



Chief Executive's Report

County Council Meeting 11.04.23

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Trinity Wharf

As part of the marketing strategy for Trinity Wharf, following on from development and roll out of 3D animation videos through social media and website, signage has been developed for Wexford GAA Park and Welcome Wall.

The Southeast Greenway

On March 27th, County Wexford Chamber hosted a public consultation meeting at the Brandon House Hotel in New Ross to discuss the potential economic impact of the Southeast Greenway. The event was well attended with over sixty participants. Ms. Jenny Beresford, CEO of Dungarvan & West Waterford Chamber gave a detailed presentation on the economic impact of the Waterford Greenway and lessons learned and highlighted examples of how new businesses developed and pivoted as a result of the Greenway. Ms. Jill Kelleher - WCC gave a presentation on the South East Greenway encouraging interested parties to engage directly with Wexford County Council, in particular LEO Wexford to explore new business opportunities for development and growth.

Town and Villages Renewal Scheme 2022

Wexford County Council received the official funding Agreement from the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRDC) for the Town and Villages Renewal Scheme 2022 confirming funding of €1,134,000. This is the highest investment in the South East and the 5th highest allocation of funding nationally for the Town and Villages Renewal scheme 2022. The following funding was allocated;

Duncannon; Development of the historic Duncannon Fort (€500,000).

Enniscorthy; Enniscorthy Wellbeing and Activity Garden, a place making development of an outdoor activity public green space. (€234,000)

Rosslare; Delivery of a Community and Enterprise Resource Centre/Hub in the strategic village of Rosslare Harbour (€250,000).

Enniscorthy; Funding under the Streetscape Enhancement Measure in Enniscorthy (€100,000).

Taghmon; Engagement of an archaeologist, conservation engineer, conservation architect, and QS to fully review site of Castle, prepare designs, construction method plans and costings to the bring castle into use as a heritage tourism asset. (€50,000).

The completion date for the above projects is 31 August 2024. Overall, these projects will help to boost tourism, create job opportunities, support local communities, and improve the quality of life for residents in these areas.

Savannah 2023

The Wexford delegation welcomed the Consul General Caoimhe Ni Chonchuir and Minister for Housing, Local Government & Heritage, Darragh O'Brien TD on their visit to Savannah to build on the Sister City Agreement signed last year with the Mayor of Savannah to promote economic, social, education and cultural opportunities across both regions. The delegation's itinerary commenced with a meeting with family entrepreneurs, the Strickland's who run a successful number of tourism related businesses in 18 locations employing 450 staff. As an indication of the momentum that the Wexford brand is making in Savannah they have plans to renovate a large building located in the historic area of Savannah as a restaurant and hostelry to celebrate the historical linkages of Savannah and Ireland which will be named Wexford. The business partners will visit later in July to ensure to create an authentic Wexford experience. The historic district attracts 14 million visitors a year.

From an economic infrastructure perspective meeting with the Savannah Port Authority was extremely interesting and the Port has agreed to provide advice to Rosslare Europort and Wexford County Council in developing the logistics and maximising the strategic asset of the port. John Petrino, Director of Business Development & International Marketing at the headquarters of the Georgia Port Authority, gave an insight into the incredible growth of the port and in particular the use of rail as part of their almost exclusively Lo Lo (load on - load off) facilities.



Savannah Port Authority meeting

The opportunity to meet business representatives and provide a presentation on Wexford County Council's economic investment programme was held at the offices of Savannah World Trade Centre and Savannah Economic Development Authority (SEDA). WCC were joined on the delegation by their Tradebridge partners Wexford Enterprise Chair Eleanor Modler. Further discussions took place with groups on areas of mutual interest such as , Visit Savannah, Film Savannah, and The Centre for Irish Research & Teaching (CIRT) which is based at Georgia Southern University.



Savannah World Trade Centre & SEDA

Mayor Van Johnson hosted the delegation a year on from the inaugural signing of the sister city agreement with Wexford County Council. Mayor Johnson will be part of a large delegation of senior decision makers from Savannah in May this year.



Mayor Van Johnson and the Wexford Delegation at City Hall



Jasper Green Military Ceremony and WTOC Tv interview with cllr. George Lawlor - Cathaoirleach

St. Patrick's Day is the biggest event of the year in the City of Savannah and the second largest parade in America where the delegation represented Wexford with 750,000 visitors on the day. An Cathaoirleach, Cllr. George Lawlor was interviewed for TV station WTOC by Tim Guidere which was seen by an audience of approximately 300,000 viewers.



St Patricks Day – Savannah 2023

The trade ships which left the quays of Wexford town and New Ross in the mid 1800's is where the Savannah Wexford story begins. Following in our ancestors footsteps the delegation visited the Catholic cemetery in Savannah which is the final resting place of many Wexford people who made their home in South East Georgia. A remarkable 56% of all those of Irish ancestry in Savannah who travelled at this time, came from County Wexford and this

is borne out by the number of Wexford graves with names such as Kehoe, Rossiter, Whelan, Browne, Sinnott and Stafford.



Catholic Cemetery Savannah

A visit to the Savannah Coastal Heritage Society to see two of the last remaining houses that emigrants from Wexford would have lived in in great numbers as they began their new lives in Savannah. There is potential to explore coastal and maritime initiatives with the Savannah organisations.



Savannah Coastal Heritage

The final highlight of the trip was the visit to Georgia Southern University where the delegation was hosted by the President Dr. Kyle Marrero and his team to discuss plans for the 150 students and academic team who are arriving for their international student experience in Wexford this summer at their Wexford campus. In addition the focus of the trip was to approve the design stage by the college to progress the student accommodation centre at the adoration convent. Further details are in the Savannah report by Cllr. George Lawlor Cathaoirleach and the Chairs of the Municipal Districts.



LECP

The Economic department is working in collaboration with the Community department to develop the new Local Economic Community Plan. March saw a number of consultations with key stakeholders such as economic and enterprise agencies and Municipal District area community meetings. KPMG are currently correlating the views of the consultation process to produce a draft report.

Tourism



On March 23rd Brittany Ferries in conjunction with Tourism Ireland held an event in the port of Bilbao on board the ship Salamanca to celebrate its 50th anniversary. The Brittany Ferries event was attended by 120 guests of which 30 were from the travel trade and tour operators.

Paula Fernandez Porta, Hotel Manager with the “Press Up Hospitality Group” presented on the new Ladyville House offering and exceptional tourism offering in County Wexford. The event also showcased Wexford food. Eoghan Corry and Isabel Conway Nagel, were part of the Irish travel media group on the crossing from Rosslare to Bilbao and it is hoped that they will give good press coverage, particularly with a focus on sustainable holiday growth from Spain to Ireland.

Tourism Ireland in co-operation with Brittany Ferries have created a new marketing campaign commencing in early April and running until May “Ireland reaches your heart” targeting increasing the number of Spanish visitors to Ireland.



Local Enterprise Office

The final event of Local Enterprise Week was held 24th March in the Council Chamber with 55 businesses in attendance. Mr. Blaise Brosnan of the Management Resource Institute addressed how small changes in a business can have maximum positive impact in an inflationary business environment. Enterprise Week was very successful with over 220 business engagements in various events from specialist social media training, business clinics, International Women's Day breakfast/LIFT training and lean business practices.

Spotlight Clients 2023

As part of our marketing strategy, LEO Wexford developed 5 video case studies from client companies. An Cathaoirleach, Cllr. George Lawlor formally launched these case studies at the breakfast event on the 24th March. Video case studies included Bodibro, Tasty Parlour, MachineLab, Feri and Coatek. These clients represent the cross-section and variety of business types and showcase the business supports that LEO Wexford can offer.



LIFT Ireland and Local Enterprise Office Wexford

LIFT Ireland is a social enterprise initiative aimed at increasing the level of positive leadership in Ireland that can impact across all aspects of business, culture and society. The Local Enterprise Office, in association with LIFT Ireland, as part of its International Women's Day activities offered a LIFT Round-Table Leadership Building Activity to event participants. Taking an innovative approach, the round-table activity was facilitated by Ramsgrange Community School Transition Year students, who are trained LIFT Facilitators as part of their TY programme. The programme was offered to the Women in Business Network and to date thirty-one female entrepreneurs have signed up to be trained as LIFT facilitators which LEO Wexford/LIFT Ireland will deliver in early May. Once the training is complete the participants will be enabled to deliver LIFT activities to their own businesses, peer groups and the wider community.





Export Readiness Programme 2023

LEO Wexford, to accelerate the growth of its clients, particularly to expand beyond the domestic market, has successfully delivered a half day Introduction to Export Programme. Ten businesses will be selected to participate in a follow on 6-month intensive export programme which will include training, market study visit and client meetings in targeted export markets. The tender for delivery of the programme has been awarded to Full Circle.

Student Enterprise Awards

LEO Wexford continues to promote an enterprise culture through the delivery of the Student Enterprise Programme and the County Final took place on Wednesday 9th March in County Hall.



The overall winner of the senior category was Organis3D from the CBS Enniscorthy. The senior category winner together with the intermediate winner, Positive Pots, Ramsgrange Community School and the junior winner, Wasteknot, CBS Wexford will go on to represent Wexford at the national finals of the Student Enterprise Awards May.



Upcoming Programmes/Events for April/May

Green Procurement Programme for Mentors and Trainers

LIFT Training for Wexford Women In Business Group

Enterprise Ireland/Local Enterprise Offices Regional Knowledge Sharing Event – hosted by LEO Wexford

National Student Enterprise Awards Final

Export Readiness Programme

PLANNING

Planning Applications

Numbers are those received from the 25th of February 2023.until the 24th of March 2023.

No. of valid applications	107
No. of invalid applications	8
Extension of Duration	3
Exempted Development Declaration	6

Numbers are those received from the 1st of January 2023 until 24th of March 2023

No. of valid applications	280
No. of invalid applications	20
Extension of Duration	8
Exempted Development Declaration	14

Pre-Planning Applications

Numbers are as follows up until the 24th of March 2023

No. of open pre-planning requests	84
No. of pre-planning meetings completed	107
Average waiting time to meeting	143 days

Building Control (25th February 2023 – 24th March 2023)

- Validated Commencement Notices: **34**
- Number of Building Control Inspections: **23**
- Validated Cert. of Compliance on Completion: **15**
- Number of Taking in Charge reports sent to the Districts **0**

Planning Enforcement

The number of planning enforcement cases as of 24th of March 2023 are as follows:

- Live Cases **351**
- Cases Opened from 1st January 2023 **52**
- Cases Closed from 1st January 2023 **25**

Planning CSO Returns 2023

Permissions granted for new construction only.

Month	Housing Developments (Total No. of units)	Apartments incl. Self-contained Dwelling Units (Total No. of units)	One-off Houses
January	50	3	26
February	15	1	17
March			
April			
May			
June			
July			
August			
September			
October			
November			
December			
TOTAL	65	4	43

* Figures to 28th February 2023

- Housing Developments = 2 or more houses (Total no. of units)
- Apartments include Self-contained Dwelling Units (Total no. of units)
- One-off Houses
- Permissions exclude outline, retention, change of plans and continuation of use

Forward Planning

Wexford Town Local Area Plan

A series of information meetings has commenced with the Members of the Borough District of Wexford to discuss the preparation of the new Local Area Plan for Wexford Town. These sessions will focus on the process for preparing the plan and the role, function and required content of the plan. They will enable the Members early input into both the strategic planning issues and critical parts of the process such as the Consultation Strategy for the plan.

Significant desktop research and field survey work has been carried out to inform the plan. Consultants have been appointed to carry out the Strategic Environmental Assessment, Appropriate Assessment and Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. Consultants have been appointed to prepare the Local Transport Plan and initiation meetings have been held with the consultants and the National Transport Authority.

The next stages will be the development of a Consultation Strategy, Issues Papers and Baseline Reports and the Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report (SEA Directive), Social and Community Audit and an Infrastructure Assessment Report requested by the Members.

The Draft Planning and Development Bill 2022 has been published and this will change the format of the plan. The planning section are reviewing the revised requirements of the Draft Bill and will advise further as soon as possible.

Enniscorthy Town Local Area Plan

Background work has commenced for Enniscorthy Town Local Area Plan. Quotations were sought for the Appropriate Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment, but no submissions were received. The Draft Planning Bill 2022 has been published and this will change the format of the plan.

The Planning Section are reviewing the revised requirements of the Bill and will advise further as soon as possible.

Built, Cultural & Natural Heritage

County Heritage Forum

The first meeting of the County Heritage Forum took place on the 28.03.2023, with a variety of stakeholders in attendance at County Hall. The County Heritage Forum is a non-statutory advisory group established by the council to assist in the formulation and implementation of the County Heritage Plan. The Forum includes elected representatives, representatives from the community sector and a range of organisations and state agencies with an interest in or responsibility for, the heritage of Co. Wexford.



County Heritage Plan Scheme funding

Wexford County Council has received funding from the Heritage Council for the following projects under the County Heritage Plan scheme: A phase 1 audit of the historic church and graveyard sites of Co. Wexford, a conservation management plan for St. Nicholas' of Clonmines, and facilitation for public consultation of the County Heritage Plan.

Historic Towns Initiative funding

Wexford County Council has received funding from the Heritage Council and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for the undertaking of a heritage-led regeneration plan for Enniscorthy.

Built Heritage Investment Scheme funding.

Building owners in Co. Wexford have been awarded grant support from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to undertake repairs to Protected Structures and vernacular buildings. The Built Heritage Investment Scheme is administered through Local Authorities. Projects such as thatch renewal, timber sash window repair and lime render replacement will be undertaken.

National Meeting of Heritage Officers

A national meeting of Local Authority Heritage Officers and the Heritage Council took place in Wexford on the 22nd and 23rd March. Over the two days Heritage Officers attended a variety of presentations and field trips and discussed diverse topics such as the threats presented by coastal erosion, climate and biodiversity loss, and the potential of urban regeneration, vernacular heritage and archaeological monuments to raise heritage awareness.



Planning Enforcement – Short-Term Letting

The cumulative number of short-term letting planning enforcement cases as of 24th of March 2023 are as follows: -

• Live Cases	13 (2020, 2021, 2022 & 2023)
• Cases Opened since 1 st January 2023	0
• Cases Closed since 1 st January 2023	0
• Inspections Carried out	0

Derelict Sites, Dangerous Structures and Vacant Sites

Report from 25th February 2023 to 24th March 2023 as follows:

- 7 property inspections/visits conducted.
- 1 Section 8.4 Notices posted on property.
- 1 Section 3.1 Notice posted on property.
- 1 Section 22.3 Notice posted on property.
- 4 properties submitted to Property Management for CPO appraisal.

Disability Access Certificates (DACs):

The number of valid DAC applications, for the period from 1st January 2023 up to and including 24th of March 2023, totals **21**.

Applications Districts	Total for Districts	Await Assessment	Further Info.	Granted	Refused
Enniscorthy	4	2	2	0	0
Gorey	11	2	4	5	0
New Ross	3	0	1	2	0
Wexford	3	1	0	2	0
Rosslare	0	0	0	0	0
2023 Totals	21	5	7	9	0

Disability Proofing completed as part of WCC Access activity.

Referrals	Total
LAC /PLAC & General Planning Applications	9
Major Pre-Planning (from 1st January 2023)	3

WATER SERVICES



**1. Uisce Éireann Asset
Delivery**

2. Minor Capital

**3. Rural Water
Programme**

4. Water Conservation



1. Uisce Éireann – Asset Delivery



Capital Schemes

Enniscorthy Network Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ A new gravity main for Mary Street➤ Ward & Burke are the selected contractors.➤ Contractor looking at alternative design for works at pump station.➤ Summer preferred start date.➤ Estimated costs €800,000 and €200,000(pipe fix).
Enniscorthy Intake and Vinegar Hill Upgrade Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Intake- land requirement and wayleave agreement, IW in consultation with owner➤ Tender review ongoing.➤ Looking to commence works end June 3023➤ Construction period Est 21months (Aug23-May25)
Wexford Drainage Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Complete drainage model of the Wexford Town foul drainage system.➤ A full detailed hydraulic model identifying all pipelines and infrastructure and deficiencies in the network.➤ Consultants Nicholas O'Dwyer appointed by IW.➤ Drainage infrastructure survey works complete in Wexford Town and Castlebridge.➤ Model verification complete, stage 3 to start Q2 2023
Gorey/Courtown Drainage Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Complete drainage model of the Gorey/Courtown foul drainage system➤ Consultants JB Barry appointed by IW.➤ Stage 1 complete, survey works to start Q2 2023➤ IW to include storm drainage system in model as part of the works.

Newtown WTP Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Upgrade to existing Treatment plant including improved raw water treatment, instrumentation and run to waste facility. ➤ Preliminary design complete, IW have appointed Glan Agua as part of their early contractor involvement programme to design and build the new works. ➤ Onsite work started March 2023, site clearance and set up ongoing, duration of 18months. ➤ Budget cost of 12million
Fethard-on-Sea Sewerage Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Preliminary Design for the project is now complete for issue to contractor for design and build. ➤ Uisce Éireann has advised that due to budget constraints, this project has been re-prioritised and will not go to construction in the near future. Uisce Éireann has advised that it will be 2023 at the earliest before this scheme is re considered for funding.
Creagh WTP Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Upgrade of existing treatment plant including Intake improvements at Pallas and Kilmichael, DAFF plant refurbishment and installation of UV treatment ➤ Onsite works started March 2023, project duration of 12 months. ➤ Budget of 2million
Gorey Regional Water Supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ New Water Treatment plant and storage site at Ballyminnaun Plant In operational phase with Glan Agua
Untreated Agglomeration Study (UTAS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Arthurstown, Ballyhack and Duncannon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This project is complete, and it is at final account stage with the contractor Sisk. ○ Sisk will operate this plant until November 2023 ➤ Plant was officially opened by the Minister on 2nd March 2023 ➤ Kilmore Quay <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Proceeding well Construction Works at plant progressed all concrete pours complete. ➤ Plant pipework commenced with electrical works commencing 2 weeks. ➤ Pipe laying almost complete with 15m of excavation left (through Rock) ➤ Currently overall 50% works completed. ➤ Forecast completion 22/8/23 (2 months over) ➤ Emergency works on outfall required, currently being priced.

Direct Labour Pipe Laying Crew	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mains Rehabilitation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Works continuing on 4km of mains on Duncannon Line and 2.2m completed. ➤ Awaiting further discussions for Directional drilling remaining with EI ➤ Diversions are in place, due to end March 23 ➤ Plans to start in the work at Curracloe in early April 23, 1km, road closures will be in operation.
Ferns Sewerage Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ IW Asset Planning Strategic assessment is programmed for first half of 2023 where long, and shortlist of upgrade options will be considered. ➤ Stage 2 will assess options and Stage 3 will bring forward detailed design and tender documentation.
STVGP – Small towns and villages growth programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ IW programme to deliver additional capacity to existing towns and villages serviced by IW. Wellington Bridge and Tagoat are included in national programme. ➤ Option reports complete for both projects with Uisce Éireann Delivery section now taking control of both. Outline design ongoing for both projects. ➤ First on-site meeting with designers at Tagoat held in February
Coolree Reservoir Rehabilitation works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Rehabilitation works to the embankment, spillway and valve tower at Coolree Reservoir ➤ Preliminary scope outlined with ongoing feasibility studies to determine best solution
Bunclody Water supply- Supply Demand Balance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hydrogeological assessment underway for improved Ground Water Resources for Bunclody ➤ Workshop -1 complete for upgrades to the existing plant to aid the current plant operation. Proposal is for new package plant to improve the resilience and capacity of Bunclody WTP ➤ Framework contractor appointed, start date TBC
Fardystown Phase 1 & 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Well rehabilitation works at Tanner Hill to progress via consultants HES to restore well output from this site. ➤ New wells proposed at Mayglass Church and Mulrankin to provide additional capacity for the Fardystown supply. ➤ New raw watermains will also be provided under this contract. ➤ Uisce Eireann will progress planning permission for the new well sites.

2. Minor Capital




IW Minor Water Schemes

- **Water Plant Generators**
 - Additional generators have been delivered for Fardystown wellfield borehole sites.
 - Design of stand-by generator for Castlemoyle WTP, New Ross is currently underway.
- **Treated Water storage programme.**
 - 3 sites in Wexford – Kilmallock bridge, Camolin and Killealy.
 - Kilmallock Bridge Reservoir planning granted; Tender award issued, start date TBC in the next month.

IW Minor Wastewater Schemes

- **Pump Upgrades**
 - Smart pumps have now been installed at Campile WWPS.
 - An order has been issued for new pumps and controls at Rosehill Heights WWPS in Rosslare Strand to improve resilience.
- **SCADA Upgrades**
 - SCADA upgrades at 2 No. WWTPs (Kilmuckridge and Bridgetown) will take place in April and May 2023.
- **WWTP Minor Improvement Works**
 - Upgrade works to improve resilience of the inlet PS at Ballymurn WWTP will continue in Q2 2023, with new pumps and controller now installed.
- **Invest to Save**
 - Funding has been granted for a new sludge press at Rosslare Strand WWTP, and installation and commissioning is now 90% complete on site and expected that operation will begin in May 2023.

IW Capital Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The budget for 2023 is currently set at €2.3m, with spend year to date at the end of February of €686,797.
Non IW Small Capital Schemes	<p>Ballinamorrhagh, Curracloe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Rehabilitation works are currently being priced for the secondary treatment plant.
DPI Resolution Scheme for Water Services Infrastructure	<p>Funding was granted by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government for the resolution of Developer Provided Infrastructure (DPI) Issues at 4 number estates in Wexford. Works to progress at these sites to remove the DPI and connect to the public network.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Kyle Close, Oulart- Water connection is complete with sewerage to follow in 2023. ➤ Mountain View, Ballindaggin- COF received from IW. Survey complete. Application made to Irish Water for connection. ➤ Gleann na gCaor, Monagear- Connection enquiry made. Design in progress ➤ Cois Cuan, Arthurstown- Design in progress ➤ Coolballow estate- Connection granted for decommissioning of DPI at Coolballow estate to connect to Wexford SS <p>Additional funding applications made for Farrin Carraig and Beach View estates in Duncannon.</p>

3. Rural Water	
Measure 2 - Public Health Compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Kilanerin GWS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hydrogeologist Final Report has been received and reviewed into the causes of high nitrate level within the extracted raw water from the GWS borehole. ○ Group Water Scheme discussing option of installing a nitrate monitor to give us access to reliable data for future solution. ○ Awaiting confirmation from the Dept. to reallocate funding to nitrate monitoring.

<p>Measure 3 – Enhancement of Existing Schemes including Water Conservation</p>	<p>➤ Blackstairs GWS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Storage Tank - Hydraulic model assessment has been undertaken by the Consultants. ○ A report has been provided and assessed. ○ Initial assessment is that a new storage tank is not the best solution. ○ GWS have reviewed and discussed at committee and have confirmed they are agreeable to recommended option. ○ Reservoir Bypass -WCC have been informed of potential additional costs required to carry out works. ○ A report has been compiled and submitted to the Dept.; the Dept. requested further information. ○ Additional reports were completed and submitted to the Dept. in December. ○ The Dept. have approved request for increased funding. ○ GWS liaison with Rep's & EPS to start works.
<p>Measure 5 – Transition of Existing Group Water Schemes and Group Sewerage Schemes</p>	<p>➤ Bing GSS – Community Wastewater Connection (CWwC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Departmental agreement to progress the scheme to tender stage. Works currently in development are land acquisition/wayleave maps. Permission from landowners to enter lands for SI investigations have been returned. ○ Returned tender price from contractors for main contract works shall be subject to final Departmental assessment and approval. ○ Site visit and meeting took place in June with the committee and landowners regarding pumping station sites. ○ 1 Pumping station site had to be adjusted due to flood plan in new County Development Plan. ○ Landowners have agreed to revised location of pumping station sites. ○ The community Grp are in communication with the Landowners with regards to cost of acquiring the land where the pumping station will be located. ○ SI e-tender documents being published start of April, will be completed by end of April. ○ Update given to Dept. on progress to date.
<p>Measure 6 – Community Connection Networks (Water)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MARWP 2022-2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Exploratory works have commenced for suitable projects for submission in the next round of the programme. ○ Expecting request for submission from Dept. April 2023

Measure 8 – Individual wells (private or household wells)	<p>➤ Individual Well Grants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A total of 19 new well grant applications were registered to date in March 2023. ○ 22 Well Grants have been paid in this period, totalling €47,968. ○ Workflow prototype has been developed to final stage and is currently being tested.
Measure A8 – Wastewater Collection & Treatment Needs for Villages & Settlements without access to Public Wastewater Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ New Advance Phase of MARWP 2022-2024 ○ Submissions requested from all local authorities. ○ Deadline 15th September 2022 ○ Matrix was constructed for Priority funding. ○ Limited to two applications ○ Feasibility studies submitted to the Department for Ramsgrange and Glynn for review by expert panel. ○ Further information regarding the option for Glynn was requested from the Dept. which has been submitted. ○ No update from the Dept.
Lead Remediation Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We currently have 3 grant applications on the revised scheme. ○ 1 been processed, 1 approval and ,1 approved for payment.

4. Water Conservation



Water Conservation	<p>➤ Consumption Countywide consumption for February 2023 was on average 44.19MLD. Overall consumption is still trending high following the cold weather spell in early December.</p>
Leak Detection & Repair	<p>➤ Leak repairs 53nr leaks were repaired by operational staff in February 2023.</p> <p>➤ Planned Operational Leak Detection (PLD)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Planned leak detection was focused mainly on Wexford town, Bunclody and Gorey town areas during February 2023.

Water Network Programme

➤ **Rehab**

- Wexford – Ballysilla to Lacken (Airfield Road project) – Work to be completed March 2023.
- Gorey – Cahore main rehabilitation project at commencement.
- Wexford – Ballinesker main install – SI completed February 2023.

➤ **Find and Fix**

- LA Find crews were concentrated on Wexford town supplies in February 2023.
- Acoustic loggers are deployed in Enniscorthy town centre areas. There is a dedicated UE RC crew assigned to monitoring and deploying these loggers.
- UE RC Find crews completed investigations in Gorey Irish Street area and moved onto Courtown North area.
- An additional RC Find crew commenced investigations in Coolgreany.
- 8nr F&F leaks were repaired by the LA in Wexford town, and 18nr repairs were completed by the RC in Gorey during February 2023

➤ **BYS Services**

Enniscorthy BYS works –

- St Johns Villas – new connection installed at Tennis Club. Final decommissioning due in March 2023.
- Ross Road – Main install commenced in February 2023.

Wexford BYS Works -

- School Street shared service project commenced in February; all service connections are installed. Final plumbing works are still ongoing. Works due to be completed in March 2023.

➤ **Pressure Management**

- Proposals for 2023 funding are currently being requested with UE.

➤ **Meter Installation**

- 5nr meters installed by RC in February 2023

➤ **First Fix**

- UE Regional Contractor, Shareridge are conducting ongoing First Fix investigations and repairs around the county.

ROADS & TRANSPORTATION

MAJOR NATIONAL ROADS PROJECTS

N11/N25 Oilgate to Rosslare Harbour

- Ground Investigation on-site works have started and will be ongoing for further 14 weeks.
- Environmental surveys, traffic studies and traffic modelling are ongoing.
- Archaeological Geophysical Survey Tender was published on 27th March 2023. Return date for Tenders is 28th April 2023
- Additional Topographical Survey Tender is expected to be published in April 2023.
- Development of the bridge options is ongoing.
- Engagement with the ESB/EirGrid is ongoing. Project Team was notified by the ESB that a viable solution to all conflict points identified between proposed alignment and ESB/EirGrid high/medium voltage lines has been achieved. Drawings from ESB/EirGrid are expected to come through in early April 2023.
- Engagement with the landowners is ongoing. One-on-one meetings with all directly affected landowners are taking place on 3rd and 4th of April 2023 in Ferrycarrig Hotel. Valuable information is expected to be collected at the meetings in order to finalise the design, which is required to determine the Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO).

N25 Rosslare Europort Access Road

An Bord Pleanála informed Project Team in late February 2023 that Oral Hearing in relation to the proposed road development and CPO is scheduled for 5th April 2023 due to two unresolved objections to the CPO received by the Bord, that Project Team was not made aware of.

The Project Team managed to resolve two outstanding objections in early March 2023, resulting in cancellation of Oral Hearing by An Bord Pleanála. Notification of cancellation was received on 14th March 2023.

Therefore, the position on this project remains unchanged and we are still awaiting a decision from the Bord. Revised anticipated decision date is 26th May 2023.

NATIONAL ROAD PAVEMENT SCHEMES

2022 Pavement Schemes

N25 Ballykilliane to Orristown Pavement Scheme

(Estimated Total Scheme Cost €2,000,000)

This scheme is 2 km in length and runs between the R739 Kilmore junction to the L7050 Orristown junction on the N25.

The contract was awarded on 24th October.

Drainage works were completed in March. This scheme is due to be completed by the end of April.

N80 Tomacurry to Ballycarney Phase 1

(Estimated Total Scheme Cost €2,000,000)

The total scheme length is 3.7km. The allocation from TII for 2022 allows for the first 2 km at the southern end to be completed in 2022.

The contract was awarded on 22nd November.

Pavement works commenced on 6th. February. The pavement works are substantially completed by the end of March.

2022 Safety Schemes

N25 Ballygillane Roundabout

(Estimated Total Scheme Cost €2,590,000)

This scheme was tendered in November 2021.

Works commenced on 23rd May 2022 and should be substantially completed by Mid April

2023 Pavement Schemes

N80 Tomacurry to Ballycarney Phase 2

(Estimated Total Scheme Cost €1,600,000)

This scheme is being designed at present. It is hoped to tender this scheme in April and construct the scheme in July and August.

N25 Orristown to Ashfield Cross Pavement Scheme

(Estimated Total Scheme Cost €1,600,000)

This scheme is being designed at present. It is hoped to tender this scheme in May/June and construct the scheme in September and October.

2023 Additional Maintenance Allocations

Wexford County Council will be applying for additional maintenance funding from TII in January 2023. This will relate to pavement repairs on sections of the N80 north of Ballycarney and sections of the N30.

Wexford County Council will continue to apply for additional maintenance funding for drainage and verge maintenance works on the N11, N25, N30 and N80.

A consultant has been appointed to carry out a drainage design for a section of the N25 between Barntown and Larkins cross that flooded twice since 25th December 2021. A preliminary meeting was held with the consultant on site in January. It is hoped to have a designed solution in place by the end of the first quarter of the year.

Former National Roads Grant 2023

2 applications were made under this scheme for 2023.

- R772 Tinnock to Gorey (1.4km)
- R723 Rosbercon (0.8km).

Funding of €500,000 was received for the R772 Tinnock scheme. This amounts to 50% of the scheme.

It is hoped to tender this work in the second quarter of 2023.

REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROADS

The Regional and Local Road Grant Allocations were announced on 14 February 2023.

Wexford's allocation was €22,811,650. This allocation includes €1,000,000 for Christmas day 2021 flood damage and €1,500,000 for the Deeps Bridge remediation works.

Resurfacing/Strengthening

The 2023 strengthening programme (Machinery Yard) commenced in the Enniscorthy District on 25 January 2023 at Bucks Bridge, Ballindaggan.

Roads resurfaced in macadam in the last month were:

Ballindaggin Village; Ballyhamilton; (Both in Enniscorthy District); Yoletown to Boley Junction; Fardy's Cross to Knockanduff Junction; Rosbercon; Garrycullen Cross to Saintkierans; (All in New Ross District); Scurloguebush; Richfield; Cleristown; Coramacorra; Twelve Acre to Trimmer; (All in Rosslare District).

Surface Dressing Works

The surface dressing programme is expected to commence in June.

Community Involvement Schemes

€502,650 was allocated in 2023. The Municipal Districts are finalising their programmes.

Local Improvement Schemes

€411,705 was allocated to County Wexford in Round 1, 2023. The Round 1 list has been approved by the Department.

Bridge Rehabilitation Grant

Wexford County Council was allocated €610,000 to repair 17 bridges in 2023. Work is scheduled to commence in the next month.

Christmas Day 2021 - Flood Damaged Bridges

Temporary Bailey Bridges are in place at Chapel and Cullenstown Little. Section 50 consents have been received from the OPW for the 3 bridges (Chapel, Cullenstown and Wilton). Detailed designs are in progress for all 3 bridges. Chapel and Cullenstown require Part 8 planning and will likely be concrete bridge beam construction. Wilton Bridge will be repaired as was (masonry arch) commencing in July. All 3 re-constructions will commence in 2023.

Specific Improvement Works – The Deeps Bridge

The Deeps Bridge Remediation Project – RPS Consulting Engineers Ltd was appointed as Project Supervisor for the Design Process in March 2021.

Glas Civil Engineering commenced work 9 January 2023. The project is progressing well. The bridge surface has been stripped down to the bridge deck. A retaining wall on the east side of the bridge has been constructed. Concrete repairs are in progress bridge with over 100 complete out of a total of 250. Encapsulation of the bridge is in progress. It is anticipated the works will be complete by the end of August 2023.



Deeps Bridge 2 March 2023

Winter Maintenance

The Winter Maintenance started 17 October 2022 and finishes 30 April 2023. There have been 54 treatments to Thursday 30 March 2023.

General Maintenance

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

ACTIVE TRAVEL

The Active Travel Team are currently in negotiations with the NTA regarding additional funding on top of the allocation announced on Feb 3rd, 2023.

The Section 38 process for Newtown Rd from the Hospital junction in towards Wygram Junction has commenced with a closing date for submissions to **24th April 2023**.

We had a productive quarterly meeting with the NTA on Wednesday 8th March to discuss and visit schemes under design and requested additional funding (€1m) where necessary.

We are progressing 3 no. Safe Routes to School (SRTS) from round 1, designed in house and consultation ongoing, Adamstown Scoil Naomh Abbann, Scoil Mhuire Rosslare, Saint Aidan's Enniscorthy. Section 38's are being prepared with a view to construction in 2023.

Round 2 Safe Routes To School to be progressed through An Taisce initially who carry out Parent Surveys and the first steps of consultation with schools. This results in an Outline Delivery Plan (ODP) which is the supporting documentation from the survey and audits carried out for the school. Active Travel then take this plan to develop it into a detailed design for the school.

School Name	Roll number	School Address	Eircode
Gorey Central School	19419s	Charlotte Row Gorey Co. Wexford	Y25XH11
Ramsgrange Community School	91431Q	Ramsgrange New Ross Co Wexford	Y34YY17
St. Patrick's N.S. (SN Phadraig)	17017L	CROSSABEG CO WEXFORD	Y35VY98

- R723 Oaklands to Kents Cross, New Ross which is for a Segregated Cycle Scheme, and which is at Preliminary Design Stage. The plan is to find the additional funds in order to take this scheme through the Part 8 planning process in 2023.
- Plans are being put in place for Bike Week 2023 which takes place next year between the 13th and 21st of May. Applications for funding for running events were submitted in early January 2023 and funding of €7,800 was awarded. A variety of events will be held around the County to promote cycling to all age groups and abilities.
- Introduction of Public E Bike Sharing Scheme Wexford Town in April/May – identification of parking places is now near completion and line marking and erection of signage will commence shortly. We require 45 parking locations spread across the town in residential areas and near shopping/university/bus and train station/ town centre locations to ensure the scheme is as user friendly as possible.

Presentation to Wexbug & Councillors

Members of WexBUG (Wexford Bicycle Users Group) attended a training day which took place on Friday 10th Feb. The aim of this presentation was to gather what matters to the cyclist when using these routes. We invited feedback and explained the design philosophies we follow when designing these pathfinder schemes.

The Active Travel team presented to Wexford District Elected Members on Mon 6th March at 3:30 p.m. on plans and design philosophies followed by Active Travel.

PUBLIC LIGHTING

LED Upgrade (Non-National Roads)

Over 12,000 lanterns have been upgraded to LED since the beginning of 2016.

Design works are completed.

Works are almost complete bar installing Led trays in the Heritage decorative lanterns across the county. It is hoped to complete the upgrade of these remaining lanterns on non-National roads and housing estates in the first half of the year.

A plan will be put in place to upgrade the remaining lanterns in housing estates that were taken in charge over the last 4 to 5 years.

Public Lighting Development Fund

Additional public lighting will be installed at the following locations under the Public Lighting Development Fund in 2023.

- Ramsfort Avenue Gorey – infill along by GAA pitch. Lighting design being carried out and quotations due in March.
- The Ballagh – Church to the school – Lighting design being carried out and quotations due in March.
- The Ballagh – Ballagh Cove to regional road. Lighting design being carried out and quotations due in February/March
- Wexford Town – Seamus Kelly roundabout to Spawell Road. 1 quotation received and further quotation due within the week. It is hoped to get this scheme awarded in early March. due in January.

Other locations will follow further to consultations with Municipal District Engineers.

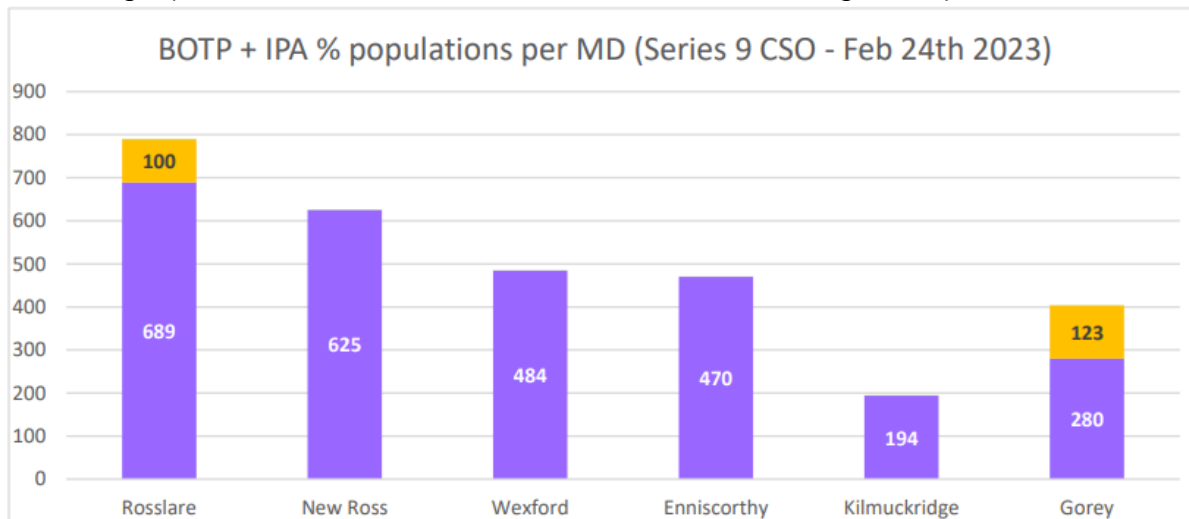
It should be noted that quotations are sought from the four recognised public lighting contractors in the country for these public lighting schemes. All four contractors are now working on the 3 National Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Programme (PLEEP) contracts across the country. This is leading to a delay in getting our Development Fund lighting contracts designed, tendered and completed.

UKRANIAN RESPONSE UPDATE

Population of Refugees & International Protection Applicants in Co Wexford Updated – February 24th 2023

Created using CSO Data (Series 9 Arrivals from Ukraine, Feb 12th 2023, with locally available numbers of people living in two Direct Provision Centres (Rosslare Harbour and Courtown in Gorey MD).

The graph below shows the absolute numbers of Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection (Ukrainians) in purple and the estimated number of International Protection Applicants in yellow using data latest available on February 24th 2023 from Central Statistics Office and local knowledge (IPA numbers via Direct Provision Centre Management)



The latest census data will be available shortly.

Ukrainian Community Response Forum

The next meeting of the Ukrainian Community Response Forum will be held on the 24th April 2023. It was agreed at the last meeting that the meetings will be held every quarter. The Community Response Forums are providing essential local engagement spaces for all of the public, non-profit and private bodies who are involved in the provision of services and supports locally. This forum ensures that all of these groups operating locally are working together for the best outcome for those in need of support.

Offer a Home

There was a small increase in offers due to our media campaign in March. The team continue to place displaced Ukrainian families in properties across Wexford, in both rural and urban areas, to date some 75 properties have been allocated.

Refurbishment Projects

Several pilot refurbishment projects are being investigated. They will either be owner led or developed by Wexford County Council subject to approval by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Other Initiatives

Community Recognition Fund

County Wexford has been allocated **€1,509,870** under The Community Recognition Fund. Details of the fund were circulated to the elected members, Municipal District Administrators, members of the Local Economic and Community SPC, the Ukraine Community Response Forum, the LCDC and PPN (Peoples Participation Network). The fund was advertised through local media, social media and on www.wexfordcoco.ie and expressions of interest invited. The closing date for expressions of interest was February 28th and the final date for receipt of applications by the Department is March 15th.

Over 40 expressions of interest were received and whilst not all met the criteria it has been possible to allocate funding to most of the eligible projects using the criteria of the scheme with an equitable allocation per district based on the latest CSO data. The final list of projects was submitted to the Department on March 15th and the announcement of approved projects is imminent.

CORPORATE ACTIVITIES

1. FOI OFFICE REQUESTS

Type	
Freedom of Information	13
Customer Complaint	12
Ombudsman Complaint	0
Access to Information on the Environment	3
Data Access Request	0
Total	28

2. PROCUREMENT SECTION ACTIVITY

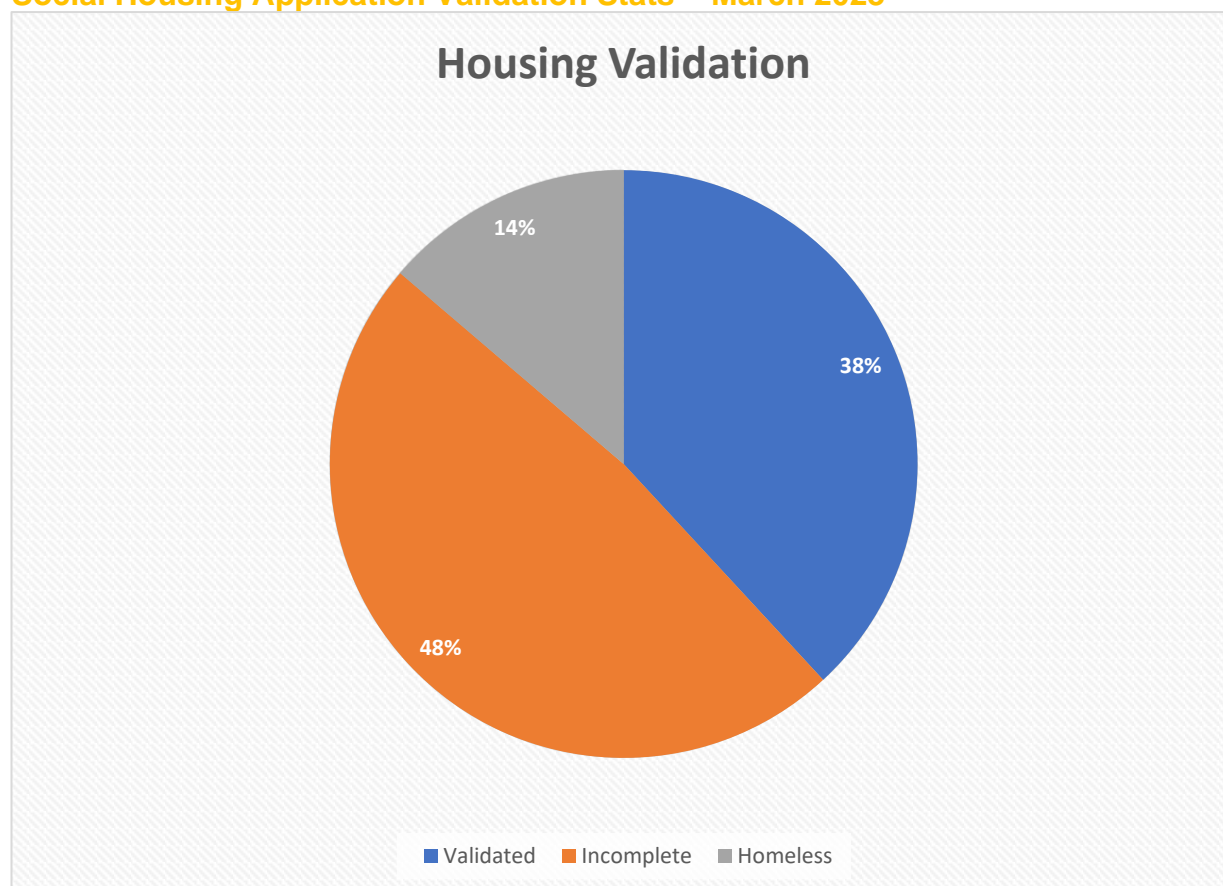
Tenders from 1st March, 2023 to 31st March, 2023

No uploaded	8
No of tenders received	22

3. CSU Stats – Phone Calls, Emails and Cases Handled – March 2023

Area	February
Phone Calls	4,608
Environmental Complaints	383
Change of Circumstances	31
Housing Validation	160
Quick Calls	2,957
Roads Fault Log	92
Emails (Received & Sent)	2,752
Web Updates / Consultations	62 / 11
Newspaper Adverts	87

Social Housing Application Validation Stats – March 2023



Members Portal Queries by Section – March 2023

Section	Closed	Open	Total
Customer Service	0	2	2
Enniscorthy Municipal District	0	5	5
Environment	1	8	9
Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District	0	5	5
Housing	17	97	114
Planning	0	4	4
Property	1	0	1
Roads	0	4	4
Roads – Enniscorthy MD	2	21	23
Roads – Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD	3	10	13
Roads – Rosslare MD	0	3	3
Roads – Wexford MD	0	8	8
Rosslare Municipal District	0	1	1
Water – Non Irish Water Queries	0	3	3

Water – Rural Water and Well Grants	0	1	1
Wexford Municipal District	0	2	2
TOTAL	24	174	198



Comhairle Contae Loch Garman Wexford County Council

Monthly Social Media Report Month: March 2023

Monthly Stats - Key terms explained



POST REACH

The number of people who stop and look at your post

STORIES REACH

The number of people who stop and look at your stories

ENGAGEMENT

The number of people who engage with your content, like it, share it, comment on it etc

PAGE FOLLOWERS

The number of people who follow your page updates but don't 'like' your page

PAGE LIKES

The number of people who like your page, but may not see all the updates you post

NEW PAGE LIKES

The number of people that have liked your page since your last report

PAGE VISITS

The number of people who have clicked into your social profile

MENTIONS

The number of times your page/profile has been mentioned/tagged by members of the public or other pages/profiles

IMPRESSIONS

The number of times your post was delivered to someone's social feed, but they didn't necessarily stop on that content **different to reach**

Top Performing Posts

Fire at Wexford General Hospital



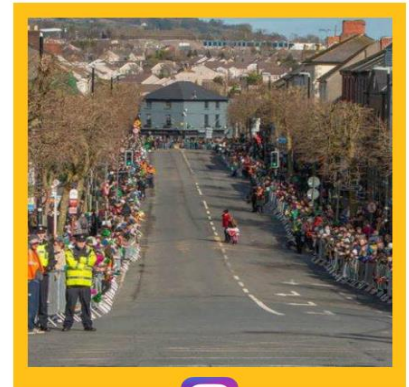
24.6K views

Fire at Wexford General Hospital



90.1K impressions

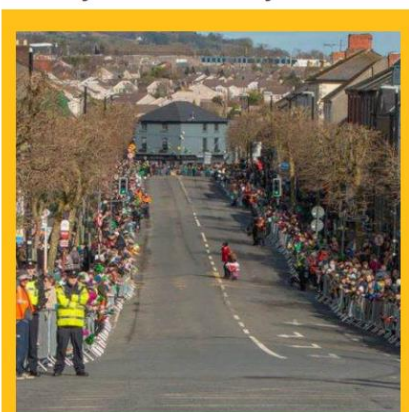
Gorey St. Patricks Day Parade



1.2K views

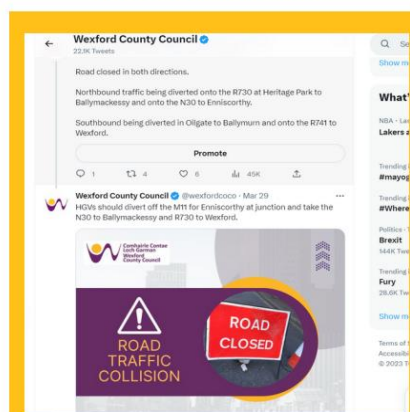
Top Performing Posts

Gorey St. Patricks Day Parade



18.4K views

Road Collision - N11



45 K impressions

Fleadh Cheoil Save The Date



1.1K views

Monthly Social Media Report for Elected Members
Month: February 2023

Monthly Stats -
Key terms explained

POST REACH

The number of people who stop and look at your post

STORIES REACH

The number of people who stop and look at your stories

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IMPRESSIONS

The number of times your post was delivered to someone's social feed, but they didn't necessarily stop on that content **different to reach**

Top Performing Posts

Firefighter Recruitment Campaign



13,920 views

Minister Eamon Ryan Visit



7,410 impressions

"Cara" Art Display for International Migrants Day



846 views

Top Performing Posts

Outdoor Trading Advert

Wexford County Council
Published by Jennifer O'Connor • February 22 at 12:56 PM •

Wexford County Council invites applications for the licensed use of outdoor motorised vehicles or other mobile facility offering refreshments for sale, including hot/cold non-alcoholic drinks, ice cream, snacks, at the following designated locations in Wexford Borough District for the period 1st April, 2023 to 31st March, 2024.

A. Wexford Quayfront - Maximum of 3 Units
B. Min Ryan Park - 1 Unit
C. Carraigfoyle Walking Trails - 1 Unit... [See more](#)

LICENCING OF OUTDOOR TRADING AREAS

- Wexford Quayfront - Max 3 units
- Min Ryan Park - 1 Unit
- Carraigfoyle Walking Trails - 1 Unit




5,256 views

Community Recognition Fund

COMMUNITY RECOGNITION FUND

Expressions of Interest are sought from community groups in areas hosting arrivals from Ukraine and other countries. Closing date is 28th February 2023.

For more information go to: wexfordcoco.ie/community/suppl...

Co. Wexford allocation is €1,509,870.

€1,509,870 allocated to County Wexford

Closing Date for Expressions of Interest 28th February 2023

COMMUNITY RECOGNITION FUND

For more information go to www.wexfordcoco.ie

Phone us on 053 9196000




2,103 impressions


Outdoor Trading Advert

Comhairle Contae Loch Garman Wexford County Council

LICENCING OF OUTDOOR TRADING AREAS

Wexford Quayfront - Max 3 units
Min Ryan Park - 1 Unit
Carraigfoyle Walking Trails - 1 Unit

CLOSING DATE - FRIDAY, 10TH MARCH, 2023 AT 4PM




776 views

SPECIAL PROJECTS

1. Projects at Planning Stages

1.1 Enniscorthy Town Centre & Tourism Project:

The Planning Department in collaboration with Special Projects has developed a strategic plan for Enniscorthy town centre, which was adopted at the Enniscorthy MD meeting in December 2022.

The public realm aspects of the tourism projects will form part of the Call 4 URDF application expected in the Q3 2023.

Moloney O' Bernie has been appointed to prepare preliminary designs and Part VIII planning application for the Market Square and the Castle Quarter by July and September respectively to support the Call 4 application for Enniscorthy.

1.2 Forth Mountain Activity Park – Phase 2 - Activity Centre Building:

Phase 1 – Forth Mountain Activity Park, Trails and Carpark is complete.

The activity centre building was lodged for Part VIII planning in March 2022. In response to a request from An Bord Pleanála for further information relating to the project was completed and submitted to the Board. The Part VIII planning application was withdrawn in October 2022. A process to procure a consulting team to prepare an EIAR and prepare a planning submission to ABP is now required.

The part VIII for the proposed boathouse and external toilet facility on-site was approved by WCC in February 2023 and the detailed design is progressing. The tender for works will be advertised in March and it is expected that a contract award will be made by August with a commencement on site by Sept 2023.

1.3 Min Ryan Park

Sole Sports and Leisure was appointed to construct the skate park and MUGA on a design and build basis. The MUGA and skatepark are now both complete and open to the public. Killaree Lighting Services is appointed to install public lighting to both projects, which will be commence in early April 2023.

1.4 Gorey District Park

The park is substantially completed and is now fully open to the public. The second invitation to tender for the Changing Places unit did not result in an award of contract. A third invitation to tender for the Changing Places unit has now been advertised on eTenders with tender submission due in April.

1.5 John Street Building Regeneration Project, New Ross

A portion of the grain store building has been purchased by agreement and the CPO for the remaining sections is now formally complete. ODKM Architects are appointed and undertook a preplanning meeting for the building in February. The Part VIII application for approval by WCC will be prepared and presented to the New Ross MDC at the May meeting with Part 8 to commence immediately thereafter.

1.6 Gorey Market House

As agreed at the December meeting of Gorey - Kilmuckridge MDC, WCC publicly invited Expressions of Interest in February 2023 for the re-development of the Market House. A Competitive Dialogue procurement process is being used to identify best options for a town centre development, including a performance space. Initial expressions of interest are due by 20th April. Stage 2 in this dialogue process will take up to 10 months to complete.

1.7 WEXFORDIA – Irish National Heritage Park (INHP), Hook Lighthouse and New Ross Tourism Projects

WCC secured RRDF Category 2 funding for the development of a cluster of tourism projects within the county.

Irish National Heritage Park: INHP

The tourism and environmental design teams for the INHP have commenced work on a preliminary design and the environmental assessments. It is planned to submit a planning application for the project to An Bord Pleanála in Q4 2023.

Hook Lighthouse

The tender competition for interpretative design services for the Hook Lighthouse was advertised in February with closing date for tenders on 30/03/23.

The Brief for the associated architectural and related design services was advertised in March. It is expected that the preliminary design and the planning applications will be completed in 2023 and submitted to ABP.

The environmental consultant has been appointed and is undertaking initial studies and investigative works.

New Ross Tourism Project

Tenders for the interpretive fitout on the Dunbrody Visitor Centre Experience has been received and a contract award is expected in April.

Tender documents for the development of the Norman Centre in the Old Bank/Murphy buildings for interpretive and architectural services will be advertised in March 2023 with appointments expected in May and July respectively.

1.8 Esmonde Street, Gorey

An on-site meeting took place with the Members in Gorey – Kilmuckridge MDC in February 2023 and proposals for the street were discussed. A presentation will be made to the Members in April. €2m of own funds is committed to the Esmonde Street project. It is then planned to proceed to detailed design, tender and contract award, with works to commence on site before end of 2023.

1.9 Rosslare Europort to Waterford City Greenway

The Economic SPC of Wexford County Council and the Transportation SPC of Waterford City & County Council have written to the Minister for Transport seeking inclusion of the out-of-service Rosslare to Waterford railway line in the impending national rail review.

The application for planning consent for the Rosslare to Waterford greenway project has been paused, pending the publication of the All-Ireland Rail Review, that will determine the future of the line.

The Rosslare Harbour to Rosslare Strand section is now being advanced as part of the Wexford Town to Rosslare greenway project.

1.10 Wexford Town to Rosslare Greenway

Fehily Timoney & Co has been appointed to provide consultancy services for a feasibility study, route selection, preliminary design and environmental assessments for the development of this project. Constraints have been identified and ecological surveys are on-going. The scoping and route options process is ongoing. Public consultation on the preferred route corridor options commenced on 11th May 2022 with submissions closing on June 10th 2022.

Fehily Timoney & Co has been appointed to review the route options for the proposed Rosslare Harbour to Rosslare Strand greenway in light of the significant coastal protection works which has been carried out over the past two years by Irish Rail. An ecological survey is on-going.

1.11 Old Dublin Road Business Park, Enniscorthy

In May 2021, outline proposals for the Old Dublin Road were presented to the Enniscorthy Municipal District. This was followed by a public consultation process in late June on the draft plan. The masterplan was presented to the Enniscorthy MDC's October meeting. The initial phase 1 works commenced in July/August 2022 and are now substantially completed.

An application for further funding has been prepared and submitted to the NTA, in conjunction with the Roads & Transportation Section, for the active travel elements of the masterplan.

1.12 Courtown Coastal Protection & Beach Nourishment Scheme

Following a competitive tender process, RPS Ltd was appointed to undertake the Preliminary Design and Statutory Consents Phase of the Courtown coastal protection and beach nourishment scheme.

Priority Geotechnical Ltd. is appointed to carry out the marine and land-based surveys and boreholes at Courtown. They commenced work on the May 2022 and the site investigation work is complete.

Marine profiling surveys will also be carried out in parallel at this time and this work is being carried out by Hydrographic Survey Limited. An application to the Marine Foreshore Dept., was submitted in December 2022, for permission to carry out benthic grab samples. This work will commence once approval is granted.

It is planned to submit an application to An Bord Pleanála for development consent in Autumn 2023.

1.13 Crescent Quay – Dredging

RPS Consulting Engineers have been appointed to provide design services for dredging works at Crescent Quay. The sampling and testing of the proposed dredge material, to inform the statutory consent process, is underway. It is planned to submit the statutory consent applications by Q4 2023.

1.14 Enniscorthy Sports Hub

O'Leary Sludds Architects were appointed in Feb 2021 for the detailed design, procurement of works contractor and construction management of the Sport Hub building. A competition to award a works contract for the sports hub building was advertised in May 2022. The lowest price tender opened for the project exceeded the available budget and no contract was awarded. A redesign process for the project is now underway, and the project will be retendered in Q2 2023.

1.15 Curracloe Water Sports Activity Facility

WCC received Stage 2 compliance approval from Fáilte Ireland for the development of facilities to support water sports activities at Whitegap, Curracloe. The project will include showers, toilets, changing facilities and lockers.

Following the tender process for design services in Jan 2022, Neville Conroy Architects is appointed. Surveying works and detailed design commenced in January 2023. It is planned to tender and commence works in 2023.

1.16 Ferndale Gymnasium, Wexford:

Sports Capital funding of €300,000 has been secured for this project, supporting a donation of €500,000 from William Neville and Sons for this project. Part VIII approved was received in 2022 and a design team is currently being appointed to prepare detailed designs and tender documents for the works. It is planned to tender for a works contractor by Q2 2023 and to commence works on site by Q4 2023.

1.17 Adoration Convent Wexford

Part VIII is in place for this project to convert the old convent into accommodation for students of Georgia Southern University Wexford campus. A design team appointment is approved by GSU. It is intended to tender in Q2 with works to commence before end of 2023.

2 Projects Under Construction

2.1 South East Greenway

Contracts for the works on Lots 1, 2 and 3 were awarded to Glás Civil Engineering and works are now substantially complete. Snagging works are currently ongoing.

The works have commenced on site, following a tender process, for fencing, public lights ducting and temporary car parks for the greenway section from New Ross to Glenmore.

The expected completion date is June 2023.

Contract for Lot 5a – Ferrybank to Curraghmore (5.5KM) was advertised in March with a works tender award is expected by July 2023.

Contract for Lot 4 – Mount Elliot will be advertised in October with works is expected to commence on site early in 2024.

Wexford County Council's Arts Office, in partnership with the Southeast Greenway Project Team, has commissioning designers 'Elements Of Action' with visual artist Aoife Banville, to develop a pilot creative public art project for the Raheen to Glenmore section of the greenway. This works is expected to complete prior to the opening of this section.

2.2 Trinity Wharf

The contract for the construction of the access road was awarded to Glás Civil Engineering Ltd, in January 2023 and works commenced on site in late February. The sod turning took place on site on 2nd March with Minister Darragh O'Brien and elected representatives.

Procurement of consultants for design services for the site development and public infrastructure works is underway. The preferred tenderer is identified, and the standstill period is in operation. The formal appointment of the design services consultant is expected in April 2023.

2.3 New Ross Emigrants' Park – Oil Tanks Site

This project consists of removal of the oil tank structures on the Quay and the development of public realm works on the site. The Advance Works Contract (Removal of Tanks) was complete in July 2021.

RRDF funding of €814,393 for the project was announced in November 2022. The main works contract has been awarded to MJS and works have commenced.

2.4 Mechanics Institute, Wexford

The works contract for essential maintenance works at the Mechanics Institute has been awarded to Roger Doyle Contractors and works commenced on site in January 2023. Works are expected to take 6 months complete.

2.5 Oyster Lane Site, Wexford

A Part VIII submission has been made for the demolition of existing unoccupied buildings on the old Tesco site, including the construction of a temporary surface level car park.

The Part VIII was confirmed at the March 2022 County Council meeting. O'Connor Sutton Cronin consulting engineers have been appointed to provide design and construction related consultancy services for the project.

The demolition contract has been awarded to John Tinnelly & Sons (Ireland) Ltd. Works have commenced on site.

3. Projects Delivered under the Economic & Community Development Programme

	Project	Date Delivered
1	Forth Mountain Activity Park – Phase 1: Trails & Carpark	2021
2	Enniscorthy Technological Park, Phase 1	2021
3	Old Dublin Road, Enniscorthy Active Travel, Phase 1	2022
4	Gorey District Park	2022
5	Min Ryan Park	2022
6	Wexford Arts Centre Extension	2022
7	Monck Street Enhancement Scheme	2022
8	New Ross Fire Station	2022
9	High Hill Norman Gardens, New Ross	2022



4. Flood Defence Schemes

4.1 Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme

Statutory Process - The Minister for the Department of Public Expenditure & Reform (DPER) issued his decision to refuse the scheme on 4th March 2022. Details are available on www.gov.ie. Following the decision, the OPW confirmed their commitment to delivering an effective scheme for Enniscorthy.

The Minister for State, Mr Patrick O'Donovan and senior officials from the OPW & WCC attended a special meeting of Enniscorthy MDC on 4th May 2022 to update the members in relation to the Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme.

Flood Defence Scheme - The hydrology and ecology baseline data is currently being updated. The scheme alternatives are to be assessed, consulted on publicly and a preferred option identified. MMD has issued a programme of work – the preferred option report & environmental assessment reports are scheduled to be completed in Q3 2023. It will be necessary to review planning options and the preferred planning mechanism selected.

New River Slaney Bridge - The ecology baseline data is currently being updated and the traffic surveys are complete. ROD has issued a programme of work.

4.2 Wexford Flood Relief Scheme

The contract for engineering and environmental services for the for the Wexford Town & Environs contract was signed by WCC and Nicholas O'Dwyer Ltd on 23rd March. Officials from the OPW, the sponsoring agency for the scheme, including the Minister Mr Patrick O'Donovan, attended. A preliminary cost estimate of €9.52m has been approved by the OPW for scheme, which will fully funded.

The appointment will include flood risk modelling; assessment of options for flood prevention; preliminary design; the preparation of planning and other statutory consent applications; detailed design; tendering for works contractors and construction management services.

HOUSING

Housing Supply

Capital Projects

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Current Position	Comment
Rosetown Phase 1	23	Rosslare	Under Construction	Waste and ESB connected. Testing and commissioning underway. Handover April 2023
Marconi Park	1 TAP	Enniscorthy	Under Construction	Due to complete in Q2 2023
Whiterock Hill Phase 1	22	Wexford	Under construction.	To complete in Q2 2023.
Women's Refuge	12	Wexford	Under Construction	Commencement construction contract Feb 2023
Rosetown Phase 2	12	Rosslare	Stage 4	Stage 4 approved March 23. Commence construction Q2 2023
Whiterock Hill Phase 2	22	Wexford	Stage 4	Stage 4 Approved To commence construction Q2 2023
Ballyhine, Barntown	7	Wexford	Stage 4	Stage 4 Approved Construction to Commence Q2 2023
Francis St.	2	Wexford	SS approved	Funding Approved March 23. Part VIII and prepare tender documents Q2 2023
Bullawn	3	New Ross	Single Stage	Contractor appointed for asbestos removal and demolitions of superstructure. Commence Demolitions April 2023
Wexford Street	30	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Stage 3	Stage 4 Application submitted to DHLGH March 2023. Commence Construction Q2 2023
Rosbercon	38 (est)	New Ross	Stage 2	Enabling Works tenders received. Seek Funding approval April 23. Appoint Enabling Contractor Q2 23.
Killeens	60	Wexford	Stage 2	Stage 2 Approved Feb 23. Lodge Part VIII April 23.
Creagh	22	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Combined Stage 1/2	Lodge application to DHLGH March 2023 for Design Build Delivery.
Monomolin	5	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Single Stage	Bundle Tender for 3 projects. Consultants appointed. (Bundle A - Monomolin, Ballygillane and Grogans Road). Submit Funding application Q2 23
Ballygillane	5	Rosslare	Single Stage	Consultants appointed. (Bundle A). Submit Funding application Q2 23
Grogans Road	4	Wexford	Single Stage	Consultants appointed. (Bundle A). Submit Funding application Q2 23
TOTAL	268			

Pre-Development Stage

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment	
Bride Street	3	Wexford	Single Stage	Demolitions complete. Consultants appointed. SS Funding application to DHLGH Q2 2023
Tagoat	18	Rosslare	Combined Stage 1/2	Lodge application to DHLGH Q1 2023 for Design Build delivery.
Adamstown	2	New Ross	Single Stage	Asbestos removal and demolition complete. Funding application to DHLGH Q2 2023 (Possibly 3 units)
TOTAL	23			

Longer Term Projects

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment	
Clonard	26	Wexford	A proposal has been submitted by a neighboring developer. Review programme for road delivery	
St Walerans	35	Gorey	Part VIII Approved. Appoint Project Management Q2 23	
TOTAL	61			

Other Projects (early feasibility)

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment	
Lacken TAP	1	New Ross	Surveys complete. SS submission Q2 2023	
Belvedere	6	Wexford	Single Stage Application in Q2 2023	
Creagh	24	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Sketch design prepared for site investigations and surveys.	
Group Housing TAP	5	Wexford	Levels Survey complete, Site Layout for discussion with stakeholders complete.	
TOTAL	36			

Affordable Dwellings

	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment	
Ramsfort Park	20	Gorey	Stage 1 expressions of Interest due April 23	
St Walerans	70	Gorey	Appoint Project Management Q2 23	
TOTAL	90			

Approved Housing Bodies

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Cluid			
Hewittlands, New Ross (LAGS site)	48	New Ross	DHLGH Approval in Principle received June 2022. Decision to Grant planning issued Dec 2022.
Bridgemeanows, Enniscorthy	12	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval Nov 2022. To deliver Q2 2023
Tuath			
Ramstown, Gorey	68	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	24 units delivered. Remainder to deliver 2023
Gleann an Ghairdin	24	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	To deliver Q2 2023
Co Operative Housing Ireland (CHI)			
Moongate, Clonard Rd, Wexford	38	Wexford	DHLGH Approval received June 2022. To deliver 2023
Cuil na Dara, Clonard (Ph 2.1 of Pairc na Daire)	25	Wexford	DHLGH Approval received June 2022. To deliver 2023
Pairc na Greine, Clonard (Ph2.2 of Pairc na Daire)	24	Wexford	DHLGH Approval received Sept 2022. To deliver 2024
TOTAL	239		

Support has been offered to AHB's for other proposals amounting to 457 units across all districts. These proposals are subject to Planning and Departmental approval.

Offers of Support for AHB Proposals (Subject to Planning and Departmental Approval)

District	No of Units
Enniscorthy	135
Gorey	158
New Ross	41
Rosslare	17
Wexford	106
Total	457

Part V Acquisitions

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Greenhills, Clonhaston, Enniscorthy	5	Enniscorthy	Delivered Q1 2023
Gleann an Ghairdin Ph 3	10	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	To deliver from Q2 2023.
Gleann an Ghairdin, Gorey Ph 4	10	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	DHLGH Approval Dec 22. To deliver from Q2 2024
Tobar Muire, Creagh Demesne	4	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	2 units delivered, 2 to be delivered by end of 2023
Spring View, Gorey Hill	11	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Under Construction. Amendment to planning permission being sought. To deliver on phased basis from 2023.
Ard na hAbhann, Newtown Rd	2	Wexford	Under Construction. Funding approval received May 2022. To deliver late 2023
An Glasan, Greenville Lane	8	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval Feb 22. To deliver from Q4 2024
TOTAL	50		

Turnkeys

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Tobar Muire, Creagh Demesne	39	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	10 units delivered. Remainder to deliver 2023
Castlelands, Ferns	20	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval received Jan 2022. Under Construction. Expected to deliver Q2 2023
Haughton Place, New Ross (includes 1 Part V)	13	New Ross	Expected to deliver 2024
Clonard Little (includes 1 Part V)	10	Wexford	Under Construction. To deliver late 2023
Cross St., New Ross	2	New Ross	DHLGH Approval Nov 22. To deliver Q2 2023
An Glasan, Greenville Lane, Enniscorthy	8	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval Nov 22. To deliver Q2 2023
Greenhills, Clonhaston	8	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval Nov 22. Delivered Q1 2023
Gleann an Ghairdin, Gorey	40	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	DHLGH Approval Dec 22. To deliver from Q4 2023
Forgelands, Old Forge Rd, Enniscorthy	2	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval Jan 23. To deliver Q3 2023
Churchview, Ballynaglogh, Blackwater (Ph2)	14	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	DHLGH Approval Feb 23. To deliver Q3 2024
TOTAL	156		

The Housing Dept. continue to periodically seek Expressions of Interest for the provision of social housing units via Turnkey acquisition. Future calls will be targeted at smaller unit types in areas of need identified in the Housing Delivery Action Plan (HDAP) and will include proposals for land. All proposals received by Wexford County Council are assessed by an Internal Assessment Committee.

Turnkey Proposals Currently with the DHLGH for Approval

District	No of Units
Wexford	2
Total	2

Homeless Services and Support Unit (HSSU)

An integrated Homeless Service Centre (HSSU) was opened in Wexford in 2019. The Centre offers homeless supports, advice and services in one location, with an emphasis on homeless prevention and supports. This is a collaborative initiative by Wexford County Council working in partnership with the HSE and Focus Ireland. Some of the main services being provided through the HSSU working in partnership with external state agencies and NGO's are:

WCC Services	Focus Ireland Services	HSE Services
Homeless Assessment	Tenancy Sustainment Services	Substance Misuse Outreach Services
Homeless Prevention and support services through early intervention	Housing First Project	Mental Health
HAP Place Finder Service	Advice & Information Service	Tusla Aftercare
Links to external agencies where appropriate		Tusla Domestic Violence Womens Refuge
Advice and information		

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

There were 315 calls to the HSSU from 1 st January 2023 to 27 th March 2023 the following is the breakdown of same:-	
241 (76.5%)	Provided with advice and support in relation to housing and homeless prevention
16 (5%)	Supported with temporary, short, medium and long-term accommodation and tenancy sustainment support through Place Finder and Social Care Workers
46 (14.5%)	Ineligible at the time presentation for housing/homeless services. HSSU advised and assisted to regularise housing situation.
12 (4%)	It was not possible to complete a full assessment.

Under the lifting of the winter eviction ban, the HSSU & Housing Section will continue to support households at risk of homelessness. The Housing Section will continue to maximise the opportunities available under the various schemes, including Tenant in Situ, Cost Rental Tenant in Situ and also where purchase is an option, the Local Authority Homeloan scheme and First Home Scheme.

Housing Maintenance

The following table shows the number of repairs carried out from 1st January to 28th February, 2023:

Repairs	Enniscorthy	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	New Ross	Wexford	Rosslare	Total
Repair Requests (1 st – 28 th February 2023)	138	88	118	120	71	535
Repair Requests Year to Date	292	199	290	286	171	1238
Accommodation Units Repaired (1 st – 28 th February 2023)	108	71	86	88	86	406
Accommodation Units Repaired Year to Date	219	151	211	199	156	903
CLOSED Repair Requests (1 st – 28 th February 2023)	103	62	84	89	50	388
CLOSED Repairs Requests Year to Date	218	125	204	194	115	856

Note: The housing maintenance requests do not include duplicate calls for the same job, the ihouse system only records individual repair jobs.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT LEADER PROGRAMME



LEADER FINANCE PERIOD – 01/03/2023 – 29/03/2023

The Article 48 team processed 8 LEADER claims in March. The value of these claims were €98,921.93 which will support 5 community groups and 3 enterprises in County Wexford.

These claims can be broken down as follows:

Promoter Paid	Claim Payment
1. Barntown Community Centre	€13,101.35
2. Oliver Kelly	€14,760.00
3. Trudie's Catering Kitchen Ltd.	€15,600.00
4. Marshalstown Community Centre	€11,917.50
5. Wexford Arts Centre	€20,862.05
Total	€76,240.90

Payment Processed:	Payment Value
1. High Meadows Community Hub CLG	€2,734.90
2. Oulart Hill Development Group	€9,222.07
3. Robert O Connor	€10,724.06
Total	€ 22,681.03

JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE MEETING - *County Wexford Joint Policing Committee*

A hybrid meeting of the Joint Policing Committee took place. on the 13th of March 2023. The agenda included all statutory agenda items including a *Garda Division Update,*

Preventative & Operational Policing from Detective

Inspector David O'Sullivan and report of Gardaí interaction with the Municipal Districts.

This meeting was the first opportunity for the JPC members to meet recently appointed Chief Superintendent Derek Hughes to the Wexford and Wicklow Garda divisions, the meeting also included a joint presentation from the Environment Department and the Gardaí regarding 'Animal Control in County Wexford'.



The next meeting date of the Joint Policing Committee is scheduled for the 12th of June 2023.

LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (LCDC) MEETING –

2 hybrid meetings of the Local Community and Development Committee were held on the 24th and the 28th of March 2023.

The main items discussed included –

- *The Local Economic Community Plan 2023 – 2028.*
- *Leader Programme 2023 - 2037*

Also included in the March 24th meeting, *the Community Support Fund (CSF) 2022*, county Wexford has been allocated funding under the scheme by the Department of Rural and Community Development, which is aimed to help communities and voluntary groups to continue to provide valuable services to the people in their area, and in the process strengthen the bonds that tie communities together.

The application process was open until the 28th of February 2023 with applications limited in value to €5,000 per group. Over 226 applications were received, with the members of the LCDC approving funding of €340k across county Wexford.

The next meeting date of the committee is to be agreed.

WEXFORD LOCAL ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY PLAN (LECP)

A comprehensive series of public consultation events for the Wexford Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) took place throughout March across the County.

The aim of the engagement, to build up a detailed on the ground understanding of county Wexford – its existing strengths and constraints, as well as opportunities available to the county and to generate ideas in relation to objectives and specific actions as well as associated KPIs which will be included in the first 2-year implementation plan.

Consultants from KPMG Future Analytics and members of the Community and Economic Development departments visited all municipal districts to engage with all stakeholders with additional online events also taking place.

In addition to this, a series of structured interviews, workshops and focus groups were held with key stakeholders including council representatives, sector representatives, state and semi-state agencies and elected members, private sector bodies, and key business groups.





With a series of one-to-one online meetings, focus group workshops to be arranged late March and April.

Wexford Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme

Work has been completed on the following Capital Enhancement Projects:

- Taghmon playground
 - Hard landscaping of the soft surface of the playground. New surface to include sensory/design elements.
 - Cleaning and painting of equipment.
 - Supply and installation of a universal design carousel with space for both a wheelchair user and other children to sit or stand.



- Fairgreen playground, Enniscorthy
 - Supply and installation of a universal design carousel with space for both a wheelchair user and other children to sit or stand. Works included groundworks for installation of equipment and soft surfacing.



Work is ongoing on the callinestics project in Maudlintown and the access works and equipment in Ferndale, Wexford town. Work is due to commence shortly on the new playground in Oilgate.

Enniscorthy Learn to Cycle Park

The official launch of the 'Learn to Cycle Park' in Enniscorthy takes place on Friday 31st March. The Wexford Slaintecare Healthy Communities Programme are delighted to be one of the main funders of this project.





Healthy Wexford

Healthy Ireland Round Four Funding

Following clarifications and feedback to Pobal we await approval of our Round Four Funding for 2023-2025. Approval of our 2022 return is also still outstanding and both are expected in early April.

Period Dignity Funding 2023

Following Expression of Interest for 2023 we have secured funding from Department of Health to continue to provision of free period products to those who need them, with product available at the five Family Resource Centres, at our five Public Libraries and in County Hall. Fund allocation to relevant sections and organisations is currently underway for 2023.



Recent Healthy Wexford Activity



The third to the **Country CONNECTS** monthly walks took place in Kilanerin on 26th March.

The April walk is planned for 30th April in Rosslare Harbour

Walks are open to all and full details available on Wexford Walking Trails website <https://wexfordwalkingtrail.ie/>

Our Healthy County Committee members attended the **Wexford LECP Consultations** across the county and as a committee made a written submission to the process.

We also promoted the event on our social media platforms to encourage public and stakeholder participation in the process.



In early March new fabric banners were made available to the District Offices for use at **'Not Around Us' Supporting Events** across the county. The aim is to make the 'Not Around Us' ask for smoke and vape free spaces for the children and young people attending more visible at supporting events.

One of the key events targeted in March was the St Patricks Day Parade and we were delighted with the visibility of the banners in many of the parade photos.

The **Mental Wellbeing Working Group** is progressing on its workplan and met again on 15th March to update on activity progress and finalise plans for the year. Planed activity for April includes some localised Social Connection pilot activities.

The **Healthy County Coordinator** continues to engage regionally and locally with March seeing attendance at the 'Spotlight on the Region' EU Funding Event, Wexford County Council Staff Engagement Events, and a regional Healthy Ireland /Slaintecare South East regional meeting in Waterford.

Celtic Routes

Celtic Routes and Wexford County Council hosted a European Territorial Cooperation meeting on behalf of the Southern Regional Assembly in the Council Chamber on the 8th of March. With over 50 delegates registered, Cathaoirleach George Lawlor gave an enthusiastic welcome to the delegates, with the Project Officer giving an entertaining presentation during the course of the event.



Learning Journeys to Ireland from Wales were a resounding success from the 21st to the 23rd of March, with 12 businesses from our Partner areas in Wales attending. They had a very full and tight agenda visiting over 8 businesses and Partner areas over the three days. Feedback to date has been very encouraging. Irish Partner area businesses are visiting Wales from the 28th to the 30th of March.



Dundalk Chamber held their first in person Cross Border Tourism Conference in the beautiful surroundings of the Four Seasons Carlingford on the 29th of March. With over 200 booked, in the event was a resounding success. The event brought experts together from various Tourism projects around Ireland and the UK, chaired by Kieran Swail of the Southern Regional College with Brendan McSherry Heritage Officer with Louth County Council chairing the question and answer session. Speakers were: Oonagh Messette – Celtic Routes Project Officer, Wayne Denner of 10th Step, John Fitzgerald Glass Box Events, Frazer Coupland of Lochaber Chamber of Commerce and Pól Ó Conghaile – Travel Editor with the Irish Independent.



A total of 4 Virtual Reality headsets will be purchased for each of the partners including the Wexford County Council partner, loaded with the Celtic Routes 360 degree drone footage of the Project area and hopefully made available to the Library Services at the beginning of September following the Project closure. There will be capacity on these headsets for a lot more content to be added.

Upcoming coverage includes – Press Trips for the Celtic Routes entirety from The Sun, Le Monde and Lonely Planet Germany; Social Influencers for the Celtic Collection specifically from Germany, France and the Netherlands and 4 UK and Irish influencers with an additional 3 press trips.

Ancient Connections

Awarded Tenders

- WCC Heritage Interpretation Budget: Digital Information Kiosk contract for the design, supply and installation of an Outdoor Digital Interactive Tourist Information Display Kiosk (hardware and software) in Ferns, Co Wexford, awarded to All Vision Media €16,285.00
- WCC Heritage Interpretation Budget: Interpretation and content management contract for Digital Kiosk to be awarded to Enjoy Enniscorthy, and consultant Ronan O'Flaherty, Cranebag Media, with negotiated direct to market process, after non-response by market to eTenders offer.

• **Events**

The project has held the following events during this reporting period and in total to date has had **15,118 participants**:

Jan 12th	Perein Wyf Online Event – Song and Story in Wexford and Beyond
Jan 27th	Pilgrim Way - Reconnect in North Pembrokeshire
Jan 26th	Refreshers course for TA and Welcomers training
Jan 25th	Dig Ventures online presentation
Jan 30th	Perein Wyf Online Event – London Irish Choir event

Jan 31st	St Aidans Feast Day - Water from the St Mogues well travels to St Nons
7th Feb	Perein Wyf Online Event – A Story to Call You Home
17th Feb	Tourism Ambassador Refresher training
13th Feb	Pererin Wyf Online Event – Y Casgliad / The Gathering
23rd Feb-30th Mar	<i>Sift</i> Exhibition Small Arts commissions PEMBS
17 th Apr – 19 th May	<i>Sift</i> Exhibition Small Arts commissions WEXFORD (County Hall)
Jan - Mar 2023	Weekly Enterprise and Innovation training at Ferns Community Centre by SLR Consulting
11 th /12 th March	Pilgrimage Symposium (Enniscorthy): 150no. participants

- **Volunteer Hours** - €141,643.81 in-kind support in total since the project began. This is 77% of the amount we need to reach by the end of the project (€183,514.00).
- **Finance** - Claim 8 has been submitted and approved.
- **Destination Marketing** – Phase 2 “Re-connect” campaign ran throughout January/February 2023. focusing on promoting the pilgrim route, including Sky AdSmart, Out of Home ads, Radio, Digital Strategy and Social Media/PR.

Social Media:

Project social media analytics to date from the start of the project to February 2023.

Facebook		
	Page Views	6,970
	Page Previews	N/A
	Page Likes	1,228
	Post Reach	477,425
	Post engagements	31,054
	Page Followers	8,273
	Number of Posts	397

Twitter		
	Number of Tweets	327
	Tweet impressions	209,147
	Profile Visits	29,354
	Mentions	652
	Number of Followers	661

Instagram		
	Number of IG Grid Posts	73
	Number of IG Stories	225
	Number of followers	5058
	New Followers in this period	124

PPN

Wexford PPN's Resource Worker Monica Gaynor transferred to the Planning Dept. Monica's replacement is Ian Ludlow, who has joined Wexford County Council from Waterford City & County Council. Wexford PPN held the monthly Secretariat Meeting, as well as an Emergency Secretariat meeting and Workplan/Budget meeting.

PPN Municipal District meetings have commenced, the first one held at the Brandon House Hotel, New Ross. Next ones scheduled are Rosslare and Wexford, with Gorey and Enniscorthy dates to be confirmed.

The following PPN Representatives have been appointed:

Breda Flood – Healthy Wexford

Caoimhe Dunn – County Wexford Heritage Forum

Peter O'Connor – County Wexford Heritage Forum

Anne Sharry – Nominated for Housing & Community Strategic Policy Committee

PPN Representatives are currently being sought for vacancies on the Economic Development & Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee and New Ross Town Centre First Committee.

SPORTS ACTIVE

Women's Yoga

A free 4-week women's yoga is taking place in Wexford Library on Wednesdays at 2pm. Every week the yoga class is reaching full capacity (8 females) with more names on a waiting list.

Hike in Forth Mountain

Due to unfavourable weather conditions during 'Women in Sport' week, the hike in Forth Mountain was rescheduled to Wednesday 29th of March. 12 females registered to attend this event.

Men's Movement Class for WCC staff

The 6-week men's movement class finished on Wednesday March 29th with 3 staff attending each week in Faythe Harriers.

Activator Pole Walking

A 4-week activator pole walking programme is currently being delivered for an older adult group in Oulart Hill on Fridays. There are 12 people attending on a weekly basis. 8 females and 4 males.

Strong and Steady

Strong and Steady has now begun delivery in Astro Active Enniscorthy on Wednesdays at 11:30am. There are 7 participants in this class each week. 2 males and 6 females.

'Hello, How Are You?' Walk in Tintern Abbey

As part of the 'Hello, How Are You?' Campaign by Mental Health Ireland. Sports Active Wexford are supporting this by delivering a walk in Tintern Abbey on Thursday 30th March. Currently there are 7 people registered for this event. These participants attend Havenview MHID service and Windmill Therapeutic Intellectual Disability Services.

Swimming Group for children with disabilities

The 5-week swimming programme for children with disabilities finished on Monday 27th March in the Apex New Ross. There were 6 children attending on a weekly basis. 4 boys and 2 girls.

Walking Football

16 participants from Reach Ability are attending the 5-week walking football programme in Astro Active. This started on March 2nd in partnership with the FAI. 5 females and 11 males.

Football for All

22 participants from Reach Ability are attending Football for All with the FAI in Astro Active on Thursdays at 12pm. 20 males and 2 females.

Women's Couch to 3km

A couch to 3km programme was delivered in partnership with Wexford Local Development. There are 20 females in the first group. Due to high demand a second programme began delivery on Tuesday 21st March in partnership with WLD and Triathlon Ireland. 11 females attended the second group.

Augmented reality 'Nature Walk' App

All focus group interventions have taken place. The Walton Institute are currently developing a prototype based from customer exploring feedback. Next stakeholder meeting will take place on Friday 24th March.

Safeguarding

5 x Safeguarding 1 Courses have been completed in 2023 with a total of 85 participants.
2 x Safeguarding 2 Courses have been completed in 2023 with a total of 21 participants.

The Equine Therapy Project

The Project has been Shortlisted for two national awards, The Aonans star(Finalist) and the All-Ireland community and council awards under LAMA, Best Mental Health Initiative. This category celebrates outstanding and inspirational initiatives across Ireland starting in the community.

Staffing

The new Community Sports Development Officer Nicola Collins will begin her role on 11th April

Staff Training

One staff member is attending Accelerate Management Programme on an ongoing basis.

Federation of Irish Sport Awards

Huge congratulations to Denis Cadogan from Horeswood GAA and Handball, named the 2022 County Wexford recipient of the Federation of Irish Sport Volunteers in Sports Awards which is supported by the 29 Local Sports Partnerships



Our Couch to 3K ladies in Min Ryan Park



Denis Cadogan from Horeswood GAA receiving his Irish Sports Volunteer Award in Dublin

ENVIRONMENT

A. COASTAL MATTERS

Harbours -

In April 2022, Department of Ag, Food & Marine (DAFM) announced funding of 23 projects with a total construction cost of €1.4m in Co. Wexford under a new scheme to develop works on LA harbours, called the Brexit Adjustment Local Authority Marine Infrastructure (BALAMI) 2022 – 2023. The DAFM approved a second tranche of funding in December 2022, with a total between first and second tranches of 25 projects with total construction cost of €1.79m. The DAFM funding has increased from 85% to 95%, with Wexford County Council paying the 5% match funding on construction. Note that WCC must pay all non-construction costs including design, environmental reports etc.

Fethard Harbour – New Slipway and Beach Access. Consulting engineers are appointed to progress the detailed design. A planning application was lodged with An Bord Pleanála with a

notice published in the paper on 1st March 2023, observations and submissions can be submitted up to 21st April 2023. This development is part of the above BALAMI scheme.

Ports Past and Present: There is ongoing engagement with the Rosslare community, artists, and our project partners in University College Cork and two Welsh universities. The street in County Hall will host an exhibition of work created by Irish and Welsh artists for the Ports Past and Present. The artists turned their creative vision to the often-overlooked port communities around Rosslare Harbour, Fishguard, Pembroke Dock, Holyhead and Dublin. The exhibition is open until 14th March 2023 and features sculpture, audio, photography, drawing, print, digital, film, poetry and storytelling. Regular updates and further information are available at <https://portspastpresent.eu/>

ISPS requirements for Marshmeadows Jetty have been approved for dry cargo operations. The process to extend certification for liquid cargoes is ongoing.

The regularization of the public lighting system on the Barrow is ongoing, new lights have been fitted to Marshmeadows access road and Jetty.

Upgrade works to the Jetty in Marshmeadows including, fendering, public lighting, CCTV and security fencing are significantly completed. New business has been generated with the arrival of the barge “Pompei” on 12th March. This is the first new business for the port in over a decade.

Beaches –

Ballymoney Blue Flag Beach – Access for All and Age Friendly Improvement Works. Wexford CC confirmed funding of €160,000 towards accessibility and age friendly improvement works which include the beach access and accessible toilets.

Rosslare Strand – Bearlough: 2 new disabled car spaces at the entrance to Rosslare Burrow Holiday Park are completed. These spaces will provide access to the beach along the new macadam path that was constructed in 2021.

Coast -

The Environment Dept monitors the coastline regularly, focussing on erosion risk areas. In addition, there has been a drop in beach levels at many beaches as a result of winter storms. We will also continue to monitor this and expect the beaches to recover over the next number of months.

Rosslare Coastal Erosion and Flood Relief Scheme: Nicholas O'Dwyer Ltd Consulting Engineers is appointed to progress the scheme. Key design parameters for the scheme are being finalised. Flood and erosion options are being developed and it is expected that public consultation days will be held in the coming months.

The project website and project email are now live and can be accessed at <https://www.floodinfo.ie/rosslarefrs/>
There is provision on the website to email the project team with specific queries.

Seaview, Kilmore: emergency works to protect the access road were completed in Jan 2022. Ecological, bathymetric and seabed surveys on the overall coastal protection scheme are complete. University College Cork is undertaking coastal modelling. A planning application will be submitted to An Bord Pleanála which will include coastal protection works and a new beach

access, the application is being prepared for submission. A meeting with residents was held on 10th March to give an update on this scheme.

Lady's Island Water Level Management Structure – An Bord Pleanála granted planning permission for this development, dated 3rd Sept 2021. Foreshore licence application has been lodged and is under consideration by the Dept of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Kilmannock Drainage Scheme – this is a land reclamation and drainage scheme dating from mid 1800s; draining approx 1,000 acres of land near the Great Island Power Station. Environment Dept carried out clearance / maintenance works at the drainage embankment area in Dec 2022. Survey works at the outfall point to the River Suir were carried out in February 2023 to determine the operation of the outlet valves on the drainage system. Further works are required to make the drainage scheme fully operational.

B. PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

All public conveniences are now re-opened.

Public Conveniences	Open	Comments
Slade	All Year	
Dunncannon	All Year	
Cullenstown	Seasonal	
Kilmore	All Year	
Carne	All Year	
Bunclody		New Caretaker starting 21 st November 2022
Rosslare Strand	All Year	
Ballyconniger	Seasonal	
Ballineskeer	All Year	Now Opened All Year following Building Extension
Curraclloe	All Year	
Min Ryan Park	All Year	Lot of Vandalism in Baby Changing Room
Vinegar Hill - Dryloo	All Year	Replace damaged Roof
Carrigfoyle	All Year	Anti-Vandal Steel Container delivered 18 th October
Morriscastle	75% of Year	
Courtown	All Year	
Ballymoney	All Year	Tender Price Received for Universal Access Toilet
Baginbun – Poratloo's	All Year	Percolation Test to be carried out
Cahore – Portasloo's	All Year	
Carcur – Portaloo's	All Year	

C. WATER, AIR & NOISE

1. Septic Tank Inspections:

139 inspections were carried out in 2022. Wexford had a minimum of 106 inspections to carry out in 2022. All work carried out is external with no requirement to enter a dwelling. Contractors are currently carrying out work on several sites to close outstanding Advisory Notices. A minimum of 130 inspections will have to be carried out in 2023.

Progress is being made with closing existing open files. All files up to the end of 2016 have been closed. 101 files were closed during 2022. 68 extensions of time were granted in 2022. There are currently 56 open files for the years 2017-2021 and 32 open for 2022, a total of 88 open cases. 17 files have been closed in 2023.

Three applications for grant assistance have been received this year to date all of which have been put forward for payment.

Year	Number of inspections	Pass	Fail	Outstanding	Closed in 2023
2019	156	48	108	14	0
2020	111	38	73	9	1
2021	91	24	67	23	3
2022	139	50	89	32	9

There are currently 9 cases in the Court system for failing to comply with Advisory Notices. 5 of these are for hearing and 4 are currently for mention.

2. Air Quality:

Vehicle Refinishers: At end of 2022, 59 facilities were registered with Wexford County Council under the “Deco Paints” Regulations, which is now the largest number in the country. WCC issues Certificates of Compliance to these facilities and issues “On the Spot Fines” of €500 where illegal operators are identified on foot of enforcement investigations – see Table below. The additional facilities were identified on foot of targeted enforcement action in 2022.

Dry Cleaners: At end of 2022, 8 Dry Cleaners and 1 Medical Device Company were registered with Wexford County Council under the “Solvents” Regulations. WCC issues Certificates of Compliance to these facilities – see Table below. Due to targeted enforcement action in Q3/Q4 of 2022, a new category of facility is due to be added to this register in Q2 of 2023.

Petrol Stations: At end of 2022, 80 sites were registered with Wexford County Council under the PVE Regulations, which is the largest number in the country. WCC also issues Certificates of Testing to these facilities under these Regulations – see Table below.

No. of Certificates of Compliance Issued:

Category of Facility	No. Issued in 2021	No. Issued in 2022	No. Issued in 2023 (to end Feb)	No. of On the Spot Fines Issued (to end Jan)
Vehicle Refinishers	19	24	8	0
Petrol Vapour Emissions	22	22	2	N/A
Solvents	3	5	0	N/A

3. Planning

The Environment Section makes an assessment and recommendations on planning applications relating to the environmental aspects of the application.

The main issues regarding the impact of planning on the environment which have arisen in recent years are as follows:

- 1) Density of housing.
- 2) Applications for extensions and upgrades of existing houses on sites where the soil is unsuitable for discharge of wastewater via a domestic wastewater treatment system.
- 3) Applications for detached granny flats and other detached ancillary accommodation.

As of the 28th February 2023, 191 files were referred to Environment from the Planning Department.

4. Duncannon EIP Project

Wexford County Council is currently lead partner in the Duncannon Blue Flag Farming & Communities Scheme. We were successful in receiving funding of €550,000 to run this project for 3 years. We were successful in a 12 month extension to the project for 2022 and further funding awarded of €171,197. In December 2022, the operational group applied for a final 5 month extension until May 2023 and were recently awarded this extension by the DAFM.

The project continues engaging with 35 farmers covering over 950ha of the 1300ha catchment. To date, engagement with all farmers continue with approximately 4 visits to each farm every year where baseline and final "Pollution Potential Zone" surveys are carried out.

The project runs a results-based reward scheme where an annual payment is made to each farmer based on their PPZ survey which ranges from €1,000 & €4,000. The farmer can also avail of a water protection improvement works grant which can be used to carry out like fencing watercourses, establishing arable grass margins, resurfacing clean yard areas, hedgerow establishment, riparian margins etc. To date, the EIP project has paid €320,000 in annual payments to farmers while funding of approx. €35,000 has being paid to farmers that have completed works. It is expected that final works will be completed on lands by 31st April 2023 and sampling under the EIP monitoring programme will be completed in February 2023.

No. of farmers	35
No. of visits/ engagement	620
Area signed up to EIP	955HA/1300HA
Km's fencing of watercourses	5.4km
Establishment of arable grass margins	1200m

D. WASTE MANAGEMENT

1. Recycling Services:

Bring Bank Network –

WASTE CATEGORY	No. of Sites February 2023	Recycling out (End February) 2022 (t)	Recycling out (End February) 2023 (t)
Glass bottles		622	620
Aluminium Cans		16	14
Total	109	638	634

Household Recycling Centres –

Summary of Activities								
WASTE CATEGORY	Enniscorthy		New Ross		Holmestown		Gorey	
	Recycling out Jan-Feb 2022 (t)	Recycling out Jan-Feb 2023 (t)	Recycling out Jan-Feb 2022 (t)	Recycling out Jan-Feb 2023(t)	Recycling out Jan- Feb2022	Recycling out Jan - Feb 2023	Recycling out Jan-Feb 2022	Recycling out Jan-Feb 2023
Total Recycling out	105	102	109	114	135	134	86	84
Total Domestic Waste in	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	229.980	432.800	N/A	N/A
Daily Average Customers Jan-Feb	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023
	65	67	118	121	116	155	84	86

2. Rapid Response Crew

Our Rapid Response Crew operates out of Holmestown, with one two-man crew servicing Enniscorthy and Gorey Municipal Districts and a second servicing Wexford, Rosslare and New Ross Municipal Districts. Their headline activities for year to date are summarised below:

Activity	<i>To end Feb 2022</i>	<i>February 2023</i>	<i>To end February 2023</i>	% +/-
Total Illegal Dumping/ Clean Ups	426	195	443	+4%
<i>Gorey *</i>		<i>42</i>		
<i>Enniscorthy *</i>		<i>50</i>		
<i>Wexford *</i>		<i>29</i>		
<i>New Ross*</i>		<i>60</i>		

<i>Rosslare</i>		<i>14</i>		
Total Bring Site Inspections	1,571	952	1,780	+13%
<i>Gorey</i>		<i>231</i>		
<i>Enniscorthy</i>		<i>228</i>		
<i>Wexford</i>		<i>287</i>		
<i>New Ross</i>		<i>155</i>		
<i>Rosslare</i>		<i>47</i>		
Total Ringbuoy Inspections	2,676	1,338	3,016	+13%
<i>Gorey</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>398</i>		
<i>Enniscorthy *</i>				
<i>Wexford*</i>	<i>South</i>	<i>940</i>		
<i>New Ross*</i>				
Other Works	1,140	426	745	-35%
<i>Gorey</i>		<i>102</i>		
<i>Enniscorthy</i>		<i>119</i>		
<i>Wexford</i>		<i>59</i>		
<i>New Ross</i>		<i>114</i>		
<i>Rosslare</i>		<i>32</i>		

3. Waste Facility Permits:

We currently have sufficient permitted facilities throughout the county, such as Clean Soil and Stone, construction and demolition sites, ATF's / End of Life Vehicles and Pay to Use Waste Compactor Unit. The full list of Waste Facility Permits and Certificates of Registration can be viewed on the Council's website.

Altogether there are 67 registered operational Waste Facility Permits and Certificates of Registration for premises involved in waste management activities in the County. There are 2 applications being processed at present, one new application and one renewal.

4. Enforcement:

The Waste Enforcement Team carries out routine (planned) and non-routine inspections of waste facilities and problem sites or site where we have received complaints. This work is done in accordance with the Recommended Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections (RMCEI) as submitted to the EPA on 28 February 2023. The 2023 RMCEI Plan allocates 6,597 routine inspections by 22 Full Time Equivalent staff members. The inspection types cover the WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) Regulations; ELV (End of Life

Vehicles) Regulations; Waste Management (Packaging) Regulations; Household and Commercial Food Waste Regulations; Batteries, Tyres, Mercury etc.

The Department of Environment, Climate and Communication have set national waste priorities for 2022 to 2024, a three-year target and they are.

- Tackling significant illegal waste activity,
- Construction and Demolition Activity,
- End-of-Life Vehicles (ELV) & the Waste Metal Sector,
- Waste Collection – Household & Commercial.
- Producer Responsibility Initiatives and additional local priorities.

1 LITTER/WASTE MANAGEMENT

Total fixed penalty notices issued	TOTAL FOR 2022	TOTAL FOR JAN-FEB 2023
Fines Issued (All Fixed Penalty Notice Issued)	229	38
Fines Paid in Full●	111	9
Fines Cancelled/Proceedings Discontinued/Struck Out*	83	22
Successful Prosecutions** (Litter fines & WPBL fines)	43	3
Legal Proceedings In Progress (Litter fines & WPBL fines)	49	54
Amount Collected in Fines -total	€18,530.57	€1275
Amount awarded via the Court system (fines awarded) - overall	€5230	€650

* Other fines may be paid prior to the hearing or withdrawn for evidential or legal reasons.

- Includes income from all Fixed Penalty Notices

February 2023:

One successful prosecution occurred in Gorey District Court under the Waste Presentation Bye-Laws 2018 whereby a fine of €150 and costs of €550 were awarded. Two successful prosecutions under the Litter Pollution Act where a total of €350 and €250 in costs were awarded.

Litter/Waste Enforcement Activity 2009-2023(February)

	Fines Issued	Court	Reports
2023	38	3	487
2022	229	43	2188 (down 20%)
2021	100	19	2721 (down 15%)
2020	213	20	3187 (up 15%)
2019	341	13	2758 (down 9%)

2018	324	22	3050 (up 15%)
2017	218	27	2651 (Up 12%)
2016	274	17	2,354 (up 22%)
2015	242	17	1,927 (up 11%)
2014	154	17	1,732 (up 10%)
2013	140	15	1,571 (up 21%)
2012	182	16	1,292 (down 3%)
2011	209	17	1,329
2010	370	27	1,338

F.GENERAL

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 2019	Jan to Dec 2020	Jan to Dec 2021	Jan to Dec 2022	Jan – Feb 2023
Incidents	4749	4999	5136	3896	809
Closed	4536	4733	4870	3230	488
Closure Rate	95%	95%	95%	83%	60%

Control of Dogs & Horses:

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

Control of dogs	2020	2021 (to 31-12-21)	2022	2023 (Feb)
Dogs collected	532	429	546	Not available
Dogs reclaimed	127	133	117	Not available
Dogs re-homed/transferred	373	267	370	Not available
Dogs put to sleep	32	29	51	Not available
Dog Fines	5	18	21	Not available

There are now 27 registered Dog Breeding Establishments with several applications on hand awaiting inspection.

To date in 2023 one horse has been seized.

Environment Education and Awareness:

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

Green Schools: St Edan's NS, Ferns, New Ross Educate Together National School and Colaiste Bride, Enniscorthy have applied for their first Green Flag on the Litter & Waste theme. An assessment will be carried out in these schools and a report forwarded to An Taisce. Approximately 32 schools will renew their flag this year and deadline for renewal applications is Friday, March 24th, 2023 for the 2022/2023 academic year. In total 92 primary schools and 18 secondary schools have been awarded the green flag. A talk was given to all 1st years in Colaiste Bride on Waste prevention and waste segregation on 7th February.

Wetlands Exhibition Workshop: On Friday 3rd February 37 students from Our Lady's Island National School, Broadway visited County Hall and were given a tour and workshop around the Coastwatch Wetlands exhibition. Students from Selskar College also attended the Coastwatch Citizen Science Wetlands exhibition for World Wetlands Day on Thursday 2nd February.


Marram Grass Planting Workshop: A Marram Grass Planting Workshop took place on Tuesday 28th February with a group of 28 students from Ramsgrange Community School. The workshop outlined the importance of our sand dune system, how to harvest marram and replant it. The workshop was facilitated by Aidan Gray, Clean Coasts Officer with An Taisce.



Climate Action School Workshops: We have engaged with Createschool on the Rubbish Film Festival to work with 5 secondary schools. Each school has created a short one minute film and a poster on an environmental issue of their choice. The films and posters will now be judged and A County Award of Best Film, Best Runner Up Film and Best Poster will be chosen. The County winners will be announced on April 18th online. All participating schools have been notified and sent an invitation to attend this online event. The County winners will be forwarded to the National Awards which will be held on the 3rd May in Solstice Arts Centre, Navan, Co Meath.

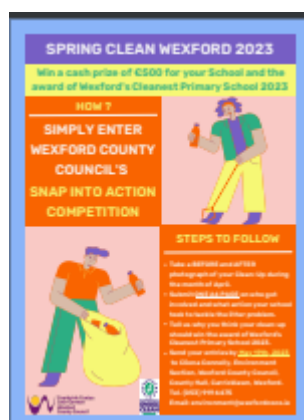
National Tree Week: National Tree Week takes place March 19th – March 26th and the theme this year is 'Biodiversity Begins with Trees'. We have been provided with 500 native saplings for distribution to schools and community groups during National Tree Week.

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

	Date	No. of Community Clean Ups
	February 2023	129
	Jan – Feb 2023	208

National Spring Clean: Registrations are now open for An Taisce's National Spring Clean.

Snap Into Action Competition: Details of the Snap Into Action Competitions are now available on our website. Details of the school competition has been circulated to all primary schools. Closing dates for schools and community groups is May 19th, 2023. The winning school and community group will each receive a prize of €500.



Community Engagement: Community talks are ongoing. Environment will participate in the Energy Expo organised by Sustainable Enniscorthy on Wednesday 25th January in Riverside Hotel, Enniscorthy.

Clean Coasts Roadshow: Clean coasts roadshow took place on Tuesday 28th February at 7.30 pm. at the Stella Maris Community Centre, Kilmore Quay. Over 50 were in attendance. Ivan Donoghue of Wexford Sub Aqua Club gave a fascinating talk and powerpoint presentation 'What Lies beneath Wexford's Coastal Waters'. This event was co-hosted by An Taisce's Clean Coasts and the Environment Section of Wexford County Council in partnership with Tomhaggard Clean Coasts Group.



100 Million Trees: On 17th February Gorey District Park was planted with 1000 native trees as part of 'The 100 Million Trees Project'. The project is a new national community-driven initiative developed by brothers, Richard and David Mulcahy, which aims to see the planting of 100 million native Irish trees across the island of Ireland throughout the next decade to reverse the environmental damage caused by the reduction of forests worldwide. The project's ambitious aim will be achieved through densely planting between 1,000 and 2,500 native Irish trees at a time across small areas of land using 'the Miyawaki method'. Named after Japanese Botanist, Professor Akira Miyawaki, who developed the technique in the 1970s. By planting excess trees together, they grow considerably faster, denser, are more biodiverse, and most importantly create a very rapid carbon sink and provide excellent areas of biodiversity. Gorey District Park is the fifth site to be planted, Tintern was planted in November and Bride Street Church in December.



Dog Fouling Awareness Campaign: The 'Bag It Bin It' will be reinforced by a social media campaign to run from early March. The campaign is set to firmly emphasize that dog fouling is your responsibility as a dog owner. The campaign will address a range of issues surrounding dog fouling, from its effect on the public who use our streets, parks, and beaches, to attitudes to cleaning up as dog owners, from health issues to civic pride. The campaign will reach across social media and local community groups and Tidy Towns groups will be asked to share images on social media.



Green Dog Walker: The Green Dog Walker Campaign is continually being promoted and registrations are through the website.

LIBRARIES, ARTS & ARCHIVES

Libraries, Archives and Arts CE Report to Wexford County Council,

April 2023

My Open Library New Ross

The second My Open Library service in the County opened in New Ross during March and was officially launched in New Ross Library on 29th March by Councillor Michael Sheehan, Cathaoirleach of New Ross Municipal District.

My Open Library is open 7 days a week from 8am to 10pm, 365 days a year. It is a fully automated service with swipe access by library card and PIN. Usual library services (borrowing, returns, printing, WiFi, internet access PC) are available on an automated self-service basis during My Open Library hours. Already there has been very good uptake of My Open Library membership in New Ross and feedback from users, especially students, has been positive.

Borrow a Biodiversity Kit

This March, the Heritage Council launched their Citizen Science Kit Pilot Programme, an initiative to empower people living in ten counties across Ireland to collect information about biodiversity in their local area. Through the programme, people can borrow specialised equipment from Wexford Town library and use the kit, which includes nets, magnifying glasses and swatches to help identify species and collect valuable data.

The initiative was launched on the 3rd of March, World Wildlife Day by Councillor George Lawlor, Cathaoirleach of Wexford County Council. It is expected that the kits will be used by individual students looking to conduct their own research, amateur ecologists wishing to produce their own biodiversity action plans and by community and youth groups such as Tidy Towns, The Rivers Trust, Field Clubs, Scouts, Guides and Transition year students, who want to gather information to bolster local biodiversity projects.

The data collected by people in Wexford, will be recorded and uploaded to Irelands National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC), who collect and manage data and information about Ireland's changes in biodiversity and identify areas of conservation concern. In time, this submitted data will inform conservation strategies and provide evidence for policy decisions.

Sensory Friendly Quiet Hour and Autism Awareness Day, April 2nd

April is Autism Awareness month. Wexford Library Service has purchased some additional resources for families to use during Sensory Friendly Quiet Hour. Sensory puzzles, puppets, DUPLO and emotion/feeling/memory cards will complement the Sensory Friendly Quiet Hour which runs from 4-5pm each Saturday in all our branches. Dark dens, sensory book and toy resources, and new story sacks are all available for use in the branches. There are also a large range of sensory books, toys and assistive resources available to borrow and enjoy using at home.

Seachtain na Gaeilge 1st to 17th March

Seachtain na Gaeilge le Energia is an international Irish language festival and celebration of our native language and culture. All library branches hosted events including a community evening of songs, stories & poetry in Gorey a Comhra as Gaeilge and a traditional music session in New Ross; sean nós dancing workshop and drama workshop for children in Wexford; stories with Sadhbh Devlin in Enniscorthy and stories and games as Gaeilge in Bunclody.

Irish Astronomy Week 20th to 26th March

The inaugural Irish Astronomy Week took place this March. The goal was to inspire people of all ages to connect with the universe and to promote appreciation and understanding of the night sky. To celebrate Astronomy Week, New Ross and Bunclody libraries hosted The Moon, with Dr. Donnacha O'Driscoll. Wexford Branch provided two Astronomy Week Events for schools, A Flying Tour of Our Solar System with Dr. Donnacha O'Driscoll and The Artemis program and returning to the Moon with John Hackett.

National Tree Week 19th to 26th March

Organised by The Tree Council of Ireland and supported by Coillte, National Tree Week is designed to inspire people to plant and care for trees and to highlight the many benefits they provide to our environment and local communities. Wexford Branch hosted Irelands Forests; Past, Present and Future with Frances McHugh of Teagasc.

Dublin One City One Book – Wexford Author Andrew Hughes

A book by Enniscorthy native Andrew Hughes "The Coroner's Daughter" has been selected as the One City One Book for Dublin in 2023. One Dublin One Book aims to encourage everyone in Dublin to read a designated book connected with the capital city during the month of April. Wexford Libraries will partner with Dublin City Libraries to host an author reading of the book in Wexford Library on 6th April.

Community

ALONE support Co-Ordinators hosted an information gathering at Gorey Library. ALONE strives to enable older people to age at home, safely and securely for as long as they wish.

Wexford Volunteer Centre's development and placement officer Eva Law held an information evening about Volunteering with organisations the Soul Sanctuary, ALONE and Gorey Special Olympics in Gorey Library.

A group from Reach Ability, and their support workers attended a morning cinema event in Enniscorthy branch again March 15th

BEAM Bunclody Rehabilitative Training Programme - Providing training to adults with special needs, visited the library weekly to borrow books and use the public pcs and hublets.

Environment

A two-part Upcycling sewing workshop in Enniscorthy Library focused on teaching participants how to safely operate a sewing machine and participants brought along an item of clothing from home to learn a basic alteration or upcycling technique. Students from Ballindaggin NS and their teacher are undertaking the The Butterfly Mosaic Project as part of the ECO-UNESCO Young Environmentalist Awards. Their focus is on the need to promote quality wildlife habitats for endangered butterflies. The project will be on display in Bunclody Library from 23rd March for four weeks. Bunclody Library presented Spring and Summer in the Irish Garden with Maria Ryan of Bell Meadow.

Health and Well Being

Gorey and Enniscorthy Libraries presented Registered dietitian Liz O'Leary who delivered a talk 'Eating Well for Menopause' as part of Healthy Ireland at Your Library programming. Bunclody Library held a Talk on Perimenopause with Rosanne Cahill, Menopause Coach.

Hello How Are You? On March 30th

Hello How Are You? On March 30th is a national campaign by Mental Health Ireland to help connect people and encourage open conversations about mental health. The national campaign highlights the importance of staying connected, helps tackle loneliness, creates a sense of belonging, and builds relationships. It also encourages early help-seeking by providing information about local supports and services.

Enniscorthy library created a display of relevant library books and offered resources e.g., conversation cards to members of the public. An Activator Pole Walking Demonstration with Sports Active Wexford was held in the Library Park, New Ross. Further sessions are planned for May. World Nutritionist Declan Gilmore gave a talk on Nutrition, Exercise, Water and Sleep in Wexford Branch focusing on the four pillars of nutrition, exercise, water, and sleep. Wexford Branch presented an International Women's Day Yoga & Wellbeing Event with Sports Active Wexford.

Adult Events

A History of the GAA in 100 Objects with Dr. Siobhan Doyle was held in Wexford Library. Wexford Science Café held a lecture Talk with Immunologist Cliona O'Farrelly, professor at Trinity College Dublin and Wexford resident on Why do some People not Get Covid Infection?

A History of the Wexford Wildfowl Reserve with Grace Bettayeb took place in Wexford Branch where Grace discussed the dredging of the harbour right up until the rare Greenland white-fronted goose began to use the Slob as a wintering ground.

Ben Barnes, artistic director of Four Rivers and former artistic director of the Abbey Theatre spoke about his life and work in theatre and opera.

Business and Employment

Mintel Future Trends with Brian O'Connor

This Online event highlighting the 5 key trends that will impact the consumer landscape now, next, and in the future, was held in Enniscorthy and Bunclody libraries. Mintel's Global Consumer Trends 2023 combine global market and data analysis with impactful insight to provide a high-level overview of the key motivations and challenges that lie ahead for consumers.

Alan Maher provided a talk on CV Skills with tips on how to produce a good CV in New Ross Library.

Heritage

On Thursday March 23rd North Wexford Historical Society held their monthly talk in Gorey Library. Brian McMahon, manager of ESB Archives gave an illustrated talk on 'Electrifying Rural Ireland from 1946' with a particular emphasis on Wexford and the Gorey area.

Bunclody hosted Genealogy for Beginners with Celestine Murphy where attendees were given useful tips and information on how to get started in genealogy.

Services to Ukrainian Nationals

Gorey informal English-speaking lessons continued throughout March each Thursday morning. Ukrainian users from New Ross WWETB paid two visits to the library where they availed of a tour of the facility and resources available to all service users.

Free English classed for members of the Ukrainian Community were delivered by volunteer tutors in Wexford Branch. Every Friday morning throughout March, three groups of Ukrainian adults and volunteers were introduced to the services available in Wexford Branch with library tours, information talks on services, and the range of free resources available. All adult visitors were provided with library membership card. Recorder Sessions for Ukrainian Adults were provided by volunteers on Monday mornings in Wexford Library. Distribution of information on library resources and e-Resources to Ukrainian Nationals continues in all branches. Our literacy App for children LOTE4Kids ie digital children's books in Languages Other Than English, is being actively promoted to Ukrainian Nationals as is Transparent Language Online our online language resource which gives access to over 110 languages including English for speakers of over 30 other languages.

World Book Day 2nd March

World Book Day was created by UNESCO as a worldwide celebration of books and reading. World Book Day is marked in over 100 countries around the globe. To celebrate World Book Day libraries give specially selected books to children of all ages to bring home to keep during the month of March. Forming an early habit of reading will greatly improve a child's life chances. There were events held in all branches to coincide with World Book Day (WBD)

STEPS Engineers Week Sat 4TH to Friday 10TH March

Run by the Engineers Ireland STEPS programme (Science, Technology and Engineering Programme for Schools), STEPS Engineers Week, gives children the opportunity to discover engineering through their teachers, parents, libraries and local community. The main aim of the week is to promote engineering, and to show the importance of the profession, to children in Ireland.

Enniscorthy and Bunclody libraries hosted Anyone 4 Science who presented Forces: Test the Strength of Jelly Sweets. In New Ross Library three local schools attend three workshops for Engineer's Week with the Nutty Scientists on Water and Power. Gorey Library hosted two workshops by Anyone 4 Science about Ice Cream Science, while Wexford Branch held the Nutty Scientists Balloon Hovercraft event with a local school.

ARCHIVES

Collections management

In addition to 43 research enquiries via email, telephone and post, a total of 6 researchers visited the Archive during March. Research topics included images and history of the opera train in the Wexford Festival Opera archive (1955-80); class-based assignments for Junior Cycle students on the Tuskar Rock plane crash (1968) and on the number of people admitted to Wexford workhouse during the famine years (1845-48); references through the county council minutes to the Garden of Remembrance at the old Gaol, Hill Street, Wexford (1980-85); research through the handwritten notebooks of Patrick Keegan, Irish Volunteer (1914-18).

Outreach

The Archive continues to collaborate with other heritage organisations in the county to publicly display some of its important artefacts. Wexford artist Francis Danby's [1793-1861] copy painting of Titian's *Allegory of Marriage* was given on temporary loan to the Irish Heritage Trust in late March for display in Johnstown Castle. Danby had studied for a period in Paris in the late 1830s and was inspired by the Titian painting which hung in the main hall of the Louvre Museum. His painting had been gifted to the former Wexford Corporation in 1939 by the granddaughter of William Gibbons who had originally commissioned Danby to execute a copy of the painting in 1838.

The Archive collaborated with UCD's Irish Poetry Reading Archive for the Poetry as Commemoration project, which sought to inspire members of the public into writing poetry based on archival material relevant to the War of Independence and Civil War periods (1919-23). Two afternoon workshops took place in the Archive's reading room in Ardcavan with seven attendees, some of whom were established writers and some novice writers and overseen by poet, Mark Granier. A selection of documents, photographs and objects from the Archive's collections were showcased and formed the basis of some of the themes that were used. The final output will be made available online through the Irish Poetry Reading Archive's website in due course. This has been an invaluable way of engaging the public with local archives and it is hoped to build on this connection with the greater community of writers, poets and artists in the county.

ARTS

Small Arts Festival and Fáilte Ireland Festival Grants Scheme 2023

The Arts Department of is pleased to announce that €47,000 (Small Arts Festival - €25,000 and Fáilte Ireland Festival - €22,000) has been awarded through our grant scheme for Small Arts Festivals and Failte Ireland Festivals taking place in County Wexford during 2023.

This year the Grant Scheme was broken into 2 strands:

- **Small Arts Festival 2023**
- **Fáilte Ireland Festival 2023**

These Schemes supports a diverse range of festivals throughout Wexford County. The focus was on festivals of high artistic quality that are innovative and have a strong emphasis on public engagement and visitor experience. A total of 21 festivals were awarded funding out of a total of 33 applications.

Failte Ireland Grants Scheme 2023

The O'Neill Ancestral Trust; Rockin' Food & Fruit Festival; Enniscorthy Street Rhythms and Dance Festival; North Wexford Traditional Singing Circle; Duncannon Village Renewal Group; Leo Carthy Weekend; Rosslare Harbour Festival 2023; Bannow Folk & Traditional Society.

Small Arts Festival Grant Scheme 2023

The Wexford May Bush Festival 2023; Gorey.pl Polish Cultural; The Gap Arts Festival 2023; The Gorey May Bush Féile; 2 Many Dance Moves; New Ross Piano Festival; FuddleFest; Jazz at Johnstown; Write By The Sea Literary Festival; SpringMoves Dance Festival; Wexford Arts Centre One Voice Festival.

Reimagining Enniscorthy

This is public art & community decarbonisation project, taking place in 2022-23 throughout Enniscorthy town. It's a collaborative, place-based response to the climate crisis, and a creative exploration of Enniscorthy as Wexford's pilot Decarbonisation Zone.

Activities that took place in March

- **Community Orchard Day – Saturday 4 March 2023** – Temple Shannon Community Centre, Enniscorthy with morning talk and afternoon planting.
- **Community Orchard Week 6-10 March 2023**
- **Climate Café was Thursday 30th March 2023** in Wilds Café in Enniscorthy
- **Free Seed Hub banks** – ongoing in various centres in Enniscorthy including the Presentation Arts Centre, Enniscorthy Library and Community Allotments

Dates for the Diary:

- **Biodiversity Walk** - 25th May 2023 at 7 pm from Vinegar Hill with Billy Murphy and Catherine Keena from Teagasc. This is a walk to talk through the importance of hedgerows, preservation, protection and carbon sequestering along unofficial paths through Enniscorthy.
- **Final Exhibition / Showcase – Saturday 17th June 2023** at 3pm in the Presentation Art Centre Enniscorthy. Running until 30 June 2023.

Creative Communities

Following an open call, a total of 23 applications were received. The total fund is €30,000 with a further €10,000 available through Creative Ireland which supports collaboration between two or more artists on the Creative Communities Panel with a community group. An independent selection panel will review the applications in the coming weeks and successful applicants will be notified by mid-April.

Tyrone Guthrie Centre Bursary

This open call was advertised in March which enables two artists who are resident in County Wexford to spend two weeks at the Tyrone Guthrie Centre at Annaghmakerrig, the artists' workplace in County Monaghan. Each bursary covers all board and lodging expenses for a two-week period, contribution towards expenses plus the use of a studio if necessary. Closing date for receipt of applications 18th April 2023.

Drama League of Ireland Scholarship

This open call was advertised in March and provides two scholarships for the Drama League of Ireland's Residential Summer School which takes place at the University of Limerick from 22nd July to 29th July 2023. Local amateur participants and members of drama societies are invited to apply for this scholarship. Closing date for receipt of applications 18th April 2023.

Screen Wexford

Funded by Arts & Economic departments of WCC to develop film industry in Wexford. Screen Wexford CLG was established in March 2023.

Training/ networking events hosted in March:

- Cinematographer Tommy Fitzgerald
- Therese Dalton presented a one-day 'Introduction to Video' workshop.
- Networking event held for creators to meet, support one another and catch up on what's going on in the film industry.
- 'Small things like these' feature film began in New Ross

April:

- Documentary Masterclass on the 18th of April with Luke McManus & Terence White. This will be followed by a film showing and director Q&A

County Wexford Youth Theatre & County Wexford Youth Film Project

The Visitor a series of short films about a student exchange with a twist. This is being filmed by members of County Wexford Youth Film Project, written by Marnie McCleane-Fay and devised and performed by County Wexford Youth Theatre and local older actors. The Visitor Ep1, The Arrival has been nominated for an award at the finals of The Fresh Film Festival held on Thursday 30th March.

Music Generation Wexford**Wexford Youth Opera Workshop**

The Wexford Youth Opera Workshop is developing a Youth Opera around environmental themes and produced in collaboration with the young participants (ages 11- 18) who answered an audition call with Music Generation Wexford. The Opera will premiere in July of this year.

Mini Maestros

Mini Maestros has returned in person and is a workshop offering a great way for parents to join their child (ages 0-5) in the discovery of rhythm, music and singing.

Spring Sessions

Following on from the success of Summer Sessions in the Annexe Courtyard last year, the Wexford Arts Centre in association with Music Generation Wexford and Wexford Co Council held Spring Sessions in March. Hosted by Rachel Grace and featured performances from Ayda, Ash Kiely and Dakota Venn Keane. Making their Arts Centre debut was the Music Generation's Yellow Bellows.

CREATIVE IRELAND

Creative Ireland: Southeast Greenway Art project

Wexford County Council commissioned a team of artists and designers (Esther Gerrard, Aoife Banville and Ed Coveney) to work with local communities on a public art commission along the new South East Greenway, specifically the 5km stretch from New Ross town centre to Shanbog. The focus of this commission is to explore themes of Connections biodiversity, placenames and the many bridges along the 5km stretch of the South East Greenway. March saw the installation of The Track Sculptures.

Sequah: Film Screening

Sequah is a short film by Billy Roche supported by the Creative Ireland programme, the Rosslare Municipal District and Cllr. Lisa McDonald. The film was shot on location in Johnstown Castle in 2021 and is set in the 1900s. It was produced by Ad Personum Cultural Events and directed by Ronan O'Donoghue. It was recently screened in Wexford Arts Centre to a large audience and a copy of the film was presented to Matt Wheeler, Museum Curator of Johnstown Castle Museum.

FIRE SERVICES

Wexford Fire Service Report February 2023

Call statistics

Incident Type	Calls February 2023	Calls to date 2023	Calls to this period 2022
Fire Classification	Number	Number	Number
Chimney Fire in House (WCC / Private)	3 / 11 (14)	29	30
Other Fire in House (WCC / Private)	0 / 2 (2)	5	10
Caravan/Mobile Home	0	0	1
Flats (1) Local Authority	0	0	0
Flats (2) Privately Owned	0	0	1
Bedsit	0	0	0
Hospital	0	0	0
School	0	0	0
Other Institution	1	1	1
Factory	0	0	0
Chemical Plant	0	0	0
Storage Building/Warehouse	0	0	1
Shop/Supermarket	0	0	1
Office	0	0	1
Hotel/Guesthouse/Boarding House etc.	0	0	0
Place of Public Entertainment - Dance Hall, Disco, Cinema, Theatre, Bingo Hall	0	0	0
Public House (incl singing lounge)	0	0	0
Restaurant	0	0	0
Petrol Station - Garage	0	0	0
Hazardous Substance in transit (only cases where fire was involved)	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle	5	10	4
Unoccupied Building	0	0	0
Agriculture Business	0	1	0
Forest/Bog/Grass	13	13	3
Ship/Aircraft	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	1	1	3
Outdoor Storage	0	1	0
Outdoor Rubbish	3	4	4
Special Service Classification	Number	Number	Number
Entrapment	1	1	3
Gas/Chemicals	0	1	0
Hazardous substances in transit not involving fire	0	0	0
Hazardous Substances non Transit	0	0	0
Machinery	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	3	8	3
Other rescue	5	12	7
Rescue/Removal of persons from water	0	1	0
Road traffic accident	14	29	22
Water pumping/flooding	0	0	1

Incident Type	Calls February 2023	Calls to date 2023	Calls to this period 2022
False Alarm Classification	Number	Number	Number
Good Intent	9	40	36
Malicious	0	0	0
Total	71	157	132

Fire calls by brigade to date

INCIDENT TYPE	WEXFORD	GOREY	ENNISCORTHY	NEW ROSS	BUNCLODY	TOTAL
Fire Classification	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
Chimney Fire in House	11	5	6	6	1	29
Other Fire in House	0	1	3	1	0	5
Caravan/Mobile Home	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flats (1) Local Authority	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flats (2) Privately Owned	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bedsit	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hospital	0	0	0	0	0	0
School	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Institution	1	0	0	0	0	1
Factory	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chemical Plant	0	0	0	0	0	0
Storage Building/Warehouse	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shop/Supermarket	0	0	0	0	0	0
Office	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hotel/Guesthouse/Boarding House etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Place of Public Entertainment - Dance Hall, Disco, Cinema, Theatre, Bingo Hall	0	0	0	0	0	0
Public House (incl singing lounge)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Restaurant	0	0	0	0	0	0
Petrol Station - Garage	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hazardous Substance in transit (only cases where fire was involved)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle	4	2	0	3	1	10
Unoccupied Building	0	0	0	0	0	0
Agriculture Business	0	0	1	0	0	1
Forest/Bog/Grass	0	5	1	1	6	13
Ship/Aircraft	0	0	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	1	0	0	0	0	1
Outdoor Storage	1	0	0	0	0	1
Outdoor Rubbish	1	0	3	0	0	4

INCIDENT TYPE	WEXFORD	GOREY	ENNISCORTHY	NEW ROSS	BUNCLODY	TOTAL
Special Service Classification	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
Entrapment	0	1	0	0	0	1
Gas/Chemicals	1	0	0	0	0	1
Hazardous substances in transit not involving fire	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hazardous Substances non Transit	0	0	0	0	0	0
Machinery	0	0	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	0	2	3	3	0	8
Other rescue	5	3	3	1	0	12
Rescue/Removal of persons from water	1	0	0	0	0	1
Road traffic accident	8	8	6	6	1	29
Water pumping/flooding	0	0	0	0	0	0
False Alarm Classification	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
Good Intent	9	11	13	6	1	40
Malicious	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	43	38	39	27	10	157

Fire Safety Certificate Applications

Number of Applications received in February 2023: 8

Number of Applications received to date: 18

Number of Applications to this period 2022: 18

Finance:

Annual Financial Statement 2022

The 2022 Annual Financial Statement/Final Accounts (AFS) is now complete and is included as a separate item on the agenda for the April meeting for review and consideration by members. The 2022 Annual Financial Statement is accompanied by an AFS report which presents an overview of the outturns and gives details of the exceptional items and other matters that informed the 2022 outturns and the preparation of the annual accounts for 2022. The statutory deadline, 31st March, for the completion of the 2022 Accounts has been achieved and the accounts will now be subject to Audit by the Local Government Audit Service.

Capital Programme 2023 – 2025

The 3 year capital programme, 2023 – 2025 is currently being compiled and will be included on the agenda for the May meeting of the Council for the consideration and approval of members.

Audit Committee

The next meeting is scheduled for the 17th June and will include consideration of the 2022 Annual Financial Statement and financial performance for 2022. The annual review of the Audit Committee's Charter has been completed and as required the charter is included on the agenda for noting by the Council.

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 €20m for the period to the 31st December, 2023.

***Tom Enright,
Chief Executive.***