



Chief Executive's Report

January 2023

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Local Enterprise Office

Sustainability Seminar – 18th January 2023

Location– The Street, Wexford Co Hall, Carricklawn, 4.30pm – 7pm

This informative seminar includes advice and support in accessing financial supports in particular the **Temporary Business Energy Support Scheme (TBESS) from Revenue.ie** designed to assist businesses with their electricity or natural gas (energy) costs during the winter months and the Ukraine Enterprise Crisis Scheme

Each speaker concentrates on key sustainability issues with emphasis on providing practical advice, putting principles into practice.

- **Reduce Your Use – how and why to save energy in the work place** - Alexandra Hamilton, South Eastern Energy
- **How to analyse the real energy usage of your business – introduce real benefits and cost savings** - Gavin O' Se – NSAI Registered for Airtightness in buildings and BER Assessor
- **Temporary Business Energy Support Scheme (TBESS)**
Andrew Kehoe, Chartered Certified Accountant
- **Enterprise Ireland Ukraine Crisis Scheme** - Angela Lawless, LEO Wexford
 - Nissan Commits to Innovation and Sustainability – Coatek Delivers - Michael McGovern, Coatek

There will also be an opportunity for delegates to meet speakers and other support organisations to chat informally about the services and financial support open to them over refreshments during registration and at the end of the event.

Women In Business Network

Approx 35 female entrepreneurs came together for the most recent Women in Business Network event held in the newly renovated Wexford Arts Centre. The event featured Clodagh McCumiskey as guest speaker on well being and an ideal opportunity for business women to network. The event was free of charge with proceeds from donations going to Wexford Women's Refuge.

Town & Village 2022

Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD on the 14th December, 2022 announced funding of €1.34 million for Wexford as the highest investment in the South East and the 5th highest allocation of funding nationally under the Town & Village 2022 Scheme. This scheme has an emphasis on projects which support bringing vacant and derelict buildings and sites back into use as multi-purpose spaces. The following projects were awarded funding.

Wexford	Project / Location		Allocation
Wexford	Duncannon	To restore and develop the historic Duncannon Fort.	€500,000
Wexford	Enniscorthy	The Enniscorthy Wellbeing and Activity Garden is a place making development of the outdoor activity green space for the public of Enniscorthy. The aim of this project is to fully enhance the newly designed green space in order to encourage greater use and enjoyment of this sizeable and currently very underutilised space.	€234,000
Wexford	Rosslare	Delivery of a Community and Enterprise Resource Centre/Hub in the strategic village of Rosslare Harbour and Euro port to address an urgent deficit in multi-use community/enterprise facilities in this village and hinterland.	€250,000
Wexford	SEM - Enniscorthy	Funding under the Streetscape Enhancement Measure in Enniscorthy	€100,000
Wexford	PDM - Taghmon	To engage archaeologist, conservation engineer, conservation architect, and QS to fully review site of Castle, prepare designs, construction method plans and costings to bring castle into use as a heritage tourism asset.	€50,000
TOTAL		Description	€1,134,000

South East Greenway

The Greenway Business Development Adviser has commenced work on drafting the business development aspect of the South East Greenway Development Plan and it is hoped to have this completed by Q1 2023.

PLANNING

Planning Applications

Numbers are those received from the 26th of November 2022 until the 16th of December 2022.

No. of valid applications	101
No. of invalid applications	8
Extension of Duration	1
Exempted Development Declaration	3

Numbers are those received from the 1st of January 2022 until 16th of December 2022

No. of valid applications	1546
No. of invalid applications	134
Extension of Duration	32
Exempted Development Declaration	55

Pre-Planning Applications

Numbers are as follows up until the 16th of December 2022

No. of open pre-planning requests	163
No. of pre-planning meetings completed	277
Average waiting time to meeting	114 days

Forward Planning

Wexford Town Local Area Plan

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

Enniscorthy Town Local Area Plan

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

Enniscorthy Town Centre First Plan

Following a number of public consultations and meetings of the steering group over the past year, the Enniscorthy Town Centre First Plan was adopted by the Enniscorthy Municipal District and Steering Group. It is a comprehensive and ambitious plan for the regeneration of Enniscorthy town centre. The plan sets out a series of regeneration strategies and identifies a number of ambitious redevelopment packages which will serve as the catalyst for regeneration of the town centre and Templeshannon area. The plan will inform the submission of funding proposals under project 2040 which will be the focus for 2023.

Built, Cultural & Natural Heritage

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

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

Stream 1 is for capital works up to €100,000. Stream 2 is for Conservation Management Plan development and Stream 3 is for the enhancement of access and interpretation.

- Details of all the grant schemes can be found at [Built, Cultural and Natural Heritage | Wexford County Council \(wexfordcoco.ie\)](https://www.wexfordcoco.ie)
- The Heritage Council has announced its 2023 grant schemes, details of which can be found here: [Funding | The Heritage Council](https://www.heritagecouncil.ie). Local authorities can avail of funding through the Historic Towns Initiative for heritage-led plans and capital works, and through the Heritage Stewardship Fund.

Planning CSO Returns 2022

Permissions granted for new construction only are 1,004 housing units to date.

Month	Housing Developments (Total No. of units)	Apartments incl. Self-contained Dwelling Units (Total No. of units)	One-off Houses
January	0	2	50
February	7	0	47
March	107	18	52
April	94	48	27
May	157	8	38
June	12	2	34
July	52	22	37
August	3	23	43
September	0	0	34
October	2	2	25
November	13	19	26
December	N/A	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	447	144	413

* Figures to 16th December 2022

- Housing Developments = 2 or more houses (Total no. of units)
- Apartments include Self-contained Dwelling Units (Total no. of units)
- One-off Houses

- Permissions exclude outline, retention, change of plans and continuation of use

Building Control (26th November 2022 – 16th December 2022)

• Validated Commencement Notices:	18
• Number of Building Control Inspections:	13
• Validated Cert. of Compliance on Completion:	18
• Number of Taking in Charge reports sent to the Districts	0

Planning Enforcement

The number of planning enforcement cases as of 16th of December 2022 are as follows:

• Live Cases	322
• Cases Opened from 1 st January 2022	247
• Cases Closed from 1 st January 2022	291

Planning Enforcement – Short-Term Letting

The cumulative number of short-term letting planning enforcement cases as of 16th of December 2022 are as follows: -

• Live Cases	20 (2020, 2021 & 2022)
• Cases Opened since 1 st January 2022	18
• Cases Closed since 1 st January 2022	31
• Inspections Carried out	00

Derelict Sites, Dangerous Structures and Vacant Sites

Report from 26th November 2022 to 16th December 2022 as follows:

- **22** property inspections/visits conducted
- **2** properties removed from the Derelict Site Register.
- **8** Section 8(2) Notices issued and posted on site
- **7** Dangerous Structure files closed
- **2** properties vested by Property Management.

Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT)

The **Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT)** was introduced in the *Finance Act 2021*. The process to identify land to which the tax applies is now underway and the tax will be payable from 2024.

The objective of the tax is to activate land that is serviced and zoned for residential use or mixed use, including residential use, in order to increase housing supply and to ensure regeneration of vacant and idle lands in urban locations.

These locations in County Wexford have been identified within existing statutory land use plans at Gorey, Courtown, Bunclody and Rosslare/Kilrane.

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

A supplemental map will be published on 1 May 2023 identifying additional land considered to be in scope for RZLT. The supplemental map will also be on public display and open to submissions which may challenge the inclusion of additional land on the map.

Land appearing on both the draft and supplemental maps will be included on the final map of land in scope for the tax in the local authority area to be published on 1 December 2023. This land will be subject to the RZLT

The administration of the RZLT is a matter for the Revenue Commissioners.

Wexford County Council will accept submissions through <https://consult.wexfordcoco.ie/> or via email to RZLT@wexfordcoco.ie and/or in writing to Planning Department, Wexford County Council, Carricklawn, Wexford, Co. Wexford, Y35 WY93.

Disability Access Certificates (DACs):

The number of valid DAC applications, for the period from 1st January 2022 up to and including 16th of December 2022, totals **65**.

Applications Districts	Total for Districts	Await Assessment	Further Info.	Granted	Refused
Enniscorthy	10	3	0	7	0
Gorey	11	0	2	7	2
New Ross	8	0	0	6	2
Wexford	23	2	1	18	2
Rosslare	13	0	0	13	0
2022 Totals	65	5	3	51	6

Disability Proofing completed as part of WCC Access activity

Referrals	Total
LAC /PLAC & General Planning Applications	124
Major Pre-Planning (April – November 2022)	27

Access Related Items

A New Monitoring & Reporting Mechanism for the Disability Inclusion Strategy

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

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

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

2021-2023 Disability Participation and Awareness Funding Projects (DPAF Innovative Community Engagement (I.C.E.) Project

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

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

Advanced Digital Access Participation Project (ADAPP)

The second stage of this project, Virtual tours for our five main public buildings (County Hall and four Borough and Municipal District Office buildings) is almost complete.

Introductory videos for the virtual tours of these buildings are currently, in the process of, having Irish Sign Language incorporated to ensure they will be fully accessible for all.

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

Water Services



1. Irish Water Asset
Delivery

2. Minor Capital

3. Rural Water
Programme

4. Water Conservation

Water Services



1. Irish Water – Asset Delivery



Capital Schemes

Enniscorthy Network Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A new gravity main for Mary Street ➤ SI is complete and detail Stage 4 design workshop is completed. ➤ Final design. Completed ➤ Contractor from existing framework has reviewed the design ➤ We are awaiting a decision from the contractor ➤ Estimated costs €800,000 and €200,000(pipe fix).
Enniscorthy Intake and Vinegar Hill Upgrade Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Planning Permission was granted on 21st December 2022 ➤ Tenders are being finalised and should be ready shortly. ➤ Agreements still required land purchases.
Wexford Drainage Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Complete drainage model of the Wexford Town foul drainage system. ➤ A full detailed hydraulic model identifying all pipelines and infrastructure and deficiencies in the network. ➤ Consultants Nicholas O'Dwyer appointed by IW. ➤ Drainage infrastructure survey works complete in Wexford Town and Castlebridge. ➤ Model verification ongoing.
Gorey/Courtown Drainage Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Complete drainage model of the Gorey/Courtown foul drainage system ➤ Tender evaluation January 2022, with start onsite Q2 2022 ➤ Consultants JB Barry appointed by IW. ➤ Stage 1 commenced July 2022
Newtown WTP Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Upgrade to existing Treatment plant including improved raw water treatment, instrumentation and run to waste facility ➤ Preliminary design ongoing, IW have appointed Glan Agua as part of their early contractor involvement programme to design and build the new works ➤ Onsite work to commence Q1 2023
Fethard-on-Sea Sewerage Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Preliminary Design for the project is now complete for issue to contractor for design and build. Irish water has advised that due to budget constraints, this project has been re-prioritised and will not go


	to construction in the near future. Irish Water has advised that it will be 2023 at the earliest before this scheme is re considered for funding.
Creagh WTP Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Upgrade of existing treatment plant including Intake improvements at Pallas and Kilmichael, DAFF plant refurbishment and installation of UV treatment ➤ Upgrade works to begin Q2 2023, small accommodation works ongoing
Gorey Regional Water Supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ New Treatment plant and storage site at Ballyminaun Plant In operational phase with Glan Agua
Untreated Agglomeration Study (UTAS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Arthurstown, Ballyhack and Duncannon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This project is complete, and it is at final account stage with the contractor Sisk. ➤ Kilmore Quay <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Main contractor Sisk is on site to build the new wastewater treatment plant in Kilmore Quay. ○ Work is progressing to well to date with the new pump stations and pipe network under construction. ○ Main Contractor has encountered issues with services on the Quay which will involve new traffic management and has resulted in a delay in the programme of up to 6 weeks.
Direct Labour Pipe Laying Crew	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mains Rehabilitation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Works has commenced on the new 4km of mains and 500m is laid to-date. ➤ Diversions are in place, road was reopened for the Christmas period
Ferns Sewerage Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ IW Asset Planning Strategic assessment is programmed for first half of 2023 where long, and shortlist of upgrade options will be considered ➤ Stage 2 will assess options and Stage 3 will bring forward detailed design and tender documentation.
STVGP - Small towns and villages growth programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ IW programme to deliver additional capacity to existing towns and villages serviced by IW. Wellington Bridge and Tagoat are included in national programme ➤ Option reports complete for both projects with Irish Water Delivery section now taking control of both
Coolree Reservoir Rehabilitation works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Rehabilitation works to the embankment, spillway and valve tower at Coolree Reservoir ➤ Preliminary scope outlined with ongoing feasibility studies to determine best solution
Bunclody Water supply- Supply Demand Balance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hydrogeological assessment underway for improved Ground Water Resources for Bunclody ➤ Workshop -1 complete for upgrades to the existing plant to aid the current plant operation. Proposal is for new package plant to improve the resilience and capacity of Bunclody WTP progressing well with aim to be delivered under a new Irish Water Treatment Plant programme which will commence in 2023.



2. Minor Capital

<p>IW Minor Water Schemes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water Plant Generators <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To improve resilience of water treatment plants, a number of new generators have been installed, including at Creagh WTP Gorey Town and at Vinegar Hill WTP. ○ Additional generators will be delivered for Fardystown wellfield borehole sites in January 2023. ➤ Treated Water storage programme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3 sites in Wexford – Kilmallock bridge, Camolin and Kiltealy. ○ Kilmallock Bridge Reservoir planning granted; Tender issued to market September 2022.
<p>IW Minor Wastewater Schemes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Pump Upgrades <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pump and control upgrades for Ryland Road WWPS Bunclody, Rosemary Heights WWPS Ferns, and Ballygerry WWPS have been completed on site. ○ New smart pumps to be installed at Mauritiustown WWPS in Q1 2023. ○ An order has been issued for new pumps and controls at Rosehill Heights WWPS in Rosslare Strand to improve resilience. ➤ SCADA Upgrades <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SCADA upgrades at 2 No. WWTPs (Kilmuckridge and Bridgetown) will take place Q1 2023. ➤ WWTP Minor Improvement Works <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Upgrade works to improve resilience of the inlet PS at Ballymurn WWTP will continue in Q1 2023. ➤ Invest to Save <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Funding has been granted for a new sludge press at Rosslare Strand WWTP, and installation and commissioning is well progressed on site, and expected that operation will begin in February 2023.
<p>IW Capital Maintenance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The capital maintenance budget for 2022 has been adjusted to €2.35 million ➤ The latest available report from Irish Water shows spend to end of October at €2.44 million, with Irish Water confirming additional spend above budget will be funded centrally.

<p>Non Irish Water Small Capital Schemes</p>	<p>Ballinamorrhagh, Curraclloe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rehabilitation works are currently being priced for the secondary treatment plant.
<p>DPI Resolution Scheme for Water Services Infrastructure</p>	<p>Funding was granted by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government for the resolution of Developer Provided Infrastructure (DPI) Issues at 4 number estates in Wexford. Works to progress at these sites to remove the DPI and connect to the public network in 2021 and 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Kyle Close, Oulart- Water connection is complete with sewerage to follow in 2023. ➤ Mountain View, Ballindaggin- COF received from IW. Survey complete and full design underway. ➤ Gleann na gCaor, Monagear- Connection enquiry made. Design in progress ➤ Cois Cuan, Arthurstown ➤ Coolballow estate- Connection granted for decommissioning of DPI at Coolballow estate to connect to Wexford SS

<p>3. Rural Water</p>	
<p>Measure 2 - Public Health Compliance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Kilanerin GWS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hydrogeologist Final Report has been received and reviewed into the causes of high nitrate level within the extracted raw water from the GWS borehole. ○ Group Water Scheme discussing option of installing a nitrate monitor to give us access to reliable data for future solution.
<p>Measure 3 - Enhancement of Existing Schemes including Water Conservation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Blackstairs GWS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Storage Tank - Hydraulic model assessment has been undertaken by the Consultants. ○ A report has been provided and assessed. ○ Initial assessment is that a new storage tank is not the best solution. ○ GWS have reviewed and discussed at committee, we are awaiting written confirmation of option agreed. ○ Reservoir Bypass -WCC have been informed of potential additional costs required to carry out works. ○ A report has been compiled and submitted to the Dept.; the Dept. requested further information. ○ Additional reports were completed and submitted to the Dept. in December. ○ The Dept. have approved request for increased funding.

<p>Measure 5 – Transition of Existing Group Water Schemes and Group Sewerage Schemes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Bing GSS – Community Wastewater Connection (CWwC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Departmental agreement to progress the scheme to tender stage. Works currently in development are land acquisition/wayleave maps. Permission from landowners to enter lands for SI investigations have been returned ○ Stage 2 of the part XI process commenced on 23rd March when the documents were submitted to Planning. ○ Works currently in development are preparation of site investigation works and main contract tender packages. ○ Returned tender price from contractors for main contract works shall be subject to final Departmental assessment and approval. ○ Site visit and meeting took place in June with the committee and landowners regarding pumping station sites. ○ 1 Pumping station site had to be adjusted due to flood plan in new County Development Plan. This has now been pegged as requested by Committee & landowners. Awaiting on their response November 2022. ○ Landowners have agreed to revised location of pumping station sites. ○ The community Grp are in communication with the Landowners with regards to cost of acquiring the land where the pumping station will be located.
<p>Measure 6 – Community Connection Networks (Water)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MARWP 2022-2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Exploratory works have commenced for suitable projects for submission in the next round of the programme.
<p>Measure 8 – Individual wells (private or household wells)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Individual Well Grants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A total of 14 new well grant applications were registered in December 2022. ○ 12 Well Grants have been paid in this period, totalling €25,662 ○ Workflow prototype has been developed to stage 1 and is currently being tested
<p>Measure A8 – Waster Water Collection & Treatment Needs for Villages & Settlements without access to Public Wastewater Service</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ New Advance Phase of MARWP 2022-2024 ○ Submissions requested from all local authorities ○ Deadline 15th September 2022 ○ Matrix was constructed for Priority funding ○ Limited to two applications ○ Feasibility studies submitted to the Department for Ramsgrange and Glynn for review by expert panel ○ Further information regarding the option for Glynn was requested from the Dept. which has been submitted.

4. Water Conservation



Water Conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Consumption Countywide consumption for December 2022 was on average 44.52MLD. Overall consumption is trending high following the cold weather spell in early December.
Leak Detection & Repair	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Leak repairs Leak repairs are on-going throughout the county. 18nr operational repairs were recorded for December 2022.➤ Planned Operational Leak Detection (PLD)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Planned leak detection was focused mainly on Wexford, Gorey, and Camolin areas during December 2022.
Water Network Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Rehab<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Gorey - Forth Road project - main is installed. 3nr remaining connections to be completed in January 2023 and final decommissioning works.○ Gorey - St Walerans project - Work on new main commenced in December 2022.○ Wexford - Airfield Road project - Site Investigations to commence in January 2023.➤ Find and Fix<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ LA Find crews were concentrated in New Ross in December 2022○ Contractor crews were in Wexford town, Enniscorthy and Gorey.○ 14nr F&F repairs were completed in December 2022.➤ BYS Services Enniscorthy BYs works -<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Pearce road backyard main has now been turned off, all properties are now off the new main to the front. Remaining decommissioning works to be completed January 2023.○ Redmond St backyard main has now been turned off and all properties off the new main apart from 1nr property. Remaining decommissioning works to be completed in January 2023○ St Johns Villas was turned off but an additions 5nr properties now need connections prior to final decommissioning works.○ Dromgold villa properties, #1-14 have been turned off in December, final plumbing and decommissioning work to be completed in January 2023.○ Ross Road BYs project design was submitted to Irish Water for approval in December.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Pressure Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Proposals for 2023 funding are currently being requested with IW. ➤ First Fix <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ IW Regional Contractor, Shareridge are conducting ongoing First Fix investigations and repairs around the county.

ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION

MAJOR NATIONAL ROADS PROJECTS

N11/N25 Oilgate to Rosslare Harbour

- Ground Investigation Ireland Ltd. is mobilising to commence work on site. It is anticipated to have Ground Investigation works commenced on site in early January 2023.
- Environmental surveys, traffic studies and traffic modelling are ongoing.
- The overall design of the development is progressing.
- 6no. bridge options for the River Slaney crossing has been developed and presented to the Project Team for discussion. Development of the bridge options will continue in the coming period.
- Engagement with the ESB/EirGrid has commenced in relation to potential conflict between proposed alignment and existing/planned high/medium voltage lines.
- Engagement with the landowners is ongoing. Landowners are being presented with the proposed alignment on the individual basis. It is anticipated to complete presentation of proposed alignment to directly affected landowners by the end of January 2023.

N25 Rosslare Europort Access Road

The position on this project remains unchanged, we are still awaiting a decision from An Bord Pleanála.

- Section 177AE planning application & CPO Maps and Schedules were submitted to An Bord Pleanála on 5th July 2022.
- 3 submissions were submitted to An Bord Pleanála which may at its discretion hold an oral hearing on proposed development.

- A Project Team has been served a notice by An Bord Pleanála under the section 221 (3)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 that it would not be possible/appropriate to make determination by the 7th December 2022 due to the necessity for further consideration. Revised anticipated date for the decision by the Board is 26th May 2022.

NATIONAL ROAD PAVEMENT SCHEMES

2022 Pavement Schemes

N25 Ballykilliane to Orristown Pavement Scheme

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

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

The contract was awarded on 24th October.

Pavement works will commence in the first quarter of 2023.

N80 Tomacurry to Ballycarney Phase 1

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

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

The contract was awarded on 22nd November.

Pavement works will commence in the first quarter of 2023.

2022 Safety Schemes

N25 Ballygillane Roundabout

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

This scheme was tendered in November 2021.

Works commenced on 23rd May and should be substantially completed in February 2023

2023 Additional Maintenance Allocations

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

Drainage and Verge Maintenance

Cost - €110,000

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

A consultant has been appointed to carry out a drainage design for a section of the N25 between Barntown and Larkins cross that flooded twice since 25th December 2021.

Former National Roads Grant 2022 - R744 Millpark Road Enniscorthy

Cost - €350,000

This allocation was for the upgrade of former national roads. This will be used to carry out pavement repairs on Millpark road from Castle Hill to Arnolds Cross. A contractor was appointed in October. Construction is due to commence in January 2023.

Former National Roads Grant 2023

2 applications were made under this scheme for 2023.

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

REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROADS

The Regional and Local Road Grant allocations are expected to be announced February 2023. Wexford's allocation for 2022 was €23,749,787 including €4,000,000 for Christmas day 2021 flood damage.

Resurfacing/Strengthening

The Municipal Districts are assessing roads and preparing their 2023 programmes. 93km was strengthened in 2022.

Surface Dressing Works

The Municipal Districts are assessing roads and preparing their 2023 programmes. 130km was surface dressed in 2022.

Community Involvement Schemes

A similar grant to 2022 (€614,350) is anticipated in 2023. 8 roads of total length of 10km were completed in 2022.

Local Improvement Schemes

A list of applicants is maintained in order of date received. A programme of lane resurfacing will be drafted when Department funding is announced. 23 lanes were completed in 2022.

Bridge Rehabilitation Grant

Wexford County Council's application for 24 bridge repairs in 2023 for a grant of €783,000 is under consideration by the Department.

19 bridges were repaired in 2022. *These exclude bridges funded under Christmas day 2021 flood damage.*

Flood Damaged Bridge Repairs

Temporary structures in place pending statutory consents:

- Chapel Bridge, Adamstown and Cullenstown Little
- Section 50 consents received from the OPW for 3 structures, the 2 bridges mentioned above and Wilton Bridge.
- Detailed design for permanent reinstatement and rebuild is being finalised prior to Part 8 planning application and tender.
- All 3 reconstructions will commence in 2023

Specific Improvement Works – The Deeps Bridge

The Deeps Bridge Remediation Project – RPS Consulting Engineers Ltd was appointed as Project Supervisor for the Design Process in March 2021. An underwater inspection of the bridge structure was carried out in 2021 and no defects were found below the water.

An Bord Pleanála has granted permission for the remediation project to proceed in May 2022. Tenders for construction have been assessed and the preferred contractor identified. Works are expected to commence in mid-January 2023.

Winter Maintenance

The Winter Maintenance started 17 October 2022 and finishes 30 April 2023.

There have been 28 treatments to Thursday 22 December 2022.

General Maintenance

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

ACTIVE TRAVEL

The Active Travel Team are currently in negotiations with the NTA regarding funding allocation for 2023. The active travel 2023 allocation submission was issued to the NTA on the 9th December 2022 for review. This submission contained the three 'Pathfinder' schemes, namely Beechlawn, Newtown and Roxborough active travel schemes. The NTA raised concerns about the increasing outturn costs of Active Travel schemes per/km nationally, therefore we are reviewing Rapid Build schemes as a method of reducing costs. Rapid build schemes involve utilising the existing road drainage and roadway as far as possible together with extruded concrete kerb to provide a degree of separation between motorist and cyclist. Both DBFL (the consultant on Roxborough) and RPS (consultant on Newtown and Beechlawn) are reviewing rapid build and how this can be integrated into the overall scheme design.

The Active Travel team prepared a submission to the DoT based on a Letter to LA's regarding the **Climate Action Plan** in order to identify where additional space can be reallocated to pedestrians and cyclists under each Local Authority's remit. The 5 district Engineering office staff played a pivotal role here in providing detailed submissions based on their districts which was all integrated into the final report submission by the deadline of the 16th December 2022.

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

- Roxborough R730, Wexford which is at Options Appraisal Stage, working with DBFL consultants.
- Beechlawn/Clonard, Wexford which is at Preliminary Design Stage; Active Travel team met with Wexford Bus Connect to seek their approval regarding bus shelter locations along schemes route.
- Newtown Road, Wexford Segregated Cycle Scheme at detailed design stage. RPS the consultants are due to investigate where Rapid Build can be integrated into the scheme design. RPS are in consultation with Tramore House Design office to ensure works complement proposals on N11 National Road tie into Vehicle restraint System modification works to accommodate cyclists on N11 on approach to New Ross Road Roundabout (VRS).

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

- R723 Oaklands to Kents Cross, New Ross which is for a Segregated Cycle Scheme, and which is at Preliminary Design Stage. The team met with RPS and the NTA in order to investigate where Rapid Build can be integrated into the scheme design.
- Plans are being put in place for Bike Week 2023 which takes place next year between the 13th and 21st of May. Applications for funding for running events are due for in early January 2023. A variety of events will be held around the County to promote cycling including a joint cycling initiative being planned in collaboration with Counties Waterford and Kilkenny and Carlow also.
- Delivered plans for Safe Routes to Schools for Adamstown to New Ross Municipal District on 14th Dec and councillors voted for scheme to proceed.
- Delivered plans for Safe Routes to Schools for Enniscorthy to Enniscorthy Municipal District on 21st Nov and councillors voted for scheme to proceed.
- Delivered plans for Safe Routes to Schools for Rosslare to Rosslare Municipal District on 19th Oct and councillors voted for scheme to proceed.

Round 2 of the Safe Routes to School programme was released on the 15th Dec 2022. The schools chosen were Gorey Central School, Ramsgrange Community School and St Patrick's NS Crossabeg Co. Wexford.

PUBLIC LIGHTING

LED Upgrade (Non-National Roads)

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

Design works are completed.

Works are almost complete bar installing Led trays in the Heritage decorative lanterns across the county. It is hoped to complete the upgrade of these remaining lanterns on non-National roads and housing estates by early 2023.

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

Public Lighting Development Fund

Additional public lighting was installed at the following locations under the Public Lighting Development Fund in 2022.

- Ballygarrett Village – Works completed.

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

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

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

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

HOUSING

Housing Supply

Capital Projects

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

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Current Position	Comment
Rosetown Phase 1	23	Rosslare	Under Construction	Due to complete in Q1 2023
Marconi Park	1 TAP	Enniscorthy	Under Construction	Due to complete in Q2 2023
Whiterock Hill Phase 1	22	Wexford	Under construction.	To complete in Q2 2023.
Rosetown Phase 2	12	Rosslare	Stage 3	Tenders received 28 th Oct. Assessment complete Dec 22. To commence on site Q1 23
Whiterock Hill Phase 2	22	Wexford	Stage 3	Tender Assessment complete Dec 2022. To commence construction Q1 2023
Women's Refuge	12	Wexford	Stage 4	Contract Letter of Acceptance Dec 2022. Commence Construction Q1 2023
Ballyhine, Barntown	7	Wexford	Stage 3	Tender assessment complete Dec 22. Construction to Commence Q1 2023
Bullawn	3	New Ross	Single stage	Enabling Works tenders received. Appoint demolition contractor in Dec 22. Demolitions in January 23. Tender Construction works Q1 2023
Wexford Street	30	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Stage 3	Upload Tenders for construction contract 7 th Dec 22. Tenders due in Jan 23.
Rosbercon	38 (est)	New Ross	Stage 2	Enabling Works re-tender Dec 2022. Appoint Enabling Contractor Jan 2023.
Francis St.	2	Wexford	Single stage	Revised application to DHLGH Dec 22. Tender Works in Q1 2023
Killeens	60	Wexford	Stage 1	Lodge Stage 2 Dec 2022. Part VIII Q1 23
Creagh	22	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Combined Stage 1/2	Consultants (QS and CS) appointed for combined Stages 1 and 2. Lodge application to DHLGH Q1 2023 for Design Build.
Monomolin	5	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Single stage	Bundle Tender for 3 projects. Appoint consultants Jan 23 (Monomolin, Ballygillane and Grogans Road)
Ballygillane	5	Rosslare	Single stage	Bundle Tender for 3 projects. Appoint consultants Jan 23 (Monomolin, Ballygillane and Grogans Road)
TOTAL	264			

Pre-Development Stage

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

Longer Term Projects

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

Other Projects (early feasibility)

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Lacken TAP	1	New Ross	Design underway for new dwelling.
Adamstown	2	New Ross	Asbestos removal specialist appointed. H & S coordination commenced. Demolitions Q1 2023
Belvedere	6	Wexford	Revised proposal complete Q4 2022
Creagh	24	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Sketch design prepared for site investigations and surveys.
Grogan's Road	4	Wexford	Bundle Tender for 3 projects. Appoint consultants Jan 23 (Monomolin, Ballygillane and Grogans Road)
Group Housing TAP	5	Wexford	Levels Survey complete, Site Layout for discussion with stakeholders complete.
TOTAL	42		

Approved Housing Bodies

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Cluid			
Tobar Muire Place	17	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	All units delivered November 2022
Hewittlands, New Ross (LAGS site)	48	New Ross	DHLGH Approval in Principle received June 2022. Awaiting Planning decision.
Bridgemeadows, Enniscorthy	12	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval Nov 2022. To deliver Q2 2023
Tuath			
Ramstown, Gorey	68	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	24 units delivered. Remainder to deliver 2023
Gleann an Ghairdin	24	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	To deliver Q4 2022/Q1 2023
Peter Mc Verry Trust			
The Quay, New Ross	6	New Ross	To deliver by end year 2022
Co Operative Housing Ireland (CHI)			
Moongate, Clonard Rd, Wexford	38	Wexford	DHLGH Approval received June 2022. 17 units to deliver by end of 2022, remainder to deliver 2023
Cuil na Dara, Clonard (Ph 2.1 of Pairc na Daire)	25	Wexford	DHLGH Approval received June 2022. To deliver 2023
Pairc na Greine, Clonard (Ph2.2 of Pairc na Daire)	24	Wexford	DHLGH Approval received Sept 2022. To deliver 2024
TOTAL	262		

Part V Acquisitions

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Greenhills, Clonhaston, Enniscorthy	5	Enniscorthy	Expected to deliver by end of 2022
Gleann an Ghairdin Ph 3	10	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	To deliver 2022/2023.
Tobar Muire, Creagh Demesne	4	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	2 units delivered, 2 to be delivered by end of 2022/early 2023
Ard an Bhile, Healysland, New Ross	5	New Ross	2 units delivered . Remainder expected to deliver by end of 2022
Spring View, Gorey Hill	11	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Under Construction. Amendment to planning permission being sought. To deliver on phased basis from 2023.
Ard na hAbhann, Newtown Rd	2	Wexford	Under Construction. Funding approval received May 2022. To deliver late 2023
TOTAL	37		

Turnkeys

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Tobar Muire, Creagh Demesne	39	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	10 units delivered. Remainder to deliver early 2023
Ard an Bhile, Healysland, New Ross	43	New Ross	16 units completed. Remaining units expected to deliver by end of 2022.
Castlelands, Ferns	20	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval received Jan 2022. Under Construction. Expected to deliver Q1 2023
Haughton Place, New Ross (includes 1 Part V)	13	New Ross	Expected to deliver 2023/2024
Clonard Little (includes 1 Part V)	10	Wexford	Under Construction. To deliver late 2023
Cross St., New Ross	2	New Ross	DHLGH Approval Nov 22. To deliver Q2 2023
An Glasan, Greenville Lane, Enniscorthy	8	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval Nov 22. To deliver Q2 2023
Greenhills, Clonhaston	8	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval Nov 22. To deliver Q4 2022/Q12023
TOTAL	143		

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

Housing Maintenance

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

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

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

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT LEADER PROGRAMME

The Article 48 team processed 5 LEADER claims in October. The value of these claims were €124,421.05 which will support 4 community groups and 1 enterprise throughout County Wexford.



These claims can be broken down as follows:

Promoter Paid	Claim Payment
1. All Blacks AFC Community Group	€24,074.58
2. Wexford Model Railway Club	€17,295.40
3. Bree Community Development	€41,353.67
4. Tara Hill Honey Ltd.	€23,459.02
5. Write by the Sea	€18,238.38
TOTAL	€ 124,421.05

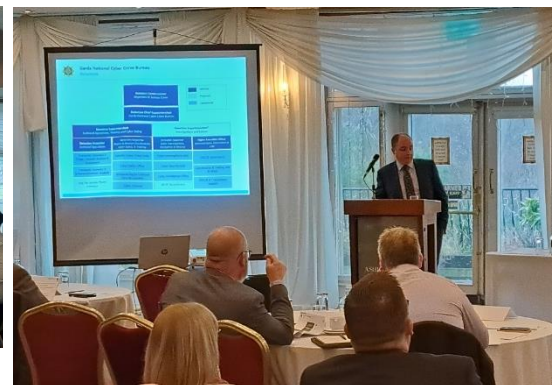
JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE MEETING - County Wexford Joint Policing Committee

A meeting of the Joint Policing Committee took place on the 14th of December 2022 in the Ashdown Park Hotel in Gorey. The meeting was a joint meeting of both the county Wexford and Wicklow Policing Committees, the first national joint meeting, with members from local authority areas and the Policing Authority attending.



The agenda included a presentations from Chief Supt. Anthony Pettit – ‘*Gardai Operational Framework Wexford/Wicklow*’ and from Detective Sergeant Eoin O’Connell – ‘*Garda National Cyber Crime Bureau*’.

The next Joint Meeting of the Policing Committees proposed for Q4 2023, to be hosted by Wicklow JPC.



LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (LCDC) MEETING –

A hybrid meeting of meeting of the Local Community and Development Committee was held on the 07th of December 2022.



Agenda items included –

- ILMI Voice Project – *Damien Walshe Presentation*
- PPN - *LCDC Working Group Apprenticeship Project*
- Chief Officers Report - *SICAP & Sláintecare*
- Healthy Ireland – *Presentation/update on activity to date with actions 2023*
- *LCDC Annual Report 2021*

The next meeting date of the Local Community and Development Committee is to be agreed.

LOCAL ACTION GROUP (LAG) MEETING -

A hybrid of Local Community Development Committee acting as the Local Action Group was held on the 07th of December 2022.



Items discussed included – the LEADER Transitional & EURI Programme with the members of the LAG approving funding for 9 Community and Enterprise projects totalling €360k for the December Meeting.

Extension to 2014 – 2022 LEADER programme, the deadline for project approvals by the LAGs including the reallocation of funding that has been decommitted is being extended to **31st August 2023**.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT FUND – UPDATE

Wexford County Council in conjunction with Wexford Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) invites applications for funding submissions under the Community Support Fund 2022

The Community Support Fund 2022 (CSF) is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development under the Community Enhancement Programme 2022. A total fund of **€340,233** has been made available by Wexford LCDC to support small-scale projects for not-for-profit community or voluntary groups.

The maximum grant aid per project is €5,000, with a percentage of grants ring fenced for Women's sheds projects (*dedicated application form*) and grants of €1,000 or less. Match funding is not required. **All projects must be delivered by 31st August 2023.**

The Community Support Fund will support groups, particularly in disadvantaged areas

- With their non-pay running costs such as energy costs (electricity costs, refuse charges, heating charges) or other non-pay operating costs for e.g. rental/lease costs, insurance bills. (*Please note the time frame for costs incurred has been revised - now 1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023*)
- Groups will also be able to use the funding to carry out necessary repairs and improvements to their facilities, purchase equipment for e.g. such as tables and chairs, tools and signage, laptops and printers, lawnmowers, canopies and training equipment etc.

Online application forms and programme guidelines are available at www.wexfordcoco.ie/csf

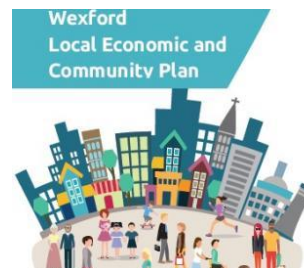
For queries please call 053-919 6000 or email community@wexfordcoco.ie.

Closing date for receipt of completed applications is **28th February 2023**.

WEXFORD LOCAL ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY PLAN (LECP)

Following an RFT and Evaluation, KPMG Future Analytics have been awarded the contract to draft the new LECP for County Wexford.

A number of meetings have been held to date with work progressing on the review of the 2016 – 2021 document with the project to be delivered in 2023.



January 2023 Report Healthy Ireland Round Four Funding

Following development of proposed projects for 2023-2025 these were approved by the Healthy County Committee meeting of 6th December and the Wexford LCDC meeting of 7th December.

Work will now be undertaken to compile the funding application and associated documents required by Pobal to secure this funding.



**Healthy
Wexford**

Recent Healthy Wexford Activity

As part of our **'Making More'** project two engagement events were provided in Gorey Park on 1st & 8th December.

These events provided a tutor to show participants how to use the exercise equipment with the option of 'Come & Look' or 'Give it a Go'. Plans are in place to repeat these events in early 2023 and to extend to other areas also.



Our Healthy County Coordinator attended and displayed at the **Wexford Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme launch event**.

The event was held at St. Marys Club, Maudlintown on 2nd December.

Healthy Wexford are supporting the upcoming **Club Walking Programme** from Sports Active Wexford. The initiative was launched on Saturday 3rd December. The first 25 clubs that sign up will receive a support pack including hats, gloves, hi viz vests, distance makers and clubs are also offered the opportunity to undertake walking leader training in January.



Work is also underway with a number of partners for development of a regular monthly walking opportunity, with an aim to have this in place for January.

In December the **Pilot Period Poverty Project** working group finalised and distributed the HERE poster - highlighting locations where free period products are available across the county. This poster has been distributed on social media, through Wexford PPN newsletter and printed in the local papers to create awareness of locations.

December saw publication of the Healthy Ireland Survey 2022 – with this survey including a new section on Period Poverty. This survey highlights the scale of the issue nationally and across the age categories which will help to inform future activity, should further funding be made available in 2023.

HERE
If you need some products, feel free to take some...

FREE Period Product Locations across County Wexford

Did you know that free period products, for those that need them, are available in a range of locations across County Wexford.

Free Products are available in public toilets at the following locations:

Location	Address	Eircode
Wexford County Council	County Hall, Carrickdown, Wexford.	Y35 WF18
Wexford Library	Malin St, Ferrybank South, Wexford.	Y35 AY20
Southend Family Resource Centre	Hartoon Rd, Maudelstown, Wexford.	Y35 T26A
Enniscorriby Library	Littlington Rd, Enniscorriby, Co. Wexford.	Y21 A262
Burcloddy Library	Milwood, Carrickduff, Burcloddy, Co Wexford.	Y21 E970
ARC Family Resource Centre (Formerly known as Rahew NIC)	Rahew, Clonroche, Co. Wexford.	Y21 T183
New Ross Library	Barrack Ln, New Ross, Co. Wexford.	Y34 N956
South West Wexford Family Resource Centre	Ramsgrange, New Ross, Co. Wexford.	Y34DP26
Gorey Library	The Avenue, Gorey, Co. Wexford.	Y25 WK37
Gorey Family Resource Centre	4 Charlotte Row, Upper Main St, Gorey, Co Wexford.	Y25 CV91
Taghmon Family Resource Centre	Joseph St, Poulmart, Taghmon, Co. Wexford.	Y35 WTP3

Products are also available for those from the Traveller or Roma Communities by contacting:

- Roma: Mona Fusteac, Roma Health Advocate Support Worker FDYS.086.0570612
- Traveller: Laura Myles, Wexford Traveller Community Health Programme 053 9155864



Healthy Wexford collaborated with the Wexford GAA Health & Wellbeing Committee, Mental Healthy Ireland and HSE Connecting for Life Suicide Prevention (South East) to develop and support **Minding Your Mental Health** signage provision for all GAA clubs across the county. The signage, launched at the Wexford GAA County Convention on 12th December.

Increasing awareness around how you yourself can support your own wellbeing

and how you can access supports for yourself or others are key messages of this initiative, with the signage providing key support signposts.

PPN

Wexford PPN held a Plenary Meeting, Secretariat Meetings and a number of Strategic Planning meetings/workshops in November and December.

Information bulletins/emails were emailed to all PPN members on 3rd, 14th, 16th, 21st, 22nd, 29th November and 13th December, 2022.

Our Plenary meeting was held on the 17th November in Wexford County Hall where the theme was 'Representing' and a large number of Secretariat members and Representatives were present. Members of Wexford Community Policing Unit were in attendance and introduced themselves and the Inspector gave a presentation to the audience.



Inspector Liam Kavanagh



Tomhaggard Womens Shed Tom Logan, Recyclabella



Wexford PPN attended the Wexford Slaintecare Healthy Communities Programme in St. Mary's Club, Maudlintown and the South West Wexford Resource Centre Open Day.

Philip Hickey, PPN Support Worker and Sharon Kennedy, South West Wexford Resource Centre Manager. Monica Gaynor, PPN Resource Worker, Cathaoirleach George Lawlor and Minister Frank Feighan

Wexford Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme

Minister Frank Feighan TD launches Wexford Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme

On Friday 2nd December, Minister of State for Public Health, Wellbeing and National Drugs Strategy, Frank Feighan TD visited St. Marys GAA Club in Maudlintown, Wexford Town to launch the Wexford Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme and to meet many of the recipients and partners on the local programme. Guest speakers included Cathaoirleach of Wexford County Council Cllr. George Lawlor, Minister of State for Public Health, Wellbeing and National Drugs Strategy, Frank Feighan TD, Tom Enright Chief Executive of Wexford County Council, Derval Howley HSE Head of Health & Wellbeing HSE South East Community Healthcare, Kieran Donohoe FDYS and Geraldine O'Grady and Catherine McCurdy from Barnardos. A testimonial from Gerard Young and videos showcasing the work of the programme in Coolcotts and Enniscorthy Community College were also shown on the day.

The Wexford Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme operates in designated areas which include Wexford Town, Enniscorthy Town, Taghmon and Edermine Electoral Division areas. Introduced nationally in 2021, Sláintecare Healthy Communities is a cross-Government initiative to deliver increased health and wellbeing services, projects and initiatives to 19 community areas across Ireland.

Wexford County Council are delivering on 2 elements of the programme:

1. Sláintecare Community Enhancement Fund of €250,000 for works on a number of playgrounds to make them more accessible and include more inclusive playground equipment
2. €75,000 seed funding provided in both 2022 and 2023 to fund a number of projects including:
 - FDYS Coolcotts Wexford Halloween Event and workshops
 - Going Well and Being Well - a parenting course run by FAB for parents of children with additional needs
 - Enniscorthy Cycle Park
 - Enniscorthy Community College Secondary School - After School Programme
 - Community Centred Digital Care pilot project
 - Enniscorthy Community Allotments - Sensory & Wellbeing Space
 - Loreto Secondary School Wexford - horticulture, biodiversity and wellbeing project
 - Community Car Scheme in Taghmon
 - National Opera House & St. Bridget's Day Care Centre arts programme
 - Community Retrofitting & Energy Pilot Project in Southend, Wexford

Wexford Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme is a 3 year programme funded by the Department of Health and is due to run until 2024.



St. Bridget's Day Care Centre & National Opera House – 'Music Moves Me' Programme

'Music Moves Me' is a music programme funded by WCC's Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme (SCHCP) which involved workshops older people from St Bridget's Day Care Centre in Wexford Town. The project was part of the National Opera House Education & Community Programme and was facilitated by musician Elizabeth Drwal and choreographer Deirdre Grant. On Friday 9th December the clients of St. Bridget's Day Care Centre participated in a final workshop which involved a themed performance around the 'Ballrooms of Romance'. An invited audience of staff, family and friends were treated to a showcase of music, dance and stories.



Age Friendly: Creativity in Older Age - collaborative music and dance project

The Creativity in Older Age collaborative music and dance project based in HSE Residential Units and Community settings ran from July to October 2022 with funding from Creative Ireland. The artists involved were Emily Redmond (musician) and Vivian Brodie Hayes (dance artist). Emily and Vivian have been facilitating weekly music and dance engagement sessions in St. John's Hospital Enniscorthy, Selskar Ward in Farnogue Unit and in Wexford Mental Health Association premises in Henrietta St, Wexford Town for the Adult Wexford Community. Many of the clients involved are living with dementia and/or other mental health illnesses including depression, anxiety, etc. Emily and Vivian have been welcomed and supported in each group and attendance and feedback has been very positive. These sessions will finish in December 2022/early Jan 2023.



SPORTS ACTIVE

Cricket Leinster 2022 Figures

- In all 2929 Primary School children received at least one cricket session during the year. 22 Primary Schools were revisited on at least one occasion, namely Kilmuckridge, Murrintown, Castlebridge, Piecestown, CBS Wexford, St Mary's Enniscorthy, Bree, Rathangan, Adamstown, St Iberius, Oylegate, Ballyhogue, Kilrane, Kennedy Park Mercy, Barntown, Blackwater, Clonroche, Ballaghkeene Curracloe, Screen, Clonroche with 8 schools welcoming cricket for the first time : Rosslare, Monageer, Marshallstown, Rathnure, Fethard, Our Lady's Island, Crossabeg and Ballymurn.
- 5 Secondary Schools, Creagh College, Educate Together Gorey, Gorey Community School, Coláiste an Átha and Loreto Wexford also had many sessions with 284 pupils participating.
- Craanford and Ballycanew ASD Units were provided with Table Cricket demonstrations and sets were left with these schools to use.
- 2 sessions were provided to the Wexford School Completion Programme and cricket was also on hand for the July Provision.

- A Secondary School Blitz was held in Gorey and a Primary Schools one in Murrinctown.

Men on The Move

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

Couch to 5K

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

Schools Badminton Fun Day

Schools Badminton funday will be held in Astro Active on the 3rd of February 2023 where 12 schools from around the county will be invited to take part in Badminton activities.

Marathon Kids

After the success of Marathon Kids earlier this year, SAW plan on linking in with Marathon Kids Ireland to offer places to 1000 children around Wexford starting early 2023.

Strong and Steady Classes

Strong and Steady classes are delivered on a weekly basis in conjunction with Wexford General Hospital to 8 female ladies who are at risk of falling. Funding is currently being sought for providing this programme in Enniscorthy early next year and Gorey in Quarter 4 2023.

Safeguarding

14 x Safeguarding 1 Courses have been completed in 2022 with a total of 199 participants

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

Marathon Kids programme is aimed at 6th class pupils and Sports Active Wexford will offer 1000 places to primary school children around Wexford in early 2023.



ENVIRONMENT

A. COASTAL MATTERS

Harbours -

In April 2022, Department of Ag, Food & Marine (DAFM) announced funding of 23 projects with a total construction cost of €1.4m in Co. Wexford under a new scheme to develop works on LA harbours, called the Brexit Adjustment Local Authority Marine Infrastructure 2022 – 2023.

The DAFM approved a second tranche of funding in December 2022, with a total between first and second tranches of 25 projects with total construction cost of €1.79m. The DAFM funding has increased from 85% to 95%, with Wexford County Council paying the 5% match funding on construction. Note that WCC must pay all non-construction costs including design, environmental reports etc.

Ports Past and Present: There is ongoing engagement with the Rosslare community, artists, and our project partners in University College Cork and two Welsh universities. Regular updates and further information are available at <https://portspastpresent.eu/>

Beaches –

An application for 6 blue flag beaches was submitted to An Taisce on 8th December – Ballymoney, Morriscastle, Ballinesker, Curracloe, Rosslare, Carne. An Taisce will announce the blue flags in May 2023.

Ballymoney –Environment Dept is looking at securing funding for accessibility and age friendly improvement works which include the beach access and accessible toilets.

Rosslare Strand – Bearlough: work has started on the construction of 2 new disabled car spaces at the entrance to Rosslare Burrow Holiday Park. These spaces will provide access to the beach along the new macadam path that was constructed in 2021.

Coast -

The Environment Dept monitors the coastline regularly, focussing on erosion risk areas.

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

The project website and project email are now live and can be accessed at <https://www.floodinfo.ie/rosslarefrs/>

There is provision on the website to email the project team with specific queries.

Morriscastle Dune Restoration: The project involves installation of fencing and marram grass planting to restore and manage the dune system at main beach entrance. All works under phase 1 of this scheme are complete.

B. PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

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

Building Extension works to Ballymoney PC will probably commence after Christmas Break.

C. WATER, AIR & NOISE

1. Septic Tank Inspections:

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

Progress is being made with closing existing open files. All files up to the end of 2016 have been closed. 100 files were closed during 2022. 68 extensions of time have been granted in 2022. There are currently 66 open files for the years 2017-2021 and 43 open for 2022.

30 new applications for grant assistance have been received this year to date, twenty eight of which are paid/put forward for payment and two are outstanding documentation to review further.

Year	Number of inspections	Pass	Fail	Outstanding	Closed in 2022
2019	156	48	108	14	8
2020	111	38	73	10	10
2021	91	24	67	28	29
2022	139	50	89	43	46

There are currently 12 cases in the Court system for failing to comply with Advisory Notices. 3 of these are for hearing and 9 are for mention.

All NIP files up to end of 2016 have now been closed off. 2017 has 7 open files with 1 on hold due to new N11 route selection, 5 due to assessment of public sewer for Ramsgrange and 1 case is in court. 2018 have 7 open files with good progress on 5 of these, 4 are in court. 2019-2022 figures can be seen in the Table above.

D. WASTE MANAGEMENT

1. Recycling Services:

Bring Bank Network –

WASTE CATEGORY	No. of Sites November 2022	Recycling out (End November) 2021 (t)	Recycling out (End November)2022 (t)
Glass bottles		3938	3458
Aluminium Cans		105	87
Total	109	4043	3545

Household Recycling Centres –

Summary of Activities								
WASTE CATEGORY	Enniscorthy		New Ross		Holmestown		Gorey	
	Recycling out Jan-Nov 2021 (t)	Recycling out Jan-Nov 2022 (t)	Recycling out Jan-Nov 2021 (t)	Recycling out Jan-Nov 2022(t)	Recycling out Jan- Nov2021	Recycling out Jan - Nov 2022	Recycling out Jan-Nov 2021	Recycling out Jan-Nov 2022
Total Recycling out	635	543	659	599	818	797	523	466
Total Domestic Waste in	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2498	2308	N/A	N/A

Daily Average Customers Jan-Nov	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022
	73	63	116	111	122	107	88	81

2. Rapid Response Crew

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

Activity	<i>To end Nov 2021</i>	<i>November 2022</i>	<i>To end Nov 2022</i>	% +/-
Total Illegal Dumping/ Clean Ups	2,420	156	1,832	-24.2%
<i>Gorey *</i>		29		
<i>Enniscorthy *</i>		46		
<i>Wexford *</i>		42		
<i>New Ross*</i>		20		
<i>Rosslare</i>		19		
Total Bring Site Inspections	8,257	758	8,249	+0.09%
<i>Gorey</i>		187		
<i>Enniscorthy</i>		184		
<i>Wexford</i>		243		
<i>New Ross</i>		121		
<i>Rosslare</i>		23		
Total Ringbuoy Inspections	14,718	1,678	16,480	+11.9%
<i>Gorey</i>	<i>North</i>	518		
<i>Enniscorthy *</i>				
<i>Wexford*</i>	<i>South</i>	1,160		
<i>New Ross*</i>				
Other Works	4,520	356	5,155	+14%
<i>Gorey</i>		71		
<i>Enniscorthy</i>		141		
<i>Wexford</i>		64		
<i>New Ross</i>		54		
<i>Rosslare</i>		26		

3. New Recycling Items

From September, soft plastics can be recycled through the domestic waste collection service. Soft plastic may include bubble wrap, plastic bags and similar wrapping are included in the new items that may be recycled. As with any other plastics, these should be clean and dry and loose.

Enforcement:

The Waste Enforcement Team carries out routine (planned) and non-routine inspections of waste facilities and problem sites or site where we have received complaints. This work is done in accordance with the Recommended Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections (RMCEI) as required by the EPA.

The 2022 RMCEI Plan allocated 6,698 routine inspections by 22 Full Time Equivalent staff members. The inspection types cover the WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) Regulations; ELV (End of Life Vehicles) Regulations; Waste Management (Packaging) Regulations; Household and Commercial Food Waste Regulations; Batteries, Tyres, Mercury etc.

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

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

1 LITTER MANAGEMENT

As of the 1st of July 2022, the public can now pay environmental fines online relating to litter fines, waste bye laws fixed payment notices and waste collection permit fixed payment notices.

Total fixed penalty notices issued	TOTAL FOR 2021	TOTAL FOR 2022-TO NOVEMBER 2022
Fines Issued (All Fixed Penalty Notice Issued)	199	217
Fines Paid in Full●	69	111
Fines Cancelled/Proceedings Discontinued/Struck Out*	71	68
Successful Prosecutions**	15	43
Legal Proceedings In Progress	61	46
Amount Collected in Fines -total	€10,220	€17,860
Amount awarded via the Court system		€5,130

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

- Includes income from all Fixed Penalty Notices

September 2022:

Wexford County Council had 13 successful prosecutions in September 2022. One under the Air Pollution Act, a fine of €500 and legal costs of €1200 awarded. Four Littering cases with fines of €990 and Legal costs of €1000 awarded and seven

successful prosecutions under the Waste Management Act in relation to Waste Presentation Bye-Law 2018 cases whereby €1200 in fines and €2388 in legal costs were awarded.

October 2022:

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

November 2022:

Three successful prosecutions were achieved by Wexford County Council in November 2022 under the Waste Presentation Bye-laws 2018. Fines of €450 were awarded along with €950 in costs.

Litter Enforcement Activity 2009-2022(November)

	Fines Issued	Court	Reports
2022	217	28	1510 (down 32%)
2021	100	19	2721 (down 15%)
2020	213	20	3187 (up 15%)
2019	341	13	2758 (down 9%)
2018	324	22	3050 (up 15%)
2017	218	27	2651 (Up 12%)
2016	274	17	2,354 (up 22%)
2015	242	17	1,927 (up 11%)
2014	154	17	1,732 (up 10%)
2013	140	15	1,571 (up 21%)
2012	182	16	1,292 (down 3%)
2011	209	17	1,329
2010	370	27	1,338

F.GENERAL

All environmental complaints are logged by the Customer Service Unit on the DASH CRM system.

The total figures for complaints received are as follows:

	Jan – Dec 2017	Jan – Dec 2018	Jan to Dec 2019	Jan to Dec 2020	Jan to Dec 2021	Jan- November 2022
Incidents	3600	4609	4749	4999	5136	3668
Closed	3526	4563	4482	4472	4447	2852
Closure Rate	98%	99%	94%	89%	86%	77%

Control of Dogs & Horses:

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

Control of dogs	2020	2021 (to 31-12-21)	2022
Dogs collected	532	429	471
Dogs reclaimed	127	133	101
Dogs re-homed/transferred	373	267	323
Dogs put to sleep	32	29	40
Dog Fines	5	18	20

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

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

Environment Education and Awareness:

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

Green Schools: Schools applying for their first Green Flag, Litter & Waste theme, must submit an application by Wednesday, February 15th, 2023. The deadline for renewal applications is on Friday, March 24th, 2023 for the 2022/2023 academic year. In total 92 primary schools and 18 secondary schools have been awarded the green flag.

Christmas Decoration Competition: All schools were notified of this year's competition. Schools are asked to select a winner in each category to go forward to the County Final. 132 decorations were received and were displayed in the County hall. Awards took place on Monday 19th December at 4.30 p.m. SE Radio interviewed some of the winners at the awards.

Annual Artwork Competition: The awards for the annual artwork competition was held on Tuesday 22nd November. The theme was 'Wexford's Coast'. 501 entries were received from 17 schools. An Cathaoirleach Councillor George Lawlor presented prizes to all the winning students. The overall primary school entry was Sophie Redmond, Clongeen National School. The overall



secondary school winner was Kennedy College New Ross. Overall Winner Primary School, Sophie Redmond, Clongeen National School



Overall Winner Secondary School
Anastasiya Shtyka, Kennedy College

Climate Literacy Programme:

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

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

Trees for Wexford: The campaign was open for applications for 3 weeks with a closing date of 21st October. 154 voluntary groups have applied. All 154 applications have been approved and trees will be available for collection by the approved groups on Friday 20th January and Saturday 21st January from Holmestown Waste Management Facility.

Environment Awards: On Monday 14th November the Wexford County Council Annual Environment Awards were held at the Ferrycarrig Hotel and proved to be a tremendous celebration of the environment and voluntary effort. Over 250 children, community groups, volunteers, resident groups and individuals turned up on the night to see their wonderful efforts acknowledged by Wexford County Council. There were presentations and awards to 15 schools, 57 community groups and 4 individuals. The overall winners of the Keep Wexford Beautiful Competition were Enniscorthy Community Allotments, Master of Ceremonies for the night, Alan McGuire, stated as he announced this award that 'In February 2021 a group of keen gardening enthusiasts got together with the idea of setting up a community allotment. The aim of the group was to promote the practice of horticulture between members, especially children. In April 2022 the allotment opened to members and the transformation of the site has been truly remarkable. Amateur gardeners benefit from the advice of their more knowledgeable allotment neighbours. The project stimulates social interaction, encourages self-reliance, and promotes sustainable

growing and healthy eating. Organic and chemical-free growing is promoted. The allotments are made up of 64 plots, 20 raised beds, and 60 polytunnels. But it's not just individual gardeners who are availing of the chance to be involved in a sustainable growing project that also encourages biodiversity. Local organisations such as Hope Cancer Support Centre, Wexford

Community Workshop, and Wexford Residential and Disability Support Services are also involved.'



Overall Winner Enniscorthy Community Allotments

Kilmuckridge Tidy Towns 3rd prize Best Community Project to Improve Accessibility in Garden/Park s & 1st Prize Best Environmentally Aware & Presented Village



Southend Family Resource Centre 1st Prize Best Heritage Preservation & Conservation Project

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



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



LIBRARIES, ARTS & ARCHIVES

LIBRARY SERVICE

Launch of IRIS, the Irish Remote Interpreting Service, at all Wexford Libraries

On Friday 9th December Wexford Library Service launched IRIS, the Irish Remote Interpreting Service, in Wexford Library. IRIS, Irish Remote Interpreting Service, is a free service for people who are deaf and who can use Irish Sign Language. With IRIS a person can use online technology to pre-book an Irish Sign language interpreter to be available and waiting online to help them conduct their visit to borrow at all County Wexford libraries. If a person would like to have a remote interpreter available to help them take a library tour or to have a special library service explained, we ask that they come to the library and book a day and time that suits all parties.

This service is now available from all five Libraries in County Wexford and is an extension of the service already in place and available from Wexford County Council at Carricklawn, Wexford. This initiative will make library services accessible to more people across County Wexford.

Persons interested in using this service are invited to contact Wexford Libraries to arrange to take part in a consultation in early 2023 to discuss how this service can be designed to be most beneficial to users. This initiative is a collaboration between Wexford Libraries and the Accessibility Office at Wexford County Council.

Environment

Wexford Library Service is partnering with South East Energy Agency and the library services of Carlow, Kilkenny and Waterford to provide 'Community Energy Hubs' which will support community groups and individuals to turn their energy efficiency project ideas into reality. The project will develop practical learning tools to address the challenge of energy efficiency in homes and community buildings.

The project is being funded by The Community Climate Action Programme which supports projects and initiatives that facilitate community climate action through education, capacity building and learning by doing. The programme is being run by Pobal, on behalf of the Department of the Environment, Climate & Communications.

The Home Energy Saving Kit and Digital Radon Monitors continue to be borrowed from the library branches.

Wexford, Enniscorthy and Gorey Libraries: Sustainable Christmas Wreath Making with Aoife Munn. This eco-friendly workshop was funded by the Environment department, Wexford County Council.

Sensory Friendly Quiet Hour

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

Family Time at Your Library

Family Time at Your Library: Family events and activities took place in all libraries during the **month of December** this year. The aim is to support the involvement of the whole family in children's reading. Family Time at your Library activities are provided to engage family members in the enjoyment of reading and sharing stories. This initiative

is supported by Libraries Ireland, which is managed by Libraries Development, LGMA and supported by the Department of Community and Rural Development.

Business

Enniscorthy Library held "Grow Remote" an information session aimed to help people in County Wexford to acquire skills to work remotely. The workshop looked at how to progress careers remotely, apply to discounted courses delivered by Grow Remote, find remote jobs online and access Grow Remote events and the Grow Remote community.

It Literacy

IT literacy classes are run in each of the five libraries in County Wexford. A recent initiative has seen Frank Turner from TEKcentral facilitating a series of one-on-one Dormant Accounts Funded age-friendly classes in Gorey Library throughout December. Aimed at over 55s, '*Online in no Time*' provided 6 participants with the opportunity to attend 4x 20 min sessions, using mobiles, tablets, and laptops, allowing users to familiarise themselves with areas such as online banking, shopping, and bill paying among other requirements.

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

Literature

Adult Book clubs continued in all libraries throughout December with three in Wexford Branch, one of these was online, and one in each of the following branches, Bunclody, Enniscorthy, Gorey and New Ross.

Services to Ukrainian Nationals

Wexford Library facilitated two Ukrainian English Classes held by Wexford Town Friends of Ukraine in December.

Enniscorthy Library held two Library information sessions for Ukrainian nationals living locally. Services and facilities available were explained with the help of an interpreter and all the participants joined the library.

New Ross Library held two Library information tours/visits for two groups of Ukrainian adults from Hookless Village currently attending WWETB New Ross to encourage library membership, promote library services and increase library use.

On Friday December 16th the Ukrainian Community group supported by Loreto House took part in a Ukrainian Christmas event in Gorey Library. Children from the Ukrainian community in Gorey were visited by Saint Nicholas and received gifts. There was also a performance by The Ukrainian Children's choir. Members of the Ukrainian community together with members of the local community all enjoyed this event.

Informal English-speaking lessons continued throughout the month of December each Thursday morning, in Gorey Library, hosted by Brian Allen.

Distribution of information on library resources and e-Resources to Ukrainian Nationals also continued, with an increase in new members from the Ukrainian community throughout December.

ARCHIVES

Collections management

In addition to 47 research enquiries via email, telephone and post, a total of 4 researchers visited the Archive during December. Research topics included collections in the county archive relevant to the Civil War period, principally the Edward Roe archive, the Edward Culleton lament and coverage from the period in local government minute books (1922-23); photographic output from Augustus Handcock, one of County Wexford's earliest photographers, for a forthcoming publication; extant clinical information on a former resident of St Senan's Hospital, Enniscorthy who died in 1900.

A finding aid to the Seamus Doyle archive was completed by a professional archivist on a contract for services in mid-December. Doyle (1885-1971) a leader of the Enniscorthy 1916 Rebellion, a teacher and an elected member of the Second and Third Dáil (1922-23) was a native of Monaseed Co. Wexford. He married Margaret 'Gretta' Comerford on 4 January 1918, herself a prominent local member of Cumann na mBan. Seamus voted against the Anglo-Irish Treaty but took no part in the Civil War. In 1927 he joined the newly established Fianna Fail Party of which he remained a member till his death. Doyle also had a keen interest in Irish history and archaeology and was a member of the Irish Placename Commission. His archive includes his 1916 survivors' medal, a small handwritten notebook of his account of 1916 and a brief account of Cumann na mBan in Wexford during Easter week 1916. The collection also comprises handwritten notes on 1798 and on County Wexford placenames, and a Coláiste Carman handwritten volume (1936-7).

Acquisition

A collection of four manuscript deeds relating to lands comprised on the Colclough estate, Tintern were purchased at auction by the Archive in early December for €380. The deeds, covering the timespan 1745-1822, include the leasing of land in Ballylegane, Ballytersney and of Coolafinka bog. This acquisition complements two other Colclough-related collections already in the Archive.

Creative Ireland

Línte na Farraiqe is a collaborative project inspired by the light installations around Wexford Town by Finnish artists Timo Aho and Pekka Niittyvirta. This art and science collaboration involved scientists from Trinity College Dublin and Maynooth University, the Climate Action Regional Offices (CAROs) and Wexford County Council, as well as designers from Algorithm and Native Events. Línte na Farraiqe is a recipient of the inaugural Creative Climate Action fund, an initiative from the Creative Ireland Programme in collaboration with the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications.

Wexford Science Café in Wexford library hosted a talk by the stakeholders in this project entitled 'The science and art behind the installation at Wexford Harbour from 'Línte na Farraiqe' which was addressed by Pekka Hiittyvirta, Dr Zoe Roseby, TCD, David Dodd Dublin regional CARO and Brendan Cooney, Wexford County Council. The aim of the project is to open eyes and minds to potential future storm surge levels around Ireland's coastlines.

Mount Carmel Lace Project

A Creative Ireland funded project under the 2022 programme was project managed by the Archive during the year which culminated in a public event in St Michael's Theatre, New Ross on 6th December. The project centred on the engagement of a lace expert to catalogue the historic Mount Carmel lace and crochet collection which was officially launched in the theatre by Seán Connick (CEO, JFK Trust). The Carmelite Sisters in New Ross successfully created a lace industry for the sole employment of local girls from as early as 1822. New Ross lace became quickly known worldwide as a highly skilled craft and was supplied for papal coronation robes, to the British Royal Family and to the Empress Elizabeth of Austria to name a few.

A catalogue of each individual piece of lace and crochet and of the extensive collection of design patterns has now been produced to safeguard the integrity of the collection. This work, funded by Creative Ireland, was undertaken by lace expert, Bairbre Guilfoyle (current chair of the Guild of Irish Lacemakers) who painstakingly examined all 114 pieces of lace and crochet and 402 patterns and recorded key information on each piece. The collection includes a lace account ledger (1875-1914) recording the many high-profile clients for New Ross lace; and a wages book (1912-22) detailing amounts paid to each lace worker and the products that they created.

Earlier on the launch day, twenty 4th class pupils from Bun Scoil Rís in New Ross visited the theatre where they engaged in two lace and crochet demonstrations given by facilitators Kathie Earle and Sinéad Hennessy and were able to craft their own pieces. The Archive produced four exhibition banners to accompany the display. A small exhibition on the collection was subsequently placed on display in New Ross library until Saturday, 17th December.

Other speakers at the event which was attended by members from lace guilds across the country included Gene O'Sullivan (on behalf of the Carmelite Sisters), Bairbre Guilfoyle, Kathie Earle (Irish crochet expert), Rosemary Butler (St Louis Stitches) with welcome addresses from Cllr. George Lawlor (Cathaoirleach, Wexford County Council) and Cllr. Michael Sheehan (Cathaoirleach, New Ross Municipal District).

Wexford Writers Room Showcase & Panel Discussion

This event took place on 1st Dec in National Opera House and is a Bodecci Film initiative funded by Wexford County Council's Creative Ireland Programme and supported by Screen Wexford. This event involved a public table read with actors, featuring selected scenes from eight Wexford based writers who were selected to take part in a professional TV script development programme over the past year. This reading was followed by an industry Panel Discussion about *Filmmaking from Beyond the Pale*, organised by WFT (Women in Film & TV) Ireland, Screen Wexford and funded by BAI (Broadcasting Authority of Ireland). The Panel featured Filmmakers based outside of Dublin/Wicklow who have been successfully producing film and TV for the past number of years. This event was also live streamed and was fully booked up.

ARTS

Local Live Performance Scheme: The final event for Wexford County Council Local Live Performance Round 4 funded by the Department took place between 15th and 17th December. Titled 'All that Rises' the music festival, curated by Peter Murphy featured over 10 bands based in Wexford including Rachael Grace, The Oselots, Cursed Murphy & the Resistance, Cathy Davy, Frankenstein Bolts, Patrica Lawlor, Basciville, Ian Doyle, Tulua and Stephen James Smith. In total the Arts Department drew down €118,020 from the Department for LLPPS Round 4 scheme to support the live music and performance industry, with 7 events taking place across the 5 municipal districts between July and December 2022.

Screen Wexford is an arts and economic department initiative supporting the film industry in Wexford and emerging film makers with a full time coordinator, Al Butler. **Made in WX**, a new Screen Wexford Film Showcase event took place on 10th December in Enniscorthy in The Bailey and the Presentation Arts Centre. Call out took place in November 2022. This one-day event showcased over 30 short films by Wexford based filmmakers across the 2 venues from 12pm to 10pm and included a networking talk event. It generated great interest with over 70 submissions and was very well attended. The aim of this inaugural showcase is to provide a platform to show work made by Wexford filmmakers and to give them an opportunity to come together to celebrate the work that we are doing in the Screen Industry.

Art Ability Arts Programme, 2023-2025 the closing date for applications was 14th November and the selection panel met on Wednesday 7th December to select the positions of 4 x Lead Artists to deliver the Art Ability Arts Programme. The successful artists were Declan Kennedy (CUMAS), John Busher (WRIDS), Oonagh Latchford (KTAC Visual Art) and Joe Brennan (KTAC Creative Writing). Arts Ability is an inclusive, participatory arts programme which celebrates the artistic and creative imagination of people who experience mental health problems and/or intellectual, physical or sensory disabilities.

Creative Communities: Creative Communities Programme participant Jimi Cullen, in collaboration with Ferns Diocesan Youth Service, facilitated a programme called *Music Matters* to FDYS service users aged 13 to 18 years across two of their branches one in Enniscorthy and another in Courtown. The project concluded with a joint concert which featured all participants. Swing into the Afternoon - Jazz and Chat with the Melanie O'Reilly Trio and Michelle Dooley Mahon took place on 6th and 13th December in Wexford Arts Centre.

Creative Hub a group of students from SETU School of Art and Design Wexford will exhibit a collaborative installation entitled 'Rethinking Reality'. This exhibition will run from 6th December 2022 to 9th January 2023 and launched on 6th December. As well as in the Creative Hub, painter Beata Dudzik has a showcase at the Art Centre Annex window displaying her work from this year.

Cultural Companions: The Cultural Companions Group attended their final 'Coffee & Chat' on Thursday 1st December in the Talbot Hotel Wexford. The group also attended Christmas Jazz at Johnstown on the 9th December and also attended the Saxology lunchtime recital in County Hall on Sunday 18th December.

Training Supports for Artists Wexford County Council Arts Office in partnership with VAI hosted a free live Artists Talk event for all County Wexford based members which took place on Friday 2nd December at 11am at Wexford Arts Centre. Artists Talk featured Laura Fitzgerald and Emma Roche in conversation with Ruth Carroll.

Wide Open Space – County Hall exhibition Landscapes from the Wexford County Council and Mairead Furlong Collections Exhibition concluded on Friday 2nd December 2022. The exhibition had a lot of interest including 8 guided tours from various schools across Wexford and public tours. Guest curator of the exhibition, Eamonn Maxwell facilitated the final tour on Tuesday 29th November.

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

FIRE SERVICES

Call statistics

Incident Type	Calls November 2022	Calls to date 2022	Calls to this period 2021
Fire Classification	Number	Number	Number
Chimney Fire in House (WCC / Private)	1 / 2 (3)	62	98
Other Fire in House (WCC / Private)	0 / 1 (1)	52	54
Caravan/Mobile Home	0	6	3
Flats (1) Local Authority	0	3	2
Flats (2) Privately Owned	0	4	3
Bedsit	0	0	0
Hospital	0	0	0
School	0	0	0
Other Institution	0	3	1
Factory	0	3	4
Chemical Plant	0	0	0
Storage Building/Warehouse	0	4	4
Shop/Supermarket	0	3	0
Office	0	1	0
Hotel/Guesthouse/Boarding House etc.	0	0	0
Place of Public Entertainment - Dance Hall, Disco, Cinema, Theatre, Bingo Hall	0	0	0
Public House (incl singing lounge)	0	1	2
Restaurant	0	2	0
Petrol Station - Garage	0	1	1
Hazardous Substance in transit (only cases where fire was involved)	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle	3	46	30

Unoccupied Building	0	7	4
Agriculture Business	0	4	9
Forest/Bog/Grass	0	112	71
Ship/Aircraft	0	0	1
Miscellaneous	0	22	10
Outdoor Storage	2	4	4
Outdoor Rubbish	0	40	72
Special Service Classification	Number	Number	Number
Entrapment	0	11	0
Gas/Chemicals	1	4	0
Hazardous substances in transit not involving fire	0	0	0
Hazardous Substances non Transit	0	0	0
Machinery	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	3	46	17
Other rescue	9	66	84
Rescue/Removal of persons from water	1	7	3
Road traffic accident	16	170	82
Water pumping/flooding	9	21	9
False Alarm Classification	Number	Number	Number
Good Intent	32	259	217
Malicious	0	1	1
Total	80	965	786

Fire calls by brigade to date

INCIDENT TYPE	WEXFORD	GOREY	ENNISCORTHY	NEW ROSS	BUNCLODY	TOTAL
Fire Classification	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
Chimney Fire in House	17	11	14	16	4	62
Other Fire in House	20	11	6	13	2	52
Caravan/Mobile Home	0	3	2	1	0	6
Flats (1) Local Authority	3	0	0	0	0	3
Flats (2) Privately Owned	2	0	1	1	0	4
Bedsit	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hospital	0	0	0	0	0	0
School	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Institution	3	0	0	0	0	3
Factory	1	0	1	1	0	3
Chemical Plant	0	0	0	0	0	0
Storage Building/Warehouse	2	1	0	1	0	4
Shop/Supermarket	1	0	2	0	0	3
Office	0	0	1	0	0	1
Hotel/Guesthouse/Boarding House etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Place of Public Entertainment - Dance Hall, Disco, Cinema, Theatre, Bingo Hall	0	0	0	0	0	0
Public House (incl singing lounge)	1	0	0	0	0	1
Restaurant	1	1	0	0	0	2
Petrol Station - Garage	0	1	0	0	0	1

Hazardous Substance in transit (only cases where fire was involved)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle	9	18	9	9	1	46
Unoccupied Building	1	3	3	0	0	7
Agriculture Business	0	2	2	0	0	4
Forest/Bog/Grass	26	43	22	7	14	112
Ship/Aircraft	0	0	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	10	5	4	3	0	22
Outdoor Storage	3	0	0	1	0	4
Outdoor Rubbish	16	13	5	5	1	40
Special Service Classification	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
Entrapment	5	3	1	2	0	11
Gas/Chemicals	2	1	1	0	0	4
Hazardous substances in transit not involving fire	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hazardous Substances non Transit	0	0	0	0	0	0
Machinery	0	0	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	14	9	9	12	2	46
Other rescue	25	14	13	10	4	66
Rescue/Removal of persons from water	2	1	3	1	0	7
Road traffic accident	49	30	56	24	11	170
Water pumping/flooding	5	8	6	2	0	21
False Alarm Classification	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
Good Intent	107	48	51	40	13	259
Malicious	0	0	1	0	0	1
Total	325	226	213	149	52	965

Fire Safety Certificate Applications

Number of Applications received in November 2022: 9
Number of Applications received to date: 118
Number of Applications to this period 2021: 108

UKRANIAN RESPONSE UPDATE

To date 47 properties have been pledged through the Offer a Home website. Of these 14 have been allocated with approximately 60 people accommodated therein. Of the remainder 28 are assessed and ready for occupation with a further 5 withdrawn for various reasons. The team continues to progress pledges from the Red Cross database also.

CORPORATE ACTIVITIES

1. FOI OFFICE REQUESTS

Type	
Freedom of Information	4
Customer Complaint	9
Ombudsman Complaint	0
Access to Information on the Environment	1
Data Access Request	0
Total	14

2. PROCUREMENT SECTION ACTIVITY

Tenders up to 19th December, 2022

No uploaded	5
No of tenders received	73

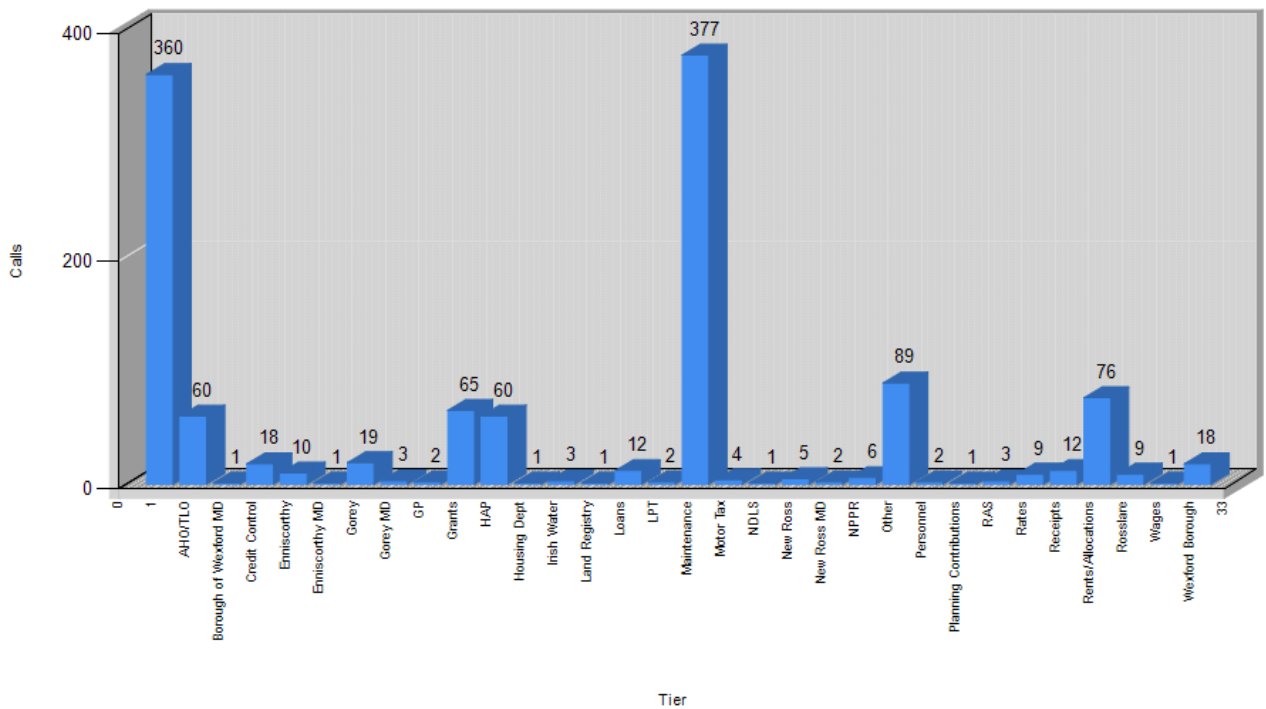
3. Emails, Phone Calls and Cases Logged in CSU through the CRM for December 2022

Area				December
Agricultural Burns				10
Environment Complaints				140
Change of Circumstances				16
General Queries				0
Housing Validation				54

Quick Calls					1,235
Ask A Question					13
Road Faults Log					26

No. of Representations by Section	2022		
	Dec		
Section	Cases	Total	%
Customer Service	1	1	1%
Enniscorthy Municipal District	4	4	4%
Environment	5	5	5%
Housing	57	57	60%
Planning	1	1	1%
Roads	2	2	2%
Roads - Enniscorthy MD	13	13	14%
Roads - Gorey - Kilmuckridge MD	7	7	7%
Roads - New Ross MD	1	1	1%
Roads - Wexford MD	3	3	3%
Water - Non Irish Water Queries	1	1	1%
Total	95	95	100%

Quick Calls by Tier (Phone Team)





Comhairle Contae Loch Garman Wexford County Council

Monthly Social Media Report Month: December 2022

Monthly Stats - Key terms explained



POST REACH

The number of people who stop and look at your post

STORIES REACH

The number of people who stop and look at your stories

ENGAGEMENT

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

PAGE FOLLOWERS

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

PAGE LIKES

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

NEW PAGE LIKES

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

PAGE VISITS

The number of people who have clicked into your social profile

MENTIONS

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

IMPRESSIONS

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

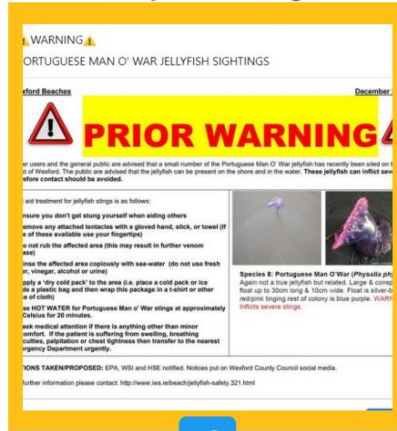
Top Performing Posts

Jellyfish Warning



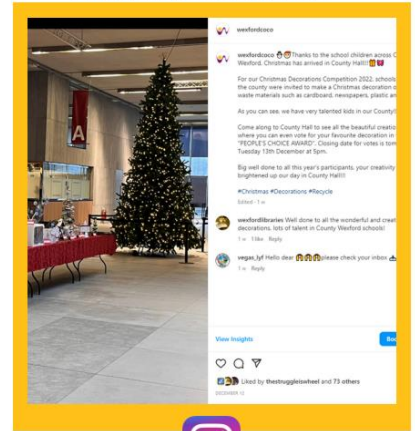
7,647 views

Jellyfish Warning



10.1K impressions

Christmas Decorations



883 views

Top Performing Posts

Decorations Award Ceremony



6,566 views

Private Rooney, RIP.



1,823 impressions

Recruitment



695 views

Monthly Stats

PAGE REACH

24,632

PAGE FOLLOWS

5,435

NEW PAGE LIKES

43

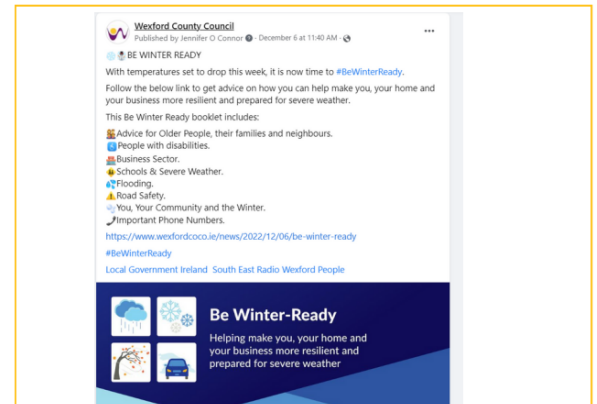
PAGE VISITS

4,848

NUM. OF POSTS

38

TOPICS HIGHLIGHTED THIS MONTH:



Learnings from this month:

Very quiet month for engagement.



Monthly Stats

PAGE REACH

1,271

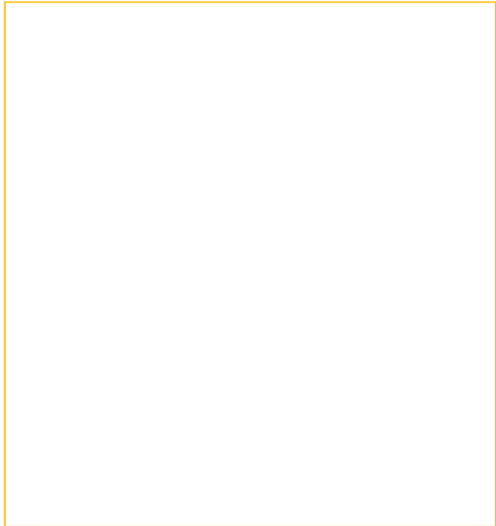
PAGE FOLLOWS

1,925

NEW FOLLOWERS

46

TOPICS HIGHLIGHTED THIS MONTH:



PAGE VISITS

150

NUM. OF POSTS

15

Learnings from this month:

Need more visual content for Instagram.



Monthly Stats

IMPRESSIONS

77.5K

MENTIONS

239

NUM. OF TWEETS

104

TOPICS HIGHLIGHTED THIS MONTH:

- Water Issues (See next slide)
- Queries on Gritting

PAGE FOLLOWS

13,646

PAGE VISITS

7,688

NEW FOLLOWERS

23

Learnings from this month:

Top Follower followed by 18.4K people



Trevor Mallard
@WainuiomataTrev FOLLOWS YOU
Former Member of @NZParliament. Ambassador Designate to Ireland. Views his own.



Monthly Engagements

TYPES OF QUERIES RECEIVED:

- ALOT OF QUERIES IN RE: GRITTING ROADS - SHARED THE COUNCIL'S WINTER PLAN ON SOCIAL MEDIA.
- SUGGESTIONS RE: ACTIVE TRAVEL
- WATER ISSUES - GOREY

@wexfordcoco please grit the roads by Davidstown primary school. Its like an ice rink. School bus sliding down the road someone will be hurt or worse. Completely lethal from school towards the leap cross and the bridge over the N30.



Day 2 of no running water in parts of Gorey. Really not making the freezing conditions any less challenging. This is the fourth time now in the last four weeks that it's been gone @wexfordcoco @IrishWater Not good enough



This is the third time in two weeks we have lost our water supply - 7 days out of 14 without water. And this incident will now have an effect on the pump house in Ardmore which means we probably won't have any water tomorrow.



Dear @wexfordcoco
We may have missed it but it would be great if you could tweet out information (like @Carlow_Co_Co has here) to explain benefits of active travel works being carried out. Sometimes misinformation gets into the ether and we've had to counter balance it.

Cyclists look on the bright side with Wexford's new road layouts

WEXFORD PEOPLE | Tuesday, September 9, 2020

By [Name]

WEXFORD PEOPLE | Tuesday, September 9, 2020

WEXFORD PEOPLE | Tuesday, September 9, 2020

CarlowCountyCouncil @Carlow_Co_Co - Dec 9

Works are almost completed on the Low Cost Junction Tightening Scheme at St. Oliver's Park, Myshall. The main civil works have been completed, resulting in a much improved safer experience for pedestrians. Read at buff.ly/3P8XTJ...

SPECIAL PROJECTS

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

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

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

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

A tender to procure a consulting team to prepare an EIAR and prepare a planning submission to ABP will issue in January 2023.

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

1.2 Min Ryan Park

Sole Sports and Leisure were appointed to construct the skate park and MUGA on a design and build basis. The MUGA and skatepark are now both complete and open to the public. Killaree Lighting Services have been instructed to install public lighting to both projects, which is due to commence in late January 2023.



1.3 Enniscorthy Technology Park Phase 1

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

1.4 Gorey District Park

The external area of the park opened to the public on 12th August 2021 and the new playground and adult gym equipment is fully installed and in use. The final landscape planting is now virtually complete. Work on the building is now substantially complete. A tender competition to supply & install a Changing Places facility, at the park, is currently live with tenders due to be received in early January.

1.5 South East Greenway

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

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

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

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

1.6 Trinity Wharf

Due to significant inflation in the market since tenders were received, the original tender process for the access road undertaken in 2021 was abandoned. A revised tender invitation issued in December 2021 and tenders have been received and have been assessed. It is expected to award the works contract in January 2023.

Procurement of consultants for design services for the site development and public infrastructure works is underway. The pre-qualification process is completed, and the successful design firms have been issued with tender documents. Tender submissions were received on 31/03/2022. Appointment is expected in Q1 2023.

1.7 New Ross Fire Station

The contract to construct the New Ross Fire Station was awarded to Kevin Thorpe Ltd. Works commenced on site in May 2021 and the works are now substantially complete. The station was officially opened by Minister Darragh O'Brien on November 25th 2022.



1.8 Wexford Arts Centre Extension

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



1.9 High Hill, New Ross

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



1.11 Monck Street Enhancement Scheme

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



1.12 New Ross Public Realm – Oil Tanks Site

This project consists of removal of the oil tank structures on the Quay and the development of public realm works on the site.

The Advance Works Contract (Removal of Tanks) was completed in July 2021. A Part 8 development consent application for the development of the public realm space on the site was confirmed at the Council's meeting in March 2022. A tender competition for the works contract is currently underway with tenders received in late November and tender assessment ongoing. Works are expected to commence on site in Q1 2023.

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

1.13 Templeshannon Regeneration, Enniscorthy:

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

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

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

WCC is engaged with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in regard to a further funding application to support regeneration in Enniscorthy. The Planning Department in collaboration with Special Projects has developed a strategic plan for Enniscorthy Town centre, which was adopted at the Enniscorthy MD meeting on December 19th.

1.14 John Street Building Regeneration Project

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

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

1.15 Esmonde Street

Following two unsuccessful RRDF applications, WCC has committed €2m of own funds to the Esmonde Street project. WCC has also sought funding via the 2023 Active Travel scheme, with an outcome expected by end of January.

Following the December Gorey/Kilmuckridge MD meeting, it is planned to return to the February meeting with a draft scheme for further discussion with the members. It is then planned to proceed to tender and contract award, with works to commence before end of 2023.

1.16 Gorey Market House

A Part VIII planning application for re-development of the Market House into a multi-purpose performance/exhibition/retail space was approved in May 2018. A call for Expressions of Interest / Tender Proposals from private sector investors was advertised in January 2020 and 2 submissions were received by the closing date of 13/02/2020. This tender process was concluded in May 2021 without the award of a contract.

As agreed at the December meeting of Gorey/Kilmuckridge municipal district, WCC will now proceed to advertise for proposals from prospective developers in Q1 2023.

1.17 Mechanics Institute

Consulting Engineers were appointed in March 2020 to undertake design, tendering and construction management services for essential maintenance works at the Mechanic's Institute. A works contract has been awarded to Roger Doyle Contractors with construction scheduled to take 6 months. Work will commence in January 2023.

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

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

INHP

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

Hook Lighthouse

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

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

New Ross Tourism Project

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

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

The tender for the interpretive fitout on the Dunbrody Experience has been advertised and will close in January 2023 with an appointment expected in Q1 2023.

1.19 Enniscorthy Town Centre & Tourism Project:

The Planning Department in collaboration with Special Projects has developed a strategic plan for Enniscorthy Town centre, which was adopted at the Enniscorthy MD meeting on December 19th.

A further call for URDF applications is expected in early 2023. Funding will be sought for one or more of the town centre projects identified as priorities in the Town Centre First plan.

Tenders for preliminary design and planning consent services have been received for Phase 1 of the Castle project and an appointment is imminent. This consultant will also assist in the development of conceptual designs for all aspects of the URDF submission.

1.20 Courtown Coastal Protection & Beach Nourishment Scheme

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

Priority Geotechnical Ltd. have been appointed to carry out the Marine and Land based surveys and Boreholes at Courtown. They commenced work on the 23rd May and the site investigation work was completed.

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

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

1.21 Rosslare Europort to Waterford City Greenway

The Economic SPC of Wexford County Council and the Transportation SPC of Waterford City & County Council have written to the Minister for Transport seeking inclusion of the out-of-service Rosslare to Waterford railway line in the up-coming national rail review. The application for planning consent for the Rosslare to Waterford greenway project has been paused, pending a decision from the DOT on the future of the rail corridor.

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

1.22 Wexford Town to Rosslare Greenway

Fehily Timoney and Company has been appointed to provide consultancy services for a feasibility study, route selection, preliminary design and environmental assessments for the development of this project. Constraints have been identified and ecological surveys are on-going.

The scoping and route options process is ongoing and a presentation was given to the joint Wexford and Rosslare MDCs in late March on this project. Public consultation on the preferred route corridor options commenced on 11th May 2022 with the window for receipt of submissions closing on June 10th.

Fehily Timoney and Company has been appointed to review the route options for the proposed Rosslare Harbour to Rosslare Stand greenway in light of the

significant coastal protection works which has been carried out over the past two years by Irish rail. An ecological survey is on-going.

1.23 Oyster Lane Car Park, Wexford

A Part 8 submission has been made for the demolition of existing unoccupied buildings on the old Tesco site and for construction of a temporary surface level car park. The Part 8 was confirmed at the March 28th full Council meeting. O'Connor Sutton Cronin consulting engineers has been appointed to provide design and construction related consultancy services for the project. Tender assessment for the demolition works tender competition for the project is currently underway. Works are expected to commence onsite in early 2023. The main car park works contract will follow thereafter.

1.24 Crescent Quay – Dredging

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

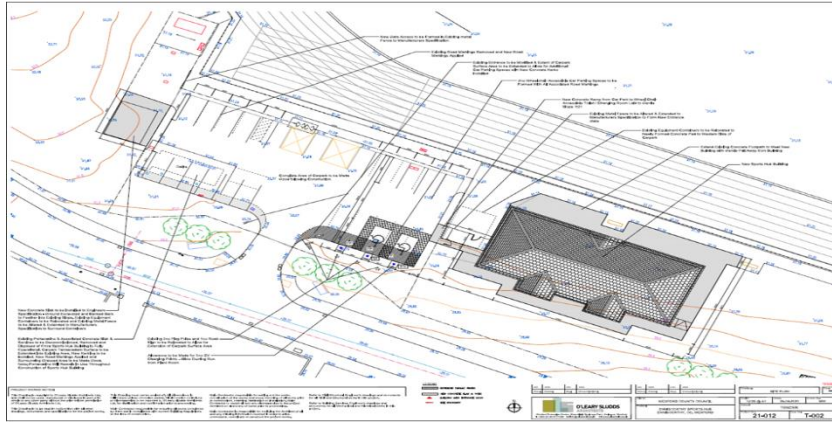
1.25 Old Dublin Road Business Park, Enniscorthy

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

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

1.26 Enniscorthy Sports Hub

O'Leary Sludds Architects were appointed in Feb 2021 for the detailed design, procurement of works contractor and construction management of the Sport Hub building. A competition to award a works contract for the sports hub building was advertised in May 2022. The lowest price tender opened for the project exceeded the available budget and, therefore, it has been decided not to progress with awarding a works contract. A redesign process for the project is now underway, and it is expected to retender the project in early 2023.



1.27 Curracloe Water Sports Activity Facility

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

The tender for design services was advertised in Jan 2022, the tender evaluation process is now complete. Neville Conroy Architects has been appointed, with surveying works and detailed design to commence in January 2023. It is planned to tender and commence works in 2023.

1.28 Ferndale Gymnasium

Sports Capital funding of €300,000 has been secured for this project, along with a donation of €500,000 from William Neville and Sons for this project. Part 8 is in place. A design team is in place with works to be tendered out in Q2 2023.

1.29 Adoration Convent

Part 8 is in place for this project to convert the old convent into accommodation for students of Georgia Southern University Wexford campus. A design team appointment is imminent. It is intended to tender in Q2 with works to commence before end of 2023.

2. Flood Defence Schemes

2.1 Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme:

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

The Minister for State, Mr Patrick O'Donovan and senior officials from the OPW & WCC attended a special meeting of Enniscorthy MDC on 4th May 2022 to update the members in relation to the Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme. The minister supported a WCC proposal to progress the new River Slaney Bridge and the Flood Defence Scheme as two separate standalone projects.

Flood Defence Scheme - The hydrology and ecology baseline data is currently being updated. The scheme alternatives are to be assessed, consulted on publicly and a preferred option identified. MMD have issued a programme of work – the preferred option report & environmental assessment reports are

scheduled to be completed in Q3 2023. At that stage planning options will be reviewed, and the preferred planning route selected.

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

2.2 Wexford Flood Relief Scheme:

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

Finance:

Annual Financial Statement 2022

Work will be commencing on the preparation of the 2022 Accounts shortly once all transactions for 2022 have been updated to the financial management system. The preparation of the annual accounts will take a number of months to complete but it is expected that the Council will meet the submission deadline of the end of March.

Capital Programme 2023 – 2025

Work will now commence on the preparation of the next 3 Year Capital Programme, 2023 - 2025 and it is planned to have this ready for consideration of members in the first quarter of 2023.

Audit Committee/Audit

Following their meeting with the Local Government Auditor in December the Audit Committee will prepare their annual reports in accordance with Section 60 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, for consideration by the council. It is expected that the report will be included on the agenda for the February Meeting of the council.

Cash Flow/Overdraft

Ministerial Sanction is in place for borrowing by way of overdraft in the amount of €20m to 31st December 2023.

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