



Chief Executive's Report

February 2020

1.Economic Development & Planning:

LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE

Training

The Wexford LEO Training Programme for 2020 commenced on Tuesday 28th January with the first of over 80 training programmes planned for the coming year.

Contract Business Advisor

Following a tender process, LEO Wexford has appointed 5 Contract Business Advisors to work with a number of our portfolio clients supporting them to look beyond Brexit over the coming year on the following areas:

1. Brexit Challenges / Exports / New Markets
2. Financial Analysis
3. Business Planning / Growth Plans
4. Increase Productivity / LEAN

An additional Contract Business Advisor has been appointed to work specifically on a large scale Brexit event for the county, to be run later this year.



Green for Micro

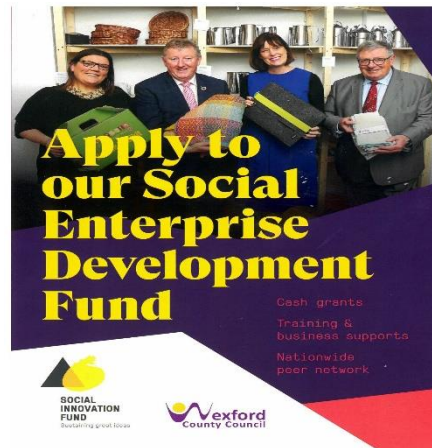
Wexford held the first of a series of breakfast seminars aimed at assisting businesses to transition to a low-carbon economy under the 'Green for Micro' initiative on the 28th January 2020. The initiative is supported by Enterprise Ireland who allocated funding and Wexford LEO as part of a regional initiative.

Philip Kehoe, Kehoe's Potatoes and Nicholas Dunne, Killowen Farm spoke about the measures they have taken and the savings they have made while building more sustainable businesses.

A presentation was given by Jane Wickham, 3 Counties Energy Agency outlining the supports are available to SME's and how to access these supports and grants.

Local Launch of Social Innovation Fund

The Social Enterprise Development Fund 2020 will be launched on Monday 10th February at 12pm in the Street, Wexford Council offices. The fund aims to support enterprises that add value to the social and economic fabric of the community by achieving a social impact. There will be stands available on the day also to highlight projects and supports available.



Economic Development



An Invest Wexford evening event will be held in Dublin on 20th February to promote Wexford as a top FDI location. The event will aim to inform companies who may be considering setting up a second site in Ireland, of the benefits of doing business in County Wexford from a business-friendly location, talent, infrastructure, property solutions, proximity to Dublin/Rosslare Europort and the help available to companies locating in Wexford.

There are two events planned for 5th March at 6pm in New Ross and 12th March at 10am in Gorey to support collaboration with the business community in promoting the towns for inward investment.



Enterprise Ireland has announced funding of just under €250,000 for the *Tradebridge* project. The regional initiative, which was initially developed by Wexford County Council and Wexford Enterprise Centre, seeks to develop export market opportunities for small and medium-sized enterprises (SME's) located in the South East of Ireland and in 16 counties in SE Georgia, America.

The *Tradebridge* project will build on the close connections that Wexford has developed with Savannah, Georgia and the wider area, and will foster even closer co-operation with Georgia Southern University who launched their new third-level campus in Wexford in November of 2019. The investment provides a real opportunity for SME's in the Southeast region to explore new markets and opportunities beyond Brexit and work closely with Enterprise Ireland in America.

In addition to the funding from Enterprise Ireland, the Local Enterprise Offices across the local authorities have provided additional funding of €72,000 to the *Tradebridge* project, providing a total investment of €320,000. The funding is ring-fenced over three years and will commence working to develop exports sales in advanced manufacturing, financial services, technology and other sectors with high export potential, creating additional jobs in the local economy.

Tourism

Tourism Ireland launches 2020 marketing plans

Tourism Ireland recently launched details of its new three-year strategy for 2020-2022 and its marketing plans to promote the island of Ireland overseas next year, at an event attended by around 500 tourism industry leaders from around the country.

The aim of its new three-year strategy is to grow overseas tourism revenue to €6.54 billion (+13%) and visitor numbers to 12 million (+7%), by 2022.

As Part of Tourism Ireland's Sustainable Destination Marketing Principles, they aim to drive more business to regions within Ireland. Activity will include prioritising regional messages in global campaigns, Tourism Ireland's have also launched a new 'twinning' initiative (where each overseas market will 'twin with' or place a greater focus on a specific region in Ireland).

Wexford has been "twinned" with the Canadian market for this initiative.



On foot of this twinning initiative Fáilte Ireland arranged for a group of Canadian Tour Operators to Visit the East Coast of Ireland week beginning 20th January 2020 and Co Wexford was included in this trip. The Group were met in Johnstown Castle Estate, Museum & Gardens on Monday 20th January by Colm Neville Chair of Visit Wexford and Billy Byrne Tourism Development Officer and were given a presentation promoting Wexford as a holiday destination.

Holiday World Show Dublin 2020

The Holiday world show 2020 took place in the RDS Dublin from 24th – 26th January. Visit Wexford was one of the 550 exhibitors at the show, which was attended by approximately 40,000 people.



Bucanier:



BUCANIER (*Building Clusters and Networks in Innovation Enterprise and Research*)

BUCANIER held a cross boarder event in January, 48 people attended, 8 Welsh Companies and 22 Irish companies. The event consisted of a Food Tour, and a Sustainability, Wellness and Equality Workshop held at the BIM Seafood Innovation Centre in Clonakilty.

BUCANIER is supporting 10 Irish companies to attend the Pembrokeshire Food and Drink Supplier to Buyer Event on the 5th of February; they will also attend an Innovation workshop in Carmarthenshire on the 6th as part of the trip.

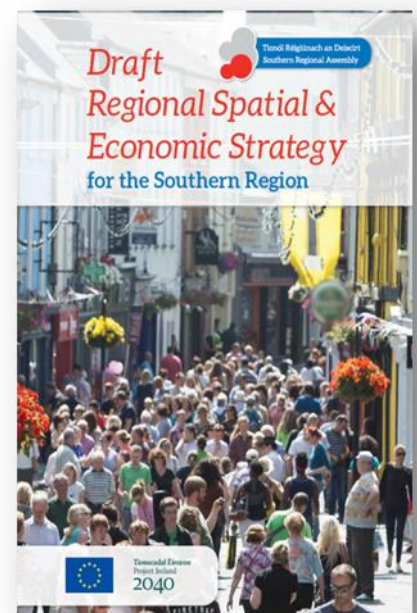
PLANNING

Planning Applications:

No. of valid applications received up to 27/01/2020	63
No. of invalid applications received up to 27/01/2020	12
Extension of Duration received up to 27/01/2020	2
Exempted Development Declaration Received up to 27/01/2020	2

Forward Planning

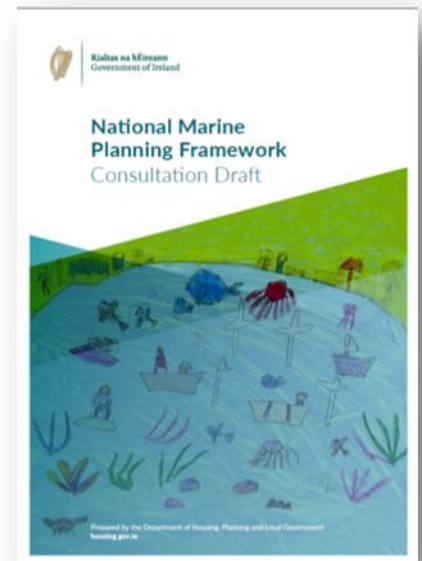
Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy: The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) for the Southern Region was adopted on the 29th of November 2019. The Forward Planning Section, supported by our Regional Assembly Members and the Planning SPC, made detailed submissions throughout the process. The resultant strategy now contains many policies and objectives which will support and set the framework for the future spatial, social and economic development of County Wexford. The RSES takes effect on the 31st of January 2020.



Wexford County Development Plan 2020-2026: The preparation of the Wexford County Development Plan was paused by Statutory Instrument pending the adoption of the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Southern Region. Wexford County Council must recommence the preparation of the County Development Plan within 13 weeks of the effective date of the Strategy (31st January 2020). It is anticipated that the pre-draft plan will be submitted to the Members in Q2 of 2020.

National Marine Planning Framework

The *National Marine Planning Framework (NMFP) - Consultation Draft* has been published by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government. It is Ireland's first marine planning framework and it applies to a broad range of activities including aquaculture, offshore renewable energy, shipping, ports and harbours, sea fisheries and tourism. It is an important document as it will set the development consent framework for development in the whole marine area. **The period during which submissions may be made has been extended to Thursday 9th April, 2020 at 3pm.** The Department intend to hold a consultation event in Wexford and details will follow.



Biodiversity and Natural Heritage

In-house Actions

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the proposed two week controlled trial of new biodegradable cleaning products to take place in January 2020 has been delayed. Wexford County Council are on the road and committed to eliminating most, if not all, bleach and chemical cleaners in its office in 2020.

Natural Wexford

Work has commenced on a Natural Wexford Sign for both Forth Mountain and Lady's Island. The sign will inform visitors to the area of the importance of the natural heritage in these areas. Scoping is being carried out to decide on the next locations for Natural Wexford signs.

Wex Bee Aware

A small awareness campaign is to run over the spring, to encourage people to plan ahead for the summer, and to create pollinator friendly environments, starting with leaving the first lawn cut of the year until mid April. Over the spring and summer it is hoped to continue to raise awareness on the small changes people can make to enhance bee and other pollinator populations.

Wex Bee Aware has been shortlisted as a finalist for the 2020 All Ireland Community and Council Awards for Best Environmental/Ecological Project/Initiative. The award ceremony is taking place in Croke Park on the 15th of February 2020.

Building Control: Commencement Notices

A total of 16 valid commencement notices have been submitted up to 27th January, 2020 on the BCMS.

Enniscorthy	Gorey	New Ross	Wexford	Rosslare
4	3	2	3	4

Derelict Sites, Dangerous Structures and Vacant Sites at 27th January, 2020

Activity on Derelict Sites/Dangerous Structures is as follows:

Notices Issued under Derelict Sites Act 1990 **0**

Notices issued under Sanitary Services Act 1964 **0**

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

Planning Enforcement:

The number of planning enforcement cases as at 27/01/2020 is as follows:

- Cases Opened 9 January 2020
- Live Cases 232 Total up to 27/01/2020
- Cases Closed 2 January 2020

District Court Cases

None this month

Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2020:

We have 17 applications for the Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2020 and 8 applications for the Historic Structures Fund 2020.

Disability Access:

2020 DAC Applications Validated to date :

The Total amount of valid DAC Applications received up to the **27th January 2020** totals **15**

Total Refused 0. Total Granted **2** Awaiting F.I 9 Under Assessment 4

2020 DAC Applications Returned Invalid :

The Total Number returned as Invalid from 1st January 2020 1
Awaiting Re-submission 1

(Invalid DACs outstanding from 2019 , 1)

Valid DACS from 2019 Outstanding and Assessed in January 2020 totals 13

2019 Applications Total **0** Refused January, 2020

2019 Applications Total **8** Granted January,2020

2019 Applications Total **5** Awaiting F.I

Pre-assessment of Planning Referrals to date;

LAC /PLAC & General Planning Applications **12**

2. Special Projects:

Min Ryan Park, Wexford: Works are progressing well, with all earthworks now substantially complete, access road well advanced and key features such as playground area, entrance works and circulation pathways at various stages of construction. The Skatepark works contract was issued for tender on 23rd January 2020. The park is expected to open to the public in early 2020.

Trinity Wharf: The application for development approval was submitted to An Bord Pleanála on 15/02/2019. WCC has responded to a request for further information issued by An Bord Pleanála in late July 2019.

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

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

Crescent Quay: Works at Crescent Quay are substantially completed.

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

WCC presented revised options for the street and public realm works to the Members of the Enniscorthy MDC in December 2019. Following consultation with the members, a revised plan for these works will now be prepared for public consultation as part of a further planning process in Q1 2020.

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

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

Market soundings have indicated that there may be interest from the private sector to fund the design and construction of a multi event performance venue and WCC issued a Call for Expressions of Interest / Tender Proposals on 10/02/2020.

Wexford Arts Centre: An appointment for design services was completed in April and investigative and building surveys and inspections are substantially completed. The preliminary design is complete and the Part VIII approval was obtained on 13th January 2020. Detailed designs are progressing with tenders scheduled to be invited in May 2020.

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

High Hill, New Ross: Detailed design and tender documents are progressing and works are expected to commence in Q3 2020. An application for RRDF funding approval for this project as part of the expansion of the New Ross tourism experience was successful.

Esmonde Street: Tenders for design, planning and construction management services for public realm improvement works have been received and an appointment of a consultant is imminent. The Council has received initial RRDF funding to the value of €95,224.00 for this project.

Carrigfoyle Activity Centre: Works have commenced on Phase 1 (access road, car park, trails and services) and is programmed to be completed by Q3 2020. An RRDF application for funding for the scheme was submitted in August 2019 seeking support for the scheme. This application was not successful.

Enniscorthy Tourism Project: Alan Sherwood & Associates has been appointed to prepare the feasibility study and an application to Failte Ireland for Capital Investment funding.

The project was presented to the Enniscorthy Municipal District at its January 2019 meeting. The propositions options report is currently being finalised.

An application for funding for the project was submitted to Failte Ireland's Pathways to Growth programme was not successful.

Kilmore Quay Link Road: Part 8 approval was obtained in February 2019. Detailed designs and tender documents have been completed and tenders for construction works have been received and are being assessed. Works on site are planned to commence in Q1 2020.

An RRDF application for funding for the scheme was submitted in August 2019 seeking support for the scheme, but was unsuccessful.

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

Monck Street Enhancement Scheme: Tender documents are being prepared to invite consultants to design and procure this scheme. Appointment is expected in March/April, with works expected to commence on site in early 2021.

WEXFORDIA – INHP, Hook Lighthouse and New Ross Tourism Projects

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

Design services are currently being procured for the development of the INHP and the Hook Lighthouse to shovel ready status including securing the required environmental, planning and other consents.

Procurement for detailed design for the New Ross Tourism Experience will commence in Q1 2020.

Wexford Flood Relief Scheme: Funding of €9m has been approved by the OPW for the Wexford Flood Relief scheme based on the initial findings of the South Eastern CFRAM report. The OPW have identified a need for further analysis of wave levels in the scheme area so that wave overtopping can be addressed as part of the scheme. Funding for the wave level study will be provided by the OPW the quotation request for services for this study has been issued and is due to be returned by the

end of January. The project brief for the Flood Relief Main Project is currently being drafted and has been forwarded to the OPW for comment.

Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme: The Public Exhibition Report has been completed and the Confirmation Documents were submitted to the OPW on the 16th December 2019 for submission to the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform. Work on detailed design and tender documents for the new Slaney Road Bridge are approaching completion. Advance Works for the Promenade Sewer diversions have been agreed with Irish Water and tender documents for these works are being prepared.

GREENWAYS:

Rosslare Europort to Waterford City Greenway.

Draft feasibility, route options and environmental screening documents have been completed. Public information events were held in Wellingtonbridge & Rosslare Strand in May 2019. The preparation of the EIAR & NATURA Impact reports for the proposed development is substantially completed.

A presentation to the Rosslare MDC was made in Dec 2019 where the proposals for the 1 way system in the village of Rosslare to facilitate the greenway were detailed. The proposals were endorsed by the MDC. The members also requested that section of the greenway from Rosslare Harbour to Rosslare be reviewed and it was agreed proposed route would be walked by members in January 2020.

An application for funding, submitted to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport on 28/11/2018 was not successful.

New Ross to Waterford Greenway / South East Greenway:

Section 85 and funding agreements have been signed by Wexford County Council, Kilkenny County Council & Waterford City & County Council to enable Wexford County Council to act as the lead authority for this project. Detailed design is currently underway and it is planned to tender for a Works contractor in April 2020. Site investigation and vegetation clearance works have been completed. Topographical Surveys of the route are in progress.

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

Curraclloe to Wexford Greenway:

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

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

Wexford to Rosslare Greenway

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

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

HOUSING - Housing Supply

Capital Projects

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Current Position	Comment
Coolcotts	7	Wexford	Construction complete	Completed in Dec 2019
Castlemoyle	1	New Ross	Construction complete	Special needs housing – completed in Dec 2019
Ross Road	1	Enniscorthy	Under construction	Due to complete April 2020
The Ballagh	7	Enniscorthy	Under construction	Due to complete June 2020
Taghmon	18	Rosslare	Under construction	Due to complete July 2020
Ballynaboola	1	New Ross	Stage 3	Boundary & Environmental issues unresolved
Whiterock Hill	44	Wexford	Stage 3 (<i>with DHPLG</i>)	Stage 3 to DHPLG Nov 2019
Carley's Bridge	17	Enniscorthy	Stage 3 approved	Tender March 2020
Rosetown, Rosslare	36	Rosslare	Stage 3	Stage 3 to DHPLG Q1 2020
Ballywish, Castlebridge	11	Wexford	Stage 2 Q1 2019	Propose CPO of land for access
Maudlintown	12	Wexford	Preparing Stage 2	Women's refuge, initial design review and costs Stage 2 Q1 2020
Rosemary Heights, Ferns	8	Enniscorthy	Stage 2	Stage 2 to DHPLG Q1 2020 consultants appointed
Kileens	40	Wexford	Stage 2	Stage 2 – Higher densities under discussion with DHPLG
Creagh East	4	Gorey	Stage 2	Consultants appointed, ESB cables – Stage 2 Q2 2020
Ballyhine, Barntown	7	Wexford	Stage 2	Stage 2 - Q1 2020
Rosbercon	28	New Ross	Stage 2	Q2 2020 - reviewing Knotweed and Framework
Wexford Street	20	Gorey	Stage 1 approved	Demolitions – Jan 2020, Stage 2 Q2 2020
Creagh West	8	Gorey	Stage 1	Stage 2 Q2 2020
TOTAL	270			

Pre-development Stage

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Marconi Park	1	Enniscorthy	Stage 1 – DHPLG approved Sept 2019. Part VIII approved, tender Q2 2020
5 Francis Street	1	Wexford	Awaiting survey (Buy & Renew)
Bullawn	2	New Ross	Stage 2 - Q2 2020
Marley	1	Enniscorthy	Stage 1 – awaiting DHPLG approval (submitted 23/05/19) not approved – on hold
Castlebridge	1	Wexford (single stage)	TAP house, site ownership to WCC – Land transfer underway. Part VIII approved. Tender Q2 2020
Ballycullane	1	New Ross	Fire damaged house – Funding approved from WCC Part VIII approved. Tender Q1 2020
TOTAL	7		

Longer Term Projects

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Clonard	26	Wexford	Site cleared March 2019 – inner relief road in design by others, awaiting road
Adamstown	16	New Ross	No services capacity presently, discussion with Irish Water ongoing re upgrade
Tagoat	9	Rosslare	Site cleared, addressing boundaries (Stage 1 Q2 2020)
Daphne View	24	Enniscorthy	Access issues – discussions commenced
Thomastown Road, Rosbercon	10	New Ross	Feasibility for suitability of the site
Bride Street	2	Wexford	Survey and recommendations Q2 2019. Demolition and enabling works Q2 2020
TOTAL	87		

Other Projects (early feasibility)

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Newtown, Ferns	1	Enniscorthy	Survey 2019 (recommend sale)
Adamstown	2	New Ross	Demolition of old house required, demolition Q2 2020. CPO commenced, in newspaper
Monomolin	4	Gorey	Services and enabling works 2020
King Street	2	Wexford	To Municipal District for information
Lacken (TAP)	1	New Ross	Single stage approved, Part VIII not required, partial funding required from WCC
TOTAL	10		

Part V Acquisitions

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Gleann an Ghairdin	10	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	Delivered
Estuary View, Crosstown	2	Wexford	Due to be delivered 2020
Ard Uisce, Whiterock Hill	13	Wexford	To deliver Q1 2020
Millquarter,Knockmullen	18	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	Delayed - now due to be delivered Q1 2020
Roxborough Manor, Mulgannon	22	Wexford	14 units to be delivered Q2 2020, 8 units to be delivered Q2 2021.
Hunters Hill , Gorey	3	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	To be delivered 2020.
Clonard	6	Wexford	To be delivered 2020
Clonhaston /Enniscorthy	15	Enniscorthy	To deliver 2020/2021
An Glasan, Enniscorthy	4	Enniscorthy	2 units to deliver 2020, 4 units to deliver 2021
Gleann an Ghairdin Ph 3	6	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	To deliver 2020
TOTAL	99		

Turnkeys

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Gleann an Ghairdin,	23	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	All units delivered
Ard Uisce, Whiterock Hill	35	Wexford	All units delivered
Glen Aoibhinn, Ardamine	10	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	3 to deliver Q1 2020
Belvedere Road	7	Wexford	To deliver Q3 2020
Riverchapel Lane	4	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	All units delivered
Michael St, New Ross	3	New Ross	To deliver Q1 2020
St. Martin's Rd, Rosslare Hbr	4	Rosslare	Units delivered
Ard Uisce, Whiterock Hill	19	Wexford	To deliver Q4 2020
Whitewater Estuary , Bally hack	3	New Ross	To deliver Q1 2020
Clonhaston, Enniscorthy	50	Enniscorthy	To deliver on phased basis in 2021
5 The Break, Aylesbridge	1	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	To deliver Jan 2020

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
64 & 74 Chapelwood, Kilmuckridge	2	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	To deliver Jan 2020
Clonattin Upper, Goreybridge	8	Gorey Kilmuckridge	To deliver Q3 2020
TOTAL	169		

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

Approved Housing Bodies

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Cooperative Housing Ireland			
Fort Road, Gorey	11	Gorey	To be delivered Q1 2020
Cluid			
The Grange, Ferns	10	Gorey	Delivered
Greenville Lane	52	Enniscorthy	To deliver on phased basis in 2020 & 2021
Tuath			
Gleann an Ghairdin	18	Gorey	9 units delivered. 9 to deliver Q1 2020
Ramstown	56	Gorey	Planning Refused. New Planning application lodged for 70 units – awaiting decision
Rocksborough, Drinagh	85	Wexford	10 units to be occupied by Q3 2020 remainder to be occupied as completed
Old Forge Road, Milehouse	59	Enniscorthy	To deliver on phased basis in 2020.
Gleann an Ghairdin	9	Gorey	To deliver Q4 2020
Gleann an Ghairdin	24	Gorey	To deliver 2020
TOTAL	324		

ENVIRONMENT

1	Coastal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Rosslare Coastal Flood and Erosion Risk Management Study was submitted to the OPW on the 17th January 2020. On the 17th January Curracloe beach was nominated as the “best beach in Ireland” by the readers of the Irish Independent at their annual travel awards ceremony.
2	Climate Change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work on the implementations of the actions outlined in the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024 has commenced.
3	Environment General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under the “trees for Wexford” campaign 154 community groups will trees or saplings on the 13th and 14th February in Holmestown

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

INTERREG – Celtic Routes

The Project garnered the front page and a three page spread in the “Local Authority Journal” for winter 2019 and a double page entry in both Wicklow and Wexford regional papers.

On the 12th December 2019, a Request for Tender for photography services was issued via eTenders. The closing date for all tenders was the 14th January 2020, 12 tenders were submitted and scoring has been completed. The contract will be awarded shortly, with work commencing immediately.

The Project Officer has met with the Ancient Connections Project Team, Stena Line, Irelands Ancient East and attended the Holiday World Show in Dublin.

There will be an intensive Project Partner meeting in Cardigan at the end of January, at which the Legacy of the Project will be discussed.

Playgrounds

Weekly inspections conducted as usual and an intensive minor repair and maintenance programme has commenced.

Major repair item

Repair of swing post at Clonattin Village playground.

Joint Policing Committee (JPC)

The next JPC meeting is scheduled for 10th February. The draft Wexford County Council Regulation and Control of the Consumption of Intoxicating Liquor in Public Places) Bye Laws 2020 will be circulated at that meeting. An invitation has been extended to Garda Commissioner Drew Harris to attend a meeting of the JPC during the course of the year.

Horeswood Community Gain Fund (HCGF) Information evening

The HCGF grant scheme was re-opened for 2020 after 6 years. An information meeting was held at the Horeswood Parochial Hall in Campile on Tuesday 14th of Jan from 4-8pm attended by the Community staff and elected members . Representatives from many Horeswood community groups attended and a number of expressions of Interests have been received. Various groups also expressed an interested in identifying a larger scale project where a portion of the fund could be used to leverage further grant funding. The Expressions of Interest will be reviewed by the Community Section and a further meeting will be held to discuss the various options.

Community Centre at Pike View

The Community Development Department is supporting the development of a management committee to reopen the Community Centre at Pike View, Barntown. A meeting and a workshop has been set up between interested parties for Wednesday the 22nd of January will be facilitated at Wexford County Council's offices to further the development of the Centre

Healthy Ireland

Healthy Ireland Fund 2 Year Programme Round 3

Service Level Agreements (SLAs) are being progressed with the various Project Promoters and will be agreed and signed. The agreed actions requiring SLAs are:

- 1] Regional Group (5 Counties) to implement a collaborative approach across the common themes of Healthy Food, Positive Ageing & Tobacco Free;
- 2] Swim for All lead by Sports Active Wexford to extend the opportunity to access swimming lessons;
- 3] Active Fellas lead by Sports Active Wexford to increase the level of physical activity in men over a certain age;
- 4] Youth – Five ways to Wellbeing lead by FDYS to explore youth health holistically;
- 5] Roma Community Health project lead by FDYS to focus on the mental health need of the Roma community;
- 6] Make the Moove – Farmers Matter lead by the Healthy Ireland Coordinator to promote positive health for farmers in rural communities;
- 7] Community Mental Health Fund lead by the Healthy Ireland Coordinator engaging Traveller Men and Women in a Health & Wellbeing activities and
- 8] A Community Engagement Initiative to develop a Healthy Town Programme in Enniscorthy Town.

There is also a 30K small grants scheme within the programme and details of this will be launched shortly.

Round 2

The Trio-bike as purchased under Round 2 was placed in the Heritage Park and will be put into use subject to agreements being signed and weather permitting. This is the second Triobike purchased under the Healthy Ireland Fund and is an exciting collaboration between Wexford LCDC under the Healthy Ireland Fund and the Heritage Park. This collaboration affords visitors to the Heritage Park, who would not normally have access to the grounds, the opportunity for a more enhanced and rewarding experience. Sales pitch!

Healthy Ireland County Committee - The first meeting of the Healthy Ireland County Committee will be held on the 14th of February in County Hall.

LEADER

Five claims received for Article 48 pre-payment check, the 5 were checked with 2 returned for minor queries to the implementing partner, Wexford Local Development, these were dealt with promptly and returned. All claims were processed and are moving through the process. There were a total of 3 claims to the value of €123,153.15 paid out to projects.

Comhairle na nÓg

Three young people, members of Wexford Comhairle Na nÓg made a presentation at the January 2020 meeting of Wexford County Council, where they gave the members an overview of Comhairle activities. The members were warmly received at the meeting, with the potential for greater consultation and collaboration between the two bodies discussed.

SICAP – Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme

The LCDC SICAP Evaluation sub-committee met on the 24th of January to consider the draft 2020 SICAP annual plan and carry out the 2019 Annual Performance Review. The sub-committee have recommended both for approval at the February meeting of the Local Community Development Committee.

Wexford Public Participation Network (PPN)

Wexford PPN membership, as at 31st December 2019, was as follows:



This showed year on year membership growth once again for 2019.

Our growing membership:

Total number of	2016	2017	2018	2019
Community and Voluntary	216	239	248	283
Environment	8	8	10	9
Social Inclusion	62	69	61	67
Total	286	316	319	359

Work continues on the Wexford PPN 2020 Work plan and Budget, which will be provided to members for approval at the next Plenary Meeting. We will meet with Wexford County Council in early February to review and re-sign the Memorandum of Understanding for 2020.

Currently Wexford PPN is holding postal elections for a Wexford PPN Social Inclusion Rep to the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC). It is hoped that this person will be in place for the February LCDC meeting. Wexford PPN has extended the nomination deadline for PPN Representatives to the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee (LTACC). The aim is to have Representatives to provide to this committee in February.

The new Draft PPN Handbook is out for consultation among stakeholders and so the PPN Secretariat and Worker will be feeding back to their respective networks on same during January.

A Representative Roundtable event is planned for 23rd January. This event will include Wexford PPN Secretariat and Representatives. For new Reps it will form part of their induction, and for all will be an opportunity to see how the new Wexford PPN Vision for Community Wellbeing can be progressed by Representatives as they represent Wexford PPN.

Upcoming Events - February

Date	Event	Details
14 th February 2020	Healthy County Committee Meeting	The purpose of this committee is to the co-ordinate health and well-being related activities of Wexford County Council and the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC), particularly the

		Healthy Ireland Programme. The committee's work will be initially based on the 2020-2022 Healthy County Plan – a Healthy Ireland based document.
17th February 2020	PPN regional meeting	Meeting of the Resource Workers for PPNs in the South East
19th February 2020	Learning Journey delegates	Meeting with Welsh delegates on a Learning Journey to Ireland, forging contacts and connections
25th February 2020	Wexford Trails	Celtic Routes will be giving a presentation on the Project to the Annual General Meeting of the Wexford Trails organisation.
27 th February 2020	Garda Youth Awards	Wexford Garda Division in association with Wexford County Council launches the 4th Annual Wexford Garda Youth Awards on 27th Feb. The launch of these annual awards is to acknowledge the achievements of young people who are making a difference in their own lives and in their communities within the Wexford Garda Division. They also acknowledge the endeavours of young people who have faced and overcome challenges in their lives. These awards are a great way for Gardaí and Wexford County Council to continue to develop strong relationships with community groups and young people in the County
27th February 2020	Comhairle na nÓg Steering Group Meeting	This Steering Group consist of representative from relevant youth agencies and Comhairle members. Its purpose is to provide guidance and assistance to the Comhairle members in their strategic direction and achievement of their overall goals and objectives.

LIBRARIES, ARTS & ARCHIVES

Libraries and Archives

National Campaign for the Promotion of Libraries #takeacloserlook

A new national advertising campaign is asking people to take a closer look at what their public library has to offer. Wexford County Council Libraries and all public libraries around the country are joining in the campaign, which is running for four weeks across radio, cinema, TV on demand, digital and social.

The aim of the campaign is to encourage people of all ages to find out how much is available for them in their local library, to join and use the library.

The 'Take a Closer Look' campaign is supported of the Department of Rural and Community Development and is part a wider national strategy to increase library use in Ireland.

On February 29th 2020 (leap day) a national open day is taking place with all libraries in County Wexford opening their doors to the public and showcasing the new and innovative services they have to offer free of charge.

Heritage

Wexford County Council will publish the second volume of *On Our Own Ground* by Dr. Edward Culleton in March 2020. The book is the second volume of three that identify, locate and describe all significant man-made and natural sites throughout County Wexford. The editing, illustration and mapping of the book was completed by Wexford County Council library and IT Department staff. Dr. Ned Culleton is a graduate of NUI Maynooth and TCD and is a former soils scientist with Johnstown Castle, university lecturer and EU research manager in Brussels.

Healthy January at your Library

There was a focus on events and activities that promote health and wellbeing in all libraries during the month of January. Prof. Shane O'Meara, neuroscientist TCD, visited Gorey Library and discussed his book 'In Praise of Walking', which invites us to marvel at the benefits that walking confers on our bodies and minds. Mary Jennings, author of "Get Running" gave a talk about how to start running for health and wellbeing in Wexford Library. Nutritionist Antoinette Long visited New Ross Library and helped to simplify the changes people want to make in their lives by focusing on four elements, nutrition, exercise, rest, & sleep. A four week programme of 'Mindfulness and Meditation' was led by Bernadette Murphy in Bunclody Library.

Archives

A limited edition copy of the publication *Chronicles from the Bushveld* was presented to the County Archive in January. Published in 2007 to mark the 85th anniversary of the founding of the Jeffares & Green group, it recounts the life experiences of John (Jack) Lett Sealy Jeffares, a pioneering engineer who was the first person to establish a consulting engineering practice in South Africa. Jack was born at Landscape, Drinagh in 1872 and on his retirement in 1954, returned home to Ballykelly, Co. Wexford.

Sensory Library Funding

The Department of Rural and Community Development is providing funding of up to €20,000 for the provision of sensory facilities and equipment in public libraries to help individuals with sensory impairments, special educational needs and other learning differences, and those on the Autism spectrum. Staff in Wexford County Council Libraries spent the month of January consulting with a range of groups and individuals about the services that it should offer adults and young people with sensory impairments. This funding will make a welcome addition to the Autism Friendly Library Service initiative which is also being developed in County Wexford.

Access to Third Level Education

Wexford Library hosted the **UCD HEAR and DARE Application Information Day** on 11th January. UCD staff gave presentations on HEAR (Higher Education Access Route) and DARE (Disability Access Route to Education) Schemes at and provided consultations to applicants and their parents/guardians. This has become a popular annual community event and this year over 200 people attended.

ARTS

Information Clinics

The Arts Officer Liz Burns held a series of information clinics during January to discuss funding and other opportunities available through the Arts Office. These clinics were aimed at artists, community groups, festivals and schools. Four free information clinics were held Gorey, Wexford and New Ross libraries and The Presentation Centre in Enniscorthy throughout January. All were very well attended with attendances ranging from 33 – 65 people per clinic.

Artlinks

Artlinks offers professional development support for emerging and professional artists in the South East Region with Wexford, Carlow, Kilkenny and Waterford Art offices. Closing date for applications was 22nd January, 2020. Total fund for Wexford is €25,000. Artlinks is a very competitive award in Wexford with average grants of €1,000 - €3,000. An independent assessor is appointed to assess the applications and makes recommendations to the Arts Office. Another element of Artlinks this year is a collaborative award, the deadline for which is 30th March, 2020.

Small Arts Festival and Experimental Events Grant Scheme 2020

This grant scheme aims to promote and support a diverse range of small arts festivals and experimental events throughout the county. The focus is on festivals/events of high artistic quality that are innovative and have a strong emphasis on public engagement. An open call from the Arts office for this scheme took place in November 2019 with the closing date of 13th January, 2020. Twenty eight applications were received. The total award fund is €22,000 with an average of 12 festival/events awarded per year with grants between €1,000 - €3,000. Applications are being assessed in February with all festivals being notified by mid-February.

SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

Slaintecare; Integrated Exercise Practitioner programme. Recruitment process underway and near completion.

Operation Transformation 2020

490 Participants took part in this year's programme across 6 walks across the county. Courtown; Tintern; Rosslare; Rathangan; Ballygarrett and Wexford.

Swim for a mile supported for 12 weeks in the Apex new Ross with the Swim for a mile event to be held on 22nd April.

FIRE SERVICE

News

Wexford County Fire Service implemented the GeoPal Asset Management System to assist in carrying out weekly and daily vehicle checks. This system is to be extended to include all equipment checks in 2020. A full cycle of 20% of Hydrant checks was completed for Wexford County in the five Municipal Districts.

On the 13th November a half day seminar was held in the Riverside Park Hotel on Fire Safety standards in child care facilities with the Wexford Childcare Committee and its members. On the 20th and 21st November the second workshop on Fire Safety in Homes and Flats was run by Wexford County Fire Authority in Portlaoise on behalf of the NDFEM.

Fire Operations

There were 68 incidents in November as detailed below.

Incident Type	Calls November 2019	Calls to date 2019	Calls to this period 2018
Chimney fire	12	103	122
Domestic fire	1	54	77
Road Traffic Accident	7	92	97
Industrial fire	1	9	9
Commercial fire	0	7	5
Assembly fire	1	3	4
Agricultural fire	0	1	5
Motor Vehicles	2	36	57
Forest/bog/grass etc	0	69	216
Rubbish	5	69	89
Non-fire rescues	2	30	24
False alarms – good intent	32	247	259
Malicious false alarms	0	1	3
Miscellaneous	5	76	68
Total	68	797	1035

Fire Safety

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

Applications Received	Year to date	November
Fire Safety Certificates	117	16
Planning Referrals	958	80

Number of Inspections	Year to date	November
FSA Inspections	273	31

4. Transportation, Water Services:

WATER SERVICES

Irish Water Capital Schemes

Enniscorthy Network Upgrade

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

Enniscorthy intake project

New water intake and pumping station at Clonhasten.

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

Wexford Drainage Area Plan

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

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

Fethard-on-Sea Sewerage Scheme

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

Gorey Regional Water Supply – South Wellfield

The Gorey RWSS will be upgraded and a new 8 MI/day WTP and 7,500m³ reservoir provided at Ballyminaun. Planning permission was granted by WCC to upgrade the borehole sites and build a new water treatment plant at Ballyminaun. The hydrogeological investigations show that remedial works will be required to most of

the boreholes. The CPO is completed as objections were withdrawn before scheduled oral hearing. The contract has been awarded to Glan Agua with works expected to start on site in October/November 2019. Plant expected to be operational in early 2022. Construction began October 2019 at New Treatment plant and storage site in Ballyminaun. Pipe installation works to commence early December 2019

Untreated Agglomeration Study (UTAS)

Arthurstown, Ballyhack and Duncannon:

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

Kilmore Quay:

The scheme design is complete and ready to tender. Land acquisition is now finalised and a planning application was lodged in December 2019. It is expected to commence construction in 2020 with the plant operational by the end of 2021.

Wexford Town Watermain Rehab and Gas Network

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

Direct Labour Pipe Laying Crew

The crew has commenced a Water Main Rehabilitation Project in Askinamoe Ferns, approximately 1km long and are currently in Taylortsown on a mains rehab project. The crew will focus primarily on the find and fix scheme for 2020 to reduce leakage and unaccounted for water.

Ferns Sewerage Upgrade

This project has successfully passed into detailed design stage which has commenced.

B. IRISH WATER MINOR SCHEMES & SPECIAL SCHEMES

IW Asset Management: Murntown Pumping Station

- Contractor defects liability period in operation until May 2020.
- Installation of SCADA telemetry to begin on site February 2020.
- Decommissioning works at Redwood Park WWTP will take place during Q1 2020.

DPI Scheme: Somer's Way Pumping Station and Rising Main, Ballycullane

- Contractor in place for rising main, and insurances now resolved. Expected on site Q2 2020.

- Road opening licence application completed.
- Civil and MEICA works (pumps and associated equipment) for conversion of WWTP to a pumping station – to follow rising main works.
- New 3-phase electrical supply agreed with ESB.

IW Asset Management: Fairgreen Pumping Station and Rising Main, Ballycullane

- Invest to save application for conversion to pumping station with rising main to Ballycullane WWTP main plant now approved by Irish Water.
- Design of Civil and MEICA works now complete, and out for pricing.

IW Asset Management: Trinity Street Wastewater Pumping Station

- Various HSQE works in foul sump being priced.
- Generator - Switch-gear replacement has been added to the Irish Water Generator Ready Programme for 2020, and temporary control measure in place in the interim.

IW Asset Management: Sinnottstown Lane Wastewater Pumping Station

- New pump and control panel were installed by Contractor in December, bringing the larger rising main into service increasing capacity at this station. Works to be completed on site in Q1 2020.

IW Asset Management: Telemetry Upgrades (WW)

- Additional telemetry signals at Ballymurn WWTP, Distillery Road WWPS, and Rosslare Strand WWTP approved by IW, and to be completed on site during February 2020.

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

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

IW Asset Management: Disinfection and pH Control Programme

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

Works partially complete at Creagh. Works at Glynn to be completed next. Disinfection works about 95% complete, excluding snagging.

IW Asset Planning: Treated Water Storage

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

Water Network Program

Coffey Water (CNL) are appointed as regional contractor for the Water Network Programme for the South East. To date works have been carried out in Enniscorthy in Bellefield and St Aidan's. Reinstatement works are currently underway for sites that have commenced. Additional works will continue on these sites in 2020. Works in Gorey at McCurtain St are complete, permanent road reinstatement will be carried out in 2020. Other sites in Enniscorthy, Taghmon and throughout County Wexford are at design stage with construction not expected until 2020. This WNP project will continue through 2020 with works to start on additional sites.

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

Capital Maintenance Budget

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

C. RURAL WATER PROGRAMME

Measure 2 Public Health Compliance

Mullawn GWS

Quotation being sought for installation of Turbidity Meter.

Kilnerin GWS

Quotation being sought for the engagement of a Hydrogeologist.

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

Blackstairs GWS

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

Measure 5 Transition of Existing Group Water Schemes and Group Sewerage Schemes

Bing GSS

Tender documents being prepared for Site Investigations.

Measure 6 Community Connection Networks (Water)

Battlestown CWC

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

Ballinahask, Kilmuckridge CWC

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

Crosstown Group Sewerage Scheme / Orchard Lane Group Sewerage Scheme

Awaiting confirmation from Irish Water on takeover of both schemes.

WATER CONSERVATION

Water Conservation:

- Countywide consumption for December was on average 40.5 MLD, an increase of 0.9MLD since November 2019.
- 3nr large leaks contributed to the increase, added to an annual increase in consumption over the Christmas period.

Leak Detection and Repair:

- 15nr leaks were detected and repaired in December 2019.
- Leak detection is currently concentrated in the South Regional area, when possible.

Water Network Programme with Coffey Northumberland/GMC:

- New Ross:
 - Charlton Hill has outstanding reinstatement works to be completed by DLC.
- Wexford:
 - GMC have commenced BYS and mains rehab works in Wexford town in Bishopswater, Clifford St and Hill Street.

Find and Fix Scheme:

- DMA's have been selected for intensive leak detection works under the Find and Fix scheme. Find crews focusing on New Ross - Town Centre and South Regional - Duncannon/Arthurstown DMA's.

ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION

NATIONAL ROADS

Major Schemes

M11 Gorey to Enniscorthy PPP Scheme

M11, N80 Link and N30

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

Side Roads

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

R772 (Underpass on old N11 - Enniscorthy to Oilgate Road)

Works Completed

Liaison Office

Wexford County Council is continuing to liaise with the public in relation to the scheme.

N25 New Ross By-Pass

Progress Update February 2020

The project is now completed. The N25 New Ross By-Pass incorporating the Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Bridge was officially opened on 29 January 2020 by An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar T.D. The By-Pass was opened to the public on the following day – Thursday 30 January 2020.



2019 Pavement Schemes

The following schemes were either awarded or commenced in 2019 and will be completed in 2020.

N30 Clonroche from Ballymackessy to Tomfarney.

This scheme commenced on 30 September 2019. Works recommenced on 20 January 2020 and will be completed by the end of February 2020.

Pavement Repairs N25 Ring Road Wexford, N25 Orristown Junction Killinick

This scheme was tendered in October 2019.

A contractor was appointed in November 2019.

This scheme will be commenced in the first quarter of 2020.

2020 Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) Allocation

The 2020 TII road improvement allocation has been received from TII.

The following schemes will be carried out in 2020;

- N30 Mountelliot Pavement Scheme
- N11 Kileen to Newtown Phase 2 Pavement Scheme
- N25 New Ross Roundabout to Clonard Great Pavement Scheme
- N11 Ferns Pavement Scheme

N30 Mountelliot Pavement Scheme

This scheme runs from the newly constructed Mountelliot roundabout to the R731 Ballyanne junction in New Ross.

Contract documents are substantially completed and it is hoped to tender this scheme by mid-February.

N11 Kileen to Newtown Phase 2 Pavement Scheme

This scheme runs from the Ferrycarrig Bridge to the Maldron roundabout on the N11.

Works are progressing on the tender documents. This scheme should be tendered in the first quarter of the year.

N25 New Ross Roundabout to Clonard Great Pavement Scheme

This scheme runs from the Maldron roundabout to the Whitford roundabout. Survey works will commence in February.

It is expected to tender this scheme in the second quarter of the year.

N11 Ferns Pavement Scheme

Preliminary archaeology investigations were carried out in 2019. Further archaeological investigations are required to be carried out in advance of the pavement scheme going ahead. The timing of the pavement scheme will become clearer once the archaeological investigations have been completed.

N11/N25 Oilgate to Rosslare and Rosslare Europort Access Road

Mott MacDonald Ireland were appointed as consultants for both schemes in 2019. Design work is ongoing. The first public consultation meetings are scheduled to take place in March.

Winter Maintenance

The 2019/2020 winter maintenance programme commenced on Monday, 14 October 2019. There have 30 no. call outs up to Friday, 24 January 2020.

Public Lighting LED Upgrade (Non National Roads)

Over 7,000 lanterns have been upgraded to Led since the beginning of 2016. It is hoped to upgrade the remaining 5,700 lanterns on non-national roads and housing estates in 2020.

TII Energy Efficiency Schemes

TII have funded the upgrade of public lanterns on national roads over the last 4 years. The locations upgraded to date are listed below:

- N25 Drinagh Roundabout
- N25 Maldron Roundabout
- N25 Whitford Roundabout
- N11 Ferrycarrig
- N11 Enniscorthy Town
- N11 Ferns Village
- N11 Camolin Village
- N25 Rosbercon
- N25 Tagoat
- N25 Killinick

Wexford County Council has applied to TII to upgrade the remaining lights on national routes to LED in 2020. The locations are listed below:

- N11 Oilgate
- N25 Kilrane and Rosslare Harbour
- N25 Ashfield cross Roundabout
- N25 Barntown
- N25 Larkins Cross
- N25 Balinabola
- N30 Clonroche
- N80 Ballycarney
- N80 Bunclody

TII has not indicated how many schemes it intends to fund in 2020 but we would expect to have the 8 locations funded over the next 2 to 3 years.

REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROADS

The Regional and Local Road Grant Allocations were announced on 21 January 2020. Wexford's allocation was €17,088,007, up €2,646,207 on 2019.

Resurfacing/Strengthening

Community Involvement Schemes completed in the last month were Raheearren (New Ross District).

Local Improvement Schemes completed in the last month were: Ballinabanoge; Booley; Raheearren and Taylorstown (all in New Ross District); Ballyfad (Gorey District) and Monart (Enniscorthy District).

General Maintenance

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

5. Finance:

Audit Committee

The next Audit Committee is scheduled for Wednesday 25th March 2020.

Annual Financial Statement 2019

Work has commenced on the preparation of the 2019 Accounts. This work will take a number of months but it is expected that the Council will meet the submission deadline of the end of March.

2020 Rates Demands

The Rate Demands for 2020 with the revised valuations following the Revaluation process were issued in the last week of January

Capital Programme 2020 – 2022

Work is progressing on the preparation of the next 3 Year Capital Programme and it is planned to have this ready for consideration of members in the first quarter of 2020.

Cash Flow/Overdraft

The Council continues to operate in overdraft, Ministerial Sanction is in place for borrowing by way of overdraft in the amount of €13m for the period to the 31st December, 2020.

**Tom Enright,
Chief Executive.**