



Chief Executive's Report

JULY 2017

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING & SPECIAL PROJECTS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TEAM

BNY Mellon 15th Anniversary Event *Invested In Our Community*: BNY Mellon held a corporate celebration on June 15th with a number of panel debates and networking event. Over 200 attendees enjoyed a number of great speakers across the evening, facilitated by George Lawlor:

Business Panel “The Future of Business Growth in Wexford” examined the impact of business on the local community.



- Carol Andrews, *Global Head of Client, Service and Prime Custody, AIS, BNY Mellon*
- Joe Duffy, *Head of Global Client Management EMEA for BNY Mellon*
- Tom Enright, *Chief Executive of Wexford County Council*
- Liam Hore, *Senior Director of Operations at Waters Technologies Ireland Ltd.*

Education Partner Presentation, by Declan Doyle, *Head of Development, IT Carlow*

Community Partners Discussion including panelists Margo Kehoe, *Hope Centre, Enniscorthy*; Bridín Moloney, *Wexford Women's Refuge*; Barbara O'Connell, *CEO, Acquired Brain Injury Ireland*; Denise Power, *Junior Achievement Ireland*.

Corporate Social Responsibility Panel “Community Matters” explored the effectiveness of corporate community partnerships and sport in the community.

- Gordon D'Arcy, *former International Irish Rugby player*
- Tim Greig, *Wexford Site Co-Head, BNY Mellon*
- Nick Popplewell, *former International Irish Rugby player*
- Madeleine Quirke, *CEO Wexford Chamber of Commerce*

Closing Remarks were given by Daron Pearce, *CEO EMEA Asset Servicing BNY Mellon*

Southeast FLAG: The launch of the first call of projects under the new SE Flag programme will take place on Monday 10th July at 10:30 in the Arklow Bay Hotel. Wicklow County Council will highlight a number of projects they have been approved for, including fishermen's storage huts. A total of 29 projects, valued at just over €645,000 have been approved grant aid of €423, 847. The list of projects is outlined below. Projects have been deemed approved as per the criteria and objectives outlined in the [SE FLAG Development Strategy](#) available on www.bim.ie

APPLICANT	PROJECT TITLE	LOO Y/N	PRIVATE €	GRANT AID €	EU €	EXCHEQUER €	TOTAL COST €
Wicklow County Council	Storage facilities for fishermen	Y	60000	14,000	70000	70000	200000

Wicklow County Council	Arklow Lightship Restoration Scheme	Y	8400	19600	9800	9800	28000
Wicklow County Council	Arklow Hoist improvement works and training	Y	7725	18025	9012.5	9012.5	25750
Wexford County Council	Citizens Science Training	Y	2985	6965	3482.5	3482.5	9950
Copper Coast Geopark Plc	Copper Coast Geopark Earth & Marine Science & Heritage Exhibition	Y	1364.6	5458.4	2729.2	2729.2	6823
Saltmines & St. Kierans community Group	Feasability study amenities community shop and garden	Y	3099.6	732.4	3616.2	3616.2	10332
Hook Rural Tourism CLG	Hooked on the sea festival	Y	685	2000	1000	1000	2685
Vartry Rowing Club Wicklow	Celtic Longboat	Y	3198	3198	1599	1599	6396
St. Kearns Rowing Club	Boat & Oars for St. Kearns rowing Club	Y	4498	4498	2249	2249	8996
Passage East Hurling Club	Beat the Ferryman Swim	Y	2021	2000	1000	1000	4021
Andrew Doherty	Waterford harbour tides'n book project	Y	2015	2015	10070.5	1007.5	4030
Fresh off the Hook Seafood Festival	Fresh off the Hook Seafood Festival	Y	443.56	1774.24	887.12	887.12	2217.8
Wexford Maritime & Food Festival	Wexford Maritime & Food Festival	Y	6120.02	2000	1000	1000	8120.02
Wicklow Seafood Festival	Wicklow Seafood Festival	Y	10035	2000	1000	1000	12035
Waterford Inst. Of Technology, Dept of Science	Seaweeds in the Waterford Estuary	Y	843.4	3373.6	1686.8	1686.8	4217
Barony of Gautier Historical Soicety	Saving kapitan Tebbenjohanns	Y	2304	3456	1728	1728	5760
Kilmore Quay Community Dev Association	Five Year Feasibility Study	Y	7306.2	17047.8	8523.9	8523.9	24354
Wexford County Council	Hook Peninsula Marine Tourism Access project	Y	37176	86744	43372	43372	123920
Waterford Sea Vegetables Ltd	Purchase of a Food Grade Grining Machine	Y	3500	3500	1750	1750	7000
Helvick Fishermens Association	Helvick Fisherman's Ice Supply	Y	10938	16407	8203.5	8203.5	27345
Elaine Wallace Bicycle Hire	Establish cycle hire bus in coastal village	Y	3600	4200	2100	2100	10500
Kilmore quay Community Dev. Assoc.	Festival	Y	1973	2000	1000	1000	3973
Comhlucht Forbartha na Deise c.t.r.	Club mara na nDeise	Y	5748	3832	1916	1916	9580
Waterford City &	Ballymacaw Boat	Y	1500	3500	1750	1750	5000

Co. Council	Rock Bridge Feasibility Study						
Waterford City & Co. Council	PECDA The Smokehouse Cafe	Y	14318.71	35410.33	16705.17	16705.17	47729.03
Waterford City & Co. Council	Creaden Beach	Y	1800	2400	2100	2100	6000
Ardmore fishermen's Association	Installation of a boat winch at Ardmore Pier	Y	5212.5	20850	10425	10425	26062.5
Kiomore Quay Community Dev Association	Write by the Sea Festival	Y	9338	2000	1000	1000	11338
Wexford Documentary Film Festival	Festival	Y	640	2560	1280	1280	3200
Overall total approved/committed			221,487.59	423,846.77	211,923.39	211,923.39	645,334.35
Total with 2017 spend				274,046.76			431,334.35
Total with 2018 spend				28,800.00			34,000.00
Total with 2019 spend				126,000.00			180,000.00

Wexford-Savannah Axis Project Launch new website: The growing links between County Wexford and Savannah, Georgia in the US were further strengthened at the National Opera House on the 13th June when the Wexford-Savannah Axis Project launched their new online tourism experience, linking the two locations. The innovative online experience is a mobile-friendly website which will prompt people to learn about County Wexford's strong heritage tourism offering as they are enjoying heritage sites in Savannah and vice versa.



The primary purpose of the Wexford-Savannah Axis project is to share information about the historical connections between the two places to a broader public. The founding partners in the Wexford-Savannah Axis are Georgia Southern University, Waterford Institute of Technology, the Georgia Historical Society and the John F. Kennedy Trust. The project is also supported by county and municipal entities across Wexford and Savannah.

Economic Development Officer with Wexford County Council, Carolyn Godkin notes that the new website is just the most recent initiative building on Wexford and Savannah's shared history, "Over the last two years, public representatives and business people from Wexford have met with their counterparts in Savannah on both sides of the Atlantic in order to build economic and cultural links between the two locations. The story of emigration that links the two places historically was the spark that ignited what will hopefully grow to become a lasting economic relationship."

The launch event, held in the National Opera House, attracted around 60 attendees and featured short musical and stage performances, a sample of popular food enjoyed in Savannah and poster presentations given by visiting university students from Savannah.

The Project also benefited from a very successful community engagement event in Enniscorthy on the evening of June 8th, hosted by the Enniscorthy Municipal District to further reach out into the Wexford area, to make connections and learn about the family links from Wexford into Savannah.

The Hatch Lab, Gorey: Sandra Wycech has started as Community manager with Bank of Ireland. Sandra will be promoting and leading on the activation programme for The Hatch Lab under the Bank of Ireland partnership agreement with Wexford County Council.

The venue is nearing completion of fit-out and a number of companies will be invited to act as test businesses for the facility over the summer, moving to full operations in early September 2017. For more information, please visit www.TheHatchLab.ie and one of the executives will contact you.

Rejuvenate Ireland: Spiritual Earth and Wexford Chamber, supported by Wexford County Council and Skillsnet recently hosted 300 plus attendees at a very successful Yoga Morning and evening Conference Event at the Ferrycarrig Hotel Wexford, promoting the benefits of well-being for all.

Thirteen speakers attended the event, which was held on the longest day of the year - June 21st and to celebrate UN International Day of Yoga. Prominent speakers included, key note address from Steve Black Motivational Coach; Tracey Piggott Sports Broadcaster; Gordon D'Arcy Former International Rugby Player and Investment Manager with Investec; David Bloch MD Brightwater Recruitment and special guest Her Excellency the Indian Ambassador to Ireland, Mrs Vijy Thakur Singh among others.

TOURISM TEAM

- The Tourism section are tendering for the compilation of a County Wexford Tourism Strategy for the purpose of guiding investment by the County Council into the future. The tender is currently on the eTenders system with the successful tenderer to be appointed in early August 2017.
- Wexford Walking Trails launched all of their trails and new booklet brochure on June 29th at 6.30pm in the Dunbrody Famine Ship. The launch will be performed by Anne Doyle, Formerly of RTE and Wexford Ambassador. Wexford Walking Trails are in receipt of a grant from the Dept. of Rural Affairs of €102,000 which was applied for by WCC in July 2017. This grant has supported the Walking Trails group to install signage, waymarked posts, benches and surfacing. Research has shown that Walking/Hiking is the most popular activity for visitors to Ireland.

- Visit Wexford launched their new 64 page tourism booklet brochure for 2017/2018 at an Industry event on June 19th in County Hall. 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 brochure is available for distribution, if anyone would like copies.

LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE (LEO) TEAM

Bizfest a resounding success at the National Opera House: Bizfest 2017, the free networking event hosted by LEO Wexford came to the National Opera House last Wednesday 21st June and has been hailed as a resounding success.

Attendees were treated to lunch and light refreshments while visiting the various exhibition stands and displays by State bodies and local businesses including IDA Ireland, Arc Labs, Irish Exporters Association, Elevation Construction Network and Optimise Marketing.



MC Ivan Yates then welcomed a wide array of speakers to the stage including Enterprise Ireland CEO Julie Sinnamon, Innovate CEO Jim Hughes, Patsy Carney of Eirgen Pharma and Mag Kirwan of Goatsbridge Trout Farm. The attendees also witnessed an enchanting operatic performance delivered by Leah Barniville, star of Britain's Got Talent.

Bizfest is a joint initiative of the Local Enterprise Offices in the South East Region, and the 2018 event will be hosted by LEO Waterford.

LEO Autumn Business Training Programme: The LEO Spring/Summer- 2016 business training programme is now complete, with key outputs to date:

Total Participants: 498

38 Training Events

LEO Wexford is currently in the process of designing the Autumn-Winter Business training programme. We will host workshops, clinics and training courses that are responsive to the expressed needs of SME's and relevant industry actors.

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. Preliminary works will begin on site over the summer.

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 very soon.

Templeshannon Regeneration, Enniscorthy: The Strategy Plan is being finalised with a view to presentation to members in quarter three of 2017.

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

New Ross Business Park: A tender document is in preparation for obtaining expressions of interest from developers willing to partner Wexford County Council in delivering an advanced technology building on this site.

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. Bucholz McEvoy Architects have been appointed to review existing plans and to develop a detailed design. Funding must be expended by March 2020.

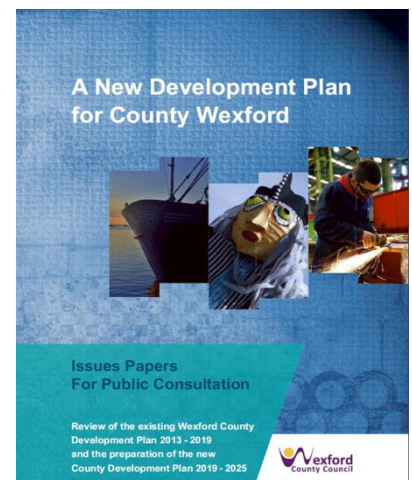
PLANNING

Planning Applications:

<i>No. of valid applications received up to 26/06/2017</i>	682
<i>No. of open pre planning applications up to 26/06/2017</i>	95

FORWARD PLANNING

Review of the Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019 and the Preparation of a new County Development Plan for the period 2019-2025: The Chief Executive has prepared his report on the issues raised in the forty one written submissions and observations received during the pre-draft consultation on the review of the Plan. The report also includes the Chief Executive's recommendations on the policies to be included in the Draft Plan. The Report has been submitted to the Members for their consideration and it will be discussed at a Special meeting of the Full Council to be held on the 3rd July, 2017.



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 the plan area, directly north of St. Senan's Hospital. The purpose of the proposed variation is to change the zoning of this land 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 Council's Economic Development Strategy. The proposed variation was placed on public display from Wednesday, 10th May, 2017 to Wednesday, 7th June, 2017.

The Chief Executive has prepared his report on the issues raised in the 8 written submissions and observations received during the public consultation period.

The report has been submitted to the Members for their consideration and it will be discussed at a Special meeting of the Council to be held on the 3rd July, 2017. The Variation would have effect from the day that it is made by the Council.

Bridgetown Village Renewal Design Statement (VRDS): The first public meeting for the Bridgetown VRDS took place on 13th June, 2017 at the Bridgetown Community School. The meeting which was organised in conjunction with the Planning Department, Community Section and the Wexford District was well attended with over 50 members of the public contributing to the consultation exercise. Fergus Flanagan Architects were in attendance with Council staff to explain the process and encourage participation.

Detailed comments were provided by the residents that will be used to direct the process and help identify the improvement projects that will form part of the plan. The Architects will now formulate proposals that will be assessed and presented back to the village.



Building Control: Commencement Notices:

A total of 243 valid commencement notices have been submitted from to 26th June, 2017 on the BCMS.

Taking In Charge: Two estates are currently at the public consultation stage:-

1. Elm Park, Wexford
2. McClure Meadows, Wexford

The last day for the inspection of the above maps is 27th July, 2017. The latest date for the receipt of written objections/representations is on the 14th August, 2017.

Derelict Sites and Dangerous Structures: Activity on Derelict Sites/Dangerous Structures is as follows:

Notices Issued under Derelict Sites Act 1990

41 since 1st January
4 for the month of June

Notices issued under Sanitary Services Act 1964

8 since 1st January
0 for the month of June

Planning Enforcement:

The number of planning enforcement cases as at 26th June, 2017 are as follows:-

➤ Cases Opened - June	12
➤ Live Cases	473
➤ Cases Closed - June	4

Circuit Court Cases - Gorey

- 0100/2014 - Unauthorised waste collection business at Killowen Upper, Kilgorman. Circuit Court case adjourned by Judge until 27.7.2017
- 0135/2014 – Unauthorised quarry at Balcarrighill, Ballycanew. Circuit Court case adjourned by Judge until Jan 2018 due to Judicial review in High Court of An Bord Pleanála decision.

District Court Cases

Wexford:

- 0121/2014 – Unauthorised pontoon at Park, Ferrycarrig. Case adjourned for 3 months to complete work required by Enforcement Notice

Enniscorthy:

- 0139/2012 - Unauthorised portacabin at Coolakip, Edermine, Enniscorthy. Eric Dempsey was convicted and fined €750 and ordered to pay legal costs €2,589.

New Ross:

- 0392/2009 - Unauthorised mobile home at Gaffney's Bridge, Kilbraney, Inch. David Quigley was convicted and sentenced to 5 months in prison, fined €10 and ordered to pay legal costs €1,897
- 0018/2009 – Non-payment of planning contributions. Case adjourned

Gorey:

- 0159/2010 – Non-payment of planning contributions. Case adjourned

Access Section:

Beach Wheelchair Initiative 2017: The launch of the beach wheelchair for Kilmore Quay took place on Wednesday the 21st June 2017. Mainstreaming the beach wheelchair into core service provision is continuing with the additional feature of an on-line booking service having been developed in house by the I.T. Department.



Disability Access Certificates (DAC): The current number of Disability Access Certificate applications, validated for the period up to and including the 27/06/17, totals 25, an increase of 6 from the previous report.

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

HOUSING

Rent Review 2017: It is proposed to carry out a rent review on an annual basis. All tenants will be contacted and asked to submit up to date information to allow calculation of the rent. The rent review form has been updated and redesigned to a more user friendly and accessible model. This should benefit both applicants and staff. A test batch of 226 forms were issued on 12th June so that we can assess that there are no issues with the new form prior to issue of over 5,000 forms. A full rent review will commence in July 2017 with a planned effective date of 1st January 2018.

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. Around 800 reminder letters were sent out on 22/06/17 as the required information was not sent in.

Anti-Social Behaviour: The SEO and the four Housing Liaison Officers attended a one-day training course on dealing with Anti-Social Behavior recently. Wexford County Council will move to issue a tenancy notification for low-level cases rather than the tenancy warning notice which starts the legal process.

It is proposed to inform members of the number of anti-social behavior complaints on a monthly basis using the following template:-

No of complaints	No of Call outs	Open / Closed cases	Tenancy Notifications	Tenancy Warning Notices	Court Yes/No	Municipal District
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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 almost complete and keys to be handed over in the next few days.
- **41 St Martin's Park, Ballycullane** – On programme for September handover
- **2 Special Needs Houses in Oilgate** - Construction commenced, see photos below:-



- **9 houses in Baile Eoghain, Gorey** – at tender stage.
- **8 houses in Cherry Orchard, Enniscorthy** - Stage 4 received, signing of contracts expected next week.
- **2 houses in Cois Mara, Rosslare** – Awaiting Stage 4 approval to sign contracts. Expect to be on site end of July.
- **5 Mountain View in Rathnure** – Construction proceeding on programme for August handover, see photo below:-



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 July 2017
- 10 Houses at Slippery Green, Wexford – stage 2 submission in May 2017
- 10 Houses in Creagh, Gorey – Stage 3 in August 2017
- 10 Houses in Danescastle –stage 2 submitted to Dept June 2017
- 7 Houses in Coolcots – preparing Stage 2 for submission in June 2017
- 1 house at Ross Road Enniscorthy – waiting on Stage 3 approval
- 1 house at Ballynabola - Stage 1 & 2 have been submitted to the dept

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 seventh family arrived this week. The designated refugee support worker will work closely with them providing support and assistance to help them integrate into the Irish community. The relocation of refugee families to Enniscorthy will commence in late July.

ENVIRONMENT

Coastal: The DAFM recently approved 9 no. projects under the Fishery Harbours and Coastal Infrastructure Development Programme at a total estimated cost of €568,000. Work is underway to progress these. The beach wheelchair for Kilmore Quay (little beach) was launched on June 21st.

Public conveniences: Refurbishment works are ongoing at 3 Public Conveniences in the county, at Carne, Curracloe and minor works at Rosslare

Recycling, Waste & Litter Activities: Wexford County Council on Monday 26 June 2017 conducting a significant environmental waste enforcement operation at an unauthorised waste site in North County Wexford.

Using powers available to it under the Waste Management Acts, the Council conducted the operation to limit environmental pollution occurring at the site. The operation includes removal of unauthorised equipment and follows months of investigation and monitoring by Wexford County Council at the unauthorised site.

SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

Safeguarding Courses (Child Protection): Safeguarding 1 25 attending Courses: total for 2017; 151

Community Coaching Course 3: This course will be completed at the end of June 7 participants including 5 who have come from Rehab and Cumas New Ross.

We are delighted with the partnership with Wexford GAA in running this course and have had great reports from the work this group has been carrying out in the community. We have applied for funding to run another course from September.

Disability Sport For all club: We have supported the set up of this club based in Enniscorthy and in partnership with the IWA. We have had 14 parents and 8 young people take part, and we now have a club set up to participate in a range of sports.

Older Adults: Go for life Games – National event on 10th June in DCU. Dublin 15 Older adults represented Wexford at these games

Learn To Swim Programme: We now have two centres that have begun the training for this programme to be rolled out in September. The programme has now been endorsed by the Department of Health and the Department of Education.

Up and Coming Events: Fun In The Sun Aug 8th –Aug 16th Riverchapel, Curracloe, Rosslare, Enniscorthy Sports Hub, Duncannon, Wexford Park, Bunclody GAA, New Ross Town Park.

LIBRARIES, ARTS & ARCHIVES

Tech Zone and 3 D Printer A new state of the art new Tech Zone was launched by Cathaoirleach of Wexford County Council, Councillor John Hegarty on 22nd June in Wexford Library. This service will make 3D printing, design and robotics instruction available to the general public and schools in a friendly, interactive and inclusive way. The new Tech Zone service was developed specifically to support and engage primary and secondary school students in this area and comes at a time when the government has launched a new Digital Strategy for Schools. Instruction will be given over the summer months in 3D printing, robotics and coding as part of a drive by Wexford Library Service to increase interaction with STEAM across the County.

Science Foundation Ireland Funding has been secured from Science Foundation Ireland by Wexford County Council Library Service to run WexSci a week long Science Festival in November 2017. The festival will be funded under the Discover Programme and will see dozens of events for both children and adults in libraries and other venues across the County.

Summer Stars Summer Reading Challenge has been successfully launched in all Wexford Library Service branches in the County. The biggest challenge to date, over 1,500 children are expected to complete the 6 book challenge over the summer with events being planned to coincide with the programme.

The centenary of the death of **Major Willie Redmond** was commemorated on Thursday 8th June in Wexford Library. Over 100 people attended an exhibition launch and lecture by Jarlath Glynn. The exhibition was funded by the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.

Creative Ireland- The small grant scheme announced under the Creative Ireland programme for 2017 received 92 applications. 10 – 15 successful applications are being selected Mon 26th June 2017. Details of funding for Creative Ireland programme for 2018 has yet to be announced.

Arts Council Award: Wexford Arts Dept was awarded €15,000 as part of Arts Council's 'Invitation to collaboration Scheme' to research Arts Programmes in relation to Coastal Biodiversity. In partnership with Dublin City council and Fingal County Council Arts Departments. An award ceremony will take place on 21st July in Dublin.

The Street Exhibition programme – *And Creatures Dream...A New Language*. In partnership with Wexford Arts Centre opened on Saturday 1st July in County Hall. The focus of exhibition is on paintings by 13 artists from or connected to Wexford.

Co-curated by Catherine Bowe (Wexford Arts centre) and Helen Gaynor, the exhibition spans two venues and will run in both in Wexford County Council, Carricklawn and Wexford Arts Centre from 1st July until 25th August 2017.

FIRE SERVICE

News: On Thursday May 25th New Ross fire brigade received delivery of their new Class B fire appliance. Cathaoirleach of New Ross Municipal District, Councillor Michael Whelan was there on the day to launch it and wish the fire crews well in its use.



In early June Wexford Fire Authority ran the National Directorate for Fire & Emergency NDFEM breathing apparatus instructor's (BAI) course. 5 senior and junior officers from the county attended.

A Level 7 fire engineering degree developed by the Wexford Fire Authority in conjunction with the WIT received approval to proceed with the first cohort of students expected in September 2018. This is only the second such degree available in the R.O.I.

Fire Operations: May was a quieter month than usual with 58 incidents including 6 chimney fires, 17 false alarms with good intent and 12 gorse/grass fires.

Incident type	Year to date	May
Fires	136	26
Special Services	59	9
Chimney Fires	93	6
False Alarms	84	17

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

Applications Received	Year to date	May
Fire Safety Certificates	33	5
Planning Referrals	255	39
FSA Inspections	101	33

During May 3 notification(s) for liquor licence(s) were received by the Fire Authority.

CIVIL DEFENCE

Civil Defence Rescue Review: The civil defence officer attended a meeting of the Rescue Review group to finalise modules for a new Rescue Foundation Course for volunteers. The meeting took place in the Civil Defence College Roscrea.

Civic Duties: There was a total of 14 Civic Duties for May 2017, a total of 41 duties so far for 2017.

- 2nd June Strawberry Fair and Rhythms Festival
- 4th June Eurovelo Cycle, Saltmills
- 4th June Polska Festival Gorey
- 4th June Carnefest
- 11th June Norman Way Cycle, Our Ladys Island
- 13th June KBK Velo Club cycle, Kilmuckridge
- 16th June Wexford Athletics, Senior Road Race, Barntown
- 17th June Feile na Peile, New Ross
- 18th June Feile na Peile, Ferns Centre of Excellence
- 18th June 1.5 Staying Alive Cycle Bunclody
- 23rd June Wexford Athletics, Sports Hub Enniscorthy
- 24th June Byrne Perry History Walk, Gorey
- 25th June Community Games, Enniscorthy Sports Hub
- 25th June Charity Couch 5k (MS Ireland), New Ross

Wexford Civil Defence members attended the retirement function for Mr. Frank Murphy OIC, Curracloe Coastguard Unit. Frank retires after 41 years service with the coast guard.

3. Transportation, Water Services:

ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION

COUNTY WEXFORD'S NATIONAL ROADS SCHEMES

1. N25 NEW ROSS BYPASS

Progress Update June 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 (New Ross Joint Venture – NRJV). The works are progressing well and the road remains on programme to open in 2019.

Earthworks operations continue to progress throughout the site and are estimated to be approximately 40% complete. Blasting operations are ongoing at four locations at Stokestown, Camlin, Ballymacar and Lacken and prior notifications to local residents in ongoing before each blast event.

Barrow Bridge pier stems to the west of the river have progressed with some piers now raised to the soffit of the bridge deck. Works to pier stems to the east of the river and bridge deck spans to the west of the river will progress in the coming months. Structural works are substantially complete for Stokestown Road Underbridge, R733 Campile Road Underbridge & Ballymacar Road Underbridge, and are ongoing for Camlin Road Overbridge, Creakan Road Underbridge, Arnestown Road Overbridge and Ryleen Road Underbridge. Six farm underpasses are substantially complete and works are also progressing for a significant retaining wall adjacent to the R733 road.

The temporary diversion and statutory 60km/h speed limit continues to operate on the N25 at Ballymacar. The diversion is via a newly constructed road and through a new underbridge and will remain in place until 2018. Extensive traffic management is being implemented to guide road users safely through and around the diversion route. Localised temporary diversions and traffic management are also in place on the Stokestown Road, Camlin Road, Arnestown Road and Ryleen Road to facilitate bridge works at these sites. It is anticipated that the statutory 60km/h speed limit and traffic management on the N25 at Glenmore will become operational in July to facilitate the construction of a roundabout and a new underpass. These operations will continue on the N25 until 2018. A temporary closure of the L-7501 into Glenmore village has been advertised from July 1st to September 1st to facilitate these works and alternative routes will be signposted. The Pink Rock Road in Co. Kilkenny remains closed to facilitate Barrow Bridge access and construction. A temporary diversion route and traffic management plan will remain in place until 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 also being monitored for the generation of noise, vibration and dust and any results outside of acceptable criteria are being reported and actioned.

The recent very dry weather created challenging conditions for the generation of dust and mitigation measures are being closely monitored to minimise any impacts on neighbouring properties.

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 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.



Earthworks on Glenmore side with Pink Rock in background.



2. Barrow Bridge –
Pink Rock pier



3. Barrow Bridge – Pink Rock piers rising towards deck soffit level.



4. Barrow Bridge - Pier 2 & 3 construction at Pink Rock.



5. Barrow Bridge - Pier 4 (river pier) in Foreground



6. Earthworks at Stokestown



7. Preparation for retaining wall base at R733



8. N25 temporary diversion route via Ballymacar realignment & Underbridge - view Eastbound



9. N30 Tie-in – towards Clonroche

M11 Gorey to Enniscorthy	Total No of Landowners	Settled to date
	201	197

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 Reported in Dec 2016	Progress Reported in Feb	Progress Reported in March	Progress Reported in April	Progress Reported in May	Progress Reported in June
Site Clearance	96%	98%	98%	98%	98%	98%
Fencing	85%	86%	86%	86%	86%	86%
Drainage & Service Ducts	7%	9%	10%	11%	12%	13%
Earthworks	23%	26%	28%	30%	35%	48%
Structures – main Bridges		3%	6%	15%	20%	24%
Structures – Culverts	29%	45%	49%	55%	65%	67%
Structures – Access Structures	12%	25%	33%	42%	50%	65%
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 May 2017 is 847,541m³

Major Structures

Ballygullen Railway Crossing, M11-S3: Installation of band drains and stone columns complete. RE walls on north and south abutments complete. Blinding on north abutment complete and fixing of reinforcement for bankseat 50% complete. Estimated completion date for the structure is Q4, 2017

Structure for River Slaney and Railway Crossing, N80-S1: Piling complete. Pile testing complete and pile heads broken down to expose reinforcement to lap on column reinforcement. Columns on central pier concreted and reinforcement and shutters fixed on east abutment. 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. Columns concreted on north abutment and central pier. Estimated completion date for the structure is Q4, 2017

Blasting: Rock Blasting is continuing 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: The following roads are being inspected on weekly basis by the contractor and Wexford County Council. Any defects arising from this inspection is being addressed by the contractor.

- L1027, Ballygullen Road
- L2020, Crane Road
- L2021, Ballynabarny Road
- L2011, Tinnacross Road

Applications submitted to Wexford County Council from the PPP:

Road Closure Applications: Wexford County Council are progressing the following road closure applications

Road	Application Status	Closure Date	Duration (months)	Status
L2020, Ballynabarny	Granted	Nov 2016	3	Reopened 23/1/17
L5093, Rocksprings Road	Granted	Jan 2017	6	1 month extension requested
L2021, Crane Road	Granted	March 2017	9	November 2017
L2012, Killalligan Road	Granted	Feb 2017	6	August 2017
L6122, Templescoby	Granted	April 2017	6	Closure Postponed
L6125, Monart East	Granted	Feb 2017	6	August 2017
L6055, Drumgold Road	Withdrawn	Postponed	6	
L2040, Knockrathkyle	Granted	Feb 2017	6	August 2017
L6052, Scurlocksbush	Granted	March 2017	6	September 2017
L1027, Ballygullen Road	Withdrawn	April 2017	2	
L2015, Coolnahorna	Submitted	August 2017	6	To be advertised
L6048, Glenteige Road	Submitted	August 2017	7	To be advertised
L2030, Bessmount Road	Submitted	August 2017	3	To be advertised

Public Relations: The following Primary Schools have been visited by BAM Contractors to give a brief update and a presentation to the school children. The presentation emphasised the potential dangers of trespassing on a construction site.

- St. Aidan's Enniscorthy
- St. Senans Enniscorthy
- Monageer N.S.
- Ferns N.S.
- Camolin N.S.
- St Josephs Gorey

Newsletter: The Newsletter for this quarter is currently being drafted and once approved will be available for circulation. The N11 website WWW.m11gtoe.ie is updated on a monthly basis providing information on blasting and road closures and traffic management.

A 24hr 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.

2016 Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) Allocation: TII initially allocated a sum of €5,394,000 for pavement and minor improvement works in 2016 .Some of the schemes are due to be completed in 2017.

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 Killealy 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 July.

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 was substantially completed on 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 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 Cushenstown Pavement Scheme: This scheme commenced on the 19th. June. It is due to be completed by the 18th. August.

Ballygillane Little Pavement Scheme: This scheme commenced on the 12th June. It is due to be completed by 30th. June.

N25 Ballygoman to Knockeen Pavement Scheme: Survey works were completed in April. This scheme will be tendered in early July. Construction works should commence in 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 early 2018.

REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROADS

Strengthening: Strengthening programme commenced on Monday March 6 in the Gorey District. The first half of the programme was completed on Friday June 16.

Works completed within the last month: Ballyvellig to Grange Cross, and Ballykelly (both in New Ross District); Ballycarrigeen to The Harrow (Gorey District)

Macadam works completed at Monamolin Village, and Riverchapel to Pollshone (both Gorey District); Southknock to Brandon Park (New Ross District); Ballymartin Cross to Garrylough (Wexford District).

Surface Dressing: Surface dressing programme commenced on Monday June 19 in the Wexford District.

Works completed within the last month: Kisha Cross to Cross of The Lough, Farmers Kitchen to Killane Castle, Tracystown to Cleariestown, Shelmalier Commons to Mullanour, and Ballygoman (all in Wexford District); Oilgate to Coolmain, Cooladine to Corbally, Oulartwick to Ballincash, and Garr Cross to Bridgetown (all in Enniscorthy District).

Improvement Works: Works on New Ross Flood Relief Scheme ongoing. Repairs completed to four span masonry arch bridge at Glenglas.

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



Wexford County Council continue to promote cycling in the county. Several family cycles were held during bike week along with other events as highlighted below: "It was great to see the large numbers that attended the events and it is also encouraging that more cycling clubs are getting involved in Bike Week. Without the help of the Cycling Clubs involved, The Civil Defence and the Gardai – these events could not go ahead, so their work is greatly appreciated" stated Frank Burke – Cycling Officer

Eurovelo 1 Family Cycle

Hook Ringers Cycling Club in association with Wexford County Council ran a cycle event On Sunday June 4th in Saltmills - on a section of the newly signposted Eurovelo 1 Cycle Route (this route goes from Rosslare Harbour to Ballyhack via quiet country coastal roads and is 120km in length – more details at www.wexford.ie/eurovelo). Nearly 100 cyclists took to the Shore road from the Saltmills and returned from Tintern via the Brickfield Lane to The Vine Cottage, where all families sat in the courtyard in glorious sunshine with food and beverages provided as they listened to some live traditional music. A very enjoyable day was had by all.



Norman Way Family Cycle

The Norman Way Family Cycle was held on June 11th, 2017 in Lady's Island. Hook Ringers cycling club did a sterling job in marshalling this event. Emmet Stafford did a fantastic job in bringing the Norman Way Historical sites to life as he imparted his vast knowledge about our past as we cycled from Lady's Island to Tomhaggard and stopped off at some of the Norman Way sites along the route. Thanks to Broadway N.S. Parents Council for catering after the event.
<http://thenormanway.com/>



KBK Velo Cycle Club

KBK Velo Cycle Club also ran a very successful 7km Family Cycle from Kilmuckridge to Morriscastle, on Tuesday June 13th, with an ice-cream stop at Lawlor's Shop in Morriscastle. This event was well marshalled and was greatly aided by a Garda motorcyclist and Civil Defence.



Lions Club Enniscorthy Family Cycle

The Lions Club in association with Wexford Co Co ran a family cycle event in Enniscorthy, Sunday June 18th, starting and finishing at Kilcannon Garden Centre, aided by the Enniscorthy Gardaí and Wexford Civil Defence.

There were two routes: the long route was 7km and the shorter route was specifically for younger children and measured 2km in length. 50 cyclists took part in the cycles. There was food and drinks provided after the event and a big thank you must go to all the catering staff in Kilcannon Garden Centre.



Ounavarra Family Cycle

Ounavarra Cycling Club ran an 11km Family Cycle in Ballycanew on Sunday June 18th which was well attended with over 40 cyclists. This was an event that was extremely well run where the safety of the cyclists was foremost in the minds of all the marshals and club members present. Well done to all in Ounavarra Cycling Club and to all the children and parents who took part in a very enjoyable event. Thanks must go to the First Responder volunteers for providing cover incase of emergencies and in fact this event was a fund raiser for the First responders





Cycling Safety Awareness Campaign

As part of the 1.5 ride cycle sportiff, Wexford Co Co in association with Stayin'Alive 1.5 provided rear window car stickers asking motorists to "Pass with Care" when overtaking cyclists. These stickers were available at all the Bike week Family cycles.



Couch to 30km Cycle Training

WCC ran a 5 week "Coach to 30km" starter programme with fully qualified cycling coaches. It was run over 5 Saturday mornings and culminated in a 30km Bike week cycle event as the cyclists completed the 1.5 sportiff 30Km route.

WATER SERVICES

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 DBO contract was 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 by CPO 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 in Courtown was completed in 2016. The plant is now operated by the contractor. (Aecom is now Murphy Process Engineering). 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. Consultants have been engaged by IW to review the design and revise the contract documents. Planning applications have been submitted by IW to Wexford County Council to upgrade the borehole sites and build a new water treatment plant at Ballyminaun. Negotiations for wayleaves ongoing with landowners. Tender documents are in preparation.

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' (UTAS) for Duncannon, Kilmore Quay, Ballyhack and Arthurstown. An 'Options Report' and a final design report is complete.

Irish Water have appointed Consultants AECOM 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 watermains rehab at Gorey, Screen and Bridgetown. Site investigation works took place at the end of 2016.

Construction of these watermains by Wexford County Council 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.

IRISH WATER MINOR SCHEMES & SPECIAL SCHEMES

IW Asset Management: Murrintown P.S.(Wastewater to Wexford WWTW): Tender are being reviewed.

Flow Monitoring & Sampling Programme: Snagging ongoing.

Sewer network pump station maintenance contract : 1st round of servicing is complete. 2nd round is approved.

WWTP pre-planned Maintenance Contract: Tenders assessed and panel formed.

IW Asset Management: Newtown WTW (pumps, blowers etc.): A meeting held with Contractor Avonmore 30th May, 2017. Some of the pumps have been delivered to site. Works to commence in August.

IW Asset Management: Kilmallock & Taylorstown WTW (new pumps, automated treatment, replacement of chlorine gas etc): M&E fitout ongoing. Kilmallock has had new raw water, highlift and backwash pumps fitted. Valve arrangements are being changed and automated. Additional works have been approved for Taylorstown including the replacement of sand and the installation of polyelectrolyte dosing.

IW Asset Management: pH Emergency (Automated dosing control): Coolgreaney wayleave agreement to be resolved.

IW Asset Management: Vinegar Hill Air Blowers replacement: Air Blowers delivered to site 20th June.

IW Asset Management: Coagulation automation at Creagh, Vinegar Hill and Newtown WTW: Tenders evaluated and recommendation for the appointment of Contractor submitted to Irish Water.

IW Asset Management: Disinfection and pH Control Programme: Value Engineering workshop meeting held 15th June covering 5 schemes.

Suppressed Capital Maintenance scheme: A capital maintenance budget of €930,000 has been allocated by Irish Water for Wexford for 2017. €1,180,720 worth of capital maintenance replacement work has been applied for to date for approval. €728,959 has been approved to proceed to procurement by Irish Water.

RURAL WATER PROGRAMME

Allocations – Measure 2: Interim Allocation of €133,962 received under Measure 2 from the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government.

Framework Agreement for Private Group Water Schemes and Private Group Water & Sewerage Schemes: Tender assessment ongoing.

Blackstairs Group Water Scheme – Contract No. 11 Pollpeasty: Site Investigations ongoing.

Oilgate Group Sewerage Scheme: Irish Water have submitted an estimate of €533,990 for the upgrade of the waste water treatment plant in Oilgate. This has been referred to the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government.

WATER CONSERVATION

An application for a permanent Assistant Engineer has been made to Irish Water and a Business Case Application has been forwarded to Personnel for submission to the Department

Watermains Rehabilitation:

- Wexford Small Mains Replacement Contract 1 (Ballymitty, Wellingtonbridge and Newtown Ferns) – **(ShareRidge Ltd.)**
- Wellington Bridge: 925m of 400mm PE Pipe, Complete.
- Ballymitty: 2,900m of 110mm PE Pipe installed. 350m of pipe remaining.
- Ferns: Expected to commence in Ferns Monday 3rd July, 2950m of 180mm PE Pipe to be installed.
- Wexford - Water Conservation Stage 3 Works Watermains Rehabilitation Project Phase 2 **(Direct Labour Crew)**
- Screen to Ballylucas: 4,300m of 355mm PE pipe, 2750m of pipe remaining .

4. Finance:

Audit of Annual Financial Statement (AFS) 2016

The LGAS audit of the 2016 financial records is ongoing.

Audit Committee

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

3 Year Capital Programme 2017-2019

The capital programme for the period 2017 -2019 was distributed to the municipal districts 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.

ICT

Following recent randomware attacks/threat, the Head of ICT carried out a review of our security systems. Based on his recommendations, it was agreed to upgrade our ICT security software. The procurement process will start immediately.

Budget 2018

Preparation for the 2018 budget process will commence shortly. The LPT public consultation process will commence in the coming weeks. The Budget Strategy Meetings will be held in September and a special meeting of the Council will be required to formally agree the LPT rate for 2018 before 30th September. Dates for both meetings will be agreed early in September.

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.**