



# **Chief Executive's Report**

**JANUARY 2018**

## 1.Economic Development & Planning:

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UNIT

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#### National Broadband Plan - Updates

**Procurement Process for National Broadband Plan:** In September 2017, Minister Naughten announced that the Department of Communications, Climate Action and the Environment had received draft detailed solutions from the two remaining bidders for the NBP; Eircom and a consortium comprising of enet, SSE, Granahan McCourt, and John Laing Group plc. This is a significant milestone in the procurement process which now moves to its final stage. These submissions are currently being assessed and bidders will be asked for their final tenders early in 2018. 3 out of 4 (60,011) existing premises across County Wexford already have access to high-speed broadband or are due to receive connection from commercial operators over the coming months. The remaining 21,785 premises (26%) will be targeted across County Wexford under the National Broadband Plan. For details on premises categories, please visit [www.broadband.gov.ie](http://www.broadband.gov.ie) and use an eircode or address to locate on the map.

**Broadband & Telecommunications Officers:** Broadband & Telecommunications Officers continue to play a key role on a daily basis in the improvement of telecommunications and broadband services in general, by assisting industry with commercial development, engagement with a number of key stakeholders through participation at the Regional Action Groups facilitated by this Department, and through engagement with local communities and businesses. The contract is expected to be awarded in the early part of 2018, following which there is expected to be a significant increase in the workload of all Broadband Officers, as their remit widens to take account of project management within their local authority and increased interactions with the winning bidder(s) in respect of the National Broadband Plan.

**Local Digital Strategies for LA's:** The Regional Telecommunications Unit of the Department has recently contracted Indecon to commence work to support each local authority with the development of a local digital strategy. Indecon will commence with a *Digital Readiness Assessment* for each of the 31 local authorities before the end of the year and will then be required to draft guidelines for use in developing local digital strategies, to ensure there is a clear vision in relation to future digital development.

**Public Consultation on National Broadband Plan Intervention Strategy:** The Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment will launch a public consultation early in 2018, to run for around 6 weeks, regarding the National Broadband Plan Intervention Strategy. This is a consultation on the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Appropriate Assessment (AA) with a parallel consultation on the High Speed Broadband Map. Further detail will be pushed out locally to communities and businesses once the consultation page has gone live.

**Smart Working Career Site: Abodoo – on a mission to capture Wexford IT Talent:** Wexford County Council and Enterprise Ireland are working with Abodoo – the intuitive careers site which promotes remote and flexible working, over the Christmas and New Year period to capture statistics on local talent in the County Wexford region. As part of the wider Economic Strategy to attract investment and jobs to North Wexford, Wexford County Council is keen to promote the wealth of IT and professional services skilled residents residing in the wider area.

Gorey based Abodoo is encouraging locals within an hours commute of the north Wexford town, to register on their site so that they can provide statistics and an overview on the number of professionals in the area and a snapshot of the specific skills available. The report will be used to tempt businesses (and jobs) into the region, improving both career opportunities and work:life balance for IT and professional services skilled people who want to work locally and avoid long commutes.

Abodoo is keen to stress that individual details will not be released at any time to third parties. The site maintains complete confidentiality and in fact all candidates remain anonymous on the site and contact details are released to employers only when the candidate receives a matched role and agrees to release their details to the employer. This means that candidates can be secure in the knowledge that their profile is private at all times.

Abodoo is the only free to access site of its kind. Registered users will have access to flexible career opportunities which match their skills. There's no need to search, the smart algorithms do the work for you. Candidates simply register and sit back to wait for their dream job to come to them.

Why Abodoo? We are trailblazers of the Smart Working Revolution. All of the roles on the site offer flexibility, based from Home or Hubs in local communities. We are fighting to reduce commuting, to open up career opportunities to talent who don't want to, or simply cannot travel into cities for work, for people who need the flexibility that a home or field based role offers.

The Home: Hub: Hybrid model opens up a new way of working to a variety of people, from working parents to carers, disabled groups and mature workers. There are big benefits to registering with Abodoo and finding a remote role including saving time and money.

Sue Marshall, CEO of Abodoo commented: *'We need IT professionals in Wexford and surrounding area to sign up to the site. At this time of year many people reflect on their work:life balance, questioning whether the commute to the city and the high levels of stress associated with this are worth it. There is no need to compromise on your career, just because you don't want to spend several hours a week getting to an office. Work happens in Brains – Not In Offices and the roles on the site reflect this with a flexible, smart approach to work.'*

For further information visit [www.abodoo.com](http://www.abodoo.com) or visit Facebook: [www.facebook.com/abodoojobs](https://www.facebook.com/abodoojobs)

**Regional Enterprise Development Fund – *InsurTech Network Centre*:** IT Carlow have been awarded up to €1.3million to lead the development of an *InsurTech Network Centre* for the region. Funded through stream 2 of the grant, the centre will be a sector specific development providing business development services to support the creation and commercialisation of technology solutions to the global insurance services sector. This will include the delivery of business development programmes, technology transfer services and provide work spaces for entrepreneurs and related services. Wexford County Council is the main collaborative partner in the project, as the county is home to the largest number of insurance businesses in the region. The creation of the centre with industry reach into County Wexford will support Wexfords ambition to further grow a regional financial services offering, to be anchored at Trinity Wharf Wexford.

**Background:** Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation, Heather Humphreys TD, announced on December 11<sup>th</sup> the results of the first round of the new €60m competitive Regional Enterprise Development Fund. Twenty-one successful applicants representing all regions of the country have secured up to €30.5m for their projects in the first competitive call. Over €14m has been approved for projects in the southern region, over €11m for projects in the eastern and midlands region and over €5m has been approved for the northern and western region, subject to grant conditions.

Announcing the successful Regional Enterprise Development Fund applicants at Irish Manufacturing Research in Mullingar, Minister Humphreys said: “In this year’s Action Plan for Jobs, we made the decision to place a specific focus on strengthening the rural and regional economy. To stimulate regional growth as we move towards 2020, we announced a €60 million competitive Regional Enterprise Development Fund over two calls. Our aim was to provide financial support for organisations set up specifically to bring together stakeholders on projects that will benefit the local community, the region or nationally. The successful applicants include an exciting range of projects which will develop strong entrepreneurial or innovation ecosystems, encourage clusters of similar businesses, or develop specific sectors where there is the potential for competitive advantage.

Under a competitive call process, Enterprise Ireland sought applications for funding under four streams with varying investment levels:

- Stream 1. Major Change Projects - €2m up to €5m per project
- Stream 2. Regionally Significant Projects - €250,000 up to €2m per project
- Stream 3. Local & Community Enterprise Development Projects - €50,000 up to €250,000 per project
- Stream 4. Industry Clusters - €50,000 up to €250,000 per project.

## **TOURISM**

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**Visit Wexford Website Update:** The Visit Wexford website is the call to action for the majority of our marketing by the tourism industry in Wexford and our current site now appears dated and difficult to navigate. The website will represent all members of the tourism industry from each sector in Co Wexford. The website was put out to tender and by agreement by the Visit Wexford committee Graphedia was selected as the new website developer.

The focus for the new website is to provide an easy to navigate site with an aspirational impact on visitors through the use and placement of images and videos which showcases Wexford's diverse and rich tourism industry with a view to growing Wexford as a premier tourist destination on the Domestic and International market also align ourselves with Failte Ireland's campaign "Irelands Ancient East." The launch date for the new website is March 2018.

**Ireland's Ancient East:** Wexford continues to lead the way in the implementation of Ireland's Ancient East proposition by Failte Ireland. Support from Failte Ireland continues through new banners identifying our presence in the campaign for towns such as Gorey, Wexford and Enniscorthy. Work is continuing by Visit Wexford to increase brand awareness and alignment by the tourism industry with the IAE brand. New signage from Irelands Ancient East Wheel has been arriving in sites such as Hook Lighthouse, Enniscorthy & Kilmokea House and Gardens. Support from Failte Ireland in the form of social media exposure includes Wexford featuring on the Tourism Ireland Facebook page with over 1.3m followers and features on the Wexford Garden Trail through the IAE Facebook page.

**Regional Co-operative Tourism:** Wexford achieved recognition of the high standard of tourism offering at the recent Barrow Awards, a collaboration between Carlow, Kilkenny, Laois and Kildare County Councils. The Ros Tapestry secured the Best in County Wexford Award and the Dunbrody Famine Ship was awarded first prize in the Commercial Category.

**Visit Wexford Brochure 2018.** Work is beginning on the 2018 tourism brochure with a call out to the industry to be involved. This brochure will have a similar appearance to the new website to grow the Visit Wexford brand and support Irelands Ancient East.

**Wexford County Tourism Strategy.** Visit Wexford continues to support and input to the Co Wexford Tourism Strategy project lead by Siobhan O'Neill of Special Projects and the selected consultants Genesis. As the project progresses Visit Wexford will assist with feedback and support in any means to support this project to research, develop and assist in development of a Tourism Strategy for Wexford Co Council 2018 – 2022.

## **LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE (LEO) TEAM**

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**Some important SMART Goals for 2018 will include:**

- Allocate up to €500,000 in grant aid to 100 start up and existing small businesses through Feasibility, Priming, Business Expansion, Trading Online Vouchers and Export Marketing Grants.
- Loan 25 small businesses up to €250,000 through a partnership agreement with Microfinance Ireland
- Co-ordinate 80 business training events with approx. 1,000 participants
- Arrange 150 business mentor assignments with 400 mentor meetings
- Allocate 50 Trading Online Vouchers worth up to €100,000

- Allocate 20 Export Marketing Vouchers worth up to €50,000
- Engage 1,400 students on Student Enterprise Programme from 20 secondary schools
- Run 10 Start Your Own Business Courses throughout the county

**Small Business Training Programme - Spring 2018:** The Spring Programme of Business training courses, workshops and clinics is currently available to book online on [www.localenterprise.ie/wexford](http://www.localenterprise.ie/wexford)

25,000 printed brochures have been circulated by various means to the LEO database, through our business partners, as well as leaflets dropped to many businesses around the county. The marketing campaign to promote the programme includes advertising in local papers, local radio and through our social media channels.

**BUCANIER** (Building Clusters and Networks in Innovation Enterprise and Research): The BUCANIER project aims to support small businesses on the Irish Sea border over the next three years. The project will work in the key growth sectors of the Welsh and Irish economies, food and drink, life sciences and renewable energy. It seeks to increase innovation capacity within small businesses by collaborating with Higher Education institutions and other public bodies to boost productivity across Ireland and Wales.

The project partners are:

- Pembrokeshire County Council
- Carmarthenshire County Council
- Swansea Institute of Life Sciences in Wales
- Institute of Technology Carlow,
- Bord Iascaigh Mhara
- Wexford County Council in Ireland.

December has seen increased mobilisation within the project as all Project Administrators are now recruited – Siobhan Gethings is the Project Administrator for Wexford County Council, she started on the 4<sup>th</sup> of December.

Key project milestones for Dec 17 & Jan 18

- Website Design complete - December
- Promotional Material design and content agreed - December
- Welsh Launch 25<sup>th</sup> of January in Swansea as part of the UKSPA conference
- Website live for 24<sup>th</sup> of January - <http://www.bucanier.eu/>
- Facebook and Twitter pages live for launch 24<sup>th</sup> January  
     Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Bucanier-314218322412873/>  
     Twitter: <https://twitter.com/BUCANIERProject>
- Promotional Material produced for launch
- Facebook and twitter live for 24<sup>th</sup> of January
- Mentors contracted
- Masterclass Video filmed and available on the website
- Bucanier workbook/toolkit produced and available on the website.
- Outline and provisional schedule for Irish Launch 23<sup>rd</sup> March agreed.

Wexford County Council (Project Administrator) has direct responsibility within the project for the Bucanier Website, social media (Facebook & Twitter), promotional material design and the Irish Launch in March (to be held in Wexford County Council Offices).

## **PLANNING**

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### **Planning Applications:**

No. of valid applications received up to 20/12/2017	1,460
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No. of pre planning requests up to 20/12/2017	833
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**Forward Planning:** *Review of the Wexford County Development Plan 2013 - 2019 and the Preparation of New County Development Plan. Having completed the consultation process, the Forward Planning team are now working on the preparation of the pre-draft Wexford County Development Plan 2019-2025. It is anticipated that the pre-draft plan will be presented to the Members at the end of Q1 2018.*

The following Consultants have been appointed to prepare the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, Appropriate Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment; Brady Shipman Martin, JBA Consulting and Scott Cawley Ltd. Future Analytics have now been appointed to prepare both the Retail Strategy and Housing Strategy. Non-statutory Stakeholder Meetings were held in early December in all of the main four towns as part of the Retail Strategy. The feedback received will be used to inform the Retail Strategy in the County Development Plan 2019-2025.

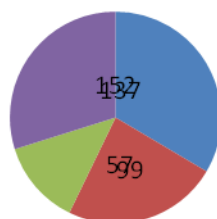
**Review of the Wexford Town and Environs Development Plan 2009-2015 (as extended):** Work has commenced on the review of the Wexford Town and Environs Development Plan 2009-2015 and the preparation of a new plan for the area.

### **Building Control:**

**Commencement Notices:** *A total of 445 valid commencement notices have been submitted up to 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 on the BCMS. A total of 27% were inspected to ensure compliance with building regulations.*



## Commencement Notices by Municipal District Area



**Taking In Charge:** Radhairc na Bhfainithe, Killanne was referred to the New Ross Municipal District meeting for formal Taking in Charge on the 8th November, 2017. The Members agreed to the taking in charge of this estate in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993 and Section 180 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 (as amended).

The following estates were referred to the relevant Municipal District meeting for formal Taking in Charge in December.

Branogue Park, Riverchapel	Woodview, Castlebridge
Coill Aoibhinn, Wexford	Ard na Cuan, Whiterock, (Houses 35-44)
Meadowbrook, Oulart	Millhaven, Ballyedmond
Orchard Close, Ardavan	Waterside Close, Clohamon
The Willows, Killinick	Woodlands, Clonroche

The Members agreed to the taking in charge of these estates in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993 and Section 180 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 (as amended).

The total number of estates Taken in Charge in 2017 is 61.

### Derelict Sites, Dangerous Structures and Vacant Sites

Activity on Derelict Sites/Dangerous Structures is as follows:

Notices Issued under Derelict Sites Act 1990: 50 since 1<sup>st</sup> January

Notices issued under Sanitary Services Act 1964: 13 since 1<sup>st</sup> January

Notices issued under Section 7 of the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015: 6 since 1<sup>st</sup> January

**Planning Enforcement:** The number of planning enforcement cases as at 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2017 is as follows;

- Cases Opened – December 7
- Live Cases 433
- Cases Closed – December 27



➤ Cases Opened – 2017	111
➤ Cases Closed – 2017	162

**District Court Cases:** There were 2 planning enforcement cases listed in the District Courts in the month of December 2017

<b>Gorey:</b>	1 listed for hearing
<b>Wexford:</b>	1 listed for hearing

Wexford: Enforcement Notice No. 0147/2016 - Non-compliance with Enforcement Notice – cease all unauthorised construction works on site in St. Peter's Square Wexford. This case was adjourned for hearing until February 2018 due to the recent illness of the party involved.

Gorey: Enforcement Notice No. 0159/2010 – Non-compliance with Planning Register Number 2005304 (contributions). Payments were received by instalments until July 2016. A new agreement was made before the Court hearing to recommence monthly payments in respect of the Planning contributions and the case was adjourned for mention until February 2018.

**Access Section: Disability Access Certificates (DAC):** The current number of Disability Access Certificate applications, validated for the period up to and including 20/12/ 2017, totals 65 and increase of 2 applications thus far on the 2016 figures as follows:

Applications Districts	Total for Districts
Enniscorthy	17
Gorey	11
New Ross	7
Wexford	30
<b>2017 Totals</b>	<b>65</b>

**Building Control Authority Engagement- Enforcement with Developers:**  
Statistics of correspondence issued for 2017:

Districts	Total for Districts	Responses DA applications Received on foot of correspondence /Other
Enniscorthy	18	5
Gorey	10	
New Ross	4	
Wexford	33	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>14</b>

**Disability Proofing carried out as part of Wexford County Council Access activity**

Referrals	Total
LAC	9
General Planning Applications	123
<b>Total</b>	<b>131</b>

**Slade Harbour:** The agreed accessibility works for Slade Harbour have been initiated with the contractors. Works are expected to commence following removal of wooden ESB poles. It is expected that the accessibility works will be completed within the first quarter of 2018.

**Retrofit works Enniscorthy:** The Proposed plan of retrofit works to footpaths and crossing points in the Duffry Area of Enniscorthy Town is expected to commence before the end of January 2018. The works will provide an identifiable accessible route from the existing pedestrian crossings located at the Duffry Gate to the Garda Station and the Library on Lymington Road.

**Changing Places Pilot Initiative:** Initial investigations into the possibility for the provision of a Changing Places Facility at the Irish National Heritage Park have proved very successful. This pilot project will be lead by the Environment Department and Access Section.

## 2. Special Projects:

### SPECIAL PROJECTS

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**Min Ryan Park, Wexford:** The Park obtained Part VIII Planning in April, 2016 based on a preliminary design by Wexford County Council. Consultants Brady Shipman Martin have been appointment and are currently preparing detailed design and contract documents. The tendering process for construction was advertised on Dec 19<sup>th</sup> 2017 and a contractor will be appointed by March, 2018.

**Wexford Quays:** Architect firm Scott Tallon Walker has completed the implementation plan - Stage 2B report on the Economic Development and Spatial Implementation Plan for the Wexford Quay front. The report is currently being reviewed by Wexford Co. Council.

**Trinity Wharf:** The Trinity Wharf site was acquired by Wexford Co. Council to attract investment and stimulate economic development in Wexford. Architects, Scott Tallon Walker will prepare a master plan for the development of the lands. The master plan will be available in Qtr. 2, 2018 and will facilitate an application for the planning and development of the lands.

**Crescent Quay/Ballast Office:** A package of Improvement Works in the Crescent Quay Area is currently being formulated as the first Phase of the overall plan for the Quay Front Area.

These works will enhance and upgrade the public realm around the Crescent / Waterfront areas and improve the pedestrian links from Main Street to the Quays and the water front. An application for Part VIII planning will commence in January 2018.

**Templeshannon Regeneration, Enniscorthy:** The strategy plan is being finalised and will be presented to the members in January 2018.

**Enniscorthy Technology Park, Killagoley:** Reddy Architecture + Urbanism have been appointed to develop the master plan, secure planning and develop & construct infrastructure services for the Enniscorthy Business Park at Killagoley. Initial surveys, studies and site investigation works are substantially completed and the development of master plan layouts is ongoing. An application for Part VIII planning will commence in January 2018.

**New Ross Business Park:** Pre-qualification of applicants is complete and qualified applicants will be invited to tender early January 2018 for the finance and build of an advanced technology unit in Butlersland, New Ross.

**Gorey Market House:** A Part VIII planning application has been prepared for re-development of the Market House into a multi-purpose, multi-functional, Retail / Performance / Exhibition space. It is intended to advertise the pre-qualification stage mid-January 2018. Qualified applicants will be then be invited to submit a full tender setting out detailed proposals to progress the project in line with the Council's objectives.

**Wexford Arts Centre:** Funding of €1m has been approved by the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional and Rural Affairs and the Gaeltacht for an extension and renovation of the Wexford Arts Centre. Wexford County Council have committed to providing matching funding. Funding must be expended by March 2020.

**Carrigfoyle Activity Centre:** Wexford County Council is preparing a brief for services for the design and tender of infrastructural work at Carrigfoyle as the initial stage of a project to develop an activity centre on the lands. Construction of the infrastructural works is planned to commence in June 2018.

**Enniscorthy Tourism Project:** Wexford County Council are currently preparing a brief for services for the design and tender of a Master plan to develop Enniscorthy town as a long term sustainable tourism destination. An Implementation Plan will also be developed as part of this brief and it is expected that this will be completed in May 2018.

## **Greenways:**

### **Rosslare to Waterford City Greenway.**

Evaluation of tender submissions is complete and procurement of services is in "standstill" phase until January 4<sup>th</sup> 2018 after which the winning consultant will be appointed and the study to review route options for the greenway, prepare baseline environmental studies and prepare and submit planning applications will commence. A framework will also be established from the top 5 applicants for use on future greenway and tourism projects for similar services.

### **New Ross Red Bridge Greenway and Walking Trail.**

The development of a greenway around New Ross, linking with Kilkenny County Council's planned greenway from Rosbercon to Waterford City, is currently at the planning stage. Separate Part VIII applications will be submitted for sections of the route in Kilkenny County Council's functional area in Qtr. 1 2018. It is intended to use the framework agreement established from the Rosslare to Waterford Greenway project to appoint consultants for the initial stages.

### **Greenway Regional Strategy**

Wexford County Council, in its function as the lead authority for the regional greenway office is preparing a regional strategy for the development of an integrated network of greenways across the South East.

It is planned that this network of Greenways would be developed as a major tourism resource that links with national greenways and opens up the South East region to the activity, leisure and recreational tourism market nationally.

## **3. Housing, Community, Libraries, Arts, Emergency Services & Community:**

### **HOUSING**

**World nZEB Forum 2017:** Ireland's inaugural World Forum on nearly Zero Energy Buildings (nZEB) took place in Wexford on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2017. The Forum was opened and addressed by Minister Eoghan Murphy. Wexford County Council hosted a series of practical pre-forum workshops at County Hall, Carriglawn on 15<sup>th</sup> November while the Forum proper took place in Clayton Whites' Hotel the next day.

The Forum was a great success attended by over 200 delegates and exhibitors. A total of 24 presenters from around the world, including Scott Foster, Director, Sustainable Energy Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, presented papers on 12 exemplary high performance buildings from Ireland and abroad. These included the tallest passive house in the world, a 27 storey project in Manhattan, the much celebrated Central Bank project in Dublin and a major UK medical centre.

As nZEB will become mandatory in Ireland and indeed across the EU from the end of 2018 for all public buildings and from 2020 for all other structures, this Forum was of major importance as it examined all aspects of nZEB as it applies to Ireland after its introduction next year.

The Forum Programme concentrated on all aspects of providing and delivering fast track, affordable nearly Zero energy buildings.

**Repair & Leasing:** Housing has a large number of property owners expressing an Interest in making their properties available for social housing through the Repairs & Lease Scheme. A total of 43 applications were received 6 of which were subsequently sold.

Of the remaining 37 a total of 33 properties were deemed suitable following initial assessment. An Agreement to Lease has being entered into with the owners on 10 of these properties, two of which have completed the works and the final Lease Agreement has being signed and the units are now available for social housing.

Remedial work is near completion on a further 8 properties and it is expected that the final lease on these properties will be signed by end of January 2018 and the properties will be available for social housing from that date.

The remaining 23 suitable properties are at various different stages of the process.

**Housing Supply:** A number of housing capital projects have been approved by the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government (DHPCLG) and are progressing to construction stage:-

### **Construction Complete**

- **Francis Street, Wexford** – Construction complete. This house has now been allocated.
- **No 41 St Martin's Park, Ballycullane** – Construction complete.
- **No 5 Mountain View in Rathnure** – Construction complete and tenants have moved in.

### **Under Construction**

- **2 Special Needs Houses in Oilgate** – Roofs on, windows and doors installed, rendering complete. Project on programme for completion in May 2018
- **8 houses in Cherry Orchard, Enniscorthy** – Under construction. Blockwork nearing completion.
- **2 houses in Cois Mara, Rosslare** – under construction, block work complete. Houses to be sealed in by Christmas. On programme to date.
- **9 houses in Baile Eoghain, Gorey** – under construction.

### **Stage 4**

- **1 house at Ross Road Enniscorthy** – Recommendation to DHPCLG – December, 2017.

### **Stage 3**

- **10 Houses in Creagh, Gorey** – Stage 3 approved in October 2017. Out to tender, tenders due back in January, 2018.
- **10 Houses in Danescastle** – Stage 3 approved by DHP, tender in January, 2018.
- **10 Houses at Slippery Green, Wexford** – stage 3 approved Oct 2017. Tenders return date 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2017. Recommendation to DHPCLG – December, 2017.

### **Stage 2**

- **7 Houses in Coolcots** – preparing Stage 3 for submission in January 2018.
- **1 House in Castlemoyle for Special Needs** – Stage 2 approved, submitted Part VIII.
- **1 house in Castlemoyle** - Stage 2 approved, Stage 3 Q1 2018.
- **1 house at Ballynaboola** - Stage 2 approved. Costs have been reduced and a new planning permission was lodged. Stage 3 February 2018.

### **Stage 1**

**40 Housing Units at Whiterock Hill Wexford** – Delay due to investigations of Attenuation system on site. Stage 2 submission to be lodged in Q1 2018.

- **3 Units at King Street, Wexford** – Stage 2 detail costing to be submitted in December 2017. Part VIII submitted to Planning in November 2017.
- **14 Houses in Carricklawn** – Stage 1 in June 2017, Stage 2 under preparation for September 2017 On hold. Problem with title to be rectified by land owner before we finalise purchase. This will be a 2018 project.
- **18 houses in Taghmon** – Consultants appointed. Stage 2 January 2018.
- **7 Units at Belvedere Road, Wexford** – Currently organising appointment of a design team and the first task will be to see how savings can be made. Stage 2 January 2018.
- **3 units in Ballyhine** – prepare Stage 2 in Q1 2018.
- **6 units at The Ballagh** – prepare Stage 2 in Q1 2018.
- **11 units in Ballywish** – Stage 1 approval. Stage 2 Q1 2018.

The number of units with Capital Approval is 163 as detailed above. The following projects will be submitted to DHPCLG as the next round of Stage 1 applications:-

○ Taghmon	1
○ Enniscorthy	12
○ Creagh	9

Pre-development Stage: We are working on other projects preparing feasibility studies prior to the Stage 1 application. These include the following larger projects:-

▪ Killeens	35
▪ Rosetown	40
▪ Gorey, Wexford St	14
▪ Clonard	26
▪ Carley's Bridge Road, Enniscorthy	14
▪ Creagh	12

## ENVIRONMENT

**Environmental Enforcement:** The EPA have recently produced their Environmental Enforcement Assessment report for 2016 for all Local Authorities with the country. The overall grade for Wexford County Council is "Excellent". This is an improvement from 2014 and 2015 where the grade was "On Target"

**Courtown Harbour:** Pier Refurbishment: The Courtown Pier Refurbishment Works was completed in December 2017

**Dredging Contract:** The Courtown basin dredging and repointing contract will be completed in February 2018

**Illegal Dumping:** Additional resources have been approved to tackle illegal dumping with the county. The expanded Rapid Response Crew will be centrally managed but there will be a 2 person crew based in each of the 4 Municipal Districts from April 2018 onwards.

The expanded crew set up will have responsibility for illegal dumping within the 4 Municipal Districts including the towns and also on other County Council lands.

**Wind Farm Noise Consultancy:** The noise reports have been completed and presented to the members of the County Council for the 4 wind farm at Gibbet Hill, Knockalour, Ballycadden and Ballynacoran in the Kilrush area. Tenders have been received for the next phase of noise monitoring for wind farms at Bolamore and Castledockrell. The contract is due to be awarded to the successful tenderer in early 2018.

## **SPORTS PARTNERSHIP**

**Safeguarding Courses (Child Protection):** Safeguarding 1: 18 Courses have been completed with a total of 258 participants attending. Safeguarding 2: 2 Course have been completed with a total of 14 participants attending.

**Sport Ireland Dormant Account Funding 2017:** Minister of State for Tourism and Sport Brendan Griffin TD announced a further investment package of €1.5 million in Dormant Accounts funding for sport.

Under the **Urban Outdoor Adventure Initiatives:** Outdoor recreation programmes have been developed and run in disadvantaged communities, for at-risk youth groups, disadvantaged school groups and people with disability in many counties with success. There is now a growing body of evidence to suggest that outdoor adventure programme where participants interact with nature and experience new outdoor adventure sports are successful in developing confidence and skills among participants and also help young people to manage risk and encourages them to welcome challenge.

Applications were invited from Local Sports Partnerships, in a competitive bid process, for urban outdoor adventure initiatives in their respective counties.

Our successful application for an Adventure Hub based in Bunclody will give access to the River Slaney, which will enable both ourselves and our partners the opportunity to further develop the 'Street Paddler' Programme which enables identified young people access to skills training in Kayaking/canoeing.

We were also successful in being further allocated funds for the Youth leadership programme.

<b>Funding Measure</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Capital</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Urban Outdoor Adventure Initiative</b>	<b>€24,950</b>	<b>€20,000</b>	<b>€44,950</b>
<b>Youth Leadership</b>	<b>€2,500</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>€2,500</b>
<b>Youth Leadership Tutor Training</b>	<b>€300</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>€300</b>

**Get Ireland Swimming:** Get Ireland Swimming is an initiative linked to the National Activity Plan and is promoting schools swimming. We are one of three Counties involved, with the programme being rolled out in January.



The swimming sessions are supported by ourselves and Swim Ireland and with schools who are DEIS Schools across the county being asked to participate. Three Centres have signed up to the programme, Wexford Swimming Pool, The Apex and the Waterfront Enniscorthy, their staff will receive training on the new Schools swimming programme.

The following schools will receive free lessons for 8-10 weeks from January 2018, this is fully supported through the dormant accounts funding received by Swim Ireland:-

- Edmund Rice, Bunscoil Ris (214)
- The Faythe (62)
- Kennedy park (56)
- St. Aidans (225)
- St. Canices (90)
- Clonroche (21)

## **LIBRARIES, ARTS & ARCHIVES**

The **new mobile library vehicle** will be launched in January. Delivered at a cost of €250,000, it was full funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development. Featuring digital signage, tablet access, wifi and a full collection of children's and adult books, the vehicle represents a significant upgrade in services for mobile library users in the County. The vehicle will visit 51 stops and be used by over 2,000 active members in South Wexford in 2018.

**Libraries: A new online music service** will be launched in January to complement the existing e-services offer to our customers. Freegal offers library users access to 14 million songs which included the Sony Music catalogue and the catalogues of 13,000 independent labels. Users can download or stream music to their pcs or mobile devices. The library service expects high take up of this service as Wexford library users have fully embraced e-books with the second highest per capita take-up of that service in the country.

A new **Culture and Creativity Strategy 2018-2022** for County Wexford is being developed by the Culture Team as part of the Creative Ireland initiative. Focus groups and meetings were held in December to inform the strategy with further consultation taking place in January.

**Healthy Ireland at Your Library** national service will be officially launched in January. The programme will enhance current health information in public libraries by providing new book stock, e-books, e-audiobooks and e-magazines on health and wellbeing, a wider selection of health information for all users, and through a service delivered by trained library staff for this programme.

Talks, discussions and workshops will be offered by libraries with a focus on physical health, mental health and health literacy. The service will be promoted in national and local media.

**Michael Warren Public Art Sculpture** - The refurbishment / new replica model of the Michael Warren Public Art sculpture in Ferrybank is nearing completion and the new work in Corten steel will be installed in January 2018 on site.

**New Ross By Pass - Per Cent for Art Commission.** The Public Art Working Group - art subcommittee – Remco de Fouw, Aileen Lambert and Liz Burns did site visit of New Ross By Pass with site Engineer Sean Dobbs in Dec 2017 and selected 2 potential sites for location of art work. Brief is currently being developed.

**German curators visit-** 2 German curators visited Wexford and south east regions – 15 -18<sup>th</sup> Dec 2018 hosted by the Arts Office and Wexford based curator Anya Von Goslen. They visited 3 artists in their studios in Wexford, Gorey and New Ross as well as art venues, Wexford Art centre, County hall, Visual Carlow, and Butler gallery Kilkenny. The aim is to develop exchange between Wexford and Rhineland regions- Cologne and Dusseldorf in 2018 and involving Irish artists exhibiting in Germany in 2018.

**Music Generation.** The recruitment process for Music Generation Co Coordinator is still ongoing with the closing date for applications is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

#### **Screenwriting Workshop Programme – for Wexford Writers**

Film Industry day Seminar took place Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> December in Opera House for all 10 Wexford writers in screen writing programme with acclaimed screen writer. Eugene O'Brien organised by Bodecci Film in partnership with the Arts Office. Invited speakers included Paul Walker (Red Rock TV Producer, Director), Alan Fitzpatrick (Filmbase Dublin), Laura Way (Bodecci Film) and Eugene O'Brien (Screen writer and Liz Burns (Wexford County Arts Officer).

## **FIRE SERVICE**

**News:** The Fire Authority ran two very successful 2 day CPD fire safety courses for senior officers nationwide for the National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management.

Lessons learnt from Storm Ophelia were discussed at a Major Emergency Management national conference in Athlone and a review meeting in Tullamore.

The development of a comprehensive Community Fire Safety Plan for the county was finalised with initiatives such as the primary schools programme, secondary schools survey of smoke alarm coverage, smoke alarm campaign chimney sweeping, false alarm intervention and remote areas priority programme.

**Fire Operations:** In November there were 90 incidents including 21 false alarms with good intent, 20 chimney fires, 10 rubbish fires, and 12 road traffic accidents.

Incident type	Year to date	November
Fires	381	35
Special Services	133	12
Chimney Fires	128	20
False Alarms	198	23

**Fire Safety:** The number of applications for fire safety certificates, planning referrals and Fire Services Acts inspections for the months of November were as follows:-

Applications Received	Year to date	November
Fire Safety Certificates	90	11
Planning Referrals	683	98

Number of Inspections	Year to date	November
FSA Inspections	291	22

## 4. Transportation, Water Services:

### A.IRISH WATER – ASSET MANAGEMENT - IRISH WATER CAPITAL SCHEMES

#### **IW Asset Management: Enniscorthy Sewerage Scheme – Stage 3 (included in IW – CIP14-16 i.e. Irish Water Capital Investment Programme (CIP) 2014 to 2016)**

The WWTP is to be extended to cater for a PE of 26,000, an increase of 10,000 PE from the existing 16,000 PE. The DBO contract was signed on the 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2017. Ward & Burke are the contractors and have commenced on site. J.B. Barry are the Consulting Engineers. Works are progressing on target with programme. It is intended to have the inlet works complete in 2017.

#### **IW Asset Management: Enniscorthy and Sow Regional Water S.S. (included in IW - CIP14-16)**

IW Asset Strategy has approved the following elements of work on this Scheme:

- New intake and pumping station at Clonhasten.
- New rising main from Clonhasten to Vinegar Hill WTP.
- Hydraulic model of the Enniscorthy and Sow Schemes.

Terms of Reference are being agreed with Irish Water in order to appoint Consultants to progress the above work.

Preparation of budget application for Concept Design is underway; this includes for Strategic Report and review of options for the entire scheme.

**IW Asset Management: Fethard-on-Sea Sewerage Scheme (included in IW - CIP14-16)**

Site Investigations have been completed along the proposed outfall route. Foreshore application was lodged. The land acquisition by CPO has also commenced for the selected WWTP site and Pumping Station site. Revised terms of reference and new appointment for the Consulting Engineer, is complete.

The design of the scheme is in progress and preparation of tender documents. A detailed design report was prepared and workshop held to review report.

**IW Asset Management: Gorey Sewerage Scheme – Stage 2 (included in IW - CIP14-16)**

The DBO contract with AECOM/SIAC Construction to upgrade the wastewater treatment plant in Courtown was completed in 2016. The plant is now operated by the contractor. (Aecom is now Murphy Process Engineering).

The 75% OPW-funded flood relief works minor scheme for Gorey Town is underway.

**IW Asset Management: Gorey Regional Water Supply – South Wellfield (included in IW - CIP14-16)**

The Gorey RWSS will be upgraded and a new 8 Ml/day WTP and 7,500m<sup>3</sup> reservoir provided at Ballyminaun. A DWSP and catchment yield review is to be done. Consultants have been engaged by IW to review the design and revise the contract documents. Planning permission was granted by WCC to upgrade the borehole sites and build a new water treatment plant at Ballyminaun. The hydrogeological investigations show that remedial works will be required to most of the boreholes and the contract documents are being revised accordingly. Negotiations for wayleaves ongoing with landowners and CPO will be served in January, 2018. Tender documents are due to be ready in January, 2018.

**IW Asset Management: Untreated Agglomeration Study (UTAS)**

Aecom has been appointed to design a waste water treatment plant for the villages of Arthurstown, Ballyhack and Duncannon. These designs are currently underway. A Scheme for Kilmore Quay is also currently being designed. These have progressed from the Untreated Agglomeration Study (UTAS) to identify areas of the highest priority requiring treatment. Options reports on potential sites for the schemes are currently under review. Both projects will be submitted for planning approval in Spring 2018. Initial contact with landowners has commenced.

**IW Asset Management: Wexford Town Watermain Rehab and Gas Network**

Site Investigation works are complete for gas and water main installation around Wexford town. There are two areas of common gas / water mains to be laid. Design works are currently underway for the remaining water main and gas mains, as well as design to eliminate back yard services around Wexford. A new hydraulic model for Wexford town is being updated to allow for the design works to progress.

**New Ross Sewerage Scheme – Irishtown to Nunnery Lane Sewers**

MJS Civil Engineering Ltd. have been appointed by Wexford County Council to construct the new foul and surface sewers from Irishtown to Nunnery Lane. Work has commenced week 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2017 and is expected to last for 20 weeks.

**IW Asset Management: Water Conservation Stage 3– Watermain Rehabilitation Phase 2 (Direct Labour Crew)**

4.5km of 355mm OD pipework in Ballylucas – Screen is now complete. 2.5km in Mill Lands, Gorey now under construction by WCC Direct Labour Crew. IW are funding this project for €2m for 9KM of pipeline rehabilitation.

**B. IRISH WATER MINOR SCHEMES & SPECIAL SCHEMES**

**IW Asset Management: Murrintown P.S.(Wastewater to Wexford WWTW)**

Award and Regret Letters were forwarded on the 26<sup>th</sup> October, 2017.

**Flow Monitoring & Sampling Programme**

Snagging 98% complete. 4 Additional sites added, Camolin North and South, Campile and Balycanew.

**Sewer network pump station maintenance contract**

2<sup>nd</sup> round now in progress.

**WWTP pre-planned Maintenance Contract**

Works progressing on site.

**IW Asset Management: Newtown WTW ( pumps, blowers etc.)**

New foot valves for pumps installed. Due to delay in obtaining parts, high lift pump installation deferred to January.

**IW Asset Management: Kilmallock & Taylorstown WTW (new pumps, automated treatment, replacement of chlorine gas etc)**

Filter sand replacement complete in Kilmallock and underway in Taylorstown. Dosing replacement is ongoing. Commissioning is scheduled for January 2018. Additional works for acid dosing in Kilmallock have been approved to improve the proposed operability of automatic coagulant dosing.

**IW Asset Management: pH Emergency (Automated dosing control)**

EPA informed IW if IW satisfied that extra pipe not required at Coolgreany, then it does not have to be installed. Caustic pumps to be serviced and then turned on.

**IW Asset Management: Coagulation automation at Creagh, Vinegar Hill and Newtown WTW**

Awaiting programme form Contractor (CSL)

**IW Asset Management: Disinfection and pH Control Programme**

Chestnut Grove: UV units and chloros dosing installed w/e December 15<sup>th</sup>. Two rounds of clear samples obtained. If third round of samples clear, HSE will lift BWN before Christmas.

Newtown: concrete slabs for chloros (to replace chlorine gas) and control kiosk installed mid December.

**Suppressed Capital Maintenance scheme**

A capital maintenance budget of €930,000 has been allocated by Irish Water for Wexford for 2017. Our present approval from Irish Water is at 117% of budget at €1.163 million. Committed expenditure recorded at present is €592,682.

A number of projects through this fund are at mini-tender stage. Committed expenditure recorded at present is €783,976.55.

## **C. RURAL WATER PROGRAMME**

### **Blackstairs Group Water Scheme – Contract No. 11 Pollpeasty**

Contract Signed 19<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

### **Kilanerin Group Water Scheme**

Additional work required on the AMR installation is to be complete early January 2018.

### **Oilgate Group Sewerage Scheme/ The Bing Group Sewerage Scheme**

Awaiting response from the Department of Planning Community and Local Government on infrastructure upgrades required on both schemes.

### **Crosstown Group Sewerage Scheme / Orchard Lane Group Sewerage Scheme**

Takeover Process ongoing.

## **ROADS & TRANSPORTATION**

### **COUNTY WEXFORD'S NATIONAL ROADS SCHEMES:**

#### **N25 New Ross Bypass**

#### **Progress Update December 2017**

As 2018 begins, the PPP Contract is now in its 24<sup>th</sup> month and remains on programme to open in 2019.

The construction of the central deck spans on the Pink Rock side of the Barrow Bridge continues to make good progress. The central deck sections for the first two spans are poured and post tensioning works continue. The wing traveller system (see photo no. 4 below) for the edge deck sections on these spans has been erected. This essentially acts as a movable concrete mould supported on and moving along the central deck section that allows the edge sections on either side of the central deck to be placed. The central deck for the third span is under construction and will be completed in the coming weeks. The pier head on pier 4 (central pier on main spans) is complete and ready for start of deck construction. Erection will commence on the temporary falsework for the four approach spans on the Wexford side in January in preparation for construction of the deck sections.

Earthworks operations are over 85% complete, and drainage operations are approx. 50% complete. Rock blasting operations are complete at Ballyverneen (Glenmore) and at Stokestown and will finish at Camlin in the New Year. Accommodation works are also progressing well throughout the scheme.

All eight road bridges on the Wexford side of the scheme are now complete or substantially complete. This has allowed most of the associated local road realignments to re-open to traffic.

As there are outstanding completion works on these local road realignments they are open under continuing temporary traffic management systems. The L-8142 Arnestown Road will be temporarily closed in January for three months to facilitate the completion of approaches to the Arnestown Road Overbridge. Upon completion of these works all local roads on the Wexford side will be back open to traffic on new road alignments. The temporary diversion and statutory 60km/h speed limit on the N25 Wexford Road at Ballymacar will continue to operate into 2018. Extensive traffic management is being implemented to guide road users safely through and around the diversion route.

It is intended to close a section of the Ballyverneen Road in Co. Kilkenny at the end of January for a maximum period of four months to facilitate the construction of the new road alignment. Due to the narrow width of the existing road it is not feasible to keep the existing road open under traffic management. Access for local residents will be maintained at all times during the works. To facilitate these works the new Ballyverneen Link Road and associated junction to the N25 will be opened in January in advance of the closure. This opening will assist local traffic in diverting around the temporary closure, and will be implemented in co-ordination with the next phase of the temporary traffic management for the Glenmore roundabout. The existing temporary traffic management system on the N25 will be changed to facilitate these works and the 60km/h statutory speed limit will remain in force. Extensive traffic management will continue to be implemented to guide road users safely through and around the temporary works. The road bridge and rail bridge at Ballyverneen will also progress in January. The current Pink Rock Road closure to facilitate Barrow Bridge access and construction will remain in place until June 2018.

Surface conditions on public roads continue to be monitored at interfaces with the site and preventative and remedial measures are being implemented as necessary to keep road surfaces clean. This is particularly important during very cold or wet winter weather and there is ongoing liaison with the Contractor on winter maintenance measures on public roads in the vicinity of the site. Emergency and patrol crews are available as necessary to carry out any operational or maintenance measures that may be required during bad weather on surfaces or traffic management systems on public roads. The site continues to be monitored for the generation of noise, vibration and dust.

The seventh quarterly project newsletter was published before Christmas, and as well as providing a further update on progress, provided information on arrangements to be put in place on site during the Christmas break. The dedicated project website [www.n25newross.ie](http://www.n25newross.ie) provides progress updates as well as information on traffic management and road works, and also provides contact details for the project. A further progress video was released by Wexford County Council before Christmas on the Council web and social media sites as well as selected local community sites. Further videos will be released periodically in 2018. A 24 telephone hotline is also operational to deal with any queries or complaints from the public. The number is 1800 815672, and this number has been posted on both the newsletter and website. The Project Liaison Office will continue to liaise and consult with all landowners and other interested parties for the duration of the project.





**1. Barrow Bridge – Approach view from Kilkenny side of river.**



**2. Barrow Bridge –deck falsework removed from central deck span 1, still in place for deck span 2.**





**3. Barrow Bridge – Deck span 3 (in foreground) approaching pier 3. Pier 4 in background.**



**4. Wing traveller under assembly on deck span 1 for construction of deck edge sections either side of central deck.**





**5. Barrow Bridge – view inside central deck section under construction.**



**6. Barrow Bridge – Pier 4 falsework in place for pour of pier head. Note temporary support pier under construction in front of pier 4. This will be removed upon completion of bridge deck.**





**7. R733 grade separated junction taking shape.**



**8. N25 Ballymacar Roundabout under Construction with N25 diversion route to the right.**





**9. Camlin Road (L-8049) Overbridge and new road alignment under construction.**



**10. Lacken Road North (L-4007) Underbridge and new road alignment open to traffic under traffic management.**

## 1. M11 Gorey to Enniscorthy PPP Scheme update

### Program

The contractor has 85% of their certified design issued for construction and is on target in their overall program for construction. As of January 2018 the program is on target and the M11, N30 and N80 will be opened to traffic in July 2019 with minor works taking place up to the contract end date of November 2019

### Construction to Date

The following table indicates site work progression to date.

	Progress Reported Dec 2016	Progress Reported September	Progress Reported October	Progress Reported November	Progress Reported Dec 2017
<b>Site Clearance</b>	96%	98%	98%	98%	98%
<b>Fencing</b>	85%	86%	86%	86%	86%
<b>Drainage &amp; Service Ducts</b>	7%	17%	21%	25%	30%
<b>Earthworks</b>	23%	66%	69%	71%	75%
<b>Structures – main Bridges</b>		38%	45%	53%	56%
<b>Structures – Culverts</b>	29%	73%	85%	89%	96%
<b>Structures – Access Structures</b>	12%	80%	84%	84%	84%
<b>Accommodation Works</b>	6%	8%	8%	8%	8%

### Blasting

The following program indicates the remaining duration for blasting for the project:

Area	Name	No of Blast remaining	Est. Completion date
M11, Cut 1	Frankfurt Junction	2	December 2017
M11, Cut 6	Crane Road	0	Complete
N30, Cut 1	Ballyorril	0	Complete
N30, Cut 4	Bessmount	TBC *	To be reviewed in 2018

\*Contractor is ripping out rock at the moment and will determine if additional blasting is required. Affected landowners are being notified by the contractor 14 days in advance of blasting commencing and 3 days by either text or a phone call in advance of the blast taking place. Results to date for Vibration and Noise Monitoring have returned below the maximum permitted levels for the contract.

## **Ongoing repairs and monitoring of local roads**

The following roads are being inspected on weekly basis by the contractor and Wexford County Council. Any defects arising from this inspection is being addressed by the contractor.

- L1027, Ballygullen Road
- L2020, Crane Road
- L2021, Ballynabarny Road
- L2011, Tinnacross Road

## **Newsletter**

The Newsletter for Q4 of 2017 has been issued and is uploaded to N11 website [WWW.m11gtoe.ie](http://WWW.m11gtoe.ie). This website is updated on a monthly basis providing information on blasting, road closures and traffic management.

A 24-emergency telephone is also operational to deal with any queries or complaints from the public. The number is 1800 815701, and this number has been posted on both the newsletter and website. The Project Liaison Office will continue to liaise and consult with all landowners and other interested parties for the duration of the project.

## **Drone Survey**

The second drone survey of the site will commence in the New Year. Once this information is received by Wexford County Council it will be uploaded on to our website.



## Applications submitted to WCC from the PPP:

### Road Closure Applications

WCC are progressing the following road closure applications

Structure, Road	Application Status	Closure Date as per R.C. Application	Duration (months) of original closure	Opening Date including Extensions	Status	Notes
M11-S4, L5092, Ballyeden Road	Granted	12/08/2017	6	15/02/2018	Closed	
M11-S5 L5093, Ballymore	Submitted	27/11/2017	5	27/04/2018	Closed	Local diversion within the site
M11-S6, L5096, Rocksprings Road	Granted	09/01/2017	6	28/08/2017	Open	Reopened under TTM.
M11-S7, L1023, Ballycarrigeen	Submitted	01/08/2017	6		Open	Closure not activated. Local Diversion to be constructed.
M11-S8, L2011, Tinnacross	Granted	17/11/2017	3		Open	Extension will be required as works not due to commence until end December/ January. Closure of road is dependent on the opening of L2021 Crane Road
M11-S9, L2021, Crane Road	Granted	17/04/2017	7	02/02/2018	Closed	Extension required to the 2nd February 2018
M11-S11, L2024, Corbally Road	Submitted	01/08/2017	6		Open	On hold until L2020 (N80-S1, Application Withdrawn) is reopened. Extension to be applied for.
M11-S12, R744, Tomnafunshoge	No Application submitted				Works off line	Bridge being constructed off line, Road closure not required at this time
M11-S13, L6055, Drumgold Road	Granted	31/10/2017	7	11/05/2018	Closed	
M11-S14, L2040, Knockrathkyle	Granted	01/02/2017	7	23/09/2017	Open	This road had a local diversion within the site. Reopened under TTM. ST 3 RSA conducted and findings have been implemented
M11-S15, L6048, Glenteige Road	Granted	15/08/2017	3	16/02/2018	Closed	
N11-S16, L6052, Scurlocksbush	Granted	01/03/2017	6	13/10/2017	Open	Reopened under TTM. ST 3 RSA conducted and findings have been implemented
N30-S1, L2015, Coolnahorna	Granted	02/08/2017	6	23/02/2018	Closed	
N30-S2, L2014, Ballyorrl Link	Submitted	02/01/2018	2	09/03/2018	Under Review	These works have not been enacted. New application required. Works to commence next year
N30-S3, L2012, Killalligan Road	Granted	20/02/2017	6	17/11/2017	Opened	Road reopened on the 28/11/17 under TTM. ST 3 RSA conducted and findings have been implemented. Works operated without a road closure in place
N30-S4, L6125, Monart East	Granted	01/02/2017	6	30/11/2017	Open	Road opened under TTM. No Notification has been received by WCC for additional extension.
N30-S5, L2030, Bessmount Road	Submitted	16/01/2018	3.5	27/04/2018	Under Review	New Application
N30-S7, L6122, Templescoby	Granted	01/04/2017	6	09/10/2017	Closed	Local Diversion in place, no extension applied for
N30-S8, L2049, Dunsinane Link	Submitted	05/02/2018	8	05/10/2018	Under Review	Application under review

## **N25 Ross By-Pass Residual Network**

### **N30 from Irishtown to R700 junction.**

This contract is being completed in 2 phases.

Phase 1 from Irishtown to R700 junction was substantially completed on 26<sup>th</sup>. August 2016.

Phase 2 from Irishtown to New Ross swimming pool will be completed in 2018 following works to the sewer network by Irish Water, currently underway.

### **N11 Gorey to Enniscorthy Residual Network R702 Enniscorthy Killealy Road**

This scheme was split into 2 contracts.

Contract 1 from Milehouse to Monart East was completed in April 2017.

Contract 2 from Milehouse Crossroads to Duffry Gate.

This included installation of a 215mm diameter watermain for Irish Water and a roundabout at Milehouse.

Work commenced on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> July and was substantially completed in mid October 2017.

### **N11 Scarawalsh to Ferns South**

This contract involved the overlay of 5km of the N11 between Scarawalsh Bridge and Ferns. This scheme commenced on 24<sup>th</sup> April and was substantially completed on the 9<sup>th</sup> June 2017. The accommodation works are now also complete.

## **2017 National Pavement Schemes**

Transport Infrastructure Ireland provided funding for the following scheme.

### **N11 Ferns Village**

This scheme has been postponed and will be carried out once the Enniscorthy bypass scheme has been completed. This will allow the village centre roadworks to proceed with significantly less disruption.

### **Additional Pavement Improvement Works**

The following 7 pavement schemes were identified by Wexford County Council and TII as priority schemes.

- Ballynabola to Cushenstown Pavement Scheme (1.0km)
- Carrigadaggan to Ballynabola Pavement Scheme (2.3km)
- Kileen to Newtown Pavement Scheme (2.6km)
- Kyle Upper Pavement Scheme (1.1km)
- Tinnahask to Ballynaslaney Pavement Scheme (1.2km)
- Ballygillane Little Pavement Scheme (0.7km)
- Ballygoman to Knockeen Pavement Scheme (3.2km)

#### Ballygillane Little Pavement Scheme

This scheme was completed in June, 2017.

#### Ballynabola to Cushenstown Pavement Scheme

This scheme commenced on the 19<sup>th</sup>. June. It was substantially completed in October 2017.

#### N25 Ballygoman to Knockeen Pavement Scheme

Construction works commenced on 2<sup>nd</sup>. October and were completed on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2017.

#### Tinnahask to Ballynaslaney Pavement Scheme

This scheme was tendered in early September. Construction works commenced on 2<sup>nd</sup> November and completed on the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

#### Kyle Upper Pavement Scheme

This scheme will be tendered in January 2018.

Construction works will commence in the first quarter of 2018.

#### Killeen to Newtown Pavement Scheme

Survey works were completed in August. There will be additional site investigation works required on the southern end of the scheme. It is hoped to have this scheme tendered in early 2018.

### **Winter Maintenance**

The 2017/2018 winter maintenance programme commenced on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October. There have been 26 No. call outs up to 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2018.

### **Public Lighting**

#### **National Roads Lighting Upgrades**

4 upgrade schemes were completed this year.

- N11 Ferrycarrig
- N25 Maldron Roundabout
- N25 Whitford Roundabout
- N25 Drinagh Roundabout

#### **N11 Ferrycarrig**

Approval for the scheme was received from TII at a cost of €85,000 incl. vat. The works includes recabling and ducting 2.5km the installation of 43 no. LED lanterns. All works have been completed.

#### **N25 Maldon Roundabout and N25 Whitford Roundabout**

Approval for these schemes was received from TII early in June. The works involves replacing existing public lighting with 60 LED lights. Whitford roundabout has been completed. I expect works to be completed on the Maldron Roundabout in early January 2018. Total cost €48,000 incl vat.

#### **N25 Drinagh Roundabout**

This scheme was applied for in 2017. We received approval for the scheme in August. This scheme was completed in early September.

#### **Non National Roads Lighting Upgrades**

Work has commenced on year 1 of the LED replacement programme. It is hoped to have 1,200 to 1,300 light upgraded to LED by the end of January 2018. Over 950 have been upgraded to date.

We have applied to SEAI for a grant under the *Better Energy Communities* for this year's scheme. The application to SEAI was for 900 No. lanterns at a cost of €450,000. The net grant after payment to Carlow Kilkenny Energy Agency will be circa €108,000. I expect the cost of installation will be in the region of €650,000. The net cost to Wexford County Council will be in the region of €540,000

## **REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROADS**

### **Strengthening (Clause 804)**

Strengthening programme was successfully completed on November 23 2017.

### **Community Involvement Scheme**

Community Involvement Scheme in Rathduff Lane (New Ross District) completed.

### **Local Improvement Schemes**

Local Improvement Schemes commenced in the New Ross District on November 24. Schemes completed to date: Ballyhackbeg (New Ross District); Ruanmore, Annagh Gap and Killyane (all in Gorey District); Mountpill, Hodgesmill Lane, Ballyboy, Gorteenminogue, Ballyteige and Ballydoyle (all in Wexford District).

### **Improvement Works**

Works on New Ross Flood Relief Scheme ongoing.  
Contract for Oaklands Roundabout (New Ross District) awarded to David Walsh Civil Engineering Ltd. Work to commence in January 2018

### **General Maintenance**

Drainage, patching and road surface repair works ongoing in all Districts.

## **5. Finance:**

### **Audit of Annual Financial Statement (AFS) 2016**

The LGAS audit of the 2016 financial records is complete and the Local Government Auditor Statutory Audit Report together with a copy of the Audited Accounts for 2016 will be submitted to members for consideration at the February meeting.

### **Audit Committee**

The Audit Committee met with the Local Government Auditor to discuss the 2016 Accounts and associated audit. The committee will now proceed to prepare their report for the Council on the Audit Committee activity during 2017, their views following consideration of the Audited Financial Statement for 2016 and associated audit report together with a note on their proposed programme of work for 2018. It is expected that the report will be submitted to the Council for consideration after the next Audit Committee which is scheduled for March 2018.

### **Annual Financial Statement 2017**

Work will be commencing on the preparation of the 2017 Accounts shortly once all transactions for 2017 have been updated to the financial management system. This work will take a number of months but it is expected that the Council will meet the submission deadline of the end of March.

**Capital Programme 2018 – 2020**

Work has commenced on the preparation of the next 3 Year Capital Programme and it is planned to have this ready for consideration of members at the February meeting.

**Cash Flow/Overdraft**

The Council continues to operate in overdraft, Ministerial Sanction is in place for borrowing by way of overdraft in the amount of €13m will expire on 31st December, 2018.

**Tom Enright,  
Chief Executive.**