



## **Chief Executive's Report**

**County Council Meeting 12.12.22**

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## Local Enterprise Office

The mandate of the Local Enterprise Offices has been expanded to target new exporters by providing direct grants to firms who employ more than ten and are operating in the manufacturing and internationally traded services sectors. In future years, it is intended to further expand the range of advisory services available to all companies with up to 50 employees, including those operating in the locally traded sector.

The decision fulfils a Programme for Government commitment to ensure a continuation of support for enterprises that have grown above ten staff. This also builds on Enterprise Ireland strategy which sets out a commitment to ensure a continuation of assistance for enterprises that have grown above 10 staff, as appropriate to their stage of development and internationalisation ambition. It supports and commits Enterprise Ireland to working with the LEOs, to ensure that companies of all sizes are assisted on their development journey, maximising their growth and job creation potential.

### **Wexford Women In Business Christmas After-Hours Me-Treat Event.**

Stemming from the success of this year's National Women's Enterprise Day October, Wexford Local Enterprise Office is hosting a Christmas After Hours event for the Wexford Women in Business Network on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December in Wexford Arts Centre Theatre.

The event will feature Calodagh McCumiskey doing a short Christmas "Me-Treat" on how to handle Christmas and stay unstressed at home and at work! With live Christmas music and some festive afternoon-tea treats it will be an ideal opportunity for business women to network and we will also encourage the ladies to shop locally post event. The event is free of charge with proceeds from donations going to Wexford Women's Refuge.

### **Funding Supports for Business**

The final Evaluation & Approvals Committee meeting for 2022 was held on November 11th. Throughout the year a total of 24 micro businesses (up to 10 employees and under €2m turnover) were approved for grant aid totalling €660,615.

<b>Type of grant</b>	<b>No of businesses</b>	<b>Total Grant value</b>
Priming (Start-up)	10	€311,775
Business Expansion	10	€344,140
Feasibility	4	€50,175

During 2022, Research, Development & Innovation funding of €154,226 was also secured from Enterprise Ireland for LEO Wexford client Hoop Medical Ltd who specialise in the development and manufacture of advanced medical balloon components for the global medical device industry. This funding will assist the company not only to develop new innovative processes but also to become the knowledge centre of bespoke medical balloon manufacturing globally. Currently employing 25, expansion plans will result in staff numbers increasing to 50 within the next 18 – 24 months.

## Annual Employment and Development Survey 2022

On behalf of the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment (DETE) the Annual Employment and Development Survey has recently been carried out with the assistance of the Local Enterprise Offices. The results of the survey are due to be released early in 2023.

## Economic Development

### High Performance Building Alliance DAC (HPBA)

Following the announcement that the HPBA is a designated centre of excellence in High Performance Buildings the HPBA Board gathered for the official signing of the UNECE MoU agreement by Cllr. Garry Laffan – Chair of the HPBA Board. The MoU cements the work of the HPBA and is recognition of its role as a centre of excellence at National and international level.

#### **HPBA Board signing of the UN MoU 21<sup>st</sup> November 2022**



**Front Row:** Kevin Lewis – WWETB; Cllr. Garry Laffan – Chair HPBA Board; Liz Hore – WCC

**Back Row:** Michael O'Brien – WWETB; Pascal Harte – SETU; Breege Cosgrave -LEO, David Morrissey – SETU, Carolyne Godkin – WCC; Tom Foley – Industry; Denise Tuffy – CIF,

**MS Teams:** John Fingleton – IGBC; Katarzyna Kazmierska NSAI

The High Performance Building Alliance DAC recruitment for the position of Business Development Manager has been completed and the new Manager will commence in early 2023. In addition to the funding of €100,000 per annum over 3 years from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, a further €148,064 was approved by Enterprise Ireland under the Regional Enterprise Innovation Scoping Scheme (REISS) for the Green Hub. Both key initiatives will be based in the new Enniscorthy Technology Park. The contract for the architectural design of the Green Hub has been awarded with a view to completion in 2023.

## Tradebridge:

A delegation from Savannah including the following Howard Keeley, GSU, Kendria Lee, President's Office, GSU, Leigh Ryan, Vice President, World Trade Centre visited Ireland from the 11<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> November. This provided an opportunity for the two new employees, Claire McInerney Brown, Tradebridge Ireland and Chris Ahearn, Director of Research & Trade Development to meet. The focus of the visit was to work on the joint programme and develop key strategic priorities and meet with key stakeholders in the county, including Enterprise Ireland, IDA, Local Authorities/Local Enterprise Office representatives in the Southeast Region. In addition, a number of client meetings were arranged as part of the visit.

## Marketing Scheme 2022:

Wexford County Council were awarded a grant of €44,501.40 under the Town and Village Renewal Marketing Scheme 2022. The project focuses on creating an innovative county wide marketing campaign to promote and attract individuals to remote working facilities in County Wexford in line with the National Remote Work Strategy.

The objective of this marketing campaign is to promote remote working facilities including Hubs and Broadband Connection Points as an attractive proposition for both employers and employees assisting to the revitalisation of towns and villages across County Wexford. Remote Working Hubs offer clients the perfect opportunity to find a balance between home and office working. The key benefits are less commute times, flexible working hours, more time spent with family, like-minded people, lower carbon footprint and work life balance to name but a few.



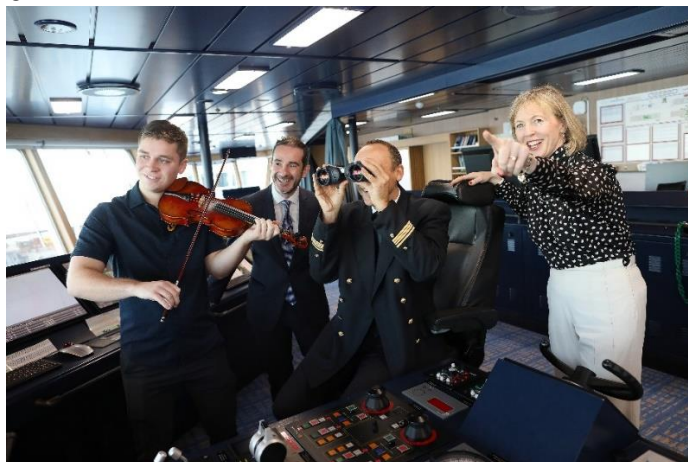
This project is progressing with a media agency recently appointed to manage a 3 month intensive campaign;

- Traffic will be driven to [investwexford/remoteworking.ie](https://investwexford/remoteworking.ie) allowing us to measure progress and give Remote Working Hub a platform for further campaigns which will in turn showcase what facilities Wexford has to offer
- Working with Connected Hub we will ensure that all hubs and BCP's (broadband connection points) in Wexford feature on this platform
- Working directly with the hubs themselves, testimonials from users will highlight the benefit of working remotely. These testimonials will be used across various channels to reach our target audience.
- A brochure will highlight facility opportunities for remote working in the County.

## Tourism

### **Brittany Ferries Officially Launch New Cruise-Ferry *Salamanca***

Brittany Ferries new cruise-ferry *Salamanca* was officially launched at Rosslare Europort on November 16th, 2022.



*Salamanca*, named after the stunning heritage city in Castilla y León in Spain, replaces the *Connemara* vessel, offering more than double the capacity, with space for over 1000 passengers in 343 comfortable cabins. The vessel also offers spaces for foot and bike passengers on the Bilbao to Rosslare. The new state-of-the-art ship is also the first LNG-powered ferry to serve Ireland and promises lower emissions and a smoother, quieter voyage for travellers.

*Salamanca* will sail from Rosslare to Bilbao twice weekly departing Wednesday and Friday mornings and is the only ferry service connecting Ireland to Spain.

### **Stena Line are introducing a second ferry on its Rosslare to Cherbourg service next summer.**

Stena Line are to introduce a second ferry on its Rosslare to Cherbourg service on 30th June 2023. The 175.5m Stena Vision will have space for 1,300 passengers. The travel time is scheduled to be 18 hours, leaving Rosslare at 9pm and arriving in France at 4pm the next day.

### **Sub-group of Visit Wexford established to look at opportunities available with the additional ferries coming into Rosslare Europort.**

A sub-group of Visit Wexford has been established to look at the opportunities available for Visit Wexford with the additional ferries coming into Rosslare Europort. Following the Launch of Brittany Ferries *Salamanca* some members of this sub-group met with Monica McLaverty, Manager Southern Europe with Tourism Ireland to see how we might best capitalise on the New Routes coming into Rosslare Europort. Monica and Susan Bolger, Marketing Manager Spain, Tourism Ireland will meet with Visit Wexford Committee and the Visit Wexford Sales & Marketing Committee on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December and will give some background on the markets and will provide some top tips on attracting French and Spanish visitors to Wexford. They will also explore industry opportunities and specific events taking place in these markets in 2023.



## **PLANNING**

### **Planning Applications**

Numbers are those received from the 29<sup>th</sup> of October 2022 until the 25<sup>th</sup> of November 2022.

No. of valid applications	119
No. of invalid applications	3
Extension of Duration	1
Exempted Development Declaration	3

Numbers are those received from the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2022 until 25<sup>th</sup> of November 2022

No. of valid applications	1447
No. of invalid applications	124
Extension of Duration	31
Exempted Development Declaration	52

### **Pre-Planning Applications**

Numbers are as follows up until the 25<sup>th</sup> of November 2022

No. of open pre-planning requests	166
No. of pre-planning meetings completed	256
Average waiting time to meeting	110 days

### **Built, Cultural & Natural Heritage**

Conservation work is complete at a number of archaeological monuments in Co. Wexford with funding support from the National Monuments Service of the Department of Housing, Heritage and Local Government through the Community Monuments Fund, including Fethard Castle.



Conservation work is complete at William Street, New Ross, to preserve a section of the medieval town wall. This project has received funding support through the Irish Walled Towns Network.



New grant schemes for 2023 have been announced. These include the following:

- Built Heritage Investment Scheme for owners of Protected Structures: This scheme seeks to assist with the repair and conservation of Protected Structures and Proposed Protected Structures and in certain cases, for the conservation of structures within Architectural Conservation Areas, and to support the employment of skilled and experienced conservation professionals, craftworkers and tradespeople. The scheme will be administered by Wexford County Council, with grants of between €2,500 and €15,000. Applicants will be required to provide a minimum of 50% matching funding.
- Historic Structures Scheme: The HSF has three streams: Stream 1 offers grants of between €15,000 and €50,000 aimed at essential repairs and small capital works. The Historic Structures sub-stream is for essential repairs and small capital works for historic shopfronts. Stream 2 offers a small number of larger capital works grants of up to €200,000 and the vernacular structures stream offers a small number of grants for small scale capital works to vernacular buildings.
- The Community Monuments Fund 2023 has been announced. Owners and custodians of archaeological built heritage can apply for funding under 3 streams. Stream 1 is for capital works up to €100,000. Stream 2 is for Conservation Management Plan development and Stream 3 is for the enhancement of access and interpretation.
- Details of all the grant schemes can be found at [Built, Cultural and Natural Heritage | Wexford County Council \(wexfordcoco.ie\)](https://www.wexfordcoco.ie)

## Forward Planning

### Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028 Agents Seminar



The Planning Department hosted a County Development Plan Seminar for Agents in White's Hotel, Wexford Town on Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022 with 92 people in attendance.

The morning session opened with Director of Services Liz Hore presentation on the Council's Economic Investment Programme. This was followed by a presentation by both Liz Hore and Michael O'Brien, Innovation and Development Manager, Waterford & Wexford Education & Training Board on the High-Performance Building Alliance Centre of Excellence and NZEB.

The morning session continued with detailed presentations on the new County Development Plan with a focus on the rural housing policies and the new development policies for housing estates by Diarmuid Houston and James Lavin – Planning Department, joined by Deirdre Kearns on the panel Q&A .

The afternoon session welcomed two more external speakers. Tony Williams, Principal Landscape Architect with Transport Infrastructure Ireland discussed the promotion of landscape and biodiversity in developments. Fran Igoe, Regional Coordinator with the Local Authority Waters Programme gave a very informative presentation on planning for water quality protection through nature-based solutions. The afternoon presentations concluded with a presentation on e-Planning, which is anticipated will be rolled out to Wexford County Council in Q2, 2023 and the Residential Zoned Land Tax by Tom Banville – Planning Department.



There were well-engaged Q&A sessions throughout the day, and the Seminar was facilitated by Noel Davidson from The Entrepreneurship Academy.

The Planning Department extends its thanks to the Facilitator, external speakers and the Agents for taking the time to attend the Seminar. The Agents were also asked to identify policy areas that they would like to receive additional training on during 2023.

### **Wexford Town Local Area Plan**

Significant desktop research has been completed for Wexford Town Local Area Plan. Field survey work has commenced. Consultants have been appointed to carry out the Strategic Environmental Assessment, Appropriate Assessment and Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for the Plan. The Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report is nearing completion and will be circulated to the Environmental Authorities in the coming weeks

### **Enniscorthy Town Local Area Plan**

Background work has commenced for Enniscorthy Town Local Area Plan. Quotations have been sought for the Appropriate Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment for Enniscorthy Town.

### **Enniscorthy Town Centre First Plan**

Following a number of public consultations and meetings of the steering group over the past year, the draft Enniscorthy Town Centre First Plan was presented to the Municipal District and Steering Group. It is a comprehensive and ambitious plan for the regeneration of Enniscorthy town centre. It sets out a series of regeneration strategies and identifies a number of ambitious redevelopment packages which will serve as the catalyst for regeneration of the town centre and Templeshannon area. The plan will be finalised following feedback from the members this year.

### **Biodiversity and Landscape Workshop**

The Planning Department also hosted a Biodiversity and Landscape Workshop for landscape professionals on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022 in the Riverbank Hotel, Wexford Town with over 40 people in attendance. The workshop explored various themes including the role of biodiversity and landscaping in climate action.

The workshop, which was facilitated by Tony Williams from Transport Infrastructure Ireland, provided excellent feedback and suggestions on the type of guidance required and specifications that should be sought in new developments, whilst also highlighting the need to enforce planning conditions to ensure the required planting is retained and carry out. The Planning Department extends its thanks to the Facilitator, the external speakers on the day – Tony Williams and Alan Ryan, Head Gardener in Colclough Walled Garden, and the landscape professionals for taking time to attend the workshop.



### **Building Control (29<sup>th</sup> October 2022 – 25<sup>th</sup> November 2022)**

• Validated Commencement Notices:	31
• Number of Building Control Inspections:	26
• Validated Cert. of Compliance on Completion:	14
• Number of Taking in Charge reports sent to the Districts	0

### **Planning Enforcement**

The number of planning enforcement cases as of 25<sup>th</sup> of November 2022 are as follows:

• Live Cases	<b>321</b>
• Cases Opened from 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2022	<b>236</b>
• Cases Closed from 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2022	<b>275</b>

### **Planning Enforcement – Short-Term Letting**

The cumulative number of short-term letting planning enforcement cases as of 25<sup>th</sup> November 2022 are as follows: -

• Live Cases	<b>21 (2020, 2021 &amp; 2022)</b>
• Cases Opened since 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2022	<b>20</b>
• Cases Closed since 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2022	<b>32</b>
• Inspections Carried out	<b>02</b>

### **Derelict Sites, Dangerous Structures and Vacant Sites**

Report from 29<sup>th</sup> October 2022 to 25<sup>th</sup> November 2022 as follows:

Derelict Site Register updated on Council Website updated on **21/11/2022**

- **19** property inspections/notice erections/visits conducted.
- **5** property owners currently engaged with the County Council to carry out remedial works so that the properties will not be placed on Derelict Site Register.
- **5** Section 8(2) Notices posted on properties.
- **1** Property appraised as per Vacant Sites / Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015.

## **Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT)**

The **Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT)** was introduced in the *Finance Act 2021*. The process to identify land to which the tax applies is now underway and the tax will be payable from 2024. The objective of the tax is to activate land that is serviced and zoned for residential use or mixed use, including residential use, in order to increase housing supply and to ensure regeneration of vacant and idle lands in urban locations. These locations in County Wexford have been identified within existing statutory land use plans at Gorey, Courtown, Bunclody and Rosslare/Kilrane.

Wexford County Council has prepared a draft map of the land considered to be in scope for the RZLT. This draft map can be found on <https://consult.wexfordcoco.ie/>

Any interested individuals or parties may make submissions in respect of land on the draft map. **Submissions can be made by the public on the draft map from November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, until January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.**

A supplemental map will be published on 1 May 2023 identifying additional land considered to be in scope for RZLT. The supplemental map will also be on public display and open to submissions which may challenge the inclusion of additional land on the map. Land appearing on both the draft and supplemental maps will be included on the final map of land in scope for the tax in the local authority area to be published on 1 December 2023. This land will be subject to the RZLT

**The administration of the RZLT is a matter for the Revenue Commissioners.** Wexford County Council will accept submissions through <https://consult.wexfordcoco.ie/> or via email to [RZLT@wexfordcoco.ie](mailto:RZLT@wexfordcoco.ie) and/or in writing to Planning Department, Wexford County Council, Carricklawn, Wexford, Co. Wexford, Y35 WY93.

## **Disability Access Certificates (DACs):**

The number of valid DAC applications, for the period from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022 up to and including 25<sup>th</sup> of November 2022, totals **58**.

<b>Applications Districts</b>	<b>Total for Districts</b>	<b>Await Assessment</b>	<b>Further Info.</b>	<b>Granted</b>	<b>Refused</b>
Enniscorthy	7	0	0	7	0
Gorey	11	0	2	7	2
New Ross	8	0	1	5	2
Wexford	19	0	1	16	2
Rosslare	13	0	1	12	0
<b>2022 Totals</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>6</b>

## **Disability Proofing completed as part of WCC Access activity**

<b>Referrals</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>LAC /PLAC &amp; General Planning Applications</b>	<b>109</b>
<b>Major Pre-Planning (April – November 2022)</b>	<b>26</b>

## **Access Related Items**

### **A New Monitoring & Reporting Mechanism for the Disability Inclusion Strategy**

A customised monitoring & reporting mechanism, through advanced technology Power B.I. (Power Business Intelligence) is currently being developed. This new monitoring and reporting mechanism in collaboration with WCC I.C.T Department is an interactive data visualization software product of Microsoft with a primary focus on business intelligence. It supports ease of engagement, monitoring and reporting of our obligations under legislation, for accessible services, covering all sections and departments whilst creating insightful reports for sections, departmental and high-level use.

As part of the Microsoft Power Platform this mechanism is integrated within our current platforms and therefore presents no additional financial cost, it also aligns with WCC objective to move to more efficient methods of working in line with Sustain Development Goals and climate change (reducing paper use, filing and storage).

A presentation to the Executive Team was held on the 30<sup>th</sup> of November 2022, where the new mechanism for monitoring and reporting received a very positive response.

### **2021-2023 Disability Participation and Awareness Funding Projects (DPAF)**

#### **Innovative Community Engagement (I.C.E.) Project**

Two of the 10 community groups engaged in this project have completed their access for all works as proposed, a further two groups are 75% complete with three currently having completed 50% of their proposed access for all works.

Three of the 10 community groups, while in the early stages, have indicated that they will have the works completed by year end.

#### **Advanced Digital Access Participation Project (ADAPP)**

The second stage of this project, Virtual tours for our five main public buildings (County Hall and four Borough and Municipal District Office buildings) is almost complete. Introductory videos for the virtual tours of these buildings are currently, in the process of, having Irish Sign Language incorporated to ensure they will be fully accessible for all.

An event to launch and recognise the availability of virtual tours for not only these five main WCC buildings both also of five of our Heritage Sites, one in each of the Borough and Municipal Districts will take place early in 2023. QR codes to be located at each of the Heritage sites, an additional facility, will also be promoted at this event.





**1. Irish Water Asset Delivery**

**2. Minor Capital**

**3. Rural Water Programme**

**4. Water Conservation**

## Water Services Monthly Report



# 1. Irish Water – Asset Delivery



## Capital Schemes

<b>Enniscorthy Network Upgrade</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ A new gravity main for Mary Street</li> <li>➤ SI is complete and detail Stage 4 design workshop is completed.</li> <li>➤ Final design. Completed</li> <li>➤ Contractor from existing framework has reviewed the design</li> <li>➤ We are awaiting a decision from the contractor</li> <li>➤ Estimated costs €800,000 and €200,000(pipe fix).</li> </ul>
<b>Enniscorthy Intake and Vinegar Hill Upgrade Project</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Planning Department has requested further information</li> <li>➤ Tenders are being finalised and should be ready shortly.</li> <li>➤ Agreements still required land purchases.</li> </ul>
<b>Wexford Drainage Area Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Complete drainage model of the Wexford Town foul drainage system.</li> <li>➤ A full detailed hydraulic model identifying all pipelines and infrastructure and deficiencies in the network.</li> <li>➤ Consultants Nicholas O'Dwyer appointed by IW.</li> <li>➤ Drainage infrastructure survey works complete in Wexford Town and Castlebridge.</li> <li>➤ Model verification ongoing.</li> </ul>
<b>Gorey/Courtown Drainage Area Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Complete drainage model of the Gorey/Courtown foul drainage system</li> <li>➤ Tender evaluation January 2022, with start onsite Q2 2022</li> <li>➤ Consultants JB Barry appointed by IW.</li> <li>➤ Stage 1 commenced July 2022</li> </ul>
<b>Newtown WTP Upgrade</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Upgrade to existing Treatment plant including improved raw water treatment, instrumentation and run to waste facility</li> <li>➤ Preliminary design ongoing, IW have appointed Glan Agua as part of their early contractor involvement programme to design and build the new works</li> <li>➤ Onsite work to commence Q1 2023</li> </ul>
<b>Fethard-on-Sea Sewerage Scheme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Preliminary Design for the project is now complete for issue to contractor for design and build. Irish water has advised that due to budget constraints, this project has been re-prioritised and will not go to construction in the near future. Irish Water has advised that it will be 2023 at the earliest before this scheme is re considered for funding.</li> </ul>
<b>Creagh WTP Upgrade</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Upgrade of existing treatment plant including Intake improvements at Pallas and Kilmichael, DAFF plant refurbishment and installation of UV treatment</li> <li>➤ Upgrade works to begin Q2 2023, small accommodation works ongoing</li> </ul>

<p><b>Gorey Regional Water Supply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>New Treatment plant and storage site at Ballyminaun</b> Plant In operational phase with Glan Agua</li> </ul>
<p><b>Untreated Agglomeration Study (UTAS)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Arthurstown, Ballyhack and Duncannon</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This project is complete, and it is at final account stage with the contractor Sisk.</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ <b>Kilmore Quay</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Main contractor Sisk is on site to build the new wastewater treatment plant in Kilmore Quay.</li> <li>○ Work is progressing to well to date with the new pump stations and pipe network under construction.</li> <li>○ Main Contractor has encountered issues with services on the Quay which will involve new traffic management and has resulted in a delay in the programme of up to 6 weeks.</li> <li>○ Pipe laying works on the L3056 has reached the mace shop and is progressing daily and is on programme.</li> <li>○ The plant is proceeding well, but rain has been an issue on site over the last month.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Direct Labour Pipe Laying Crew</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Find &amp; Fix - Leakage Reduction Programme.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focusing on mains rehabilitation and will revert to Find &amp; Fix as required. We have external finding resources at present with fixes being completed by WCC operational staff.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Mains Rehabilitation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Old Dublin Road in Enniscorthy 2.3km of mains rehabilitation is completed.</li> <li>• Works has commenced on the new 4km of mains and 500m is laid to-date.</li> <li>• Diversions are in place.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Ferns Sewerage Upgrade</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ IW Asset Planning Strategic assessment is programmed for first half of 2023 where long, and shortlist of upgrade options will be considered</li> <li>➤ Stage 2 will assess options and Stage 3 will bring forward detailed design and tender documentation.</li> </ul>
<p><b>STVGP - Small towns and villages growth programme</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ IW programme to deliver additional capacity to existing towns and villages serviced by IW. Wellington Bridge and Tagoat are included in national programme</li> <li>➤ Option reports complete for both projects with Irish Water Delivery section now taking control of both</li> </ul>
<p><b>Coolree Reservoir Rehabilitation works</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Rehabilitation works to the embankment, spillway and valve tower at Coolree Reservoir</li> <li>➤ Preliminary scope outlined with ongoing feasibility studies to determine best solution</li> </ul>
<p><b>Bunclody Water supply- Supply Demand Balance</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Hydrogeological assessment underway for improved Ground Water Resources for Bunclody</li> <li>➤ 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 progressing well with aim to be delivered under a new Irish Water Treatment Plant programme which will commence in 2023.</li> </ul>


## 2. Minor Capital



<b>IW Minor Water Schemes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Water Plant Generators</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To improve resilience of water treatment plants, a number of new generators have been installed, including at Creagh WTP Gorey Town and at Vinegar Hill WTP.</li> <li>○ Additional generators are currently being procured for Fardystown wellfield borehole sites.</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ <b>Treated Water storage programme</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 3 sites in Wexford – Kilmallock bridge, Camolin and Killealy.</li> <li>○ Kilmallock Bridge Reservoir planning granted; Tender issued to market September 2022.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>IW Minor Wastewater Schemes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Pump Upgrades</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Pump and control upgrades for Ryland Road WWPS Bunclody, Mauritiustown WWPS Rosslare, and Rosemary Heights WWPS Ferns are underway on site.</li> <li>○ New smart pumps to be installed at Ballygerry WWPS, Rosslare Harbour in December 2022.</li> <li>○ An order has been issued for new pumps and controls at Rosehill Heights WWPS in Rosslare Strand to improve resilience.</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ <b>SCADA Upgrades</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ SCADA upgrades at 3 No. WWTPs (Carrick, Kilmuckridge and Bridgetown) are now underway with Carrick completed in November.</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ <b>WWTP Minor Improvement Works</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Upgrade works to improve resilience of the inlet PS at Ballymurn WWTP is currently underway.</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ <b>Invest to Save</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Funding has been granted for a new sludge press at Rosslare Strand WWTP, with manufacture now complete, and installation is underway.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>IW Capital Maintenance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The capital maintenance budget for 2022 has been adjusted to €2.35 million</li> <li>➤ The latest available report from Irish Water shows spend to end of October at €2.44 million, with Irish Water confirming additional spend above budget will be funded centrally.</li> </ul>
<b>Non Irish Water Small Capital Schemes</b>	<p><b>The Willows, Wellingtonbridge</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Minor site improvement works were completed in October.</li> </ul> <p><b>Ballinamorrhagh, Curracloe</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rehabilitation works are currently being designed for the secondary treatment plant.</li> </ul>



<p><b>DPI Resolution Scheme for Water Services Infrastructure</b></p>	<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 in 2021 and 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Kyle Close, Oulart-</b> Water connection is complete with sewerage to follow in 2023.</li> <li>➤ <b>Mountain View, Ballindaggin-</b> COF received from IW. Survey complete and full design underway.</li> <li>➤ <b>Gleann na gCaor, Monagear-</b> Connection enquiry made. Design in progress</li> <li>➤ <b>Cois Cuan, Arthurstown</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Coolballow estate-</b> Connection granted for decommissioning of DPI at Coolballow estate to connect to Wexford SS</li> </ul>
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<p><b>3. Rural Water</b></p>	
<p><b>Measure 2 - Public Health Compliance</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Kilanerin GWS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Hydrogeologist Final Report has been received and reviewed into the causes of high nitrate level within the extracted raw water from the GWS borehole.</li> <li>○ Group Water Scheme discussing option of installing a nitrate monitor to give us access to reliable data for future solution.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Measure 3 - Enhancement of Existing Schemes including Water Conservation</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Blackstairs GWS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Storage Tank</b> - Hydraulic model assessment has been undertaken by the Consultants.</li> <li>○ A report has been provided and assessed.</li> <li>○ Initial assessment is that a new storage tank is not the best solution.</li> <li>○ GWS have reviewed and discussed at committee, we are awaiting written confirmation of option agreed.</li> <li>○ <b>Reservoir Bypass</b> -WCC have been informed of potential additional costs required to carry out works.</li> <li>○ A report has been compiled and submitted to the Dept.; the Dept. requested further information.</li> <li>○ Additional reports were completed and submitted to the Dept. in December.</li> <li>○ The Dept. are currently reviewing, they feel it constitutes a change in contract. We expect a response in early December.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Measure 5 - Transition of Existing Group Water</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Bing GSS - Community Wastewater Connection (CWwC)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 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</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<p><b>Schemes and Group Sewerage Schemes</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Stage 2 of the part XI process commenced on 23<sup>rd</sup> March when the documents were submitted to Planning.</li> <li>○ Works currently in development are preparation of site investigation works and main contract tender packages.</li> <li>○ Returned tender price from contractors for main contract works shall be subject to final Departmental assessment and approval.</li> <li>○ Site visit and meeting took place in June with the committee and landowners regarding pumping station sites.</li> <li>○ 1 Pumping station site had to be adjusted due to flood plan in new County Development Plan. This has now been pegged as requested by Committee &amp; landowners. Awaiting on their response November 2022.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Measure 6 – Community Connection Networks (Water)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>MARWP 2022-2024</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Exploratory works have commenced for suitable projects for submission in the next round of the programme.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Measure 8 – Individual wells (private or household wells)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Individual Well Grants</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A total of 42 new well grant applications were registered in October &amp; November 2022.</li> <li>○ 29 Well Grants have been paid in this period, totalling €49,454</li> <li>○ IT are currently designing a further Workflow prototype for well grant applications.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Measure A8 – Waster Water Collection &amp; Treatment Needs for Villages &amp; Settlements without access to Public Wastewater Service</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>New Advance Phase of MARWP 2022-2024</b></li> <li>○ Submissions requested from all local authorities</li> <li>○ Deadline 15<sup>th</sup> September 2022</li> <li>○ Matrix was constructed for Priority funding</li> <li>○ Limited to two applications</li> <li>○ Feasibility studies submitted to the Department for Ramsgrange and Glynn for review by expert panel</li> <li>○ Further information regarding the option for Glynn was requested from the Dept. which has been submitted.</li> </ul>

## 4. Water Conservation



<b>Water Conservation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ <b>Consumption</b> Current countywide consumption for November 2022 is on average 43.07MLD. Overall consumption is trending high.</li></ul>
<b>Leak Detection &amp; Repair</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ <b>Leak repairs</b> Leak repairs are on-going throughout the county. 31nr operational repairs were recorded for November 2022.</li><li>➤ <b>Planned Operational Leak Detection (PLD)</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Planned leak detection was focused mainly on Wexford, Fardystown, and Camolin areas during November 2022.</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>Water Network Programme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ <b>Rehab Submissions</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Trance 7 rehab and BYS proposals have been submitted for Irish Water for approval of 2023 works. An extension of 2.55km to the Duncannon line project has been approved to date.</li><li>○ Airfield Road – Ballysilla to Lacken hydraulic upgrade of watermain, will be undertaken by IW Regional contractor, Shareridge. Design of the 1.95km has commenced and construction will commence early 2023.</li></ul></li><li>➤ <b>Find and Fix</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ LA Find crews were concentrated in New Ross and Hook areas.</li><li>○ Contractor crews were in Wexford town, Enniscorthy and Gorey.</li><li>○ 8nr repairs were completed with a saving of 2.2m<sup>3</sup>/hr I n November 2022.</li></ul></li><li>➤ <b>BYS Services</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Enniscorthy BYS works are underway in St John’s Villas, Pearse Road, Redmond St and Drumgoold Villas by Irish Water’s Regional Contractor, Shareridge.</li><li>○ No scheme is fully decommissioned yet, additional properties were noted to be supplied from the St Johns villas scheme, supply needed to be restored until further works completed here,</li><li>○ 2023 requested BYS schemes are currently under review with IW.</li></ul></li><li>➤ <b>Pressure Management</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Proposals for 2023 funding are currently being requested with IW.</li></ul></li><li>➤ <b>First Fix</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ IW Regional Contractor, Shareridge are conducting ongoing First Fix investigations and repairs around the county.</li></ul></li></ul>

## MAJOR NATIONAL ROADS PROJECTS

### N11/N25 Oilgate to Rosslare Harbour

- Ground Investigation Ireland Ltd. has been appointed as Ground Investigation and Contractor is mobilising to commence work on site.
- Environmental surveys, traffic studies and traffic modelling are ongoing.
- The overall design of the development is progressing.
- Engagement with the landowners is ongoing. Landowners are being presented with the proposed alignment on an individual bases and this will continue in the coming period.
- 35% pre-finance of the approved financial support for Phase 3 Design & Environmental Studies from the European Commission CEF has been paid to Wexford County Council.

### N25 Rosslare Europort Access Road

Awaiting a decision from An Bord Pleanála.

- Section 177AE planning application & CPO Maps and Schedules were submitted to An Bord Pleanála on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2022.
- 3 submissions were made to An Bord Pleanála which may at its discretion hold an oral hearing on proposed development.
- Anticipated date for the decision by An Bord Pleanála is 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

## 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.

Invitations to tender were issued on 30<sup>th</sup>. August with a tender return date of 16<sup>th</sup> September. The contract was awarded on 24<sup>th</sup> October.

Pavement works will commence in the first quarter of 2023.



## **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.

Invitation to tender were issue on 14<sup>th</sup> October with a tender return date of 28<sup>th</sup> October.

The contract was awarded on 22<sup>nd</sup> November.

Pavement works will commence in the first quarter of 2023.

## **2022 Safety Schemes**

### **N25 Ballygillane Roundabout**

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

This scheme was tendered in November 2021.

Works commenced on 23<sup>rd</sup> May and should be substantially completed in February 2023

## **2022 Additional Maintenance Allocations**

### **N30 Forestwood Pavement Repair**

**€250,000**

Wexford County Council applied for and received additional maintenance funding from TII to carry out pavement repairs on the N30 at Forestwood. These works were tendered in August. Construction was completed in November.

### **Drainage and Verge Maintenance**

**€110,000**

Wexford County Council applied for and received additional maintenance funding for drainage and verge maintenance works on the N11, N25 and N30.

These maintenance works were completed during May and June.

A consultant will be appointed to carry out a drainage design for a section of the N25 between Barntown and Larkins cross that flooded twice since 25<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

### **Former National - R744 Millpark Road Enniscorthy**

**€350,000**

This allocation was for the upgrade of former national roads. This will be used to carry out pavement repairs on Millpark road from Castle Hill to Arnolds Cross. A contractor was appointed in October. Construction is due to commence in December.

## **REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROADS**

The Regional and Local Road Grant Allocations were announced on 15 February 2022. Wexford's allocation was €23,749,787 up €4,529,827 on 2021. This allocation included €4,000,000 for Christmas day 2021 flood damage.

### **Resurfacing/Strengthening**

The 2022 strengthening programme commenced in the Enniscorthy District on 31 January 2022 at Bola Beg, Ballindaggan. The 2022 strengthening programme of 93km is 100% complete

Roads completed (macadam surfacing) in the last month:

- Clonmore & Marshalstown; (Enniscorthy District);
- Monageer at School & Oulart Village; (Gorey-Kilmuckridge District);
- Carrowreagh Village; (New Ross District);
- Innis; Ballymitty Cross; Paradise and Belgrove; (Rosslare District).

### **Surface Dressing Works**

The 2022 surface dressing programme (126km) commenced 10 June in Enniscorthy MD and finished in Wexford Borough District 20 September.

### **Community Involvement Schemes**

The 2022 Community Involvement Scheme programme of resurfacing 8 roads is 100% complete.

### **Local Improvement Schemes**

Wexford County Council was allocated €781,027 for 23 lanes. All 23 lanes have been completed.

### **Bridge Rehabilitation Grant**

15 bridges of 19 are complete with remaining works to be complete by year end.

*These exclude bridges funded under Christmas day 2021 flood damage.*

### **Flood Damaged Bridge Repairs**

Repairs are complete and roads are re-open at the following bridges:

- Enniscorthy District: Kilcarbry, Kiltilly, Ballinavary. Kiltrea Bridges
- New Ross District: Garraun, Paisleyhall, Raheen.

Temporary structures in place pending statutory consents:

- Chapel Bridge, Adamstown and Cullenstown Little

- Section 50 consents received from the OPW for 3 structures, the 2 bridges mentioned above and Wilton Bridge.
- Detailed design for permanent reinstatement and rebuild is being finalised prior to Part 8 planning application and tender.
- All 3 reconstructions 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. An underwater inspection of the bridge structure was carried out in 2021 and no defects were found below the water.

An Bord Pleanála has granted permission for the remediation project to proceed. The design and tender documents are complete. Tenders for construction are due back 8 November 2022. Works are expected to commence in Q1 of 2023.

### **General Maintenance**

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

### **ACTIVE TRAVEL**

A dedicated Active Travel Team of 4 staff is now in place to progress National Transport Authority (NTA) approved Active Travel Infrastructure in Wexford. This team is working with the 5 District Engineers to develop a list of schemes for funding allocation for 2023 for NTA, Department of Transport.

The team is also currently managing three large schemes in Wexford town namely: -

- Roxborough R730, Wexford which is at Options Appraisal Stage
- Beechlawn/Clonard, Wexford which is at Preliminary Design Stage; Active Travel team met with Wexford Bus Connect to seek their approval regarding bus shelter locations along schemes route.
- Newtown Road, Wexford Segregated Cycle Scheme at detailed design stage. RPS the consultants are due to finalise tender docs and publish tender docs before year end 2022. They are in consultation with Tramore House Design office to ensure works complement proposals on N11 National Road tie into Vehicle restraint System modification works to accommodate cyclists on N11 on approach to New Ross Road Roundabout (VRS).

Note the above three projects combined make up the 'Pathfinder' project which is the main scheme for Active Travel for Wexford Town for 2023 -2025

- R723 Oaklands to Kents Cross, New Ross which is for a Segregated Cycle Scheme, and which is at Preliminary Design Stage. The team met with RPS on site and discussed trees which may be potentially impacted on either side. We are employing an Arborist to provide a professional tree assessment.

The team is also currently working on grant allocation list for inclusion in 2023 scheme funding application to NTA for their consideration.

### **Safe Routes to School**

The team is also working on the Safe Routes to School scheme with three schools advancing to design stage in 2022 and due to be on site in 2023: - Adamstown NS, Rosslare Strand NS and St. Aidan's NS, Enniscorthy. A subsequent list of schools is in place for assessment in 2023 by the NTA and will be announced shortly.

### **Cycle Connects**

Ireland's Cycle Network is now open for public consultation. This project aims to improve sustainable travel by providing the potential for more trips on a safe and accessible cycling network, connecting more people to more places. As part of the optioneering process conducted by Aecom our active Travel team has made recommendations on proposed routes to Hugh McCarthy regarding routes for further consideration by as part of the optioneering process for Cycle connect.

Routes proposed for further consideration:

#### **Gorey MD:**

Gorey to Tara Hill

#### **New Ross MD:**

1. New Ross to JFK Arboretum & Park, Slievecoillte & Dunganstown (JFK Homestead) – Possible Loop

#### **Wexford MD:**

1. Wexford to Johnstown Castle
2. Wexford to Barntown / Carrigfoyle (2 options or a loop)
3. Wexford to Castlebridge

#### **Enniscorthy MD:**

1. Old Dublin road link
2. Enniscorthy to Bree Hill
3. Milehouse Road Link



## **Rosslare MD:**

1. Bridgetown to Kilmore Quay. Possible using the canal edge for part of journey and/or loop with road.

Proposals for cycling links in key cities, towns and villages in each county are included in the plan, in addition to connections between the larger towns, villages and settlements. The plan also incorporates existing and planned cycle routes such as Greenways and Blueway's.

## **Climate Action Plan 2021**

The Active Travel team are working closely with the 5 district engineers in order to generate schemes within their areas on foot of a Letter from Department of Transport regarding road space reallocation for Action 231f where each LA is required to assess their road network and identify where additional space can be reallocated to pedestrians and cyclists under the Climate Action Plan. Deadline date for submission is 16th December 2022.

## **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 by early 2023.

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 was installed at the following locations under the Public Lighting Development Fund.

- Ballygarrett Village – Works completed.
- Balintray, Courtown – Works completed. One ESB connection made. Awaiting a second ESB connection.
- Killinick Village -Completed
- Wexford Town – Mulgannon \_ Works completed.
- North Parade Gorey – infill lighting on ESB Network poles. Lights installed. Awaiting ESB connection.
- Clonattin Road Gorey – infill lighting on ESB Network poles. Lights installed. Awaiting ESB connection.

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

- Ramsfort Avenue Gorey – infill along by GAA pitch. Lighting design being carried out and quotations due in December.
- The Ballagh – Church to the school – Lighting design being carried out and quotations due in December.
- The Ballagh – Ballagh Cove to regional road. Lighting design being carried out and quotations due in December.
- Killenagh Village – Completed.
- Wexford Town – Seamus Kelly roundabout to Spawell Road. Lighting design being carried out and quotations due in December.
- Rathgarogue Village
- Davistown Village

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

## SPECIAL PROJECTS

### 1.1 Forth Mountain Activity Park – Phase 1 – Trails and Carpark

Final snag works and additional works to improve accessibility along some of the existing trails has now been completed.

#### **Forth Mountain Activity Park – Phase 2 - Activity Centre Building:**

The activity centre building was lodged for Part 8 planning in March by WCC's Architects Department and the period for public comment closed on 20/04/2022. A response to a request from An Bord Pleanála for further information relating to the project has been completed and submitted to the Board. The Part 8 planning application was withdrawn in October.

The proposed boathouse and external toilet facility on-site have completed pre-planning and the Part 8 planning documents was submitted in first week of November. Detailed design is progressing under Malone O Regan Consulting Engineers and is expected to be completed and go to tender in Q1 2023 pending a successful outcome from the Part 8 process.

### 1.2 Min Ryan Park

Sole Sports and Leisure were 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 have been instructed to install public lighting to both projects, which is due to commence in late January 2023.



### **1.3 Enniscorthy Technology Park Phase 1**

Phase 1 – the development of three serviced sites is substantially complete and the construction of the first building is nearing completion.

### **1.4 Gorey District Park**

The external area of the park opened to the public on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2021 and the new playground and adult gym equipment is fully installed and in use. The final landscape planting is now virtually complete. Work on the building is broadly complete with final snagging currently ongoing. A tender competition to supply & install a Changing Places facility, at the park, is currently live.

### **1.5 South East Greenway**

Contracts for the works on Lots 1, 2 and 3 were awarded to Glas Civil Engineering and works are now substantially completed on site. Fitting of bridge parapet railings to railway bridges between Glenmore and New Ross is completed.

Landowner agreements on accommodation works are progressing. The issuing of tender documentation for works Lot 5A (Ferrybank to Curraghmore) has been delayed and it will now be tendered in December.

Fencing and public light ducting works have been tendered, with works expected to commence in January, which will enable opening of the first section of greenway in Q2 2023.

Wexford County Council's Arts office in partnership with the South East Greenway Project Team has commissioned designers 'Elements Of Action' with visual artist Aoife Banville, to develop a pilot creative public art project for the Greenway working with local communities in the New Ross and surrounding areas, including South Kilkenny. This work is ongoing.

### **1.6 Trinity Wharf**

Due to significant inflation in the market since tenders were received, the original tender process for the access road undertaken in 2021 was abandoned. A revised tender invitation issued in December 2021 and tenders have been received and have been assessed. It is expected to award the works contract in November 2022.

Procurement of consultants for design services for the site development and public infrastructure works is underway. The pre-qualification process is completed, and the successful design firms have been issued with tender documents. Tender submissions were received on 31/03/2022. Appointment is expected in Q4 2022.

## 1.7 New Ross Fire Station

The contract to construct the New Ross Fire Station was awarded to Kevin Thorpe Ltd. Works commenced on site in May 2021 and the works are now substantially complete.



## 1.8 Wexford Arts Centre Extension

The main works contract has been awarded to McKelan Construction Ltd and works commenced on site in May 2021. The works are now complete with the Arts Centre having reopened in time for the Opera Festival. The official opening ceremony was held on November 12<sup>th</sup> 2022.





## 1.9 High Hill, New Ross

The Contract was awarded to MJS Civil Engineering and works are now substantially completed. The park opened to the public on the 6<sup>th</sup> of October 2022.



## 1.10 Monck Street Enhancement Scheme

The main works contract was awarded Tony Kirwan Civil Engineering Ltd in February 2022 and works commenced on site on 21/03/2022.

The works are now substantially complete.



### **1.11 New Ross Public Realm – 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 completed in July 2021.

A Part 8 development consent application for the development of the public realm space on the site was confirmed at the Council's meeting in March 2022. A tender competition for the works contract is currently underway with tenders received in late November and tender assessment ongoing. Works are expected to commence on site in Q1 2023.

An application for category 1 capital funding under the RRDF scheme was submitted in April 2022. Funding of €814,393 was awarded to the project in November 2022.

### **1.12 Templeshannon Regeneration, Enniscorthy:**

The Templeshannon Regeneration Strategy identifies a number of enabling projects required to achieve regeneration, including:

- Improving the public realm and streetscape in Templeshannon area;
- Establishing a new link to the town centre by construction of a new pedestrian bridge;
- The management and progressive transformation of the Leisure Centre Car Park;
- The creation of new urban blocks for infill development.

The site investigation (SI) work for the pedestrian bridge has been completed. The preliminary design and bridge options report has been completed taking account of the results of the SI works and is currently under review.

WCC is engaged with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in regard to a further funding application to support regeneration in Enniscorthy. The planning Department is working in collaboration with Special Projects to develop a strategic plan for Enniscorthy and is currently being drafted.

### **1.13 John Street Building Regeneration Project**

WCC was successful in securing RRDF funding to design a redevelopment of the old grain stores at John Street, New Ross, which will see these buildings converted into a high-quality enterprise hub.

A portion of the grain store building has been purchased by agreement. The CPO for the remaining sections is now formally complete. ODKM Architects are in the process of finalising survey information to prepare a preliminary design for the scheme. A Part 8 consent process will follow in Q1 2023.

### **1.14 Esmonde Street**

RPS is progressing with the detailed design. Site investigation works are now completed. Irish Water have now approved proceeding with the design of the sewer upgrade and CCTV and survey works has been completed. The detailed design for the sewer upgrade being progressed. Irish Rail has requested additional site investigations to the abutments of the bridge for the sewer upgrade which will take place this month.

WCC submitted an application for category 1 funding under the current call for RRDF for this project. WCC received notification in November that the RRDF application for Esmonde Street was unsuccessful. Design works are continuing with a view to going to tender in Q2 2023. An allocation of €2m from internal funds has been committed to this project.

### **1.15 Gorey Market House**

A Part VIII planning application for re-development of the Market House into a multi-purpose performance/exhibition/retail space was approved in May 2018.

A call for Expressions of Interest / Tender Proposals from private sector investors was advertised in January 2020 and 2 submissions were received by the closing date of 13/02/2020. This tender process was concluded in May 2021 without the award of a contract.

WCC are now considering options to attract private investment for the successful development of the Market House. KPMG has been appointed to advise on this process. WCC will bring this for discussion to the next meeting of Gorey/Kilmuckridge municipal district.

### **1.16 Mechanics Institute**

Consulting Engineers were appointed in March 2020 to undertake design, tendering and construction management services for essential maintenance works at the Mechanic's Institute. A works contract has awarded to Roger Doyle Contractors with construction scheduled to take 6 months. Work will commence after Christmas.

### **1.17 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.

#### **INHP**

The tourism and environmental design teams for the INHP have commenced work on the preliminary design and the environmental assessments. It is planned to submit a planning application for the project to An Bord Pleanála in Q2 2023.

#### **Hook Lighthouse**

The process of negotiation for tourism design services with the preferred tenderer from the 2017 Hook Heritage Ltd competition has closed without an award of contract following the withdrawal of the preferred tenderer in December. WCC advertised for tourism coordinator services for the project through the existing multi party framework and Tourism Development International Ltd. (in association with John Ruddle) were the successful tenderers and have now been appointed. TDI met with the board of Hook Heritage Ltd. in October and are now progressing the procurement of interpretative design services and are supporting WCC in the procurement of the Integrated Design Team services.

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

#### **New Ross Tourism Project**

Kantar have been appointed by Failte Ireland to undertake stage 1 and 2 concept testing research for the Norman Centre for tourism concepts/ideas. This work has now been completed.

The contract for tourism co-ordination and management services for the New Ross Tourism project was awarded to Alan Sherwood & Associates in November 2021 and they are currently reviewing the outline interpretive design and developing a plan for procurement of detailed design services of the Norman Centre, which includes the Ros Tapestry. We expect to advertise tenders for services (interpretative and architectural/engineering) in January.

The tender for the interpretive fitout on the Dunbrody Experience is now being advertised and will close in December 2022 with an appointment expected in Q1 2023.

#### **1.18 Enniscorthy Town Centre & Tourism Project:**

This project provides for the phased development of a new tourism project of scale centred on Enniscorthy Castle that will have the capacity to significantly increase tourism visitor numbers to the town.

The Enniscorthy Tourism Plan report was presented to the Enniscorthy MDC in July 2021.

Tenders for preliminary design and planning consent services have been received for Phase 1 of the project and an appointment is imminent.

#### **1.19 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. have been appointed to carry out the Marine and Land based surveys and Boreholes at Courtown. They commenced work on the 23<sup>rd</sup> May and the site investigation work was completed.

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 earlier this month, to get permission to carry out Benthic Grab samples. This work will commence once approval is granted.

Its is currently planned to submit an application to An Bord Pleanala for development consent in Autumn 2023.

#### **1.20 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 up-coming national rail review. The application for planning consent for the Rosslare to Waterford greenway project has been paused, pending a decision from the DOT on the future of the rail corridor.

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

### **1.21 Wexford Town to Rosslare Greenway**

Fehily Timoney and Company 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 and a presentation was given to the joint Wexford and Rosslare MDCs in late March on this project. Public consultation on the preferred route corridor options commenced on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022 with the window for receipt of submissions closing on June 10<sup>th</sup>.

Fehily Timoney and Company 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.

### **1.22 Oyster Lane Car Park, Wexford**

A Part 8 submission has been made for the demolition of existing unoccupied buildings on the old Tesco site and for construction of a temporary surface level car park. The Part 8 was confirmed at the March 28<sup>th</sup> full Council meeting.

O'Connor Sutton Cronin consulting engineers has been appointed to provide design and construction related consultancy services for the project.

Tender assessment for the demolition works tender competition for the project is currently underway. Works are expected to commence onsite in early 2023. The main car park works contract will follow thereafter.

### **1.23 Crescent Quay – Dredging**

An award of contract was made to RPS Consulting Engineers in June 2021 for design services for engineering assessment, environmental and foreshore consent applications in respect of this project. RPS are currently specifying and procuring investigative works to inform the dredging strategy. Hydromaster Ltd. Have been appointed to undertake sampling and testing of the proposed material to be dredged as part of the statutory consent process, and these services will be carried out in December with results expected in late January 2023.

### **1.24 Old Dublin Road Business Park, Enniscorthy**

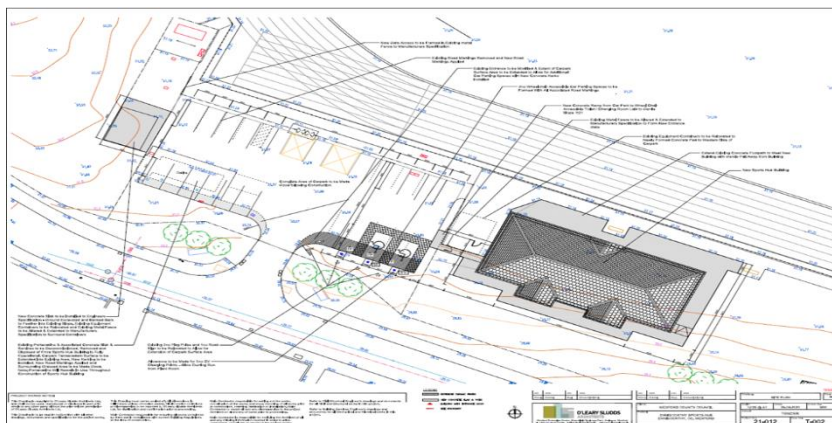
The final masterplan has now been completed and presented at the Enniscorthy MDC's October 2021 meeting. A contract for the initial phase 1 works was advertised in January 2022, these works include new footpath, pedestrian crossings, new entry signage and landscaping. The Phase 1 works contract has been awarded to Hughes and Hennessy. Works which commenced in July is almost complete. We are waiting for delivery of the new signage and ESB connection to crossing beacons.

A further application for funding of the masterplan has been made for 2023 under the NTA's active travel scheme



## 1.25 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, therefore, it has been decided not to progress with awarding a works contract. A redesign process for the project is now underway, and it is expected to retender the project in early 2023.



## 1.26 Curracloe Water Sports Activity Facility

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

The tender for design services was advertised in Jan 2022, the tender evaluation process is now complete. The tender for design services was advertised in Jan 2022, the tender evaluation process is now complete, and an appointment of a consultant will be made in December, with surveying works and detailed design to commence in Q1 2023.

## 2. Flood Defence Schemes

### 2.1 Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme:

Statutory Process - The Minister for the Department of Public Expenditure & Reform (MDPER) issued his decision to refuse the scheme on 4th March 2022. Details are available on [www.gov.ie](http://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. The minister supported a WCC proposal to progress the new River Slaney Bridge and the Flood Defence Scheme as two separate standalone projects.

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 have issued a programme of work – the preferred option report & environmental assessment reports are scheduled to be completed in Q3 2023. At that stage planning options will be reviewed, and the preferred planning route selected.

New River Slaney Bridge - The ecology baseline data is currently being updated and the traffic surveys have been completed. ROD have issued a programme of work – planning is expected to be submitted in Q3 2023.”

## **2.2 Wexford Flood Relief Scheme:**

The project brief for design services for Wexford Flood Relief Project was advertised on e-tenders in early 2020. Seven tender submissions were received by the extended closing date of the 9<sup>th</sup> July 2020. Following a detailed tender assessment and evaluation process the decision not to award a contract arising from this tender competition has been advised to all tenderers. A further procurement process has been advertised with tenders received on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022. A new tender assessment board was set up and the tender assessment is proceeding. We expect to have a tender recommendation report complete for OPW approval in the coming weeks.

# HOUSING

## Wexford County Council – AHB Forum

The inaugural meeting of Wexford County Council's Approved Housing Body (AHB) Forum was held on the 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022 in the Riverside Park Hotel. The Forum is chaired by Ms. Carolyn Godkin, Director of Services. The meeting was a great success and there were representatives from 10 different AHB's on the day.

The aim of WCC AHB Forum is to promote co-operation and develop partnership opportunities between Wexford County Council and Approved Housing Bodies to achieve our shared objective to deliver and manage homes for individuals and families who need support in meeting their accommodation needs.

Some discussion on the day included the important contribution of AHB's for Wexford County Council' delivery of units under Housing For All and around aligning our housing needs with their delivery proposals. There was plenty of opportunity also to share experience and learnings between housing managers and the networking carried on over a cup of tea after the meeting.

The Forum will meet again in 2023.

## Housing Supply

### **Capital Projects**

Houses complete in 2022 have been removed from the table below.

<b>Project Address</b>	<b>No of Units</b>	<b>Municipal District Area</b>	<b>Current Position</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Rosetown Phase 1	23	Rosslare	Under Construction	Due to complete in Q1 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.
Rosetown Phase 2	12	Rosslare	Stage 3	Tenders received 28 <sup>th</sup> Oct. Appoint Contractor Q4 2022 To commence on site Q1 23
Whiterock Hill Phase 2	22	Wexford	Stage 3	Tender approval Q4 2022. To commence construction Q1 2023
Women's Refuge	12	Wexford	Stage 4	Contract Approval in place. Commence Construction Q1 2023
Ballyhine, Barntown	7	Wexford	Stage 3	Tenders due Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2022 Construction to Commence Q1 2023
Bullawn	3	New Ross	SS	Enabling Works tenders received. Appoint demolition contractor in Dec. Demolitions in January. Tender Construction works Q1 2023
Wexford Street	30	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Stage 3	Upload Tenders for construction contract 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec 22.

Rosbercon	38 (est)	New Ross	Stage 2	Enabling Works re-tender Dec 2022. Appoint Enabling Contractor Jan 2023.
Francis St.	2	Wexford	SS	Revised application to DHLGH Dec 22. Tender Works in Q1 2023
Killeens	60	Wexford	Stage 1	Lodge Stage 2 Dec 2022. Part VIII Q1 2023
Creagh	22	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Stage 1/2	Consultants (QS and CS) appointed for combined Stages 1 and 2. Lodge application to DHLGH Q1 2023 for Design Build.
Monomolin	5	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	SS	Bundle Tender for 3 projects to appoint consultants in Q1 2023. (Monomolin, Ballygillane and Grogans Road)
Ballygillane	5	Rosslare	SS	Bundle Tender for 3 projects to appoint consultants in Q1 2023. (Monomolin, Ballygillane and Grogans Road)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>264</b>			

#### Pre-Development Stage

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Bride Street	3	Wexford	Demolitions complete. SS Funding application to DHLGH Q1 2023
Tagoat	18	Rosslare	Consultants (QS and CS) to be appointed for combined Stages 1 and 2 in Q1 2023. Lodge application to DHLGH Q1 2023 for Design Build.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21</b>		

#### Longer Term Projects

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Clonard	26	Wexford	Decision on cost and procurement of the main road pending. A proposal has been submitted by a neighboring developer.
St Walerans	35	Gorey	Part VIII lodged in Nov 2022.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>61</b>		

### Other Projects (early feasibility)

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Lacken TAP	1	New Ross	Design underway for new dwelling.
Adamstown	2	New Ross	Tenders for asbestos removal due 5th Dec 2022. Demolitions to commence Q1 2023
Belvedere	6	Wexford	Revised proposal complete Q4 2022
Creagh	24	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Sketch design prepared for site investigations and surveys.
Grogan's Road	4	Wexford	Bundle Tender for 3 projects to appoint consultants in Q1 2023. (Monomolin, Ballygillane and Grogans Road)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37</b>		

### Approved Housing Bodies

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
<b>Cluid</b>			
Barr an Aird, Coolcotts	67	Wexford	All units delivered
Tobar Muire Place	17	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	To deliver late 2022
Hewittlands, New Ross (LAGS site)	48	New Ross	DHLGH Approval in Principle received June 2022. Awaiting Planning decision.
Bridgemedows, Enniscorthy	12	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval Nov 2022. To deliver Q2 2023
<b>Tuath</b>			
Ramstown, Gorey	68	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	24 units delivered. Remainder to deliver 2023
Gleann an Ghairdin	24	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	To deliver Q4 2022/Q1 2023
<b>Peter Mc Verry Trust</b>			
The Quay, New Ross	6	New Ross	To deliver by end year 2022
<b>Co Operative Housing Ireland (CHI)</b>			
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
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>329</b>		

### Part V Acquisitions

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Roxborough Manor, Mulgannon	22	Wexford	All units delivered
Greenhills, Clonhaston, Enniscorthy	5	Enniscorthy	Expected to deliver Q4 2022
Gleann an Ghairdin Ph 3	10	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	To deliver 2022/2023.
Tobar Muire, Creagh Demesne	4	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	2 units delivered, 2 to be delivered by end of 2022/early 2023
Ard an Bhile, Healysland, New Ross	5	New Ross	2 units delivered . Remainder expected to deliver late 2022/early 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
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>59</b>		

## Turnkeys

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Ballynaglogh, Blackwater	16	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	All units delivered
Tobar Muire, Creagh Demesne	39	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	10 units delivered. Remainder to deliver by end of 2022/early 2023
Ard an Bhile, Healysland, New Ross	43	New Ross	16 units completed. Remaining units expected to deliver late 2022/early 2023.
Roxborough Manor, Mulgannon	13	Wexford	All units delivered
Castlelands, Ferns	20	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval received Jan 2022. Under Construction. Expected to deliver Q4 2022/Q1 2023
Houghton Place, New Ross (includes 1 Part V)	13	New Ross	Expected to deliver 2023/2024
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. To deliver Q4 2022/Q12023
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>172</b>		

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.

### **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:

<b>WCC Services</b>	<b>Focus Ireland Services</b>	<b>HSE Services</b>
Homeless Assessment	Tenancy Sustainment Services	Substance Misuse Outreach Services
Homeless Prevention and support services through early intervention	Housing First Project	Tusla Domestic Violence Womens Refuge
Links to external agencies where appropriate	Advice & Information Service	Tusla Aftercare
HAP Place Finder Service		Mental Health
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 <b>1,354</b> calls to the HSSU from 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2022 to 1 <sup>st</sup> December 2022, the following is the breakdown of same:-	
856 (64%)	Provided with advice and support in relation to housing and homeless prevention
87 (6%)	Supported with temporary, short, medium and long-term accommodation and tenancy sustainment support through Place Finder and Social Care Workers
319 (23%)	Ineligible at the time presentation for housing/homeless services. HSSU advised and assisted to regularise housing situation.
92 (7%)	It was not possible to complete a full assessment.

## **Housing Maintenance**

The following table shows the number of repairs carried out from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2022:

Repairs	Enniscorthy	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	New Ross	Wexford	Rosslare	Total
Repair Requests <i>(1st – 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022)</i>	191	107	210	179	99	786
Repair Requests Year to Date	1383	928	1492	1418	741	5962
Accommodation Units Repaired <i>(1st – 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022)</i>	151	79	146	135	77	588
Accommodation Units Repaired Year to Date	689	474	646	727	360	2896

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

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

### **Wexford Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme**

#### **Coolcotts Halloween Fest 2022**

Wexford Sláintecare funded Coolcotts Halloween Fest 2022. This project involved a series of workshops and the organisation of a local Halloween festival for the local community, organised by younger people and their youth workers in FDYS Wexford. The focus was to improve community partnerships with FDYS, Wexford County Council and Community Gardaí and improve health & wellbeing for the participants. It also gave the young people a chance to promote the positive elements of their community and empower local young people. In excess of 500 people attended the event which included performances by local young people, Extreme Rhythm and a fireworks display. Drumming workshops and a visit by 15 of Wexford Festival Opera's factory singers also took place as part of this initiative.



### **Loreto Secondary School Wexford - horticulture, biodiversity and wellbeing project**

The start of a horticulture, biodiversity and wellbeing project with students in the Loreto Secondary School in Wexford kicked off on 29<sup>th</sup> November with a day long session which included talks from experts and practical sessions on composting and growing your own plants and vegetables. Work commenced with students on the planning and design of the 2 elements of this project – a horticulture/growing area for plants, vegetables and flowers as well as a quiet reflective wellbeing space. Work now moves on the building of raised beds and the planting of seeds all of which is funded and run under the Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme

### **Enniscorthy Community College – Launch of After School Initiatives**

November also saw the launch of the Enniscorthy Community College After School Initiatives project which includes activities aimed at potential early school leavers to encourage them to stay in school. The activities which were chosen by the students themselves include boxfit, cooking, health & beauty and horticulture. Part of the initiative is to bring in support services including An Garda Síochána and youth workers from FDYS to help build positive relationships and raise awareness of the work they do.



### **Southend Wexford Energy pilot project**

An event to raise awareness of energy grants and the grants available was held in In St John of God School, The Faythe, Wexford Town on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November. This was an opportunity for members of the local community to learn about the various grants available to improve the energy efficiency in your home and also give assistance and advice on filling out grant applications. There was also information on Low Cost, No Cost improvements to save energy. SETU were also in attendance to collate information as part of a research project. This project is a partnership between Wexford County Council, SETU, Healthy Wexford, SEAI, Wexford Town Sustainable Energy Community and Southend FRC



## AGE FRIENDLY

### Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards 2022

The Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards 2022 took place on 24<sup>th</sup> November where Local Authorities from across the country come to celebrate their achievements and successes from the last year. In its 19th year, the Awards feature a total of 23 Local Authorities shortlisted in over 15 categories. Wexford County Council won the award in the Age Friendly category for the Wexford Telehealth pilot project which was a collaborative project led by Wexford County Council with partners including SETU, Tunstall Emergency Response, Wexford General Hospital, HSE and Wexford Older Peoples Council. Work will shortly commence on phase 2 of the project.



Healthy  
Wexford

### **December 2022 Report**

### **Healthy Ireland Round Four Funding**

Forward Planning for the 2023-2025 Healthy Ireland Funding Programme Application continued in November with a Facilitated Forward Planning Workshop.



This session reviewed the main Needs Analysis Survey findings and workshopped to agree the two Healthy Ireland Outcome Indicators for funding focus, as is required for Round Four funding .

Work is currently underway developing potential projects with partners for consideration in the funding application for activity in 2023-2025.

Activity continues on 2022 funded activity, with all activity to be completed by year end.



## Recent Healthy Wexford Activity

On Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November Healthy Wexford supported **Resilience Training for Community Volunteers**, delivered by Carlow Regional Youth Service.

Feedback on the course was excellent with all stating they were extremely likely to apply the learnings from the day in their community roles.

Positively all stated they would recommend the course to others in their community.

**Resilience Training for Community Volunteers**  
**Strong Not Tough**


"Strong Not Tough" is the adult version of the international FRIENDS programme, developed in Australia.

This training will provide individuals with a toolbox of evidence-based approaches designed to enhance their emotional resilience and manage stress more effectively.

These tools will help individuals improve their self-awareness, enhance their emotional literacy, empathy skills and improve peer relations.

Healthy Wexford are offering this course to community leaders across County Wexford. The learning and concepts of the programme using the CBT approach provides an invaluable skillset to share with the wider communities, in their homes, clubs etc.


Course delivered by



25<sup>th</sup> November 2022  
10am to 5pm

Riverside Park Hotel  
Enniscorthy

Pre-Booking required:  
Expressions of interest to  
Annette Dupuy  
annette.dupuy@wexfordcoco.ie  
087-6093565



The Healthy Ireland Fund supported by the Department of Health

## Celtic Routes

The Project Officer gave a welcome presentation to the Plenary Council of Wicklow County Council in November, and is expected to present to the Waterford City and County Council Plenary Council in January of 2023.

Thematic Groups are up and running and expected to have in-person meetings in both December and cross border in-person meetings in February next year.

Social media posts are increasing with the added content from the businesses engaging with the Thematic Groups.

Work on the Legacy of the Celtic Routes is ongoing, with input from all other Axis 3 Ireland Wales co-funded Projects.

## LEADER PROGRAMME

The Article 48 team processed 6 LEADER claims in October. The value of these claims were €237,355.13 which will support 3 community groups and 3 enterprise throughout County Wexford.



These claims can be broken down as follows:

Promoter Paid	Claim Payment
1. Killiane Castle Honey	€60,892.36
2. Space Digital Hub	€11,392.23
3. Walking Track Development at Shamrocks GAA grounds	€13,125.00
4. Wexford Home Preserves	€26,413.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>€ 111,823.09</b>

Payments Processed	Claim Payment
1. Carragh Concrete and Paving Limited	€99,994.60
2. Marshalstown Community Centre – Refurbishment of Toilets	€25,537.44
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>€ 125,532.04</b>

**JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE MEETING -**

*County Wexford Joint Policing Committee*

The next Joint Policing Committee (JPC) meeting will take place on Wednesday the 14th of December.



As agreed, the December JPC event is a joint meeting of both the County Wexford and Wicklow Joint Policing Committees, to be held in the Ashdown Park Hotel, Gorey, Co. Wexford.



**National Garda Youth Awards**

Wexford County Council in association with An Garda Síochána held the 6th Annual Wexford Garda Youth Awards on 10<sup>th</sup> October in the 'Street' of County Hall. These annual awards acknowledge the achievements of young people who are making a difference in their own lives and in their communities within County Wexford.

Winners Valeriia and Adriana Golub and Comhairle na nOg were both nominated by our selection panel to go forward for the National Garda Youth Awards.

On 12<sup>th</sup> November 2023, the event took place at the Midlands Park Hotel in Portlaoise. Both nominations were successful with Valeriia and Adriana Golub receiving a **Special Achievement Award** while Comhairle na nOg received a Group Award.

The awards presented by Deputy Commissioner Anne Marie McMahon who acknowledged the contributions of Wexford and its continuing work with the Garda Division and communities.





## LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (LCDC) MEETING –

A hybrid meeting of meeting of the Local Community and Development Committee was held on the 23rd of November 2022.

Agenda items included Election of the LCDC Chairperson and Vice Chairperson – with Cllr. Aidan Browne elected as Chairperson with Cllr. Lisa McDonald elected as Vice Chairperson.

The next meeting of the LCDC is scheduled for Dec 7<sup>th</sup> 2022.



## LOCAL ACTION GROUP (LAG) MEETING -

The next meeting of the Local Community and Development Committee acting as the LAG is scheduled for the 07th of December 2022.



## COMMUNITY SUPPORT FUND – UPDATE

As agreed by the members at the November meeting of the LCDC, the Department of Rural and Community Development have recently issued the guidelines regarding the roll out of the **Community Support Fund 2022**. The Community Support Fund will support groups, particularly in disadvantaged areas,

- With their non-pay running costs such as energy costs (electricity costs, refuse charges, heating charges) or other non-pay operating costs for e.g. rental/lease costs, insurance bills.
- Groups will also be able to use the funding to carry out necessary repairs and improvements to their facilities, purchase equipment for e.g. such as tables and chairs, tools and signage, laptops and printers, lawnmowers, canopies and training equipment etc.

The Department has recommended that LCDCs ring-fence 30% funding to provide small grants of €1,000 or less with 1% of the funding allocation towards Women's sheds projects.

It is hoped to launch the funding scheme in early December.

## SPORTS ACTIVE

### Funding Announcement

Sport Ireland announced an investment package of €6.1m in Tranche 1 Dormant Accounts Funding for a wide range of sport and physical activity measures across Ireland through the Local Sports Partnership Network, Cara, and Sport Ireland.

The investment aims to engage communities across the country, focusing on people living in disadvantaged communities, people with a disability, women and girls, and people who are educationally disadvantaged. Inclusion is a core value within sport, with sports inclusion disability projects also being prioritised within the funding.

This investment is closely aligned with the National Sports Policy and the National Physical Activity Plan, with the funding being disseminated into three areas; 1) Community Sports & Physical Activities Hubs (CSPAHS); 2) National Sport Education & Training and 3) Sports Measures for Disadvantaged Communities. A particular emphasis is placed on implementing programmes to promote physical activity, playing sports and physical activity accessible to people from diverse backgrounds, people with a disability and the development of programmes to address transitions and drop out from physical activity.

Accessibility, availability, and opportunity are components to the Dormant Accounts Funding, with this investment showcasing the importance of increasing activity levels for people in Ireland.

Sports Active Wexford has been awarded a total of €122000

<b>Funding Measure</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Capital</b>	<b>Total</b>
2022 Community Sports Hub Phase 1	€ 35,000.00	€25,000.00	€ 60,000.00
Youth Leadership*	€ 9,000.00	-	€ 9,000.00
Volunteer Supports*	€ 20,000.00	-	€ 20,000.00
SIDP	-	€ 23,000.00	€ 23,000.00
Get Girls Active	€ 10,000.00	-	€ 10,000.00

### 2022 Report - Leinster Rugby, Wexford GAA, FAI, Cricket Leinster



#### Leinster Rugby

- 5284 Primary School children across 120 schools – 2676 boys/2608 girls
- 2137 Secondary School children across 25 schools – 1231 boys/906 girls
- 1267 Youth/Mini Players across 4 clubs (59 teams) – 973 boys/294 girls
- 3000 Bank of Ireland Summer Camps – Aged 6 – 12 years
- 1000 School of Excellence – Aged 12 – 17 years



## Wexford GAA

- 8021 Primary school children across 70 schools – 4213 boys/3808 girls
- 6200 attendees at Cúl Camps across 44 venues – including 100 Ukrainian children who were sponsored and 80 free places through the school's completion programme
- 200 participants at the ASD Cúl Camp and 18 participants that the first Down Syndrome camp
- 500+ coaches have completed the ITCGG course and 120 are currently participating in the AWARD 1 course
- 1671 children in the Nursery Programme across 40 clubs
- 6 Post Primary Schools catered for with the Transition Year Future Leader Programme
- First Year Participation blitz for hurling and football
- 3500 children took part in Go Games in 2022 up from 2400 in 2018
- Target to increase game time by increasing games by 10% in 2022 in Participation Youth Games
- Integrated Athletic Development Pathway was launched providing expert athletic development to players in their school environment. 350 post primary school students across 6 schools currently take part.
- Currently 350 players in the Wexford GAA Model Óg Academy from U13 – U16



## FAI

- 9 clubs have signed up for the Not Around Us Campaign
- The Active Fellas Over 35s Astro League was run at Rosslare Rangers with 40+ participants and New Ross Celtic with 49 participants.
- There were 95 participants in the Traveller Men Football Programme across five venues . The Programme ran until June and started again in all venues in November with 80+ participants.
- 148 participants in the After-School Integration Programme in Catherine McCauley Junior School and New Ross Educate Together NS. The programme was linked to New Ross Celtic AFC.
- 181 participants in FFA school sessions in Gorey Educate Together NS, St. Patrick's Special School (Enniscorthy), Our Lady of Fatima Special School (Wexford), Ballymitty NS, St. Enda's NS (Ballycanew), Scoil Mhadoig (Poulfour) and The Catherine McCauley Junior School
- 116 participants took part in mainstream coaching sessions at Gorey Community School and Tombrack NS .
- 318 participants took part in the Primary School Futsal Programme Futsal In The Yard at New Ross Educate Together NS, Our Lady of Fatima Special School (2 blocks -for year 21/22 and 22/23), Oulart NS and St. Patrick's Special School.
- 131 participants in the FAI Primary 5s were run as in-school days at Scoil Mosholog (Gorey), Our Lady of Fatima Special School.
- Club Monitoring took place at Forth Celtic AFC, Glynn Barntown and Cushinstown AFC.

- There were Walking Football Groups at Rosslare Strand, St. Joseph's Community Centre and Curracloe United with in total.
- 44 participants took part in the 14 Regional Emerging Talent Programme sessions for Boys at Bunclody AFC in February (2), April (4), July (6), August (6) and October (2).
- There were blocks of Football For All Sessions with the National Learning Network (3 blocks) and Windmill Therapeutic (2 blocks).
- 44 participants in the FAI Adult Service Blitz Day at North End United.
- There was a block of FFA sessions with the Rainbow Youth Club in New Ross.
- The FAI Kickstart to Recovery programme ran in Enniscorthy with Wexford Mental Health Services.
- There was a new FFA Club set up at Courtown Hibs. There has been 4 support visits with the club since it began and also 3 support visits to Curracloe United's FFA club. There have been meetings with Campile United and Wexford FC with the latter due to be set up in Q1 of 2023.
- There was an 8 week Powerchair Football Taster Programme in Bunclody that will become a Powerchair club in 2023.
- 111 participants in the Soccer Sisters Easter Camps at Duncannon, All Blacks, Bunclody AFC and Rosslare Strand.
- The UEFA Disney Playmakers Programme was run at Bunclody AFC, Curracloe United AFC, Forth Celtic AFC and a FFA Girls In Green was run at Our Lady of Fatima Special School. There will be more Girls in Green, Disney Playmakers and Future Stars girls' programmes before the end of 2022.
- There was two afternoons of sessions Ukranian children at St. Mary's, Tagoat in April and another at Hookless in August.
- St. Leonard's and Bree United achieved the FAI Club Mark Entry level Award with Fastnet Rovers, North End United, Wexford Albion, Duncannon, Seaview United and Caim United all registering for the award and some clubs working on achieving the award.
- Coaches training for the FAI Summer Soccer Schools took place in June – 45 were employed to work on SSS in 2022.
- There was 30 mainstream SSS venues, 1 FFA SSS, and 3 Goalkeeper SSS in 2022 with 2,613 participants – 94 of these were children with disabilities.
- There were sessions with the School Completion Programme at Kennedy Park NS, Rosslare Summerfest and 4 Fun in the Sun Venues in July – Enniscorthy, Riverchapel, New Ross and Enniscorthy with 3 more in August – Bunclody, Rosslare Strand and Wexford Town.
- 86 participants on the FAI Late Night League in New Ross.
- Assisted Crossabeg AFC in setting up a new Academy section for their club.
- As part of the Mrs. Brown's Boys FAI Heart Care Programme we delivered defibrillators to Curracloe United, Forth Celtic, Camolin Celtic, Shelburne, Duncannon and St. Leonard's.
- The Social Soccer Integration programme at Rosslare Rangers for residents of the Rosslare Harbour Accommodation Centre is currently running for the second year and will be completed at the end of November.
- There were 14 Safeguarding 1 Courses delivered.
- In Coach Education we had:
  - ✓ PDP 1 courses at Curracloe United, Enniscorthy Vocational College, The Presentation Secondary School, Forth Celtic and Gorey Celtic.

- ✓ An Intro to Football at the Presentation Secondary School.
- ✓ A PDP 3 at Forth Celtic
- ✓ An Online Football Fitness Intro
- ✓ Disability Awareness Workshop – 1 online and one at Courtown Hibs
- ✓ Club Development Workshop – Coaches Workshop at New Ross Celtic

### **Sports Active Programmes**

Men on The Move – Men on The Move is finishing in New Ross this month and has started in Wexford on the 7<sup>th</sup> of November with 12 participants signed up. This is taking place in Faythe Harriers GAA Club Complex.

Couch to 5K – SAW are supporting a couch to 5K programme in Riverchapel Community Complex running through November and December. 31 participants are taking part and will run the Gorey parkrun on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December

Schools Swimming Programme: Through Healthy Ireland additional funding we have secured €3000 for each of the 4 main swimming pools (The Apex, New Ross, Wexford Swimming pool, Waterfront Enniscorthy and Active tribe Courtown) This will support DEIS schools to access swimming lessons for the coming months.

Staff Yoga- A 4-week staff yoga programme began on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November. 11 female staff registered for this programme.

Activator Poles - 12 people in New Ross Library Park finished their 5-week Activator Programme on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November. Activators will finish in Min Ryan Park on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November with 12 people also registered. 2 Men and 20 Women

Activator Poles in Libraries – Through funding from Healthy Ireland, SAW have purchased Activator Poles for the five Libraries in Wexford. These poles will be available for people to borrow from the libraries soon.

Men's Sheds Scooch Skirmish – On Monday 21<sup>st</sup> of November we held a Mens Shed Scooch Day in Clonard Community Hall. 40 men from Wexford, Kildare and Carlow Men's Shed's turned up on the day to play scooch. Wexford Men's Sheds will be invited to Carlow and Kildare in the New Year to recreate the day in their counties

Strong and Steady- Sports Active Wexford have started the community-based Falls Prevention Exercise classes in Coolcotts Community Centre. This is a partnership programme with the physiotherapists in Wexford General Hospital. 8 female ladies have registered to attendance the programme.

RAG Tree Equine Assisted Therapy - Has now completed its first cohort and will continue with supported funding from Dormant accounts, Healthy Ireland and WWETB for the next 12 months. All 13 participants have successfully passed their QQI accreditation:

3 participants achieved 4 QQI level 4 awards

5 participants achieved 3 QQI level 4 awards

1 participant achieved 2 QQI level 4 awards

1 participant achieved 1 QQI level 4 award

QQI modules were:

Stable and Yard Routine, Horse Riding, Personal Effectiveness and Health Related Fitness.

Cycling Camp for Children with Autism – 9 boys completed a 2 day learn to cycle programme in Astro Active in partnership with Shielbaggan Outdoor Education Centre on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

Walking Rugby- The 6- week walking rugby programme finished on the 18<sup>th</sup> November. Each week there was approximately 32 participants in attendance. There will be a tournament for both Wexford and Enniscorthy services on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> of November.

Inclusive Golf- 5 male adults attended inclusive golf in Bunclody Golf and Fishing Club which finished on the 8<sup>th</sup> of November.

Rainbow Youth Club Taster Session- Sports Active Wexford delivered a taster session to the senior children with an intellectual disability in Rainbow Youth Club. There were 18 children present 12 boys and 6 girls.

Bronze Award- Sports Active Wexford has now begun their Xcessible Journey with CARA to further support inclusion across County Wexford.

Safeguarding - 13 x Safeguarding 1 Courses have been completed in 2022 with a total of 187 participants

2 x Safeguarding 2 Course has been completed in 2022 with a total of 18 participants

Badminton Club Development - Together with Badminton Ireland Sports Active are setting down plans to try re-establishing a Badminton club in Wexford town. A Badminton tutor has entered Kennedy Park National School and Scoil Mhuire Coolcotts during October to give taster sessions to the children. Following these taster sessions, we have commenced 3 come and try badminton mornings in Coolcotts school on Saturday mornings in November to gauge the interest in Badminton. If there is further interest, we will work with Badminton Ireland and the parents to establish a club for these children to continue playing Badminton.



Participants from Men's Sheds from Kildare, Carlow and Wexford taking part in our Scooch day in Clonard Community Centre on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November





6 week activator pole sessions took place in Min Ryan Park finishing on 29<sup>th</sup> November.

## ENVIRONMENT

### A. COASTAL MATTERS

#### Harbours -

Department of Ag, Food & Marine (DAFM) announced funding approval for projects under a new scheme to develop works on LA harbours, called the Brexit Adjustment Local Authority Marine Infrastructure 2022 – 2023. The DAFM approved 23 projects with a total construction cost of €1.4m in Co. Wexford; works are now underway to progress these projects.

Wexford County Council submitted a further application under the second tranche for 13 projects with a total estimated cost of €890,000.

Fethard Harbour – New Slipway and Beach Access. Part XI planning was submitted to Planning Department on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2022. The public planning notice was in the local newspaper on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2022. This scheme was included in the above DAFM approved projects. Following submissions received during the planning process, An Bord Pleanála had to determine the requirement for an Environmental Impact Assessment report. ABP directed on 26<sup>th</sup> Sept that an EIA is not required. The Part 8 planning process can now resume.

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. Regular updates and further information are available at <https://portspastpresent.eu/>

#### Beaches –

Ballymoney – consulting engineers were appointed to do a feasibility report on improving accessibility on the path to the blue flag beach. A draft report was submitted in Sept 2022 outlining a number of options with associated costings. Environment Dept is seeking to secure funding for accessibility and age friendly improvement works which include the beach access and accessible toilets.

Rosslare Strand – Bearlough: We are due to commence construction of 2 new disabled car spaces at the entrance to Rosslare Burrow Holiday Park. 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.

Rosslare Coastal Erosion and Flood Relief Scheme: Nicholas O’Dwyer Ltd Consulting Engineers was appointed on 13th Dec 2021. Steering meetings with WCC, OPW and the consultants are now underway and are held monthly. Topographic and threshold surveys are complete. Wintering bird survey is underway.

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 Q4 2022 which will include coastal protection works and a new beach access.

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.

Morriscastle Dune Restoration: The project involves installation of fencing and marram grass planting to restore and manage the dune system at main beach entrance. All works under phase 1 of this scheme are complete. Additional grant monies were received to extend the dune restoration works and these will be completed over coming weeks.

## 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 <sup>st</sup> November 2022
Rosslare Strand	All Year	
Ballyconniger	Seasonal	

Ballineskeer	All Year	Now Opened All Year following Building Extension
Curracloe	All Year	
Min Ryan	All Year	
Vinegar Hill - Dryloo	All Year	Operating Successfully
Carrigfoyle	All Year	Anti-Vandal Steel Container delivered 18 <sup>th</sup> October
Morriscastle	75% of Year	
Courtown	All Year	
Ballymoney	All Year	Tender Price Received for Universal Access Toilet to commence in early 2023
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:

131 inspections have been carried out to date this year. Wexford have 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 further 36 inspections have been booked in for October/November.

Progress is being made with closing existing open files. All files up to the end of 2016 have been closed. 60 files were closed for 2022. 48 extensions of time have been granted in 2022. There are currently 74 open files for the years 2017-2021 and 24 open for 2022.

29 new applications for grant assistance have been received this year to date, twenty six of which are paid and three are currently under review.

Year	Number of inspections	Pass	Fail	Outstanding	Closed in 2022
2019	156	48	108	15	7
2020	111	38	73	10	11
2021	91	24	67	28	25
2022	131 to date	45	86	43	43

There are currently 13 cases in the Court system for failing to comply with Advisory Notices. 3 of these are for hearing and 10 are for mention. 9 cases have been closed with the work completed.

## 2. Section 4 Discharge Licences:

The Council currently has 98 active Discharge Licences. Four new applications have been received and are currently under review. One discharge licence was revoked in September 2022.

Invoicing for outstanding bad debt was issued in March 2022 and accounts adjusted where applicable. Invoicing for 2022 was issued on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2022 and reminders were sent on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October 2022 for payment of Annual fees due.

## 3. Air Quality:

Air quality monitoring is carried out at several locations in the county. Proceedings were initiated against the owner of a Pig Farm in Killlugger, Killinick for persistent offences that contravene air pollution legislation. The case was successful on the 26<sup>th</sup> of September, 2022 where the Pig Farm was fined €500 and Wexford County Council were awarded €1200 in costs.

Wexford County Council enforces air quality requirements for 3 specific types of facilities, which must be registered with Wexford County Council. These Certificates must be renewed every 3 years. Audits of these facilities are undertaken to ensure compliance.

- **Vehicle Refinishers:** At end of 2021, 52 facilities were registered with Wexford County Council under the “Deco Paints” Regulations, which is the second 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.
- **Dry Cleaners:** At end of 2021, 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.
- **Petrol Stations:** At end of 2021, 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 2020	No. Issued in 2021	No. Issued (to end Sept. 2022)	No. of On the Spot Fines Issued (to end Sept. 2022)
Vehicle Refinishers	21	19	14	3
Petrol Vapour Emissions	28	22	19	N/A
Solvents	2	3	5	N/A

A national working group was established in January 2021, to develop Guidance Documents for Local Authorities to assist with the implementation of new certifications to Petrol Stations under Stage 2 Petrol Vapour Emissions Regulations 2011.

Wexford County Council is co-chair of this group, along with Waterford County Council. The WG also has members from the EPA and Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications. The WG produced two separate Guidance Documents for Local Authorities, including specific guidance on processing certifications for Petrol Stations under Stage 1b Petrol Vapour Emissions Regulations 1997. Both documents were formally approved by the Niece Steering Committee in February 2022 and are now available to all Local Authorities on the Niece portal. A new Petroleum Vapour Emissions Training Programme which will start on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2022 is being run for LA staff. The training is being provided on foot of a recommendation from this WG.

### **Low Smoke Fuel Areas**

The Air Pollution Act 1987 (SOLID FUELS) Regulations 2022 was signed by the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications Mr Eamon Ryan and came into effect on the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022.

### **4. Climate Action**

The Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 requires each Local Authority to prepare their own Climate Action Plan (CAP). The plan must cover both mitigation and adaptation measures and must be updated once every five years. The plan will also include the development of a decarbonisation zone (DZ). The DZ will be the focus for a range of climate mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity measures. Enniscorthy is the proposed Decarbonisation Zone for County Wexford. Preparatory work has commenced on the preparation of the CAP ahead of the official direction by the minister to prepare the plan which will be made by end 2022.

Wexford will then have 12 months to prepare and fully adopt the plan. Information webinars on the preparation and implementation of the CAP are scheduled for Senior management and separately the Climate Action teams.

The Government of Ireland Climate Action Plan 2021 sets an ambitious target of 50% energy efficiency by 2030 and an absolute reduction in greenhouse gas emissions of 51%. In terms of Energy efficiency, there has been an increase of the organisation performance in 2021 with 42% improvement in energy against 39% in 2020. WCC is ahead of the target glidepath to 2030. The increase of performance is mainly due to a reduction of the public lighting consumption. Carbon emissions in 2021 are 28% below baseline level.

Wexford County Council has registered for the Reduce you Use campaign. This mandatory initiative through the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) and the Office of Public Works (OPW) aims to reduce the public sector's energy consumption over the winter period by 15% to help combat rising energy costs and reduce emissions. Actions proposed to achieve energy savings include setting the temperatures at a guideline 19°C, turning off heating 1-2 hours before buildings close and no non security/safety lighting in use after 8pm. Awareness and behavioural change are a key element to the campaign and can lead to 10% reduction. This will be promoted through Posters and promotional materials for activities, mentoring and advice and live webinars

The campaign plans to deliver 5-10% savings in the public sector, and 15% in buildings.

Wexford is involved in two Creative Climate projects to raise awareness and promote behavioural change. The first project through the Wexford County Council Arts Office is on the theme of the pilot Decarbonisation Zone in Enniscorthy and has a biodiversity and rewilding focus. The second project is called Línite na Farrage and is through the Creative Climate Fund and is in collaboration with the Dublin Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) and third level institutions. Línite na Farrage is a series of light installations across

Irish coastal sites. The lines of light represent future sea level rise, based on predictions from the 2021 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report, and historic storm surge data. The installations, designed by artists Timo Aho and Pekka Niittyvirta, demonstrate the need to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and adapt together to protect our coastlines, communities, and infrastructure from the effects of climate change. It aims to connect the public visually to the risks from future sea levels and was launched at the end of October 2022, running until the first week in January, 2023.

## 5. Agriculture:

Wexford County Council continues to undertake a significant number of farm inspections in accordance with the WFD. A total of 78 farm inspections undertaken because of pollution incidents or complaints; 45 of these farms were found to have non-compliances. Wexford County Council engage with landowners to undertake the necessary rectifications works through encouragement of improvement of farming infrastructure and farming practices.

Section 12 & 23 notices under the Local Government Water Pollution Act 1977-1990 were served upon nine individuals.

A total of 120 Agricultural related Planning Permission Applications were assessed and a further two planning permissions were queried to assess if the applicant had complied with the conditions of planning permissions granted.

WFD inspections	Farm inspections	Farms with Nitrates Directive non-compliances	Section 12 & 23 notices served	Section 3 notices served
2019	60	19	5	0
2020	102	50	5	2
2021	78	45	9	0
2022	13	4	0	0

## D. WASTE MANAGEMENT

### 1. Landfills:

Holmestown Landfill remains temporarily closed. Environmental monitoring and maintenance of infrastructure continues at both Killurin and Holmestown in accordance with the conditions of our waste licences.

The Household Recycling Centre at Holmestown continues to provide recycling services to members of the public as well as a disposal service for other waste streams such as residual waste, bulky waste, segregated food waste, garden waste and waste paint. Polystyrene is now also taken at the centre.



## 2. Recycling Services:

### Bring Bank Network –

WASTE CATEGORY	No. of Sites October 2022	Recycling out (End October) 2021 (t)	Recycling out (End October)2022 (t)
Glass bottles	109	3645	3185
Aluminium Cans		98	80
Total		3743	3265

### Household Recycling Centres –

Summary of Activities								
WASTE CATEGORY	Enniscorthy		New Ross		Holmestown		Gorey	
	Recycling out Jan-Oct 2021 (t)	Recycling out Jan-Oct 2022 (t)	Recycling out Jan-Oct 2021 (t)	Recycling out Jan-Oct 2022(t)	Recycling out Jan- Oct 2021	Recycling out Jan - Oct 2022	Recycling out Jan-Oct 2021	Recycling out Jan-Oct 2022
<b>Total Recycling out</b>	540	<b>499</b>	603	<b>548</b>	744	<b>734</b>	484	427
Total Domestic Waste in	N/A	<b>N/A</b>	N/A	<b>N/A</b>	2288	<b>2081</b>	N/A	<b>N/A</b>
Daily Average Customers <b>Jan-Oct</b>	2021	<b>2022</b>	2021	<b>2022</b>	2021	<b>2022</b>	2021	<b>2022</b>
	73	<b>69</b>	117	<b>111</b>	125	<b>90</b>	88	<b>82</b>

## 3. 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 and New Ross Municipal Districts. Their headline activities for year to date are summarised below:

Activity	To end Oct 2021	October 2022	To end Oct 2022	% +/-
<b>Total Illegal Dumping/ Clean Ups</b>	<b>2,230</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>1,676</b>	<b>-24.8%</b>
<i>Gorey *</i>		31		
<i>Enniscorthy *</i>		38		
<i>Wexford *</i>		33		
<i>New Ross*</i>		21		
<i>Rosslare</i>		20		
<b>Total Bring Site Inspections</b>	<b>7,452</b>	<b>755</b>	<b>7,491</b>	<b>+0.5%</b>

<i>Gorey</i>		<i>187</i>		
<i>Enniscorthy</i>		<i>184</i>		
<i>Wexford</i>		<i>243</i>		
<i>New Ross</i>		<i>118</i>		
<i>Rosslare</i>		<i>23</i>		
<b>Total Ringbuoy Inspections</b>	<b>13,338</b>	<b>1,554</b>	<b>14,802</b>	<b>+10.9%</b>
<i>Gorey</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>456</i>		
<i>Enniscorthy *</i>				
<i>Wexford*</i>	<i>South</i>	<i>1,098</i>		
<i>New Ross*</i>				
<b>Other Works</b>	<b>4,046</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>4,799</b>	<b>+18.6%</b>
<i>Gorey</i>		<i>48</i>		
<i>Enniscorthy</i>		<i>110</i>		
<i>Wexford</i>		<i>91</i>		
<i>New Ross</i>		<i>54</i>		
<i>Rosslare</i>		<i>56</i>		

#### 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 required by the EPA. The 2022 RMCEI Plan allocates 6,698 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, 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 MANAGEMENT

As of the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2022, the public can now pay environmental fines online relating to litter fines, waste bye laws fixed payment notices and waste collection permit fixed payment notices. Two fines to date have been paid since go live.

A payment option courtesy slip has also been created to send with fines issued to encourage the public to pay by providing them with the three options to pay: online, in person or over the phone.

Total fixed penalty notices issued	TOTAL FOR 2021	TOTAL FOR 2022-TO OCTOBER 2022
Fines Issued (All Fixed Penalty Notice Issued)	199	205
Fines Paid in Full●	69	103
Fines Cancelled/Proceedings Discontinued/Struck Out*	71	66
Successful Prosecutions**	15	32
Legal Proceedings In Progress	61	35
Amount Collected in Fines (directly/following proceedings)	€10,220	€16,820
Amount awarded in Court (October)		€5,630

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

- Includes income from all Fixed Penalty Notices

## October 2022:

Wexford County Council had three successful prosecutions in October 2022 under the Waste Presentation Bye-Laws 2018. A total of €340 was awarded in fines and costs of €450.

## Litter Enforcement Activity 2009-2022(October)

	Fines Issued	Court	Reports
2022	205	23	1510 (down 32%)
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%)

<b>2014</b>	154	17	1,732 (up 10%)
<b>2013</b>	140	15	1,571 (up 21%)
<b>2012</b>	182	16	1,292 (down 3%)
<b>2011</b>	209	17	1,329
<b>2010</b>	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 – Dec 2017	Jan – Dec 2018	Jan to Dec 2019	Jan to Dec 2020	Jan to Dec 2021	Jan-October 2022
<b>Incidents</b>	<b>3600</b>	<b>4609</b>	<b>4749</b>	<b>4999</b>	<b>5136</b>	<b>3410</b>
<b>Closed</b>	<b>3526</b>	<b>4563</b>	<b>4438</b>	<b>4453</b>	<b>4443</b>	<b>2576</b>
<b>Closure Rate</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>75%</b>

### **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.

<b>Control of dogs</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021 (to 31-12-21)</b>	<b>2022</b>
Dogs collected	532	429	410
Dogs reclaimed	127	133	83
Dogs re-homed/transferred	373	267	286
Dogs put to sleep	32	29	34
Dog Fines	5	18	19

There are now 27 registered Dog Breeding Establishments with several applications pending inspections.

To date in 2022 18 horses have been impounded and all have been rehomed or reclaimed.

## Environment Education and Awareness:

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

**Green Schools:** An online Green Schools teacher seminar was held on 5<sup>th</sup> October covering all themes. Schools applying for their first Green Flag, Litter & Waste theme, must submit an application by Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The deadline for renewal applications is on Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 for the 2022/2023 academic year. In total 92 primary schools and 18 secondary schools have been awarded the green flag.

## Climate Literacy Programme:

The Environment Section are funding 5 schools to participate in a Pilot Climate Literacy Programme. Expressions of interest was sought from all secondary schools. This 10 week course includes in-school teacher training, resources, lesson plans and an interactive student workbook. The costs of the 10 week course are covered by the Environment Section and a different topic is explored each week including climate change, sustainable development, climate justice, biodiversity loss, taking action, fast fashion, sustainable transportation, food, soil and plastic pollution. Students run an action project on the last two weeks of the course. The facilitator leaves the school at the end of the course and the teacher continues to teach the course with a new group of students. This course can be run in schools for many years once the teachers are trained.

**Climate Action School Workshops:** We have engaged with Createschool on the Rubbish Film Festival to work with 5 secondary schools during November and December. The workshops are a unique opportunity for Transition Year Students to showcase their creative talents, create awareness on Environmental Issues such as Climate Action and learn some new digital storytelling skills in the process. Each participating school selects a team of a maximum of 12 students and they will receive an intensive 2-day workshop to help them gain and/or develop the skills to create their own short one minute film or films that will create awareness among their peers on their selected issue.

**National Reuse Month:** National Reuse month took place during October. Reusing our items is a positive climate action that we can all do simply. As part of Reuse month a swap event took place. Resources are now available to download from Wexford County Council's website and include a simple guide on how to organise a successful swap event. To help community groups and schools promote and advertise their swap event posters and social media posts are also available to download for the website.



**Trees for Wexford:** The campaign was open for applications for 3 weeks with a closing date of 21<sup>st</sup> October. 154 voluntary groups have applied. Quotations are being sought from nurseries for the supply and delivery of trees and saplings.

**Community Clean Ups:** Registrations and support for community clean ups will continue in 2022. 1331 community cleans ups were supported in 2021.

**Community Engagement:** Community talks are ongoing. 2 talks on waste prevention were given at during October.

**Environment Awards:** On Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November the Wexford County Council Annual Environment Awards were held at the Ferrycarrig Hotel and proved to be a tremendous celebration of the environment and voluntary effort. Over 250 children, community groups, volunteers, resident groups and individuals turned up on the night to see their wonderful efforts acknowledged by Wexford County Council. There were presentations and awards to 15 schools, 57 community groups and 4 individuals. The overall winners of the Keep Wexford Beautiful Competition were Enniscorthy Community Allotments, Master of Ceremonies for the night, Alan McGuire, stated as he announced this award that 'In February 2021 a group of keen gardening enthusiasts got together with the idea of setting up a community allotment. The aim of the group was to promote the practice of horticulture between members, especially children. In April 2022 the allotment opened to members and the transformation of the site has been truly remarkable. Amateur gardeners benefit from the advice of their more knowledgeable allotment neighbours. The project stimulates social interaction, encourages self-reliance, and promotes sustainable growing and healthy eating. Organic and chemical-free growing is promoted. The allotments are made up of 64 plots, 20 raised beds, and 60 polytunnels. But it's not just individual gardeners who are availing of the chance to be involved in a sustainable growing project that also encourages biodiversity. Local organisations such as Hope Cancer Support Centre, Wexford Community Workshop, and Wexford Residential and Disability Support Services are also involved.'



Overall Winner Enniscorthy Community Allotments



Kilmuckridge Tidy Towns 3<sup>rd</sup> prize Best Community Project to Improve Accessibility in Garden/Parks & 1<sup>st</sup> Prize Best Environmentally Aware & Presented Village





Southend Family Resource Centre 1<sup>st</sup> Prize Best Heritage Preservation & Conservation Project



Anastasiya Shtyka, Kennedy College , New Ross Overall Secondary School Winner Artwork Competition



Tomhaggard Clean Coasts Group Snap Into Action Community Group Winer & 2<sup>nd</sup> prize in Best Community Coastal Management Initiative

**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 being promoted and registrations are through the website.

#### Sensory Friendly Quiet Hour

The Sensory-friendly Quiet Hour is in place in all libraries across County Wexford, each Saturday from 4-5pm. Library users can visit and relax in the calm friendly environment of the library, enjoy quiet time, and use some of the sensory equipment available.

#### WexSci - Wexford Science Festival 2022

Wexford Science Festival 2022 was delivered fully in-person for the first time since 2019 in partnership with CALMAST at South East Technological University. A wide-ranging programme for adults and children was delivered during Science Week including:

##### Adult Events

- Science of Life: Dr Cas Kramer provided an interactive exploration of DNA.
- Andy Doyle, Tillage Editor of the *Irish Farmers Journal*, 'Soils are the Basis for Life on Earth'.
- Renewables: Harnessing the South East's Energy Resources with Wexford Science Café
- Science in Elite Sports Performance with Bruce Wardrop

##### Children's Events

- Junior Einstein's Workshops: Electricity workshop
- Scientist Caroline Ainslie: Bubbly Science:
- Junior Einsteins - 3, 2, 1 Blast Off!! Science themed workshop for 6 to 9 year olds.
- Nutty Scientists Let's Go on a Space Mission.
- Social Robotics with Jason Berry, Southeast Technological University
- Mark the Science Guy science show

#### Syrian Community

Wexford Library Service partnered with Wexford Local Development on the Kind Hearts project supported by the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Dormant Accounts Fund. Kid's Own, Ireland's only dedicated publisher of books by children, for children, were commissioned to work in a creative process with children from Syrian families living in County Wexford. This book tells of the life journey to date for these young people and what Ireland means for them. Children from two Enniscorthy schools who participated in this project attended the launch of the book in Enniscorthy Library with their classmates and teachers.

Wexford Library hosted a Library Tour for Syrian families.

#### Literacy Apps

Wexford County Council Library Service supported by the Dormant Accounts Fund offers free access to literacy programmes. All the programmes are web-based, available directly on a PC or laptop or they can be downloaded by app to a phone or tablet. Two new apps have been added to the existing suite of literacy Apps and programmes offered. Times Tables Rock Stars is a programme that teaches times tables in an interactive and engaging way, which helps to create confident and competent maths learners. Mathseeds, is a numeracy online program for children aged 3 to 9. Children learn key concepts in mathematics through guided lessons, exploration, and practice in a fun way nurturing an early love of maths.

LOTE4Kids is our recently introduced online database of digital books in World Languages. It allows children to enjoy the magic of books in LOTE (Languages Other Than English). Each book also comes with English translations to help children learn language. LOTE4Kids has 2000+ digital picture books in 50+ languages, with new books and languages released each month. Library users log in using their library card number, select a language and download a book!

### **Traveller Community Projects**

Heritage in Schools Specialists Rachel Uí Fhaoláin, John Ó Faoláin and children from The Travelling Community in Co. Wexford attended a special presentation & screening of 'Travelling Voices' in Enniscorthy Library on Wednesday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November. This project was supported by The Heritage Council through Heritage in Schools.

An oral history project with local people from the Traveller community with Bunclody Library is currently underway. The sessions were led and recorded by Wexford folklorist Michael Fortune. The project is funded by the Dormant Accounts Fund under the Department of Rural and Community Development.

### **Healthy Ireland at your Library**

A number of programmes to support health and well-being in the community took place during November including:

- Enniscorthy Library: *Healthy Ireland at Your Library*: Physiotherapist Colette O'Flynn on staying well over the winter months, with advice on exercise, eating well, keeping warm, good posture and sleep.
- Gorey Library, *Health Ireland at Your Library*: registered Dietitian Sophie Pratt, weight management talk. Topics discussed related to weight management, including factors that impact weight management, the effects of being under or overweight and nutrition advice for how to maintain a healthy weight. The session concluded with a questions and answers session.
- New Ross *Healthy Ireland at Your Library* – Health Literacy/Advocacy with Colette O'Flynn. Presentation on how to advocate for your own health, how to speak to medical health professionals, and how to understand medical information.

### **Environment**

Wexford Library hosted Greener and Healthier EPA buildings with Paul Fitzgerald.

Home Energy Kits and Radon Monitors are available for loan to the public from all Library branches.

### **It Literacy**

**Enniscorthy Library is the nominated Age Friendly Library: During November the first session of tuition with our Digital Library Ambassador took place. These will be regular appointment based 1:1 sessions for older people, helping them to learn to use their own phones, laptops, tablets to access the many online library resources available as well as other online resources of interest.**

**Gorey Library: Every Thursday morning Gorey Active Retirement continued to utilise the IT suite in the library to give classes to members in how to use devices for online shopping, banking and social media.**

**Gorey Library and New Ross Library: Online in No Time: TekCentral provided** Individual training for the over-55s in the use of digital devices, laptops etc. **This is funded by the Dormant Accounts Fund.**

**Wexford Library: 3 weekly computer classes were facilitated by Age Action during the month of November.**

### **Literature**

Bunclody Library held an Adult Writing Workshop with Caroline Busher, participants discussed their work and got advice on getting their work published. The workshop also considered the importance of setting, characterisation, plot, dialogue and how to build tension in writing.

Wexford Library: Deirdre Sullivan, an award winning writer from Galway, read from her debut book for adults, a collection of short fiction, *I Want To Know That I Will Be Okay*, which was published by Banshee Press in May 2021.

### **Heritage**

Gorey Library: The Gorey Garda 100 Years exhibition ran in the foyer of Gorey Library. Historian Kevin Lee delivered a talk for the North Wexford Historical Society on the role of the Land Agent on the country estate of Coolattin. This talk was accompanied by an exhibition on Coolattin House and emigrants from Coolattin to Canada.

Bunclody Library: History Resources Talk from staff for FCJ Secondary School students: a presentation on the history resources available in the library service for 5<sup>th</sup> year students.  
Wexford Library: Celestine Murphy spoke about Family History for Beginners.

### **Services to Ukrainian Nationals**

Wexford Library: 4 English Classes for Ukrainian Nationals were facilitated by Wexford Town Friends of Ukraine and Any News? the informal conversation time for all library users continued on Thursdays.

Gorey Library: Informal English-speaking lessons continued throughout the month hosted by Brian Allen.

Distribution of information on library resources and e-Resources to Ukrainian Nationals also continued with an increase in new members throughout November.

### **Children's Services**

**Gorey Library:** An Introduction to Chess for children, this workshop was hosted by Ruairí McManus of Red King Chess.

### **New Ross Library:**

Spooky Arts and Crafts for 7 to 12 year olds and **Make a Miniature 3D Leafy Autumn Scene for 8 to 12 year olds were facilitated by Dawn Morley of Craft Central.**

**Roald Dahl Creative Writing Workshop for 9 to 12 year olds were held.** Children: Lego Play Therapy Workshops were very well attended.

### **Wexford Library:**

Deirdre Sullivan Children's event : Best selling author Deirdre Sullivan read from her popular series of books for older children including her most recent book for young adults, *Savage Her Reply*, which is a dark retelling of The Children of Lir.

Chatterbooks Junior Book Club took place and The Young Adult Bookclub recommenced. Wexford Library held a Lego Workshop and a Lego Event. There was a Lion Mask Craft and Children's Animated Film. Wexford Wildfowl Sanctuary gave a talk for schools. Abacus Montessori School attended Storytime. CBS 2<sup>nd</sup> class attended for a school visit and received information on the library and browsed books.

Outreach: A staff member visited pupils in Rathangan School from Junior Infants up to 2<sup>nd</sup> Class

### **Bunclody Library**

Bunclody hosted the Junior Art and Craft Club. Just Read! Junior Book Club for 9 – 12 year olds was well attended. Bunclody also held a special teddy bear themed story time inspired by the illustrations of Mary Murphy, inspired by The Glucksman Viewpoints Exhibition.

The Spectacular Library of Magical Things was held with Caroline Busher and Helena Dunbar School of Music where local bestselling author, Caroline Busher read from her new book and Helena Dunbar's School of Music, featuring local children, performed traditional music on the day. Caroline Busher also held a Creative Writing Workshop for Teens. Sarah Bowie presented a workshop called Turn Your Boring Life into a Comic! Helen from Claymazing helped the children create a festive wintery creature. Two creative Lego play sessions were held during the month.

Staff members visited Tombrack National School.

### **Local History**

There were 21 genealogy enquiries and 31 local studies enquiries in Wexford Branch library in November.

### **Other Events**

Enniscorthy Library, Bunclody Library and Gorey Library throughout the month of November hosted The Glucksman Viewpoints touring exhibition, Supported by the Arts Council of Ireland.

Gorey Library and Bunclody Library held "What is Opera?": Elizabeth Drwal delivered an evening class in arts appreciation presented by the National Opera House Education & Community Programme. This project has been supported by The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe Investing in Rural Areas.

In Enniscorthy Library and New Ross Library: Musician Malachy Robinson spoke about his life as a professional musician, part of the National Opera House Education & Community Programme. This project has been supported by The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas.

New Ross Library hosted Social Skills Play Therapy through LEGO. This is a pilot programme. New Ross is designated an Autism friendly town under a joint initiative between the AsIAM and Supervalu. Tailored to meet the needs of Autistic children that experience social communication difficulties this is a DAF Education and Community Programme and delivered by an experienced facilitator with expertise and experience of working with young Autistic people in the local community. Targeted outreach and collaboration with local stakeholders ensured that the programme is delivered to those with the greatest need. There were 4 dates in November and 8 dates in total in the programme.



## Decade of Centenaries

**Wexford Library:** Revolutionary Period: Sources and Information with Historian in residence Barry Lacey who discussed resources available relating to the to the War of Independence and Civil War in County Wexford.

## ARCHIVES

### Collections management

In addition to 57 research enquiries via email, telephone and post, a total of 11 researchers visited the Archive during November. Research topics included: photographic materials extant for documenting the Civil War period in County Wexford (1922-23); research on Dr Honoria Aughney (Chief Medical Officer of Health for Wexford) through WCC minutes (1946-58); 19<sup>th</sup> century historical maps for the New Ross area; research through WCC minute books for references to turf production in County Wexford and in particular to the turf cutters' hut at Moineer on the Blackrock mountain during the Emergency period (1941-44); extant documentary sources and artefacts relating to former Mayor of Wexford, Nicholas Byrne (1916-25).

### Acquisition

The account books of Dr Thomas Pierse, Medical Officer of Health to Wexford Dispensary District (1855-1933) were deposited in the Archive by his grandson in early November. These volumes record meticulous handwritten entries of his income and expenditure over the period 1902-33 and complement the Archive's holding of the County Wexford Board of Health & Public Assistance minute books (1921-42).

### Outreach

The Archivist submitted an article for the November issue of *Irish Roots* magazine (a genealogy and family history publication) on some of the earliest collections in the county archive relevant to family history research. Primary source materials ranged from the minute books of New Ross Corporation (1658-1841) and the County Wexford Grand Jury archive (1817-99) to the Board of Guardian records for the four workhouses in County Wexford (1840-1922).

## ARTS

**Local Live Performance Scheme:** Round 4 of Wexford County councils Local Live Performance Scheme (LLPPS) funded by the Department and managed by the Arts office is concluding around the districts. With funding totalling €118,020 in this final round, 7 Musical events/concerts events took place around the districts between September – November 2022. The final event 'All that Rises' music festival, curated by Peter Murphy takes place over 3 nights 15,16 & 17 December in the Opera House and will feature over 10 bands based in Wexford.

**Screen Wexford** is funded by Arts & Economic departments of WCC to develop film industry in Wexford. Activities for November included

**The New Voices Bursary Award 2022:** This short film award in drama, documentary and animation was announced in November and the three successful applicants are Leah O'Toole, Joseph Orr and Andrew and Shane Kenny. This €10,000 fund in total provides cash and mentoring support to three emerging filmmakers based in Wexford. All films have started production. The fund is an initiative of Wexford County Council's Arts Office with the aim of supporting emerging filmmakers and new voices in Wexford.

## **Screen Wexford Workshops:**

**Civil Rights Festival Video Workshop** - Over the course of this one-day workshop delivered by Screen Wexford on 25 November, a collective film was created and was shown at The Frederick Douglass Civil Rights Festival Wexford.

**Costume Design and Management for TV & Film** - took place in the Opera House on 18th November. This workshop was aimed at those interested in getting involved in TV, Film or Theatre Costume Design.

**Made in WX** is a new Screen Wexford Film Showcase event taking place on 10<sup>th</sup> December in Enniscorthy Bailys Hotel and Presentation Arts Centre. Call out took place in November 2022. This one-day event has been created to platform work made by Wexford filmmakers and to give them an opportunity to come together to celebrate the work that we are doing in the Screen Industry.

**An Urgent Enquiry** a partnership with Wexford County Council, Dublin City Council and Fingal County Council. In November they announced the publication of a new case study in commissioning public art and is available to download for free from the programme website [www.anurgentenquiry.ie](http://www.anurgentenquiry.ie). This guide documents the process, learning and outcomes of a public art programme which ran from 2017 – 2020 across the three local authorities, (Mark Clare, Wexford County Council artist) in which artists, scientists, biodiversity experts, and local interest groups collaborated, building local, national and international networks. This collaboration resulted in a series of think tanks, artists' residencies and multiple public art outcomes all of which explored the pertinent theme of climate change and biodiversity.

**Art Ability Arts Programme, 2023-2025** the closing date for applications was 14<sup>th</sup> November and applications are currently under review for the positions of 4 x Lead Artists to deliver the Art Ability Arts Programme. Arts Ability is an inclusive, participatory arts programme which celebrates the artistic and creative imagination of people who experience mental health problems and/or intellectual, physical or sensory disabilities. Two new assistant artists Jenny Roddy and Brid Colloton shared the Arts Ability programme in October and continue to work with the lead artists over a 10 week period.

**Creative Communities:** Over the last couple of months, artist Jimi Cullen has been working with service users from Wexford Mental Health Association. The song project 'Music Minds' delivered an inclusive and innovative project with a group Jimi hadn't previously worked with. The project offered a creative space for all participants through music and creative development. Also, it allowed them to express themselves in a new way through musicality, singsong, and rhythm.

**Music Generation (MGW)** A partnership between WCC, WWETB, and the national agency Music Generation promoting access to high quality performance music education for young people in Wexford County working in 23 preschool, primary school, and youth work/ community settings. In November, new Music Generation workshops were conducted with Youth Reach New Ross exploring different genres of music with musician, Brian Brody. Workshops with Music Generation and Wexford Opera Festival taking place November – December on development of a youth opera.

**Cultural Companions:** The Cultural Companions Group attended their monthly Coffee & Chat in Harper 11 Café on Thursday 3rd November. On Monday 21st November, the

group attended a tour of the 'Wide Open Space' exhibition in the Street which includes Landscapes from the Wexford County Council and Mairead Furlong Collections. The tour was facilitated by local artist Sonya Weston. The next Coffee & Chat will take place on 1st December where the group are looking forward to planning their Christmas calendar of events.

### **Wide Open Space Exhibition County Hall**

Curated by Eamonn Maxwell, this exhibition which opened during the Opera Festival in October hosts more than 50 works by leading Irish artists from the Wexford County Council Art Collection, exploring the enduring influence of the environment around us. The exhibition also features a selection of artworks recently gifted to the Wexford County Council collection by the Estate of Mairead Furlong. There has been great interest in this exhibition from schools in Wexford with the arts office hosting 7 tours for school children in November, facilitated by professional artists, and 2 public tours, with the final one led by Exhibition curator Eamonn Maxwell, on Tues 29th November.

The exhibition is open to the public from 20th October – 2nd December 2022 Open Monday – Friday, 9am-5pm.

## CIVIL DEFENCE

### COVID 19 Recognition Ceremony- Croke Park 29<sup>th</sup> November

Minister Simon Coveney presented Civil Defence Volunteers medals as recognition for volunteering during the COVID 19 response. 18 Wexford Civil Defence volunteers including CDO & ACDO attended the ceremony. The remaining medals will be issued at local level before year end. See pictures below



## FIRE SERVICES

### Wexford Fire Service Report October 2022

Call statistics	Incident Type	Calls October 2022	Calls to date 2022	Calls to this period 2021
	<b>Chimney fire (WCC / Private)</b>	<b>3 / 2 (5)</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>89</b>
	<b>Domestic fire (WCC / Private)</b>	<b>0 / 4 (4)</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>56</b>
	<b>Road Traffic Accident</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>72</b>
	<b>Industrial fire</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
	<b>Commercial fire</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>
	<b>Assembly fire</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>
	<b>Agricultural fire</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>
	<b>Motor Vehicles</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>26</b>
	<b>Forest/bog/grass etc</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>71</b>
	<b>Rubbish</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>64</b>
	<b>Non-fire rescues</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>79</b>
	<b>False alarms – good intent</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>194</b>
	<b>Malicious false alarms</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

<b>Miscellaneous</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>885</b>	<b>716</b>

#### Fire calls by brigade to date

<b>INCIDENT TYPE</b>	<b>WEXFORD</b>	<b>GOREY</b>	<b>ENNISCORTHY</b>	<b>NEW ROSS</b>	<b>BUNCLODY</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>CHIMNEY FIRE</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>DOMESTIC FIRE</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENT</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>154</b>
<b>INDUSTRIAL FIRE</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>COMMERCIAL FIRE</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>ASSEMBLY FIRE</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>AGRICULTURAL FIRE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>MOTOR VEHICLES</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>FOREST/BOG/GRASS ETC</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>112</b>
<b>RUBBISH</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>NON-FIRE RESCUES</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>FALSE ALARMS - GOOD INTENT</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>227</b>
<b>MALICIOUS FALSE ALARMS</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>885</b>

#### Fire Safety Certificate Applications

Number of Applications received in October 2022: 16

Number of Applications received to date: 109

Number of Applications to this period 2021: 97

# DIRECTOR OF SERVICES, UKRANIAN RESPONSE, HUMAN RESOURCES & CORPORATE SERVICES

## UKRANIAN RESPONSE UPDATE



A new national call focusing on unoccupied properties launched on the 24<sup>th</sup> November. 'Offer a Home' is a government initiative, led by local authorities, to make use of unoccupied houses, apartments or holiday homes to house Ukrainian people and families. A total of 21 properties have been registered to date in Co. Wexford. The Ukraine Team will continue to progress IRC pledges assigned.

Property owners can offer homes at [offerahome.ie](https://offerahome.ie) or by contacting Wexford County Council [offerahome@wexfordcoco.ie](mailto:offerahome@wexfordcoco.ie) or by telephoning 053-9196000.

A tax-free recognition payment of €800 per month is available for properties used to house those arriving from Ukraine.

### Ukrainian Community Response Forum meetings

The UCRF continues to meet monthly. with the next meeting scheduled for the 14<sup>th</sup> of December.

The Community Response Forum provides an essential local engagement space for the various public, non-profit and private bodies involved in the provision of services and supports. The forum facilitates discussion to ensure that all groups operating locally can work together to achieve the best outcomes for those in need of support.

Wexford County Council hosted a meeting of frontline Ukrainian support workers on Wednesday the 30<sup>th</sup> of November. Some ten workers from Forum member agencies attended. The purpose of the meeting was to build an informal information exchange and support network and feedback from those in attendance was very positive.

### Other Initiatives

Funding of €38,100 was awarded to nine local groups directly responding to the Ukrainian community in Co. Wexford under The Ukrainian Refugee Health and Wellbeing Support Fund. The funding is provided through Sláintecare and Healthy Ireland as supported by The Department of Health.

The fund is being delivered through the Ukrainian Community Response Forum. In total the Department of Health has made a Fund of €1m available for this purpose and allocations have been made to each Local Authority according to the most recent distribution data.

Funding allocated under Sláintecare, November 2022



<b>Group</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>
Friends of Ukraine Kilmuckridge	Art therapy	1500
Wexford Volunteer Centre	Ukraine BOTPs and Volunteers Wellness Project	2000
The Family Project/Youth New Ross	Creative Well-being Children's Programme	4600
South West Wexford FRC	Horse Riding Therapy	5000
Gorey Youth Needs Group CLG	Varied/Physical Activity/Promoting Positive Mental Health/Cultural & Integartion activities	5000
Riverchapel Community Complex Ltd (Riverchapel Friends of Ukraine)	Health and Well-being	5000
Hook Peninsula Friends of Ukraine c/o Fethard Community Development Association	Hook Peninsula Health and Wellbeing Programme	5000
Wexford Town Friends of Ukraine	A Health, Wellbeing and Integration Programme for Ukrainians and other in Wexford area	5000
Enniscorthy Failte	Karate for children aged 6-18 and young adults 16-25	5000

## **CORPORATE ACTIVITIES**

### **1. FOI OFFICE REQUESTS**

<b>Type</b>	
Freedom of Information	108
Customer Complaint	78
Ombudsman Complaint	22
Access to Information on the Environment	9
Data Access Request	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>230</b>

## PROCUREMENT SECTION ACTIVITY

Tenders for November

No uploaded	17
No of tenders received	53

### Customer Service Metrics

Area				November
Agricultural Burns				1
Environment Complaints				276
Change of Circumstances				38
General Queries				1
Housing Validation				152
Quick Calls				2,328
Ask A Question				48
Road Faults Log				108
Emails				2,692
	<b>Email Category</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Section</b>	
	<b>Email (Received - External)</b>	<b>644</b>	Districts	1
			Other	1
			Unknown	642
	<b>Email (Received - Internal)</b>	<b>611</b>	Housing Maintenance	3
			Unknown	608
	<b>Email (Sent - External)</b>	<b>12</b>	Districts	9
			Environment	1
			Housing	1
			Housing Maintenance	1
	<b>Email (Sent - External/Internal)</b>	<b>1376</b>	Unknown	1,376
	<b>Email (Sent - Internal)</b>	<b>49</b>	Corporate	1
			Districts	5
			Finance	5
			Homeless	7
			Housing	4
			Housing Maintenance	25
			Planning	1
			Roads	1
<b>Total</b>				<b>5,644</b>

## Representations for November 2022

No. of Representations by Section (Open/Closed)				
Section	Closed	Open	Total	%
Enniscorthy Municipal District	0	3	3	2%
Environment	2	7	9	5%
Gorey - Kilmuckridge Municipal District	0	2	2	1%
Housing	24	89	113	61%
Planning	0	7	7	4%
Roads	0	6	6	3%
Roads - Enniscorthy MD	0	16	16	9%
Roads - Gorey - Kilmuckridge MD	0	12	12	6%
Roads - Rosslare MD	0	4	4	2%
Roads - Wexford MD	0	9	9	5%
Water - Rural Water and Well Grants	0	1	1	1%
Wexford Municipal District	0	3	3	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Social Media Report



### 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

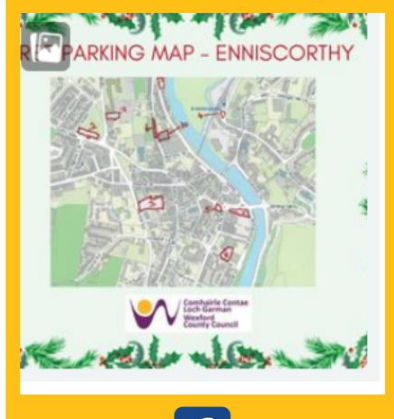
The number of times your page/profile has been mentioned/tagged by members of the public or other pages/profiles

### 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\*\*

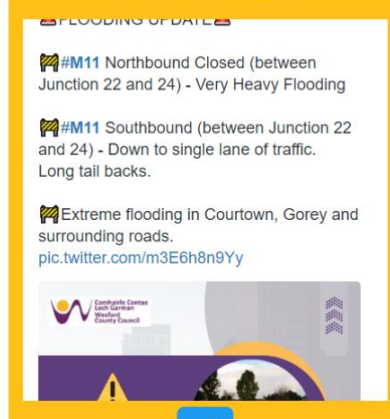
## Top Performing Posts

### Christmas Free Parking



19,308 views

### Gorey Flooding



10,491 impressions

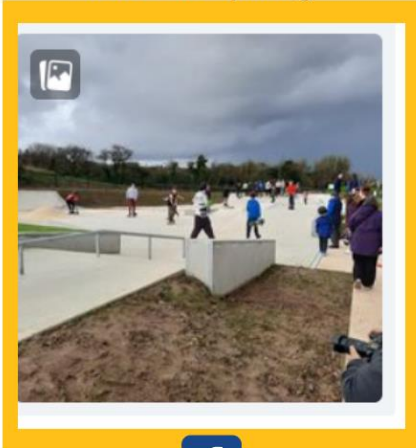
### Belgian Ambassador Visit



1,011 views

## Top Performing Posts

### Skate Park Opening



7,448 views

### Christmas Free Parking



6,646 impressions

### Gorey Flooding



926 views

## Monthly Stats

### PAGE REACH

37,821

### PAGE FOLLOWS

5,314

### NEW PAGE LIKES

184

### PAGE VISITS

10,202

### NUM. OF POSTS

70

#### Learnings from this month:

New Page Likes - Up 97%

#### TOPICS HIGHLIGHTED THIS MONTH:

##### Very negative response to Offer a Home, Offer Hope Campaign

What about the homeless that are already in Wexford with no roof over their heads. Shouldn't they get first priority?

Like Reply 5d

Sorry wexford coco but what about the thousands of irish families with nowhere to go? Living in tents and cars. In this weather especially! Im all for helping others but we need to help our own.

Like Reply 5d

why dont you do the same for the homeless people of wexford?, give the same amount to the house owner until the person gets on their feet etc and then they could be in a position to work and eventually pay the rent themselves

Like Reply 5d

## Monthly Stats

### PAGE REACH

1,646

### PAGE FOLLOWS

1,879

### NEW FOLLOWERS

86

### PAGE VISITS

460

### NUM. OF POSTS

18

#### Learnings from this month:

Need more visual content for Instagram.

#### TOPICS HIGHLIGHTED THIS MONTH:

Please tell me you will be upgrading the water treatment plant ASAP. This is getting really tiresome nearly every time it rains a lot. 😊 I do appreciate all your staff do to get things back on track and know they are not to blame. I'm lucky I was away yesterday and only got back about 5.30pm. I would have been drinking the water all day and have a weak immune system so that wouldn't have been a good outcome. 😞 It's also very frustrating that some of the supermarkets hike up the prices of bottled water too when there's a boil notice. Very unfair.



# Monthly Stats

IMPRESSIONS	MENTIONS	NUM. OF TWEETS
183K	624	183
PAGE FOLLOWERS	PAGE VISITS	NEW FOLLOWERS
13,628	29.5K	117

## TOPICS HIGHLIGHTED THIS MONTH:

1. Gorey Flooding (Members of public felt we didn't communicate regularly enough and didn't communicate of diversions in place)
2. Map Alerter (Members of public posting that we don't send map alerters consistently or timely).



### Learnings from this month:

Impressions - Up 48.7%  
Page Visits - Up 125.9%

# Monthly Engagements

## TYPES OF QUERIES RECEIVED:

- REQUEST TO REPAIR ROAD AT REDMOND SQUARE.
- NUMEROUS QUERIES REGARDING CYCLING/ACTIVE TRAVEL.

Dear @wexfordcoco  
Yesterday @countykerry launched not 1 but TWO Greenway openings.  
Listowel to Abbeyfeale and Tralee to Fenit.  
Why are we 🍀🍀🍀 #Wexford taking so long 🙄

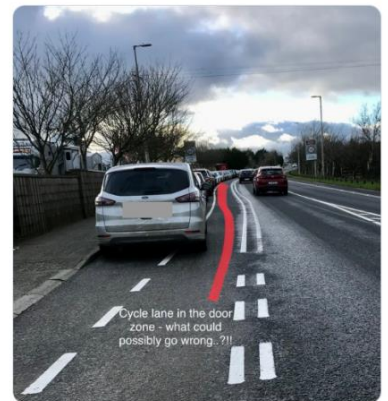


We have more suggestions from other @LocalGovIre

Thread  
1/ First up @Carlow\_Co\_Co  
Keeping the public informed and engaged via active travel bulletins  
(Here's No. 6)



This cycle lane on the Newtown Rd. #Wexford needs to be revisited. Cycle track designed in the door zone, where an inattentive driver might open the car door without looking. Also used as extra car parking on race days, circus days etc? What's the solution @wexfordcoco?



The Communications Team works with all sections to address communications issues as they arise and to provide customers with the information they require. Regular review of monthly figures will help improve both quality and timeliness of information provided.



## **Finance:**

### **Finance Report Q3**

The Q3 Finance Report is included on the agenda for the December meeting and the report has been circulated to members. The Q3 position is being reported at a €0.15m deficit in the Revenue Account for the period to 30<sup>th</sup> September. This position assumes full recoupment of all costs incurred by the council dealing with the various weather events throughout the year and the costs incurred by the Council's Ukrainian response team. The Q3 report also confirms a spend of €41.75m on capital development projects to the end of September, the majority of which has been incurred delivering the housing capital programme and projects in the Economic & Community Development Programme.

### **Cash Flow/Overdraft**

Ministerial Sanction remains in place for borrowing by way of overdraft in the amount of €20m to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023. Ministerial Sanction has also now been received confirming borrowing by way of overdraft for 2023 in the amount of €20m, as approved by members at the October meeting.

### **Audit Committee/Audit**

The next Audit Committee is scheduled for Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December and the committee will be meeting with the Local Government Auditor to discuss the 2021 Annual Financial Statement and the associated Statutory Auditors report. The annual reports from the Audit Committee prepared in accordance with Section 60 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 are expected to be submitted to the Council early in the new year.

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