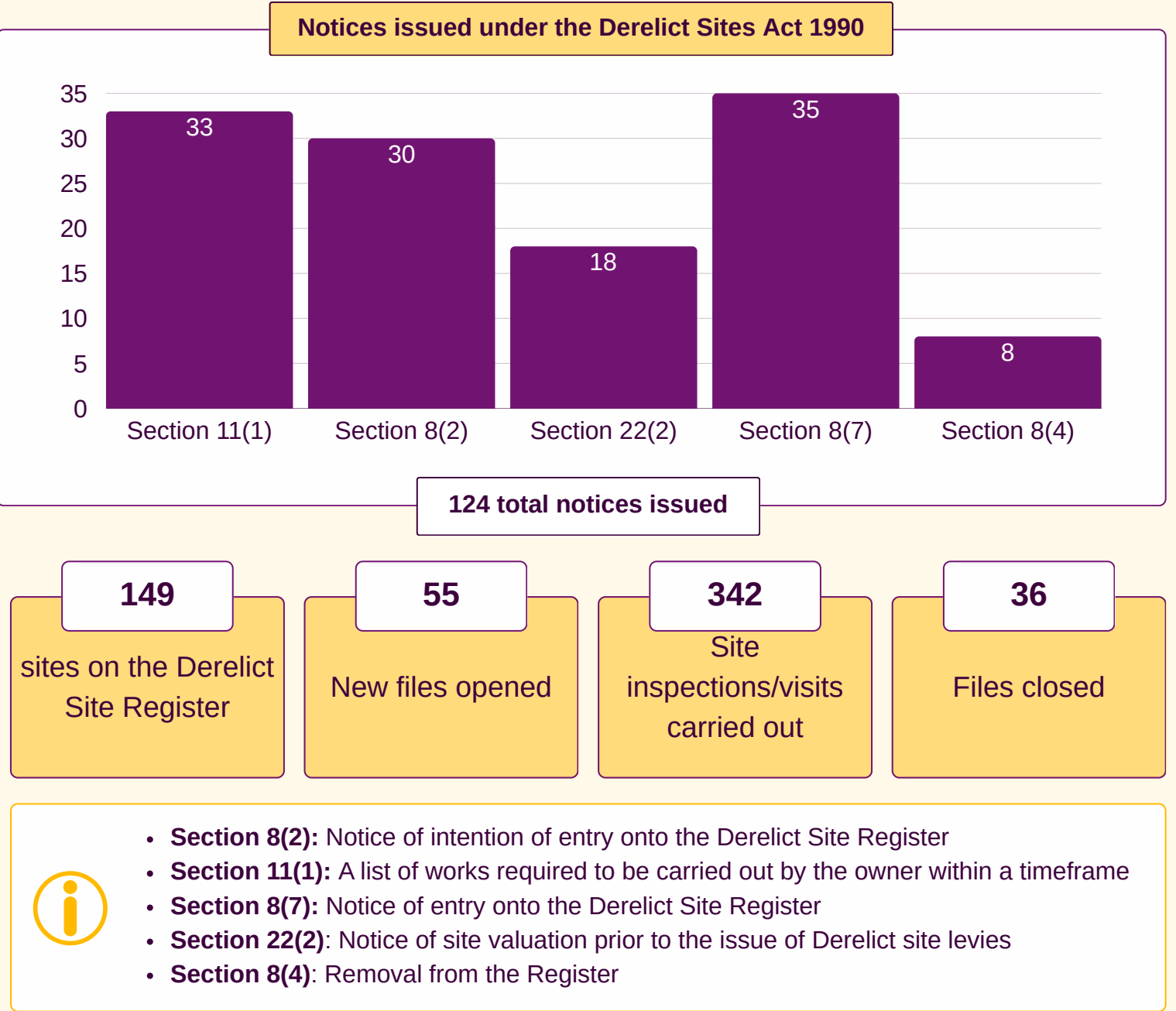
Building Control - Year to date up to the 24th October 2025



Dangerous Structures and Places - Year to date up to the 24th October 2025



Derelict Sites - year to date up to 24th October 2025



URDF Call 3 - Urban Regeneration Development Fund

174 sites approved on the programme as of the 24th October 2025

- 32 Engagement with Property Owner Commenced
- 4 Process to Purchase Commenced by CPO
- 1 Process to Purchase Commenced by Agreement
- 1 Property Acquired by LA
- 9 Advertised for sale - property owned by LA
- 75 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
- 5 Sold by local authority



Disability Access Certificates (DACs) Year to date up to the 24th October 2025

Applications for Districts	Total for Districts	Awaiting Assessment	Further Information	Granted	Refused
Enniscorthy	9	1	0	7	1
Gorey	18	0	0	17	1
New Ross	13	0	3	9	1
Wexford	37	0	3	33	1
Rosslare	7	0	1	4	2
2025 Totals	84	1	7	70	6

84 total number of valid DAC applications

Disability proofing - year to date up to the 24th October 2025

115

LAC/PLAC/LRD and
General Planning
Applications

8

Major pre-planning event
days

2

Appeals
1-Upheld ACP
1-Outstanding

Access Items

The National Human Rights Strategy for Disabled People 2025-2030

Work is continuing developing a new programme for Wexford County Council in line with the 5 Pillars to deliver accessible services consistent with the requirements of the Disability Act 2005, the UNCRPD, and the newly published Human Rights Strategy for Disabled People 2025-2030.

The Access Section recently facilitated a request from CCMA Rural, Community, Culture & Heritage (RCCH) Committee which was related to Pillar 3 of the new National Strategy. The request based on correspondence from the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Disability Matters seeking a written submission from Local Authorities, on the subject of “*Participation in Community Life for Persons with Disabilities*” with a particular emphasis on leisure and sport. This correspondence demonstrated the type of data, evidence and statistical level of information which is now expected in response to Local Authorities meeting their obligations on Disability Matters.

The Access Section will endeavour to base the design of any new programme, strategy in keeping with the structure type and level of detail that the recent survey request demonstrated. It highlighted a more collaborative interdepartmental approach to recording information which extended beyond our direct services to include data from sporting and leisure facilities and activities supported by means of Wexford County Council funding.

- Pillar 1:

Inclusive Learning and Education
- Pillar 2:

Employment
- Pillar 3:

Independent Living and Active Participation in Society
- Pillar 4:

Wellbeing and Health
- Pillar 5:

Transport and Mobility

REGENERATION UNIT

TOWN CENTRE FIRST

Measure 2. The Courtown/Riverchapel TCF Plan is now adopted and we are looking at officially launching the Plan in the coming weeks.

A big thank you to the Courtown/Riverchapel Town Centre First Team who are a voluntary group representing business and community groups throughout Courtown/Riverchapel area and who have given of their time and energy into ensuring that this process was a success.

A pipeline of projects has been identified that can make Courtown/Riverchapel a better place to live, work, visit and do business. We now look forward to the next phase in trying to secure funding to bring these projects to fruition and once approved by the Department will officially launch the plan.

Measure 3. Work is ongoing with the Project development measures for these 2 €50k projects.

1. St Michaels Theatre, New Ross. Drawings are now complete and will be forwarded to St Michaels Theatre board (Feachtas Ealaoin) in the coming weeks. These detailed design drawings will enable Feachtas Ealaoin to go to tender for the roof replacement and enhancement works when funding allows.
2. Kilmore Scope/ Bridgetown hub for Water based activities/walking cycling tourism. The preliminary drawings for the water hub are complete and we had a very successful consultation evening in October where in excess of 50 people attended during the afternoon and evening. We will be delivering these drawings and community report to Kilmore Scope with a view to working with them and the wider community in delivering on this ambitious project for this community.



Measure1: Under this measure Town Teams were established in Taghmon, Castlebridge and Bunclody with investment in capacity building helping to get these teams engaged. Meetings have taken place in Sept with other Town Teams to meet in Oct/Nov.

Vacant Homes - Work is continuing on vacant homes with €439,098 paid out in Grants in the last 4 weeks and nearly €450,000 of initial approvals granted in this time period which is having a very positive impact on improving vacancy and dereliction throughout the County.

Croi Conaithe Applications Wexford County Council as at 30-09-25

Applications Received	524
Inspections Required (First)	4
Inspections Required (Final)	8
Applications Info Requested	126
Applications Approved	389
Awaiting Approval	0
Applications Rejected	7
Application on Hold	0
Withdrawn By Applicant	12

Funding Issued	124
Total Funding Paid to Date	€6,887,653.50
<i>Total Funding Approved To Date</i>	<i>€22,157,852.00</i>

WATER SERVICES

Multi Annual Rural Water Programme	
Measure 3 – Enhancement of Existing Schemes including Water Conservation	Blackstairs GWS • Caim Tank – Works complete. Road Reinstatement to take place in Q4 2025. • Reservoir Bypass - Drawdown complete for stage 1 payment. Recouped from Dept. • Majority of funding expected to be claimed and recouped by Q4 2025.
MARWP 2024-2026	• Funding approval – €1.2 million for the upgrade of 3.9km Watermain for Blackstairs GWS.
Measure 8 – Individual wells (private or household wells)	Individual Well Grants • A total of 27 new well grant applications were registered in September 2025. • 14 Well Grants have been paid in this period, totaling €30,881.62. • 65 inspections to date carried out to date in October 2025.
Group Water Scheme Subsidies	Subsidies Paid to GWS to date 2025 Total €536,213.84 This consists of • Subsidy A (payable towards the general operational and management costs of all types of GWS's: €347,388.21. • Subsidy B (payable (in addition to Subsidy A) towards O&M costs associated with “bona fide” DBO contracts for GWS's €283,897.99
Measure A8 – Wastewater Collection & Treatment Needs for Villages & Settlements without access to Public Wastewater Service	New Advance Phase of MARWP 2022-2024 Ramsgrange - Uisce Eireann project lead resolution.
Lead Remediation Grant	• 9 applications received to date on revised grant, 7 paid, 2 approved but have yet to submit claim for works complete.
Compliance monitoring	• EPA report on “Drinking Water Quality in Private Group Schemes and Small Private Supplies 2024” released on 23rd July -Wexford had no E.coli or THM failures during this period.

DPI Resolution Project					
DPI Resolution Programme 2019-2021	Name	Towland	Expecting Costings	75% Funding Provided	Project Completion/ Programme
	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

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 tasks underway to address Service Area requirements, Active Travel provisions, and Biodiversity considerations.

Engagement with Iarnród Éireann is ongoing in relation to the railway protection structure at the River Slaney bridge crossing. The preliminary design of the preferred bridge type over the River Slaney is in progress.

Updates to the traffic modelling are ongoing, along with the repeat of certain environmental surveys.

Phase 3 Targeted Archaeological Test Excavation tender process has commenced.

Preparation of the Maritime Usage License (MUL) and Maritime Area Consent (MAC) applications is ongoing.

Consultation with directly affected landowners is continuing, and the Technical Advisors are advancing design updates to address landowner concerns as far as possible.

A Real Estate Valuation of the currently proposed alignment is ongoing.

The preparation of Environmental, Planning, Design, and other supporting reports is ongoing.

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

The Management Group has provided additional comments to the Technical Advisors regarding the Main Construction Contract Tender Documents, specifically in relation to the due diligence review. A response from the Technical Advisors is awaited.

Technical and safety approval for Structure B1 (Railway Overbridge) has been received from Iarnród Éireann. The Bridge Agreement has also been received from Iarnród Éireann and is currently under review by Wexford County Council’s legal advisor.

Negotiations between real estate valuers and landowners regarding Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) compensation is ongoing.

Draft procurement documents for the appointment of Technical Advisors for Phases 6 and 7 have been submitted to TII for review and approval. The formal tender process is expected to commence shortly.

On-site works under the Archaeological Services (Stages I–IV) contract are expected to commence in the coming weeks.

NATIONAL ROAD PAVEMENT SCHEMES

SAFETY SCHEMES

National Road	Progress update
N25 Tagoat	Detailed design ongoing.
N30 Leeches Bend West of Clonroche	Priority Construction on site and works progressing well.
N25 Larkins Cross	Tender documents currently under preparation.

2025 PAVEMENT SCHEMES

N25 Ballygillane to Ashfield Cross Roundabout Phase 2 Pavement Scheme €2,460,000 - The scheme was completed in early June.

HD28 Pavement Improvements 2025 €2,750,000

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

- N11 Oylegate to Scurlocksbush Roundabout. 1.7km – contractors appointed and awaiting start date
- N30 Ballymackessy 1.0km - out to tender
- N30 Leeches Bend includes a HD28 allocation – included in the safety scheme
- N11 Oylegate Village Repair Works complete
- Retexturing of Traffic Lanes for 2.35km on the N11 and N30 – contractor appointed and works expected to commence shortly.

ADDITIONAL MAINTENANCE ALLOCATION

Additional maintenance allocation of €575,000 was secured from TII for the following minor repairs across the national road network.



N25 Clonard overbridge - Works complete.



Minor pavement repair to approaches to the N25 Duncannon Road Roundabout. Works Complete



Minor pavement repair within N25 Kilrane traffic calming. Works complete.



Minor pavement repair at N25 Cushinstown. Works to be completed in November



Minor pavement repair at N80 Moyeady. Works to be completed in November



N11 Oilgate Village Pavement Repair. Works Completed

REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROADS

Wexford's allocation through the Regional and Local Road Grant 2025 is €24,243,148

Restoration Improvement Programme

Wexford's allocation is €12,440,500. This includes a further €372,500 funding under RI approved by the DoT in August 2025 and this was used to extend the works at Kellystown, Adamstown in New Ross MD.

97 projects have been added to our countywide programme – total of 86 projects completed to date. The remaining projects will be completed over the coming weeks.

Surface Dressing Programme

Wexford's allocation is €2,841,500. 71 projects have been added to our programme with all 71 completed.

Community Involvement Schemes - All 7 schemes completed

Local Involvement Schemes (LIS) - €619,894 funding allocated in early 2025. A further €560,298.00 was announced by DoT. Preparatory works are underway to progress all schemes.

Bridge Rehabilitation - 17 projects included on the programme. 10 bridges completed and works have started on a further 3 bridges.

Safety Improvement Works - 12 Projects, 4 completed. Works on remaining 8 are underway

Specific Improvement Grant

Wexford's allocation is €651,500.

- This scheme includes €170,000 for 3 bridges – 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.
- R733 Duncannon New Line Road Safety Improvements:
 - Junction improvements at Mountain Bar, Racks Cross, Redshire.
 - 7 new vehicle activated signs to be installed.
 - Extensive linemarking to be carried out.

Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Works - 23 projects on the programme, 12 completed to date and 6 projects are underway.

General Maintenance - Drainage, patching and road surface repair works are ongoing in all Districts.

ACTIVE TRAVEL UPDATE

PATHFINDER PROJECTS	
Project & Location	Project Update
Newtown Road Phases 2 & 3	Tendering process now closed on etenders. Active Travel to proceed with procurement.
Hospital Junction Newtown Road	Hospital Junction currently in detail design stage. Land transfer agreed and underway with HSE. Advance works to be completed at boundaries. RPS consultants to send in forecasted progress shortly.
Beechlawn/Clonard Cycle Scheme	Public Information meeting scheduled for 6 th November 2025 in County Hall prior to Part 8 commencement. A preplanning meeting was completed and awaiting Pre-planning report.
Roxborough Cycle Scheme	Procurement of Site Investigation underway by design consultants DBFL.

Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA)

Wexford Town - Completion of this study is expected in October/ November 2025 pending internal review from Planning department.

Enniscorthy Town - Review of Final Plan completed by Roads Department. Currently under review by NTA.

Safe Routes to School Schemes (SRS)

Ramsgrange SRTS works are completed.
The following sites are approved for works in 2025:

- 1. **Ballaghkeene NS** - Construction works ongoing.
- 2. **Kiltealy NS** – Construction works ongoing.
- 3. **Enniscorthy Vocational College** - Construction works commenced 22nd October - ongoing
- 4. **Ballyroe buck NS** - has been approved for €170,000 funding as part of additional scheme for schools on high-speed roads. Road resurfacing strengthening and SD completed and funded by NTA.

St Leonard’s National School - Construction of intervention measures at St. Leonards National School are underway, consisting of new pedestrian linkage from car park to school and defining of bus and accessibility parking locations. Footpath on opposite side of carriageway completed. Works on school side consists of new ramp, landscaped area, pencil bollards and build outs. Completion scheduled for end November 2025.

Public e-bike and e-Scooter Sharing Scheme - Expressions of Interest received from 4 suppliers for an e-bike and e-scooter scheme. Propose to request a detailed submission from companies to establish most suitable once the National shared micromobility services contract is completed.

Bus Stop Enhancement Scheme - List of proposed bus shelter locations in 2026 currently under review by Active Travel / Roads. Submission to NTA following completion of site location assessment.

Other works

- Oulart - footpath and wall construction underway after agreement with OPW.



- Fethard footpath extension – works ongoing with expected completion end November 2025



- Old Dublin Rd Urban Area - footpaths underway.

- Pedestrian crossings completed and underway

◦ Taghmon	Apex, New Ross	Clonard Road
◦ Rosslare	Fort Rd, Gorey	Distillery Road, Wexford x 2
◦ Piercestown	Greenville Lane, Enniscorthy	Davitt Road, Wexford x 2
◦ Murrintown	Seamus Wrafter Bridge, Enniscorthy	Fairways, Wexford
◦ Rosslare village	Munster Hill, Enniscorthy	Camolin
◦ Castledockerall	St. Ednas, Ferns	

- Ballycanew section 38 completed. Includes 3 ramps in total
- Greenville Lane, Enniscorthy – Junction tightening intervention scheme underway.
- Ballymurn pedestrian crossing and footpath extension commenced 25th Aug. Ramps and lining still outstanding.
- Weafer Street, Enniscorthy – Junction tightening and safety measures at 3 junctions. Proceed to construction in Q4 2025 following property survey.

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	Contractor appointed, installation to commence in November
Ballycullane Village	Out for design and quotation	Contractor appointed, installation to commence in November
Auburn Avenue, New Ross	ESB connection to be applied for	Contractor appointed, installation to commence in November
Maudlins to Millhouse Care Centre, New Ross	Survey & cleaning work completed	ESB Application submitted & pricing document under preparation
Kilhile Arthurstown	Survey completed. Design & quotations sought from 3 contactors	Awaiting returns from contractors
Glentire Heights to the Ballagh Village	Works Ongoing	Contractors appointed & works progressing
Kiltealy Village	Works Ongoing	Contractors appointed & works progressing

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Adoration Convent Wexford - A formal ground-breaking ceremony was held on September 30th, attended by elected members, the Adoration nuns and officials from Georgia Southern University and Wexford County Council. Works are progressing well onsite & completion is scheduled for January 2027.

Ballast Office - (A) Essential Repair Work - Award of contract is now imminent and works are expected to start in the coming weeks.

(B) Refurbishment - 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 works have commenced in September 2025 and fencing to secure the site is due to be completed in Q4 2025. Site investigations will commence in tandem with the fencing. Ground investigation works are anticipated to commence in Q1 2026.

Carrigfoyle Activity Centre Building - Initial enabling works to level the site and make accessible for use are complete. We await further instruction from the WWETB before commencing the next phase of works. No update

Courtown Coastal Protection & Beach Nourishment Scheme - An application for RRDF funding was submitted in April 2025. RRDF funding was refused in October 2025. Other options for funding will now be assessed.

Curraclloe Water Sports Activity Facility - A system to manage payments from members of the public, using facilities is scheduled to be installed in November 2025.

Dunbrody Famine Ship Experience Upgrade and Extension - Site investigations (site survey, trial holes, bore holes etc.) are underway and hope to be concluded in Q4 2025. The design proposal is being enhanced as this supporting information becomes available.

Enniscorthy Flood Relief Scheme - no updates

Phase 1 - New River Slaney Bridge Project - A public consultation on the emerging preferred option for Phase 1, was held from 13 May to the 10 June 2025. A second public consultation is to take place in Q4 2025. The planning application for Phase 1 is to be submitted in Q3 2026. No Update

Enniscorthy Technical Park Access Road Phase 2 - It is anticipated the tender for construction works will be published in October. No Update

Enniscorthy Technical Park IDA Tech Building - It is now expected to lodge a planning application in January 2026.

Enniscorthy

(A) Town Centre & Tourism Project - It is expected to commence the Part 8 process for the Castle quarter project in November 2025. It is now expected to lodge a planning application in January 2026. Ground Investigation works are currently ongoing to inform archaeological and structural engineering considerations.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

(B) Templeshannon Regeneration Project - Our new Senior Executive Architect will be managing the Templeshannon Public Realm project from now on. The procurement process for a design team to bring this project forward will now commence. We expect to advertise tenders for this in Q4 2025.

Archaeological, ground investigation and ecological surveys are expected to commence shortly.

Officials from the UDRF section of the DHLGH visited Enniscorthy on 17th September to view the three Enniscorthy TC project sites

Enniscorthy Sports Hub - Works are progressing and currently on programme. No update

Esmonde Street, Gorey - Construction works on-site are expected to commence in Q4 2025. No update

Gorey Market House - Surveys to inform the detailed design are currently underway. Stage 1 (prequalification) of main works tender was published in September 2025, it is anticipated that evaluation and shortlisting of submissions will be completed in Q4 2025 and tenders invited prior to the end of 2025. No update

Gorey Relief Road, Ballytegan Avenue (St Waleran's Link Road) - Design work has commenced, site investigation works are nearly complete. The Part 8 process for Phase 1 is targeted to commence in January 2026.

Phase 2, which may require an application to An Bord Pleanála, will be submitted for planning in mid-2026.

John Street Grain Store, New Ross - Submission to An Coimisiun Pleanála is expected in early November 2025

Mechanics Institute Refurbishment - The contract for refurbishment works has been awarded to Kilcaven Property Developments. Works have commenced in October 2025.

Riverchapel Community Centre - An integrated design team has been appointed to progress the project through the tendering and construction stages to completion. An initial Order of Magnitude for the project has been prepared and the design proposal is being reviewed for suitability ahead of progressing to tender. Our new Senior Executive Architect, Emma Hickey is now managing this project.

Wexford Town to Rosslare Greenway - The Options Selection Report is currently undergoing TII's Peer review process. We anticipate completion and publication of the preferred route corridors by end of 2025. No update

WEXFORDIA

Irish National Heritage Park - It is planned to submit a planning application for the entire project to An Coimisiun Pleanála in Q3 2026, subject to the receipt of a Marine Area Consent process completion. Preliminary Design of the new visitor centre is nearing completion.

Hook Lighthouse - It is planned to present the current design to the Board of Hook Heritage Ltd in the coming month, followed by a public consultation event to be held on site. No update.

New Ross Tourism Project - The Part 8 process which commenced in June 2025, was ratified by the Council at the September 2025 plenary meeting. Architectural preliminary design is complete with detailed design now progressing well.

PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Ferndale Gymnasium - Works are currently expected to be complete in November 2025. The completion of the Project is contingent on the ESB and Uisce Eireann connection.

South East Greenway - Rosbercon Trailhead - Part 8 process on Rosbercon Trailhead is due to commence in Q4 2025

Lot 4 - The tender for the main works contract is due to be advertised in December.

Lot 5a - We await completion and handover of an access ramp on the North Quays Project to enable us to open this section of greenway. Our latest information is that this will happen in November

Lot 5b ,Lot 6,Lot 7 - Site investigation works are ongoing.

Trinity Wharf - IGSL commenced offshore site investigations in early October. Irish Rail works are ongoing to construct a new automated level crossing. The Stage 1 (pre-qualification) advert for the next site development works contract (Phase 1A) was published on Etenders in September.

Wexford Town and Environs Flood, Relief Scheme - A bank survey has been carried out along the Horse River.

FUNDING & DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

Town & Village Renewal Scheme (TVRS) 2025 - It is anticipated that successful TVRS projects will be announced by DRCDG before year end.

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) - €310K allocated to Wexford projects under recent announcement. DRCDG Funding Approval for 7 of the Projects was announced on 14/8/25.

Rural Regeneration Development Fund (RRDF) - 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

COMMUNITY

COMHAIRLE NA NÓG

The Annual Youth Conference of Wexford Comhairle na nÓg was held on 23rd October in the Council Chamber with over 100 young people from secondary schools and youth organisations across County Wexford attending the event.

Comhairle na nÓg is a forum for young people to discuss issues that affect them and to elect their own representatives to act as a voice for the youth of County Wexford.

New members for 2026 were elected at this conference. Wexford County Council looks forward to working with Wexford Comhairle na nÓg in 2026 and the Wexford Co-ordinator Avril O'Sullivan.

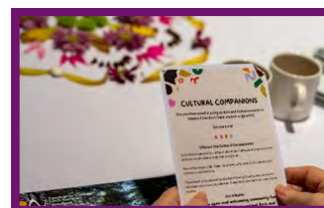


HEALTHY WEXFORD

Activities funded under the Healthy Ireland Round 4 Fund are continuing to the end of 2025.

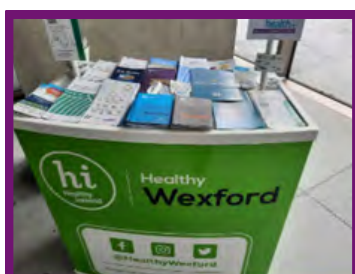
A one year extension to the programme for 2026 has been announced with the requirement to maintain activities under the current outcome areas.

Outside of the Healthy Ireland funded activity Healthy Wexford continues to support development of the Cultural Companions initiative in partnership with our colleagues.



Healthy Ireland funded project work undertaken in October included:

- Teenage girl **Healthy Choices Programmes** courses continue in New Ross, Taghmon & Wexford.
- A further 12 participants completed the final **Strong Not Tough Resilience course for Community Leaders** of 2025. Once again the course feedback was excellent with skills learned being of both personal and community benefit.
- **Social Farming** Placements with participants from Reachability are underway, to complete in November.
- The final **Strong & Steady programme** of the year with Sports Active Wexford continues in Wexford. This is a rehabilitation programme for those who have left hospital which aims to increase physical activity.
- Our **Lets Get Moving Age Friendly** project continues with activities in nursing homes and social dancing planned for each district – commencing late Oct/early Nov and continuing for five weeks.
- **New Ross Activity Hub** continues activity - this month supporting the cycle tutor for the Womens Shed Greenway cycle among other things.

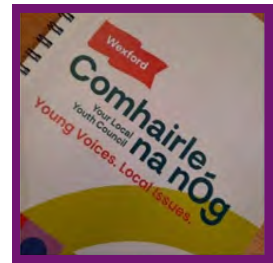


Supporting Mental Health Month Healthy Wexford provided a display of Mental Health & Wellbeing supports from a range of partners in the County Hall.



In tandem on World Mental Health Day, 10th October, signposts to some online supports and resources to support your mental health were shared across Healthy Wexford social media.

Continuing the collaboration with Comhairle na nOg, a youth focused flyer to encourage further sign up to the 'Not Around Us' campaign was co-created and distributed to the young people attending their Annual Youth Conference at Wexford County Council on 23rd October.



October was a busy month of connections and events with attendance at:

- *Breastfeeding Week Coffee Morning* in Clonard, Wexford;
- *Social Farming Awareness Week Farm Open Day* at Nuala and David farm in Gort na Guirreoirge Farm in Enniscorthy
- HSE guided visit to the new *Amphitheatre* in St John's in Enniscorthy
- Planning for *Play Seminar* from Dept Of Children, Disability and Equality today in Athlone



The Healthy County Coordinator liaised with the Regional Literacy Coordinator to offer a **Literacy Awareness Workshop** at Wexford County Council in October for both Community & Sports Active Staff and members of the Healthy County Committee.

COMMUNITY RECOGNITION FUND - MILESTONES ACHIEVED THIS PERIOD



Senior Citizens Ramsgrange - New Vehicle for Meals-on-Wheels



The Old School Cushinstown - Community Hall Refurbishment

UKRANIAN RESPONSE UNIT

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

Pledge Type	No. of Properties	No. of People Placed
Offer a home	286	847
Irish Red Cross	32	102

Numbers of pledged properties and people place by pledge type, source Ukraine Support Team, 28/10/25 - Offer A Home website/IRC Tracker

Ukraine Refurbishment Programme

All six Refurbishment Programme properties are now open and operational. New residents arrived to Ryland Road, Bunclody, at the end of June and have settled within the community.

Name	Occupancy	Name	Occupancy
Carne Accommodation Centre	47	Borromount Lodge, Enniscorthy	7
Unity Court, Wexford	39	Rafter Street, Enniscorthy	6
Michael Street, Wexford	8	Ryland Road, Bunclody	3

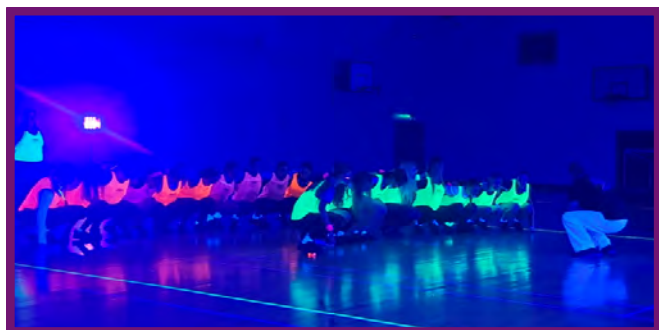


SPORTS ACTIVE

Her Moves Glow in the Dark Physical Activity Roadshow

Her Moves Glow in the Dark PA Roadshow was conducted in 5 Secondary Schools over a two-week period in celebration of International Day of the Girl.

Bunclody Community College	Dance	131 Girls	
Loreto, Wexford	Soccer	140 Girls	
FCJ, Bunclody	Volleyball	225 Girls	
Ramsgrange Community School	Martial Arts	185 Girls	
Coláiste an Átha	Table Tennis	56 Girls	Total 737



Some of the 737 teenage girls taking part in our UV Glow in the Dark Physical Activity Roadshow covering 5 secondary schools across the county.

Women's Shed Cycle	12 females from Duncannon, New Ross and Cushinstown took part in a cycle on the South East Greenway in October in collaboration with Wexford Local Development.
Playground Leaders	Ballymurn National School Riverchapel National School St. Joseph's, Gorey Coolcotts National School Scoil Mhuire, Rosslare Kilmore National School Scoil Mhaodhoig, Poulfur
Bat and Chat for Neurological Conditions	10 adults living with a neurological condition took part in our 5-week table tennis programme in Newbawn: This was run in conjunction with Table Tennis Ireland and many of the group have now joined Newbawn table tennis club.
New 2 Tri with Wexford Able Disabled	In partnership with Triathlon Ireland, a 6-week 'New 2 Tri' programme started with the Wexford Able Disabled group.
Inclusive Self Defence	14 girls with additional needs from Friends Together New Ross, participated in a 6-week inclusive self-defence class with Tae Kwon Doe Wexford instructor.
Autism in Sport Workshop	In collaboration with Active Disability Ireland, an online Autism in Sport Workshop took place in October.
Healthy Choices	Kick Boxing Taster for Healthy Choices programme with teenage girls: FDYS Coolcotts & FDYS Taghmon



WEXFORD PPN



Wexford PPN attended the National Conference in Trim Co. Meath on 16th of October. The National PPN Report “Building Community Resilience in Times of Emergency” was launched at the conference. Following a national online survey of all PPN’s and an in-person workshop in July 2025, this report is intended to form the basis for discussions with other stakeholders to agree on a collaborative process to



ensure communities are as resilient and prepared for all types of emergencies as possible.

Wexford PPN and their members look forward to working with all the relevant agencies facing this challenge and supporting them and our communities.

Left to right Mary Byrne, Wexford PPN Co-Ordinator, Kevin Molloy Wexford PPN Secretariat & Gorey MD & NASC Representative, David Rea, Wexford PPN Secretariat Chairperson, Rosslare MD & FLAG Representative, John Kirwan Wexford PPN Secretariat & Social Inclusion Representative, Sue Kent, Wexford PPN Development Officer.

The inaugural meeting of the Wexford Local Community Safety Partnership was held on the 30th September 2025 at Wexford Council Chamber.

This is the first meeting of a safety partnership to be held in the country with welcome addresses by the Chief Executive, Minister for Justice Mr. Jim O' Callaghan, (video recording) and Chief Superintendent Derek Hughes.

The partnership comprises of 29 members representing state agencies, local authority elected members and community groups which will now work together to improve and enhance community safety in the county. Councillor Mary Farrell was elected Chairperson and Councillor Ger Carthy was elected Vice-chairperson. A Steering Group was also established to begin the work on a 3-year Local Community Safety Plan. The partnership will report to the National Office for Community Safety at the Department of Justice which supports and oversees all Local Community Safety Partnerships throughout the country.



LOCAL AUTHORITY INTEGRATION TEAM (LAIT)



Integration Health and Wellbeing Conference Limerick City and County Council

LAITs from all over Ireland were invited along with Limerick services to join in a two day event where opportunities were given to showcase what events have been held around the country by different LAITs showing the importance of collaboration and how to promote and integrate health and wellbeing in each area. An open panel discussion was had giving the opportunity to ask questions from different organisations

Accommodation provider seminar with RedCross & Doras (September)

Centre managers and staff from around Wexford BOTP and IPAS centres, LAITs from the South East region and local services were invited to Whites Hotel of Wexford to an open discussion to speak with Redcross and Doras around challenges, barriers and supports within the accommodation system. Opportunities and learning came from sharing information and having round table discussions.

WEXFORD SLÁINTECARE HEALTHY COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME (SHCP)

SHCP Seed Funded projects approved:

The Dept. of Health recently approved funding for the following projects which will be delivered over the next year:

1. Enniscorthy Community Inter Agency Team – Community Development Projects including:

- Community Volunteer Capacity Building Training
- Therapeutic Horticulture course with community groups
- Traveller Estate Clean-Up (The Tigins)
- FDYS Music Box Programme – music facilitator and instrument repairs

2. “Taghmon Grow It, Cook It, Eat It” - food education & horticulture course for Taghmon school children, teaching growing, cooking, healthy eating, with visits to farms, local food producers and intergenerational parent-child nutrition and cookery classes.

3. Taghmon Wellbeing & Education Projects including:

- Support for the setup of the first Taghmon Women’s Shed
- Grinds for secondary students in Taghmon FRC
- Wexford Festival Opera community outreach and workshop

4. Wexford Town Community Inter Agency Team set up and projects including;

- Whitemills Greening & Art Project
- Creative Laneways Project
- Loreto – Le Chéile Intergenerational Project

Opera For All

The collaborative ‘Opera For All’ project between Wexford County Council and Wexford Festival Opera culminated with over 400 people from a wide variety of local community groups from across the county attending various operas as part of Wexford Opera Festival. This initiative which is now in its 3rd year is part of Wexford Festival Opera’s community outreach which has also included educational events in Taghmon, Maudlintown and Coolcotts in Wexford Town. The aim is to make opera more accessible to all.



Sláintecare Healthy Communities National Conference

The inaugural Sláintecare Healthy Communities National Conference 2025 was held on October 21st in Dublin at the DCU St. Patricks campus, bringing together stakeholders from across health, local government, and community sectors to champion the ongoing work to address health inequalities.

Wexford SHCP attended along with our partners from Taghmon Action Group (Taghmon Community Car), Southend Family Resource Centre (Southend Retrofitting Project) and Dr. Dean Phelan (Enniscorthy Community Inter Agency Team) who showcased their respective projects to conference attendees. The conference was launched by Minister Jennifer Murnane O'Connor, who also had a chance to try out the Taghmon Community Car.



BURIAL GROUNDS

Parking bays have been installed at Ballymurn Cemetery as the final part of a bigger body of works carried out over the past 2 years in partnership with Ballymurn Cemetery Committee and Gorey Municipal District Engineers. Picture attached.

Tree surgeries have been completed this year at both Bunclody and Ferns Cemeteries with further tree surgeries planned for 2026 as part of an overall maintenance plan for burial grounds.



AGE FRIENDLY

The Age Friendly Programme, funded by Opera for all, organised for 10 members of the Riverchapel Ladies to go to the National Opera House to see the Factory Opera /// *Viaggio a Reims*. For many it was the first time seeing an opera. Feedback from the group afterwards was that they really joined the Opera and would go again.



Guest on the Local Radio

The Age Friendly programme manager appeared on the local radio station's Morning Mix with Alan Maguire. Topics discussed included the role of the Programme Manager, what it means to be an Older Person in Wexford and the issue of Loneliness among older people.

The Older Person Council was also discussed. This Council includes representatives from each of the 5 municipal districts in Wexford and provides input into the Age Friendly Alliance, a broader interagency group, working to raise issues concerning older people in Wexford.

2025 National Age Friendly Recognition & Achievement Awards

The Age Friendly Awards took place in Galway. Phase 2 of Baile na Roigh in Rosslare Strand was shortlisted in the Age Friendly Housing Award along with Bowden Court from Fingal County Council and Cuirt an Trosic Donegal County Council.

ENVIRONMENT

COASTAL MATTERS

Seaview Coastal Protection project is in its final stage with beach access to commence shortly. Project should be finished at the end of the year. Precast concrete segments for the beach access are currently being placed.

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 temporary beach access completed in April, meeting with NPWS is planned for 03rd November to progress to a permanent solution.

Killmannock Drainage works: Hedge cutting, surveys have been carried out, Wayleave application is being progressed to access drainage works area.

Ballyhack & Passage East Car Ferry Infrastructure: Mini Tender sent to consultants for this work. Consultant is in the process of being appointed.

Ballyconniger & Clone bridges due to be removed in October.- Next week.

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

Cahore North Beach Rock Armour Enhancement: Preliminary drawing and ecology reports being prepared, with works due to be carried out Q1 – Q2 2026.

DAFM Funding - We were allocated a total of €690,000 for Pier & Harbour projects by the Department of Agriculture, Food & Marine for projects in Duncannon, Slade & Courtown Harbours. 75% is funded by the Department, 25% co-funded by WCC.

- Courtown repair to wall pier works – 100% Completed
- Slade Handrailing - 100% completed
- Slade Power point works – To be installed & completed in October
- Duncannon Old Pier – Truir construction Ltd now appointed and to commence next week

Operations -

Pre-planning meeting requested with MARA for the reconciliation application for New Ross Marina and debris boom. 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.

Attended “Haul it Back” scheme introduction meeting for recycling / removal of retired and damaged fishing nets containing plastics. Clean-up of Rockwell area at Duncannon harbour planned for next week.

Explosive bye laws approved at SPC meeting 26th September. Going for final approval at County Council meeting 13th October. Ongoing meetings with potential new stakeholders / business for New Ross Port.

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	January-October 2025 - 33 applications received	27 Grants paid/sent for payment, total paid €300,803.21	6 outstanding for review/documents
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No of Verification Inspections

2024 - Verification Inspections = 58	2025 - Verification Inspections = 78
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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

- 62 cases closed in year up till the end of October 2025. There are currently 110 open cases.
- All files for 2018 & 2020 are now closed.
- 82 new inspections have been carried out for 2025. 29 passed and 53 failed.
- There were 13 direct discharges to water and 7 discharges onto the surface of the ground noted.
- NIP inspections will continue November in Piercetown/Murrintown area & Lady's Island area.
- A stand giving out information on septic tank maintenance was at the Bannow Rathangan Show.

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 30th October 2025	82
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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. 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 has been completed.

Air -Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC's)

(Auto-Refinishers) currently there are 72 registered auto refinishers around the county. Q4 Website Register of compliant premises (Auto Refinishers) to be updated in December.Site inspections are ongoing. 1 Site identified for enforcement in Q4 has ceased operating.

Year Cert Expired:	Certified Q4	Cert. Pending	Ceased Operating <i>Monitoring Q4</i>	For Enforcement Q4
2023	0	0	0	4
2024	1	1	1	2
2025	1	0	3	2

Dry Cleaners: 6 Dry-Cleaners currently registered, 5 of whom are Certified, 1 has ceased operating. 2 non-registered premises identified in August & September - for initial inspection in Q4.

Petrol Stations -PVE emissions Stage 1 testing & compliance: 79 Petrol Stations currently registered around the county. Certification of Testing is required every 3 years.

Year Cert Expired:	Certified Q3	Cert. Pending	Ceased Operating <i>Monitoring Q3-Q4</i>	For Enforcement Q4
2023	0	1	0	1
2024	1	1	0	0
2025	7	1	0	5

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 carried out a total of 170 farm inspections in 2024 and the target has risen to 271 inspections in 2025 concentrating in areas where water quality was most at risk of not meeting its objectives under the WFD. A total of 177 of these 271 initial GAP inspections have been carried out at teh end of October 2025. A team of 4 Assistant Scientists take on this role lead by the Agricultural Scientist in the Environment Section. A total of 281 farm inspections have taken place altogether up to the end of October under GAP regulations, Sludge use in Agriculture, complaints made by the public, initial and follow up. The team continue to work in Aughboy, Mangan, Boro, Owenduff, Heathpark & Begerin catchments for 2025.

A total of 104 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-Sept 2025	1847		830	

All environmental complaints are loggedby the Customer Service Unit on the DASH CRM system. The total figures for complaints from 1/1/2025 – 30/9/2025 are as follows:

Bring Bank job by Status

Status	Bring Banks
closed	57
Total	57

Work Requests by Waste Area

Waste Area	Closed	Open	Total
Other	0	0	
Waste Area North	40	5	45
Waste Area South	51	2	53
Total	91	7	98

Fines Statistics

Waste Area	Fines	Fines Paid	Fines Cancelled
Other	22	6	17
Waste Area North	765	114	291
Waste Area South	691	62	188
Total	1478	182	496

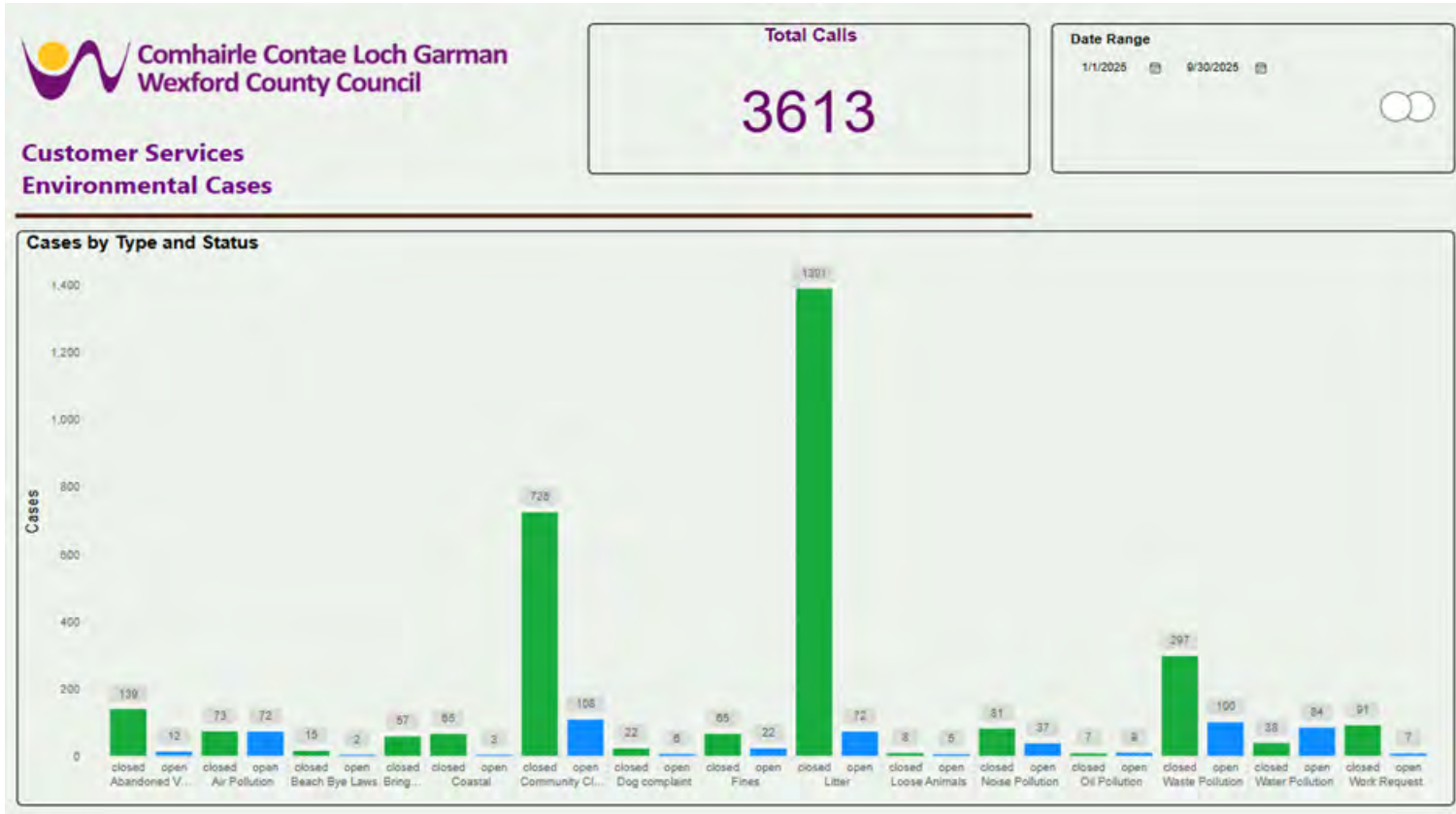
Community Cleanups

MSC	Logged	Litter Pickers	Gloves	Refuse Bags
No	6376	1270	4251	18424
Yes	418	313	993	2093
Total	6794	1583	5244	20517

Issue/Report Type

	closed	open	Total
Abandoned Vehicle	139	12	151
Air Pollution	73	72	145
Beach Bye Laws	15	2	17
Bring Banks	57		57
Coastal	65	3	68
Community Cleanup	725	108	833
Dog complaint	22	6	28
Fines	65	22	87
Litter	1391	72	1463
Loose Animals	8	5	13
Noise Pollution	81	37	118
Oil Pollution	7	9	16
Waste Pollution	297	100	397
Water Pollution	38	84	122
Work Request	91	7	98
Total	3074	539	3613

Total Calls logged January- September 2025



Court Overview - no court cases are heard in September

Month	Heard	Outcome	Litter	Waste	Water	Air	Noise	Dogs
Jan-August	13	Total fines	€2650	€1725	NA	NA	NA	€200
		Total costs	€1250	€1925	NA	NA	NA	€250

Litter Overview

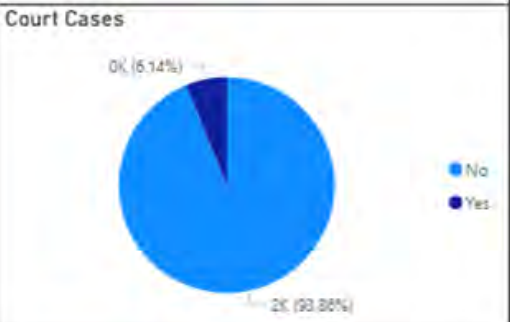
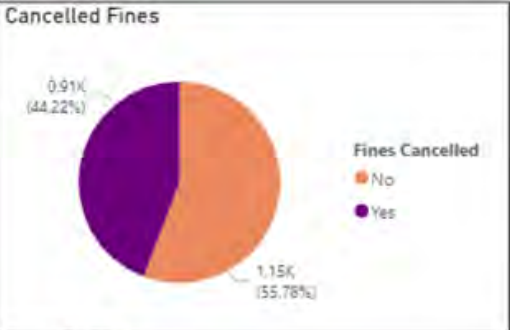
	Jan- September 2025
Fixed payment Notices issued	7
Litter fines issued	103
Fines paid litter	52
FPN paid	5
Successful prosecutions	13
Legal proceedings in progress	21
Amount collected in fines	€7829.50 litter €800 FPN €1200 dogs, Total €9829.50
Dog fines issued	6



Environment
Fines Report

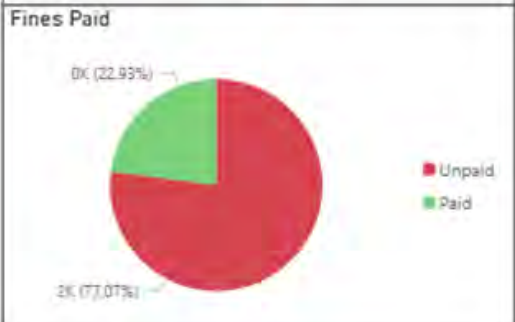
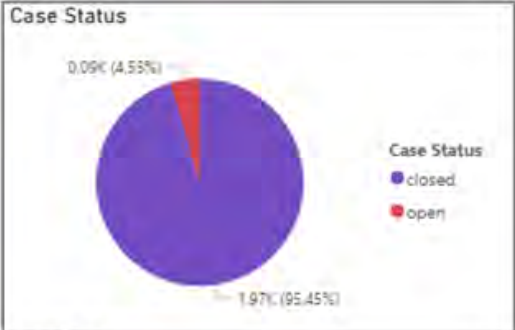
Date Range

1/1/20159/30/2025



Fines Issued

2067



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 - Sept 2025
Dogs collected	546	575	564	402
Dogs reclaimed	117	128	147	99
Dogs re-homed/transferred	370	404	442	295
Dogs put to sleep	51	38	31	8
Dog Fines	21	14	11	6

Recycling Services:

Bring Bank Network WASTE CATEGORY	No. of Sites Sept 2025	Recycling out Sept 2024 (t)	Recycling out Sept 2025 (t)
Glass bottles		260.72	269.85
Aluminium Cans		2.71	2.31
Total	108	263.43	272.16

Household Recycling Centres - Summary of Activities								
WASTE CATEGORY	Enniscorthy		New Ross		Holmestown		Gorey	
	Recycling out Sept 2024 (t)	Recycling out Sept 2025 (t)	Recycling out Sept 2024 (t)	Recycling out Sept 2025 (t)	Recycling out Sept 2024(t)	Recycling out Sept 2025 (t)	Recycling out Sept 2024 (t)	Recycling out Sept 2025 (t)
Total Recycling out	46	50	49	55	106	74	43	44
Total Domestic Waste in	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	283	309	N/A	N/A
Daily Average Customers Jan-Sep	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025
	72	84	114	117	134	146	83	82

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	Sept 2024	Sept 2025
Total Illegal Dumping/ Clean Ups	202	173
Gorey *		27
Enniscorthy *		67
Wexford *		36
New Ross*		26
Rosslare		17
Total Bring Site Inspections	771	770

ENVIRONMENT EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

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

Green Schools: Contact with green schools is ongoing closing date for applications for the first green flag Litter & Waste is early December.

School Workshops: SEEA engineers facilitated an energy talk to 5th & 6th class students in Rathangan National School and Kilmore National School on Friday 17th October as part of Green Schools Climate Action Week.

The ARC Remote Classroom: The Aquaculture remote classroom visited 6 schools. It is designed to help younger audiences learn about aquaculture using immersive technologies including VR headsets so pupils can plunge to the depths of the sea to learn about how salmon, oysters and mussels are farmed in Ireland.

School name	Eircode	Date (October 2025)
St. Garvans NS	Y35E773	7th
Scoil Realta Na Mara - Kilmore NS	Y35 YX20	8th, 9th, 10th
Scoil Mhuire / Our Lady's Island	Y35DE42	14th
Kilrane NS	Y35RT21	15th, 16th, 17th
Piercestown N.S Wexford	Y35F663	21st, 22nd
Bree NS	Y21TW82	23rd, 24th



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.

Planting Grant: Closing date for community groups to redeem their planting grant was Friday September 26th. 101 applications were approved for a planting grant of 250euros, 3 community groups did not take up the grant so these will be reallocated. 12 garden centre / garden providers signed up to the planting grant scheme 2025.

WEEE Collection Days 2025: A number of WEEE community collection days (11) took place in 2025. 41,862kg was collected at the locations below.

WEEE Collection Days 2025						
Date	Time	Official Site Name	Town	Total Weight (Kg)	WEEE	Batteries
08/02/2025	10am -4pm	Wexford Racecourse	Wexford Town	8,348	8,074	274
11/02/2025	10am -4pm	Ballygarrett GAA	Ballygarrett	2,589	2,554	35
13/02/2025	10am -4pm	Bannow Ballymittie GAA Clu	Wellingtonbridge	3,747	3,670	77
22/7/2025	10am-4pm	Bunclody GAA Club	Bunclody	3990	3790	200
24/7/2025	10am-4pm	Rathnure GAA Club	Rathnure	2428	2385	43
29/7/2025	10am-4pm	Camolin Celtic AFC	Camolin	3142	3112	30
31/7/2025	10am-4pm	St. Josephs AFC	Ballygarren	4510	4429	81
05/08/2025	10am-4pm	Horeswood GAA	Campile	2955	2818	137
07/08/2025	10am-4pm	Kilmore GAA	Kilmore	2000	1987	13
12/08/2025	10am-4pm	Kilanerin GAA	Kilanerin	2358	2019	339
14/8/2025	10am-4pm	Fr. O'Regans GAA	Craanford	5795	5462	333
				41,862	40,300	1562

The Toy Library Swap & Play Event: 134 families attended The Toy Library Swap & Play event on Saturday 4th October. 330 toys were successfully swapped which amounted to 191.52kg of plastic saved from landfill.



Halloween Costume / Clothing Swaps: Swaps took place in October to mark Circular Living Month.

9 Oct: St Senan’s Primary School 67 costumes swapped
17 Oct: Catherine McCauley Jnr School 66 costumes swapped
27 & 28 Oct: Enniscorthy Community Pop Up Clothes swap in partnership with Sustainable Enniscorthy, The Upcycle movement and Bee Graceful Upcycles 300 items swapped. #LetsGetCircular #CircularLiving



Circular Living Week: This first Circular Living week ran as a social and digital campaign, highlighting and showcasing content aiming to further enhance the public’s knowledge and engagement with circular activity. This year’s campaign focused on textiles to support World Textile Day. The Environment section hosted 2 events during Circular Living Week; The Toy Library and Swap Event and a Halloween Costume Swap event.

Environment Awards: The Annual Environment Awards will take place on Monday 10th November. The winners of the Keep Wexford Beautiful competition will be announced on the night. Schools who have won various competitions and participated in our environmental education programme will also be awarded.

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

Date	No. of community Clean Ups
01/08/2025 – 29/10/2025	52
01/01/2025 – 29/10/2025	885

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 Climate team organised\attended a number of events\meetings recently including

1. Energy Information Event for the SMEs of Gorey was held on 15th October in Loch Garman Arms by the Climate team with speakers on the night from the South East energy Agency and the Local Enterprise Office. The event provided information on grants for businesses and how to apply for an energy voucher for an audit for your business.
2. Over 55s Climate Course – a leaflet was created to promote this FREE course which will be held in Enniscorthy in Feb – May 2026.
3. The Climate Action Coordinator held a meeting with SETU and a follow up meeting with SETU and Georgia Southern University on possible research projects that Environment and SETU? Georgia Southern could collaborate on.
4. Harnessing Bioeconomy Solutions for Climate Adaptation Event in Teagasc Grange with a tour of an Anaerobic Digester plant.
5. Progressed the EV onboarding project with meetings with the Fleet Manager and more meetings arranged with EV Providers.

COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION PROGRAMME (CCAP)

Wexford County Council has been allocated a further €669,000 under Phase 2 of the programme. The application window for Phase 2 opened on 21st October and will remain open for eight weeks until 5pm on Tuesday 16th December. Any not-for-profit organisation that is interested in Phase 2 of CCAP are encouraged to contact the CCCO for further information and to discuss their proposed project.

The CCCAP Phase I successful projects are progressing well with several stages completed, six of which have been fully completed.

Biodiversity

- Following on from the actions being adopted by the SPC, they are currently being incorporated into the Local Biodiversity Action Plan 2026 –2031. The plan is currently being drafted.
- Local Biodiversity Action Funding claims are currently being processed.
- A Rare Plant Mapviewer is being created, with a view to increasing staff awareness on the sensitivity of ground disturbance in certain areas.

COMMUNITY AND CULTURE

New Ross Library Refurbishment & Extension Open Evening

New Ross Library will be extensively refurbished and extended with the project commencing in 2026. The local community was invited to an Open Evening in the library to view the draft plans and talk to library staff and the architect's team. A 3D representation of the refurb was played on screens around the library. The open evening was well attended and many people gave their views on the layout and services to be offered in the new library. An online public survey was also conducted throughout the month of October.



John Banville at 80 Programme – An appreciation of his Writing Life.

Wexford Town Library's John Banville at 80 programme concluded this month with the final Reading John Banville workshop with Dr. Eoghan Smith, and an interview with John Banville and Professor Derek Hand.

John Banville in conversation with Professor Derek Hand in Wexford Town Library

Wexford Festival Opera: 17th October - 2nd November

To celebrate the 74th Wexford Festival Opera and Wex-Arts Festival, Wexford Town Library held a lunchtime jazz piano recital with Terry Byrne, writer and musician Peter Murphy took part in a discussion with Tom Mooney about The Dark Side of David Bowie, and there was an evening with artist Ann Kenny where she spoke about her art. Ann's exhibition, Is Mise a Bheidh Ann, will be on display in the library for the duration of the festival.

Ornithologist, wildlife sound-recordist, award-winning author and environmental activist, Seán Ronayne, visited Wexford Town Library and spoke to Tom Mooney and a packed library about his story and his mission to record the birds of Ireland.

Volunteering Information Session

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

Book Launch: Bohemian Whirlpools by Anne Ireton

Gorey Library hosted a book launch, Bohemian Whirlpools by local author Anne Ireton.

The Dark Side of Art with Elaine Hoysted

Independent art historian and library staff member Elaine gave a talk in Bunclody Library on some of the most macabre and unsettling paintings ever created.

Hands On Harp with Aideen Kennedy

Gorey Library held an interactive harp demonstration, allowing participants to try a harp for themselves.



Strong, Fit, and Confident: Building Fitness that Lasts

Gorey Library held an interactive talk with personal trainer and Pre/Postnatal Fitness Specialist Stephanie O'Loughlin. She shared practical, realistic strategies to improve strength, energy, and overall wellbeing.

SCIENCE

New Ross Library hosted Oliver McCabe, renowned nutritional therapist, author and TV chef. He shared ways on how to nourish the gut, boost energy levels and improve mental clarity incorporating foods into everyday meals.

A Life in Science with Dogs and other Animals

Wexford Town Library's Science Cafe continued this month hosting a conversation with zoologist Kay Nolan, on understanding the molecular basis of animal development and evolution, which can contribute to better knowledge of the physiology of disease in humans.

LOCAL HISTORY

A total number of 39 local studies enquiries were responded to, together with a total of 26 genealogy enquiries completed in Wexford Town Library in October.

The disbanded Royal Irish Constabulary and forced migration 1922–1931

Wexford Town Library held a talk examining the process of disbandment and its immediate consequences, it focused particularly on men disbanded from Co. Wexford.

Revisiting a Bronze Age Burial Landscape

North Wexford Historical Society held their monthly talk in Gorey Library.

READING AND LITERACY: RIGHT TO READ AT YOUR LIBRARY

National Children's Book Festival 2025

Wexford Library Services, in association with Libraries Ireland, have been successfully hosting Children's Book Festival each October for many years. It continues to be the central focus for library services to children at this time of year and runs a successful programme of events for schools and families throughout the county.

This year Wexford Libraries' branches welcomed visits and workshops from well known Irish authors and illustrators as well as an online event.



Staff member Shane with author Shane Hegarty in Bunclody Library

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Schools

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. Outreach visits continue regularly also.

COMMEMORATION 2025

1925 County Wexford Local Elections

Enniscorthy Library hosted Historian in Residence Paul Byrne as he spoke about the County Wexford Local Elections in 1925, the first local election in the new Irish Free State.

Local Studies

Wexford Libraries uploaded their third collection to the Digital Repository of Ireland: Memories of 1916 - County Wexford Oral History Project. 14 oral recordings are included in this collection.

ARCHIVES

Collections management

In addition to 38 research enquiries via email, telephone and post, a total of five researchers visited the Archive during October. Research topics included an examination of local authority minutes and reports in relation to naval mines across County Wexford during and following the second world war (1939-47); family history research through undigitized minute books of New Ross workhouse (1882-95); research on the Rose of Castile opera performed in Wexford in 1951; viewing of a surviving window from the former Nuzum's Hotel, Enniscorthy by American descendants.

Acquisition

The archives of the Irish Countrywomen's Association are an important source for highlighting how instrumental the organisation continues to be in improving the lives of rural women. The Archive holds archival material for several ICA guilds across the county including the two earliest minute books for Bree guild where the ICA was founded in 1910 by Anita Lett. Archival material from Duncannon ICA guild was deposited in the Archive in late October comprising minute books, accounts, and photos from 1953 to 2024.

The Archive acquired an important 17th century letter which was written by Onesiphorous Phaire, owner of an ironworks near Enniscorthy whose father Robert had been granted substantial land in counties Cork and Wexford under the Cromwellian settlement. The letter, dated 5 June 1689, to his brother in Co. Cork provides an invaluable insight into the concerns that southern Irish Protestants faced at the time. Pre-dating the 1798 rebellion by 109 years, the survival of family correspondence from the 17th century is relatively rare and this acquisition is even more significant as a result.

ARTS

Sidelong Glances: An Oblique Look at the Sea

The Arts Office of Wexford County Council, in partnership with Wexford Arts Centre, opened the group exhibition Sidelong Glances: An Oblique Look at the Sea. The exhibition features work from Irish Museum of Modern Art's (IMMA) National Collection and invited Irish and international artists, Orla Barry, Herman Braun-Vega, Gary Coyle, Ann Hamilton, Ailbhe Ní Bhriain, Kathy Prendergast, and Marisa Rappard. The exhibition was opened on the 13th of October by Christina Kennedy, Senior Curator, Head of Collections, IMMA and finishes on the 21st November 2025.

Wex-Arts Exhibition – Rooted Utopias: Our Future at Play at Westgate Heritage Centre

Group exhibition featuring work by Paul Carter, Denise Kehoe, Jo Kimmins, Mairead Holohan, Aiseling Noone, Seamus O'Brien, Liam O'Rourke, and Marika Sheridan and was curated by Karla Sánchez Zepeda, a local art historian and curator. The Exhibition opened on the 14th of October and closed on the 1st November 2025.

ARTS

Small Arts Festival and Failte Ireland Festival Open Call 2026

Wexford County Council Arts Office have announced two strands to the Festival Grant Scheme for Small Arts Festival grant and the Failte Ireland Small Festival Grant to take place in 2026. Deadline for receipt of applications for both is Monday the 1st December 2025 at 4.00pm. This scheme supports on average 20 festivals across the county with grants ranging from €1,500 - €3,000.

Artist in the Community Artist Panel Open call for 2026 – 2027

Wexford County Council Arts Office has announced an open call seeking professional artists across all art forms to design and facilitate Art Projects with communities throughout County Wexford in 2026 through the Artist in the Community Scheme. This opened on the 3rd October 2025 and the deadline for applications is 14th November 2025 at 5pm.

Guided Art Collection Tour at County Hall

The Arts office hosted an art collection tour for the public guided by local visual artist Oonagh Latchford on the 22nd October at 2pm. 15 people attended the tour.

Artist in the Community – Traditional Song Project at Grantstown Priory and artist Aileen Lambert

Wexford Arts office visited Grantstown Priory on 14th October for the conclusion of Artist in the Community Scheme project 'Traditional Song Project' between Grantstown Priory and artist Aileen Lambert. There was singing, dancing and storytelling, all from staff and clients of the centre - they have spent 5 weeks with Aileen learning new songs, which was finished off with a performance.

Aileen Lambert at Grantstown Priory during the Artist in the Community Scheme



Creative Places Enniscorthy (CPE)

CPE is a 3-year Arts Council funded initiative in partnership with Wexford Arts Centre, Wexford Arts Office and Enniscorthy Municipal district seeking to embed creativity into Enniscorthy.

Enniscorthy Circus Club

This youth-led contemporary circus project began in October will bring together young members of the diverse communities that make up Enniscorthy, who may not otherwise connect to learn dance and circus skills over eight weeks with Doulab Circus and Dance.

Threshold Spaces

Is an Enniscorthy Environmental Art Project forged from the outcomes of a Research and Development project 2024; Unity in Diversity – Enniscorthy Land Art Project. The artist works with the Ukrainian woman's group looking at boundaries, domains and the threshold space are in the context of community life with artist Mayumi Nakabayashi.

Voices in Harmony

Enniscorthy male choir started a 10-week song writing project in October led by musician Paul O'Reilly. This will conclude with a performance in Enniscorthy.

Music Generation (MG)

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.

Programmes in October

Bunclody Music Hub with ninety-seven young musicians, Selskar Sounds Music Hub with thirty five young musicians, Macky Music Early Years Music Programme and the Primary Schools Programme with musician educators working in 22 Primary Schools across Wexford County started the new academic year in the first week of October.

Opening of the Opera Festival and Fireworks

On 17 October Music Generation Wexford enabled twenty-eight 5th and 6th class students from Scoil Mhuire Coolcotts (partners on Music Generation Wexford's primary school music programme) to perform from the stage on Wexford's quayside at the opening of the Wexford Festival Opera, prior to the annual fireworks display.

Back to the Festival

In conjunction with Wexford Festival Opera 2025, Music Generation Wexford is producing Back to the Festival On the 23rd & 25th October, Aileen Donohoe, leads a performance devised to engage and provoke groups of young people to perform during the festival.

SCREEN WEXFORD

An Arts Office, Economic Department initiative to support the development of the film / screen industry in Wexford.

Crew Networking

Took Place this quarter at Presentation Arts Centre in Enniscorthy 24th October where local film crew get together and hear about opportunities and news in the film industry, 15 people attended.

The Picture House- Wexford Film Society 'One Last Show in Taghmon'

Screen Wexford attended the launch of The Picture House- Wexford Film Society where a local short film was premiered - 'One Last Show in Taghmon' on October 14th in the Art Centre. This film was supported in kind by Screen Wexford and Wexford County Council.

Professional Film Development Bursary

This bursary closes on the 30th October for local filmmakers to avail of a €500 bursary towards the cost of Script to Editing film costs.

CREATIVE IRELAND

Rural Connections

Creative Ireland Wexford has invested in 5 rural community venues (one from each Municipal District) including Colclough Memorial Hall, Saltmills, Marshalstown Community Hall, The Bank Rosslare, Castlebridge Community Hall, and Ballyfad Community Hall. Artist-led workshops continued throughout October to understand how these venues can be further animated through creativity and improve their function locally. A sharing session will take place on the 19th November at Castlebridge Community Hall with some seed funding awarded to each venue to take ideas forward.

Bunclody Placemaking Project

The Creative Ireland Programme supported a creative placemaking consultation for Bunclody, led by placemaking experts Studio Myco. The people of Bunclody have an opportunity to share their thoughts and visions for future developments in the town. A report with ideas coming directly from the consultations will be available for future funding applications. The final workshop/consultation session for the Bunclody Placemaking Project took place on the 23rd October with Transition Years attending FCJ Bunclody. Syudio Myco will present findings at an exhibition at St. Aidan's Hall in Bunclody on Thursday 27th November 6.00-8.00 pm.

Enchanted Ecologies, Redmond Park, Wexford

The Enchanted Ecologies project led by artist Mayumi Nakabayashi offered users of Redmond Park new ways to connect with the park through the biodiversity and natural materials found there. Mayumi delivered 14 workshops in the park throughout the year, with the final two happening in October 2025. A small bowl made of clay found only in the Enniscorthy district was made as part of this project, and it was set into an old tree stump by the Men's Shed who are resident in Redmond Park, to collect rainwater that can be used by birds and wildlife.

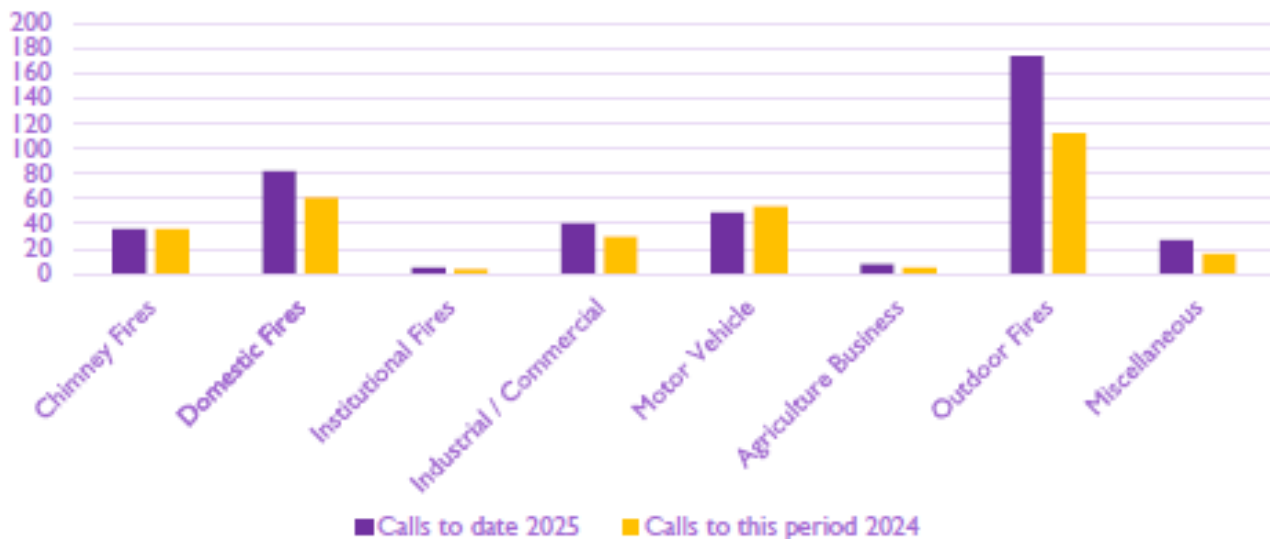
Installation of a clay bowl at the Men's Shed in Redmond Park



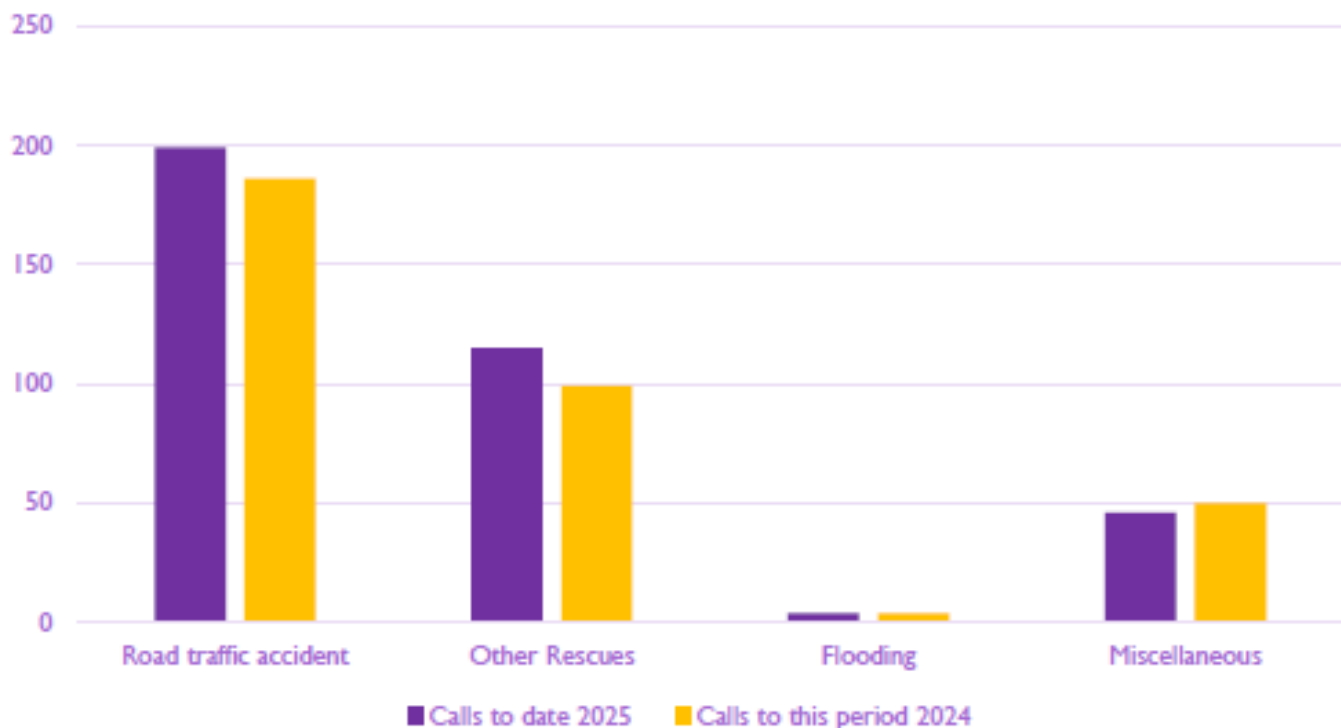
Good Grief Phase 2

The Good Grief project developed in partnership with the Creative Ireland Teams from Wexford County Council and Waterford City and County Council in 2024 has been shortlisted for a Local Government Chambers Award. This project explored grief through creativity, equipping participants with coping skills that could be used when feelings of grief became overwhelming. Phase 2 of the Good Grief project began in October 2025, with workshops coinciding with the Grief's Current Shape exhibition in Garter Lane, Waterford. Ore workshops will be held in November and December at the Storyteller's House in Oulart, Wexford, and the Presentation Arts Centre, Enniscorthy.

Call Statistics - Wexford Fire Service



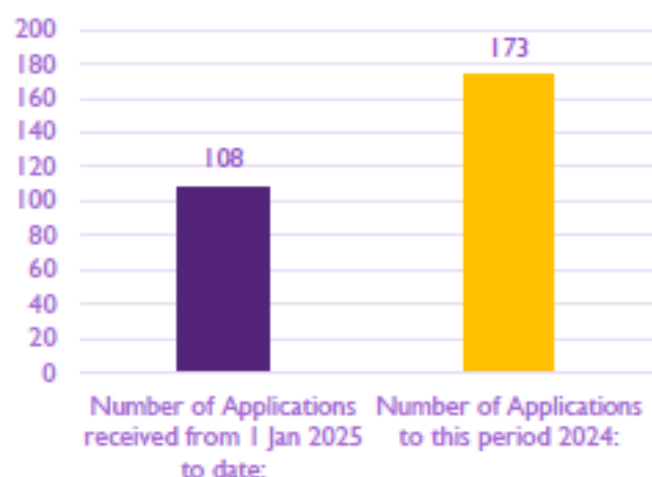
Special Services - Wexford Fire Service



False Alarms



Fire Safety Certificates

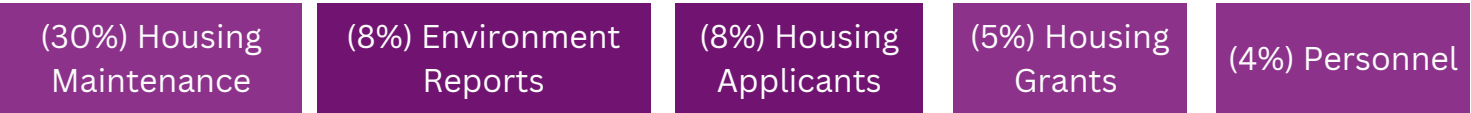


CORPORATE SERVICES

CUSTOMER SERVICE UNIT STATISTICS – OCTOBER 2025

Task	October 2025
Phone Calls	2,944
Emails (Received & Sent)	3,057

TOP 5 CSU PHONE QUERIES



FOI OFFICE REQUESTS OCTOBER 2025

Type	Number
Freedom of Information	15
Customer Complaint	48
Ombudsman Complaint	0
Access to Information on the Environment	0
Data Access Request	0
Total	63

FINANCE

Budget 2026 - Work continues to progress on the preparation of Budget 2026. The Statutory Budget Meeting is scheduled for Monday 24th November 2025 at 10.00am

Audit

- **Audit of Accounts 2024** – The Audit of Wexford County Council’s 2024 Accounts is now complete. The Statutory Audit Report for 2024 has been submitted by the Local Government Auditor and is listed on the agenda for consideration of Members together with the final audited version of the 2024 Annual Financial Statement.
- **Audit Committee** - The next meeting is scheduled for 8th December 2025, and the committee will meet with the Local Government Auditor to discuss the 2024 Audit and Accounts. Following their meeting with the Local Government Auditor the Audit Committee will prepare their report for the Council on the Annual Accounts and Audit process.

Cash Flow/Overdraft

The Council continues to operate with an overdraft facility, Ministerial Sanction is in place for borrowing by way of overdraft in the amount of €15m for the period to the 31st of December, 2025. An application seeking Ministerial sanction for the extension of the overdraft facility at the same level of €15m for the period 1st January 2026 to 31st December 2026 has been submitted and approved by the DHLGH following Council approval at the October meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS

Adoration Convent



40k+ Views

New Fire Appliance



15k+ Views

Vacancy Posts

53k+ Views



Fire Safety Week

25k Views





€1m announced to develop the Rosslare Sustainable Tourism Experience which aims to develop the inter-connection between Rosslare Harbour and Rosslare Strand, including a new civic and recreation plaza and public realm works in both villages.

**Eddie Taaffe
Chief Executive**