



2026

OCTOBER

CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT



Comhairle Contae
Loch Garman
Wexford
County Council



3



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Delivering Homes, Building Communities 2025 – 2030

Under the new housing action plan each local authority was tasked with creating a Housing Delivery Action Plan for 2027-2030. The Draft plan was submitted to the Department of Housing on 25th September.

The plan will encompass specific targets regarding social housing and Starter Homes (including affordable housing), housing for older people, disabled persons and members of the traveller community. The Department of Housing have provided target figures for the lifetime of the plan of 912 units, it is planned that this will be exceeded in line with the overall rates of delivery.

A high level overview of the Plan was presented to the Housing SPC on 25th September, 2026 and it is proposed to present to the Plenary Council meeting in December 2026.

Housing For All 2022 – 2026 – Housing Delivery

Under the Housing for All Programme 2022 to 2026, Wexford County Council must deliver a minimum of 1,159 new housing units within the programme timeframe. The status of overall programme delivery is contained in the diagram below. (1,454 below includes leasing).

Housing For All 2022-2026									
1,190 Target	- (	1,246 Units Delivered	+	214 Units Projected	=	1,460 Delivery Pipeline	)	=	270 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. **Expression of Interest ran from 29th July to 10th September.** A new EOI will open at the end of October. 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
Mangan, Hollyfort, Gorey	2 x 3-Bed	Q1 2027	2
Grattan Court, Gorey	10 x 3-bed, 4 x 2-bed apt	Q4 2026	14
Sunset Avenue, Ballinatrav Upper, Ardamine	2 x 2 Bed, 3 x 3 bed	Q1 2027	5
		Total Turnkey Units	21

Project Address (Part V)	Unit Type	Est. Delivery	Total
Forest Close, Ramsford Park	2 x 3-bed	Q3 2026	2
Deerpark (Ballowen or Ramsford Park) Gorey	6 x 3 bed, 1 x 3-bed apt 1 x 2-bed apt	Delivered	8
Grattan Court Gorey	2 x 2 bed	Q4 2026	2
Sunset Avenue, Riverchapel	1 X 2 bed hse	Q1 2027	1
Millquarter, Knockmullen	6 X 2 bed apt 6 X 3 bed apt	Q4 2026	12
Fermoyle Manor, Kilanerin	1 X 3 bed hse	Q4 2026	1
Ramsbrook, Ramstown Lower	10 X 3 bed hse	Delivering on a phased basis from Q4 2026	10
Dun Greine, Coolgreany	1 X 3 bed	Delivered Q3 2026	1
		Total Part V	37
Ballytegan Rd, Gorey (AHB)	3 x 1-bed 26 x 2-bed 52 x 3-bed 5 x 4-bed	Q4 2026	86
		Overall Total	144

Rosslare Municipal District

Project Address	Unit Type	Est. Delivery	Total
Carrig-on-Bannow (TURNKEY)	5 x 1 bed 5 x 2 bed	5 Delivered Dec 2025 5 due in Q4 2026	10
Murrintown Upper (PART V)	3 x 2 bed hse	Delivered Q3 2026	3
		Overall Total	13

Enniscorthy Municipal District

Project Address	Unit Type	Est. Delivery	Total
The Meadows, Cnoc na Greine, Enniscorthy (TURNKEY)	8 x 3-bed 2 x 4-bed	7 due in 2026. 3 due in 2026	10
		Total Turnkey	10
The Meadows, Cnoc na Greine, Enniscorthy (Part V)	4 X 3 bed hse	2 due in 2026 2 due in 2027	4
The Hawthorn, Cnoc na Greine, Enniscorthy (Part V)	16 x 1 bed apt	8 to deliver Q4 2026 8 to deliver Q1 2027	16
		Total Part V	20
		Total AHB	0
		Overall Total	30

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	Delieverd Q2 2026	48
Grange Wood, Rathnure (Turnkey)	6 x 2-bed 6 x 3-bed	Q4 2027	12
Grange Wood, Rathnure (Part V)		Q4 2027	3
		Overall Total	63

Borough District of Wexford

Project Address (Part V)	Unit Type	Est. Delivery	Total
Ard Uisce, Wexford	8 x 2-bed	6 delivered 2025, 2 in Q3 2026	8
Radharc an Chuain, Castlebridge	3 x 3 bed	1 delivered Q3 2026, 2 due in Q4 2026	2
Turners Way, Coolcotts	4 x 2 bed apt	Delivering from Q4 2026	4
Clos na Pairce, Park	3 x 2 bed, 3 x 3 bed	Delivered Q3 2026	6
An Lisin Mor, Coolballow Rd	8 x 2 bed	2 due in Q4 2026, 4 in 2027, 2 in 2028	8
The Paddocks, Coolcotts	7 x 3 bed	Delivered Q2 & Q3 2026	7
Roxborough, Wexford	23 x 2 bed apt	6 due in Q4 2026, 17 due in Q2 2027	23
Carrig Mor & Meadow Av.	1 x 2 bed & 2 x 3 bed	Q4 2026	3
Kerlogue, Coolballow Road	8 x 2 bed	Delivering from Q2 2027	8
Ard Uisce	8 x 1 bed, 8 x 2 bed	Delivering from Q3 2027	16
Seaview Court, Roxborough	3 x 3-bed, 4 x 2-bed	Delivered Q4 2026	7
		Total Part V	68
Beechfield, Clonard (AHB)	25 x 1-bed, 23 x 2-bed, 1 x 3-bed, 1 x 4-bed	Q4 2026	50
		Overall Total	118

Support has been offered to AHB's for other proposals amounting to **157** units across all districts. These proposals are subject to Planning and Departmental approval.

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

District	No. of Units
Rosslare	42
Wexford	45
Total	157

Housing Maintenance

The following table shows the number of repairs carried out from 01/01/2026 to 28/09/2026:

	Enniscorthy	Gorey-Kilmuckridge	New Ross	Rosslare	Wexford Borough	Total
Emergency	33	12	33	12	34	124
Routine	173	132	140	83	179	707
Urgent	1384	1070	1485	779	1393	6111
Total	1608	1218	1666	880	1623	6995

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

Department Targets for County Wexford		
Year	No of Properties Allocated	No Delivered & Funding Received
2021	54	0
2022	68	37
2023	51	146
2024	116	118
2025	120	120
Total	409	421
Status Update October 2026		
Units completed to date		101*
Works in progress		19
Contract Awarded		24
In tender process		0
Survey/Tender Doc Prep		0
Total		144 No.
2026 allocation		130 No.

Notes: * 17 units completed in Q4 2025

Minister Browne opens new Ferrybank housing scheme in Wexford

The Dairyfields was officially launched by Minister Browne (September) in the presence of Cathaoirleach of Wexford County Council, Cllr Lisa McDonald, Deputy Mayor of Wexford Borough District, Cllr Robbie Staples, Cllr Garry Laffan, Eddie Taaffe, Chief Executive Wexford County Council, the development team and local stakeholders.



The Dairyfields - Applications Now Open

- Prices from €225,000, 14 Units available
- Applications opened 28th September at 12.00pm
- Details available www.wexfordcoco.ie/housing or by emailing starterhomes@wexfordcoco.ie



Choice Based Letting - 295 properties were advertised on the Choice Based Letting website from 01/01/2026 to 30/09/26. Number of Views & Expressions of Interest are as per table below:-

Municipal District	No. of Properties Advertised	1-bed	2-bed	3-bed	4/5-bed
Enniscorthy	45	2	21	19	3
Gorey/Kilmuckridge	88	22	59	58	4
New Ross	64	10	30	23	1
Rosslare	14	5	6	4	0
Wexford	83	17	40	24	2
TOTAL	244	22	93	122	7

ROLLING RENT REVIEW

Rents are reassessed either periodically by the rents section or as requested by tenants on a change in their circumstances. The review has been conducted as specific projects at different periods previously.

September 7th saw the rents team rolling out a rent review process whereby all tenants will have their rents reviewed every 2 years. This commenced with tenants who have not had their rents reviewed since before October 2023. All tenants are being written to with a request for up to date income details and are asked to provide these within 2 weeks.

As this process will be a continual process for rent reviews there will always be a number of tenants who are being reassessed for rent based on their income.

Housing Tenancies 2026 - From the 1st January to 2nd October, 2026 there were 330 new tenancies.

Area	Re-Lets (Incl. Bays)	Transfers	New Lets	AHBs	MTR	Total
Gorey/Kilmuckridge	10	7	42	12	0	71
New Ross	22	4	1	49	1	77
Enniscorthy	13	4	30	41	2	90
Wexford	18	9	18	10	2	57
Rosslare	11	4	9	10	1	35
TOTAL	74	28	100	122	6	330

Estate Management Cases – Logged between 01/01/2026 and 02/10/2026

Complaint	Enniscorthy	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	New Ross	Rosslare	Wexford
Abandonment	0	4	10	0	0
Breach of Tenancy	0	24	20	3	11
Damage to Property	1	13	8	0	3
Estate Management	59	46	38	7	21
End of Tenancy	0	0	1	0	0
Unauthorised Occupants	2	20	5	3	8
Verbal Abuse/ Violence/ Harassment/Drugs	7	40	42	1	17
TOTAL	69	147	124	14	60

Overall Total

414

HOUSING CONSTRUCTION – CAPITAL BUILD PROJECTS

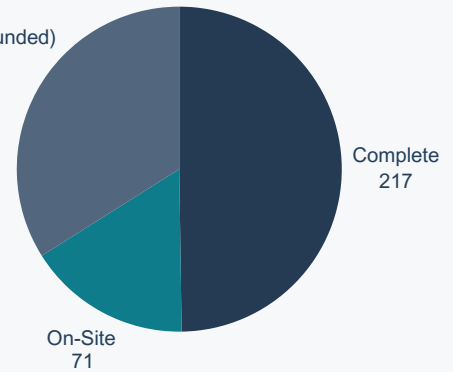


Housing for All 2022 - 2026 SUMMARY

Dwellings Complete 2022	48
Dwellings Complete 2023	23
Dwellings Complete 2024	54
Dwellings Complete 2025	92
Dwellings to Complete 2026	71
Funded Projects for delivery 2026 / 2027	148

Construction Status

In-Progress (funded)
148



Social & Affordable Housing
Pipeline (2027+)

783

Dwellings Under Construction to complete in 2026

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

Funded Projects for delivery 2027 – 2028

Bullawn, New Ross	3	Cluain Fada, New Ross	22	Belvedere, Wexford	18
Clonard, Wexford	57	Adamstown, New Ross	4	Grogan's Road, Wexford	4
St. Walerans, Gorey (social)	40				
Total 148					

Projects in Design / Pipeline Social and Affordable Subject to Funding Approval

Group TAP Housing	5	Kilmore Quay (10 units & 4 serviced sites)	14
Creagh, Gorey	24	Castlemoyle, New Ross	82
The Lyre, Enniscorthy	101	Park, Wexford	12
Bunclody, Enniscorthy (social)	65	St Walerans, Gorey (affordables)	35
Bunclody, Enniscorthy (affordables)	45	Turrett Rocks, Enniscorthy	50
Cherryorchard, Enniscorthy	5	Taghmon	40
Ballynagee, Wexford Masterplan (to be phased)	252	Bride Street, Wexford	3
Rosbercon, New Ross	50		
10			Total 783



Wexford County Council Launches New 'Invest Wexford' Initiative to Drive Investment and Business Growth

Wexford County Council officially launched Invest Wexford, the county's refreshed investment promotion brand and dedicated investment website, at the Wexford GAA Game Changers event in Croke Park on Friday 2nd October 2026.

The initiative has been developed to strengthen County Wexford's profile as a premier location for business investment, expansion and talent attraction. Through the new brand and digital platform, Invest Wexford promotes the county as a place to Invest. Scale. Thrive.,

highlighting Wexford's competitive advantages including its skilled workforce, quality of life, strategic connectivity, enterprise supports and strong economic potential. The launch formed part of the high-profile Game Changers event, bringing together business leaders, community representatives, sporting figures, educational institutions and key economic stakeholders. The event provided an important platform to showcase Wexford's investment proposition to a national audience and reinforce the county's reputation as an attractive location in which to establish and grow a business.

At the event, **Cllr Lisa McDonald, Cathaoirleach**, highlighted the county's strong and diverse economy, growing reputation as a place to live and work, and the Council's ambition to build on existing opportunities while fostering further investment, innovation and employment growth across the county.

The official launch was performed by County Wexford Ambassador and Director General Designate of the Institute of International and European Affairs, Mark Redmond, who acknowledged Wexford's strengths in areas such as talent development, education, connectivity and quality of life. He also recognised the strategic partnership between Wexford County Council and Wexford GAA in promoting Wexford's sense of place, identity and economic opportunity.

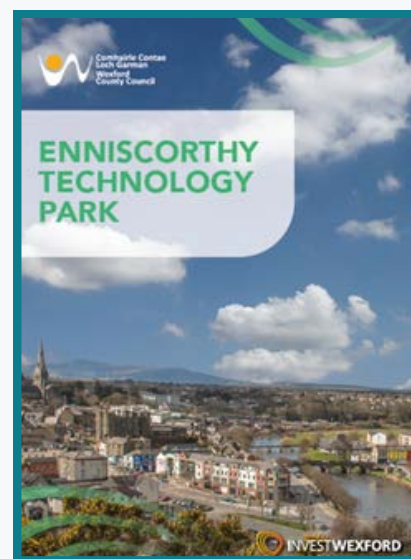
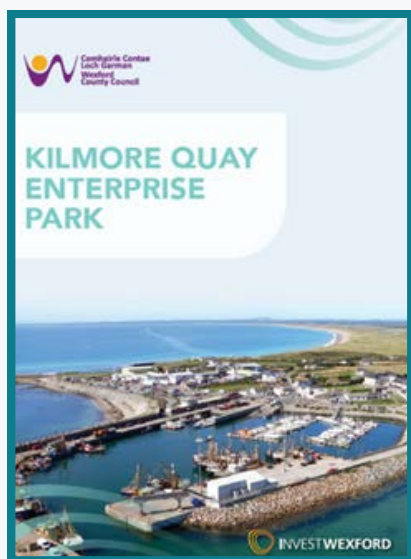


The initiative reflects Wexford County Council's continued commitment to attracting investment, enterprise development and job creation as key priorities under the county's economic development agenda. A strong and coordinated place branding approach is increasingly important in attracting investment and talent in a competitive national and international marketplace.



The new Invest Wexford website now serves as a central information hub for investors, businesses and prospective employees seeking to explore opportunities in County Wexford. The platform provides information on key sectors, business supports, strategic infrastructure, workforce availability and quality of life advantages, positioning Wexford as one of Ireland's most attractive locations for investment and enterprise development.

A Wexford launch is planned shortly to demonstrate the Invest Wexford brand and create awareness at local level.



Investment Promotion and Strategic Development Brochure Suite

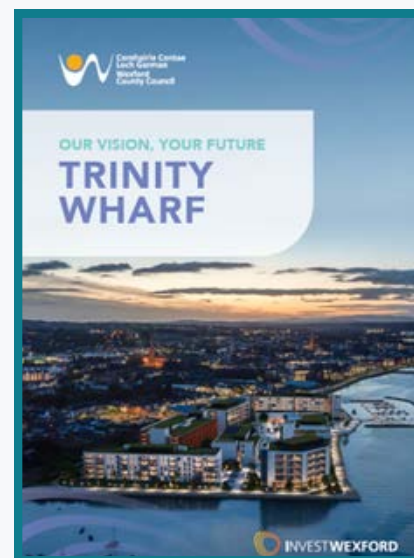
As part of the wider Invest Wexford initiative and to coincide with the launch of the new investment website, the Economic Development Section has completed a comprehensive suite of investment promotion brochures designed to showcase strategic development opportunities across the county and support ongoing investment attraction activities.

The brochure suite provides detailed information on key investment locations including Trinity Wharf, Wexford Town; Kilmore Quay Marine & Offshore Enterprise Park; Enniscorthy Technology Park; The Hatch Lab and M11 Business Campus, Gorey; and development opportunities at Butlersland, New Ross. Collectively, these publications provide prospective investors, developers and enterprise agencies with site specific information on development potential, infrastructure availability, sectoral strengths and future growth opportunities.

The publications have been developed to present a coordinated countywide investment offering, demonstrating the breadth and diversity of opportunities available across Wexford. Each location has been positioned to reflect its particular strengths and strategic role within the county's economic development priorities, including opportunities in offshore renewable energy and the blue economy, innovation and sustainable construction, technology enabled enterprise, urban regeneration and commercial expansion.

The property prospectus also highlights the significant investment being made by Wexford County Council in enabling infrastructure, enterprise facilities and strategic development projects. By bringing together a range of investment opportunities. under a consistent format and identity, the publications provide an important resource to support discussions with investors, developers, site selectors and enterprise stakeholders.

This work represents the next stage in the delivery of the Invest Wexford initiative, ensuring that the county has a strong portfolio of high quality promotional material capable of supporting investment attraction, enterprise growth and long term economic development objectives



TOURISM

Tripadvisor Campaign Performance Update

Supporting the objective of growing overseas visitor numbers and strengthening Wexford's profile in key tourism markets, Wexford County Council, Visit Wexford and Tourism Ireland collaborated on a targeted Tripadvisor marketing campaign focused on the Great Britain market.

Tripadvisor's ability to engage travellers at the inspiration and planning stages of their travel journey provided an opportunity to showcase County Wexford to a highly relevant audience already considering a visit to Ireland. The campaign concluded in September 2026, with the results providing valuable performance data and market insights to help shape future international marketing activity. The Tripadvisor campaign, which ran from mid-July to mid-September 2026 and targeted UK travellers actively researching Ireland, delivered positive results and valuable insights for future international marketing activity.

A key highlight of the campaign was the strong performance of the video content, which achieved a click-through rate (CTR) approximately 33% above Tripadvisor's benchmark. This demonstrates the effectiveness of video led destination storytelling in engaging prospective visitors and reinforces the value of video as a central component of future campaigns.

The image campaign also performed strongly, achieving its full booked delivery of almost 190,000 impressions and providing significant visibility for County Wexford among travellers considering a visit to Ireland. Several static advertising formats exceeded industry benchmarks, in some cases 117% above benchmark.



The campaign provided further insights into audience behaviour, with Belfast emerging as a particularly engaged market. This reinforces the potential of Northern Ireland as a target audience and supports consideration of future promotional activity within this market.

In addition to generating targeted visibility among travellers with an existing interest in Ireland, the campaign also provided valuable learnings regarding creative formats and campaign timing.

Overall, the Tripadvisor campaign has proven to be a successful international test for Visit Wexford. The results demonstrate strong engagement with Wexford's tourism offering, particularly through video content, while providing clear evidence and insights to guide future digital marketing activity in key international markets.

LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE

Wexford success at Blas na hÉireann Irish Food Awards

Now in our 19th year, Blas na hÉireann, The Irish Food Awards is the biggest competition for quality Irish produce on the island of Ireland. Wexford had 20 producers as finalists in the 2026 Awards, an increase on 2025.

Wexford achieved huge success with 48 Awards; 19 gold, 15 silver, and 14 bronze. This was a significant increase on last year's medal total of 31 awards.

Supported by LEO Wexford, **Zaire Artisan Chocolates** was announced as **Best in Wexford**.



LEO Wexford Goes Green around the County

Thursday 22nd October will see LEO Wexford promote its Energy Efficiency Supports for Business at the Wexford Energy Expo in Enniscorthy.

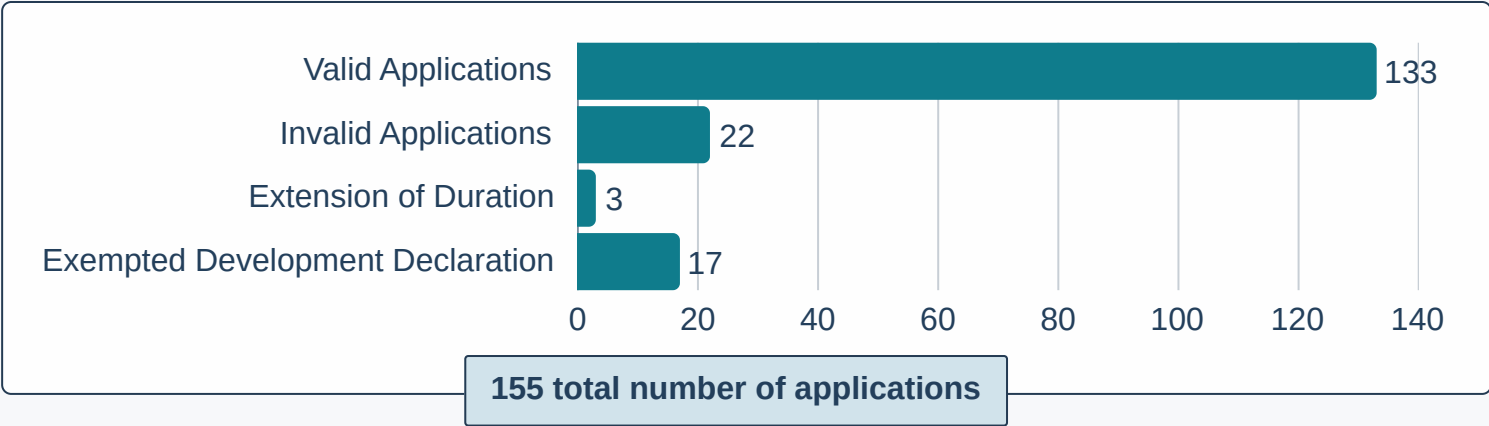


Planning and Development Act 2024 – Implementation

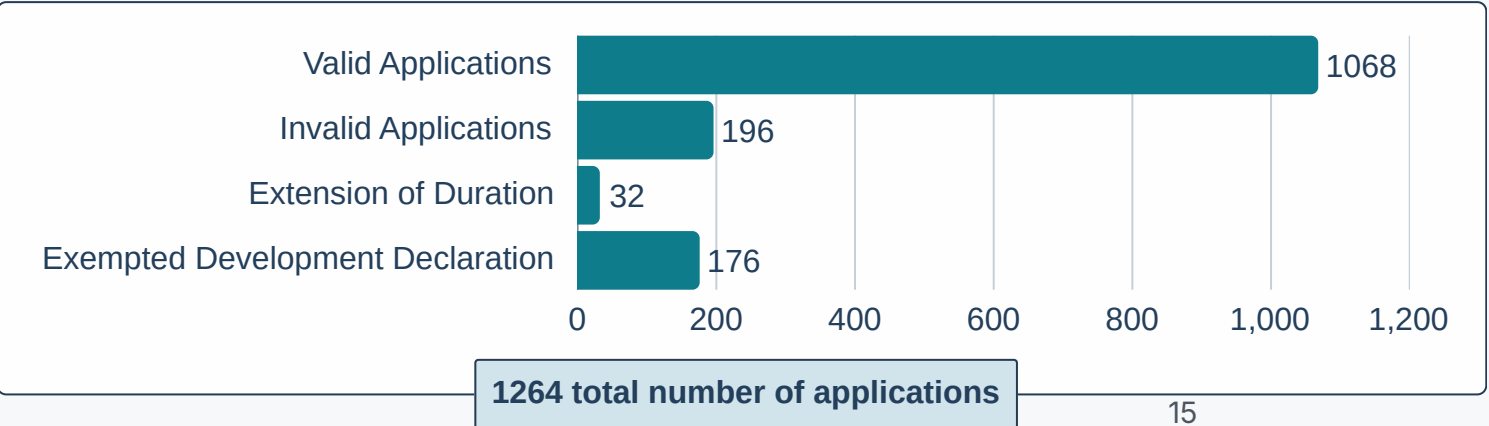


The Planning Department are currently working on a number of changes that are required to its processes and forms relating to the proposed implementation of Part 4 of the Planning and Development Act 2024 (planning applications). There are significant changes to current practices. To this end, a targeted engagement and training event was delivered to architects and planning agents to support sector readiness for the forthcoming changes at the Agent's Training on the 24th of September 2026 in the Riverside Park Hotel. Over 70 agents attended to hear presentations from Eddie Taaffe, Chief Executive, and the Senior Planning Team, which focused on the practical implications of the legislative changes for the planning process, including revised requirements, procedures and timelines. The Agent's training event forms part of the Planning Department's wider change management and stakeholder communication programme, supporting consistent understanding of the new framework, thereby helping to minimise disruption to the planning service during the transition. Further training is being arranged for Council staff and once the new Regulations are confirmed, training will be provided to the Members of the Council.

Planning applications received 30th August 2026 to the 27th September 2026



Planning applications received 1st January to 27th September 2026

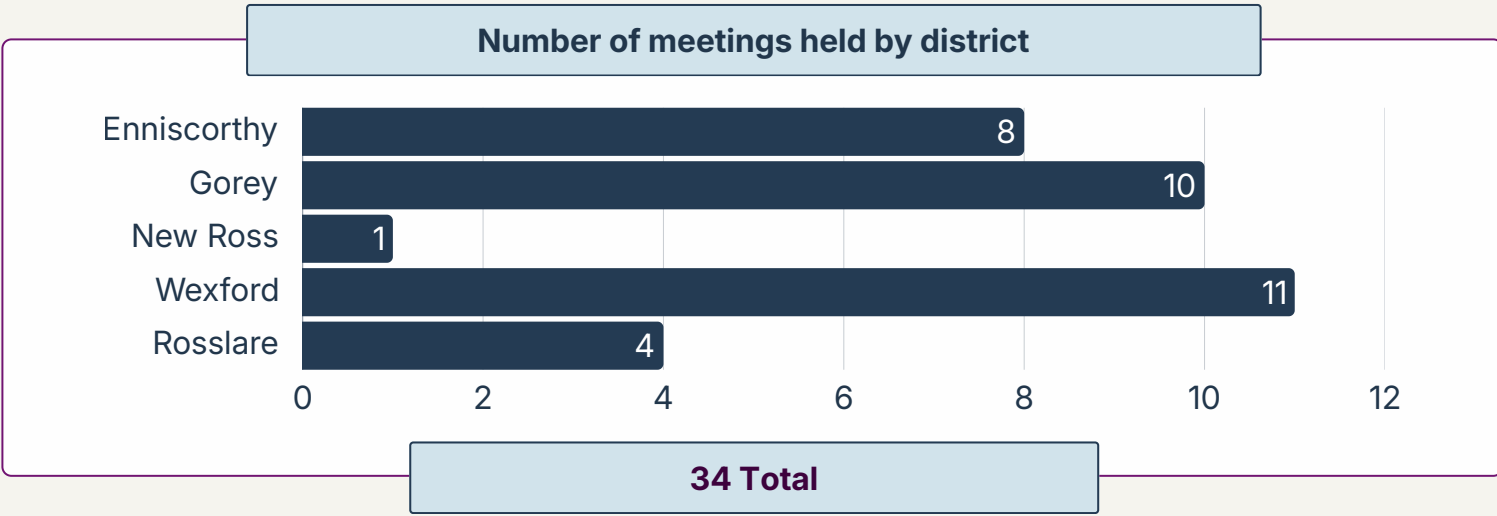


Pre-Planning - applications year to date up to the 27th September 2026

Pre-planning by District	Applications Received	Applications Closed	Open Pre-planning Applications
Enniscorthy MD	60	46	15
Gorey/Kilmuckridge MD	122	114	18
New Ross MD	68	65	6
Rosslare MD	87	75	5
Wexford BD	89	63	19
Total	426	363	63

Average days to pre-planning meeting is 27

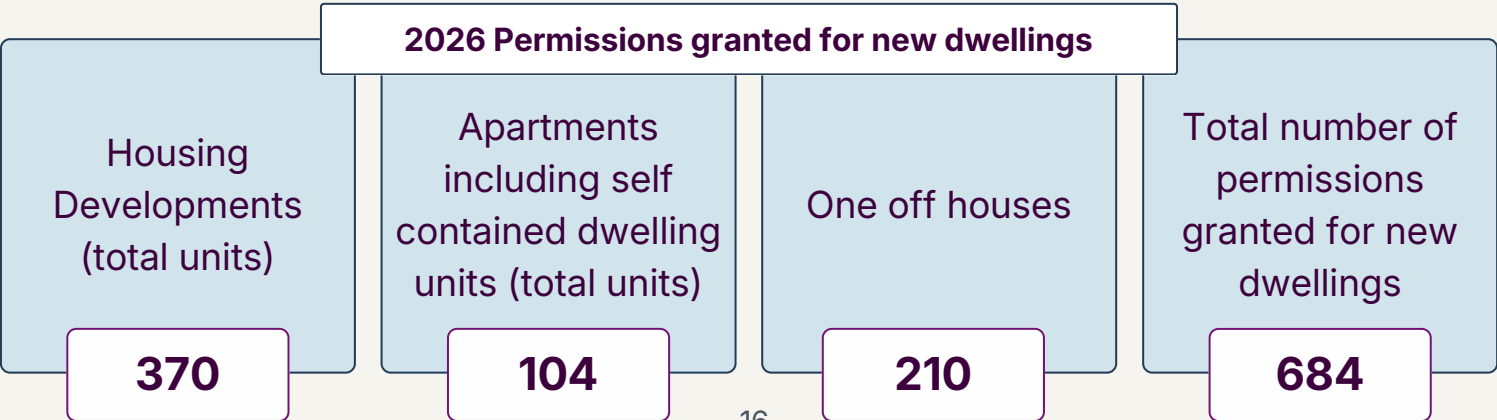
Major Pre-Planning - Year to date to the 27th September 2026



Number of Housing Units: 1,972

Commercial Development (approx. sqm): 12,954

Planning CSO Returns - year to date to the 31st August 2026



Forward Planning

Variation No. 1 of the Wexford County Development Plan

Proposed Variation No. 1 to the Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028 represents a significant first step in implementing the increased housing growth targets for County Wexford arising from the Housing Growth Requirements – Guidelines for Planning Authorities. The Variation

provides the revisions required to the Core Strategy, land use zoning and related objectives for Enniscorthy and New Ross. The revisions to the Core Strategy set the framework for a series of variations for other settlements in the County to increase the supply of zoned land to ensure the efficient delivery of housing.

Variation Number 1 to the Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028 was made by the Members of Wexford County Council on the 13 July 2026, in accordance with the provisions of Section 58(17) of the Planning and Development Act, 2024 (as amended) (the 'Act'). The Variation came into effect the same day.



Variation No. 2 to the Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied)

Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) seeks to implement the revised Housing Growth Targets for Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane, and Bunclody.

Following workshops with the Elected Members of the Enniscorthy and Rosslare Municipal Districts, the Proposed Variation was put on public display as part of the statutory consultation process. Public information sessions were also held in Bunclody and Rosslare to facilitate engagement with stakeholders and the wider community. Both events were very well attended and generated significant public interest in the proposed changes.

Following public consultation on the Proposed Variation No 2, the Chief Executive prepared a report summarising and responding to submissions received and recommending Proposed Material Alterations.

The Chief Executive's Report was considered by the Elected Members at a Special Meeting of Wexford County Council on the 21 September. Following this, the Council resolved to place Proposed Material Alterations (PMAs) to Proposed Variation No. 2 on public display. The public display will run from 30th September to 30th October inclusive.

Variation No. 3 to the Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028 (Wexford Town)

Proposed Variation No. 3 to the Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028 will provide the planning framework for the sustainable growth and development of Wexford Town and its environs. The Variation will set out land use zoning objectives and identify the infrastructure required to support both future development and existing communities.

The Proposed Variation will also include an Urban Design Strategy, a Master Plan for the Ballynagee area, a Rainwater Management Plan and a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. The Variation will be subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA) to ensure environmental considerations are fully integrated into the plan-making process.

Forward Planning cont.

Variation No. 3 to the Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028 (Wexford Town)

Preparation of the Variation has been informed by pre-draft consultation, with further public consultation to be undertaken as part of the statutory process.

A pre-draft briefing was held with the Elected Members of Wexford Borough District on 21 September. The Proposed Variation will now be brought forward for public display and consultation in late October. A number of public consultation events and information meetings will form part of the consultation process to provide opportunities for engagement with local communities, stakeholders and interested parties.

Heritage

Shared Island: Building Connections, Exchanging Knowledge

Yvonne Doyle-Curtis (Architectural Conservation Officer) and Colm Moriarty (Heritage Officer), both from the Planning Department's Heritage section attended 'Shared Island: Building Connections, Exchanging Knowledge', the Heritage Council's inaugural all-island conference for heritage professionals on Wednesday, 2 September at Monaghan Peace Campus



In her capacity representing Wexford County Council and the Ceangal programme, Yvonne contributed to a professional exchange panel focusing on Built Heritage, Placemaking, and Regeneration where she demonstrated the measurable impact and value the ACO role has brought to the organisation.

Historic Town Atlas for New Ross

In September the steering group for the New Ross Town Atlas met in the Tholsel to discuss the publication's upcoming launch. The Atlas will be a comprehensive resource that records the topographical development of New Ross over time, providing a detailed account of the town's evolution through maps and text. This project is being led by the Royal Irish Academy with support being provided by Wexford County Council's Heritage Section.



Heritage cont.

Enniscorthy Castle

Conservation repairs are now underway at Enniscorthy Castle. These much-needed works, including repairs to the roof, windows and rainwater goods, will help protect and preserve this iconic medieval landmark for future generations to enjoy. The project is being managed by Wexford County Council's Heritage Section with funding support from the Historic Towns Initiative, a partnership between the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and the Heritage Council



Ballybrennan Church

Essential repairs are also taking place at Ballybrennan church, Bree. These works will ensure the long-term survival of this important medieval building and help build resilience in the face of climate change. The project is being managed by Wexford County Council's Heritage Section with funding support from the Community Monuments Fund.



Community Archaeology Dig



Wexford County Council's Heritage Section was delighted to support Kilanerin Tidy Town's recent community excavation at Limberick. Overseen by professional archaeologists, this exciting project allowed members of the public to engage with their past in a real and tangible way, while also furthering our knowledge of Wexford's rich archaeological heritage.

Planning Enforcement - Year to date up to the 27th September 2026

515

Live cases

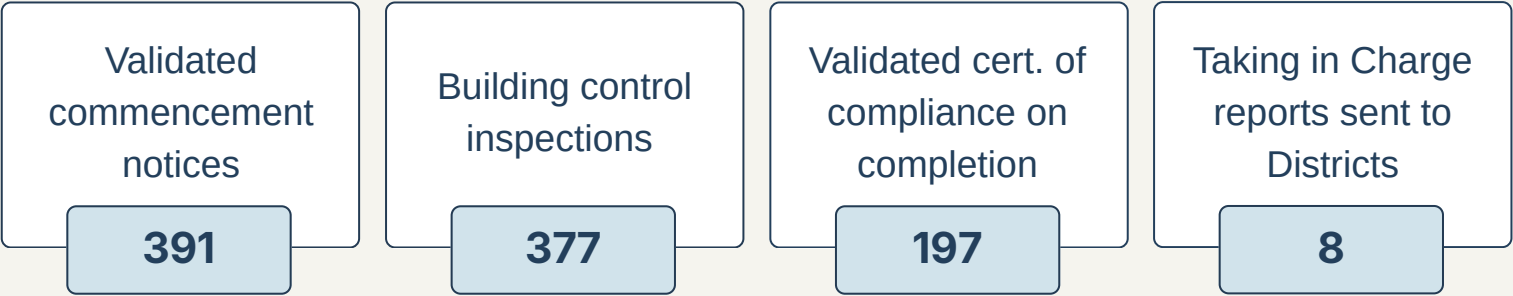
233

Cases opened
year to date

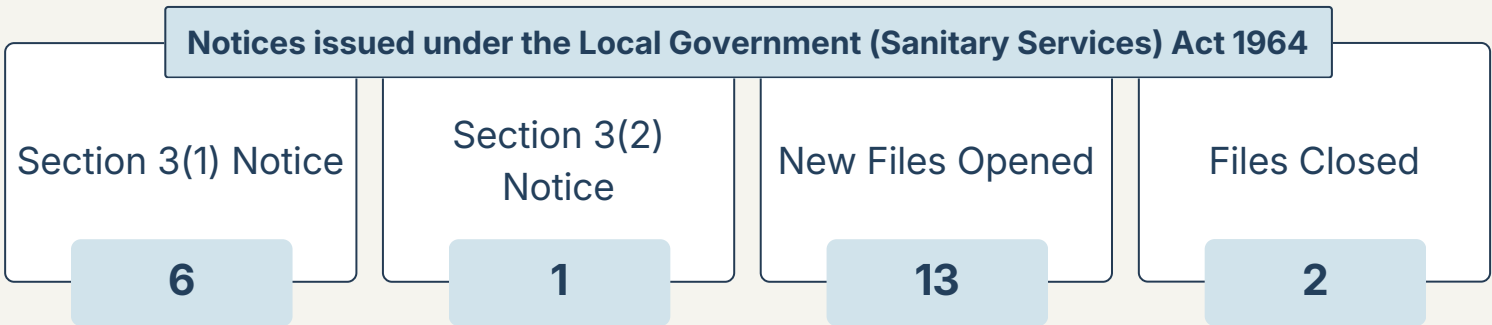
193

Cases closed
year to date

Building Control - Year to date up to the 27th September 2026

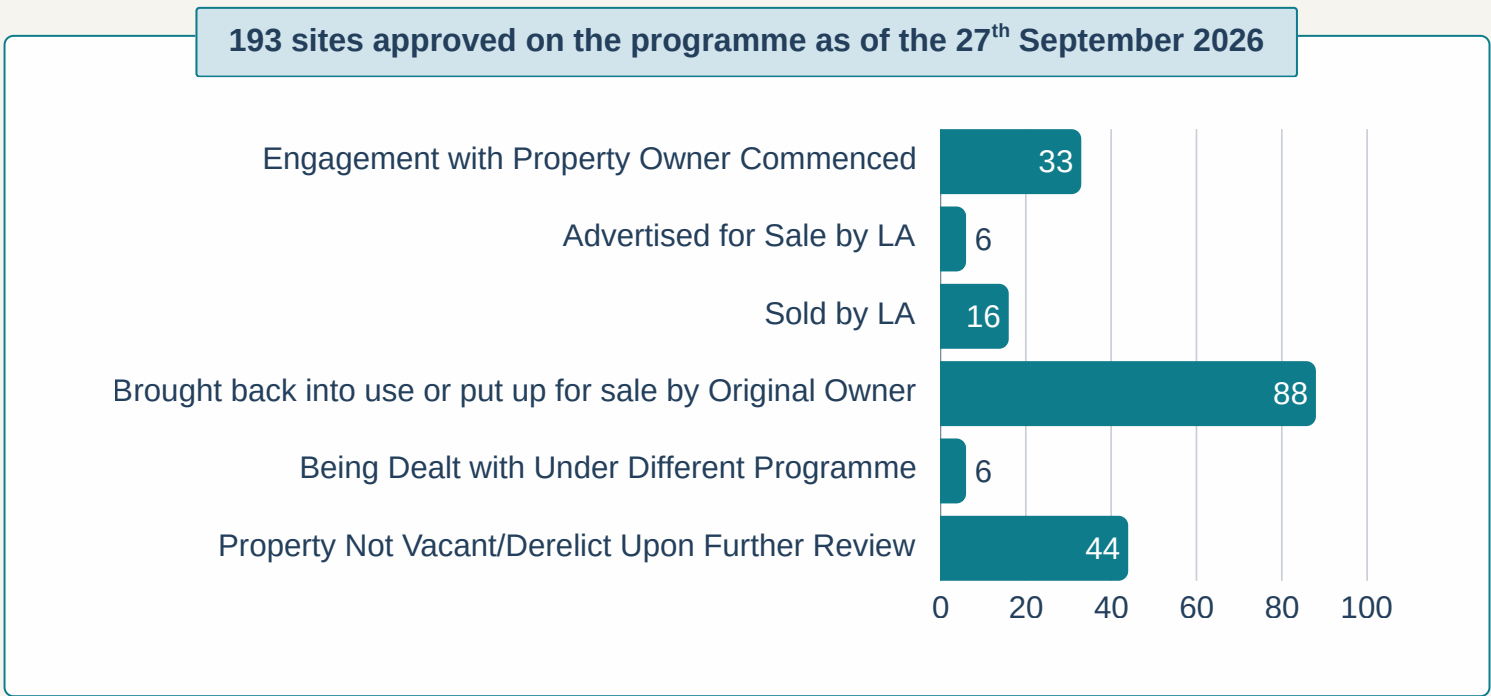


Dangerous Structures and Places - Year to date up to the 27th September 2026

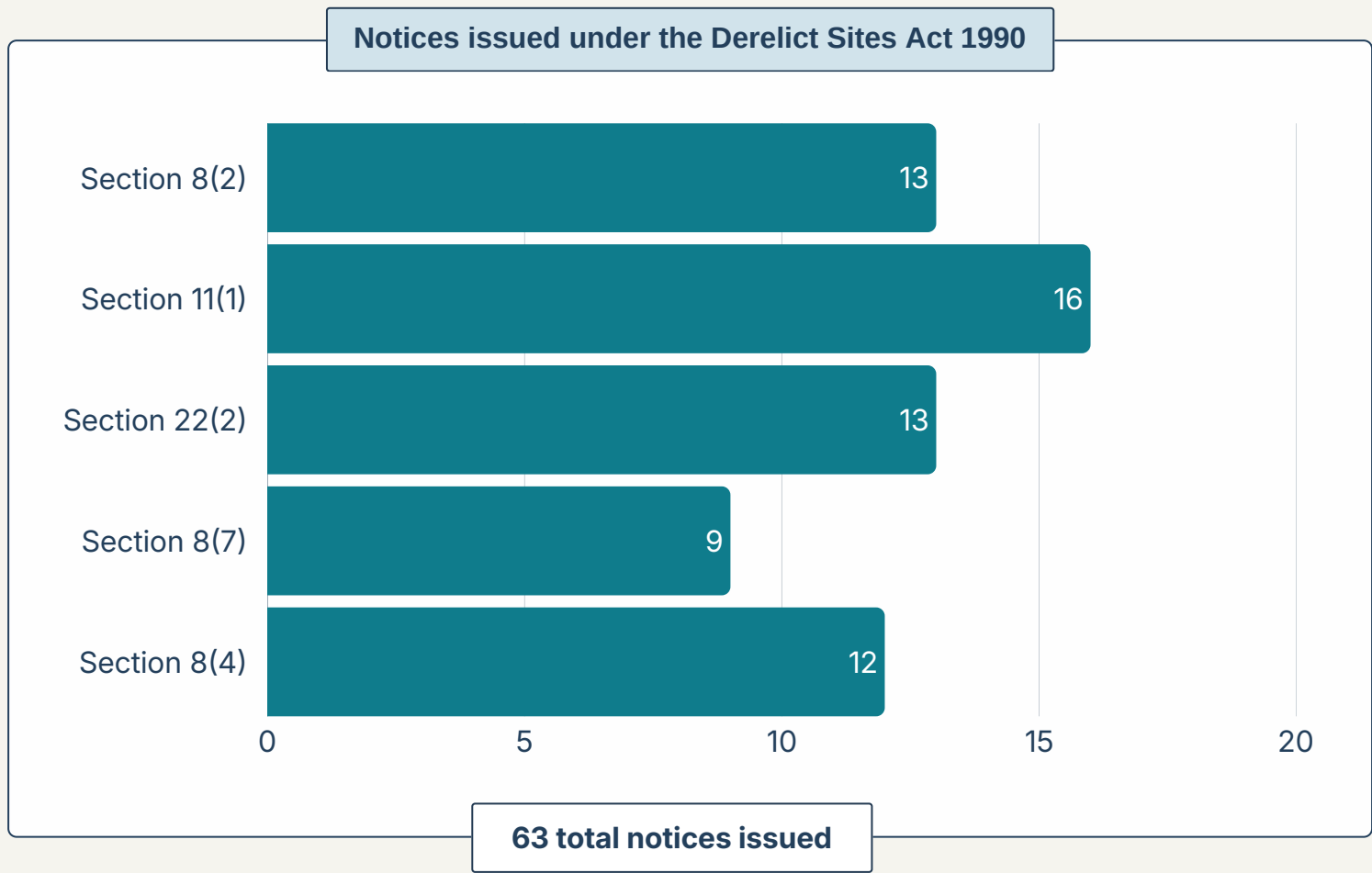
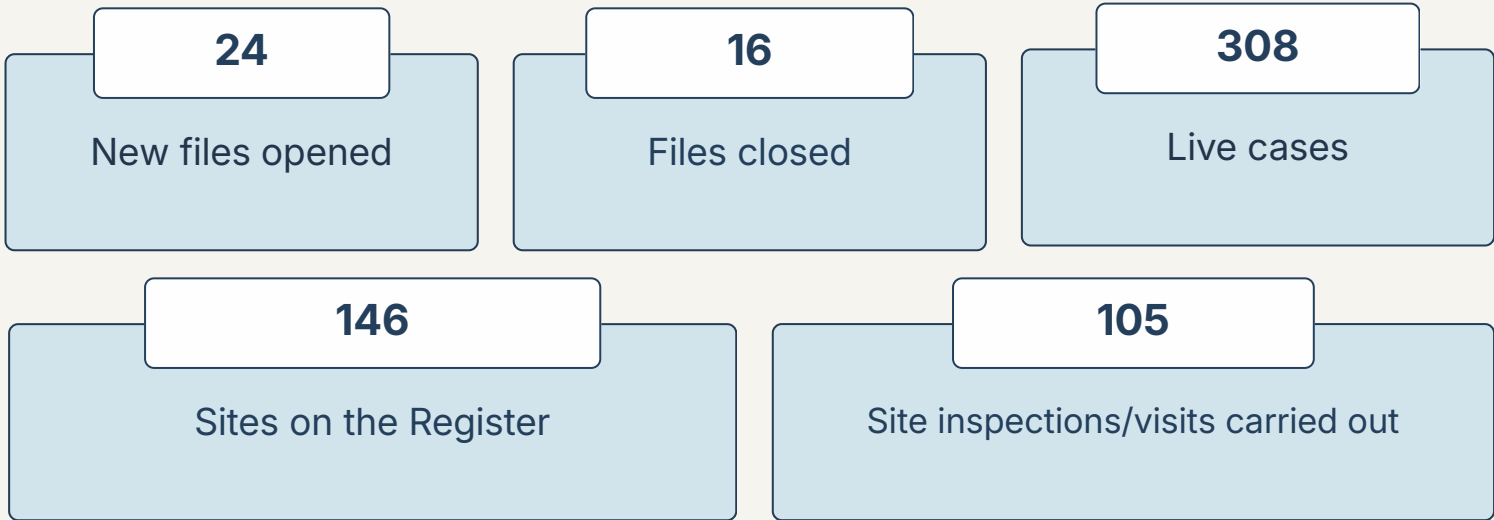


- **Section 3(1) Notice** instructs the owner to carry out works to make the site safe within a timeframe
- **Section 3(2) Notice** the Local Authority carries out the works to make the site safe. The owner is charged the cost of works.

URDF Call 3 - Urban Regeneration Development Fund



Derelict Sites - year to date up to 27th September 2026



- **Section 8(2):** Notice of intention of entry onto the Derelict Site Register
- **Section 11(1):** A list of works required to be carried out by the owner within a timeframe
- **Section 8(7):** Notice of entry onto the Derelict Site Register
- **Section 22(2):** Notice of site valuation prior to the issue of Derelict site levies
- **Section 8(4):** Removal from the Register

Disability Access Certificates (DACs) Year to date up to the 27th September 2026

Applications for Districts	Total for Districts	Awaiting Assessment	Further Information	Granted	Refused
Enniscorthy	15	1	6	8	0
Gorey	12	3	2	7	0
New Ross	15	1	2	11	1
Wexford	20	0	6	14	0
Rosslare	11	2	3	5	1
Totals	73	7	19	45	2

Disability proofing - year to date up to the 27th September 2026

115	5	2
LAC/PLAC/LRD and General Planning Applications	Major pre-planning event days	Event Licences

Croí Conaithe Applications Wexford County Council as at 23-09-26			
Applications Received	694	Awaiting Approval	0
Inspections Required (First)	4	Applications Rejected	11
Inspections Required (Final)	13	Applications Approved In Principle	5
Applications Info Requested	54	Withdrawn By Applicant	78
Applications Approved	551	Funding Issued	257
Total Funding Paid to Date		€14,412,403.10	
Total Funding Approved in Principle		€32,519,425.70	

Included in the above figures

Vacant Above the shop applications received	3
Vacant above the shop applications approved	3

In addition to the above figures

Expert Advice Grant applications received	6
Expert Advice Grant applications approved	5



Measure 3 – Enhancement of Existing Schemes including Water Conservation	Blackstairs GWS - Reservoir Bypass - Drawdown complete - Stage 1 payment recouped from Dept. - Majority of funding expected to be claimed and recouped by Q2 2027.
MARWP 2024-2026	MARWP 2024-2026 - Funding approval – €1.2 million for the upgrade of 3.9km Watermain for Blackstairs GWS. - Topographical Survey carried out & Detail design ongoing - Site Investigations tender sent out to market awaiting tender return due 7th October
MARWP 2027-2029	MARWP 2027-2029 - Applications are currently open for the Capital Funding - Completed applications must be received by the Department by close of business on Friday, 20 November 2026. - All active GWSs have been contacted
Measure 8 – Individual wells (private or household wells)	Individual Well Grants 23 new well grant applications were registered in September 2026 20 Well Grants have been paid in this period, totalling €44,704.78 75 inspections to date carried out in September 2026.
Group Water Scheme Subsidies	Subsidy A Total of €342,008 paid to schemes. Subsidy B (payable (in addition to Subsidy A) towards O&M costs associated with “bona fide” DBO contracts for GWS’s). Validated figures for Q4 2025, Q1 2026 and Q2 2026 sent through from NFGWS. Payment totalling €284,643.74 made to schemes. MARWP Capital Replacement Costs of the DBO GWSs have been reviewed and approved for Blackstairs, Borrmount and Mullawn GWSs. The Employers representative has certified work is complete. The 4 DBO GWSs have been paid a total of €130,232.00.
Measure A8 – Wastewater Collection & Treatment Needs for Villages & Settlements without access to Public Wastewater Service	New Advance Phase of MARWP 2022-2024 - Ramsgrange – €8.1 Million funding approved to Wexford County Council - Weekly update meetings held with the 5 Local Authorities with Measure A8 funding, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and Uisce Eireann to assign responsibilities and to implement a plan for the execution of all projects in a timely manner. Draft MOU circulated for approval. - Appointment of consultants will be managed through this process.
Lead Remediation Grant	11 applications received to date on revised grant, 8 paid, 2 approved, 1 new application.
Compliance monitoring	168 private supplies on register for compliance monitoring. - Compliance testing ongoing for 2026 as per schedule. Mapping of all Private supplies for risk assessments as part of EU regulations have commenced. - EPA Private Water Supplies audit carried out on 29th September.

DPI Resolution Project

	Name	Towland	Expecting Costings	75% Funding Provided	Project Completion/ Programme
DPI Resolution Programme 2019-2021	Cois Cuan	Arthurstown	€152,475	€114,356	Q1 2027
	Kyles Close	Oulart	€107,153	€80,365	Q2 2027
	Mountain View	Ballindaggin	€208,016	€156,012	Q4 2027
	Gleann na gCaor	Monageer	€302,878	€227,159	Q4 2027
DPI Resolution Programme 2023	Beach View	Duncannon	€72,300	€54,225	Q1 2027
	Farrin Carraig	Duncannon	€202,986	€152,240	Q1 2027
	Beechfields	Ballaghkeen	€353,968	€265,476	Q4 2027

- Cois Cuan, Farrin Carraig & Beach View – Contractor appointed. Works programmed Q4 2026/Q1 2027.
- Stonebrook submitted to Planning for Part XI Planning Approval. Planning Approved.
- Kyle Close submitted to Planning for Part XI Planning Approval. Planning Approved.



MAJOR NATIONAL ROADS PROJECTS



N11/N25 Oilgate to Rosslare Harbour

This Project is in Phase 5 — Enabling and Procurement.

- Negotiations between the Real Estate Valuers and landowners regarding outstanding Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) compensation are progressing.
- Roughan & O'Donovan – AECOM (ROD-A) Consulting Engineers has been appointed by Wexford County Council to provide Technical Advisory services for Phases 6 and 7 of the Project.



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

- Negotiations between the Real Estate Valuers and landowners regarding Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) compensation are ongoing. Agreement on compensation has been reached with five of the eight landowners.
- The procurement process for the appointment of Technical Advisors for Phases 6 and 7 is ongoing, with contract award expected in the coming weeks.
- Archaeological Consultants completed on-site archeological works and de-mobilised from site. Reporting on the findings is ongoing.
- The Legal Agreement between WCC and CIÉ for access to the CIÉ owned lands is progressing, to be finalised in the coming weeks.
- Award of the Main Construction Contract is expected in October 2026.



NATIONAL ROADS

SAFETY SCHEMES

N25 Tagoat - The landowner consultation under the Roads Act completed with submissions under review. The detailed design is ongoing to prepare for procurement in Q4 2026.

N30 Leeches Bend - West of Clonroche - Works are substantially complete

N25 Larkins Cross - Gross planning consent process is complete and submissions are under review. The report will be presented to the full council meeting.

HIGH LEVEL COLLISION ANALYSIS NATIONAL PRIMARY AND SECONDARY

10 Locations Identified 2026

N11WX_118.0 Tinnahask - Site under review no clear options identified.

N11WX_119.0 Whitefort - Line marking and Signage review underway by THRDO. Additional warning signage has been installed.

N11WX_122.0 Kyle - Major N11/N25 Scheme required.

N25WX_165.0 Newtown - Safety scheme design solutions will be included as part of design for pavement scheme in this same location.

N25WX_166.0 Coolcots - Safety scheme design solutions will be included as part of design for pavement scheme in this same location.

N25WX_167.0 Clonard Great/Little - Safety scheme design solutions will be included as part of design for pavement scheme in this same location.

N30WX_019.0 Ballymackesy - Safety issues identified included in 2025 HD28 site which will progress in 2026

N30WX_023.0 Leeches Bend - Site included in 2025 safety scheme. Scheme is now complete.

N80WX_100.0 Bunclody - Restrict parking on the approaches to the existing zebra crossings. Design required.

N80WX_102.6 Clohamon - Draft Feasibility and Options completed. Once approval achieved by TII, scheme will move to Design Report.

2025 Road Safety Inspection - N25 Lot 2C RSIs P3A – N25 (Wexford) - under review.

Park and Share M11 Junction 11 - A potential Park and Share facility is being investigated at Junction 11 on the M11. Feasibility and options stage.

PAVEMENT SCHEMES 2026

Pavement Schemes for completion in 2026

- N25 New Ross Roundabout to Clonard Great – Works commenced - to continue for approx. 4 weeks.
- N30 Rathurtin to Clonleigh Pavement – Tender awarded; civils works start in October with pavement works following.

HD28 Pavement Improvements 2026

The following HD28 schemes will be progressed in 2026. There is no guarantee an allocation will be provided for all works in 2026.

- N30 Ballymackesy 1.0km – Works are substantially complete
- N80 Ballycarney Cross North 1km – tenders assessed and currently awaiting approval from TII
- N11/N25 New Ross Roundabout and N25 Duncannon Road Roundabout – to be included as part of a feasibility and options study to consider how vulnerable road users can traverse the junction
- N25 Duncannon Roundabout to Drinagh Roundabout – 2 separate sections 3km in total – Civil works have been substantially completed, and pavement (night) works are well progressed, with substantial completion in mid-October.

Retexturing works

- N80 – Clohamon 2.7km
- N80 – Scarawalsh to Tomacurry 1.5km Contract awarded with works to commence in October.

REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROADS

Wexford's allocation through the Regional and Local Road Grant 2026 is €36,807,100. This includes €13.49m allocated by DoT on 1st July 2026 under the 2026 Severe Weather Works.

Restoration Improvement €12,837,500

91 projects are now added to the road strengthening programme for 2026. Works are progressing on this roads programme with 83 projects (91%) completed to date.

Restoration Maintenance €2,917,000

75 projects are added to the restoration maintenance / surface dressing programme. These works started on 22nd June 2026 and were completed on 14th August 2026. 74 of 75 projects completed, 1 remaining road to be completed in the coming weeks.

Severe Weather Works €13,490,000

On 1st July 2026 funding of €13.49m was allocated to Wexford County Council to repair damaged roads and structures arising from the severe weather in early 2026. 146 projects are added to this programme with works underway and 86 projects (59%) completed to date.

Bridge Rehabilitation €690,000 - 12 bridges are included in this year's programme with 6 bridges completed to date.

Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Works €700,000 - 19 projects are included in this year's programme with 13 projects completed to date

Community Involvement Schemes €665,700 - Schemes are included in this year's programme with 12 schemes completed to date.

Safety Improvement Works €559,000 - 15 projects are included in this year's programme; most projects are now completed.

Strategic Rehabilitation Roads €420,000

R772-12 Gorey (former N11). This contract was awarded in Sept 2026, and works will commence over the coming weeks.

Specific Improvement Grant €570,000

Wexford, Edermine and Kildavin (Murntown) Bridge Remediation Project €270,000.

Roughan O'Donovan Consulting Engineers are appointed to progress this scheme. The works involve bridge inspections, overseeing site investigations and undertaking necessary designs for remediation works.

The Detailed Structural Investigation Contract was awarded on 10th August 2026.

Investigation works on the 3 bridges started on 21st Sept 2026 and will be completed by 9th October 2026. The findings from these investigation works will determine the extent of works required on each bridge.



Edermine Bridge, Detailed Structural Investigation Works underway.
Enniscorthy MD

Grange Cliff Stabilisation Works €150,000. Works completed.

R733 Safety Improvement Project €150,000. Safety improvement project including linemarking, studs, junction improvements. Junction improvements completed at R733 / Redshire junction. Studs and linemarking are completed at a number of key locations.

Winter Maintenance

- The 2026/2027 Winter Maintenance season officially starts on 12th October and will run to 30th April 2027.
- Staff training, maintenance and servicing of vehicles for the upcoming season has started.
- The Winter Service Plan is being finalised and will be circulated as soon as possible.

ACTIVE TRAVEL UPDATE

Pathfinder projects	
Project & Location	Project Update
Newtown Road Phases 2 & 3	Tender awarded to successful contractor with commencement expected on 5th Oct 2026.
Hospital Junction Newtown Road	Landowner negotiations still ongoing between Council and HSE.
Beechlawn/Clonard Cycle Scheme	Part XI Planning Application approved on 8th June. Construction of Phase 1 (permeability links, planting) to commence in Q426 as advance works.
Roxborough Cycle Scheme	Planning Part XI to be completed this year.

WX/22/0001 Wexford Town Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA) - Draft plan will be presented to Councillors in November.

WX/23/0010 Enniscorthy Town Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA) - Final internal reviews are being concluded, and the draft plan will be presented in due course.

Safe Routes to School Schemes (SRTS)

Three schools have been selected for works in 2026: Kennedy College, New Ross, St Fintan's National School, Taghmon & St Anne's National School, Rathangan

School works were tendered and construction works have commenced in Taghmon and Rathangan. Kennedy College school is due to commence shortly.

Supplementary Schemes

The following Active Travel schemes are at detailed design stage:

- Ballycanew pedestrian scheme (tendering currently)
- Paul Funge Boulevard, Gorey – 3no. pedestrian crossings
- Old Dublin Road footpath scheme resurfacing has commenced
- The Shannon, Enniscorthy – pedestrian scheme, works have commenced

National Walking Week - Walking Buses to School

To celebrate National Walking Week, approx. 500 students across four schools participated in "walking buses" to school. Gorey Central, St Josephs, Our Lady of Fatima and Ballygarrett, schools had large numbers of parents also joining the walks. The reduced vehicle congestion was notable and the schools intend to promote walking as a beneficial alternative as part of their Green Schools Programme. All students were provided with a hi-vis vest to bring home.



PUBLIC LIGHTING

Public Lighting Development Fund

The following are schemes are being progressed at present:

Scheme	Current Position	Detail to Progress
Maudlins to Millhouse Care Centre, New Ross	Awaiting ESB connection	Installation complete, awaiting connection and certification.
Kilhile Arthurstown	Design returned, awaiting pricing	Further information sought from contractors on design.
South Quay, New Ross	Works complete	Operational
Coolgreaney	Civils work completed	Awaiting light installation and certification
Boolavogue	Civil Works completed	Awaiting light installation and certification
Broadway	Civil works completed	Awaiting ESB connection and light installation
Rathnure, Camolin, Duncormick, Bunclody, Clonroche &	Out for design review	Once designed prepared the schemes will be priced for LED Retrofit
Bellevue New Ross	Works completed	Operational
Piercestown	Civil works completed	Awaiting quotations returned
Ballyellis	ESB application submitted	Awaiting quotations
Cushintown	ESB application submitted	Awaiting quotations

CLONARD TO WHITEMILL LINK ROAD

Clonard to Whitemill Link Road construction is progressing. The utility works and the majority of pavement and footpath works are progressing well and are on programme. Works will start on the junctions at Whitemill and Clonard Rd end in the coming weeks. The road is due for completion in Q4 of 2026. Tie in works at the junction with Whitemill Road and Clonard Road will be required prior to the road opening.



Projects at Planning Stages

Project Name	Status	New Monthly Update: October 2026
Ballast Office- a)Essential repair Work	Construction stage	Essential repair works have now been completed and the project is now in the defects liability period.
b)Refurbishment	Design Stage	Design team procurement is ongoing.
Ballynagee Link Road	Planning Stage	Funding for this project has been confirmed under the Housing Infrastructure Investment Fund.
Carrigfoyle Activity Centre Building	Planning Stage	Initial enabling works to level the site and make accessible for use are complete. We await confirmation of our agreement with the WWETB before commencing the next phase of works.
Courtown Coastal Protection & Beach Nourishment Scheme	Planning Stage	Submission to ACP for development consent is scheduled for end of 2026
Dunbrody Centre and Extension	Detail Design	Detailed design is ongoing in preparation for issue for tender, which is planned for November 2026 (subject to Department approval)
Enniscorthy Flood Relief Scheme		
Phase 1-New River Slaney Bridge Project	Design Phase	Traffic modelling is ongoing for the removal of the Seamus Rafter Bridge. An initial pre-application consultation has been held with An Comisiun Pleanala - there are two more to follow. Environmental surveys are being kept updated. The road bridge alignment option and junction designs are continuing.
Phase 2	Feasibility Stage	The suitability assessment for the appointment of the Consultant Engineer is complete. Invitations to tender will be sent to shortlisted candidates in October. The draft design brief is currently being peer reviewed by the OPW.
Enniscorthy Technical Park Access Road Phase 2 420827	Tender Stage	The tender for construction works was published March 2026. Appointment of main works contractor is anticipated in the new earthworks season Q2 2027, subject to approval to proceed with project.
Enniscorthy- (A) Town Centre & Tourism Project	Tender Stage	Consultants for detailed design, procurement and works supervision will be appointed in tandem with consultants for the Templeshannon scheme. The successful Tenderer has been identified, and letters to tenderers have been issued. It is expected to appoint the successful design team in October, with design work to begin immediately. The Market Square and Town Centre Regeneration Project, along with the enabling and demolition works for the Castle Quarter project, have been provisionally granted €9m under Call 1 of the Town and Cities Regeneration Investment Fund.

Project Name	Status	New Monthly Update: October 2026
(B) Templeshannon Regeneration Project.	Design Stage	Consultants for preliminary design, planning, detailed design, procurement and works supervision will be procured in tandem with consultants for the Market Square scheme. Tenders have been received and tender assessment is ongoing. It is expected to appoint the successful design team in October, with design work to begin immediately. An application has been submitted for the project as part of the Category 1A Towns and Cities Regeneration Investment Fund call seeking funding of €150,000 for project development and DT fees on 1st May 2026.

Gorey Market House	Construction
The main works contract was awarded to B. Nevin Contracting Limited T/A Nevin Construction. Works are ongoing, due for completion in late 2027	



Gorey Relief Road, Ballytegan Avenue (St Waleran's Link Road)	Design Stage	The Irish Rail approvals process is ongoing and the project received Approval in Principal. Development consent via Part 8 was approved in July 2026. Detailed design has commenced and is anticipated to be completed in 2026. Funding for this project has been confirmed under the Housing Infrastructure Investment Fund, specific funding details to follow.
John Street Grain Store, New Ross	Design Stage	The application for development consents for the new public realm to the rear of the property was submitted to An Coimisiún Pleanála on March 12th, 2026. €9m in funding for the whole scheme (Building and public realm) has been provisionally granted under Call 1 of Town and Cities Regeneration Investment fund (TCRIF) .
Riverchapel Community Centre	Design stage	Initial costings have been returned in excess of the original project budget. A thorough review is being carried out into the design brief as part of project value engineering. A meeting was held with the DRCDG in August, regarding the project proposal. A detailed project report and drawings were submitted to them in September for review. We await a response.
Wexford Town Public Space Improvements (Cornmarket to Common Quay)	Feasibility	TCRIF (Town Centre Regeneration Reinvestment Fund) Category 1A funding of €150,000 has been awarded to support the development of the project and allow for the engagement of a design team to develop the project in line with the objectives set out in the draft TCF Strategy. An initial site walk through was scheduled for the 9th October.

Wexford Town to Rosslare Greenways	Options Selection	Wexford Town to Rosslare Strand - Additional Flood Modelling is currently ongoing. Options Report on hold pending development of flood modelling and further assessment. Rosslare Strand to Rosslare Harbour-Options Selection Report Peer review completed. Preferred Route Corridor agreed. A public Consultation process was conducted from 4/3/26 to 1/4/26. Phase 2 Gate Review Statement for the Rosslare Strand to Rosslare Harbour Greenway is complete. Pending formal approval from TII to proceed to Phase 3, WCC are making final preparations to invite tenders from Consultants for Phases 3 & 4 (preliminary design and statutory consents)
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Wexfordia		
Irish National Heritage Park	Preliminary Design	MARA have issued a Mandate to Determination notice for the scheme. A submission to ACP for approval is scheduled for Q4 2026. Preliminary Design of the new visitor centre is now complete
Hook Lighthouse	Preliminary Design	It is expected that the full preliminary design including Environmental reports, Interpretative and Architectural Designs will be completed by Q4 2026 for submission to An Coimisiún Pleanála. Following delay caused by necessary ecological surveys, we are finalising the design for re-presentation to the Board of HHL, now planned for Q4 2026, prior to further engagement with other stakeholders, including Irish Lights and Fáilte Ireland. Public consultation will follow this. It is planned to submit to ACP before the end of 2026.
New Ross Tourism Project:	Tender Stage	The tender process is now complete and an apparently successful tenderer has been identified. Finalising interpretative design phase. An application for additional funding for completion of the centre was submitted to the DCRDG in July 2026 under Call 6 of the RRDF. An outcome on this funding is expected by end of Q4 2026.

Projects Under Construction

Project Name	Status	New Monthly Update: September 2026
Adoration Convent	Construction Stage	Works commenced onsite in July 2025, with the project now at an advanced stage of fitout. Works are expected to be complete in November 2026, and that students from GSU will occupy the refurbished convent from January 2027.
Enniscorthy Sports Hub 420330	Construction Stage	Works are progressing & currently on programme for completion in Nov. 2026
Esmonde Street, Gorey	Construction Stage	Construction works commenced on 8th June 2026 and are progressing on-site.
Ferndale Gymnasium	Handover	Substantial completion on the building was achieved on 6th May 2026, with an official opening in to take place in due course subject to ministerial availability.
Mechanics Institute	Construction	Works are ongoing. Completion date is anticipated for October 2026.

SouthEast Greenway		
Lot 1, Lot 2, Lot 3, Lot 5a	Complete	
Lot 8a Rosbercon Trailhead	Preliminary Design	Part 8 submission for Lot 8a (Rosbercon Trailhead) was approved at the June Wexford County Council Meeting
Lot 4	Detailed Design	Phase 3 (Lot 4 – Red Bridge and Mount Elliott Tunnel) is currently out to tender for the construction works contract. Return date 16/10/2026.
Lot 4a	Options Selection	No update

Project Name	Status	New Monthly Update: October 2026
Lot 5b Lot 6, Lot 7	Detailed Design, enabling & Procurement	Phase 4 (Lots 5b, 6, & 7) is currently progressing through detailed design. A tender for the construction works contract is expected to be published to etenders in Q1 2027. Construction works are expected to commence on-site
Lot 8	Preliminary Design	No update
Lot 9	Detailed Design	No update
Trinity Wharf	Detailed Design Stage	Irish Rail works are ongoing to construct a new automated level crossing pending the licence agreement confirmation. As per the licence agreements with Irish Rail a new temporary security fence was erected to allow Irish Rail to undertake their works on the Trinity Wharf site. The revised Stage 1 pre-qualification for the next site development works contract (Phase 1A) closed in February and assessment is complete. It is planned to invite tenders before the end of 2026. Competitive Dialogue with potential investors progressing through Economic Development.
Wexford Town & Environs Flood Relief Scheme	Options Selection	The scheme is currently in optioneering. Work is continuing on the refinement the short list of options. A Multi Criteria Analysis (MCA) meeting for the shortlisted options was held in mid-September. This will assist in determining the emerging preferred options in each area identified for protection.
Funding & Development Schemes		
Town & Village Renewal Scheme (TVRS) 2025	DRCDG announced the TVRS 2026 Building and Land Acquisition Measure (B/LAM) in April. A max. fund of €500,000 per LA is available under this measure. Funding applications for 2no. properties were submitted to DRCDG under the TVRS 2026 Building and Land Acquisition Measure (B/LAM) Funding for the acquisition on 2no. properties under the Building & Land Acquisition Measure (B/LAM) was approved by Minister Dara Calleary in July. For reasons of commercial sensitivity, details of the properties that may be purchased must remain confidential until the conveyancing process is completed. The 2026 Town and Village Renewal Scheme (TVRS) 2026 was launched Minister Dara Calleary on in September. The 2026 TVRS is designed to support the revitalisation of rural Ireland by focusing on stimulating town centre economic and social regeneration. A call for Expressions of Interest from towns and villages will issue shortly to select proposals to develop into full applications. The Closing date for receipt of applications by DRCDG is 22nd January 2027.	
Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS)	Measure 1 and Measure 4 Projects approved under the 2024/2025 ORIS Fund are being progressed by the relevant Community Groups with an expected completion by Q1 2027. Measure 2 and Measure 3 Projects to be delivered by WCC - completion before scheme deadline of Q4 2027 The 2026 -2027 Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) was launched by the Minister Dara Calleary TD, in June, making funds available for communities under a range of measures. Applications under Measure 1 and Project Development Measure were submitted to DRCDG in Sept 2026. An announcement re successful applications is expected in Q1 2027	
Rural Regeneration Development Fund (RRDF)	We submitted applications for Call 5 as follows: €10m - New Ross Norman Centre & €5m - Castlebridge House	
CLÁR Funding	Closing date for applications to DRCDG was 3rd July. Up to 12 applications for funding of between €5,000 and €65,000 with a further 2 applications up to €100,000 may be submitted. Community Section is administering submission of CLÁR applications.	



AGE FRIENDLY

Wexford General Hospital Walkability Audit

In conjunction with the Staff and Management of Wexford General Hospital and the Age Friendly Programme, bringing together representatives with a range of accessibility needs, including visual and hearing impairment, cognitive difficulties and mobility issues.



The hospital environment was assessed from the lived experience of older people and people with disabilities, identifying barriers and areas where accessibility, safety and ease of movement could be improved.

Southeast Regional Vitality Day

In September, Waterford Age Friendly Programme and Older Persons Council hosted the Southeast Regional Vitality Day, which brought together the Older Persons Councils from Waterford, Wexford, Carlow, Kilkenny and Kildare. For a day focused on health, wellbeing, activity and positive ageing.

AGE FRIENDLY AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NETWORK

“Living Well - Ageing Smart Expo”

This Expo was held in Whites Hotel Wexford in September. The Expo showcased many of the free supports and services available to people living in County Wexford, and in particular services and supports for over 55's. This was a free and well attended event. The expo was a joint initiative between Age Friendly Wexford, Healthy Age Friendly Homes and Wexford's Public Participation Network.



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NETWORK (PPN)

Disability Act Review Consultation Workshop

Wexford PPN facilitated a Disability Act 2005 Review Workshop for our members with Wexford Disabled Persons Organisation (Wexford DPO) on Wednesday 9th September 2026 in the Presentation Arts Centre, Enniscorthy. We had a very good attendance and a submission to the review is currently being prepared by Wexford DPO following the workshop.



HEALTHY WEXFORD

Appointment: Liz Stanley was appointed as the Healthy County Coordinator for Wexford.

Funding Extension: The Department of Health has confirmed that Round 4 of the Healthy Ireland Fund, administered nationally by Pobal, has been extended to 31 December 2027. This guarantees multi-annual funding certainty for an additional year (75,000), supporting seamless delivery of local health interventions without funding gaps.

Under the Round 4 framework, Wexford County Council focuses on two specific national health indicators to address local health inequalities: Outcome Area 1: Physical Activity Levels, and Outcome Area 2: Reducing Non-Communicable Diseases & Promoting Wellbeing.

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP



Local Community Safety Plan WLCSP met on 24th September 2026 and approved the County's 3-Year Local Community Safety Plan.	
A Multi-agency Community Intervention Team	Was established to address anti-social behaviour in Wexford Town. The team will convene in October 2026 and report to the Partnership.
Domestic, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Working Group	Recommendations from this WG to support local support services were endorsed and will now be implemented.
Urban and Rural Isolation Working Group	Will launch its pilot project on 17th October 2026 at Rock Community Hall, Gorey.
Drumgoold, Enniscorthy	Work has commenced to improve the entrance with landscaping and a bin enclosure (funded by the Dormant Account Fund).
Police Ombudsman	Ms. Emily Logan, Police Ombudsman, delivered a presentation on Fiosriú and the Garda complaints process.

UKRAINIAN RESPONSE UNIT UPDATE

Offer a Home Scheme

The Offer A Home scheme will come to an end in March 2027. The team will manage existing pledges and encourage Ukrainian families to enter private rental agreements with the homeowners. Where this is not possible, we will encourage families to find alternative long-term accommodation. Since 1st April 2026, 40 properties have been withdrawn from the scheme.

Pledge Type	No. of Properties	No. of People Placed
Offer a Home	253	727
Irish Red Cross	24	74

Ukraine Refurbishment Programme

Carne Accommodation Centre, Unity Court and Borrmount Lodge have been given closure notices in line with the Governments withdrawal of state-contracted commercial accommodation. These three centres are due to close by the end of October 2026.

Name	Occupancy	Capacity
Carne Accommodation Centre, Carne	50	68
Unity Court, Wexford	29	57
Michael Street, Wexford	13	19
Borromount Lodge, Enniscorthy	29	37
Rafter Street, Enniscorthy	5	15
Ryland Road, Bunclody	8	21

LOCAL AUTHORITY INTEGRATION TEAM (LAIT)

JP Keating Photograph exhibition – Courtown and Women club.

LAIT collabrated and funded this project. Bringing together the Riverchapel ladies club from the local community and asylum seekers from Courtown participating in a photography programme creating dialogue and finding common ground between two groups who may not have connected otherwise. An exhibition was held in the local community hall in Gorey on Culture night.

SPORTS ACTIVE

Selection of Activities being held by the Sports Active team:

- Balance Bike Teacher Training Workshop
- FAI – In her Boots training workshop: A 3-hr workshop on educating football coaches working in the female game was delivered in Ferrycarrig park
- Wexford Girls Get Active: 4 Youth groups attended the online Move2b female health information session as part of the Wexford Girls Get Active programme. Staff from these youth groups will now deliver 3 workshops with their teen girls aiming to empower these girls to continue being physically active.
- Mother & Child Yoga Wexford Women's Refuge: 4 mothers and 5 children took part in an 8-week mother and child yoga programme with the Wexford Women's Refuge.
- Sailing into Wellness Cornmarket Project.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT CENTRES

- Community Support Centres (CSCs) may be activated in the wake of an emergency to provide respite to the local community, access to basic welfare facilities and as an information hub. A national database has been established to manage CSCs.
- Following an expression of interest request during the summer, 37 Community and Sports Centres have volunteered to become CSCs across Co. Wexford and have been added to the national database.
- Community Development has been visiting the centres to discuss the requirements with community groups and check what services can be provided at each location. The database maps the location of CSCs to ensure adequate coverage across the county and inform which centres would be best suited to activate in time of need.
- The Department has supplied four high powered generators to each local authority as a shared resource that may be deployed locally, regionally, or nationally. Funding has also been provided for the fitting of "changeover switches" at suitable centres to facilitate the generators for an uninterrupted power supply during times of activation. The CSC team is arranging an electrical inspection of each CSC and, where suitable, fitting of the "changeover switch".

SLÁINTECARE HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Appointment: Bernie Quigley is the new Sláintecare Healthy Communities Local Development Officer.

"Opera for All" Programme: Provides individuals and communities the opportunity to experience the joy of live music, powerful storytelling, and the magic of the opera. WCC in partnership with Wexford Festival Opera will provide a limited number of tickets to disadvantaged communities who do not normally have the means to discover the energy that only the opera brings. 136 individuals from 6 groups attended The Factory Concert on Sunday 27th of September. A further four performances entitled 'The First Festival' will take place in October. Other events include Community Concerts and workshops.

COMMUNITY RECOGNITION FUND

CRF23 Progress to date

Total Fund	€1,509, 869.00
Total fund expenditure to date (94%)	€1,411,978.69 (incl. WCC Admin)
Works complete (25no. of 27no. projects)	92%
Projects to be started • <u>Kilmuckridge Playground</u>, (Gorey Kilmuckridge MD) at risk April 2026 <i>new extension</i>	4% €75,000.00
1no project cancelled by Community Group (funding decommitted) • Fethard Community Development Assoc. (New Ross MD)	4% €30,000.00
Total of fund claimed to date Q4 2025 from Dept.	€1,099,751.90 (73%)
Total Q3 2026 Claim05/06 (<i>in process</i>)	€219,156.85

CRF24 Progress to date

Total Fund	€1,703,377.00
Total fund expenditure to date (84%)	€1,426,768.76 (incl. WCC Admin)
Works complete (15no. of 22no. projects)	68%
Works in progress (6no.)	27%
Projects to be started (1no. projects)	5%
Total of fund claimed to Q4 2025 from Dept.	€1,077,692.24 (63%)
Total Q3 2026 Claim05/06 (<i>in process</i>)	€349,075.91



COASTAL MATTERS

Seaview Coastal Protection - further funding from OPW €500,000 to strengthen rock Armour project is substantially complete including 76m long concrete access ramp. Strengthening armour rock works of the access of the estate will commence shortly (OPW funding €500,000)

Fethard Harbour New Slipway and Beach Access - The revised Natura Impact Statement (NIS) is being reviewed by the Foreshore license section.

Kilpatrick Beach Visit from Minister Boxer Moran in September. Part 8 Planning has now been approved and eTenders returned on 08th October. OPW Funding Approved €891,875.

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

Ballyhack & Passage East Car Ferry Infrastructure: AYESA consultant has been appointed and, progressing with environmental reports.

- **Rosslare CRFRS:** Kellys Hotel: OPW funding now approved €566,666 working towards eTender.
- **Mauritiustown:** Application submitted to OPW to protect 4 Houses.
- **Cahore North Beach Rock Armour Enhancement:** Part 8 Planning now Approved, progressing towards tender process. €500,000 Approved from OPW. Additional applications submitted to OPW for extra €1.4m.
- **Ballyheally Beach**– 1.1 Km long Cost €4.6M. Need to submit OPW applications
- **Neamstown** – Consultants MWP visited the site and are preparing a Preliminary Coastal Risk Assessment to see if meets criteria for an OPW application.

DAFM Works 2026 – Received Approval from DAFM for 6 projects to the value of €730,000 for Piers & Harbours (75% Grant Aid)

- Duncannon Old Pier – Recommence works following design change (Additional cost expected to be between €100,000 – €150,000 due to design changes, 100% to be paid by WCC)
- Arthurstown Harbour – Wall repairs
- St Kierans wall, Saltmills, - Masonery wall repairs - now complete
- Slade Harbour – Middle Pier Wall – works ongoing on site
- New Ross Marina - works ongoing
- Courtown Harbour – crash Barrier

Ballyconnigar Permanent Bridge & Beach Access – Liaising with MWP for scope of works then Invitation to Tender to appoint consultants. Estimated cost €3m.

Operations – Fethard on Sea, Slipway. Application remains with Foreshore Dept. Dept going to public consultation to have environmental impact assessment surveys completed. Awaiting report. Thereafter preconstruction surveys to be completed. Estimated timeline one year.

MARA reconciliation of New Ross Marina and debris boom. Application to MARA submitted in September. MARA issued MUL 240003 for the Barrow pre-dredging surveys to be undertaken. Commencement date for the MUL was 23/03/2026 and holds a three-year term. Quotes for survey works stand the same as previously quoted circa €135 + VAT. Awaiting a decision with Management. Suggested meeting with Port Stakeholders around their plans for estimated tonnage throughput. Currently utilisation is very low and dredging surveys not feasible on current volumes.

DAFM funding announced and proceeding with works in New Ross Marina, Slade Harbour & Courtown.

River Basin Management funding application granted €20,000 for NbS rain water garden in Ferrybank. Commenced on 28th September 2026.

River Basin Management funding application completed for pre development stage for NbS rain water garden in Kilmore Quay. Report will include drawings, drone GPS survey and pricing document. Have had approval verbally awaiting agreement and have given instruction to consultants to proceed with these works.

Preparation works for generator cargo planned for Marshmeadows in November has been completed.

Septic Tank Inspections:

NIP Grants 2026	Jan – Sept 33 applications received (29/09)	2026 – Total €277,953.30 sent to finance	3 on hold for documentation
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No of Verification Inspections

2025 - Verification Inspections = 97	2026 - Verification Inspections = 57
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Court cases

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

Ongoing Inspections

125 cases were open at the end of 2025. 49 cases closed in 2026. There are currently 138 open cases, including 2026.

- 98 new inspections have been carried out for 2026. 25 passed and 70 failed. 39 inspections booked for October 2026.
- In 2026, 20 direct discharges to surface water and 17 discharges onto the surface of the ground were noted.
- NIP inspections will continue in 2026 in Piercetown/Murrintown area, Castletown/Inch area, Mount Howard & Lady’s Island area.

Discharge Licences - same as previous month

No. of Monitoring Submission Returns from 1/1/2026 to 31/8/2026	62
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Low Smoke Fuel Areas - There have been 4 inspections of premises / forecourts / shops who are all selling compliant products.

Air -Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC's)

DECO Paints: 10 Inspections carried out, 5 Certs of compliance issued. Site inspections are ongoing. 1 un-authorized operator received FPN's in June, premises was assessed by EPA approved assessor in July, awaiting assessors report. Advisory Notices issued to 4 premises who failed to renew certification. 2 un-authorized premises located, advisory letters issued.

Dry Cleaners: same as previous month

Petrol Stations -PVE emissions Stage 1B 18 Inspections. 15 premises re-certified. 1 un-registered premises identified in August, Inspection with Advisory letter hand-delivered, tested 9th September, Service Station Certified 28th September. Advisory Notices issued to 5 Petrol Stations for non-renewal of Certification. 3 of these are now registered. Warning letters issued to remaining un-certified Service Stations 30th September outlining intention to prosecute.

Agriculture - Catchments such as Heathpark_010, Begerin_010, Owenduff, Boro_040, Lady’s Island Lake, Aughboy, Mangan, Lask_010 and Inch_010 are currently being inspected.

The team will undertake other agricultural inspections such as sludge use in Agriculture, complaints made by the public, initial and follow up inspections. A total of 380 farm related inspections have been carried out in 2026 to date with 165 of these been initial GAP inspections (target of 271) and 78 follow up inspections which are imperative to the EPA’s inspection process.

A total of 79 agricultural related planning permission applications have been assessed to date in 2026. 8 applications were refused on failure to demonstrate compliance with the GAP regulations. 17 applications resulted in further information requested to assess the farm under the current regulations.

Waste/Litter Management

Year	Dumping Incidents Reported	%Increase/ Decrease	Community Clean Ups	% Increase/ Decrease
2024	2389	Down 7%	1021	Down 3%
Jan to Dec 2025	2441	Up 3%	981	Down 4%
1 Jan to 28th Sept 2026	1894	Down 22 %	727	Down 19%

All environmental complaints are logged by the Customer Service Unit on the DASH CRM system. The total figures for complaints received are as follows:

	Jan to Dec 2022	Jan to Dec 2023	Jan to Dec 2024	Jan to Dec 2025	Jan - 28 Sept 2026
Incidents	3896	4235	4195	4419	3191
Closed	3721	4009	3946	4178	2623
Closure Rate	95%	95%	94%	95%	82%

Members Portal

	1 Jan to 28 Sept 2026
Incidents	130
Closed	124

Total Calls logged 1 Jan to 28th September 2026



Comhairle Contae Loch Garman
Wexford County Council

Total Calls

3209

Customer Services

Environmental Cases

Issue Type	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	Total
Abandoned Vehicle	15	17	18	19	30	24	25	21	22	191
Air Pollution	10	8	10	11	11	7	12	13	14	96
Beach Bye Laws			1	2	1	1	7	18	1	31
Bring Banks	11	1	3	2	6	4	7	7	4	45
Coastal	3	6	5	5	8	3	10	5	5	50
Community Cleanup	72	89	114	117	74	52	81	67	62	728
Dog complaint	3	4	2		3	3	5	1	3	24
Fines	15	8	3	9		12	3	2	1	53
Litter	201	169	193	163	113	114	172	196	141	1462
Loose Animals			2		1		1	4		8
Noise Pollution	9	5	4		7	13	15	13	4	70
Oil Pollution	2		5	1	1	3	2	2	1	17
Public Convenience					1	2	7	5	1	16
Waste Pollution	23	19	18	31	20	34	46	36	23	250
Water Pollution	9	8	11	8	19	11	28	14	6	114
Work Request	7	5	3	7	12	3	7	4	6	54
Total	380	339	392	375	307	286	428	408	294	3209

Court Overview

Month	Heard	Outcome	Litter	Waste	Water	Air	Noise	Dogs
Jan - Sept 2026	11	Total fines	€1300	€400	NA	NA	NA	€750
		Total costs	€1520.50	€550	NA	NA	NA	€250

Litter/waste/Air/Noise and control of dogs Overview

	Jan - August (26th) 2026
Fixed payment Notices issued	4 FPN WBPL 3 Waste regulations
Litter fines issued	68 (26/8)
Fines paid litter	50
FPN paid	7
Successful prosecutions	11
Legal proceedings in progress	36
Amount collected in fines	€7594.00 litter, €3000 dogs, €300 FPN, €1500 waste regs – total €12,394.00
Dog fines issued	12

Anti-dumping Initiative 2026:

Wexford County Council was approved funding from DCEE of €104,520 towards the cost of a Furniture Amnesty, Clean Up of an area in Adamstown and provision of CCTV. The furniture Amnesty took place for 3 weeks in September. The other projects are expected to be completed by the end of the year.

Control of Dogs & Horses

<u>Control of dogs</u>	2024	2025	Jan-Aug 2026
Dogs collected	564	546	307
Dogs reclaimed	147	149	81
Dogs re-homed/transferred	442	386	178
Dogs put to sleep	31	10	10
Dog Fines	11	12	9

Recycling Services:

Bring Bank Network WASTE CATEGORY	No. of Sites August 2026	Recycling out August 2025	Recycling out August 2026
Glass bottles		368.24	333.4
Aluminium Cans		2.85	2.16
Total	108	371.09	335.6

Household Recycling Centres - Summary of Activities								
WASTE CATEGORY	Enniscorthy		New Ross		Holmestown		Gorey	
	Recycling out August 2025 (t)	Recycling out August 2026 (t)	Recycling out Aug 2025 (t)	Recycling out Aug 2026(t)	Recycling out August 2025(t)	Recycling out August 2026 (t)	Recycling out August 2026 (t)	Recycling out August 2026 (t)
Total Recycling out	51	56	58	55	86	89	49	46
Total Domestic Waste in	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	339	378	N/A	N/A
Daily Average Customers Jan-Aug	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026
	81	87	116	115	173	186	83	83

Rapid Response Crew - Headline activities for year to date are summarised below:

Activity	Aug 2025	Aug 2026
Total Illegal Dumping/ Clean Ups	144	261
Gorey *		55
Enniscorthy *		80
Wexford *		55
New Ross*		39
Rosslare		32
Total Bring Site Inspections	764	839

Environment Education and Awareness

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

Material World: An engaging and thought-provoking exhibition exploring fast fashion, textile waste and our role in shaping a more sustainable world took place in County Hall in September. 9 schools visited the exhibition and students from each school participated in a 1-hour interactive workshop. The Exhibition visited Gorey Library in early October. A series of workshops for schools and a community session formed part of the exhibition. Students gained awareness of the environmental impacts of fast fashion, recognising the value or repair, care reuse and upcycling and learned about sustainable and circular fashion options.



Gum Litter Taskforce Campaign: The Gum Litter Taskforce (GLT), in partnership with Wexford County Council, visited Wexford town as part of its 2026 Summer Roadshow. The roadshow promotes responsible gum disposal, cleaner communities.



Trees for Wexford: The Trees for Wexford Scheme closed for applications.

Keep Wexford Beautiful: 106 entries were received from 54 groups. Results will be announced at the annual Environment Awards on Monday 9th November in the Ferrycarrig Hotel

Halloween Costume Swap: The annual Halloween costume swap event will take place on Tuesday 29th September in Captain Wafer Hall, Enniscorthy. The evening is run in partnership with Enniscorthy Tidy Towns and Sustainable Enniscorthy.

Greener Festivals & Events Practical Actions for Local Authorities: The Greener Festivals and Events – Practical Actions for Local Authorities Workshop took place on 24th September and was organised by the Environmental Awareness Officers from each local authority, with assistance from the Southern Regional Waste Management Planning Office. The workshop showcased best practice, guidance & opportunities to influence key policy areas of the National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy. The event brought together key personnel in the delivery of festivals & events, demonstrated how national policy can be delivered locally, explored what has been successfully achieved to date and encourage more networking and information sharing to bring about lasting change.



Community Clean Ups: Registrations and support for WCC's Community Clean Up programme is ongoing

Date	No. of community Clean Ups
01/08//2026 – 29/09/2026	129
01/01/2026 - 29/09/2026	728

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 Wexford County Council is above CO2 emissions from the baseline years of 2016-2018. Over 51% reduction in CO2 emissions is now required by 2030. The pathfinder projects will address the thermal requirements. Regarding the transport requirement, a new fuel tank is on order for the Machinery Yard with an estimated 15% allocation in this new tank for HVO. To achieve our transport emissions targets, half our overall diesel consumption will need to convert to HVO. This measure along with the Pathfinder projects for buildings retrofit for our Significant Energy users would meet our Climate Action targets of 51% reduction in CO2 emissions and 50% reduction in our energy usage.

A. Green Flag trial – The final workshop for this pilot was held in Tullamore on Wed 9th September. The findings of the pilot across the LAs highlighted where opportunities exist to develop certain themes and also where gaps were identified in collating data.

It was noted by CARO, An Taisce, DCEE and the auditor Michael John O'Mahoney the considerable effort the LA's had made in completing the applications, providing supporting information and hosting the site visits in July. Appreciation was extended for the workload involved over the last 9 months.

The next Step in the process is for CARO to complete a report on the trial and present to the CCMA and ECCE with the hope that the sustainability award will be open to all LAs in 2027. Having taken part in this trial and gone through the whole process Wexford is in a good position should it roll out to all Las next year.

B. The Climate Team are hosting an Energy and EV Event in Enniscorthy - Thursday 22nd October 2026 (10.30 – 4pm) - Astro Active Centre, Bellefield, Enniscorthy Y21 W640

- Home Energy Grants
- Energy saving measures for your business
- Benefits of driving an EV
- EV display from leading car brands in Enniscorthy
- Air Quality in Enniscorthy
- Panel Discussions throughout the day across all these areas
- Over 30 exhibitors in attendance
- One to one energy advice clinics

It is planned that the Climate team will host similar Biannual event across the county. Enniscorthy was chosen to host the first event to highlight it as Wexford's Decarbonisation Zone (DZ). Funded by DCEE.

C. DCEE - LA CAP Phase 3 Reporting

The Reporting Checklist was signed by DOS & submitted 21st Sept. The checklist included a adaptation and a mitigation case study. The claim date for the funding recoupment is 9th November and the checklist is a requirement for this funding recoupment.

D. 2025 Local Government Climate Action KPI Report



The Climate Action Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) provide a way of measuring and tracking progress across key areas of local government climate action, from planning and implementation to community engagement and organisational capacity.

The 2025 results show that climate action is becoming increasingly embedded across the local government sector, with evidence of growing delivery, strengthened capacity and continued progress towards climate objectives.

The report covered 10 KPIs across the three themes of Mainstreaming, Adaptation & Mitigation and Internal Behaviour Change & Capacity Building. The report and associated infographic are available on our Website.

Pathfinder Retrofit Programme

a) **Ferrybank Leisure Centre** – SEAI Pathfinder Programme Retrofit Project supported the urgent replacement of the Ferrybank Leisure Centre Air Handling Unit. A one day handover demonstration was organised to explain the new AHU operation and controls management process to the Ferrybank management team.

- a. Co Hall Lighting and lighting controls retrofit
- b. Design consultants Aramark Workplace Solutions appointed
- c. External contractors DMAC Consulting Engineers conducted a lighting condition survey.

Business Energy Upgrade Scheme

New Ross Harbour Office retrofit – Grant application approved & works due to start

SEAI Microgen Solar PV Application

Roof Mounted Solar PV installation for New Ross Town Park Shower and Toilet Facilities building. The Contractor site visits are complete with dates for installation to be confirmed shortly.

County Hall Solar PV installation – Power Purchase Agreement feasibility study

An RFQs issued for the feasibility design of a solar car port for the County Hall Car Park. Only one quote received which didn't fulfil RFQ criteria so it may be necessary to tender to get realistic cost estimate for this project.

COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION PROGRAMME (CCAP)

Wexford County Council awarded 23 organisations grant funding through Phase 2 of the CCAP. The project timeframe has commenced with groups engaging their preferred contractors, groups have until October 2027 to fully complete their works which includes a variety of measures such as installation of solar panels, retrofit windows, improve insulation, decommission diesel generators, upgrade lighting to LED, install grey water systems in their buildings, plant native pollinators and other Climate Action Measures.

Phase 1 complete

- Final report being collated by CCAO for DCEE
- Post works videos scheduled with recipients to showcase the projects

Phase 2 Allocation

- WCC allocated total of €746,066
- Additional €77,066 on initial allocation
- 23 groups successful
- Pre-works site visits completed
- Projects start date is from early July
- Groups have 18 to complete
- All projects must be completed by October 2027

Pathfinder Retrofit Programme

The Apex Leisure centre, New Ross is still at stage one of the design process.

A Solar PV Installation is proposed for New Ross Town Park Public Shower/Toilet Facilities. The Projected electricity generation is 7,692 kwh with a projected Payback period of 6 years. The installation was planned to start in September.

BIODIVERSITY

Local Biodiversity Action Plan

A report on submissions received during the public consultation phase of the draft Local Biodiversity Action Plan is now drafted to present to the next Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment Strategic Policy committee due to take place on the 25th of September. All submissions received will be considered and issues raised reflected in the final draft plan where appropriate.

Local Biodiversity Action Fund 2026

Projects currently underway with the assistance of funding under the Local Biodiversity Action Fund through the National Parks and Wildlife Service

- **Swift Survey** – Birdwatch Ireland have been engaged to undertake a survey of the Common Swift in Enniscorthy and New Ross and Gorey. T
- **Wetland Survey** – The aim of this survey is to continue to identify and survey previously unmapped wetland sites across the county.
- **Invasive species control** – Cherry laurel control is underway in Tintern Abbey woods in association with Coillte and the local Tintern Trails Committee. T



LIBRARY OF SANCTUARY



Wexford Library Service is proud to announce they have achieved Libraries of Sanctuary recognition, as awarded by Places of Sanctuary Ireland.

A Library of Sanctuary is a Library that is committed to creating a culture of welcome and inclusion, especially for people seeking sanctuary and all newcomers to the area.

Wexford Library service was awarded this recognition at an event held in Gorey Library on Wednesday 16 September.

This event was attended by Cathaoirleach Lisa McDonald as well as representatives from the library service, community groups and schools.

The recognition is based on evidence of the culture of welcome and inclusion the service has created in branches and services across the county, by fostering partnerships with community groups, reaching out to minority populations and providing additional support to students of all backgrounds and needs in local schools.

Wexford Library service joins other libraries in Ireland who have made this commitment, including Portlaoise and Balbriggan Library and also the Louth, Westmeath and Wicklow library services.



Cathaoirleach Lisa McDonald and representatives from the Library Service, community groups and schools in Gorey Library at the Library of Sanctuary Recognition Celebration



National Public Libraries Open Day 2026

On Saturday 26 September a special invitation was issued to everyone in the country to "Take a Closer Look" at the services, resources, and events on offer in their local library.

Wexford Libraries branches held lots of fun events and activities including story time, free Lego play and sensory time. Library staff were available to showcase the range of services available to library members from digital resources like eBooks and eAudiobooks, book clubs, exhibitions and quiet study zones.

Wexford Town Library invited the public to step back in time and explore items from the library archives with a visual display tracing the story of library services in County Wexford, from their beginnings in the 1920s right up to the present day.

Staff member Derek with some of the exhibits displayed in Wexford Library on National Public Libraries Open Day



Culture Night 2026

Culture Night is a nationwide celebration of **free cultural events held across Ireland** in September. Wexford Library Service **celebrated with events throughout the County including** a documentary screening, traditional Irish music and song, contemporary pop & folk and a drama workshop.



Danescastle Music Group & Hugh Miller in New Ross Library on Culture Night



Blackstairs Blues Festival

Enniscorthy Library hosted a performance by Garry Cogdell, playing Blues and recounting stories from the road.



Wexford Festival Opera's 'Opera for All' programme

To celebrate its 75th Anniversary, Wexford Festival Opera facilitated a free event in Wexford Library during September featuring well-known opera songs and interactive demonstrations by **Elizabeth Drwal**, professional opera singer and vocal coach.

Reading and Literacy: Right to Read at Your Library



Summer Stars Reading Adventure 2026 Celebrations

To celebrate the end of this year's reading adventure a series of events took place in some of Wexford Libraries Branches during September. These included magic shows and science workshops. Children could also collect their Summer Stars Reading Adventure certificate on the day.

Waffles the Wonderful at the Summer Stars Reading Adventure Celebrations in Wexford Library



Wexford Reads Festival

The Wexford Reads Festival continued in September with the visit of acclaimed historical fantasy fiction author Shauna Lawless to Bunclody Library. Shauna gave the attendees an insight into her books, writing process and her life as an author.

Shauna Lawless with library staff members Yvonne Smith, Shane Gibbons, Elaine Hoysted and Laura O'Neill in Bunclody Library.

Book Launch

Wexford Library hosted a book launch of short stories by local author Mary O'Brien, 'Watching for the Swallows' during the month.

Environment and Climate Action

Sustainable Development Goals Week 19 - 27 September

The Sustainable Development Goals are a call for action by all countries - poor, rich and middle-income - to promote prosperity while protecting the planet.

Wexford Library Service held a range of events to promote SDG Week which included:

A **Seed Exchange** in Enniscorthy Library where library members were invited to drop in and collect a free packet of seeds to grow at home. Wexford Library also held a plant and produce exchange.

Life Below Water: An Illustrated Talk with Marine Photographer Ivan Donoghue held in Wexford Library.

Seal Rescue Ireland Marine Roadshow

Wexford Library welcomed Seal Rescue Ireland for an interactive and insightful talk about seals and marine conservation.

Wexford Libraries branches also held themed storytimes and craft sessions.

Seal Rescue Ireland during SDG Week in Wexford Library



Wexford Science Café Presents: The Legacy of the Carnsore Anti-Nuclear Protests

Nearly forty years after the Carnsore Point festivals and rallies nuclear power may be returning to the national agenda. The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) is reported to be looking at nuclear options as part of Ireland's energy future.

In this discussion, Wexford Science Café considered how the circumstances of the nuclear debate have changed over the last forty years, recalled the grounds on which nuclear power was proposed and opposed in the 1970s and review the current standing of these scientific, technological and environmental issues.

Health and Well Being

Healthy Ireland at your Library - A series of four accessible Yoga sessions were held in September in Enniscorthy Library.

Why Diets Don't Work - A Healthy Ireland at your Library event was held in New Ross and Bunclody Libraries during September. Dr Aliis Brosnan discussed four key areas that can have a lasting impact on your health, fitness & mental health.

Expert Advice on Simple Fitness Tips - Karen Peacock, Health and Performance Co-ordinator, UPMC Sports Medicine, SETU Arena, Waterford gave a talk in New Ross Library about some simple changes in lifestyle that can have a positive impact on your overall health.

Age Friendly

Tea and Teach - Age Friendly Ireland and Wexford Library Service hosted an informal lunchtime series of teaching sessions during September in all their branches, where members of the public learned to use banking apps with confidence by getting practical help to get online. Attendees also learned practical tips for staying safe online, recognising scams, and protecting their personal information. Digital Skills groups & Digital Literacy sessions continued during September in all Wexford Libraries branches.

AI Workshop - Wexford Library staff member Lenny delivered this workshop in partnership with Age Action. Participants were guided through the gov.ie 'AI Ready Initiative' and learned the basics of what AI is, how to use AI tools, practical ways that AI can help, and how to stay safe online.

Heritage & Local History

The GAA Programmed' History Talk with John Kelly in collaboration with Ui Cinsealaigh Historical Society

John Kelly, author of *The GAA Covered - A history of the GAA in Match Programmes* gave a talk in Enniscorthy Library during September. John Kelly is a primary school principal based in Carlow Town. He has had a lifelong involvement in Gaelic games as a player, coach, administrator, and intercounty match official.

19th Century Seaweed Conflicts in Wexford and Ireland

Historian Cianna Devitt gave a talk in New Ross Library which explored Ireland's Nineteenth-Century Seaweed Conflicts. Drawing upon prison registers, courtroom records and estate papers, Cianna examined these disputes and the shifting material and ideological forces that shaped access to Ireland's coastline.

Wexford Library received 31 local studies queries and 28 genealogy queries during September.

Commemoration 2026

An Arts Bursary was awarded to Rachel Uí Fhaoláin for her project entitled “An Fuisseoigín (The Little Lark)”. Rachel aims to research the effects ‘Feis agus Aonach Charman 1912’ had on the changing society of Loch Garman, in terms of the Irish language, popular social, cultural and civic movements, across all generations and genders, during the early years of the state. ‘Feis agus Aonach Charman 1912’, organised by Conradh na Gaeilge, was a major cultural and industrial festival held in Wexford Town during the Summer of 1912.

Dublin, Easter Week 1916 (Liz Gillis)

A historic lecture under the theme of Commemoration took place on September 17 in Enniscorthy Library by historian and author Liz Gillis. The talk gave an account of the events of Easter Week in Dublin from the mobilisation on Easter Monday 24 April to the final surrender on 29 April, including the reading of the proclamation, the encirclement of the Volunteers by British forces, the ambush of the Sherwood Foresters at Mount Street Bridge, the shelling of the city centre by the Helga, the evacuation of the GPO, and the courage of Nurse Elizabeth O’Farrell.

Liz Gillis is the author of six books specialising in the Irish Revolutionary period. The 2018 recipient of the Lord Mayor’s Award for her contribution to history, Liz is a former researcher for The History Show on RTÉ Radio and a regular contributor to numerous publications, television and radio documentaries.

ARCHIVES

Collections management - In addition to 41 research enquiries via email, telephone and post, a total of 11 researchers visited the Archive during September. Topics included research on dredging in Wexford harbour through the Wexford Harbour Commissioners’ archive, (1831-1940); research on the Feis Aonach and Feis Charman, 1912 for a 2026 Commemorations Bursary project; family research on the Ingham surname in the Hughes archive; promotional material available for an Arts in Industry exhibition held during the Wexford Festival Opera, 1953; research on a vintage vehicle through extant registers of vehicle registrations (1970s); extant sources in the Archive on James Fitzharris aka ‘Skin the Goat’; Church of Ireland birth, marriage and death entries through the Free Press, 1877 and 1878.

Outreach - The Archivist co-presented an illustrated talk in New Ross Library on 15 September with Kathie Earle, acclaimed Irish crochet expert. The presentation centered on the worldwide importance of the Mount Carmel lace collection, produced in the convent in New Ross from c. 1822 until c. 1914. The talk preceded the Eugene O’Neill Literary Festival taking place in October in New Ross which includes a play on the life of James Joyce’s daughter Lucia. In Joyce’s *Ulysses*, he refers to the ‘ivory-raised point from the Carmelite Convent in New Ross, nothing like it in the rest of the world’.

A select display of exquisite pieces of lace from the Mount Carmel collection were on display at the event which was also attended by three of the Carmelite Sisters.

To coincide with the exhibition of the same name, the Archivist delivered an illustrated talk on ‘Plucky Ladies’ – female representation in local elections in County Wexford, 1899-2024 in Gorey library on 17 September. A series of talks on the exhibition are ongoing this year, both in branch libraries across the county and in other local venues. It is an invaluable means of commemorating and celebrating those women from all walks of life who proactively put themselves forward as candidates to make a difference in their local communities across County Wexford.

The Archivist attended a day-long event in New Ross on 25 September which was convened by the Irish Historic Towns Atlas, the Royal Irish Academy and Wexford County Council Heritage Office. The day centred on the imminent publication of the Irish Historic Towns Atlas for New Ross by Dr Linda Doran, due for publication in Autumn 2027. Dr Doran had undertaken extensive research in the Archive on the 17th and 18th century minute books of New Ross Corporation for the project.

ARTS

Artist Workspace Scheme 2026 – 2027 - Artist Workspace offers funding to support professional artists from any artform to access suitable and flexible workspaces to develop their arts practices. The workspaces must accommodate at least two professional artists or artist collectives who are proposing to share resources for the benefit of their arts practices. Grants will be available in the region of €3,000 per application and must accommodate at least two artists sharing a building or part of a building for their workspaces. Grants of up to €5,000 may be awarded to applications involving three or more artists taking a lease on a building. The selection panel took place at the end of September.

Wexford Public Arts

Wexford Women's Refuge - Artist Marielle MacLeman is installing an artwork for the Wexford Women's Refuge managed by Wexford Arts Office. The work is due to be completed by the beginning of October 2026. This Public Art fund has come from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Culture Night 2026 - took place in September, celebrating the 20th year of the night taking place across the Country. 70 events ran across all five municipal districts, from venues such as the National Opera House to libraries, churches, community centres and outdoor venues such as the community allotments in Enniscorthy. In other districts, Music for Wexford held two concerts at St Iberius Church, Screen Wexford showed locally produced short films at Gorey School of Art and Filling the Well took place in Rosslare for the third year in a row with large numbers showing up for the night.



Stone Sessions at Johnstown Castle on Culture Night

Community Dates at the National Opera House 2027 Open Call - Wexford Arts Office in partnership with the National Opera House are offering a series of subsidised community dates in the National Opera House during 2027. An expression of interest open call was held in September for community groups to apply for a subsidised community date up to the value of €3,500 for a daily hire rate in the larger O'Reilly Theatre. Closing date has passed.

County Wexford Art Collection Tours - Wexford Arts office is hosting three free guided tours of County Wexford's art collection, led by local artist Alan Robinson. These tours are open to everyone. The first tour took place in September.

Small Arts/ Failte Ireland Festivals Scheme 2026

Backstairs Blues Festival with Failte Ireland - 11 – 13 September - Founded in 1995, this festival in Enniscorthy is Ireland's longest continuously running blues festival and has become one of Wexford's most iconic annual events. Local musicians, renowned Irish performers and international blues artists played in venues across Enniscorthy. Many of the gigs were free.

Sigginstown Castle with Failte Ireland - 19 – 20 of September - The Hands and Heritage Festival held at Sigginstown castle in Tomhaggard. This was a festival of traditional skills and crafts with workshops and demonstrations such as flax and fibre works and hearth cooking.

Write by the Sea 2026 - is an annual boutique literary festival which took place in September in Kilmore Quay and featured authors such as Richard Ford, Natasha Brown, Ferdia Lennon and Sinéad Gleeson.



New Ross Piano Festival with Small Arts Festivals

The 20th Anniversary of New Ross Piano Festival ran from the 23 – 27 September at St Mary's Church, under artistic director Finghin Collins. The line up included Grammy-nominated New York jazz pianist Judy Carmichael and Irish star Jamie Duffy. It closed with a concert by the RTÉ Concert Orchestra.

Grammy Nominated Jazz pianist Judy Carmichael performing at New Ross Piano Festival in St. Marys' Church

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

Crew Networking in New Ross - took place at St Michaels Theatre, New Ross in September. This informal networking event was open to everyone and offered an opportunity for film makers to meet with others working across film, TV, and the wider screen sector - from video and gaming to social media and digital content, writers, directors, producers and creators. It was also a chance to learn about upcoming training opportunities and available work.

Culture Night Short Film Screening - The programme was presented across two screening sessions throughout the evening, giving audiences the opportunity to support local filmmaking talent as part of Culture Night 2026. There were 13 locally made films on the night and 70 people were in attendance.

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.

Culture Night - Templeshannon Community Centre hosted the making of a Mandala of Light led by artist Mayumi Nakabayashi working with the local community.

Orchard Recording with the Mens Choir, Templeshannon - A session facilitated by Orchard Recording studio to help the men in the choir upload and make their piece "The Slaney Rose" live. 18 choir members were in attendance to work on the recording.

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.

EU Residency with The Yellow Bellows Creative Workshop - Working with the 16 young singers to create a soundscape for the pieces to be performed on Culture Night with Partners: Music Generation Wexford, The Orchard Recording Studios. Led by artists Anita Mahon, Diarmaid Comerford, Anita Petry and Brendan Carthy.

Creative Ireland

Community Placemaking and Heritage Project in Killanne - brings together artists Liz Rackard and Mick O'Dea with local residents to develop the "Great Book of Killanne." The series of placemaking and heritage sessions concluded on 5 September. People of the community, of all ages and abilities have contributed artworks, memories and ideas to the creation of the book which will be launched in the community on 29 November 2026.

Sound/Audio project at Carnsore Wind Farm - continued in September, led by artist Connor Duggan under the Creative Communities programme. Connor engaged with people from the Carne and Lady's Island communities, gathering local stories and memories. Connor is also recording from across the wind farm landscape, capturing the sounds of wind, wildlife and water.

Connecting Creatively - Courtown & Riverchapel Community Textile Project is a creative initiative that brings local people together to explore, celebrate and visually represent the identity of their community through textile art.

Led by artist Trish Middleton, the project invites participants of all ages and abilities to share stories, memories and personal connections to Courtown and Riverchapel. Through a series of collaborative workshops, these ideas are being transformed into a large-scale textile installation that reflects the character, history, landscape and spirit of the area. Workshops started on 1 July and will continue until October with a launch event in Gorey Library on 19 November.

Artist in Residence for Eadan's Glen Housing Estate, Ferns - A creative social engagement process exploring the concept of a 'Spirit of Eadan's Glen'. Led by artist Jeffrey Gormly, the activity involves a series of focus groups, public engagements, digital survey and culminating in a high-quality publication and new iconography to be deployed throughout the new estate.

Groups ranging across all ages, will be accessed where they gather at public locations, and asked to imagine, describe, discuss, and draw a picture of the spirit of Eadan's Glen.

Quay Stores - Wexford Quay Community Engagement and Creative Placemaking Project - This community led creative project explores the social life, identity and lived experience of Wexford Quay. Led by Wexford storyteller Joe Brennan, people of all ages will actively collaborate in capturing the stories, memories, and everyday routines of this important public amenity. Through conversations, storytelling and workshops this autumn, the project aims to map the public's interactions with, and vision for the Quay. These contributions will help shape the creative process and the final artwork.



*Wexford Storyteller
Joe Brennan*

One Sea | One Sky – Kilmore Quay - A week-long community creative project in August led by Tomhaggard Clean Coasts, brought together local volunteers, families, schools and community groups in Kilmore Quay to celebrate and care for their coastal environment through creativity, learning and shared action. Working alongside four artists, Jeni Roddy, Caoimhe Dunne, Lynn Haughton & Therese Maddock (Seashore Explore), Tomhaggard Clean Coasts and other local volunteers, participants took part in beach cleans and creative workshops to repurpose beach plastics, fishing rope, oyster bags and other recovered material. Together they created beach waste sculptures which were unveiled at a community launch event.

Wexford Voices

Wexford Voices is a youth-led digital media and social media platform designed to amplify the stories, perspectives and creative work of Traveller and other marginalised young people across County Wexford. Starting in August and running until October, an experienced facilitator is delivering workshops with youth participants through local partner FDYS Youth Service throughout the county.

Stone Sessions

The Stone Sessions is an autumn/winter programme of heritage crafts, music and storytelling, celebrating Wexford's rich cultural heritage through hands-on, creative experiences in some of the county's most treasured heritage sites. On 12 September, families attended coastal heritage skills workshops at the Makers House, Wexford Quay led by artists Mary Wallace and Mairead Stafford. The heritage sessions continue throughout October and November in Hook Head, Johnstown Castle, Enniscorthy Castle and Wexford Lavendar Farm.

The life and times of travelling people as seen through the eyes of Willie 'The Tinker' O'Connor

This heritage project will preserve and share the remarkable life story of a member of the Traveller community from New Ross through the digitisation and publication of his handwritten diaries. During September the diaries were professionally digitised and combined with a full transcription. The diaries will be accessible online through the County Archive website.

Connecting Creatively Through Photography - Courtown

This participatory photography project brought together older members of the Gorey and Courtown community with residents of the Courtown Hotel IPAS Centre, creating opportunities to build connections, share experiences and strengthen community relationships through a creative process. The project culminated in an exhibition and community event in Christchurch, Gorey for Culture Night on 18 September.

Enterprise and Creativity: Artist in Residence at The Hatch Lab, Gorey

This artist residency with filmmaker and artist Terence White has been running throughout the year at the Hatch Lab in Gorey. The residency is designed to inspire new connections and conversations about creativity in the business community and new ways of thinking through workshops, performances, recitals, concerts, talks, film screenings and other arts activities. As part of the residency, the business community, their friends and families enjoyed a Culture Night concert on 18 September by local duo Poems Ago.





Civic Duties:

- September 3rd – Festival of cycling- Gorey- Ambulance cover.
- September 5th – National Service Day- Wexford Quays
- September 10th - Circle of Light- Wexford Marina arm
- September 12th – Great Beach Walk- Cahore- First Aid cover
- September 12th – Medieval Marathon- Kilkenny- Ambulance & ATV cover
- September 20th -Toddy Moore Road Race-Kilmore- Ambulance & First Aid cover

Weekly Training

- Weekly training continues in Wexford, Enniscorthy, Gorey and New Ross.
- Weekly training will include Missing Persons Search Responder & Leader courses, Water Awareness & Swiftwater Food Responder- New & Recerts. Minimum Training Standards courses. Severe Weather Response.

Training Courses:

- September: CISM, Patient Handling, PHECC Instructor recerts, ADI driving assessments, Search Manager, Boat training





Stats to be provided in November 2026



CUSTOMER SERVICE UNIT STATISTICS – SEPTEMBER 2026

TASK	SEPTEMBER 2026
Phone Calls	3,314
Emails received and sent	3,275

FOI OFFICE REQUESTS SEPTEMBER 2026

Freedom of Information	26
Customer Complaint	46
Ombudsman Complaint	2
Access to Information on the Environment	3
Data Access Request	1
Total	78



FINANCE

Budget 2027

Work has commenced on the preparation of Budget 2027. Circular Fin 09/2026 has been received confirming Wexford County Council’s provisional LPT Allocation (pre LAF adjustment) for 2027 at €16,026,453. This allocation has provided a zero increase over the 2026 allocation.

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 December, 2026. The requirement for ongoing overdraft facilities into 2027 sought formal approval of the Members at the September meeting and an application, is currently progressing, for Ministerial sanction for an extension of the facility into 2027.

Audit

Audit of Accounts 2025 – The Audit of Wexford County Council’s 2025 Accounts is ongoing. Once complete, the Local Government Auditor will prepare the Statutory Audit Report to be submitted for consideration of the Council as soon as possible thereafter.

Audit Committee – The next meeting of the Audit Committee is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 15th December and the Local Government Auditor, Mr. Gerard McMurrow is due to attend to discuss the outcome of the 2025 Audit. Following this the Audit Committee will prepare their report for the Council on the Annual Accounts and Audit process.



Notable Incidents in Wexford County Council



A number of staff emails and passwords were detected on the dark web by the LGMA's dark web monitoring service. When notified, ICT Security confirmed the details were outdated as many of the passwords did not meet minimum complexity requirements for our environment, but all affected users were contacted to reset their passwords reset anyway as a precautionary measure.

- 570k emails in total (*WexfordCoCo tenant*)
- 462k stopped from malicious IPs
- 197 stopped with malicious links/attachments
- 8,060 emails in total (*Cllr tenant*)



In the News

The United States narrowly avoided taking misinformed military action against a Chinese ship this Spring, after an AI model misidentified its cargo as a threat. The inaccuracy was spotted after assets had been deployed but had not yet intercepted the ship. While the US military have yet to confirm the incident in a formal statement, it still serves to highlight the importance of fact-checking all content generated using AI.

ithelpdesk@wexfordcoco.ie

053 9196297

COMMUNICATIONS

TOP 3 POSTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

47k+ Views

303 Interactions

64k+ Views

228 Interactions

24k+ Views

184 Interactions

FREE Household Hazardous Waste

RFK Bridge Closure

Wexford firefighters - Boston to New York 9/11 25th Anniversary Challenge.



**Conservation repairs
now underway at
Enniscorthy Castle**

**Eddie Taaffe
Chief Executive**