



# **Chief Executive's Report**

**December 2018**

# 1.Economic Development & Planning:

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UNIT

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### Economic Development (Team)

#### *Savannah Wexford Delegation*

A delegation from Savannah Economic Development Authority (SEDA), Georgia Southern University and Tradebridge travelled to County Wexford in early November to further strengthen the relationship between Savannah and County Wexford.

#### **SEDA/World Trade Centre Savannah**

The objectives were to

- Promote Savannah as a place to do business & holiday.
- To bring together the key stakeholders in the Tradebridge initiative.
- To offer Irish companies network opportunities to kick start trading in the US.

#### **Tradebridge – A Wexford – Savannah initiative**

The objectives were to

- Provide the Tradebridge delegates with insights on what you need to know to conduct business in Ireland.
- Business to Business Meetings to further trade opportunities.

See [www.wexsavtradebridge.com](http://www.wexsavtradebridge.com) “To open new trade opportunities between the regions”

#### **Georgia Southern University**

The objectives of the visit included

- To meet with the key stakeholders and get a sense of how the various parties work together.
- To view the Enniscorthy Business & Technology park, in particular the site of the UNECE Center of Excellence. Tomás O’Leary, nZeb gave a very informative presentation afterwards in the Presentation Centre, Enniscorthy.
- To visit the Dunbrody Famine Ship. The Dunbrody Wexford-Savannah sea route between 1845 to 1856 initiated Wexford’s ancestral ties to Savannah.

#### **Itinerary Included**

- Doing business in Ireland orientation
- Business to Business Meetings
- Presentations from a number of parties in Wexford Enterprise Centre and Enniscorthy Presentation Centre.
- Tour of businesses including Kent Stainless

## Local Enterprise Office (Team)

### Annual Employment Survey

The LEO is currently conducting an employment survey of its client portfolio and results will be available in January 2019. We are also using this as an opportunity to identify issues around Brexit for our client base. To ensure that our clients are Brexit ready we are encouraging them to complete the Brexit Score Card <https://prepareforbrexit.virtual-adviser.com/>. This tool is very useful in helping businesses identify potential challenges. These can include any of following; movement of goods, product compliance, contracts, people or financial planning. To ensure that our clients are Brexit ready it is vital that they engage positively to avail of further supports such as mentoring that we can offer to ensure that their businesses can continue to trade successfully.

### Brand Communications

The first phase of the new brand national communications live campaign ('Making It Happen') is being rolled out across the 31 Local Enterprise Offices [www.localenterprise.ie/makingithappen](http://www.localenterprise.ie/makingithappen). The campaign will be delivered across national newspapers, radio and social media (Twitter - #MakingItHappen, Facebook/LinkedIn and YouTube. The campaign will highlight case studies in three stages of business development; Pre-Start, Start and Growth and the following case business case studies have been selected; Pip and Pear, WeBrigg and Skylark Electric Attic Stairs.

## Tourism (Team)

### Digital and Social media

Digital and Social media are key for tourists to access information about their holiday destination. 66% of Overseas Holiday Makers use online search engines to look up information prior to arrival according to Failte Ireland

The **Visit Wexford.ie website** represents members of the tourism industry from each sector in Co Wexford. The focus for the website is to provide an easy to navigate site with an aspirational impact on visitors through the use and placement of images and videos which showcases Wexford's diverse and rich tourism industry with a view to growing Wexford as a premier tourist destination on the Domestic and International market and also align ourselves with Fáilte Ireland's campaign "Ireland's Ancient East."

- Visit Wexford.ie website had 145,972 hits from January 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup> 2018 (increase 11.32% on same period last year)
- Visit Wexford also publish a newsletter with 1198 subscribers
- Facebook: Current Likes 32,703
- Twitter: Impressions 16,122
- Instagram followers 4,386

### ***Ireland's Ancient East:***

Wexford continues to lead the way in the implementation of Ireland's Ancient East proposition by Fáilte Ireland. Just three years since its launch Ireland's Ancient East is now a well established brand and is making significant impact on tourism across the county. Support from Failte Ireland continues and some of the Visitor Experience plans for 2019 include the Launch of a new Viking Fire Festival in Wexford and through the Castles & Conquests experience there are plans to develop new connected experiences between key sites in Wexford, Kilkenny and Tipperary.

## **Wexford County Tourism Strategy**

Wexford County Council is currently finalising “Wexford County Tourism Strategy 2019 – 2023”

The core aims for the strategy are as follows:

- Increase visitor numbers and revenue in a sustainable manner
- Provide recommendations to guide and stimulate investment and development in order to increase visitor numbers, drive economic growth and create sustainable employment
- Identify key product and experience priorities that will enable growth
- Pinpoint specific markets and segments that Wexford will target to drive growth.

The draft strategy was presented to the Economic and Enterprise SPC on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November with a view to presentation to the full Council in the New Year.

## ***Celtic Woman – Ancient Land***

Filmed at Johnstown Castle Wexford in September 2018, the Spectacular Outdoor Concert is to Premier on The **Public Broadcasting Service (PBS)** of America on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2018. The concert will showcase County Wexford and Johnstown Castle to a potential audience of 90 million across the U.S.

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

Project Actions - November



- BUCANIER Budget re-profile completed and returned to Lead Partner
- BUCANIER participants workshop held on the 7<sup>th</sup> of November in Kilkenny
- Food safety and Innovation workshop for BUCANIER participants held in New Ross on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of November
- Participants have been assigned specialist mentors to complete six half-day mentor sessions: one session to develop a BUCANIER Action Plan followed by 5 half-day mentor sessions to assist in implementation of the Action Plan

Third party events attended:

- Food Innovation & Technology Gateway Network on 15th November 2018 in Cork – and host BUCANIER information stand
- Make IT Kildare event on 29th November 2018 in Naas, Co Kildare, organised by Local Enterprise Office Kildare

Planned Project Milestones for December:

- BUCANIER Mentors Meeting with Irish Partners on 4th December 2018 in Carlow
- BUCANIER All-partner meeting on 5th December 2018 at BIM offices, Dun Laoghaire
- BUCANIER Participant Showcase on 6th December 2018 at BIM offices, Dun Laoghaire
- 3 Cork companies and 1 Wexford company in the process of signing up to the programme.

## **Planning Applications:**

No. of valid applications received up to 16/11/2018 1303

No. of pre planning requests up to 23/11/2018 667

## **Building Control:**

### **Commencement Notices**

A total of 413 valid commencement notices have been submitted up to 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2018 on the BCMS.

Wexford	149	Gorey	134
Enniscorthy	99	New Ross	67

## **Taking in Charge**

We have a number of estates that are currently at different stages of the Taking in Charge process. Eleven estates will be referred to the relevant Municipal District meetings for the final stage of the Taking in Charge process in December 2018. These estates are:-

- Curragh Wood, Kilanerin, Gorey
- Sunset Avenue, Riverchapel, Gorey
- Harbour Court, Courtown
- Hunters Green, Gorey
- Glen Aoibhinn, Ardamine, Courtown
- Oakhill, Ramstown Lower, Gorey
- Clonattin Village, Phase 2, Gorey
- Riverside, Blackwater Enniscorthy
- Castle Meadows, Murntown
- Stonehaven, Belvedere Road
- Cromwellsfort Grove, Mulgannon

Rosehill Heights estate, Rosslare is at the public consultation stage at present. The latest date for the receipt of written objections / representations is 4.00 pm on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

The following four estates were formally taken in charge at the relevant Municipal District meetings in November:-

- Harbour View, Duncannon
- Cromwellsfort Drive
- Cromwellsfort Heights
- Fern Hill Close, Killinick

The total number of estates taken in charge this year to date is 32.

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

Activity on Derelict Sites/Dangerous Structures is as follows:

Notices Issued under Derelict Sites Act 1990	53
Notices issued under Sanitary Services Act 1964	6
Notices issued under Section 7 of the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015	3

## **Planning Enforcement:**

The number of planning enforcement cases as at 22/11/18 is as follows;

➤ Cases Opened	6
➤ Live Cases	123
➤ Cases Closed	46

## **District Court Cases**

6 planning enforcement cases are listed in the District Courts in November 2018

### **Gorey:**

- Enforcement case 0005/2016 - Defendant fined €2,500 and ordered to pay €1,492 costs to Wexford County Council and to comply within 1 month with the Enforcement Notice relating to caravans at Brownswood.
- Enforcement case 0006/2018 adjourned pending completion of coastal protection works at Kilgorman in accordance with planning permission granted on 5<sup>th</sup> Nov 2018.

### **Wexford:**

- Enforcement case 0038/2017 relating to unauthorised log cabin and large shed at Robinstown is on the Court list for 26<sup>th</sup> Nov 2018
- Enforcement case 0141/2012 relating to unauthorised palisade fence on site boundary at Newcastle is on the Court list for 26<sup>th</sup> Nov 2018 .
- Enforcement case 0050//2017 relating to unauthorised parking area for heavy goods vehicle trailers at Ballykelly is on the Court list for 26<sup>th</sup> Nov 2018 .
- Enforcement case 0012/2018 relating to unauthorised pontoon at Ferrycarrig is on the Court list for 26<sup>th</sup> Nov 2018.

## Access Section

**Disability Access Certificates (DACs):** The number of DAC applications, validated for the period from 01/01/2018 up to and including 22/11/2018, totals 80.

## Heritage:

Heritage buildings throughout Wexford County received investment funding from the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht for essential works for the up-keep, and in some cases the maintenance of the structural integrity, of historical buildings. Investment in our built heritage is for the benefit of wider local communities as well as the individual properties. The projects improve the appearance and condition of heritage buildings and also provide local jobs in conservation, traditional skills and traditional construction techniques. The investment is in the form of grants, available under the Structures at Risk Fund and the Built Heritage Investment Scheme. In 2018 10 projects benefitted from total funding of €94,641.45.

### **Structures at Risk Fund 2018**

A total of €44,803.20 was paid in grants to three Structures at Risk Projects:

- St. Iberius Church, Wexford town,
- Saunderscourt Gatelodges, Crossabeg, and
- Ballysampson House, Tagoat.

**St. Iberius Church**, Wexford Town, received a grant of €14,803.20 for the removal, repair and reinstatement of windows including the caulking of the windows with lime mortar. Total expenditure was €18,504.00.

**Saunderscourt Gatelodges** received a grant of €15,000. This grant contributed to the total expenditure of €20,960.00. Money was used to repair the suspended floors in both pavilions which were not safe underfoot. Galvanised steel brackets will be used in the wall sockets and ivy which was disrupting areas of masonry was removed. Remaining historic joinery was removed and stored for conservation.

**Ballysampson House**, Tagoat received a grant of €15,000 which supported the continued work to stop decay of the house. The scud coat lime plaster of the earth walling had to be completed to ensure no further deterioration of the earth walling. Total expenditure was 18,196.00.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Grant Received</b>	<b>Matching Funding</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>Employment Days</b>
Saunderscourt Gatelodges, Galbally East, Wexford	€15,000.00	€5,960.00	€20,960.00	39
St. Iberius Church, Main Street, Wexford	€14,803.20	€3,700.80	€18,504.00	45.5
Ballysampson Hse, Tagoat, Wexford	€15,000.00	€3,196.50	€18,196.00	57.5





***Ballysampson House, Tagoat***



**St. Iberius Church, Wexford**

### **Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2018**

A total of €49,838.25 was paid to 7 projects under the above Scheme, which is funded by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. Private matching funding by the owners of the structures amounted to €63,749.57 with an estimated 433.75 total days of employment. The total expenditure on this project was €114,202.71.



The Projects were:

- Friary Church, Wexford town
- Porters Lodge, Castleboro House, Castleboro Demesne, Co. Wexford
- 9 Castle Street, Enniscorthy
- Hyde Park, Inch, Gorey
- Rosegarland House, Wellingtonbridge
- Cornmill, Foulksmills
- Robinstown House, Clonroche.

Project	Grant Received	Matching Funding	Total Expenditure	Employment Days
Friary Church	€9,500.00	€10,628.00	€20,128.00	37
Porters Lodge	€9,000.00	€11,450.00	€20,450.94	69
9 Castle Street	€4,500.00	€7,262.00	€11,762.00	4
Hyde Park	€5,500.00	€5,479.38	€10,958.77	48
Rosegarland House	€6,000.00	€6,184.00	€12,184.00	27.75
Cornmill	€9,500.00	€16,907.00	€27,042.00	200
Robinstown House	€5,838.25	€5,838.25	€11,676.50	48

### **Friary Church**

Works involved repairing the decorative paint feature on the ceiling beneath the organ gallery floor inside the main Church entrance to prevent ceiling from collapsing. The ceiling, consisting of approximately 4,800 separate pieces, was replaced.

### **Porters Lodge**

Repair roof as per original design, and reinstate collapsed granite parapet coin stones.

### **9 Castle Street**

Repaired roofing of the front section of the roof over premises, and replaced all side flashings to adjoining walls and replaced ridge tiles.

### **Hyde Park**

Project consisted of an essential restoration of French window, repair of internal shutters, panelling, frames and floor.

### **Rosegarland House**

Works included the repair and conservation of a double door and two large double casements at the back entrance of the house as part of continuous conservation work on this house.

### **Robinstown House**

This project undertook the repair of the back stairs, main staircase, window shutters, timber window seat and lining to rear window on landing of main staircase, wall plaster repair in the drawing room and removal of timber stud/dry lining applied to Gable Wall of 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Bedroom.

### **Cornmill, Foulksmills**

Essential repair works to the Water Wheel were completed.



***Cornmill, Foulksmills***



***The Friary Church, Wexford Town***

## 2. Special Projects:

**Min Ryan Park, Wexford:** A sod-turning ceremony to mark construction commencement was held on September 8<sup>th</sup> 2018. The Contractor (Niall Barry and Co. Ltd) is now mobilised onsite and has commenced earthworks and drainage works. The park is expected to open to the public in September 2019. WCC secured €500,000 in grant aid for the project from the Department of Community Rural and Development.

**Wexford Quays – Economic and Spatial Strategy:** Architects Scott Tallon Walker have now submitted their final stage 2B report on the Economic Development and Spatial Implementation Plan for the Wexford Quayfront. The report will be presented to the Members in the new year.

**Trinity Wharf:** The Trinity Wharf site was acquired by Wexford Co. Council to attract investment and stimulate economic development in Wexford. Architects, Scott Tallon Walker have been appointed to prepare a master plan, environmental studies, preliminary designs and the related planning and foreshore applications for the development. A draft master plan was presented to the public for comment in September as part of an informal public information event and the master plan is now being completed. The environmental impact assessment is underway and is expected to be completed in November 2018 with an application to An Bord Pleanála submitted in December 2018.

An application for funding for the scheme was submitted under the URDF scheme in September 2018.

**Crescent Quay:** A package of Improvement Works in the Crescent Quay Area will comprise the first phase of the overall plan for the Quayfront Area.

These works will enhance and upgrade the public realm around the Crescent / Waterfront areas and improve the pedestrian links from Main Street to the Quays and the waterfront. Part VIII approval was granted at the Council meeting of November 12<sup>th</sup> 2018. Tenders for the works are due to be received on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2018. Works are planned to commence on site in January 2019.

**Ballast Office:** Essential repair works are required for the Ballast Office to prevent it from falling into disrepair. Appointment of consultants is anticipated in January 2019, with works expected to commence in late 2019. Part VIII approval will not be required for these essential works.

**Templeshannon Regeneration, Enniscorthy:** The launch of the Regeneration strategy took place in Templeshannon in February. The identification of the land requirements for the car park works commenced in April 2018. A Part 8 planning application was lodged on the 4<sup>th</sup> of September 2018 for the proposed streetscape works on Templeshannon and The Shannon. Submissions have now been received and a report is being prepared for consideration by the Council at the January 2019 meeting.

The appointment of consultants to detailed design and tender documents will proceed for the street works and for the preliminary designs, environmental studies and planning documents for the pedestrian bridge

An application for funding for the scheme was submitted under the URDF scheme in September 2018.

**Enniscorthy Technology Park, Killagoley:** Following a public tender process, the contract for Phase 1 development works was awarded to Niall Barry and Co. Ltd. Works commenced on site on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2018. Bulk earthworks are near complete for the main access road, with installation of the main site services having commenced also. Works are expected to complete in February 2019.

**Gorey Market House:** A Part 8 planning application for re-development of the Market House into a multi-purpose performance / exhibition / retail space was passed at the May Council Meeting 2018. The invitation to tender for development proposals from parties interested in partnering with the Council on the project closed on 18/05/2018 and one tender submission was received which is being evaluated and assessed. Currently €2.0m of WCC resources is available to fund the project and the outstanding capital funding will have to be secured through WCC's RRDF application.

An application for funding for the scheme was submitted under the RRDF scheme in September 2018.

**Wexford Arts Centre:** Funding 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. Appointment of consultants is expected by January 2019. The Part VIII process is expected to commence in Q2 2019, with works planned to commence on site in Q1 2020.

**John Street Building Regeneration Project:** The Council has sought Urban Regeneration Development Funding to acquire and redevelop the old grain stores at John Street, New Ross. It is planned to convert these buildings into a high quality enterprise hub. Appointment of consultants is expected in January 2019. The Part VIII process is due to commence in Q2/Q3 2019, with construction completion planned for Q4 2020.

**Carrigfoyle Activity Centre:** Wexford County Council has appointed Consulting Engineers to provide services for the design and tender of infrastructural work at Carrigfoyle for the initial stage of a project to develop an activity centre on the site. Construction is planned to commence in Q2-2019. It is envisaged that works will be completed by Q1-2020.

An application for funding for the scheme was submitted under the RRDF scheme in September 2018.

**Enniscorthy Tourism Project:** Wexford County Council has procured services to prepare a feasibility study to develop and implement a major plan for Enniscorthy as a long term, sustainable tourism destination. Meetings have taken place between WCC and Alan Sherwood & Associates, who have been appointed as the consultants for the plan and work has commenced.

#### **Greenways:**

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

Wexford County Council has procured services to examine the feasibility of developing a greenway from Rosslare Harbour to Waterford City. The study will review route options for the greenway, including the use of the rail corridor from Rosslare Strand to Waterford, prepare baseline environmental studies and prepare and submit planning applications over the next 12 months. The project is running to schedule with the familiarisation report now complete and the initial environmental studies and investigative works substantially complete. Draft route selection reports and environmental screening documents are now complete. A presentation to the Members on the feasibility study took place on 30<sup>th</sup> October on the on the route options examined for the Greenway and the findings of the feasibility study, including the preferred option identified. An application for funding from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport is currently being prepared and will be submitted by the 30<sup>th</sup> of November 2018.



### **New Ross to Waterford Greenway:**

The development of a greenway from Mountelliott in New Ross to Waterford City is currently at the planning stage. A Part 8 planning application was advertised for public consultation on the 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2018 and was approved at the Council meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> of September 2018.

A Section 85 agreement has been signed by Wexford County Council, Kilkenny County Council, and Waterford City and County Council, to enable Wexford County Council to act as the lead authority on behalf of the other Councils. An application for funding from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport is currently being prepared and will be submitted by the 30<sup>th</sup> of November 2018.

Tenders are due to be returned by the 28<sup>th</sup> of November 2018 for design, tender and construction stage services for this Greenway.

### **Curraclloe to Wexford Greenway:**

Wexford County Council submitted its application for development of the Wexford to Curraclloe greenway to An Bord Pleanala in May 2018. The proposed development consists of 10.7km of a shared cycling and walking greenway and a further 4.9 km of local looped trails.

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

The Council will review in detail the decision of An Bord Pleanala and examine if other options for delivering this facility can be developed.

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

### **Housing Supply**

A number of housing capital projects have been approved by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG) and are progressing to construction stage:-

#### **Construction Complete**

- **2 Special Needs Houses in Oilgate** – Houses completed May 2018
- **8 houses in Cherry Orchard, Enniscorthy** – Houses completed September and occupied.
- **2 houses in Cois Mara, Rosslare** – Houses completed July 2018 and occupied.
- **5 houses in Baile Eoghain, Gorey** – Five complete and occupied in October 2018.

#### **Under Construction**

- **4 houses in Baile Eoghain, Gorey** – Four on programme to complete in 2018.
- **1 house at Ross Road Enniscorthy** – Under construction since August 2018 (ESB delays).
- **10 Houses in Creagh, Gorey** – Under construction, due to complete in March 2019.

- **10 Houses in Danescastle** – Under construction (see photo below), due to complete in July 2019.



- **7 Houses in Coolcotts** – Under construction, to complete in Sept 2019.
- **10 Houses at Slippery Green, Wexford** – Under construction, (see photo below) commenced on site April 2018 due to complete in April 2019.



#### Stage 4

- **1 TAP house in Castlemoyle** – Tender in September 2018, to commence Jan 2019.
- **1 House in Castlemoyle for Special Needs** – Stage 4 approved. To commence in December 2018.

#### Stage 3

- **1 house at Ballynaboola** - Stage 3 approved. Costs have been reduced and a new planning permission was lodged, boundary issues with owners, awaiting outcome.

- **18 houses in Taghmon** – Stage 3 approved tender December 2018.
- **6 units at The Ballagh** – Stage 3 approved in August, 2018, tender December 2018.

## Stage 2

- **44 Housing Units at Whiterock Hill, Wexford** – Stage 2 approved on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2018. Stage 3 progressing Part VIII lodged September, 2018. Fire safety certs and Disability Access certs being progressed.
- **28 units at Rosbercon, New Ross** – Stage 1 approved in October 2018, appointing consultants in Q4 2018.

## Stage 1

- **3 units in Ballyhine** – Not approved by members, a new scheme will be proposed for this site. Stage 1 for 6 units will be commenced Q4 2018.
- **11 units in Ballywish** – Stage 1 approved, submit Stage 2 in Q1 2019.
- **34 units at Kileens, Wexford** – Stage 1 approved on 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2018, Stage 2 Q1 2019.
- **43 units at Rosetown, Rosslare** – Stage 1 approved on 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2018 enabling works consultant investigations ongoing, Stage 2 Dec 2018.
- **17 units at Carley's Bridge, Enniscorthy** – Stage 1 approved on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018.
- **12 units for Women's Refuge** – Appointment of an integrated design team have been completed. Site investigations complete. Initial design submitted to WCC for review.
- **12 units at Creagh, Gorey** – Stage 1 approved on 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2018. Awaiting confirmation of high voltage location on site, surveys tendered, surveys to be carried out mid-December.

## Pre-development Stage

We are working on another **88** units preparing feasibility studies prior to the Stage 1 application. These include the following larger projects:-

Daphne View, Enniscorthy	24
Castlemoyle, New Ross ( <i>Land Aggregation Scheme</i> )	40 ( <i>phase 1</i> )
Marconi Park, Enniscorthy ( <i>stage 1 Dec 2018</i> )	1
5 Francis Street	1
Wexford Street, Gorey ( <i>stage 1 Dec 2018</i> )	20
Bullawn Special Needs house ( <i>stage 1 Nov 2018</i> )	1
Marley ( <i>stage 1 Dec 2018</i> )	1

## Longer Term Projects

Park, Wexford	10
Clonard, Wexford ( <i>tender to clear site received</i> )	26
Adamstown ( <i>no services capacity presently</i> )	16



## **Residents Day**

Wexford County Council Local Authority Housing Estate Award Scheme 2018 took place on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2018. The event in its second year recognises and rewards the continuous voluntary hard work and dedication of residents in the upkeep of their Local Authority Estates throughout County Wexford. Winners across each District were announced in the following categories:-

<b>District</b>	<b>Winner of Best Estate</b>	<b>Runner Up in Best Estate</b>	<b>Winner of Best Estate Feature</b>	<b>Note-able Mention</b>
<b>New Ross</b>	Mountain View, Rathnure	Canon Murphy Park, Clonroche	The Villas, Clonroche	Abbeyview, Campile
<b>Wexford</b>	Oaktree Heights, Castlebridge	Lakelands Big, Bridgetown	Bernadette Place, Wexford	Crossfarnogue, Kilmore Quay
<b>Gorey</b>	Groghan View, Coolgreaney	Doire Mholing, Monamolin	Orchard Way, Camolin	Allenwood Drive, Gorey
<b>Enniscorthy</b>	Cois Abhainn, Blackwater	St. John's Tce, Caim	Carrig Ban, Bunclody	St. Bernadette's, Glenbrien

The County Wide Winner of the Best Local Authority Estate 2018 went to Cois Abhainn, Blackwater.

## ENVIRONMENT

1	<p>Rosslare Coastal Erosion and Flooding</p> <p>The Environment Department recently presented a report to the OPW on Rosslare Coastal Erosion and Flooding. The scheme outlines proposals to protect the coastline in Rosslare from future erosion threats and also outlines a scheme to protect the Western spit in Rosslare from coastal flooding. Subject to a favourable response in terms of funding then the various statutory processes including Planning Permission and Foreshore License etc. can be commenced.</p>
2	<p>Environmental Clean Up Crew</p> <p>Environment staff has met the Wexford and New Ross MDC's in November and will engage with Enniscorthy and Gorey MDC's in December. Following the conclusion of all 4 meetings communication protocols will be agreed with the elected members in terms of illegal dumping issues.</p>
3	<p>Coastal Erosion Countywide</p> <p>Following on from other previous coastal studies in particular areas including the Rosslare and Courtown area Environmental coastal staff will be reviewing recent impacts on the entire coastline highlighting public infrastructure and dwelling houses throughout the county that may be at risk from severe storms.</p>

## **COMMUNITY**

### **INTERREG – Celtic Routes**

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of November the Project held a Workshop in the Riverside Park Hotel, Enniscorthy. The event was very well attended by delegates from every facet of the Tourism business in the three project Counties. This project is a tight collaboration between the three Local Authorities in the Sunny South East of Ireland, and as this project is an Ireland / Wales co-funded project, we have partners in three areas in Wales. The project dictates that the routes in Ireland match as closely as possible to the routes devised for Wales.

### **Bunclody wins Pride of Place award**

Bunclody was honoured at the annual IPB Pride of Place awards held in Cork City Hall on November 17th.

The town took first place in the Urban Neighbourhoods/Villages with a population of between 2,000 and 5,000 category, beating Maghaberry, County Antrim and Thomastown, County Kilkenny to the title.

The judges said: "This town has a strong partnership approach between community and sporting organisations, businesses, voluntary bodies and the local councils of two counties, with an excellent town team. The inclusion of all diverse groupings of residents is very obvious and judges were impressed with their visit to the excellent day-care facility, community tourist office and the fantastic traveller project."

### **Traveller Needs Analysis:**

Wexford Traveller Interagency Group (TIG) adopted the [2018 Needs Analysis of the Traveller Community in County Wexford](#) on the 16 November 2018. The Needs Analysis provides an analysis of Travellers living in County Wexford, and their baseline needs. The analysis was carried out by highly respected social researcher, Mr Brian Harvey, under the aegis of the TIG, with the support of Wexford County Council. TIG members, agencies and local communities played a crucial role in accessing information and building relationships with Travellers across the county. The Traveller community had a pivotal role at all stages in this piece of research, from setting of the terms of reference through to presentation of the findings.

### **Community Resilience and Community Emergency Planning:**

Following on from recent Weather events such as Snow and High Winds Wexford County Council is eager for Community Groups to take an active role in community resilience planning and promoting a safe, sustainable and resilient community.

To this end, the Community Development Section, in partnership with The Gardaí, HSE, The Fire Service, The Civil Defence, GIS Mapping Section, Wexford PPN, Muintir na Tire, The Coast Guard, GAA and IFA held 4 Open Workshops during November – one in each of the main towns – to prepare Community Groups to be in a position to take an active role in emergency management arrangements and planning.

## **WEXFORD SPORTS ACTIVE**

### **Wexford gets moving on COPD**

An Open Day will take place in Clonard Community Centre, Wexford town on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018 from 2pm – 4pm to establish a COPD peer support and exercise group for people with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD). This is a collaboration between COPD Support Ireland, Sports Active Wexford and the HSE and is supported by a lottery grant from South East Community Health Care (HSE). Members of Sports Active Wexford will be available on the day to demonstrate a variety of activities.

### **Slaneyside Super Stars**

Sports Active Wexford delivered two children's wheelchairs to Slaneyside Super Stars on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> of November. We received funding from Healthy Ireland towards the purchase of these chairs.

## **SPORTS PARTNERSHIP**

### **Safeguarding Courses (Child Protection)**

Safeguarding 1: 21 Courses have been completed with a total attendance for 2018 of 358 participants.

Safeguarding 2: 4 Courses have been completed with a total attendance of 52 participants.

### **Wexford gets moving on COPD**

An Open Day will take place in Clonard Community Centre, Wexford town on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018 from 2pm – 4pm to establish a COPD peer support and exercise group for people with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD). This is a collaboration between COPD Support Ireland, Sports Active Wexford and the HSE and is supported by a lottery grant from South East Community Health Care (HSE). As part of the COPD peer support and exercise group, Bryan Mullett (Sports Active Wexford Tutor) will co-ordinate weekly exercise classes in Clonard Community Centre every Thursday from 12 – 1pm starting on the 6<sup>th</sup> December.

### **Refugee Swimming Programme.**

A group of male refugees from Enniscorthy started a 10 week swimming programme in the Waterfront Swimming pool on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> of October and will run until Monday 17<sup>th</sup> of December. Sports Active Wexford has received funding from the Communities Integration Fund 2018 through the Department of Justice and Equality. Sports Active Wexford has worked in collaboration with Waterford Wexford Education and Training Board to set up these classes.

### **Courtown Local Training Initiative**

The students in Courtown Local Training Initiative have completed a nine week course in Community Coaching funded and supported by Sports Active Wexford. The training was facilitated by Jamie Stafford, with both theory and practical elements and provided the students with valuable skills to enable them to contribute to their community.

The group will now begin a five week Stage One Course with Ben Armstrong from Leinster Rugby.

### **Slaneyside Super Stars**

Sports Active Wexford delivered two children's wheelchairs to Slaneyside Super Stars. We received funding from Healthy Ireland towards the purchase of these chairs.

### **Staff Activities**

Staff zumba started on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November, staff yoga started for another 4 week block in November and staff circuit training continues for the month.

Participants : Zumba :15 Yoga : 31 Circuits : 9

### **South East Radio Sports Awards**

The South East Radio Sports Awards will take place on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November at a Gala Ball in Riverside Park Hotel, Enniscorthy. As the main sponsor of the event, Sports Active will be present on the night.

### **Leadership Programmes.**

Sports Leadership. Level 1 Courses are now running in groups in Selskar College and Adamstown. 45 Students

I can Lead Courses have now been run In Kennedy College and Our Lady Of Lourdes New Ross- 72 Students

### **Playmaker Leadership for National Schools**

Two Courses have been run In Taghmon National School and Tara Hill – 81 Students participants

## **LIBRARIES, ARTS & ARCHIVES**

### **ARTS**

#### **Music Generation**

During the autumn a singing programme involving 14 primary schools across the 4 municipal districts was held. An early year's music programme for the under 5's began in November with 10 parent & Toddler groups, via Wexford County Childcare Committee. A team of 11 musicians from Wexford has been hired as tutors and they are currently planning for an opt-in Instrumental Programme in 2019.

#### **The Creative Hub at Bullring Mall**

South East Radio developed a short video piece on the Creative hub which can be viewed at <http://www.southeastradio.ie/2018/10/the-creative-hub-at-the-bull-ring-mall-wexford-town/>

**Per Cent for Art, M11 Gorey to Enniscorthy PPP Scheme** Total value of this Per Cent for art commission is €65,000 to be divided across 3 separate commissions valued at €20,000 each. The 10 shortlisted artists were invited to attend an information morning in the Presentation Centre on Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> November. District managers Liz Hore and Amanda Byrne were in attendance to answer questions regarding the respective districts and representatives from the PPN were also in attendance to help link the artists to Local Communities.

**Wexford Stories, Short Film Fund** This award will support and fund a Wexford based screen writer to work collaboratively with established and emerging directors and producers to produce a short film. 'Bog Lady', with the Screen writer's team of Hannah McGiven, Brian Rossney and Edwina Forkin has been selected following competitive process as the recipient of the €10,000 fund.

**Cultural Companions**, launched by Wexford County Council Arts Dept & Community Dept. to encourage older people to attend arts and cultural events. A voluntary committee was established to agree the programme of cultural events. The December to February calendar has been finalised and will be distributed to members. A new addition 'Coffee & Chat' has been added to the programme. This will be an informal coffee morning held on the first Tuesday of each month where members can drop in and it will give them an opportunity to get to know other members of the group.

**Artlinks.** A meeting of the Arts Officers from Wexford, Waterford, Carlow and Kilkenny took place on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November in Wexford County Council, The Artlinks bursaries for 2019 will be advertised the week of December 3rd 2018 with the deadline being 4pm, January 21st 2019.

**Creative Communities Scheme.** An open call has been made seeking applications from artists resident in County Wexford, for the 'Creative Communities Programme' 2019. The closing date for receipt of applications is Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 4.00pm.

## LIBRARIES AND ARCHIVES

### ARCHIVES

Two significant collections were deposited in the county archive during November:

- over 100 volumes of roll books and registers from Kennedy Park National School, 1873-2016
- Business records of Celtic Linen (1935-81) including the White Star Laundry (Carlow) Ltd. (1953-88). Included in the collection were extant volumes relating to Cousins & Co., mineral water manufacturers, Peter's Square, Wexford (1888-1963)

### WEXSci Wexford Science Festival

Wexford's first Science Festival, Wexsci, ran during Science Week, from 11<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> November and events took place all around the county in the five public libraries and in many community venues. Part-funded by Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), the Festival was led by Wexford County Council in partnership with I.T Carlow, WIT, Waterford Wexford ETB, EPA, BIM and Local Link Wexford and was one of 12 festivals running throughout Ireland during Science Week.

Throughout the week, some of the best national and international scientists, researchers and speakers demonstrated, showcased and discussed a broad range of subjects and provided a true insight into STEM related careers at over 80 events. The festival concluded on Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> November with the WexSci Showcase Day – a free, open day for all and was attended by 1,400 people. This highlight of the week included 5 outstanding shows, interactive science demonstrations, exhibition stands and the BEAT 102 – 103 street party. The festival will be evaluated and feedback has been extremely positive.

### Wexford Great War Dead project

To commemorate the centenary of the end of World War I, Wexford County Council Public Library Service has developed a public history research project. The aim of the project is to engage with the public online, to deliver a comprehensive list of persons from County Wexford who died in the Great War.

The long term objective is to tell the unique stories and to commemorate the loss of the over 800 Wexford men and women who lost their lives as a result of the war.

To date a list of 859 names has been compiled and is being recorded on the website [www.wexfordgreatwardead.ie](http://www.wexfordgreatwardead.ie) which went live from 11<sup>th</sup> November 2018. Working in collaboration with a number of historians including Jimmy Taylor and Dr Joseph Quinn, UCD and with assistance from Tom Burnell, Margaret Gilbert and Patrick Lynch, the website provides an excellent resource for historians and researchers. It was officially launched on 29<sup>th</sup> November at an event in Gorey Library.

### Health and Wellbeing

Healthy Ireland at your Library had its nationwide launch on 19<sup>th</sup> November by Minister for State Catherine Byrne. Healthy Ireland events in Wexford libraries have been very well received with over 100 attendees at a talk 'Anxiety and Panic, how to use Emotional Resilience Skills to manage panic attacks, phobias, social anxiety and general anxiety' with Dr. Harry Barry in Wexford Library.

### Refugee Resettlement Project

As part of ongoing outreach to the **refugee resettlement project**, two volunteers from the local Gorey area facilitated a CV writing session in the Gorey library computer suite on 21 & 28 November. This event was co-organised by Doras Luimní. On Friday 16 November in Gorey library, the **Reader in Residence** facilitated a creative writing workshop with women as part of the **Read to Succeed** Programme. For Science Week in Enniscorthy library, on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November **Anyone4Science** provided a slime workshop refugee resettlement project families. 35 children and adults took part.

### News

The ICT systems used by the Fire Services are in the process of full and complete upgrade. The Diamond Fire Administration System will be web based henceforth and training/rollout was delayed until 28/29<sup>th</sup> November. The Gartan Payroll System continues to undergoing system review with rollout expected by year end.

### Fire Operations

In October it was a busy month period with 118 incidents as detailed below. By the end of the month there were 225 incidents in excess of the same time last year.

Incident Type	Calls October 2018	Calls to date 2018	Calls to this period 2017
Chimney fire	12	114	108
Domestic fire	9	75	49
Road Traffic Accident	5	89	93
Industrial fire	1	9	7
Commercial fire	0	4	5
Assembly fire	0	4	5
Agricultural fire	0	5	7
Motor Vehicles	3	51	41
Forest/bog/grass etc	23	214	119
Rubbish	31	80	80
Non-fire rescues	0	23	28
False alarms – good intent	27	241	175
Malicious false alarms	0	3	0
Miscellaneous	7	63	33
<b>Total</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>975</b>	<b>750</b>



## Fire Safety

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

<b>Applications Received</b>	<b>Year to date</b>	<b>October</b>
Fire Safety Certificates	102	11
Planning Referrals	741	148

<b>Number of Inspections</b>	<b>Year to date</b>	<b>October</b>
FSA Inspections	267	27

## CIVIL DEFENCE

### Civil Defence – Operations / Training Report

#### Civic Duties

We covered 7 community duties for October & November 2018

Wexford athletics, Adamstown, 7<sup>th</sup> October

Charity Run – JFK Park, 7<sup>th</sup> October

Wexford Athletics, JFK Park, 14<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Tintern Trails Run 14<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Wexford Festival Opera, 19<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Science Week, County Hall, Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November

#### Missing Person Search – New Ross 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> November

Wexford Civil Defence boat crews helped with a missing persons search in New Ross on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> November 2018. Two boat crews helped with the search on Saturday and Sunday.

#### SWORD – Severe Weather Driver Training

24 Members of Wexford Civil Defence completed their SWORD Severe weather off road driving course. The course covers recovery of vehicles, recovery points and preparations for severe weather.

#### SRT – Responder Instructors

We had two volunteers who attended a SRT – Swift water Rescue Technician and Responder Instructor course in Limerick. The course is run by Rescue3 as part of the Civil Defence Colleges swift water programme.

#### CFR & FAR Instructor Recertification

The following instructors attended the CFR and FAR Instructor Recertification in Dublin, Peter O'Connor, Philip Creane, Celestine Swords, Anne Browne, Tony Forte and Noel Stacey.

#### Avian Flu Training & Vaccination

A number of Wexford boat operators attended the annual Avian Flu Training and vaccinations carried out in the Wildlife reserve in Ardavan.

### **Annual Training Day & Presentation Dinner**

Wexford Civil Defence staged their county training day at their Headquarters in Ardavan Business Park on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2018. 60 Volunteers from Wexford, New Ross and Gorey took part. The theme for the day was back to “Basics”, looking at the quality of the work opposed to the quantity. There were four separate scenarios on the day to challenge the skills of the volunteers, First Aid with multiple casualties, Search Skills for missing persons search, Axillary Fire Service with a pump relay and ambulance policy and procedures. The welfare service provided food for the volunteers, casualties and Instructors throughout the day.

The day concluded with the Annual Presentation Dinner in the Riverbank Hotel, guests included the Cathaoirleach of Wexford County Council Cllr. Keith Doyle, Director of Services Mr. John Carley, Civil Defence College Principal Ms. Róisín McGuire. There were also representatives from Wexford Fire Services, Wexford Marine Watch who provided casualties during the day, Wexford RNLI, Wexford Order of Malta.

Cathaoirleach of Wexford County Council Cllr. Keith Doyle thanked the volunteers for their help and support during Storm Emma and their contribution to the community during the year supporting community events.

Volunteers were presented with Long Service Medals for 30 years and 10 years, certificates for courses completed during the year. 30 year medals were presented to Patricia Power, New Ross Unit and Breeda Conroy, Wexford Welfare Unit. 10 Year Medals were presented to Stephen Boland, Gorey Unit, Patrick Murphy, Wexford Unit, Fergus Gallagher, Wexford Unit.

The volunteers from the county made a presentation to the new Civil Defence Officer Peter O'Connor, to mark his promotion; the presentation consisted of a group photo and a bouquet of flowers to his wife Pamela.

### **Drones**

Wexford Civil Defence attended the presentation of Drone operator's certificates in the Phonix Park Training Centre on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November. Volunteer James Pierce was presented with his drone operator certificate on the day.

### **National Radiation Exercise**

The Nations Radiation Exercise was carried out on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2018. 5 Volunteers from Wexford took part in the exercise to take soil and vegetation samples from two location in County Wexford. The samples were taken in Tottenham Green Taghmon, and Cherryorchard Enniscorthy. All results and locations were transmitted over the tetra radio system back to Ratra House in the Phoenic Park.

## **4. Transportation, Water Services:**

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

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

### **Progress Update November 2018**

The overall design and construction phase of the PPP Contract is over three quarters complete, and the scheme is scheduled to open in 2019.

The construction of the pylon towers has now commenced at all three main piers (Piers 3, 4 & 5) and the first cables have been installed from the tower at Pier 4. The constructions of the cantilevered deck segments also continues to progress from piers 3, 4 & 5, with six segments now complete from pier 3 and five segments complete from pier 5. The construction of the deck wing sections on span 6 continues to progress while the construction of the deck central box on span 7 is now complete. The construction of the central box section on span 8 has commenced while works have also now commenced on the final span 9.

The mainline works from the R733 junction at Camlin to the N30 junction at Corcoran's Cross have progressed significantly in the past month, with pavement, barriers, signage and road markings nearing completion. The new N30 roundabout and approach roads at Corcoran's Cross were opened to traffic in the final week of November. This roundabout will continue in its current operation as part of the existing road network until the bypass opens to traffic in 2019. It is anticipated that the other two roundabout junctions (N25 Glenmore & N25 Ballymacar) will be completed and operational before the end of 2019. These roundabouts will then also operate as part of the existing road network until the bypass opens to traffic in 2019. Final pavement and junction works on the R733 are also anticipated in December. Temporary traffic management operations will be operational for a period at all three locations on the N25 and R733 during December and advance notice of works will be advised on information signage, local radio, AA Roadwatch, MapAlerter and the project website. Final works for landscaping, drainage, fencing, barriers, signage, accommodation works are ongoing.

Final snagging inspections and safety audit procedures for local roads are ongoing. The two road bridges on the Kilkenny side are almost complete and the associated local road realignments will open in December. The construction of the deck for the railway overbridge on the Kilkenny side is also progressing well. The Pink Rock Road is scheduled to re-open before Christmas following a long-term closure. The actual opening date for the Pink Rock Road is currently the subject of consultation with Kilkenny County Council.

The preparation of the detailed design for the selected project art piece under the Per Cent for Art programme continues to progress. Upon opening of the bypass a significant amount of road signage on the existing road network will need to be changed, and preparations for the implementation of these changes is nearing completion.

Monitoring, maintenance and emergency regimes continue to be operated as necessary on public roads at interfaces with the site to ensure that all operations continue to operate safely and with minimum disruption to local communities and residents. Winter maintenance protocols for public roads within the site have been re-activated for the coming season.

The tenth quarterly project newsletter was published in October. The project continues to attract very significant public interest and the project website [www.n25newcross.ie](http://www.n25newcross.ie) continues to provide progress updates as well as information on traffic management and road works. Wexford County Council continues to release periodic project videos to keep the public updated on progress. The 24 telephone hotline continues to operate 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. Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Bridge – View of approach from direction of Stokestown.**



**2. Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Bridge –Approach from direction of Glenmore Roundabout.**





3. **Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Bridge – Pier 4 and cantilevered decks in foreground, Pier 5 in background.**



4. **N25 Mainline at Arnestown between N25 Ballymacar Junction and R733 Junction**



**5. N25 Ballymacar Roundabout – Erection of signage.**



**6. N30 Mainline at Lacken between N25 Ballymacar Junction and N30 Corcoran's Cross Junction**

## M11 Gorey to Enniscorthy PPP Scheme update

### Program

The contractor has stated in the October 2018 progress meeting that their program is on target and the M11, and N80 will be open to traffic in July 2019 with minor works taking place up to the contract end date of November 2019.

### Construction to Date

The following table indicates site work progression to date.

	Progress Reported in Dec 2016	Progress Reported in Dec 2017	Progress Reported in Sept 2018	Progress Reported in Oct 2018	Progress Reported in Nov 2018
Site Clearance	96%	98%	99%	99%	99%
Fencing	85%	86%	89%	91%	92%
Drainage & Service Ducts	7%	30%	81%	86%	89%
Earthworks	23%	75%	98%	98%	98%
Structures – Main Bridges		56%	93%	94%	95%
Structures – Culverts	29%	96%	99%	99%	99%
Structures – Access Structures	12%	84%	94%	96%	96%
Kerbs Footways & Paved Areas			53%	57%	64%
Safety Barrier			8%	19%	27%
Pavement			52%	58%	58%*

\*monthly figure has been readjusted

### Newsletter

The newsletter Q4, 2018 is currently being produced. The N11 website [WWW.m11gtoe.ie](http://WWW.m11gtoe.ie) is updated on a monthly basis providing information on blasting and road closures and traffic management.

### Advance Notification of Major Road Works

Major road works are due to commence on the tie in locations on the M11 Frankfurt Interchange, N30 Templescoby, N11 Scurlocksby and N11/ N80 Clavass. Any traffic delays associated with these works will be kept to a minimum and the public will be notified in advance of the works so that they can plan their journeys accordingly.

### Applications submitted to WCC by the PPP Co.:

#### Road Closure Applications

The following road closures have been/ are to be enacted:

Road	Closure Date	Duration (months)	Opening Date
L2008, Old Dublin Road, Clavass	tbc	tbc	tbc



## **2018 Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) Allocation:**

Transport Infrastructure Ireland has provided funding for the following schemes.

### **N25 New Ross By-Pass Residual Network**

#### **N25 Oaklands Roundabout**

Works were completed in June.

### **N30/ R700 Roundabout**

Works commenced in July. This scheme is due to be completed in February 2019.

### **N11 Kyle Upper Pavement Scheme**

This scheme was completed in June.

### **N11 Kileen to Newtown – Phase 1**

This scheme will run from Ferrycarrig Bridge to just south of Kyle Crossroads. Works commenced on September 12<sup>th</sup>. Drainage works will be completed in December. Pavement works will be completed in the first quarter of 2019.

### **2018 HD28 Pavement Works**

This scheme involves pavement improvement works immediately north of Camolin Village on the N11. The scheme was completed in November.

### **N30 Enniscorthy Southern Approach**

Works are commencing on 4<sup>th</sup>. December and are due to be completed by the end of December weather permitting.

### **N11 Killeen to Newtown – Phase 2**

Site investigation works are ongoing on this scheme at present.

The timeline for construction works are dependent on the outcome of the site investigation works. This scheme should be tendered in the first quarter of 2019.

### **N30 Mountelliot**

Works are progressing on tender documents. This scheme should be tendered in first quarter of 2019. This scheme should be constructed in April/May 2019.

### **Public Lighting LED Upgrade**

The 2018 programme involved the upgrade of 2,450 lights to Led in Wexford Town. This was completed in September. This scheme will result in over 60% energy and maintenance savings annually. Works have commenced in the 2019 upgrade which will involve the replacement of up to 3,400 lanterns.

### **Winter Maintenance**

The 2018/2019 winter maintenance programme commenced on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October. There have been 4 no. call outs up to November 25<sup>th</sup>.

## **REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROADS**

### **Improvement Works**

Work ongoing at Mountelliott Roundabout (New Ross District).

## **Strengthening**

The programme was disrupted last month by rain. The roads completed were as follows: Forestalstown, Templescoby, The Still, Redmondstown and Monageer (all in Enniscorthy District).

The Community Involvement Scheme Kilturk to Ballyhealy Cross (Wexford District) was also completed.

Preparing roads for Local Improvement Schemes in all Districts.

## **Surface Dressing**

Surface dressing programme was completed on September 25 in Wexford District.

## **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**

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, which is an increase of 30% in the available capacity. The DBO contract was signed on the 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2017. Ward & Burke are the contractors and have commenced on site. J.B. Barry are the Consulting Engineers. Works are progressing ahead of programme as the inlet works and treatment process are currently taking flows.

### **Enniscorthy Network Upgrade**

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

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

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

New intake and pumping station at Clonhasten.

Site Investigation Contract has been awarded and site investigation works are currently ongoing on site and will be completed by the end of November. Currently in negotiations with one land owner for permanent acquisitions and wayleaves required to complete the project. Planning permission is planned to be submitted by Irish Water Consultant, Nicholas O'Dwyer before the end of December, 2018.

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

Site Investigations have been completed along the proposed outfall route. Foreshore application was lodged. The land acquisition by CPO has also commenced for the selected WWTP site and Pumping Station site.

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

The Gorey RWSS will be upgraded and a new 8 Ml/day WTP and 7,500m<sup>3</sup> reservoir provided at Ballyminaun. Planning permission was granted by WCC to upgrade the borehole sites and build a new water treatment plant at Ballyminaun. The hydrogeological investigations show that remedial works will be required to most of the boreholes and the contract documents are being revised accordingly. The CPO is completed as objections were withdrawn before scheduled oral hearing. Tender documents have been issued with a tender return date of November, 14<sup>th</sup> 2018.

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

Aecom has been appointed to design a waste water treatment scheme for the villages of Arthurstown, Ballyhack and Duncannon. These designs are currently underway. A Scheme for Kilmore Quay is also currently being designed. These have progressed from the Untreated Agglomeration Study (UTAS) to identify areas of the highest priority requiring treatment. Detailed design works are underway. Land owner engagement has started and site investigation works are now complete. The treatment standard for the schemes has been increased to both primary and secondary treatment.

The CPO for Duncannon, Arthurstown and Ballyhack has been advertised. This project is now out to tender and we expect planning to be lodged before Christmas 2018.

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

Design works are currently underway for the remaining water main and gas mains, as well as design to eliminate back yard services around Wexford. A new hydraulic model for Wexford town is being updated to allow for the design works to progress. Landowner engagement has started. The Project is currently out to tender and works are expected to commence in the first quarter of 2019.

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

The crew has spent the past 10 weeks upgrading the Killealy water main in order to remove the boil water notice currently in place.

The crew will next complete the outstanding section of water main in Redshire Road, Murrinstown between November & December.

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

IW Asset Strategy has approved the following for a feasibility study on this Scheme. Atkins have been appointed to carry out preliminary design works for an upgrade to Ferns waste water treatment system.

The feasibility study report on options to upgrade the plant has been completed and is currently under review.

There have been a number of smaller studies commenced lately on Gorey waste water, Enniscorthy waste water and Wexford waste water capacities.

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

### **IW Asset Management: Murntown P.S.(Wastewater to Wexford WWTW)**

- Pump Sump & Valve Chamber mechanical works completed and Kiosk base constructed

### **Killagoley Wastewater Treatment Plant**

- Sewers flowing into Killagoley WWTP have been diverted into new Esmonde Road sewer on Tuesday 13th November
- The WWTP is no longer operational as of Friday 23rd November (groundwater infiltration into plant plugged)

### **Trinity Street Waste Water Pumping Station**

- 1<sup>st</sup> of 2 number Storm Pumps removed for repairs shall be installed before Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018

### **Distillery Road Waste Water Pumping Station**

- Installation of new pump due 14th December 2018

### **Kilmore Waste Water Pumping Station**

- Replacement foul pump installed, 2<sup>nd</sup> replacement pump due end December 2018

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

Works complete at Edenvale and Newtown with the exception of minor snagging.

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

Project is at substantial completion and now in the defects period. Staff training has been completed and works are at snagging.

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

Commissioning at Creagh complete and gathering raw water data. Newtown WTW in automatic mode with manual override since May 17th. Vinegar Hill in automatic mode with manual override since early November.

### **IW Asset Management: Disinfection and pH Control Programme**

Disinfection works at Chestnut Grove, Hollyfort, Ballinellard, Clonroche, Bree and Coolgreaney commissioned.

Works nearly complete at Vinegar Hill. Mechanical works almost complete at Newtown and Killagoley.

Works partially complete at Kilmuckridge, Edermine and Ballindaggin boreholes.

Bolabeg, Raheen and Tellarought boreholes added to IW Disinfection Programme.

### **Water Network Program**

Coffey Water (CNL) have been appointed as regional contractor for the Water Network Programme for the South East. CNL have work orders for public side lead replacement works in Enniscorthy and Backyard Service replacement in Wexford, Gorey and Taghmon. This work will be ongoing throughout the year and new work orders issued for other identified works. First fix leak repairs are ongoing on a daily basis around the county. Irish Water are in the process of organising an information meeting for Enniscorthy given the large volume of works to be done there.

### **Capital Maintenance Budget**

Combined budget for 2017/2018 is 1,879,966. Current approved spend from IW is 2,140,486. Total commitments to date are €1,646,338. Additional budget may be sought if all approved items to proceed in 2018 fiscal year.

## C. RURAL WATER PROGRAMME

### **Blackstairs Group Water Scheme**

Assessment ongoing in regard to requests for funding for projects under the Multi Annual Rural Water Programme 2019 – 2021.

### **The Bing Group Sewerage Scheme**

Assessment ongoing on Bing Group Sewerage Scheme to forward to Irish Water for cost of connection.

Assessment ongoing in regard to requests for funding for Group Sewerage Scheme projects under the Multi Annual Rural Water Programme 2019 – 2021.

### **Crosstown Group Sewerage Scheme / Orchard Lane Group Sewerage Scheme**

Takeover Process ongoing.

## WATER CONSERVATION

### **7. Leak Detection and Repair:**

- 76 leaks were detected and repaired in October 2018. follows:
- Irish Water first fix programme has commenced in Co. Wexford, 9nr. completed in county to date.
- Water Network Programme –
  - Wexford – Lead replacement works :
    - Distillery Rd: connections complete, back yard main still to be decommissioned.
    - William St: consents still being sought
  - Enniscorthy – Backyard Services:
    - Coffey Northumberland will hold an information evening to explain upcoming works to the public. Works will initiate at Belfield Rd and St Johns Villas.
- Irish Water Leak Management System (LMS) will go live on November 26<sup>th</sup>. Wexford LA is not an early adopter and will have limited functionality until Sept 2019.

### **8. Pressure Management:**

- Water Network Program works of new PRV chambers and kiosks will commence in Enniscorthy and New Ross areas.

### **9. SCADA-Telemetry:**

- Disinfection Programme and Telemetry programme work ongoing.

### **10. Global Information System:**

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

## **5. Finance:**

### **Finance Report to September 2018 (Q3)**

The Q3 Finance report has been circulated for consideration of members. The report outlines that operational spend and income is largely in line with the 2018 approved budget and that for financial year to September an improvement of €146k is being reported in the Revenue deficit. While there is no certainty that this will continue to be the position reported by year end it does provide some indication that there is unlikely to be a deterioration in the deficit reported for the full year.

Activity on Capital Spend is reported as increasing particularly in the area of the Housing Programme while Commercial Rates collection is reported at approx 80% at the end of September.

### **Audit Committee**

The next meeting of the Audit Committee meeting is scheduled for 5<sup>th</sup> December 2018. This Local Government Auditor will attend this meeting of the committee to give an overview of the audit work completed as part of the 2017 Audit and discuss the contents of the Audited Accounts for 2017 and the Statutory Audit Report 2017.

### **Borrowing Programme 2018**

Ministerial Sanction has been received for the Public Lighting (€5m) and Housing Loan Programme (€5.5m). Partial Sanction, €15m, has now been received for the Economic and Community Development element (€40m), the remainder is the subject of additional correspondence with the DHPLG and formal ministerial approval is still awaited.

### **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 will expire on 31st December, 2018. The 2019 application for borrowing by way of overdraft has been submitted to the DHPLG following council approval to the extension of the €13m overdraft facility for the 2019 financial year, at the November meeting.

**Tom Enright,  
Chief Executive.**