



Chief Executive's Report

December 2019

1.Economic Development & Planning:

Official Opening of Georgia Southern Global Hub – Wexford, Ireland

The Savannah-based Georgia Southern University has officially opened its Global Hub Ireland, in Wexford town. Georgia Southern University is the first public university in the United States to open an outreach learning facility in Ireland.

Georgia Southern University was founded in 1906. It educates over 27,000 students from undergraduates to postdoctoral research students through nine colleges on 900 acres of campus in Statesboro, Savannah, Hinesville and through online instruction.



Mr Tom Enright, CE, Regent Don Waters
USG,
An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Michael Sheehan,
Dr Kyle Marrero, President Georgia
Southern University

A 27 strong delegation from Georgia Southern University and the business community of Georgia travelled to Ireland to host the official opening event with Wexford County Council. The delegation participated in a number of meetings to build on the economic, education and social pillars for both communities where many Wexford immigrants arrived on the shores of Savannah in the 1800's and prospered, seizing economic opportunities. Family names such as Roositer, Corish, Kehoe and Sinnott are very prominent in Savannah which hosts the second largest St. Patricks Day Parade in America.



**Chairman Councillor Michael Sheehan
and An Tanaiste and Minister for Foreign
Affairs and Trade Simon Coveney T.D.,
with Georgia Southern University and
Wexford County Council**



**Mr. Tom Enright, Chief Executive
Wexford County Council**



**Mr. Kyle Marrero, President
Georgia Southern University**

The Delegation included 7 Faculty Members from Georgia Southern University who came to attend the opening, to review the facility and to familiarise themselves with Wexford town. The initiative will welcome the first intake of students and faculty members in the Spring of 2020.

On Thursday morning, the group were hosted by President Michael D Higgins in Áras an Uachtarain to mark the occasion. It was a great honour for all involved to meet the President.



On Tuesday 19th November, the Savannah Economic Development Authority who partner the Tradebridge project with Wexford Enterprise Centre and Wexford County Council hosted a very successful “Why Savannah” networking event in Johnstown Castle Visitor Centre.

ECONOMIC

Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF): On the 6th November 2019 while in attendance at the Dunbrody Visitor Centre, New Ross the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Michael Ring T.D. announced Government funding for tourism projects under his Department’s Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF). A New Ross Tourism Transformation project was awarded €5.5million.

TOURISM TEAM

Tourism Awards: Wexford has been nominated for 4 awards in the Irish independent Reader Travel awards 2020. Categories as a finalist are:

- Ireland’s favourite Home Holiday - Wexford
- Ireland’s favourite SPA – Monart
- Ireland’s Favourite Beach – Curracloe

Ireland’s favourite Small Stay – Marlfield House

LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE

Amplitude: LEO Wexford participated at the Amplitude event at The Lyrath Estate in Kilkenny on 6th November. Amplitude is an annual conference led by the Technology Transfer Offices of Waterford Institute of Technology and Institute of Technology Carlow with the support of EI Technology Gateways and Research Centres.

The goal of Amplitude is to support industry and help them understand the impact of research on their business/industries/sectors.

Training: LEO is currently working on their training schedule for 2020 with a number of new training courses to be included. It is intended to launch the 2020 training brochure at an event in the M11 Business Campus, Gorey in early January. Further details to follow.

New business development projects: As part of its ongoing development of the enterprise eco-system Wexford LEO is participating in the development of 2 projects funded under Enterprise Ireland’s competitive fund within the South East:

Initium: Initium South East project is aimed at stimulating new start-ups and early stage business up to 18 months particularly in the following sectors Financial Services, Engineering, Life Sciences and Technical/Software. Enterprise champions such as Rory O'Connor, Scurri will be contacted to engage in the programme and will help to facilitate the launch in each of the 4 counties involved. Training will also be provided. A key aspect will be 2 days of focused market validation and mentoring. A secondary aspect of the competitive fund will include Commuter Talent Mapping for the South East Region with the final data sliced by county.

Incrementum: The Incrementum South East project is aimed at LEO client companies who have greater than 10 staff and who have not transferred to Enterprise Ireland. The project aims to increase engagement in R&D/Innovation and Export Activity by a series of business interventions. The projects are led by the South East LEO's, Enterprise Ireland and the Ireland South East Office in partnership with South East BIC and IT Carlow.



The New Ross project will see the development of a new world-class visitor attraction which will tell the unique story of Norman Wexford through the Knight William Marshall. The Project will also create a new and immersive visitor experience at Dunbrody Famine Ship and will add significant improvements to the town that will drive tourism. It is estimated that the project for New Ross will deliver €11.3m a year in revenue over a 10-year period, directly

supporting 144 jobs for the local area.

PLANNING

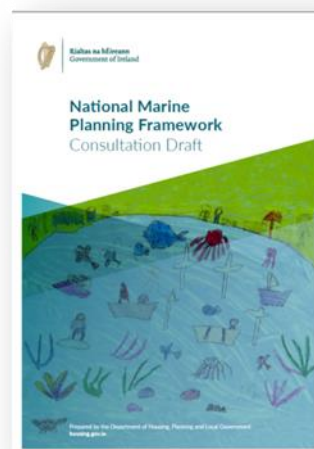
Planning Applications:

| | | |
|---|------------|------|
| No. of valid applications received up to | 20/11/2019 | 1291 |
| No. of invalid applications received up to | 20/11/2019 | 252 |
| Extension of Duration received up to | 20/11/2019 | 25 |
| Exempted Development Declaration Received up to | 20/11/2019 | 49 |

Forward Planning: Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy: The Southern Regional Assembly made Material Amendments to the Strategy and placed them on public display from Thursday 12th September 2019 and Friday 11th October 2019. The Planning Section prepared a detailed submission on the Amendments. The executive of the Assembly are currently considering the submissions received and will present a report on the submission to Assembly members. The Strategy may be made with or without the proposed Material Amendment or with minor further modifications.

County Development Plan 2020-2026: The preparation of the Wexford County Development Plan and other County Development Plans were paused by Statutory Instrument pending the adoption of the respective Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies. Work has commenced on aligning the plan with the emerging Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy.

National Marine Planning Framework: The National Marine Planning Framework - Consultation Draft has been published by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government. It is Ireland's first marine planning framework and it applies to a broad range of activities including aquaculture, offshore renewable energy, shipping, ports and harbours, sea fisheries and tourism. It is an important document as it will set the development consent framework for development in the whole marine area. The Department plan to hold a consultation event in Wexford and details will follow.



Biodiversity and Natural Heritage: Wex Bee Aware: Materials Bank for Bug/Bee Hotels – A pilot scheme for the ‘Bug/Bee Hotel Materials Bank’ is underway. If the pilot proves successful it is hoped to role this out to the other civic amenity sites in the County.

Public Talks: Wex Bee Aware gave a talk to the annual meeting of the Working Men’s Sheds collective on 19th of November. There were approximately 40 people in attendance. Wex Bee Aware asked the groups to encourage the creation of bee and bug hotels throughout the county.



Natural Wexford: A Natural Wexford sign has been installed at Camaross to inform visitors of the Camaross Pingos, an internationally important geological fossil. A small event will be arranged with the local community and local representatives to mark the occasion. As well as the sign, a stock proof fence was erected around one of the larger Pingos at Camaross to protect the Pingo from damage.

Work is on-going on new Natural Wexford signs for Forth Mountain and Lady’s Island. Scoping is underway to identify appropriate sites in other areas of the County.

An audit of the Geological Heritage of County Wexford was completed in 2018 by the GSI in conjunction with Wexford County Council of County Wexford. This report has been printed and will be distributed shortly.

Building Control: Commencement Notices: A total of 466 valid commencement notices have been submitted up to 20th November, 2019 on the BCMS.

Enniscorthy
132

Gorey
118

New Ross
63

Wexford
151

Derelict Sites, Dangerous Structures and Vacant Sites at 20th November, 2019: Activity on Derelict Sites/Dangerous Structures is as follows:

Notices Issued under Derelict Sites Act 1990
22

Notices issued under Sanitary Services Act 1964
12

Notices issued under Section 7 of the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015
0

Planning Enforcement: The number of planning enforcement cases as at 20/11/19 is as follows:

- Cases Opened 152
- Live Cases 236
- Cases Closed 166

District Court Cases: None this month

Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2019: The Final Report were submitted to the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht for the Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2019 and the Historic Structures Fund 2019.

Disability Access: Disability Access Certificates (DACs): The number of DAC Applications validated up to and including up to and including 19th November, 2019 totals 61 Total Refused 3. Total Granted 47. Awaiting F.I 3. Under Assessment 8.

DAC Applications Returned Invalid:

The Total Number returned as Invalid from 1st January 2019: 18

17 re-submitted and validated

1 for re-submission for 2019

(3 outstanding from 2018, resubmitted and validated in 2019)

Pre-assessment of Planning Referrals to date ;

LAC /PLAC & General Planning Applications 100

Pre-assessment of Planning Referrals to date: LAC /PLAC & General Planning Applications 100

2. Special Projects:

Min Ryan Park, Wexford: Works are progressing well, with all earthworks now substantially complete, access road well advanced and key features such as playground area, entrance works and circulation pathways at various stages of construction. The park is expected to open to the public in early 2020.

Trinity Wharf: The application for development approval was submitted to An Bord Pleanála on 15/02/2019 and the period for submission of observations closed on 01/04/2019. A request for further information has issued by An Bord Pleanála in late July 2019 and a response was submitted on 14th October 2019.

The further information has been placed on public display until 29th November.

The related application for foreshore consent was submitted to Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government on 01/03/2019 and the public consultation process for this application is now completed.

Grant aid of €2.028m has been secured for the scheme under the Urban Regeneration Development Fund (URDF) to date.

Crescent Quay: Works commenced in January and are scheduled to be substantially completed in November. Works have progressed well but delays associated with the relocation of underground services have necessitated an extension to the programme. The works on the 'street' side of the Crescent are substantially complete and this area is now available for pedestrian and business access. The waterfront area is also complete and open to the public. Works will be substantially completed by the 1st week in December.

Ballast Office: Essential repair works are required to the Ballast Office to prevent it from falling into disrepair. An appointment for design services was completed in April and investigative and structural surveys and inspections are in progress. Works are planned to commence in Q2 2020.

Templeshannon Regeneration, Enniscorthy: The preliminary designs, environmental studies and planning documents for the proposed pedestrian bridge have commenced and are expected to be completed by February 2020.

WCC is reviewing the options for the street and public realm works following the rejection of the Part VIII application in January 2019.

Enniscorthy Technology Park, Killagoley: Works are now substantially complete on Phase 1 of the Technology Park.

Gorey Market House: Following discussion at their July monthly meeting, the members of Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District have requested that the development of the 2012 Public Realm plan for the Market House be suspended and that the Council re-examine options for the development and operation of a multi-functional performance venue at the site as proposed in the Public Consultation Process of 2018. This will require re-tendering for a services concession contract for proposals for the development and operation of the site as a performance venue.

Wexford Arts Centre: An appointment for design services was completed in April and investigative and building surveys and inspections are substantially completed. The preliminary design is complete and the Part VIII process commenced on the 8th October 2019. The period

for submissions closed on 05/11/2019. A report on submissions will be prepared and presented to the Council early in the New Year. Works are planned to commence on site in Q2 2020.

John Street Building Regeneration Project: The Council has received initial RRDF funding in the value of circa. €0.328m towards the acquisition and redevelopment of the old grain stores at John Street, New Ross. It is planned to convert these buildings into a high quality enterprise hub. Architects have been appointed for the project and the Part VIII process is due to commence in Q1 2020 with construction planned to be completed by Q2 2021.

High Hill, New Ross: Detailed design and tender documents are progressing and works are expected to commence in Q2 2020. An application for RRDF funding approval for this project in combination with the expansion of the New Ross tourism experiences was submitted in August 2019.

Carrigfoyle Activity Centre: Works have commenced on Phase 1 (access road, car park, trails and services) and is programmed to be completed by Q3 2020. An RRDF application for funding for the scheme was submitted in August 2019 seeking support for the scheme.

Enniscorthy Tourism Project: Alan Sherwood & Associates has been appointed to prepare the feasibility study and an application to Failte Ireland for Capital Investment funding. The project was presented to the Enniscorthy Municipal District at its January 2019 meeting. The propositions options report is now complete and an application for funding for the project was submitted to Failte Ireland's Pathways to Growth programme in July 2019 with a decision pending in November 2019.

Kilmore Quay Link Road: Part 8 approval was obtained in February 2019. Detailed designs and tender documents have been completed and tenders for construction works have been received and are being assessed. Works on site are planned to commence in Q1 2020. An RRDF application for funding for the scheme was submitted in August 2019 seeking support for the scheme, but was unsuccessful.

Gorey Town Park: Niall Barry & Co. Ltd was appointed for the construction of the re-development works at Gorey Town Park in March 2019. Works commenced on site in May and are due to be completed by April 2020.

Wexford Flood Relief Scheme: Funding of €9m has been approved by the OPW for the Wexford Flood Relief scheme based on the initial findings of the South Eastern CFRAM report. The OPW have identified a need for further analysis of wave levels in the scheme area so that wave overtopping can be addressed as part of the scheme. Funding for the wave level study will be provided by the OPW the Brief for services for this study will be advertised in December 2019. The project brief for the Flood Relief Main Project is currently being drafted.

Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme: Work is complete on the public exhibition report and is currently being reviewed by OPW before submission to Department of Public Expenditure and Reform. Work on detailed design and tender documents for the new Slaney Road Bridge are approaching completion.

GREENWAYS:

Rosslare Europort to Waterford City Greenway.

Draft feasibility, route options and environmental screening documents have been completed. Public information events were held in Wellingtonbridge & Rosslare Strand in May 2019. The preparation of the EIAR & NATURA Impact reports for the proposed development is underway and is to be completed in Q4-2019. An application for funding, submitted to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport on 28/11/2018 was not successful.

New Ross to Waterford Greenway / South East Greenway:

Section 85 and funding agreements have been signed by Wexford County Council, Kilkenny County Council & Waterford City & County Council to enable Wexford County Council to act as the lead authority for this project. Detailed design is currently underway and it is planned to tender for a Works contractor in February 2020. Site investigation and vegetation clearance works commenced in late November.

Grant aid funding of €8.0m for the project was awarded from DTTAS on 21/06/2019.

Curraclloe to Wexford Greenway:

Permission for the development was refused by the Board in a decision issued on 17/10/2018 citing, in particular, concerns in relation to the potential impact of the development on the Raven Point Nature Reserve Special Area of Conservation and Wexford Harbour and Slobbs Special Protection Area.

The Council has reviewed the ABP decision and met with the NPWS to review issues raised in the Planners report with a view to identifying alternative routes for the project. This will be the subject of further discussions with the NPWS.

Wexford to Rosslare Greenway

WCC has undertaken a preliminary study to examine the potential for developing a greenway from Wexford town to Rosslare. Further route options assessment, studies and consultation are required to determine the feasibility of delivering this greenway prior to committing to preparing an application for planning consent.

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

HOUSING

Residents Day 2019: Wexford County Council Housing Residents Association Day, Estate Award Scheme and Children's Event 2019 took place on Friday 1st November 2019. The event recognises and rewards the continuous voluntary hard work and dedication of residents in the upkeep of their Local Authority Estates throughout County Wexford.

The Estate Awards scheme in its third year is open to all Local Authority built estates. It is about fostering pride in local authority estates and recognising and rewarding individuals and groups for the fantastic work that the Residents Associations undertake in the estates. Winners across each District were announced in the following categories:-

| District | Estate winner | Runner up | Best Estate feature |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Enniscorthy | Cloney Park Davidstown | Fr Murphy / Rectory Fields Enniscorthy | Pairc Mhuire Ferns |
| Gorey / Kilmuckridge | St Josephs Ballymurn | Ounavarra Ballycanew | Orchard way Camolin |
| New Ross | Woodview Drive Adamstown | Canon Murphy Park Clonroche | McMurrough Court New Ross |
| Rosslare | Rathlannon Drive Piercestown | Lakelands Bridgetown | Cois Mara Rosslare Strand |
| Wexford | Oaktree Hgts Castlebridge | Corish Park Wexford | Garren Beithe Wexford |

The event culminated in the announcement of the County Wide Winner of the Best Local Authority Estate 2019, which went to St Joseph's Estate, Ballymurn.



Housing Supply - Capital Projects

| Project Address | No of Units | Municipal District Area | Current Position | Comment |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Creagh | 10 | Gorey | Construction complete | Complete and occupied in July 2019 |
| Danescastle | 10 | Rosslare | Construction complete | Complete and occupied in July 2019 |
| Slippery Green | 10 | Wexford | Construction complete | Complete and occupied in Sept 2019 |
| Coolcotts | 7 | Wexford | Under construction | Due to complete in Dec 2019 |
| Ross Road | 1 | Enniscorthy | Under construction | Due to complete March 2020 |
| Castlemoyle | 1 | New Ross | Under construction | Special needs housing – due to complete in Dec 2019 |
| The Ballagh | 7 | Enniscorthy | Under construction | Due to complete July 2020 |
| Taghmon | 18 | Rosslare | Under construction | On site 2 nd July 2019 |
| Ballynaboola | 1 | New Ross | Stage 3 | Boundary issues |
| Whiterock Hill | 44 | Wexford | Stage 3 | Part VIII approved stage 3 Q4 2019 |
| Carley's Bridge | 17 | Enniscorthy | Stage 3 | Stage 3 submitted Nov 2019 |
| Ballywish, Castlebridge | 11 | Wexford | Stage 2 Q1 2019 | Propose CPO of land for access |
| Rosetown, Rosslare | 36 | Rosslare | Stage 2 (<i>with DHPLG</i>) | Stage 3 submitted Sept 2019 (Planning resubmitted) |
| Maudlintown | 12 | Wexford | Preparing Stage 2 (<i>Q4 2019</i>) | Women's refuge, initial design review and costs |
| Rosemary Heights, Ferns | 8 | Enniscorthy | Stage 2 | Stage 2 to DHPLG Q1 2020 consultants appointed |
| Kileens | 40 | Wexford | Stage 2 Q1 2020 | Consultants appointed |
| Creagh East | 4 | Gorey | Stage 2 | Consultants appointed, ESB cables – Q1 2020 |
| Rosbercon | 28 | New Ross | Stage 1 approved | Part VIII Q1 2020 (reviewing Knotweed) |
| Ballyhine, Barntown | 7 | Wexford | Stage 1 | Stage 2 Q1 2020 consultant appointed |
| Creagh West | 8 | Gorey | Stage 1 | Stage 2 Q2 2020 |
| Wexford Street | 20 | Gorey | Stage 1 approved | Demolitions to commence Jan 2020 |
| TOTAL | 300 | | | |

Pre-development Stage

| Project Address | No of Units | Municipal District Area | Comment |
|------------------|-------------|----------------------------|--|
| Marconi Park | 1 | Enniscorthy | Stage 1 – DHPLG approved Sept 2019 in for Part VIII planning – Stage 2 Q1 2020 |
| 5 Francis Street | 1 | Wexford | Awaiting survey (Buy & Renew) |
| Bullawn | 2 | New Ross | Stage 1 –DHPLG approved. Stage 2 Q1 2020 |
| Marley | 1 | Enniscorthy | Refused funding, funding to be sourced elsewhere |
| Castlebridge | 1 | Wexford (stage 1 approved) | TAP house, site ownership to WCC – Land to transfer, single stage application made. Part VIII lodged |
| Ballycullane | 1 | New Ross | Fire damaged house – Funding approved from WCC Part VIII August 2019. Stage 2 Q1 2020 consultant appointed |
| TOTAL | 7 | | |

Longer Term Projects

| Project Address | No of Units | Municipal District Area | Comment |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|--|
| Clonard | 26 | Wexford | Site cleared March 2019 – inner relief road in design by others, awaiting road |
| Adamstown | 16 | New Ross | No services capacity presently, discussion with Irish Water ongoing re upgrade |
| Tagoat | 9 | Wexford | Site cleared, addressing boundaries (Stage 1 Q4 2019) |
| Daphne View | 24 | Enniscorthy | Access issues – discussions commenced |
| Thomastown Road, Rosbercon | 10 | New Ross | Early feasibility for suitability of the site being examined |
| Bride Street | 2 | Wexford | Survey and recommendations Q2 2019. Demolition and enabling works Q4 2019 |
| TOTAL | 87 | | |

Other Projects (early feasibility)

| Project Address | No of Units | Municipal District Area | Comment |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------------------|--|
| Newtown, Ferns | 1 | Enniscorthy | Survey 2019 (recommend sale) |
| Adamstown | 2 | New Ross | Demolition of old house required, demolition Q1 2020 |
| Monomolin | 4 | Gorey | Services and enabling works 2020 |
| TOTAL | 7 | | |

Part V Acquisitions

| Project Address | No of Units | Municipal District Area | Comment |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|--|
| Gleann an Ghairdin | 10 | Gorey | Delivered |
| Estuary View, Crosstown | 2 | Wexford | Due to be delivered 2020 |
| Ard Uisce, Whiterock Hill | 13 | Wexford | 13 units to be delivered 2019 |
| Knockmullen | 18 | Gorey | Delayed - now due to be delivered Q1 2020 |
| Mulgannon | 22 | Wexford | 14 units to be delivered Q2 2020, 8 units to be delivered Q2 2021. |
| Hunters Hill , Gorey | 3 | Gorey | Delayed. To be delivered 2020. |
| Clonard | 6 | Wexford | To be delivered 2020 |
| Clonhaston /Enniscorthy | 15 | Enniscorthy | To deliver 2020/2021 |
| TOTAL | 89 | | |

Turnkeys

| Project Address | No of Units | Municipal District Area | Comment |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|--|
| Gleann an Ghairdin, | 23 | Gorey | 21 units delivered, 2 to be delivered Q4 2019 |
| Ard Uisce, Whiterock Hill | 35 | Wexford | All units delivered |
| Glen Aoibhinn, Ardamine | 10 | Gorey | 4 units delivered. 3 completed to close soon. 3 units to be delivered Q4 2019. |
| Belvedere Road | 7 | Wexford | Delayed. All units to deliver 2020 |
| Riverchapel Lane | 4 | Gorey | 4 units to be delivered Q4 2019 |
| Michael St, New Ross | 3 | New Ross | Delayed on site to deliver Q1 2020 |
| St. Martin's Rd, Rosslare Hbr | 4 | Rosslare | Units delivered |
| Ard Uisce, Whiterock Hill | 19 | Wexford | 1 unit to deliver Q4 2019. 18 units to deliver 2020 |
| Clonhaston, Enniscorthy | 50 | Enniscorthy | To deliver on phased basis in 2020 & 2021 |
| 5 The Break, Aylesbridge | 1 | Gorey/Kilmuckridge | To deliver Q4 2019 |
| 64 & 74 Chapelwood, Kilmuckridge | 2 | Gorey/Kilmuckridge | To deliver Q4 2019 |
| TOTAL | 158 | | |

Wexford County Council has received a number of other turnkey proposals which are currently being assessed.

Approved Housing Bodies

| Project Address | No of Units | Municipal District Area | Comment |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|---|
| Cooperative Housing Ireland | | | |
| Arthurstown | 9 | New Ross | Not proceeding |
| Ballyboggan, Castlebridge | 10 | Wexford | Occupied |
| Meadowfields | 28 | Enniscorthy | 14 units occupied Q2 2019 and remainder to be occupied by Q4 2019 |
| Fort Road, Gorey | 11 | Gorey | To be delivered Q4 2019 |
| 27 Hunters Green | 1 | Gorey | Occupied |
| Clonard, Wexford | 10 | Wexford | Units complete – to close Q4 2019 |

| | | | |
|------------------------------|----|-------------|--------------------|
| Oaklee | | | |
| Fearach an Cnoic, Greenville | 46 | Enniscorthy | All units occupied |
| Station Court | 2 | Gorey | Occupied |

| | | | |
|-------------------------|----|----------|----------|
| Respond | | | |
| Rivergate (2 Bed Units) | 20 | New Ross | Occupied |

| | | | |
|-------------------|----|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| Cluid | | | |
| The Grange, Ferns | 10 | Enniscorthy | To be occupied by the end of Q4 2019 |
| Greenville Lane | 52 | Enniscorthy | Commenced Q3 2019 |

| | | | |
|-----------------------|----|---------|--|
| Tuath | | | |
| Gleann an Ghairdin | 18 | Gorey | To be occupied by the end of Q4 2019 |
| Ard Uisce | 7 | Wexford | Occupied |
| Ramstown | 56 | Gorey | Planning Refused. New Planning application lodged. |
| Rocksborough, Drinagh | 85 | Wexford | 10 units to be occupied by Q3 2020 remainder to be occupied as completed |

| | | | |
|---------------------------|----|-------------|---|
| | | | in 2020/2021 |
| Old Forge Road, Milehouse | 59 | Enniscorthy | To deliver 2020. |
| Gleann an Ghairdin | 9 | Gorey | Approval received for additional 9 units. To deliver 2020 |
| Gleann an Ghairdin | 24 | Gorey | Approval received for additional 24 units. To deliver 2020 |

| | | | |
|---------------|------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Circle | | | |
| Abbey Centre | 10 | Enniscorthy | Delivered Q2 2019 |
| TOTAL | 382 | | |

ENVIRONMENT

The Rosslare Coastal Flood and Erosion Risk Management Plan was submitted to the OPW on the 18th October 2019. This is a crucial and strategic plan for Rosslare as if the proposed works are implemented the flooding risk from the Rosslare spit and the erosion threat to properties in the village in the long term will be mitigated thus protecting the future viability of the resort.

The Wexford County Council Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024 was approved by the elected members at the October meeting. The next phase of the plan is to start implementing the actions which will be brought before the first meeting of the new Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment SPC.

The Pier and Harbour Bye-Laws are currently under review and the draft has been presented to the first meeting of the new Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment SPC.

The Annual Environment Awards took place in the Ferrycarrig Hotel on Monday 11th November at 7.00 p.m

COMMUNITY

INTERREG – Celtic Routes: The Financial Claim for August and September for the three Irish Partners were compiled, verified and submitted. The Project budget re-profiling exercise was completed. The Project Officer met with Professor Kelleher of WIT and Tony O'Brien Communications and attended the Fáilte Ireland 2020 Conference and the Waterford Tourism Analysis and Promotional Plan event. Organisation of the Event 2019 – “Discover Your Celtic Routes” is gathering speed with speakers organised and over 50 registered delegates to date.

LEADER: There were five claims received for Article 48 pre-payment check and four were processed and moved through the system to payment stage. One claim was returned with queries to the implementing partner, Wexford Local Development. There were seven claims

totalling €162,763.38 paid out to fund projects. The Article 48 project checks are ongoing in preparation for the December LAG Meeting. There were thirteen community, ten enterprise & two WLD In-house projects received for Article 48 check.

Community Environment Action Fund 2019: Wexford County Council, on behalf of the Department of Communications, Climate Action, allocated funding of €27,600 to 27 successful applicants under the Community Environment Action Fund (LA21) 2019 in November.

This fund is aimed at projects which promote sustainable development by assisting small scale, non-profit environmental projects at local level. Funded projects include the delivery of environmental workshops to primary and secondary students, the creation and development of bug hotels, pollinator areas and wildlife meadows and the creation of a community composting site.

Playgrounds: Nine new signs have been put up around the County and two surface repairs in Ferndale and Windmill playgrounds.

Supporting our Communities: The section continues to provide advice, information and funding for Community and Voluntary Groups. In 2020 we want to ensure that all funding opportunities available for communities are maximised to the benefit of county Wexford as a whole. To help us do this we are seeking information on community groups plans and aspirations are for 2020.

This information will allow us work with other agencies to ensure that groups get the support they need to progress.

Information Stand: The Community Development Team had a stand at the recent Clann Credo event and gave a presentation on funding available from Wexford County Council. The event was particularly well attended indicating the interest there is amongst community and voluntary groups

2019 Town and Village Renewal Scheme: Five locations across County Wexford are set to benefit from €691,206 in funding for a variety of community-led projects. The welcome news was announced on the 1st November 2019 by Minister for Rural and Community Development, Michael Ring TD, when he gave details of grant allocations totalling more than €15 million to 156 towns and villages across Ireland under the *2019 Town and Village Renewal Scheme* Summary of projects approved in County Wexford:

| Name of Town / Village | Project Address | Project Summary Description | Amount Approved |
|----------------------------|---|---|-----------------|
| Ballindaggin | Ballindaggin Community Hall, Ballindaggin, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford | Community Hall Renovations | €100,000 |
| Bridgetown | Bridgetown Village, Co. Wexford | Recreation Park, MUGA Pitch, Agility Equipment, Walking Path, Heritage Feature, Planting, Food Bank & Feasibility Study | €99,820 |
| Foulksmills | Foulksmills Community park, Foulksmills, Co. Wexford | Development of Foulksmills Pak, Website, Playground, Landscaping etc. | €100,000 |
| Kilmuckridge | Kilmuckridge, Co. Wexford | Kilmuckridge Morriscastle Walking Path & Heritage trail | €200,000 |
| Rosslare Harbour / Kilrane | Rosslare Harbour / Kilrane Village, Co. Wexford | Public Realm Plan, Economic Master Plan, Tourism Feasibility Study, Playground & Outdoor Equipment, Environment & Heritage Measures | €191,385.60 |
| | | | €691,205.60 |

Older Peoples Council 2019 AGM: Friday 18th October 2019 saw County Wexford's Older People's Council hold their Annual General Meeting in the Riverside Park Hotel. This group has been established under the auspices of the County Wexford Age Friendly Programme to put the voice of older people central to decision-making about matters that affect their everyday living.



Audience members heard from nine members of the current committee who reported back on progress achieved over the past year in nine themed areas including Outdoor Spaces & Buildings, Transportation, Housing, Social Participation, Respect & Social Inclusion, Civic Participation & Employment, Communication & Information, Community Support & Health Services and Safety & Security.

Over 70 older people and representatives of groups working with older people turned up at the meeting where they heard from Cllr. Michael Sheehan, Chairman of Wexford County Council, Kevin Molloy, Chairman of Wexford Older Peoples Council and Folklorist Michael Fortune. Elections were held at the event to elect representatives for two vacant positions on the Executive Committee to represent older people at meetings including the Age Friendly Alliance, which monitors the progress of the Age Friendly Strategy and Action Plan in County Wexford and reports back to the Older People's Council.

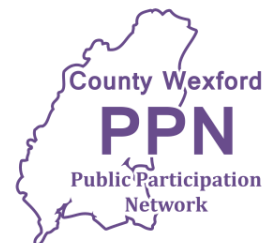
An Garda Síochána, the Fire Service, Wexford PPN and the Housing Section were there to offer practical advice and supports for the attendees. A workshop was held to get the views and opinions of audience members on the issues facing them as well as the good things happening in the county for older people. This feedback will be used by the Older Peoples Council Executive Committee in the coming year to determine their priorities and work plan.

Community Environment Action Fund 2019: Wexford County Council, on behalf of the Department of Communications, Climate Action, allocated funding of €27,600 to 27 successful applicants under the Community Environment Action Fund (LA21) 2019 in November.

This fund is aimed at projects which promote sustainable development by assisting small scale, non-profit environmental projects at local level. Funded projects include the delivery of environmental workshops to primary and secondary students, the creation and development of bug hotels, pollinator areas and wildlife meadows and the creation of a community composting site.

Wexford Public Participation Network (PPN): Wexford PPN has been promoting itself during November with the following activity:

- Stand and presentation at Residents Day
- Presentation to Housing & Community SPC
- Stand at Clann Credo Funding Event



With re-registration complete Wexford PPN currently has 354 member groups (as at 15/11/19). Groups can still register with Wexford PPN and so membership will continue to grow throughout the year. The re-registration task was significant and took much of the Support Officers time in late October and early November.

The An Cosan 'Introduction to Community Development' Course supported by Wexford PPN has commenced with 15 places funded by Wexford PPN. This course had an induction day on 9th November and will run on Monday evenings for five weeks.

During November Wexford PPN will hold its district meetings in each District across County Wexford commencing on 19th November. At these meetings we will seek final approval of 'Our Vision for Community Wellbeing' with an aim to launch in December. Work also begins in November on the Wexford PPN 2020 Workplan and Budget.

LIBRARIES, ARTS & ARCHIVES

WexSci Wexford Science Festival: WexSci Wexford Science Festival offered a two-week celebration of science, technology, engineering, the arts and maths (STEAM) for people of all ages with the opportunity to take part in over 100 science events.

This year's WexSci festival embraced climate action and biodiversity as part of the programme. Events aimed to highlight climate action and environmental issues. Wexford Library hosted a climate action discussion with Dr. Cara Augustenborg, Dr. Karl Richards and Dr. Jonathan Derham with 98 people attending. Simultaneously Enniscorthy Library hosted Hugh Feeley to discuss the health of Ireland's rivers and lakes and an information evening about radon gas took place in Bunclody Library with Stephanie Long from the EPA.

On Saturday 16th, the WexSci Science Showcase Day was launched at the National Opera House. Three lectures captivated audiences from topics covering space travel, neuroscience, and the space where art and science meet. For families, events took place at the County Council Carricklawn. Exhibition stands filled The Street providing interactive displays, learning opportunities, and scientific demos. Stands included the WWETB, IT Carlow Wexford Campus, BIM, EPA, Waters Technologies, WIT, TEKcentral, Cool Planet, South Wexford Beekeepers Association, and the Hook Heritage Centre. Science shows were provided and there was a chance to visit a planetarium and to hear science stories from Wexford Libraries Reader in Residence. A jam-packed day of Science activity across multiple venues was attended by over 1200 people.

The WexSci festival is one of the 13 regional festivals offering a range of opportunities for the public to engage with Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics and is led by the Community Development and Libraries Departments of Wexford County Council in partnership with Science Foundation Ireland, I.T. Carlow, WWETB, EPA, BIM and Local Link Wexford and in collaboration with the business sector, community groups, national, regional and local agencies.

Archives: Wexford County Archive organised the launch of online access to the earliest two minute books of New Ross Corporation (1658-1732) which took place in New Ross library on Saturday, 9 November. The launch was performed by Cllr. Michael Sheehan, Cathaoirleach of Wexford County Council and was followed by a panel discussion on the importance of these early local government records. The speakers included Dr Bríd McGrath of TCD, Dr Linda Doran of UCD and the Archivist. The panel was chaired by Myles Courtney of New Ross Street Focus. Approx. 30 people attended the event and the feedback on the day and afterwards has been very positive.

Radon Monitor Loan Scheme: Wexford County Council Library Service has become the first library service in Ireland to pilot a new radon monitoring loan scheme in partnership with the EPA Office of Radiation Protection and Environmental monitoring. This service was successfully developed in Canada where public libraries make these monitors available for loan.

The digital radon monitors can be borrowed from Bunclody library in the same way you borrow a book. You borrow for 3 weeks and return. In the three weeks members of the public can monitor levels and contact the EPA helpline directly for advice and information about radon.

Laureate na nÓg: Wexford County Council Library Service was recently involved in the nomination process for the Laureate na nÓg, the national children's laureate and champion of children's literature and reading.

Commemorations: The Wexford County Council Public Library Service Decade of Centenaries Programme Plan for 2019 delivered commemorative activities to mark the centenary of the Struggle for Independence and was supported by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. Events were held in public libraries and in the five Municipal Districts of County Wexford under the following themes:

1. Those who suffered and died during the War of Independence.
2. The journey from violent revolution to functioning democracy.
3. Ireland and the Wider world.
4. The aftermath of World War I.
5. Women in the Independence Struggle.
6. The contribution of the Army and Police services.
7. Creative thinking and the arts, culture and sports
8. Specific personalities and events within the county.

Throughout 2019 a total of fifteen lectures, a one day conference, a consultative event and two vocal performances were held in venues around the county.

Topics covered included: IRA military activity, politics, the aftermath of the Great War and the social culture of the period including: music, theatre and sport. This year, we noted an increase in the number of second level (senior cycle) students attending lectures and events.

All events were brought to public attention through the local press, social media and the Wexford County Council website.

ARTS

Small Arts Festival and Experimental Events Grant Scheme 2020: Open call from Art office took place in November 2019. This grant scheme aims to promote and support a diverse range of small arts festivals and experimental events throughout Wexford County. The focus is on festivals/events of high artistic quality that are innovative and have a strong emphasis on public engagement. We also welcome applications promoting cross disciplinary artistic collaborations and experimentation. Closing date is Monday 13th January, 2020. Total award fund is €22,000 with an average of 12 festival/ events awarded per year with grants between €1,000 - €3,000 max. Full Details can be found on <https://www.wexfordcoco.ie/arts-and-culture/>

Emergence Award Winner of the Emergence Visual artist Award 2020-21 (a partnership between Wexford County Council arts office and Wexford Art centre), Laura Fitzgerald - gave a public talk to Wexford Campus Carlow IT students and faculty and local artists on Tues 26th November in Wexford art centre. In addition she started her engagement with students in the Wexford campus as part of this award and delivered a workshop to students. As part of her award , Laura will facilitate writing workshops with students in Wexford Campus and shoot new video work on various site around Wexford county over 2020 -21. An exhibition of new work completed during her 2 year residency will be exhibited in Wexford Art Centre Sept 2021.

Cow House Studios New Parenting Artists residency Programme New annual residency to support parenting artists their families funded by Wexford Arts office in partnership with Cow House Studios in Rathnure North Wexford. Currently no residencies facilitate parenting artists in Ireland and following success of a pilot scheme in 2018 a clear need locally and nationally was identified amongst parenting artists. A nationwide Call out took place in Sept 2019 and Closing date Nov 11 2019. In total 39 applications were received nationwide and a selection panel meeting convening in early December to select artists. Programme to commence in February 2020 and run for 4 weeks.

Living Arts in Schools Programme: Four schools have been selected for 'Living Arts' programme -2020 school programme which started in October 2019. This art in primary schools programme is a partnership between Wexford art office and Wexford Arts Centre.

1. Danescastle NS – David Begley and Hanneke Van Ryswyk
2. St. Joseph's NS (Enniscorthy) – Deirdre Buttimer and Jeni Roddy
3. Gorey Educate Together – John Busher and Sonya Weston
4. Killealy NS – Mary Claire Kehoe and Anne Martin Walsh

Creative Hub Exhibitions: Four exhibitions opened in Creative Hub during Wexford Opera Festival with big increase in visitors to the creative Hub in 2019. Wexford Arts Hub in the Creative Hub opened an exhibition facilitated by artist Deirdre Buttimer titled 'Coercive Control' –working with women for the Women's Refuge funded under WCC Creative community scheme. This exhibition opened Monday 25 November and runs until mid-December.

Excellence in local Government awards: Wexford Arts Offices 'Arts Ability' was nominated for the annual Excellence in Local government awards take place in Dublin on Thurs 28 Nov 2019. Art ability is an inclusive art programme working with people with physical and intellectual disabilities countywide. The programme expanded in 2018 to include music in partnership [with Wexford Mental health Association's Music Exploration Programme.

Visual Artists Ireland Newssheet (VAN) Nov – Dec 2019, Wexford Regional Focus: County Wexford was selected as the regional focus for the VAN November – December edition which is edited by Visual Artists Ireland with 16,000 hard copies delivered nationwide to artists. 8 articles were feature over a 4 page colour spread including articles by Liz Burns (County Arts officer) Catherine Bowe- (Wexford Arts Centre), Frank Abruzzese (Cow House Studios), Andi Mc Garry (Geordie Gallery Tagoat) and 4 Wexford visual artists Aileen Murphy, Julia Dubsky, Helen Gaynor and Nadia Corridan.

Creative Ireland

Training for Artists: Training workshops for artists are being provided in partnership Visual Arts Ireland and funded through Creative Ireland. These workshops deliver professional development/ business support workshops for Wexford artists. Workshops are being delivered in County Hall and Gorey School of Arts in autumn 2019. They include:

- Writing about your work, in County Hall on September 18, with writer Sue Rainsford;
- Professionally Photographing your work with Tim Durnham on Oct 9 2019;
- How to work with curators with Brendan Fox in Gorey School of Arts, Nov 2019;
- Visual Artists Café, an information clinic and networking day for artists in Gorey School of Arts, Nov 2019.

SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

Dormant Accounts 2019: We have been successful in our application in securing funding from Sport Ireland Dormant Accounts grant Scheme for the following. This is to be nationally announced in the coming weeks.

We received funding for the following:

| | |
|------------------------------|--------|
| Urban Adventure Hub Bunclody | €33550 |
| Volunteer Supports | €15000 |
| Youth Leadership | €10000 |

Sports Leaders Objective 1.2: Playmaker Primary School Training – 5 schools completed (122 children certified)

I Can Lead – 3 secondary schools - 2 schools completed (60 certified) and 1 school mid-course (18 students participating)

Women, Get set, Go – 1 school ongoing (16 girls)

Staff Training Objective 1.2: Sports Active Wexford Staff attended the following training during the month: 1 Person - An Introduction to Disability Equality.

Autism in Sport Workshop Objective 2.2: 18 people trained and certified including NGB development officers and the general public.

New Ross Library Event Objective 2.2: 4 people from Cumas attended an activity taster session for adults with Autism held in New Ross Library.

W.I.T Adapted Physical Activity Awareness Day Objective 2.2: 30 students from Waterford Institute of Technology attended an adapted physical activity day in Shielbaggan Outdoor Education Centre. Sports Active Wexford worked in partnership with WWETB on the day.

Ard Aoibhinn sports taster Objective 2.2: 25 people participated in a sports taster session led by Sports Active Wexford.

St. Joseph's Community Centre Activity Day Objective 2.2: 45 people who attend disability services in Wexford town participated in an activity day in St. Joseph's Community Centre. Partners on the day were Leinster Rugby, Wexford GAA, Kinetic Fitness & Sarah Dunlea Yoga.

Community Coaching Objective 3.1: This course is ongoing during November with 18 people from the LTI in Courtown.

Maudlintown Sports Day 3.1: 12 male and 8 female age 7-12 years participated in a sports day in St. Mary's GAA complex in Maudlintown. Partners included Bray Area Partnership, FAI, Wexford GAA, Leinster Rugby and St. Mary's Family Resource Centre.

Safeguarding Objective 3.2: Safeguarding 1: 14 courses have been completed with a total attendance for 2019 of 207 participants.

Safeguarding 2: 4 courses have been completed with a total attendance for 2019 of 36 participants.

Safeguarding 3: 1 course has been completed with a total attendance for 2019 of 11 participants.

FIRE SERVICE

News: Wexford Fire Service ran the second national fire safety two day work shop for technical fire safety officers in conjunction with the National Directorate and Fire and Emergency Management. A joint half day seminar in fire safety was held for preschool owners in collaboration with TUSLA and Wexford Childcare Committee.

Fire Operations: There were 69 incidents in October as detailed below.

| Incident Type | Calls October 2019 | Calls to date 2019 | Calls to this period 2018 |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Chimney fire | 10 | 91 | 114 |
| Domestic fire | 8 | 53 | 75 |
| Road Traffic Accident | 7 | 85 | 89 |
| Industrial fire | 0 | 8 | 9 |
| Commercial fire | 0 | 7 | 4 |
| Assembly fire | 0 | 2 | 4 |
| Agricultural fire | 0 | 1 | 5 |
| Motor Vehicles | 1 | 34 | 51 |
| Forest/bog/grass etc | 1 | 69 | 214 |
| Rubbish | 9 | 64 | 82 |
| Non-fire rescues | 3 | 28 | 23 |
| False alarms – good intent | 23 | 215 | 241 |
| Malicious false alarms | 0 | 1 | 3 |
| Miscellaneous | 7 | 71 | 63 |
| Total | 69 | 729 | 977 |

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

| Applications Received | Year to date | October |
|------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Fire Safety Certificates | 101 | 6 |
| Planning Referrals | 878 | 95 |
| Number of Inspections | Year to date | October |
| FSA Inspections | 242 | 17 |

CIVIL DEFENCE:

Civic Duties: Duties

We completed 2 community support duties in August and September:-

16th November 2019, Christmas Lights New Ross.
23rd November 2019, Christmas Lights Gorey.

Weekly Training: Training continues on a weekly basis in Wexford – Monday Night Welfare, Wednesday Night Rescue, New Ross Monday Night, First Aid, Enniscorthy First Aid and Gorey Gorey Friday Nights first aid training.

Training Courses: The courses completed are as follows:-

23rd & 24th November – Manual Handling & People Handling Course - 19 Volunteers completed their Manual Handling & People Moving training course in Ardavan HQ.

27th – 29th November – Auxiliary Fire Service Instructor Course - Two Instructors from Wexford Civil Defence will attend the 3 day Auxiliary Fire Service Pump course in Roscrea.

8th November – Avian Flu - 5 Volunteers attended the avian flu workshop in the Parks and Wildlife Park in Ardavan for vaccination and mask fitting.

Presentation Night: The Annual Presentation night was held in the Riverbank Hotel Wexford on Saturday 16th November 2019. The night was attended by Minister Paul Kehoe T.D., Chairman Councillor Michael Sheehan, Director of Services John Carley and invited guests.

Commendation Award: On the 9th of October while returning home from training, volunteers came across a very distressed person attempting to jump from Wexford bridge. The volunteers engaged with that person and managed to bring the individual to safety and summon the emergency services. The volunteers remained with the individual until the emergency services arrived and took him into care. Volunteers Ciaran Fitzpatrick, Sinead Furlong, Jonathan Gethings, Jordan McGrath, James Pierce.

Long Service Medals were presented to the following volunteers:

| SERVICE | NAME | UNIT |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------------|
| 40 YEAR SERVICE | Liam Healy | Wexford Unit |
| | Peter Earle | Ballygarrett Unit |
| | Donal Wafer | Ballygarrett Unit |
| 30 YEAR SERVICE | Noel Stacey | Wexford Unit |
| 20 YEAR SERVICE | Anne Browne | Wexford Unit |
| 10 YEAR SERVICE | Conor Barry | Wexford Unit |
| | Walter Kent | New Ross Unit |



Presentation of Certificates to over 6 volunteers for training courses during the year, the certificates were presented by: Mr. David Buckley, Chathaoirleach Wexford County Council, Mr. Michael Sheehan, Director of Services, Mr John Carley

Promotions:

Mr. Matt Crispin, FAR Instructor, I would like to ask Mr. David Buckley to present his Second Officer Bars.

Presentation to Mr John Carley Director of Services: The Civil Defence Officer thanked Mr. John Carley, Director of Services who will retire in December 2019; John became Director with responsibility for Civil Defence in July 2014. John has always supported Wexford Civil Defence with the improvements of the service in Wexford. I have worked closely with John on a number of projects since 2016 to include:-



- Annual Budget increase
- He supported the doubling of the capital allocation for a New HQ
- Provision of garaging for vehicles in Enniscorthy, where we now have two vehicles based.
- Provision of new garage facilities in Gorey, two further vehicles will be based in Gorey.

John also established a project to look at the provision of a new Headquarters for Wexford which is hoped will proceed in the future. He provided the resources to produce plans of a new building and pricing.

New Headquarters – Wexford Town: We continue to look for a suitable premises for a training Headquarters in Wexford Town.

4. Transportation, Water Services:

NATIONAL ROAD MAJOR SCHEMES

M11 Gorey to Enniscorthy PPP Scheme

M11, N80 Link and N30

The M11, N80 Link and N30 are now open to traffic. Works in relation to fencing, landscaping drainage and general housekeeping will be ongoing until contract completion in November 2019.

Side Roads

There are still outstanding works in relation to side roads which will involve the installation of Traffic Management on a temporary basis to enable the works to be carried out safely.

Liaison Office

Wexford County Council is continuing to liaison with the public in relation to any issues that they may have in relation to the scheme.

N25 New Ross Bypass

Progress Update November 2019

The timeline for opening is subject to ongoing review. While the project is now very close to completion, allowing for seasonal factors it is now estimated that the project will open in January 2020.

Finishing works on the Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Bridge continue to progress, with the installation of waterproofing and parapets substantially complete. The installation of barriers, drainage and kerbing is also well advanced and pavement works have also commenced. Subject to weather conditions, it is anticipated that pavement works will be completed before Christmas. Other deck finishing works such as road markings, bridge monitoring systems, lighting, fire & vandal protection works and final cable stressing works also need to be completed. Works for the removal of the three temporary piers and the temporary working platform at the river are progressing. A schedule of inspections, audits and certifications also need to be closed out before the project can open to traffic.

Finishing works are also progressing on the mainline road and side roads. The completion of some final segments of pavement works are in progress along with outstanding fencing, drainage, signage, lining, landscaping and accommodation works. Measures are being incorporated along any areas of wide open verges on new sections side roads to discourage parking, and measures for the treatment of cul-de-sacs to discourage potential anti-social behaviour are also being incorporated. Snagging and road safety audit procedures are also being progressed to completion.

A tender competition has commenced for the upgrade of signage along the existing sections of public road network that will be bypassed. Upon opening of the bypass signage on the bypassed sections of existing national primary roads will be changed to reflect their new status as regional roads. Consultation is ongoing with the project team leading the New Ross to Waterford Greenway which crosses over the bypass at the newly constructed Ballyverneen Railway Bridge.

Arrangements for an opening ceremony for the project are being progressed for further consultation between both local authorities and TII. Consultations are ongoing with all project stakeholders on a community charity walk prior to opening. Arrangements for a bridge dedication ceremony for the Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Bridge are also currently being explored. Dates for these events will be confirmed as soon as possible following consultations with all of the relevant project stakeholders and elected representatives.

1. River Barrow Bridge – View from top of Pylon



2. River Barrow Bridge – Aerial View from Pink Rock downstream.



NATIONAL ROAD IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES

Overlay Schemes

N30 Clonroche (Ballymackessy to Tomfarney)

This scheme commenced on 30 September and will be completed in the first quarter of 2020.

N11 Ballynaslaney to Kyle Upper

This scheme commenced in mid-September and was completed on 20 November.

N30 Mountelliot to Ballyanne

This scheme is at design stage. TII Bridge Section has to carry out site investigation works in advance of tendering this scheme. It is hoped to tender this scheme in the first quarter of 2020.

HD28 Schemes

Pavement repair Camolin Village

This pavement repair was completed in November.

Pavement Repairs N25 Ring Road Wexford, N25 Orristown Junction Killinick

This scheme was tendered in October.

A contractor was appointed on 21 November.

This scheme will be commenced in the first quarter of 2020

N11 Killeen to Newtown – Phase 2

Site investigation works are ongoing on this scheme at present.

This scheme has been postponed until 2020.

HD17 Schemes

Junction Safety Improvements – N25 Tagoat

Safety Improvements funded By TII safety division commenced in October and was completed in early November.

WINTER MAINTENANCE

The 2019/2020 winter maintenance programme commenced on Monday, 14 October 2019.

There have been 7 call outs up to Monday, 25 November 2019.

REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROADS

Resurfacing/Strengthening

The strengthening programme commenced in the Enniscorthy District on 13 February.

Roads completed (macadam surfacing) in the last month were: Wygram Junction (Wexford District).

Roads completed (clause 804) in the last month were: Newcastle; Stokestown; Rathsillagh to Ballyvirgin; (All in New Ross District).

Surface Dressing Works

The surface dressing programme commenced in the Enniscorthy District on 10 June. The county's surface dressing programme of 100km was completed on the 6 September

Community Involvement Schemes

Preparing roads for Community Involvement Schemes

Local Improvement Schemes

Preparing roads for Local Improvement Schemes in all Districts

General Maintenance

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

PUBLIC LIGHTING LED UPGRADE

Public Lighting LED Upgrade (Non National Roads)

Works have been completed on the 2019 upgrade which involved the replacement of up to 3,400 lanterns in Gorey, Courtown, Riverchapel, Ferns and Enniscorthy.

TII Energy Efficiency Scheme - N25 Killinick

46 Son lanterns have been replaced with 23 LED lanterns, reducing the energy consumption by 75%.

TII Energy Efficiency Scheme - N25 Tagoat

26 Son lanterns will be replaced with LED lanterns, reducing the energy consumption by 60%. This scheme will be completed by early December

WATER SERVICES

A. Irish Water – Asset Delivery

Irish Water Capital Schemes

Enniscorthy Network Upgrade

Surveying work are continuing in the Enniscorthy area to enable a hydraulic model of the sewer network to be completed. Once the model is complete, design works on areas requiring rehabilitation / upgrade will commence.

IW Asset Management: Enniscorthy and Sow Regional Water S.S.

New water intake and pumping station at Clonhasten.

Planning permission was granted in September 2019. Tender documents are being compiled by the Consultant with additional requirements from Irish Rail to be incorporated. New infrastructure expected to be operational in 2022.

Wexford Drainage Area Plan

This project will produce a complete drainage model of the Wexford Town foul drainage system.

A full detailed hydraulic model will be produced identifying all pipelines and infrastructure and deficiencies in the network. Nicholas O'Dwyers have been appointed as Consultants by IW. Drainage infrastructure survey works have commenced in Wexford Town and Castlebridge. Survey works originally due to be completed in December 2019, but manhole and other surveys deferred by Irish Water from August 2019 to restart in Wexford in January 2020.

IW Asset Delivery: Fethard-on-Sea Sewerage Scheme

The preliminary design for the project is now complete and can be issued to the appointed Consultant / Contrator for design & build. Discussions with land owners are due to commence shortly. We will be in a position to issue a construction schedule shortly which will indicate a start & completion time scale.

IW Asset Delivery: Gorey Regional Water Supply – South Wellfield

The Gorey RWSS will be upgraded and a new 8 Ml/day WTP and 7,500m³ reservoir provided at Ballyminaun. Planning permission was granted by WCC to upgrade the borehole sites and build a new water treatment plant at Ballyminaun. The hydrogeological investigations show that remedial works will be required to most of the boreholes. The CPO is completed as objections were withdrawn before scheduled oral hearing. The contract has been awarded to Glan Agua with works expected to start on site in October/November 2019. Plant expected to be operational in early 2022. Construction began October 2019 at New Treatment plant and storage site in Ballyminaun. Pipe installation works to commence early December 2019.

IW Asset Delivery: Untreated Agglomeration Study (UTAS)

Arthurstown, Ballyhack and Duncannon:

The project has been tendered and a preferred contractor has been selected. An application for planning permission has been granted by Wexford County Council. It is envisaged that construction will commence in early 2020 with the new plant operational by 2021.

Kilmore Quay:

The scheme design is complete and ready to tender. Land acquisition is now finalised and a planning application will be lodged in November. It is expected to commence construction in 2019 with the plant operational by the end of 2021.

IW Asset Delivery: Wexford Town Watermain Rehab and Gas Network

A significant de scope of works by Gas Networks Ireland was issued in September which will affect the quantity of both gas mains to be installed and water mains to be rehabilitated under this contract. We are currently assessing the impact of this de scope to establish what works will be done and what may get delivered under alternative Irish water funding.

Direct Labour Pipe Laying Crew

The crew has commenced a Water Main Rehabilitation Project in Askinamoe Ferns, approximately 1km long.

Ferns Upgrade – Capital Investment Plan

This project has successfully passed into Phase 2 Gates 2-3 detailed design which has commenced.

B. IRISH WATER MINOR SCHEMES & SPECIAL SCHEMES

IW Asset Management: Murntown Pumping Station - operational 14th February 2019

- Contractor defects liability period in operation until May 2020.
- Landscaping works now completed with planting of mature trees in the estate green area and along the roadside boundary.
- Installation of SCADA telemetry approved by Irish Water, with works to begin on site late in Q4 2019.
- Proposed decommissioning works at Redwood Park WWTP have been approved, and the contractor is expected on site in December.

DPI Scheme: Somer's Way Rising Main, Ballycullane

- Contractor in place for rising main, formal contract pending agreement of insurances.
- Road opening licence application submitted.

DPI Scheme: Somer's Way Wastewater Treatment Plant, Ballycullane

- MEICA works (pumps and associated equipment) for conversion of WWTP to a pumping station – tender assessment ongoing.
- Associated civils works – tender assessment ongoing.
- New 3-phase electrical supply agreed with ESB, currently pricing associated civil works.

IW Asset Management: Fairgreen Wastewater Treatment Plant, Ballycullane

- Invest to save application for conversion to pumping station with rising main to Ballycullane WWTP main plant issued to Irish Water for review.

IW Asset Management: Trinity Street Wastewater Pumping Station

- Re-commissioning of the odour filter completed.
- Various HSQE works in foul sump being priced.
- Generator - Installation of fuel line and engine heater completed.
- Generator - Switch-gear replacement has been added to the Irish Water Generator Ready Programme for 2020.

IW Asset Management: Sinnottstown Lane Wastewater Pumping Station

- New pump design and PS review completed based on actual current on-site flows including current on-going developments upstream. Business case approved by Irish Water, contractor appointed, and expected completion is end of December 2019.

IW Asset Management: Telemetry Upgrades (WW)

- SCADA upgrades (IP radio) for Rosslare Strand and Enniscorthy network WW pumping stations are on-going on site at Rosslare Strand, and will move on to Enniscorthy in early December.
- Additional telemetry signals at Trinity St WWPS, Ballymurn WWTP, Distillery Road WWPS, and Rosslare Strand WWTP approved by Irish Water, and contractor preparing programme of works, expected to take place December 2019 and January 2020.

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

Project is at final account stage. The upgrade works have enabled automated water treatment at both plants. Following the upgrade works Kilmallock has removed from the EPA's Remedial Action List.

IW Asset Management: Disinfection and pH Control Programme

Disinfection works at Chestnut Grove, Woodview Drive, Raheen, Edermine, Monagear, Davidstown, Ballinellard, Boolavogue Camolin, Terrerath, Clonroche, Ballyhogue, Bree, Kilmuckridge Coolgreaney, Camolin, Castledockrell and Ballindaggin commissioned but require process proving.

Works complete at Vinegar hill and ready for commissioning. Works complete at Newtown and ready for commissioning pending control work at Edenvale pump station.

ESB to attend site at Killagoley and instrumentation required.

Works partially complete at Creagh and Carrigbyrne .

IW Asset Planning: Treated Water Storage

Additional reservoir storage to bring schemes up to the required 24 hours of storage of treated water has been approved for Camolin, Killealy and Kilmallock. Currently at site selection phase. Site investigation works to commence at 2 sites, Camolin and Kilmallock in December 2019.

Water Network Program

Coffey Water (CNL) are appointed as regional contractor for the Water Network Programme for the South East. To date works have been carried out in Enniscorthy in Bellefield and St Aidan's. Reinstatement works are currently underway for sites that have commenced. Additional works will continue on these sites in 2020. Works in Gorey at McCurtain St are complete, permanent road reinstatement will be carried out in 2020.

Other sites in Enniscorthy, Taghmon and throughout County Wexford are at design stage with construction not expected until 2020. This WNP project will continue through 2020 with works to start on additional sites.

GMC Sierra are continuing to work on the WNP contract in Wexford town. New watermain have been installed in Bernadette Place, St Aidans Villas, Wygram, Bishopswater, Corish Park and Clifford Terrace to date. New connections for the properties at this locations will be provided by Irish Water's contractor subject to consent and agreement with the householders. Works are progressing at design, consent and construction stages at additional locations in Wexford town to provide new connections and remove shared services: St Ibars Villas, St Enda's Terrace, Hill St, Mannix Place, St John's Avenue, Barrack St, Fishers Row, Francis St, Glens Terrace, Grogan's Rd, Carrigeen St, High St, Mary St, John St, Michael St, Kevin Barry St, Swan View, Rowe St Lower, Trinity St, The Faythe, Casa Rio.

Capital Maintenance Budget

CM is operating on a rolling budget since 2017. Current approved spend from IW is 2,795,971. Total commitments to end of July was €2,724,314. Capital maintenance funding is on hold for the remainder of the year except for emergency replacements.

C. RURAL WATER PROGRAMME

Measure 2 Public Health Compliance

Mullawn GWS

Quotation being sought for installation of Turbidity Meter.

Kilanerlin GWS

Quotation being sought for the engagement of a Hydrogeologist.

Knockmarshall GWS

Works complete

Measure 3 Enhancement of Existing Schemes including Water Conservation (GWS Sector)

Blackstairs GWS

Quotations to be sought for the By-pass infrastructure required for the treated water tank at the treatment plant in Corrageen, Rathnure.

Kilanerlin GWS

Quotations to be sought for the installation of 9 No. bulk Meters.

Measure 5 Transition of Existing Group Water Schemes and Group Sewerage Schemes **Bing GSS**

Work has commenced on the design of the scheme.

Measure 6 Community Connection Networks (Water)

Battlestown CWC

Contact has been made with the organiser to confirm number of connections interested in proceeding with the scheme.

Ballinahask, Kilmuckridge CWC

Contact has been made with the organiser to confirm number of connections interested in proceeding with the scheme.

Crosstown Group Sewerage Scheme / Orchard Lane Group Sewerage Scheme

Awaiting confirmation from Irish Water on takeover of both schemes.

WATER CONSERVATION

Water Conservation:

- Countywide consumption for September was on average 40.72 MLD, a reduction of 0.7 MLD since September 2019.
- New IW Leakage Management software, supplied by Crowder, is now live for Wexford County. Water Services staff are currently undergoing software training.
- Acoustic logger trial in Enniscorthy Low Level DMA is ongoing with HWM and EMR Solutions.

Leak Detection and Repair:

- 42nr leaks were detected and repaired in October 2019.
- Leak detection is currently concentrated in the South Regional area.

Water Network Programme with Coffey Northumberland/GMC:

- Gorey:
 - Reinstatement works on Grattan Terrace is to be completed by Coffey Northumberland.
- New Ross:
 - Charlton Hill has outstanding reinstatement works to be completed by DLC.
- Wexford:
 - GMC have completed BYS and mains rehab survey works in Wexford town in Bernadette place, Clifford St, Bishopswater and Wygram.
- Enniscorthy:
 - Private side lead replacement works in St Aidan's Villas has decommissioned the 2nd block. Leakage savings of 18.0m³/hr in total has been achieved on these works.

Find and Fix Scheme:

- DMA's have been selected for intensive leak detection works under the Find and Fix scheme, including Enniscorthy - Low Level, Enniscorthy - 7", Gorey - Fairy Lane, Gorey - Pollshone sth, Wexford - Rathaspeck, New Ross - Town Centre and South Regional - Duncannon/Arthurstown.

Pressure Management:

- Water Network Program pressure management works of new PRV's, chambers and kiosks will commence in Wexford, Enniscorthy, Gorey and New Ross areas.

SCADA-Telemetry:

- Works to the SCADA system are ongoing.
- Disinfection program works being uploaded as available.

Global Information System:

- Corrections to system are continuously being surveyed and digitised on the Arc GIS.

5. Finance:**Finance Report Q3 – To 30th September 2019**

The quarterly Finance Report for the period to the end of September 2019 has been prepared and is included on the CPG Agenda for consideration and discussion by members. The report sets out the overall financial position of the Revenue and Capital Account, Debtors and Housing Loans Activity at the point of the financial year.

Annual Financial Statement 2018 - Audit

The 2018 Audit of Accounts by the Local Government Audit Service (LGAS) is now complete and the Statutory Audit Report is listed on the agenda for the December Council meeting for members consideration and approval. The next step in the process is for the Local Government Auditor to meet with the Audit Committee to discuss the 2018 Audit and Statutory Audit Report, following which a report will be completed by the Audit Committee setting out their findings in relation to the audited financial statement and auditor's report.

Audit Committee

The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for 11th December. It was expected that the committee would meet with the Local Government Auditor at that meeting to discuss the outcome of the 2018 Audit but this now needs to be rescheduled as the LG Auditor will now be unavailable following an accident. It is expected the meeting will happen at the following Audit committee meeting in early 2020.

Cash Flow/Overdraft

The Council continues to operate in overdraft, Ministerial Sanction is in place for borrowing by way of overdraft in the amount of €13m for the period to the 31st December, 2019. Ministerial sanction has also now been confirmed for borrowing by way of overdraft for the 2020 financial year in the amount of €13m following approval of the council to this borrowing at the October meeting.

**Tom Enright,
Chief Executive.**