



Chief Executive's Report

JUNE 2017

To An Cathaoirleach & Each Member of Wexford County Council:

1.Economic Development and Planning & Special Projects:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Regional Skills Forum Meeting: The Minister for Education and Skills, Mr Richard Bruton was in Wexford on Friday 26th May 2017 and spent time at the Regional Skills Forum Meeting hosted in Waters Technology, IDA Business Park Wexford.

The Regional Skills Forum is an initiative of the Action Plan for Jobs and was established in 2015. Chaired by Patricia Mulcahy (Carlow IT) the Forum membership consists of a range of industry representatives along with representative bodies and organisations. The Forum appointed Mr Edmond Connolly as Manager to the Forum in 2016. See www.regionalskills.ie

The core objectives of the SERSF are:

- More robust labour market information and analysis of employer needs to inform programme development
- A single contact point to help employers connect with the range of services and supports available across the education and training system
- A structure for employers to become more involved in promoting employment roles and opportunities for career progression in their sectors

The key sectors being targeted by SERSF include:

- Pharma/Medtech
- Construction
- ICT / Global Business Services
- Engineering / Manufacturing
- Agri / Food
- Hospitality

One of the items covered at the most recent meeting included the approval to IT Carlow and Waterford IT for funding for a range of Springboard courses, aimed at both those unemployed and also in employment:

- 33 part-time courses, comprising 690 places across level 6 to level 9 particularly in the pharma /med tech area for those that are unemployed
 - Funding was also secured for courses to be made available to existing employees for 7 courses in the pharma/med tech sector and 5 courses in the ICT sector
- See www.springboardcourses.ie for further details.

The Hatch Lab, Gorey

- EETC

Wexford County Council signed a 5-year Service Level Agreement with Enniscorthy Enterprise & Technology centre on May 10th 2017. This will see the EETC take over day to day management of The Hatch Lab, Gorey, working with recently signed partners, Bank of Ireland. Among a range of activities, the EETC will coordinate the intake/exit and management process for start-up clients, one-on-one business mentoring and facilities management.

BOI Enterprise Week: The Bank of Ireland hosted **The Future of Workspace @ The Amber Springs and The Hatch Lab, Gorey** on 18th May 2017 as part of its National Enterprise Week programme of events.

Over 120 people attended the event; the first public event associated with The Hatch Lab space. Speakers on the night included David Tighe, Bank of Ireland, Tony Larkin, Wexford County Council, Jim Hughes, Innovate along with a fireside chat hosted by BoI Community Manager Pat Carroll featuring Richard Murphy MyMood&Me, Holos Skincare founder Niamh Hogan and Justin Purcell, Enterprise Ireland.

IDA Appointment Brendan McDonald as Regional Manager: IDA Ireland announced the appointment of Brendan McDonald as Regional Manager, South East Region with effect from May 8th 2017. Brendan is taking up the position previously occupied by Anne-Marie Tierney Le Roux, following her recent appointment as Head of Regional Development for IDA Ireland.

Brendan, a native of Killeen, Co Laois will be responsible for driving new foreign direct investment to the South East Region (Waterford, Carlow, Kilkenny, Wexford and Tipperary) under IDA Ireland's Strategy Winning 2015-2019, working with existing clients with operations in the Region as well as engaging with key stakeholders across the enterprise ecosystem in the Region.

Martin Shanahan CEO IDA Ireland said: "IDA Ireland remains committed to winning investment into the South East Region. I wish Brendan McDonald every success on his appointment to this important role." Brendan McDonald, South-East Regional Manager with IDA Ireland said: "I am looking forward to fighting hard for jobs for the South-East region. Winning jobs is a team effort and I, alongside my team in IDA, will continue to sell the many benefits of the South-East region to investors."

Brendan qualified as a solicitor in 2007 and practiced extensively in a private law firm in the areas of Commercial Property, Litigation, Employment Law and Court Prosecution and Defence. Brendan subsequently joined IDA Ireland in 2012 as a Commercial Property Solicitor and worked in the Commercial Property Division of IDA Ireland. Immediately prior to being appointed South East Regional Manager, Brendan worked as the IDA West Regional Executive from 2015 promoting foreign direct investment and IDA's regional development agenda in the West Region which consists of counties Galway, Roscommon and Mayo.

Wexford County Council wishes Anne-Marie Tierney Le-Roux every success in her new role and very much look forward to working with Brendan and the South East Regional Team into the future.

Wexford Business Awards 2017: The Wexford Business Awards took place on Friday 26th May 2017 in Clayton Whites Hotel, Wexford. A Wexford Chamber event, the awards event saw a crowd of 500 attendees, with Hector **Ó hEochagáin** acting as MC.

Wexford County Council is one of the main supporters of the awards and sponsored two categories – Start-Up Business of the Year Award and the Overall Business of the Year Award.

The full list of winners is below:

1.Wexford Chamber's President's Award sponsored by Monart Destination Spa

•Winner: Des Pettitt

2.Energising Wexford Award sponsored by Gas Networks Ireland

•Winner: The Irish National Heritage Park

3.Wexford Tourism Award – Success and Innovation sponsored by Rosslare Europort

•Winner: Wexford Spiegeltent Festival

4.Wexford Operational Excellence Award sponsored by Datapac

•Winner: Mary Barry's Seafood Bar & Restaurant

5.Wexford eCommerce Award sponsored by AIB Bank Wexford

•Winner: Dulann Limited

6.Wexford Retail Excellence Award sponsored by Zurich Insurance

•Winner: Greenacres

7.Wexford Investing in the Professions Award sponsored by Wright Insurance Brokers

•Winner: Baker Tilly Hughes Blake

8.Wexford Large Company of the Year sponsored by PwC

•Winner: Nolan Transport

9.Wexford SME of the Year Award sponsored by Waters Technologies Ireland Ltd

•Winner: The OmniPro Group

10.Wexford Export & Logistics Award sponsored by Rosslare Europort

•Winner: Nolan Transport

11.Wexford Social Media/Digital Marketing Award sponsored by Wexford People

•Winner: Tweeting Goddess

12.Wexford Customer Service Excellence Award sponsored by Danone Nutricia

•Winner: FERGUS FLANAGAN ARCHITECTS LTD

13.Wexford Corporate Social Responsibility Award sponsored by BNY Mellon

•Winner: Datapac

14.Wexford R & D Innovation Award sponsored by Carlow IT Wexford Campus

•Winner: CRI WEXFORD

15.Wexford Start-up Business of the Year Award sponsored by Local Enterprise Office Wexford

•Winner: Summit Scaffolding Limited

16.Wexford Community Award sponsored by Wexford Local Development

•Winner: Wexford Community Services Council

17.Wexford Overall Business of the Year Award sponsored by Wexford County Council

•Winner: Nolan Transport

Wexford County Council congratulates all the winning businesses.

TOURISM TEAM

- Visit Wexford will host a stand at Bloom in the Park on the June Bank Holiday. The stand will be hosted by the Tourism Industry including both Accommodation providers and Tourism attractions across the county representing Wexford at the Show.
- A Norman Way Cycle will take place on June 11th in Lady's Island at 10am as part of National Bike week events and the Norman Way Trail as part of Wexford Trails. The route is primarily a cycle and leisure route and was launched recently by the minister for Tourism and Sport, Patrick O Donovan. The family cycle and will comprise of approximately 11km.
- Visit Wexford have compiled a new 64 page tourism booklet brochure for 2017/2018 which is now available. All providers were consulted on being part of the brochure and as well as given free listings, could purchase advertising space in the brochure.
- The Slice of Wexford event took place on May 25th 2017 in the Oyster Lane Restaurant, the Talbot Hotel, by the Visit Wexford Town Tourism Group in association with the Wexford Food and Wine Festival and The Wexford Food Family. The event was held to recognise the high quality food produce in the county and explore ways to promote the areas of food tourism in the county.
- Visit Wexford continues to roll out their Marketing Campaign for 2017 which includes Luas Columns, Bus Sides, Press Fam Trips, social media competitions, radio promotions and lots more.



LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE (LEO) TEAM

LEO Wexford - Mid Year Performance to June

Number of grant applications received	12
Value of grant aid allocated	€185,989
Microfinance applications received	7
Value of Microfinance loans approved	€62,000
Mentor applications received	46
Mentor visits approved	01
Training Programmes held	38
Participants on training programmes	478
Trading Online Vouchers allocated	24
Value of vouchers allocated	€40,925
Trade Show grants allocated	36
Value of trade show grants allocated	€24,347
Export marketing grants allocated	9
Value of export marketing grants allocated	€17,186

Upcoming Events:

Wexford-Savannah Heritage Tourism App Launch: Cathaoirleach Cllr Paddy Kavanagh invites you to join him to celebrate the launch of the Wexford-Savannah Heritage Tourism App. Learn how the Wexford Savannah Axis facilitated by Georgia Southern University are forging links between Savannah and Wexford visitors in 2017, built on the unique heritage shared by the two places. The event will include Poster Presentations from Students and Performance Pieces

Tuesday 13th June 2017, National Opera House Wexford, 6-8pm

RSVP by Wednesday June 7th 2017 to Edwina.colfer@wexfordcoco.ie

BNY Mellon Event: Invested In Our Community

To celebrate 15 years in Wexford BNY Mellon is hosting an evening of panel discussions and networking on **Thursday June 15, 2017**

The panel discussions, “The Future of Business Growth in Wexford” will examine the impact of business on the local community. Panelists will include Carol Andrews, Global Head of Client Service and Prime Custody, BNY Mellon and co-founder of 30% Club, Ireland and Tom Enright, Chief Executive of Wexford County Council will debate the role of the community in creating better business and focus on the benefits of collaboration.

The second panel “Community Matters” will discuss the role of Corporate Social Responsibility. Panellists Gordon D’Arcy, former International Irish Rugby player and Madeleine Quirke, CEO Wexford Chamber of Commerce will explore the effectiveness of corporate community partnerships and sport in the community.

Registration: 5:30 p.m.

Panels: 6:00 – 7:45 p.m.

Networking: 7:45 – 8:45 p.m.

Location: Wexford County Council, Carricklawn, Wexford

SPACES ARE LIMITED - Please RSVP to rosemary.furlong@bnymellon.com or jennie.walsh@bnymellon.com by June 13th 2017

BIZFEST 21st June National Opera House

“Look further, think bigger, be ambitious” is the theme for Bizfest 2017 at the National Opera House, Wexford on the 21st June

Now in its 4th year, Bizfest 2017 will be hosted by the south-east region Local Enterprise Office’s and Enterprise Ireland. The event is sponsored by Bank of Ireland. Bizfest aims to provide an opportunity for owners, managers and their key staff across Ireland to make connections while immersing themselves in the experience, entrepreneurial spirit and stories of entrepreneurs.

Bizfest has 3 elements; The first element is a networking lunch, the second is an exhibition area which introduces attendees to services which may benefit their business. The third element is a panel event featuring unique business people who have experience on the local, national and international stage. This year’s panel includes Julie Sinnamon CEO of Enterprise Ireland, Patsy Carney CEO of Eirgen, Jim Hughes CEO of Innovate and Paul Jacob Owner of Smart Storage. BIZFEST will be hosted by Newstalk presenter and Wexford native, Ivan Yates.

Rejuvenate Ireland, Wednesday 21st June 2017, Ferrycarrig Hotel, Wexford: Celebrating the 3rd UN International Day of Yoga, rejuvenate Ireland is about inspiring businesses and people to be well and do well. The objective of Rejuvenate Ireland is to call for a serious commitment to put wellbeing at the heart of every business and organisation in Ireland.

Join the Rejuvenate Ireland team on the longest day of the year, **Wednesday June 21st** for a Yoga for All morning in the Ferrycarrig Hotel 9.30-12pm and later at a flagship Rejuvenate Ireland Wellbeing Conference from 7-11pm in the Ferrycarrig Hotel. See www.rejuvenateireland.com for further details or phone Roisin at Wexford Chamber on 053 9122226

Rejuvenate Ireland is supported by Spiritual Earth, Wexford Chamber, Wexford County Council along with Danone and Skillsnet.

Wexford Walking Trails Launch, Thursday 29th June 2017 Dunbrody New Ross: Wexford Walking Trails will be launched on **Thursday the 29th June** in the Dunbrody, New Ross at 6.30pm followed by a walk on the Lacken Trail.

The Trail will be launched by Anne Doyle, former RTE newscaster and Wexford Ambassador. The Tourism section successfully applied for Recreation funding from the Dept of Arts, Heritage, Rural and Regional Affairs for funding for the development of the trails in 2016 and received a grant of €102,000 for the development of the 17 trails including signage, way-marked posts, benches and related equipment. See www.wexfordwalkingtrails.ie for further details.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Min Ryan Park, Wexford: The Park obtained Part 8 Planning in April, 2016 based on a preliminary design by Wexford County Council. Consultants Brady Shipman Martin have been appointment to prepare a design for the Park and have completed the conceptual and preliminary designs. The preparation of detailed design and contract documents is underway and will continue through May/June.

Wexford Quay: Architects Scott Tallon Walker are continuing work on the preparation of an Economic and Spatial Implementation Plan. Public Consultation was held in March 2017 in Talbot Hotel. The draft plan will be presented to the Council in June.

Templeshannon Regeneration, Enniscorthy: The Strategy Plan is being finalised with a view to presentation to members in July/August.

Enniscorthy Business Park, Killagoley: Consultants have been appointed and have commenced work on the Masterplan for the site.

New Ross Business Park: A document is in preparation for obtaining expressions of interest from developers willing to partner Wexford County Council. The process will begin in May.

Gorey Market House: A project has been initiated to determine and procure the best use for the Market House. To guide the procurement process to be adopted, the Council will informally seek views/submissions in relation to the economic and cultural opportunities that the redevelopment of the building presents for Gorey. Following this process, Wexford County Council proposes to seek, as part of a procurement process, expressions of interest for future investment, in partnership with the Council, for redevelopment of the building in line with the Council's objectives and in consideration of its status as a protected structure.

Wexford Arts Centre: Funding of €1m has been approved by the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional and Rural Affairs and the Gaeltacht for an extension and renovation of the Wexford Arts Centre. Wexford County Council have committed to providing matching

funding. A design team will be appointed to review existing plans and to develop a detailed design. Funding must be expended by March 2020.

PLANNING



NORMAN WAY LAUNCH: *Wexford unveils a fascinating story of Norman descent, with the official launch of The Norman Way heritage and cycling trail: On Wednesday 24th May, 120 people attended Lady's Island as Minister of State for Tourism and Transport, Patrick O'Donovan TD, together with Wexford County Council officially launched The Norman Way heritage and cycling trail at an event at Lady's Island, County Wexford.*

A true treasure of Ireland's Ancient East, The Norman Way trail uncovers Medieval Ireland via a series of authentic, protected medieval sites, which help to tell the compelling story of The Normans and their way of life over 800 years ago.

The Minister revealed The Norman Way as a heritage and cycling trail that combines historic Norman sites, unspoilt countryside, and a unique visitor experience through which visitors can travel off the beaten track to retrace the steps of their ancestors and celebrate the arrival of The Normans to Ireland, in the landscape where it all began.



"This forward thinking experience brings visitors back to Ireland's past on a road less travelled, to discover religious structures, architectural ruins and other hidden gems from

Lady's Island, Tomhaggard, Kilmore Quay, and eventually onto Bannow, Tintern, Fethard and Hookhead to New Ross and beyond," he commented.

Spanning 22 kilometres of undisturbed landscape, one of the most enjoyable ways to experience The Norman Way is on two wheels, sailing down quiet country lanes, through beautiful seaside villages and past stunning beaches. And with Rosslare Europort only a short distance away, the trail is easily accessible to overseas visitors. In fact, Europe's Eurovelo 1, the first of 15 long distance cycles, known as the Atlantic Coast cycling route follows the same Norman Way course in County Wexford, so outdoor enthusiasts are bound to meet other like-minded travellers during their escapade.

Currently, the trail comprises ten fascinating sites steeped in Irish history, running from Lady's Island to Kilmore Quay along with a wonderful new visitor experience at St Mary's Church in New Ross with a further 21 identified sites marked for the second phase of development.

Attendees were presented with Norman Way business packs and bags containing Norman



Way merchandise.



The event was followed by afternoon tea of the lawn with a performance from the Drinagh Mummers and local musicians.

Planning Applications:

<i>No. of valid applications received up to 26/05/2017</i>	575
<i>No. of open pre planning applications up to 26/05/2017</i>	99

Significant Applications Granted:

Planning Register Number	Applicant	Location	Development	Decision
20161456	Adamar Properties Ltd	Ballygegan & Clonatin Lower, Gorey Rural	Permission for mixed residential development of 133 units	Granted, subject to conditions
20170048	Uisce Eireann, Irish Water	Ballyminaunhill, Ardamine	Construction of a new water treatment plant	Granted, subject to conditions

Making of Gorey Town and Environs Local Area Plan 2017-2023: The Members of Gorey Municipal District considered the Chief Executive Report on the Submissions and Observations received on the proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Local Area Plan. The Chief Executive Report, together with the recommendations of the Members of Gorey Municipal District, was considered at the Full Council meeting which was held on the 10th April 2017. The Council decided to make the Local Area Plan. The plan came into effect on the 8th of May 2017.

Review of the Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019 and Preparation of New Plan for the County:



Issues Papers were prepared and displayed to facilitate consultation and engagement on the review of the Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019 and preparation of new plan for the County. The papers were made available for public inspection and were sent to prescribed authorities, social and

economic stakeholders, infrastructure providers and the members of the Public Participation Network. Public meetings were also held in the 4 main towns. The consultation period ended on 11th April 2017 and 40 submissions were received during that time.

The Chief Executive will prepare a report on the submissions and observations received and it will also state the Chief Executive's recommendations on the policies to be included in the Draft Plan. The report will be circulated to the members when completed.

Proposed Variation No.2 to the Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 (as extended): The proposed Variation relates to a c 16ha/40 acre parcel of land located to the south of plan area, directly north of St. Senan's Hospital. The purpose of the proposed Variation is to change the land use zoning to allow for a business park which will facilitate office, light industry, manufacturing and incubator type units. This project is a key element of the Councils economic strategy.

The Variation was considered by Enniscorthy Municipal District on 24th April 2017 and by the full Council on 8th May 2014. An SEA Screening Report was prepared following consultation with the Environmental Authorities. An Appropriate Assessment Screening Report was also prepared. Following consideration of the Variation and the environmental assessments reports the Members proposed to proceed to consultations under 13(2) of the Act.

The consultation period commenced on 10th May 2017 and submissions may be made to the Council until 4pm on 7th June 2017.

Building Control

Commencement Notices: *A total of 198 valid commencement notices have been submitted from to 26th May 2017 on the BCMS.*

Works in Progress: Ongoing works are in progress in the following estate:-

Coill Aoibhinn: Remedial works are still progressing to bring the estate up to standard for Taking in Charge.

Old Forest : Contractor to be appointed for works.
Bunclody

Taking in Charge: We have a number of estates that currently at different stages of the Taking in Charge process.

The following estates have progressed through the public consultation stage. They were advertised in the local paper and the last day for the receipt of written objections/representations was 22nd May 2017. These estates will be referred to the relevant Municipal District meeting for the formal Taking in Charge in June.

1. Larkfield, Rosslare
2. The Paddocks, Mayfield
3. Sweet Briar, Rosslare
4. Shelbourne Place, Campile
5. Cul n Graine, Kilrane

6. Oakpark, Ballymurn
7. The Grove, Monagear

Two estates are currently at the public consultation stage:-

1. Skuna Bay, Donaghmore, Ballygarrett, Gorey
2. Greenacres, Donaghmore, Ballygarrett, Gorey

The last day for the inspection of the above maps was on Tuesday 23 May 2017. The latest date for the receipt of written objections/representations is on the 10th July 2017. Forty five estates are progressing to the public consultation stage and will be advertised on 30th May 2017. These estates are:-

1. Arduain, Greenville Lane, Enniscorthy
2. Ash Grove, The Paddocks, Enniscorthy
3. Beech Avenue, The Paddocks
4. Bishop's Well, Nunnery Road, Enniscorthy
5. Carraig Dubh, Inch Blackwater
6. Cluain Bui, The Moyne
7. Cluain Oir, The Moyne
8. Greenville Court, Enniscorthy
9. Hempfield Close, Enniscorthy
10. Meadowlands Estate, Ross Road, Enniscorthy
11. Sean Browne Crescent, Enniscorthy
12. The Brambles, Galbally, Ballyhogue
13. The Paddocks, Enniscorthy
14. An tArdan Killenagh, Ballycanew
15. Ballycanew Grove, Ballycanew
16. Barmona Heights, Monamolin
17. Cluain Oir, Monamolin
18. Dunehaven, Ardamine
19. Sean Doire / Cois Doire, Gorey
20. Woodlands, Gorey
21. Skuna Hill, Donaghmore, Ballygarrett, Gorey
22. Ard Alainn, New Ross
23. Bellevue Heights, New Ross
24. Grangelawn, Ramsgrange
25. Lacken Valley, Irishtown, New Ross
26. The Bowling Green, New Ross
27. The Orchard, New Ross
28. Woodlands Grove, New Ross
29. Ballinamorrhagh, Curracloe
30. Bishopspark, Wexford
31. Coolballow Cul de Sac
32. Hillview, Whiterock, Wexford
33. Hunters Court, Coolcotts
34. Port Na bPucail, Kilmore Quay
35. Rectory Mews, Duncormick
36. Slaney Woods, Park, Wexford
37. Spawell Close, Wexford
38. Summerhill Heights, Wexford

- 39. The Laurels and Laurel Court, Clonard
- 40. Tincone, Ferrybank
- 41. Westgate, Wexford
- 42. Westlands, Wexford
- 43. Hillview, Whiterock, Wexford
- 44. Walsheslough, Rosslare, Wexford
- 45. Strandfield Manor, Spawell Road, Wexford

Derelict Sites and Dangerous Structures

Notices issued under Derelict Sites Act 1990

35

Notices under Section 8 (2)

Intention to Place Site on Derelict Site Register

14

Notices under Section 8 (7)

Place Site on Derelict Site Register

3

Notices Issued under Sanitary Services Act 1964

6

(Dangerous Structures/Places)

Notices under Section 3 (1)

Notices requiring works to be carried out (By Owner)

4

Notices under Section 3 (2)

Notices requiring works to be carried out (By Local Authority)

1

Number of cases closed in under Derelict Sites Act 1990

16

Number of cases closed under Sanitary Services Act 1964

6

Great Southern Hotel: The Senior Executive Engineer for Wexford District inspected the Great Southern Hotel site and reported it as a dangerous structure (under the Sanitary Services Act 1964). The Council served a Notice under Section 3 (1) on the owners of the site specifying remedial works required to make the property safe within a period of two weeks of receipt of the Notice. The owner agreed to carry out the works following a meeting with the Senior Executive Engineer. The owners have since made the site secure (see pictures below):-

Main entrance secure with fencing and gate

Rear entrance closed with security fencing

Planning Enforcement: The number of planning enforcement cases up to 30th May 2017 are as follows:-

➤ Cases Opened	54
➤ Live Cases	468
➤ Cases Closed	72

District Court Cases: There were 8 planning enforcement cases listed in the District Courts in the month of May 2017

Enniscorthy:	0 listed
Gorey:	2 listed
New Ross:	0 listed
Wexford:	6 listed

Following negotiations and discussions, these cases were later adjourned:

- **Gorey:** Enforcement Notice No. 0066/2013 – Unauthorised shed. Case adjourned for presentation of further evidence.
Enforcement Notice No. 0139/2012 – Unauthorised Container and Portacabin. Case adjourned for further evidence.



- **Wexford:** Enforcement Notice No. 0058/2013 – Unauthorised entrance and mobile. Case adjourned to arrange payment of legal fees following grant of permission to build a house and entrance closed.



- Enforcement Notice No. 0027/2014 – Unauthorised Mobile Homes. Case adjourned to arrange payment of legal fees following grant of permission to build a house.
- Enforcement Notice No. 001/2015 – Unauthorised business, spraying and unauthorised development. Case adjourned pending decision on planning application for retention of garage.
- Enforcement Notice No. 0080/2010 - Unauthorised granny flat and garage, Case struck out as payment of legal costs ongoing.
- Enforcement Notice No. – 0166/2010 – Non Compliance, contributions. Case struck out as payment is ongoing.
- Enforcement Notice No. 0392/2009 – (Continuous Offence) Unauthorised living accommodation, associated site works, corrugated fence, and wind turbine. Case adjourned for three weeks for the applicant to comply with a [previous](#) Court Order and the judge has indicated that he will serve 5 months in prison if [the](#) Order is not complied with.

Access Section: Launch of the Access for All Gardens, Parks and Community Spaces Competition

Due to the resounding success of the 2015 Competition, it was decided to launch another Access for All Gardens, Parks and Community Spaces Competition in 2017. The video production commissioned to take account of the works carried out as part of the 2015 awards was in some part a deciding factor in re-launching the competition for 2017.

In the production, a snap shot of the before and after and an overview of works within each of the four award winning entries is presented.

This video offers a heartwarming insight into the positive impact the award has had for the local communities, the community groups and individuals involved and the overriding benefits that have been achieved. The launch of the video production along with the competition took place on the 9th of May at an Environment Department Event for Tidy Towns held in the event space at Wexford County Council Offices, Carricklawn .

The aim of this competition is to encourage community groups, development associations and Tidy Town organisations to design their garden, park, community space in a way that improves access and inclusion for all.

The video production is available to view on our website.

Beach Wheelchair Initiative 2017: The Access Section is currently in the process of mainstreaming the beach wheelchair initiative within core service provision of the Environment Department. While it is acknowledged the ongoing support of the Access

2017 Competition

Open to
Communities, Residents Associations & Tidy Towns
Groups



Closing Date for Entries- 12noon Thursday 29th June 2017

For further information contact: **The Access Section**
Wexford County Council, Carricklawn, Wexford

Telephone: 053 9196387 or 053 9196418

Video footage of previous competition award winners is
available to view at: www.wexfordcoco.ie/access

Section will continue, the phenomenal success of the initiative has meant that mainstreaming it into core service provision is essential for its continued success and to ensure efficiencies in overall service provision. It is expected the launch of the beach wheelchair for Kilmore Quay will take place in mid June 2017.



This will mark the third year of Wexford County Council extending access for people with a disability to County Wexford's beaches – now seven in total.

This initiative not only directly supports access to Wexford's beaches but has the potential to support any accessible tourism remit developed around our coastline and walking trails (the beach wheelchair can convert to an all terrain wheelchair).

Disability Access Certificates (DAC): The current number of Disability Access Certificate applications, validated for the period up to and including the 26/04/2017, totals 19 an increase of 8 from the previous report.

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

HOUSING

Housing Information Session: On 19th May, 2017 a Housing Information Session was held in the Council Chamber, this was aimed at informing Housing staff, Reception staff and Frontline Municipal District staff on all on Housing matters. It gave staff an opportunity to discuss any issues that have arisen in their areas and to inform them of any new upcoming initiatives.

Turnkey and Development land: As part of a range of housing solutions, Wexford County Council is currently seeking expressions of interest from Private Developers / Building Contractors and land owners. The interested parties should be capable of delivering social housing units with the County and have serviced lands, housing proposals with planning permission or turnkey developments available. Current housing demand is prioritised within the urban areas of the towns of Wexford and Gorey followed by Enniscorthy and New Ross but all proposals will be considered. An advert has been placed in the local newspapers calling for expressions of interest and the closing date is 8th June, 2017 details as follows:-

- Turnkey developments - acquisitions are on a turnkey basis, potential payment is a fixed price lump sum, on completion of a development with an agreed timeframe
- Serviced land zoned for residential development with full planning permission

- Mixed development schemes where social residential components could be incorporated into them

Emergency Bed & Breakfast Accommodation: Wexford County Council has recently placed an advert in the local papers seeking tenders for the provision of Emergency Bed & Breakfast Accommodation for homeless clients in County Wexford. Interested parties should have a minimum of three years experience providing Bed & Breakfast Accommodation on either a commercial or charitable basis. The closing date is 31st May, 2017.

Housing Needs Assessment: Wexford County Council is currently carrying out a review of social housing applications (Housing List) in accordance with Section 21 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2009. This review will establish housing need in Wexford as at the 28th June, 2017. WCC has written to existing approved applicants requesting that they update their details for Social Housing Supports with the Housing Department.

To remain eligible for Social Housing Support, **existing approved applicants must return the information requested by 9th June, 2017.** Failure to return the information will result in their Social Housing application being closed.

Housing Supply: A number of housing capital projects have been approved and are progressing to construction stage:-

Construction Projects – All projects listed have funding approved: Following recent approval from the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government (DHPCLG) the following projects have started construction:-

- **Francis Street, Wexford** – Snagging complete and keys to be handed over in the next few days.
- **5 Mountain View in Rathnure** – Construction proceeding on programme for August handover
- **41 St Martin's Park, Ballycullane** – On programme for September handover
- **2 Special Needs Houses in Oilgate** - Stage 4 approved, contracts signed, commenced on site in April, 2017 footings and rising walls proceeding well.
- **9 houses in Baile Eoghain, Gorey** – awaiting Stage 4 from DHPCLG. Expected next week and contracts can be signed then
- **8 houses in Cherry Orchard, Enniscorthy** - Stage 4 was lodged with DHPCLG on 26th May.
- **2 houses in Cois Mara** – Awaiting Stage 4 approval to sign contracts. Tenders were under approved amount so no delay expected.

The following projects are also approved by DHPCLG and are at various stages of development, the design teams are working on:

- 36 Housing Units at Whiterock Hill, Wexford – stage 2 submission in May 2017
- 10 Houses at Slippery Green, Wexford – stage 2 submission in May 2017
- 10 Houses in Creagh, Gorey –I Stage 3 in June 2017
- 10 Houses in Danescastle – preparing stage 2 submission for May / June 2017
- 7 Houses in Coolcots – preparing Stage 2 for submission in June 2017
- 1 house at Ross Road Enniscorthy – Stage 3 to be submitted in May 2017

Repair and Leasing Scheme (RLS): The Housing section is following up on its initial promotion of the repair and leasing scheme with a second round of targeted advertising to appear in newspaper adverts next week. Each Municipal District has been asked to put forward any possible properties that they believe may be suitable and eligible for the scheme. Wexford County Council has received a number of expressions of interest which are currently being assessed on a case by case basis

Buy and Renew Scheme: Wexford County Council has begun the process of identifying suitable properties for the scheme in County Wexford, however full details and criteria is still awaited from the department.

Maderia Oaks: The keys to new energy efficient homes were officially handed over to tenants in Maderia Oaks, Enniscorthy. The new certified passive houses are part of Wexford County Councils plan to deliver affordable nearly Zero Energy Buildings (nZEB) and Ireland's first certified passive houses.

Refugee Resettlement Programme: The relocation of the refugee's has commenced. Six families arrived in Wexford on 29th May, 2017 and have moved into their homes. The designated refugee support worker will work closely with them providing support and assistance to help them integrate into the Irish community.

ENVIRONMENT

Bathing Water Quality: EPA Report "Bathing Water Quality in Ireland – A report for the year 2016" was published on Thursday 18th May 2017. It is very positive news for County Wexford, where 17 bathing waters are monitored for water quality. Sixteen of these have achieved "Excellent" status in 2016, while Duncannon has improved from "Poor" status in 2015 to "Sufficient" status in 2016.

Excellent Status: Ballinesker, Ballymoney, Courtown, Curracloe, Morriscastle, Rosslare Strand, Ballyhealy, Booley Bay, Cahore, Carne, Cullenstown, Culleton's Gap, Grange, Kilmore Quay (small beach), Old Bawn, St. Helen's Bay.



Sufficient Status: Duncannon

Blue Flag and Green Coast Awards: An Taisce presented the Blue Flag and Green Coast Awards in Crosshaven, Cork on Monday 22nd May 2017. Wexford County Council was presented with sixteen awards in total, six blue flag

beaches, two blue flag marinas and eight green coast beaches.

Blue Flag Beaches: Ballymoney, Ballinesker, Courtown, Curracloe, Morriscastle, Rosslare Strand. (All flags retained from 2016).

Blue Flag Marinas: Kilmore Quay and New Ross (All flags retained from 2016).

Green Coast Beaches: Ballyhealy, Booley Bay, Cahore, Culleton's Gap, Cullenstown, Grange, Old Bawn, St Helen's Bay (Increase of 1 from 2016, Cullenstown achieved the award for the first time since 2011).

RECYCLING, WASTE and LITTER ACTIVITIES

Civic Amenity sites: Due to the significant increase in operating costs at Civic Amenity Sites the introduction of the flat charge of €2 for entry to our 4 sites will commence on the 13th June 2017.

COMMUNITY REPORT

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) Membership: The Wexford LCDC was established in May 2014 in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Reform Act 2014. In accordance with the Regulations and the Guidelines made pursuant to the Act, it is now appropriate to review the membership of the LCDC. This review will commence with a view to having the process completed during the third quarter of 2017 with a recommendation to Council. The PPN have been informed of the review.

Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2017: The 2017 Town and Village Renewal Scheme has been launched with €20 million in funding available for developments in rural towns and villages all over Ireland. The scheme is specifically targeted at rural towns and villages with populations of less than 10,000 with funding allocations ranging from €20,000 to a maximum of €100,000 per applicant. Funding of up to €200,000 will also be considered for a limited number of projects which can deliver exceptionally strong economic benefit to a town and its outlying areas.

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme 2017: The Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme is part of the Government's Action Plan for Rural Development and will provide funding for the development of new outdoor recreational infrastructure or the necessary maintenance, enhancement or promotion of existing outdoor recreational infrastructure in Ireland.

SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

Learn To Swim Scheme: A number of meetings have taken place in planning with Swim Ireland to run out in the five public pools a comprehensive training and education programme to establish a learn to swim programme which is standardised across facilities. We are now in the process of signing the agreement and training should be started in June.

Move Your Met – Our new Workplace Challenge here in Wexford County Council: We are joining over 200 companies starting the 'Move Your Met' Workplace Challenge which began on Monday 22nd of May. This is a six week challenge to improve our overall Met score using small changes in everyday work life. To successfully compete in this challenge which has award winning categories we would need the support of the whole organisation.

Community Sports Hub Riverchapel: 70 young people along with their parents and supporters turned out in the Riverchapel Community Complex on Monday 22nd May to kick start the 4 week FAI 5-a-side league. There are 10 teams who will have 2-3 games every Monday evening for the next 4 weeks. Congratulations to all involved in what was a beautiful sunny evening with a great atmosphere in Riverchapel. This is in Partnership with the Community Gardai and the FAI development Officer.

LIBRARIES, ARTS & ARCHIVES

CULTURE: The **Creative Ireland County Plan for Wexford** for 2017 was presented to Taoiseach Enda Kenny on Thursday 25th May at Dublin Castle. The Wexford Culture Team is in place and a four year Culture plan will be completed by October 2017. Applications for the 2017 Creative Ireland small grant scheme closed on Friday 26th May with the grants to be announced in mid June.

LIBRARIES AND ARCHIVES: Wexford Food Festival. Wexford Library hosted two events as part of the Wexford Food & Wine Festival. On Thursday, 25 May, Lorraine Whelan from Mindful Health, gave a healthy cookery demonstration, to an audience of 70 people on Eating to improve your stress management. This was followed on Saturday with a special event for carers and parents on preparing food for babies with Aileen Cox Blundell.

PolskaEire Festival. From 22nd May to the end of June Gorey library celebrates the PolskaEire Festival with the local based Polish community. His Excellency the Polish Ambassador launched the National Festival in Gorey Civic Offices & Library on Friday 26th May. As part of this festival, Gorey library is hosting an exhibition by the renowned Polish artist Andrzej Kalina.

Business Enterprise and Employment: Wexford Library hosted 'Starting your own business' a four part series of practical talks to support business start-ups provided by Alan Maher, of Maher Consulting during the month of May. The series of talks on Basic regulatory issues for small businesses;

How to conduct market research; Writing a business plan and The importance of customer care in business and how to achieve it, was offered as part of the **Work Matters** at the Library programme to support business and employment in Wexford. Wexford library hosted a stand in Bank of Ireland Wexford as part of their Enterprise week, promoting library services to business on the 12th May.

On 11th May, Gorey Chamber of Commerce and Innovative held **Educate to Innovate**, in Gorey library. Transition year students participated, demonstrating their mini companies and taking part in a "Dragon's Den" event before five local business people. The winner progressed to the national event.

ARTS: Music Generation- National Music Education Programme for young people. Wexford & Waterford County Council Arts Departments with the WWETB submitted a joint application to the National Music Education Programme for young people on 31st May. This followed a consultation process with schools, one to one meetings, public consultation and online submissions. 19 local authorities are submitting, 5 will be selected.

The **Artist in the Community Scheme** panel met in May 2017. €47,000 was awarded to 16 community groups across the 4 Municipal Districts for 2017. 11 artists, 6 new to the artist's panel, in visual art, drama, film, literature, and music will work with 16 community groups in County Wexford.

Film location database for Wexford, Film location manager Gordon Wyherley, location manager for Brooklyn etc., completed the photo data base of Wexford for national and international film location companies. It consists of 4,000 images in 12 categories, Castles and Large Period Houses, Villages, Beaches, Landscapes, Institutions, Architecture, Streetscapes etc. The IT Department is currently building the site to host this database that will link to council, and tourism and other related websites. To be launched in September.

FIRE SERVICE

April was an extremely busy month for training. The following courses are some of those provided for personnel:-

- Breathing Apparatus Refreshers Course;
- Compartment Fire Behaviour Refreshers Course;
- Local Coordinator Course;
- Line Management Course.

Wexford Fire Authority agreed to run the National Directorate for Fire & Emergency Management (NDFEM) Fire Safety Courses for the foreseeable future. It was also agreed that a NDFEM breathing apparatus instructor's (BAI) course will also be run by the authority in June.

Fire Operations: April was a busy month with 82 incidents including 12 chimney fires, 12 false alarms with good intent, 21 small fires and 23 gorse/grass fires.

Incident type	Year to date	April
Fires	110	52
Special Services	50	6
Chimney Fires	87	12
False Alarms	67	12

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

Applications Received	Year to date	April
Fire Safety Certificates	28	6
Planning Referrals	216	57
FSA Inspections	68	14

During April 4 notification(s) for liquor licence(s) and 3 gaming licence(s) were received by the Fire Authority.

VETERINARY SECTION

Food Safety/FSAI Contract: The required inspections meat plants and abattoirs were carried out.

Avian Influenza: wild bird cases in Ireland: The Department has lifted the requirement to confine poultry and other birds under the Avian Influenza Precautionary Confinement of Birds Regulations 2016.

CIVIL DEFENCE

Civil Defence Officers Association AGM: The civil defence officer attended the annual Civil Defence Officers Association AGM in Leitrim from 3rd – 5th May 2017. The AGM included a training element and discussions on Code of Conduct, Active Volunteers and each counties civil defence development plans.

RSA – Audit: The RSA completed an audit of Wexford Civil Defence Vehciles maintenance, driver training and vehciles records on Tuesday 2nd May. The RSA were impressed with the systems we have in place.

Civic Duties: There was a total of 9 Civic Duties for May 2017, a total of 27 duties so far for 2017.

Training Courses:

- First Aid Responder Course for Wexford County Council, 12 members of staff attended.
- Community CFR Course for Ballymurn Residents Association
- CDO Induction Training, Day 3 Technical, Phoenix Centre Dublin.

Lourdes Military Pilgrimage: 5 members of Wexford Civil Defence attended the military pilgrame in Lourdes. Ms Breda Conroy was presented with her Lourdes Medal for her third trip.

Long Service Medal & 1916 Commeration Medals Function Croke Park:

- Mr. Celestine Swords, Gorey was presented with a 30 year service medal.
- Ms Sinead Furlong, Wexford and Mr. Conor Jordan, New Ross were presented with their 1916 Commemeration medal for service during 2016.

The following people were unable to attend and will have the medals presented at a later date.

- Mr John Wafer, Ballygarrett 40 year service medal
- Ms. Gabrielle Willis, Wexford 40 Year Service medal
- Mr. Shem Byrne, Wexford 30 Year Service Medal

3. Transportation, Water Services:

COUNTY WEXFORD'S NATIONAL ROADS SCHEMES:

N25 New Ross By-Pass:

1) Progress Update May 2017

Transport Infrastructure Ireland awarded the PPP Contract to a BAM Iridium consortium (the PPP Co.) on 26th January 2016. The PPP Co's contractor for the works is a BAM Civil Ltd and Dragados Ireland Ltd joint venture. The works are progressing well and the road remains on programme to open in 2019.

Earthworks operations are now progressing throughout the site with activities having expanded and intensified over the eastern N30 section in the past month. Blasting operations are ongoing in cut 3 at Stokestown and cut 4 at Camlin, and blasting will commence at 2 further cuts at Ballymacar (cut 7) and Lacken (N30 cut 2) in the coming weeks, though the volumes of rock to be extracted are much smaller. Third party consultations and public notices have been completed for these sites.

Barrow Bridge foundation works for both abutments and 8 piers are substantially complete, and works will progress on pier stems to the west of the river over the coming weeks. Works are substantially complete for Stokestown Road Underbridge, R733 Campile Road Underbridge & Ballymacar Road Underbridge, while the abutments and central pier are complete for Camlin Road Overbridge. Preparatory works have commenced on Creakan Road Underbridge, Arnestown Road Overbridge and Ryleen Road Underbridge. Four farm underpasses are substantially complete and works are progressing on a further four. Preparatory works are also progressing for a significant retaining wall adjacent to the R733 road.

The temporary diversion of the N25 at Ballymacar around the site of online works became operational on Sunday 28th May, and a statutory 60km/h speed limit is also in operation. The diversion is via a newly constructed road and through a new underbridge. Extensive traffic management is being implemented to guide road users safely through and around the diversion route. The L-8056 Ballymacar Road also re-opened in conjunction with the opening of the N25 diversion. VMS information signs have been erected on approaches and information bulletins have been circulated to AA Roadwatch, Southeast Radio & the Council's MapAlert service. Information is also available on the project website. The diversion will remain in place for 12 months.

It is anticipated that the statutory 60km/h speed limit and traffic management on the N25 at Glenmore will become operational in approx. 3 weeks to facilitate online survey and construction works. A temporary closure of the L-7501 has been advertised from July 1st to September 1st to facilitate these works and alternative routes will be signposted.

A temporary diversion and associated traffic management has also been implemented on the L8046-1 Creakan Upper road to temporarily divert traffic around the site of a new bridge being constructed over the road. This diversion will continue for at least 2 months. Further temporary diversions will be implemented in the coming weeks at the roads listed below. The required statutory notices have been published for all these operations.

- L4026-2 Stokestown road
- L4021 Arnestown road
- L4008-2 Ryleen road

A further 12 month road closure order has been executed for the 'Pink Rock' Road (LS7512) in Co. Kilkenny to facilitate access to the bridge site and also for the construction of pier 3 of the Barrow Bridge. A temporary diversion route and traffic management plan is in place for this closure. This closure terminates on 6th June 2018.

All site access points on the N25, N30 and R733 are now operational, and wheel wash facilities and a road cleaning regime are operational at all exits. Road conditions are being monitored in these areas, and also on local roads where site traffic crosses roads at manned stop/go control points. As an enhancement to routine road cleaning operations, lane closures and traffic management are being implemented where necessary to allow more intensive washing of road surfaces. Road repairs are also being implemented where necessary.

The site is being monitored for the generation of noise, vibration and dust and any results outside of acceptable criteria are being reported and actioned.

The fifth quarterly project newsletter will be published at the end of June and circulated widely at local conveniences (service stations, shops etc.) as well as at local public buildings and in County Hall. The dedicated project website www.n25newross.ie provides progress updates as well as information on traffic management and road works, and also provides contact details for the project. A 24 hour telephone hotline is also operational to deal with any queries or complaints from the public. The number is 1800 815672, and this number has been posted on both the newsletter and website. The Project Liaison Office will continue to liaise and consult with all landowners and other interested parties for the duration of the project.



1. Underpass U01 in foreground with Pink Rock in background.

2.



Barrow Bridge - Piers 1, 2 & 3 at Pink Rock



3. Barrow Bridge – Pier 3 base following concere pour.



4. Barrow Bridge - Pier 4 during steel fixing.



5. Barrow Bridge - Pier 4 steel fixing for base and plinth



6. Barrow Bridge -
Piers 4, 5, 6,
7 & 8



7. Cut 3 -
Rock blasting
and
earthworks
site.



8.N25



temporary diversion route via Ballymacar realignment & Underbridge - view eastbound
 9.N25 temporary diversion route via Ballymacar realignment & Underbridge - view westbound

10.
B04



R733 Underbridge
11. N30 Corcoran's Cross Roundabout - existing N30 to right of photo

2. M11 Gorey to Enniscorthy PPP Scheme update Program

The contractor has 72% of their certified design issued for construction and is on target in their overall program for construction. The Permit to Use date remains the same of July 2019.

Construction to Date

The following table indicates site work progression to date.

	Progress Report in December	Progress Reported in Jan 2017	Progress Reported in February	Progress Reported in March	Progress Reported in April	Progress Reported in May
Site Clearance	96%	98%	98%	98%	98%	98%
Fencing	85%	85%	86%	86%	86%	86%
Drainage & Service Ducts	7%	7%	9%	10%	11%	12%
Earthworks	23%	25%	26%	28%	30%	35%
Structures – main Bridges			3%	6%	15%	20%
Structures – Culverts	29%	38%	45%	49%	55%	65%
Structures – Access Structures	12%	17%	25%	33%	42%	50%
Accommodation Works	6%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%

Earthworks:-

Bulk Cut to Fill was approx. 986,821m³ to the end of the year for 2016 (6 month Work Period).

Bulk Cut to fill as reported this year to the end of April 2017 is 600,000m³

Major Structures

Ballygullen Railway Crossing, M11-S3

RE wall on the north and south abutment complete. Reinforcement for bankseat fixed and lower section of bankseat concreted on north & south abutments complete. Concrete plinth to underside of beams poured during this reporting period on north and south abutments. Estimated completion date for the structure is Q4, 2017

Structure for River Slaney and Railway Crossing, N80-S1

Piling on East and west abutments complete and piling on east and west piers substantially complete. Pile testing ongoing. Estimated completion date for the structure is Q1, 2018

River Urrin – Bessmount, N30-S6

Piling complete on both abutments and central pier. Pile testing complete and breaking down of piles complete. Reinforcement cages fixed for 4 No. columns. Estimated completion date for the structure is Q4, 2017

Blasting

Rock Blasting is continuing on a weekly basis at Frankfurt interchange, Knockrathkyle (Darby's Gap) area and between Bessmount and Templescoby. Affected landowners have been notified by the contractor 14 days in advance of blasting commencing and 3 days by either text or a phone call in advance of the blast taking place. Results to date for Vibration and Noise Monitoring have returned below the maximum permitted levels for the contract.

Ongoing repairs and monitoring of local roads

L1027 Ballygullen Road

There are ongoing works on the L1027 Ballygullen Road repairing the edge of road surface and rehabilitating surface localised areas of failure.

L2020 Crane Road

This road is being inspected on a weekly basis by the contractor and Wexford County Council. Any defects arising from this inspection are being addressed by the contractor.

L2021 Ballynabarny Road

This road is being inspected on a weekly basis by the contractor and Wexford County Council. Any defects arising from this inspection are being addressed by the contractor.

L2011 Tinnacross Road

This road is being inspected on a weekly basis by the contractor and Wexford County Council. Any defects arising from this inspection are being addressed by the contractor.

Applications submitted to WCC from the PPP:

Road Closure Applications

WCC are progressing the following road closure applications

Road	Application Status	Closure Date	Duration	Status
L2020, Ballynabarny	Granted	Nov 2016	3 months	Reopened 23/1/17
L5093, Rocksprings Road	Granted	Jan 2017	6 months	1 month extension requested
L2021, Crane Road	Submitted	March 2017	6 months	November 2017
L2012, Killalligan Road	Granted	Feb 2017	6 months	August 2017
L6122, Templescoby	Granted	April 2017	6 months	Closure Postponed
L6125, Monart East	Granted	Feb 2017	6 months	August 2017
L6055, Drumgold Road	Withdrawn	Postponed	6 months	
L2040, Knockrathkyle	Granted	Feb 2017	6 months	August 2017
L6052, Scurlocksbusbush	Submitted	March 2017	6 months	September 2017
L1027, Ballygullen Road	Withdrawn	April 2017	2 months	
L2015, Coolnahorna	Submitted	August 2017	6 months	To be advertised
L6048, Glenteige Road	Submitted	August 2017	7 months	To be advertised
L2030, Bessmount Road	Submitted	August 2017	3 months	To be advertised

Public Relations

Drone Survey

The Drone Survey is complete and can be found under the headings Wexford County Council/ National Roads Projects/ M11 Gorey to Enniscorthy/ Project Information. The next drone survey will commence in Q4 of 2017.

Newsletter

The Newsletter for Q2 of 2017 has been uploaded on the website and circulated to local shops and community forms in Enniscorthy, Ferns and Camolin. The N11 website WWW.m11gtoe.ie is updated on a monthly basis providing information on blasting, road closures and traffic management.

A 24 emergency telephone is also operational to deal with any queries or complaints from the public. The number is 1800 815701, and this number has been posted on both the newsletter and website. The Project Liaison Office will continue to liaise and consult with all landowners and other interested parties for the duration of the project.

N25 Ross By-Pass Residual Network

N30 from Irishtown to R700 junction.

This contract is being completed in 2 phases.

Phase 1 from Irishtown to R700 junction was substantially completed on 26th. August 2016.

Phase 2 from Irishtown to New Ross swimming pool will be completed in 2017 following works to the sewer network by Irish Water.

N11 Gorey to Enniscorthy Residual Network

R702 Enniscorthy Kiltealy Road

This scheme will be carried out as 2 contracts.

Contract 1 from Milehouse to Monart East was completed in April.

Contract 2 will be from Milehouse Crossroads to Duffry Gate.

A contractor has been appointed.

The construction period is expected to be 8 to 10 weeks. This contract should commence in early June.

N11 Scarawalsh to Ferns South

This contract involves the overlay of 5km of the N11 between Scarawalsh Bridge and Ferns.

This scheme commenced on 24th. April and is due to be completed by the 9th. June

2017 National Pavement Schemes

Transport Infrastructure Ireland has provided funding for the following scheme.

N11 Ferns Village

This scheme has been postponed due to conflicts with M11 works and the serious risk of archaeology delays to PPP project and will be carried out once the Enniscorthy bypass scheme has been completed.

Additional Pavement Improvement Works

The following 7 pavement schemes have been identified by TII as priority schemes.

- Ballynabola to Cushenstown Pavement Scheme (1.0km)
- Carrigadaggan to Ballynabola Pavement Scheme (2.3km)
- Kileen to Newtown Pavement Scheme (2.6km)
- Kyle Upper Pavement Scheme (1.1km)
- Tinnahask to Ballynaslaney Pavement Scheme (1.2km)
- Ballygillane Little Pavement Scheme (0.7km)
- Ballygoman to Knockeen Pavement Scheme (3.2km)

Design works have commenced on these schemes. TII will release funding as these schemes are tendered during the year.

Ballynabola to Cushinstown Pavement Scheme

Tenders were invited in March. This scheme should commence in mid June.

Ballygillane Little Pavement Scheme

This scheme was tendered in April. A contractor has been appointed and the scheme will commence in mid June. The construction period will be 3 to 4 weeks.

N25 Ballygoman to Knockeen Pavement Scheme

Survey works were completed in April. This scheme will be tendered in mid June. Construction works should commence in July/August.

Tinnahask to Ballynaslaney Pavement Scheme

Survey works were completed in May. The scheme will be tendered in July.

Kyle Upper Pavement Scheme

Survey works are due to be completed in July. This scheme will be tendered in August/September.

Kileen to Newtown Pavement Scheme

Survey works are due to be completed in August. There will be additional site investigation works required on the southern end of the scheme. It is hoped to have this scheme tendered in late 2017 or early 2018.

Winter Maintenance

The 2016/2017 winter maintenance programme commenced on Monday 17th. October. There were 43 no. call outs during the season which ended on the 30th. April.

REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROADS

Strengthening

Strengthening programme commenced on Monday March 6 in the Gorey District.
Woks completed within the last month: Newtown Commons, Tottenhamgreen to Hilburn, Rourkes Cross to Cullenstown, Boley to Owenduff and Ballyvellig to Grange Cross (all in New Ross District); Screen to Curracloe, and Coolballow (Wexford District)
Road realignment works ongoing at Ballykelly (New Ross District).

Surface Dressing

Preparation work for surface dressing ongoing in all districts..

Improvement Works

Emergency repairs to St. Mochauns Bridge, Baldwinstown - grouting, guniting and pinning to masonry arch bridge. (Wexford District).
Repairs to four span masonry arch bridge at Glenglas.

General Maintenance

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

WATER SERVICES

A. Irish Water – Asset Management

Irish Water Capital Schemes

IW Asset Management: Enniscorthy Sewerage Scheme – Stage 3 (included in IW – CIP14-16 i.e. Irish Water Capital Investment Programme (CIP) 2014 to 2016)

The WWTP is to be extended to cater for a PE of 26,000, an increase of 10,000 PE from the existing 16,000 PE. The tenders for the DBO contract were received in October, 2016 and contract signed on the 10th April, 2017. The design has commenced in advance of work starting on site.

IW Asset Management: Enniscorthy and Sow Regional Water S.S. (included in IW - CIP14-16)

IW Asset Strategy has approved the following elements of work on this Scheme:

- New intake and pumping station at Clonhasten.
- New rising main from Clonhasten to Vinegar Hill WTP.
- Hydraulic model of the Enniscorthy and Sow Schemes.

Terms of Reference are being agreed with Irish Water in order to appoint Consultants to progress the above work.

Preparation of budget application for Concept Design is underway; this includes for Strategic Report and review of options for the entire scheme.

IW Asset Management: Fethard-on-Sea Sewerage Scheme (included in IW - CIP14-16)

Site Investigations have been completed along the proposed outfall route. Foreshore application was lodged. The land acquisition process has also commenced for the selected WWTP site and Pumping Station site. Revised terms of reference and new appointment for the Consulting Engineer, is complete. The design of the scheme is in progress and preparation of tender documents. A detailed design report was prepared and workshop held to review report.

IW Asset Management: Gorey Sewerage Scheme – Stage 2 (included in IW - CIP14-16)

The DBO contract with AECOM/SIAC Construction to upgrade the wastewater treatment plant was completed in 2016.

The 75% OPW-funded flood relief works minor scheme for Gorey Town is underway.

IW Asset Management: Gorey Regional Water Supply – South Wellfield (included in IW - CIP14-16)

The Gorey RWSS will be upgraded and a new 8 Ml/day WTP and 7,500m³ reservoir provided at Ballyminaun. A DWSP and catchment yield review is to be done. A CCTV Survey and hydrogeological assessment of the existing boreholes is complete. Consultants have been engaged by IW to review the design and revise the contract documents. Planning applications have been submitted by IW to WCC to upgrade the borehole sites and build a new water treatment plant at Ballyminaun. Negotiations for wayleaves ongoing with landowners.

IW Asset Management: Wexford Sewerage Scheme (included in IW - CIP14-16)

Distillery Rd. Pumping Station Upgrade is now operational.

IW Asset Management: Bundled Sewerage Schemes

Village Bundle 1 (included in IW - CIP14-16)

Arthurstown, Ballycanew, Ballyhack, Campile, Clonroche, Duncannon, Wellingtonbridge have been included in the CIP and approved to continue through the planning stage. A decision from Irish Water is awaited on how this scheme will progress from here on. A Business case has been submitted to Irish Water for upgrades of the plants in Ferns, Camolin, Ballycanew. The Village Bundle Scheme is under review by Irish Water.

Irish Water engaged Consultants to carry out an 'Untreated Agglomeration Study' for Duncannon, Kilmore Quay, Ballyhack and Arthurstown. An 'Options Report' and a final design report is complete.

Irish Water have appointed a Consultant for the next stage which is design and tender to provide a treatment plant for the 4 villages.

IW Asset Management: Murrintown Sewerage Scheme

The rising main from Piercetown to Murrintown is complete. Irish Water have approved the provision of a new pump station at Murrintown under minor programmes.

IW Asset Management: Water Conservation – Pipeline Rehabilitation Phase 2

IW has approved construction budget of €2m for 9km of watermain rehab at Gorey, Screen and Bridgetown. Site investigation works took place at the end of 2016.

Construction of these watermain by WCC Direct Labour Crew commenced in March 2017. The section at Screen commenced first.

IW Asset Management: Wexford Town Watermain Rehab and Gas Network

Site Investigation works are 80% complete and estimated for completion by the end of June. The hydraulic model for Wexford town is to be updated to allow for the design works to progress; work on this has commenced. There will be a number of road closures around Wexford town in relation to this project.

New Ross Sewerage Scheme – Irishtown to Nunnery Lane Sewers

Tenders have been received and are currently being assessed. Wayleave agreements have been drafted and are currently with the convent's solicitor for signing. Tender award is expected in June 2017.

B. IRISH WATER MINOR SCHEMES & SPECIAL SCHEMES

IW Asset Management: Murrintown P.S.(Wastewater to Wexford WWTW)

Tender closing date 8th June 2017.

Flow Monitoring & Sampling Programme

Snagging ongoing.

Sewer network pump station maintenance contract

1st round of servicing is complete.

WWTP pre-planned Maintenance Contract

Tenders assessed and panel formed.

IW Asset Management: Newtown WTW (pumps, blowers etc.)

A meeting with Contractor Avonmore is to take place 30th May, 2017.

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

M&E fitout ongoing. New raw water pumps have been fitted at Kilmallock with new high lift pumps due to be installed next week. New electrical panel has been fitted in Taylorstown.

IW Asset Management: pH Emergency (Automated dosing control)

Coolgreaney wayleave agreement to be resolved.

IW Asset Management: Vinegar Hill Air Blowers replacement

Contractor appointed RCC Engineering Ltd. Project is at detailed design stage with works to commence on site early June.

IW Asset Management: Coagulation automation at Creagh, Vinegar Hill and Newtown WTW

Tenders are being evaluated by IW at present.

IW Asset Management: Disinfection and pH Control Programme

To date Murphy 's (formerly Aecom) have carried out fourteen (14) Phase 1 site assessments in County Wexford. Remaining twenty five (25) Phase 1 site assessments to be carried out over the coming weeks. WCC reviewing all site reports as they come through. Progress meeting No. 4 was held on 11th April 2017 in Kilkenny.

Second Value Engineering Workshop to be held in Kilkenny on the 3rd and 4th of May 2017. Murphy 's to provide feedback on comments/queries made at the first Value Engineering Workshop and to update site assessment reports accordingly.
Work Order issued for the installation of UVT monitors at Glynn BH and Ballygarron 2 BH for a period of 2 months; to gather data of the raw water UVT levels.

Suppressed Capital Maintenance scheme

A capital maintenance budget of €930,000 has been allocated by Irish Water for Wexford for 2017. €1,099,800 worth of capital maintenance replacement work has been applied for to date for approval. €588,329 has been approved to proceed to procurement by Irish Water.

C. RURAL WATER PROGRAMME

Allocations – Measure 2

Submissions for funding forwarded to the Department 17th May 2017.

Framework Agreement for Private Group Water Schemes and Private Group Water & Sewerage Schemes.

Tender assessment ongoing.

WATER CONSERVATION

Leak Repairs:

A total of 43 no. leaks repaired in March 2017.

Water Supply Scheme Area	No. of Repairs March 2017
Wexford Area	25
Gorey Area	6
Enniscorthy Area	9
New Ross Area	3
Total	43

Leak Detection Team Additional Works:

- Installing flow meters and pressure loggers in all district areas ongoing.
- Calibrating Flow meter loggers.
- Planned Leak Detection in Enniscorthy and New Ross DMA's. Find and Fix funding approved by IW for both areas.
- Reviewing flow data.
- Leak Reports.
- Taking in Charge Leak and Hydrant Surveys (Ongoing).

Watermains Rehabilitation Summary:

- 1.8km of watermain rehabilitation in Cahore recently completed.
- DLC currently working on water main rehabilitation between Screen to Ballylucas (approx length 4.3km).
- Watermains replacement at Ballymitt, Wellingtonbridge and Newtown Ferns. Tender awarded to Shareridge. Phase 2 (Construction) has commenced in Wellingtonbridge.
- Watermain Rehabilitation on 860m of distribution mains from Smithscross to Ballinamona, Gorey. Works to commence here shortly.
- ANB for the replacement of Back Yard Services (BYS) recently been approved for New Ross and Enniscorthy. The New Ross works will most likely progress as part of a gas network project that is currently being scoped out. The Enniscorthy works will most likely be delivered as part of the Water Network Management Framework that is due to be rolled out later next year.
- ANB for replacing BYS at two blocks of four houses in St. Aidan's Villas, Enniscorthy has recently been approved. The first block is now complete. Works to commence on second block of houses shortly.
- ANB for replacing BYS including installation of a new main to facilitate supplies to four houses in JKL estate (New Ross). Due to commence end of April.
- ANB for replacing BYS including installation of a new main to facilitate supplies to two houses in St. Johns Villas (Enniscorthy). Works approved. Works to commence on site in May. Awaiting project code from IW.
- ANB for Watermain Upgrade Milehouse road approved.
- Further sections of mains are still being reviewed by Irish Water and we await their decision.

District Meter Area & Observation Meter Rehabilitation Summary

- DMA Meter Replacement –Ongoing. Water Conservation team preparing another Meter Replacement ANB for IW approval.
- Installation of a new flow meter at Michael Street, New Ross, to be installed as part of DMA Meter Replacement. Due to commence in early May.

Pressure Management:

- Day & night controllers installed at two sites Ard Carman and Pollshone South. Further trials to be carried out on larger DMA's.
- Review of Countywide pressure management ongoing.
- ANB for the proposed installation of new PRV's at Maudlins New Ross has been approved by Irish Water. Materials delivered to site. Will be installed as part of the DMA Metering Programme.
- PRV to be installed in Lady's Island. Water Conservation review location.

- Review of all booster stations (217) countywide is ongoing. 60% complete. View to bring booster station details back onto SCADA. Will start with larger areas 100 houses or greater and work down through list.
- Pegasus PRV controller was installed in Gorey North DMA (EMR). EMR and HWM visited Wexford and provided training to staff. Preparing trends for logger control.
- PRV was installed at Donaghmore.
- PRV installed at Springmount, Gorey. Deploying loggers to assess downstream pressures.

4. Finance:

Audit of Annual Financial Statement (AFS) 2016

The LGAS audit of the 2016 financial records is ongoing.

Q1 Finance Report 2017

The Finance Report for the first quarter of 2017, i.e. to 31st March 2017, has been circulated. The results for Q1 are largely in line with expectations and there are no major items to report.

Audit Committee

The next Audit Committee is scheduled for Wednesday 19th July.

3 Year Capital Programme 2017 - 2019

The capital programme for the period 2017 – 2019 is included on the Council Agenda for consideration. The report contains details of projects the council would like to commence/deliver over this time period subject to availability of funding and grant assistance.

Cash Flow/Overdraft

The Council continues to operate in overdraft, Ministerial Sanction is in place for borrowing by way of overdraft in the amount of €13m for the period up to 31st December, 2017.

**Tom Enright,
Chief Executive.**