



# **Chief Executive's Report**

**January 2020**

# 1.Economic Development & Planning:

## LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE

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**Training:** A key support for SME's by the LEO is the provision of training to ensure that business owners are competitive and can respond to new markets and improve productivity. A new training prospectus with over 80 training programmes will be launched in February 2020 at the Social Innovation Day. A key theme for 2020 will be to support enterprise "Beyond Brexit" .

In line with a move towards a paperless strategy, the number of printed brochures will reduce by 87% on 2019 with an advertising strategy aimed at directing people to our website/online booking.

**Contract Business Advisor:** This initiative aims to support companies to maximise opportunities and minimise risks particularly in relation to advice, information and supports beyond Brexit. The tender deadline for Contract Business Advisor support to client companies closed on 10th January 2020. Following assessment of the tenders, we aim provide advisors to work with our clients on an intensive basis from February to the end of October. Specific areas of work will include the following;

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

**Wexford Launch of National Social Innovation Fund:** Social Innovation Fund Ireland (SIFI) will be launching a call for funding applications in January at a National in Dublin. John Evoy, Social Enterprise Development Manager at SIFI will co-host a showcase event on social enterprise and the new funding opportunities for enterprise in Wexford on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February at a Social Innovation event in County Hall.

**Green for Business Breakfast seminar:** As part of the economic strategy to position Wexford as a leader in sustainability the LEO is hosting a breakfast seminar , entitled 'Green for Business', on Tuesday January 28<sup>th</sup> 8am – 9.30am in Ferrycarrig Hotel in conjunction with 3CEA. The initiative is funded by Enterprise Ireland under the successful regional funding application to support collaboration and clusters.

The aim of the event is to raise green awareness among SME's and give tips on how to 'green' their business. Information will also be given on potential funding sources/grants available. The event is open to all SME's and is free of charge, however booking is essential at [Eventbrite.ie](https://www.eventbrite.ie)

**Showcase:** Showcase – Ireland's International Creative Expo returns to the RDS, Dublin from Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020.

This on-trend annual trade fair enables 450 of Ireland's top designers and manufacturers to present their very latest work to over 5,000 retail buyers from Ireland and 20 countries, including the UK, USA, Mainland Europe and the Far East.

The **Local Enterprise Showcase**, which will once again fully occupy the balcony of the Main Hall at the RDS, will feature unique products from emerging Irish businesses supported by their Local Enterprise Offices. LEO Wexford has 3 companies exhibiting in the Showcase: Jumbleink; Wild Herb Elixirs; Grainne Kenny Design.

## ECONOMIC

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**Centre of Excellence in High Performance Buildings** A key strategy for Wexford County Council's economic programme is to promote Wexford as a champion of excellence in high performance buildings, both new and retrofit. WCC is working in partnership with the WWETB who are delivering the first accredited training courses with Mosart to upskill the construction centre for employment in delivery of more energy efficient buildings with an NZEB training centre established in 2018 at Enniscorthy.

In addition to supporting job creation as a key component of the climate action plan, Wexford County Council is working towards the development of a centre of excellence to lead on energy efficiency and innovation in this sector, supporting the delivery of sustainable quality homes, addressing fuel poverty and promoting quality indoor health. The members will consider the proposals on the initiative at their January meeting.

**Invest Wexford** In partnership with working with Enniscorthy Municipal District the department supported a business networking event in Enniscorthy over the Christmas break with Invest Wexford. The aim of the initiative was to bring business leaders and the diaspora together to work towards a shared vision for Enniscorthy to support job creation and investment.

### Business In The Community



Coláiste Abbáin

The Economic Development Section are continuing The Business In The Community programme with Transition Year Students, in Coláiste Abbáin Adamstown in 2019/2020. The first session of this programme was held in Coláiste Abbáin on 4<sup>th</sup> December which was an introductory session to inform students about the services provided by Wexford County Council and to give an insight into the range of careers across the departments.

The next session is scheduled for Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January where feedback will be given on cv's provided by the Transition Year students and also advice on interview preparation.

**Media:** The well known chef - Neven Maguire was in Wexford in October 2019 to film his Irish Seafood Trails programme. The television series is dedicated to seafood in various locations around Ireland which includes County Wexford and is an opportunity to highlight the quality produce from our coastal county. The episode which features Wexford is the 5th episode in the series and is scheduled to be broadcast on the 5th Feb, 8.30pm on RTE One

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

50 participants now recruited, they have been assigned mentors to complete six half day mentor sessions. 2 new companies recruited in December.

3 Irish participants attended a Sowing the Seed of Success Conference in Carmarthen in November. Two Irish Companies showcased at Gifted as part of the Blas na hEireann Taste the Island area.

BUCANIER has two cross boarder events planned for January and February:

- A workshop will be held on the 15<sup>th</sup> of January which will be attended by 52 participants for Ireland and Wales
- A Supplier to Buyer Event in Pembrokeshire on the 5<sup>th</sup> of February, we are taking 10 Irish companies across.

## **PLANNING**

### **PLANNING**

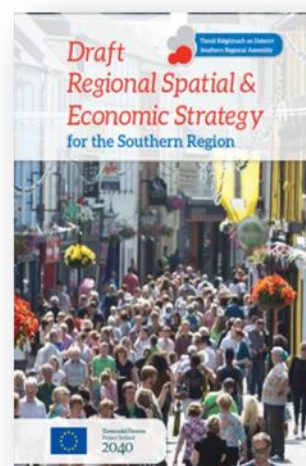
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#### **Planning Applications:**

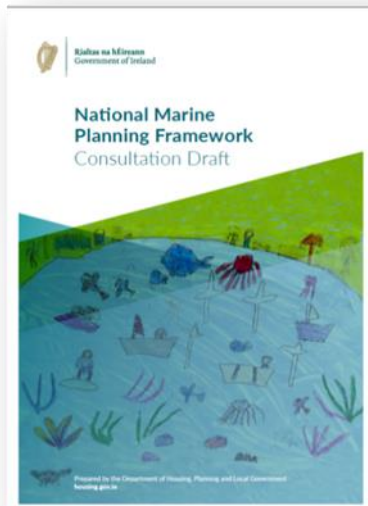
No. of valid applications received up to 31/12/2019	1444
No. of invalid applications received up to 31/12/2019	289
Extension of Duration received up to 31/12/2019	29
Exempted Development Declaration Received up to 31/12/2019	50

### **FORWARD PLANNING**

**Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy:** The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) for the Southern Region was adopted on the 29<sup>th</sup> 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 31<sup>st</sup> 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 (31<sup>st</sup> 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. Submissions on the NMPF must be made before the 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020. The Department intend to hold a consultation event in Wexford and details will follow.

## Biodiversity and Natural Heritage

**In-house Actions:** Starting in January 2020 a two week controlled trial of new biodegradable cleaning products will take place. Wexford County Council are on the road to eliminating most, if not all, bleach and chemical cleaners in its office in 2020.

**Natural Wexford:** A Natural Wexford sign has been installed at Camaross to inform visitors of the Camaross Pingos, an internationally important geological fossil. A stock proof fence was erected around one of the larger Pingos at Camaross to protect it from damage.

Work has commenced on a Natural Wexford Sign for Forth Mountain. The sign will inform visitors to the area, including those visiting the newly re-established 'Three Rocks Trail' of the importance of the natural heritage on Forth Mountain. Scoping is being carried out to decide on the next locations for Natural Wexford signs.

## Building Control:

**Commencement Notices:** A total of 498 valid commencement notices have been submitted up to 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2019 on the BCMS.

Enniscorthy	Gorey	New Ross	Wexford
142	122	66	164

## Derelict Sites, Dangerous Structures and Vacant Sites at 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2019

**Derelict Sites Project – From Vacant to Valued:** The Senior Executive Officer in Planning, Tom Banville, has pulled together a project team from Planning, Housing and Property to specifically target Derelict Sites in the County. The project titled 'From Vacant to Valued' has a great capacity to have a positive impact on the built environment of County Wexford. There are currently 53 sites on the Derelict Sites Register for the county.

These sites are sores on our landscape. From Vacant to Valued will target 25 derelict or vacant properties, 5 within each Municipal District, and work to return them to valued use as social housing or for community use.

The ideal site profile is:

1. An urban site
2. A site serviced for Water and Waste
3. A site with additional land for housing units.

To date the Project Team has met on 3 occasions and has identified 10 properties to date throughout the county, (Gorey and Kilmuckridge – 4, New Ross – 3, Enniscorthy 3) with the potential for return to social housing, for potential community use or return to the private market following CPO. The project team will meet on a monthly basis to progress these targets for development under schemes such as the Buy and Renew Scheme.

The SEO has attended Municipal District Meetings in Gorey and Kilmuckridge, Enniscorthy and New Ross to present the project to the members and agree target sites for inclusion on the project. The SEO is due to attend the District meetings in Wexford and Rosslare in January 2020.

Activity on Derelict Sites/Dangerous Structures is as follows:

Notices Issued under Derelict Sites Act 1990

32

Notices issued under Sanitary Services Act 1964

14

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

0

**Planning Enforcement:** The number of planning enforcement cases as at 31/12/2019 is as follows:

➤ Cases Opened	161
➤ Live Cases	221
➤ Cases Closed	189

**District Court Cases:** None this month

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

The table below summaries the fund allocated for 2019:

A total of €79,000 was paid to 11 projects under the Built Heritage Investment Scheme. Matching funding by the owners of the structures amounted to €117,639.40 with an estimated 408 employment days required to complete these projects. The total expenditure for projects under the scheme was €196,639.40.

The Projects ranged in diversity from thatching cottages, repairing a unique boundary wall of a local church, to restoring the wheel of a nineteenth-century corn mill wheel.

The Projects were:

Project	Grant Received	Matching Funding	Total Expenditure	Employment Days
An Teach Oileán	€10,000.00	€12,000.00	€22,000.00	31
Hyde Park	€3,000.00	€3,000.00	€6,000.00	10
Cornmill	€6,000.00	€12,000.00	€18,000.00	60
Sutton Cottage	€8,500.00	€10,500.00	€19,000.00	60
St. Mary's Church	€14,000.00	€15,674.00	€29,674.00	43
Robinstown House	€7,000.00	€7,000.00	€14,000.00	20
Ballysampson House	€6,500.00	€6,649.77	€13,149.77	2.5
Ballymore House	€5,000.00	€24,965.00	€29,965.00	57
Barnahask Thatch	€10,000.00	€17,000.00	€27,000.00	100
St. Colman's Church	€5,000.00	€5,000.00	€10,000.00	23
St. Iberius Church	€4,000.00	€3,850.63	€7,850.63	1.5

#### Historic Structures Fund 2019:

**Structure:** Pugin Chapel, St. Peter's College, Summerhill, Wexford.  
**Allocation:** €32,000

**Approved works:** Essential repair works were required to the windows of the Pugin Chapel in St. Peter's College. They were at the risk of structural failure. The leaded glass windows were removed and the window openings were boarded up. The windows were surveyed and templates were made. Off-site work included the measuring and surveying of each panel, dismantling the leaded glass, washing the old glass for re-use, cutting the drawn sheet restoration glass and leading the panels.

**Disability Access: Disability Access Certificates (DACs):** The number of DAC Applications validated up to and including up to and including 31/12/2019 totals 71  
 Total Refused 3. Total Granted 55. Awaiting F.I 8. Under Assessment 5.



## 2. Special Projects:

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

**Trinity Wharf:** The application for development approval was submitted to An Bord Pleanála on 15/02/2019. 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.

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

**Templeshannon Regeneration, Enniscorthy:** The preliminary designs, environmental studies and planning documents for the proposed pedestrian bridge have commenced and are expected to be completed by 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 will issue a Call for Expressions of Interest seeking proposals for same in January 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 process commenced on the 8<sup>th</sup> October 2019. The period for submissions closed on 05/11/2019. A report on submissions will be prepared and presented to the Council in January 2020. Works are planned to commence on site in Q2 2020.

**John Street Building Regeneration Project:** The Council has received initial RRDF funding in the value of circa. €0.328m towards the acquisition and redevelopment of



the old grain stores at John Street, New Ross. It is planned to convert these buildings into a high quality enterprise hub. Architects have been appointed for the project and the Part VIII process is due to commence in Q1 2020 with construction planned to be completed by Q2 2021.

**High Hill, New Ross:** Detailed design and tender documents are progressing and works are expected to commence in Q2 2020. An application for RRDF funding approval for this project as part of the expansion of the New Ross tourism experience was successful.

**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 in July 2019.

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

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

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

#### **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 Brief for services for this study will be advertised in December 2019. The project brief for the Flood Relief Main Project is currently being drafted.

**Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme:** Work is complete on the public exhibition report and is currently being reviewed by OPW before submission to Department of

Public Expenditure and Reform. Work on detailed design and tender documents for the new Slaney Road Bridge are approaching completion.

## **GREENWAYS:**

### **Rosslare Europort to Waterford City Greenway.**

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

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
Creagh	10	Gorey	Construction complete	Complete and occupied in July 2019
Danescastle	10	Rosslare	Construction complete	Complete and occupied in July 2019
Slippery Green	10	Wexford	Construction complete	Complete and occupied in Sept 2019
Coolcotts	7	Wexford	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
Whiterock Hill	44	Wexford	Stage 3 (with DHPLG)	Stage 3 to DHPLG Nov 2019
Carley's Bridge	17	Enniscorthy	Stage 3	Stage 3 Q1 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 - Q2 2020
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)
Wexford Street	20	Gorey	Stage 1 approved	Demolitions – Jan 2020, Stage 2 Q2 2020
Creagh West	8	Gorey	Stage 1	Stage 2 Q2 2020
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>300</b>			

## 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 (stage approved) 1	TAP house, site ownership to WCC – Land to transfer, single stage application made. Part VIII approved. Tender Q2 2020
Ballycullane	1	New Ross	Fire damaged house – Funding approved from WCC Part VIII approved. Tender Q1 2020
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7</b>		

## 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 Q1 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
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>87</b>		

## Other Projects (early feasibility)

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Newtown, Ferns	1	Enniscorthy	Survey 2019 (recommend sale)
Adamstown	2	New Ross	Demolition of old house required, demolition Q1 2020. CPO commenced

Monomolin	4	Gorey	Services and enabling works 2020
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7</b>		

## 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
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>99</b>		

## 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	7 delivered. 3 to deliver Jan 2020
Belvedere Road	7	Wexford	To deliver 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 2020
Whitewater Estuary, Ballyhack	3	New Ross	To deliver Jan 2020
Clonhaston,	50	Enniscorthy	To deliver on phased basis in 2020

Enniscorthy			& 2021
5 The Break, Aylesbridge	1	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	To deliver Jan 2020
<b>Project Address</b>	<b>No of Units</b>	<b>Municipal District Area</b>	<b>Comment</b>
64 & 74 Chapelwood, Kilmuckridge	2	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	To deliver Jan 2020
Clonattin Upper, Goreybridge	8	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	Funding Approved
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>169</b>		

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

#### Approved Housing Bodies

<b>Project Address</b>	<b>No of Units</b>	<b>Municipal District Area</b>	<b>Comment</b>
<b>Cooperative Housing Ireland</b>			
Ballyboggan, Castlebridge	10	Wexford	Occupied
Meadowfields	28	Enniscorthy	All units delivered
Fort Road, Gorey	11	Gorey	To be delivered Q1 2020
Clonard, Wexford	10	Wexford	All units delivered
<b>Oaklee</b>			
Fearach an Cnoic, Greenville	46	Enniscorthy	All units occupied
<b>Cluid</b>			
The Grange, Ferns	10	Enniscorthy	To deliver January 2020
Greenville Lane	52	Enniscorthy	Commenced Q3 2019
<b>Tuath</b>			
Gleann an Ghairdin	18	Gorey	9 units delivered. 9 to deliver Q1 2020
Ramstown	56	Gorey	Planning Refused. New Planning application lodged.
Rocksborough, Drinagh	85	Wexford	10 units to be occupied by Q3 2020 remainder to be occupied as completed
Old Forge Road, Milehouse	59	Enniscorthy	To deliver 2020
Gleann an Ghairdin	9	Gorey	To deliver 2020
Gleann an Ghairdin	24	Gorey	To deliver 2020
<b>Circle</b>			
Abbey Centre	10	Enniscorthy	Delivered Q2 2019
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>428</b>		

Wexford County Council also acquired a number of second hand properties in 2019 as outlined below:

	<b>Gorey/ Kilmuckridge</b>	<b>Wexford</b>	<b>Rosslare</b>	<b>New Ross</b>	<b>Enniscorthy</b>	<b>Total</b>
Acquisitions	5	9	4	2	4	<b>24</b>
Buy & Renew	0	5	1	0	1	<b>7</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>31</b>

AHB second hand acquisitions 2019 (CALF & CAS):

AHB	<b>Gorey/ Kilmuckridge</b>	<b>Wexford</b>	<b>Rosslare</b>	<b>New Ross</b>	<b>Enniscorthy</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Circle</b>	0	0	0	0	3	<b>3</b>
<b>Focus Irl</b>	0	1	0	1	1	<b>3</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>

## **ENVIRONMENT**

2020 Key Objectives for Annual Service Delivery Plan for Environment will include:

### **Environment General:**

- Further increase the number and the depth of environmental inspections being carried out in 2018.
- Complete review of Public Convenience Capital Programme
- Implementation of the Litter Management Plan 2017-2019. Review the Litter Management Plan in 2020.
- Participation in the DCCAE Anti-Dumping Initiative 2020 (subject to confirmation).
- Implementation of the Wexford County Council Waste Presentation Bye-Laws 2018.

### **Coastal:**

- Submit proposal to OPW for Rosslare Coastal Erosion Protection Scheme. Subject to OPW approval commence Planning Application and all statutory approvals for Rosslare Coastal Protection Scheme
- Subject to OPW funding commence planning and statutory approvals for Rosslare West Spit Flood Protection Scheme
- Review and adopt Beach Byelaws
- To complete planning application for Our Lady's Island Lake Drainage Pipe and subject to funding to commence work on scheme



- Undertake projects at piers and harbours under the DAFMs Fishery Harbour and Coastal Infrastructure Development Programme.
- Carry out dredging of entrance and access to Kilmore Quay Harbour
- Review and adopt Piers and Harbour Byelaws

## **Water Quality Air & Noise Monitoring**

- Implement actions from the Noise Action Plan 2019-2023 to monitor and reduce noise impacts on people
- Implement actions from the Wexford County Council Climate Change Adaptation Strategy Development Plan 2019-2024
- Continue to roll out a county wide air quality monitoring network in conjunction with EPA and Dept. of Environment
- Facilitate the roll out of the Priority Areas for Actions under the Water Framework Directive in Duncannon, Wexford Marine Lagoons, Sow River and Boro River catchments in 2020

## **Waste & Litter**

Concentrate on enforcement actions on

- Disposal of construction and demolition waste.
- Unauthorised waste collection operators “man in a van” and activity
- The continuous roll out of brown bins in designated areas
- End of life (ELV) Directive inspections
- Multi Agency Sites of Interest

## **COMMUNITY**

**INTERREG – Celtic Routes:** The Discover Your Celtic Routes (The Celtic Routes) project aims to encourage visitors to explore new areas of South East Ireland and West Wales en route to their final tourist destination. The objective is to increase the visitor appeal of the targeted areas, including through the development of new trails linking local culture, heritage and the natural environment. The Celtic Routes project will run until December 2020.

The project was launched in the Riverside Park Hotel, Enniscorthy on the 6<sup>th</sup> of December, 2019, and was attended by representatives from the three Irish local authorities along with the Welsh Councils as well as TDs, Councillors, Business, Tourism and other representatives.

Funding of €1.9m for the Celtic Routes project is provided under the European Territorial Co-Operation Programme – known as Interreg or the Ireland/Wales Fund. This funding will not be affected by Brexit.

A promotional / marketing campaign started in earnest in December 2019 and albeit it will not be visible in Ireland – it will be promoted extensively in Irelands main tourism markets.



**Pride of Place awards:** Craanford was honoured at the all-Ireland 2019 IPB Pride of Place awards held in Kilkenny on Saturday 30th November, 2019. The village, including Monaseed and Hollyford, took top spot in the 300-1000 population category.

**Garda Youth Awards 2020 launched:** The 2020 Garda Youth Awards were launched in County Hall on Monday 9th December. The awards acknowledge the young people who by their presence make their communities and society in general, a better place in which to live. The awards will be hosted by Wexford County Council in conjunction with An Garda Síochána on the 27<sup>th</sup> of February, 2020.



**Traveller Interagency Group (TIG):** The TIG continues to implement actions to address the needs identified in the Traveller Needs Analysis report. A specially commissioned Traveller led information leaflet was finalised in November to promote the work of TIG and encourage greater engagement with the TIG among the Traveller community, through PPN representation.

**Playgrounds:**

1. Replacement of climbing wall on senior multi-unit at Redmond Park.
2. Replacement of vertical rotator in Fairgreen Playground.
3. Replacement of the netting on the play tunnel mound in The Promenade playground.
4. Flat swing surface repair in Maudlintown.

**Joint Policing Committee:** The Community Development Department have taken over the responsibility of the administration of the JPC Committee. A meeting of this committee was held on the 9<sup>th</sup> Dec 2019.

**2019 Town and Village Renewal Scheme:** The Department of Rural and Community Development issued the formal Letter of Offer and Funding Agreement on the 12th December 2019 to offer €691,206 over 5 projects, conditional on compliance with provisions of the 'Funding Agreement'.

Town / Village	Project Address	Funding Approved	Project Summary
Ballindaggin	Ballindaggin Community Hall	€100,000.00	Renovations
Bridgetown	Bridgetown Village	€99,820.00	Recreation Park, Muga Pitch, Agility Equipment, Walking Path, Heritage Feature, Planting, Food Bank & Feasibility Study
Foulksmills	Community Park	€100,000.00	Development of Foulksmills Park - Website, Playground, Landscaping etc.
Kilmuckridge	Kilmuckridge	€200,000.00	Kilmuckridge Morriscastle Walking Path & Heritage Trail
Rosslare Harbour / Kilrane	Rosslare Harbour / Kilrane	€191,385.60	Public Realm Plan, Economic Master Plan, Tourism Feasibility Study, Playground & Outdoor Equipment, Environment & Heritage Measures.

**2018 Town and Village Renewal Scheme:** The Department of Rural and Community Development has agreed to the request for an extension for the first tranche drawdown subject to the first drawdown being made by the end of February 2020 and that the projects are completed by the end of June 2020, for the following projects:

- 1] TV18WX01 Askamore,
- 2] TV18WX02 Barntown,
- 3] TV18WX03 Blackwater,
- 4] TV18WX05 Courtnacuddy,
- 5] TV18WX09 Galbally &
- 6] TV18WX10 Kilmore Quay

**2017 Town and Village Renewal Scheme:** The long awaited playground construction at Bridgetown was completed on the 19th December 2019, with the playground formally handed over to the Council. A formal launch will be planned for early in January 2020.

**Healthy Ireland:** The Addendum to the HIF Round 3 Grant Agreement approved at the LCDC meeting on the 11th December 2019. This provides for funding of €246,050 to fund 6 HIF actions including a joint action across 5 LCDCs, a Community Mental Health Fund Action (CMHF) and Small Grants Scheme, A Community Engagement action, and the employment of a Healthy Ireland Coordinator for County Wexford. The actions include the Regional Implementation of agreed policy priority programmes (Joint LCDC action), Sports active – Swim for All (National Schools) Programme, Active Fellas, YOUTH – Five ways to wellbeing, Roma Community Mental Health and Physical Health Project, Make the Moove: Farmers matter, and

the CMHF action: the Traveller Men's Health Project and Traveller Women's Self-Care Community Hubs.

**Age Friendly - Positive Ageing Seminar:** As part of a Regional Healthy Ireland action, the HSE South East Community Healthcare organised a one day Positive Ageing seminar in partnership with the Local Community Development Committees (LCDC's) of Carlow, Kilkenny, Tipperary, Waterford and Wexford and the Age Friendly County Programmes to share and showcase the valuable work happening across the region.



This was a great opportunity for the sharing of good practice in relation to Positive Ageing initiatives and to allow networking and information sharing with services. Wexford's presentation was given by Brian Toomey, PPN and LCDC member, on a pilot Dementia Training project that took place in Bunclody. Wexford was very well represented at the event with many members of the Older People's Council and Age Friendly Alliance attending.



**Age Friendly Launch:** Representatives of the country's 31 local authorities were presented with charters by World Health Organisation (WHO) Senior Health Advisor on Ageing, Alanna Officer and An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar TD at a ceremony at Slane Castle, Co Meath on 16th December. Wexford was represented at the event by Wexford County Council's Chief Executive Tom Enright, Cathaoirleach

Michael Sheehan, Age Friendly Programme Manager Ann Marie Laffan and Older People's Council Vice-Chairperson Betty Breen.

The WHO gave recognition to the implementation of age-friendly policies and practices by all the local authorities under the Age Friendly Ireland Programme. This included measures such as housing developments, libraries, car parking and improved customer services and communication aimed at older people. The WHO's Alanna Officer, says it means "Ireland is committed to becoming a good place in which to grow old".

**Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) Meeting:** An LCDC meeting was held on 11th December and included updates on SICAP, Healthy Ireland and the Local Economic and Community Plan.

**Local Action Group (LAG) Meeting:** A LAG meeting was held on 11th December and LEADER Expressions of Interest on Walking Trails/Tracks, Biodiversity, Water Resources and Youth Facilities with grant aid totalling €1,237,876.53 were presented. Of the projects presented 47 were eligible and 10 were partially eligible.



LEADER grant funding totalling € 1,483,621.29 was approved at the meeting under the Rural Tourism, Enterprise, Development of Renewable Energy, Basic Services Targeted at Hard to Reach Communities and Rural Youth subthemes.

**LEADER:** There were 9 claims received for Article 48 pre-payment check and 7 claims were checked with 6 returned with minor queries to the implementing partner, Wexford Local Development. 4 claims were processed and are moved through the process. There were four claims totalling €33,823.54 paid out to fund projects.

### **Wexford Public Participation Network (PPN)**

In late November Wexford PPN held District Meetings in all five districts. Issues and queries raised at these meetings have been compiled and issued to PPN Representatives and staff to action for members.

Following the approval of **Our Vision for Community Wellbeing** at the November membership meetings Wexford PPN formally launched the Vision at an event in County Hall on 16<sup>th</sup> December.

Wexford PPN's Vision for Community Wellbeing is an all-encompassing vision that the member groups of Wexford PPN have for County Wexford, which was developed over a six month period through a range of member consultations. The bottom-up vision development process with member groups ensures the vision is the mandate for Wexford PPN Representatives as they represent Wexford PPN membership on decision making bodies across the county.

Wexford PPN was delighted to have Dr Sean Healy of Social Justice Ireland launch the Vision. Dr Healy was the Chair of the Working Group on Citizen Engagement with Local Government in 2013, which resulted in the formation of Public Participation Network's.



The launch event also offered the opportunity to recognise the achievements of some Wexford PPN members who were recently supported to complete an Introduction to Community Development through An Cosán Virtual Community College (VCC) - a blended learning model of online and offline learning. On the evening Maria Flanagan from An Cosán VCC and Noel Stacey of Wexford PPN presented participants with certificates of achievement.

Work continued on the Wexford PPN 2020 Work plan and Budget. We will meet with Wexford County Council in early January to re-sign the Memorandum of Understanding for 2020.

## **LIBRARIES, ARTS & ARCHIVES**

**Archive- Digitisation:** In an effort to enhance access but also to showcase more of its holdings to potential users, Wexford County Archive undertakes an annual digitisation programme. Three collections were digitised during December 2019 – scrapbooks relating to Bunclody Farmers' Co-operative Society Ltd. (1959-76); floor

plans of the Convent of Perpetual Adoration, Bride Street, Wexford (1966); and a volume of County Wexford Grand Jury presentments (1817-23). Each collection was scanned to a high resolution file in TIFF format for preservation purposes, and in PDF format for online access.

**Family Time at your Library:** Family events and activities took place in all libraries during the month of **December** to support the involvement of the whole family in children's reading. Family Time at your Library activities were provided to engage family members in the enjoyment of reading and sharing stories. A total of 522 children and adults attended 15 Family Time events in all libraries in the County.

**Sensory Library Funding:** The Department of Rural and Community Development has announced funding of up to €20,000 per authority for the provision of the provision of sensory facilities and equipment in public libraries that can help individuals with sensory impairments, special educational needs and other learning differences, and those on the Autism spectrum. The Department funding will be matched by local authorities to provide sensory library rooms, sensory play equipment and toys, assistive technologies, autism friendly signage, books and social stories. It is expected that the new services will be available in the libraries in mid-2020.

**Digital literacy with Microbits and Virtual Reality at your Library:** A training programme for library staff on the use of BBC micro-bits and virtual reality in libraries took place in Autumn 2019. Family workshops on coding and BBC microbits were then delivered by library staff in Wexford Library in December. The plan in 2020 is to run Microbit afterschool and weekend programmes making 17 Microbit sets available for public use in each branch library.

Virtual reality headsets are also available in all libraries and will enhance the visit of school groups to the library from Spring 2020.

**Men's Shed Countywide Folklore Project:** A project facilitated by artist and folklorist Michael Fortune and funded by Wexford County Council and the Dormant Accounts fund was showcased on 15<sup>th</sup> December in Wexford Library. The Folklore on Film Training Programme introduced participants who are members of Men's Sheds in County Wexford to the process of collecting folklore on film and to the resources of their local library. This project is funded through the Dormant Account Funds via the Department of Rural and Community Development.

**Cursed Murphy's Podcast:** Wexford Library hosted a podcast by local artist Peter Murphy on the 17 December in front of a live audience. The podcast which was supported by the Arts Department of Wexford County Council was recorded for airing in early 2020. The podcast featured guests actress, singer, director Maria Doyle Kennedy and poet Annemarie Ní Churreáin. 30 attended.

**Heritage:** A new book entitled Sailing Ships of Wexford 1840's - 1940's : A Century of Sail in County Wexford by Brian Cleare and Jack O'Leary's was launched in Wexford Library on 12<sup>th</sup> December. This book looks back at the time when ships sailed out of Wexford bound for the North America and the Black Sea as well as crisscrossing the Irish Sea. The publication was supported by Wexford County Council.

## **ARTS**

**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 is 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2020. Total fund for Wexford is €25,000 making Artlinks is an extremely competitive award in Wexford with average grants of €1,000 - €3,000. Another element of Artlinks this year is a collaborative award the deadline for this is 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2020.

For further details <https://www.wexfordcoco.ie/arts-and-culture>.

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

Full Details can be found on <https://www.wexfordcoco.ie/arts-and-culture/>

**Cow House Studios New Parenting Artists Residency Programme:** is a new annual residency to support parenting artists and their families, funded by Wexford County Council Arts Department in partnership with the Cow House Studios in Rathnure, Co. Wexford. Currently there are no residencies facilitating parenting artists in Ireland. Following the success of a pilot scheme in 2018 a clear need locally and nationally was identified amongst parenting artists. 39 applications were received and an independent panel selected two artists in December 2019 for this new 4 week residency to commence in February 2020.

**Creative Hub, exhibitions:** Artist Anne Martin Walsh opened an exhibition in the Creative Hub in December and this will run until 17<sup>th</sup> January after this time artist Michelle Colfer will exhibit until the end of February 2020.

**Information Clinics:** The Arts Officer Liz Burns will hold a series of information clinics during January to discuss funding and other opportunities through the Arts Office. These clinics will be of particular interest to artists, community groups, festivals and schools. Four free information clinics will be held Gorey, Enniscorthy, Wexford and New Ross. The first will be held in Gorey on 13<sup>th</sup> January at 2.00pm in Gorey Library for further details of this and the other sessions go to <https://www.wexfordcoco.ie/arts-and-culture/>.

## SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

Funding Allocation from Sport Ireland.

SECTION 3.1 - EXPENDITURE - STAFF SALARY ALLOCATION		
Position	SI Allocation €	Allocation from Deferred Income €
Co-ordinator	62,611	€-
Administrator	39,793	€-
SIDO	35,000	€-



CSDO	35,000	€-
<b>Total Allocation</b>	<b>€172,404</b>	<b>€-</b>
<b>SECTION 3.2 - EXPENDITURE – NON STAFF ADMINISTRATION ALLOCATION</b>		
	<b>SI Allocation €</b>	<b>Allocation from Deferred Income €</b>
Operating Costs	10,350	€-
Marketing	7,600	€-
<b>Total Allocation</b>	<b>€17,950</b>	<b>€-</b>
<b>SECTION 4 – SPORT IRELAND NATIONAL PROGRAMMES, EDUCATION AND TRAINING ALLOCATION</b>		
<b>Sport Ireland Programmes (Participation)</b>	<b>SI Allocation €</b>	<b>Allocation from Deferred Income €</b>
Safeguarding 1	7,000	€-
Safeguarding 2	1,000	€-
Safeguarding 2	500	€-
Club Development Grants	14,100	€-
Operation Transformation Programme	<b>2,000</b>	€-
<b>Total Allocation</b>	<b>€24,600</b>	<b>€-</b>
<b>SECTION 5 – OTHER PROGRAMMES</b>		
	<b>SI Allocation €</b>	<b>Allocation from Deferred Income €</b>
<b>Total Allocation</b>	<b>€12,500</b>	<b>€-</b>
<b>SECTION 6 WOMEN IN SPORT</b>		
	<b>SI Allocation €</b>	<b>Allocation from Deferred Income €</b>
<b>Total Allocation</b>	<b>€8,500</b>	<b>€-</b>
<b>Total SI Allocation</b>	<b>Total Deferred Allocation</b>	<b>Total SI and Deferred Allocation</b>
<b>€235,954</b>	<b>€-</b>	<b>€235,954</b>

Also we were awarded the following from the Dormant accounts allocation for 2020

- €33,500 Urban Adventure hub Bunclody
- €15000 Community Coaching and volunteer support
- €10000 Sports Leadership Programme.

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

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

Women, Get set, Go – 16 girls in Selskar School completed a Leadership programme in December following 17 weeks.

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

### **Safeguarding Objective 3.2**

- Safeguarding 1: 16 courses have been completed with a total attendance for 2019 of 229 participants.
- Safeguarding 2: 4 courses have been completed with a total attendance for 2019 of 36 participants.
- Safeguarding 3: 1 course has been completed with a total attendance for 2019 of 11 participants.

## **FIRE SERVICE**

**News:** Wexford 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> 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
<b>Total</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>797</b>	<b>1035</b>

**Fire Safety:** The number of applications for fire safety certificates, planning referrals and Fire Services Acts inspections for the month of November 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**

#### **A. Irish Water – Asset Delivery**

##### **Irish Water Capital Schemes**

#### **Enniscorthy Network Upgrade**

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

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

New water intake and pumping station at Clonhasten.

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

#### **Wexford Drainage Area Plan**

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

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

#### **IW Asset Delivery: Fethard-on-Sea Sewerage Scheme**

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

### **IW Asset Delivery: Gorey Regional Water Supply – South Wellfield**

The Gorey RWSS will be upgraded and a new 8 Ml/day WTP and 7,500m<sup>3</sup> reservoir provided at Ballyminaun. Planning permission was granted by WCC to upgrade the borehole sites and build a new water treatment plant at Ballyminaun. The hydrogeological investigations show that remedial works will be required to most of the boreholes. The CPO is completed as objections were withdrawn before scheduled oral hearing. The contract has been awarded to Glan Agua with works expected to start on site in October/November 2019. Plant expected to be operational in early 2022. Construction began October 2019 at New Treatment plant and storage site in Ballyminaun. Pipe installation works to commence early December 2019

### **IW Asset Delivery: Untreated Agglomeration Study (UTAS)**

#### **Arthurstown, Ballyhack and Duncannon:**

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

#### **Kilmore Quay:**

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

### **IW Asset Delivery: Wexford Town Watermain Rehab and Gas Network**

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

### **Direct Labour Pipe Laying Crew**

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

### **Ferns Upgrade – Capital Investment Plan**

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

## **B. IRISH WATER MINOR SCHEMES & SPECIAL SCHEMES**

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

- Contractor defects liability period in operation until May 2020.
- 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, formal contract pending agreement of insurances.
- Road opening licence application submitted.
- MEICA works (pumps and associated equipment) for conversion of WWTP to a pumping station – quotations returned, on hold pending rising main works.
- Associated civils works – quotations returned, on hold pending rising main works.
- New 3-phase electrical supply agreed with ESB, currently pricing associated civil works.

### **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 underway.

### **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)**

- SCADA upgrades (IP radio) for Rosslare Strand and Enniscorthy network WW pumping stations were completed in December.
- Additional telemetry signals at Trinity St WWPS, Ballymurn WWTP, Distillery Road WWPS, and Rosslare Strand WWTP approved by Irish Water, and contractor preparing programme of works, with some completed in December 2019 and remainder to be done in Q1 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.

#### **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.

#### **Kilanerin 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 Corraheen, Rathnure.

### **Kilanerin GWS**

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

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

#### **Bing GSS**

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 November was on average 39.6 MLD, a reduction of 1.1 MLD since October 2019.
- New IW Leakage Management software, supplied by Crowder, is now live for Wexford County. Water Services staff are currently undergoing software training.
- Acoustic logger trial in Enniscorthy Low Level DMA is ongoing with HWM and EMR Solutions.

### **Leak Detection and Repair:**

- 43nr leaks were detected and repaired in November 2019.
- Leak detection is currently concentrated in the South Regional area.

### **Water Network Programme with Coffey Northumberland/GMC:**

- Gorey:
  - Reinstatement works on Grattan Terrace is to be completed by Coffey Northumberland.
- New Ross:
  - Charlton Hill has outstanding reinstatement works to be completed by DLC.
- Wexford:
  - GMC have completed BYS and mains rehab works in Wexford town in Bernadette place, Clifford St, Bishopswater and Wygram.
- Enniscorthy:
  - Private side lead replacement works in Bellfield Road still outstanding, due to be completed in 2020.



**Find and Fix Scheme:**

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

**Pressure Management:**

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

**SCADA-Telemetry:**

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

**Global Information System:**

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

## **ROADS & TRANSPORTATION**

### **NATIONAL ROAD MAJOR SCHEMES**

<b><u>M11 Gorey to Enniscorthy PPP Scheme</u></b>
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**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.

## **COUNTY WEXFORD'S NATIONAL ROADS SCHEMES:**

### **N25 New Ross By-Pass:**

#### **Progress Update January 2020**

The project is now very close to completion and remains on course to open at the end of January 2020. There are a number of factors that may influence the actual opening date, including the seasonally variable weather and the significant arrangements that need to be implemented for the opening of such a major road and bridge project including the Stage 3 Safety Audit. The project will be endeavouring to announce the opening date as soon as possible.

A significant amount of finishing work was completed in the weeks before Christmas, and a relatively small amount of works remain to be closed out. Once the project has sufficiently developed to allow the road to open to traffic, the opening date will be decided by Transport Infrastructure Ireland in consultation with Wexford County Council and other project stakeholders. Arrangements for an opening ceremony for the project are also being progressed in consultation with TII.

A contract has been awarded to Highway Safety Developments Ltd from Knocktopher for the upgrade of signage along the existing sections of public road network that will be bypassed. Upon opening of the bypass signage on the bypassed sections of existing national primary roads will be changed to reflect their new status as regional roads.



## **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 September 30<sup>th</sup>. 2019 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 the end of January.

### **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.

## **Winter Maintenance**

The 2019/2020 winter maintenance programme commenced on Monday 14th. October 2019. There have 23 no. call outs up to Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>. 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**

### **Resurfacing/Strengthening**

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

Roads completed (clause 804) in the last month were: Coolcul Big to Coolateggart and Killowen; (both in New Ross District).

### **Surface Dressing Works**

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

### **Community Involvement Schemes**

Preparing roads for Community Involvement Schemes.

### **Local Improvement Schemes**

Local Improvement Schemes completed in the last month were: Marshalstown; (Enniscorthy District).

Preparing roads for Local Improvement Schemes in all Districts.

### **General Maintenance**

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

## **5. Finance:**

### **Audit Committee**

The Audit Committee is expected to meet with the Local Government Auditor to discuss the 2018 Accounts and associated audit. The committee will then proceed to prepare their report for the Council on the Audit Committee activity during 2019, their views following consideration of the Audited Financial Statement for 2018 and associated audit report together with a note on their proposed programme of work for 2020. It is expected that the report will be submitted to the Council for consideration after the next Audit Committee which is scheduled for March 2020.

### **Annual Financial Statement 2019**

Work will be commencing on the preparation of the 2019 Accounts shortly once all transactions for 2019 have been updated to the financial management system. 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.

### **Capital Programme 2020 – 2022**

Work has commenced 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.**