



# **Chief Executive's Report**

**November 2017**

## 1.Economic Development & Planning:

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UNIT

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**IDA Board meeting:** Wexford County Council offices hosted a private meeting of the IDA Board on October 12<sup>th</sup> 2017. As part of the meeting, CE Tom Enright, Director of Services Tony Larkin and Economic Development Officer Carolyne Godkin attended the meeting to present on the County's Economic Strategy 2017-2020.



Film

film  
for the

Location  
website

launch: A new  
location website  
County

<http://www.wexfordfilmlocations.com/> will be launched early November 2017. An initiative between Wexford County Council Arts, Economic and IT Departments supported by Creative Ireland, this website is a significant step in building the county's profile as a destination of choice for location filming. Supported by the Irish Film Board, it is expected that we will attract more interest in coming 24 months.

**New Ross & District Chamber Business Awards:** The Gala Evening for the New Ross Business awards will take place on Saturday November 4<sup>th</sup> 2017 in the Brandon House Hotel. Awards will be presented across 12 categories including an Overall Business of the Year Award. Tickets and shortlisted nominees can be found at [www.newrosschamber.ie](http://www.newrosschamber.ie)

**Wexford Chamber Business Lunch 24<sup>th</sup> November 2017:** Wexford Chamber will host a Business Lunch in association with Wexford County Council to update on the Economic Programme in the coming 3 years.

The lunch, titled 'Looking Towards 2018' will be hosted by the Chamber President with a range of special guests. Further information and tickets available from: [www.WexfordChamber.ie](http://www.WexfordChamber.ie)

### TOURISM

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**Recruitment** of a full time staff member for Visit Wexford in the role of Destination Marketing Manager highlights the commitment and drive to grow the tourism sector by both the council and industry. Norma Quinsey began her role on 2<sup>nd</sup> October. This position is supported by Wexford County Council.

**Visit Wexford Website:** A redesign of the Visit Wexford website has been agreed by the Visit Wexford group and is an urgent priority. Comparing Oct 2016 to October 2017 shows the growth of the brand and success of recent social media campaigns from TL marketing (direct typing of Visit Wexford +265%) The redesign of the website will use sections of drone footage commissioned by Wexford County Council.



**Visit Wexford Marketing Subcommittee:** is due to meet again on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. This group is created by the members of the marketing staff in each of the hotels and attractions also have a rep present. A new invitation was sent and we have seven new attendees confirmed for the next meeting.

**Ireland's Ancient East:** Norma attending the Irelands Ancient East Visitor Interpretation conference in Portlaoise on Wed 11<sup>th</sup> October. In the toolkit provided to all tourism businesses Wexford received great recognition featuring The National Heritage Park, Tintern Abbey, and The Norman Way & Hook Lighthouse.

<http://www.failteireland.ie/FailteIreland/media/WebsiteStructure/Documents/Irelands%20Ancient%20East/Storytelling-Interpretation-How-to-Help-Visitors-Experience-Your-Story.pdf>

Norma is also attending the Ireland's Ancient East Regional Tourism Management Programme.

Communication of IAE policies to the industry including the IAE Food Toolkit, Deadline for Festival and events & IAE Grants Scheme for Storytelling Interpretation 2017

**Trade Shows 2018:** Visit Wexford has agreed to attend 4 trade shows in 2018 - Balmoral, Bloom, The Horse Show and The Ploughing Championships. It was agreed that Visit Wexford will not attend Holiday World in 2018.

**Meitheal 2018:** Norma intends to create 2 and 3 day itineraries at the Failte Ireland Tour Operator conference Meithael in Spring 2018. This will focus on the appeal of accommodation starting in Gorey to combat the demand for overnight in Dublin then create a list of activities as the tours remain in Wexford for 2 to 3 nights. The itineraries will be created with a focus on the culturally curious and social energizers that are they key markets based on research from IAE.

**Welcome Ambassador Programme – Opera Festival scheme:** The annual call out to the Wexford Ambassadors was circulated for volunteers to participate in the Wexford Festival Opera version of the Visit Wexford Welcome Ambassador programme.

This scheme will ensure that as part of a visit to Wexford during the Opera Festival friendly volunteers will promote the Visit Wexford brand will be on hand during the weekend days of the Opera Festival to assist visitors to Wexford Town with any simple queries they may have and will work with the Tourist Office in supporting visitors to Wexford.

**Tourism Strategy for County Wexford:** After a tendering process with much interest, Genesis Ltd. have been contracted to compile a Tourism Strategy for County Wexford. The Strategy will conceive a vision for the tourism sector in the county which will guide the infrastructure and industry development of the sector for the County to 2022. This will support Wexford County Council and key stakeholders in the county for development of the industry. The sector has grown in importance for the county in recent years and the county is well placed to capitalise on the Failte Ireland, Ireland's Ancient East concept, which the strategy will focus specifically upon Spiegeltent Festival

### **Additional Information**

- €46,000 awarded from CEDRA to new Food Tourism Project led by Jean O'Connell and Liz Hore (Enniscorthy District Manager)
- National Offshore Rowing Championships have requested to be held in Wexford (proposed for August 2018) with 5k visitors per day over the 3 day event expected. Health and Safety assessed by Wexford County Council & formal event request to be submitted prior to Christmas.
- Repeat of Irish Winter Shore Angling Festival in Morriscastle in Jan 2018.

## **LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE (LEO) TEAM**

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**Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur – #IBYE now at Bootcamp Stage:** The search to find Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneurs closed on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September. With a €2 million investment fund available, this enterprise initiative from the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation, Enterprise Ireland and run by the 31 Local Enterprise Offices around the country, supports young entrepreneurs through training, mentoring and direct financial investments. A total of 54 Young entrepreneurs between the ages of 18 and 35 entered the Wexford leg of this competition.

With an available IBYE investment fund of €50,000, Local Enterprise Office Wexford will award six investments to three category winners and three runners-up at county level. The local winners in the Best Start-Up and Best Established Business categories at county level will receive investments of up to €15,000 each and the two runners-up will each receive up to €5,000. The Best Business Idea winner at county level will receive an investment of up to €7,000 and the runner-up will receive up to €3,000 of investment.

A one day enterprise workshop is taking place for all entries to this competition on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November in the Ferrycarrig Hotel followed by a two day residential bootcamp for 20 shortlisted finalists on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> and Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November.

The winners at County Wexford level will be judged and awarded on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at an awards ceremony here in the Council Chambers. The three County winners will then progress to Regional Finals in January and hopefully to the National IBYE finals in March 2018.

**LEO Innovation Investment Fund (LIIF) – 3 investments to Wexford Companies:** The LEO Innovation Investment Fund is an investment fund of €1.5 million. This fund has been made available through the network of 31 Local Enterprise Offices, targeting **Investor Ready** LEO Clients who wish to start, grow, or develop innovative Micro Enterprises. Following an extensive call out for applications back in July and regional investor ready workshops and formal pitching to an Investor Panel - the appraisal committee for the South-East (Carlow, Kilkenny, Wexford and Wicklow) met on Wed 18th and Thursday 19th October in IT Carlow and met all 22 shortlisted applicants for the 7 LIIF Investment Awards. The following Wexford candidates were successful.

**1. Brendan Colbert - Poachers Premium Beverages:** The investor ready plan shows that the investment of €50,000 (€25,000 promoter and €25,000 LIIF) will be used to (a) increase operating efficiency by the creation of Poachers own bottle mould and (b) hire a dedicated brand ambassador to work with the existing team in increasing sales.

**2. Paul Zelderloo - New Avenue:** The investor ready plan shows that the investment of €50,000 (€25,000 promoter and €25,000 LIIF) will be used to (a) hire an extra 2 people (b) Purchase ID printer equipment (c) Fund the development of the ios App and (d) Fund some marketing.

**3. Fiona Falconer - Wild About:** The investor ready plan shows that the investment of €50,000 (€25,000 promoter and €25,000 LIIF) will be used to develop the new product, Wild about Nettle as follows (a) Do a pilot run of 20k - 30k units to market test to customers, retail and hospitality sector (15k) (b) Employ a marketing person (25k) and (c) Significant tastings, promotions and marketing (10k)

**Town Catchment Profiles based on Census Date 2016- Enniscorthy, Gorey, New Ross and Wexford:** LEO Wexford has just published a range of 'Local Catchment Profiles' for County Wexford on our website. These profiles contain a wealth of information and may be very useful to those developing an enterprise strategy and/or business plan or researching the potential market for their business in County Wexford.

Statistical information under headings such as 'Demography', 'Industry & Occupations', 'Connectivity' and more can be found in each profile.

The Catchment profiles can be found on:

[www.localenterprise.ie/Wexford/Publications-Resources/Business-Downloads/](http://www.localenterprise.ie/Wexford/Publications-Resources/Business-Downloads/)

and also on:

[www.wexfordcoco.ie/business/business-supports-and-grants/market-research-and-company-information](http://www.wexfordcoco.ie/business/business-supports-and-grants/market-research-and-company-information)

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# PLANNING

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## Planning Applications:

*No. of valid applications received up to 24/10/2017* 1,135

*No. of pre planning requests up to 24/10/2017* 722

**Strategic Housing Development:** An Bórd Pleanála have received an application for 387 dwelling units at Carcur. The first pre-planning meeting with the Bord, Wexford County Council and the Developer has taken place in accordance with the new Planning Act. An Bórd Pleanála will notify Wexford County Council when the full application is submitted.

## Forward Planning:

**Review of the Wexford County Development Plan 2013 - 2019 and the Preparation of New County Development Plan:** Having completed the consultation process, the Forward Planning team are now working on the preparation of the pre-draft Wexford County Development Plan 2019-2025. It is anticipated that the pre-draft plan will be presented to the Members at the end of Q1 2018. The Retail Strategy, Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, Appropriate Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment have all been placed on eTenders and the tenders received are currently being assessed. A Consultant has now been appointed to prepare the Housing Strategy.

**Review of the Wexford Town and Environs Development Plan 2009-2015 (as extended):** Work has commenced on the review of the Wexford Town and Environs Development Plan 2009-2015 and the preparation of a new plan for the area.

**Heritage: Wexford Town Wall:** A grant of €5,000 was received from the Heritage Council to fund preliminary conservation studies on the portion of the Town Wall that adjoins St Patricks Graveyard. This work involves the clearing of vegetation, recording of the current condition of the wall by laser survey and the production of a method statement that will provide guidance for the conservation of the Medieval Walls.

## Building Control:

- **Commencement Notices:** A total of 373 valid commencement notices have been submitted up to 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2017 on the BCMS.
- **Taking In Charge:** At the start of 2017 the Council had 157 applications on hand and eight further applications have been received to date this year.



Wexford County Council are putting a high priority on resolving the backlog in this area and have taken 50 estates into charge this year to date. (see chart below)

This leaves the total number of 115 Taking in Charge Applications as at 25/10/17.

1. Cul na Graine
2. Larkfield, Rosslare
3. Oakpark, Ballymurn
4. Shelbourne Place, Campile
5. Sweet Briar, Rosslare
6. The Grove, Monageer
7. The Paddocks, Mayfield
8. Arduain, Greenville Lane, Enniscorthy
9. Bishop's Well, Nunnery Road, Enniscorthy
10. Carraig Dubh, Inch Blackwater
11. Cluain Bui, The Moyne
12. Cluain Oir, The Moyne
13. Greenville Court, Enniscorthy
14. Hempfield Close, Enniscorthy
15. Meadowlands Estate, Ross Rd, Enniscorthy
16. Sean Browne Crescent, Enniscorthy
17. \*The Brambles, Galbally, Ballyhogue
18. \*An tArdan Killenagh, Ballycanew
19. Ballycanew Grove, Ballycanew
20. Barmona Heights, Monamolin
21. Cluain Oir, Monamolin
22. Dunehaven, Ardamine
23. Meadowgate, Gorey
24. Sean Doire / Cois Doire, Gorey
25. Woodlands, Gorey
26. \*Skuna Hill, Donaghmore, Ballygarrett, Gorey
27. \*Skuna Bay, Donaghmore, Ballygarrett, Gorey
28. \*Greenacres, Donaghmore, Ballygarrett, Gorey
29. Ard Alainn, New Ross
30. Bellevue Heights, New Ross
31. \*Grangelawn, Ramsgrange
32. Lacken Valley, Irishtown, New Ross
33. Rectory Mews, Duncormick
34. The Bowling Green, New Ross
35. The Orchard, New Ross
36. Woodlands Grove, New Ross
37. Ballinamorrhagh, Curracloe
38. Bishopspark, Wexford
39. Coolballow Cul de Sac
40. Elm Park, Wexford
41. Hunters Court, Coolcotts
42. McClure Meadows, Wexford
43. Slaney Woods, Park, Wexford
44. Spawell Close, Wexford
45. Strandfield Manor, Spawell Road, Wexford
46. Summerhill Heights, Wexford
47. Tincone, Ferrybank
48. Westgate Park, Wexford
49. Westlands, Wexford
50. Walsheslough, Rosslare, Wexford

A further 13 estates have progressed to the public consultation stage. They were advertised in the local paper on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2017 and the last day for the receipt of written objections /representations is Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2017.

Branogue Park, Riverchapel

Meadowbrook, Oulart

Sallyville, Rosslare

Woodlands, Clonroche

Churchwood, Kilrane

Ard na Cuan, Whiterock

(Houses 35-44)

\*Waterside Close, Clohamon

Coill Aoibhinn, Wexford

Orchard Close, Ardavan

The Willows, Killinick

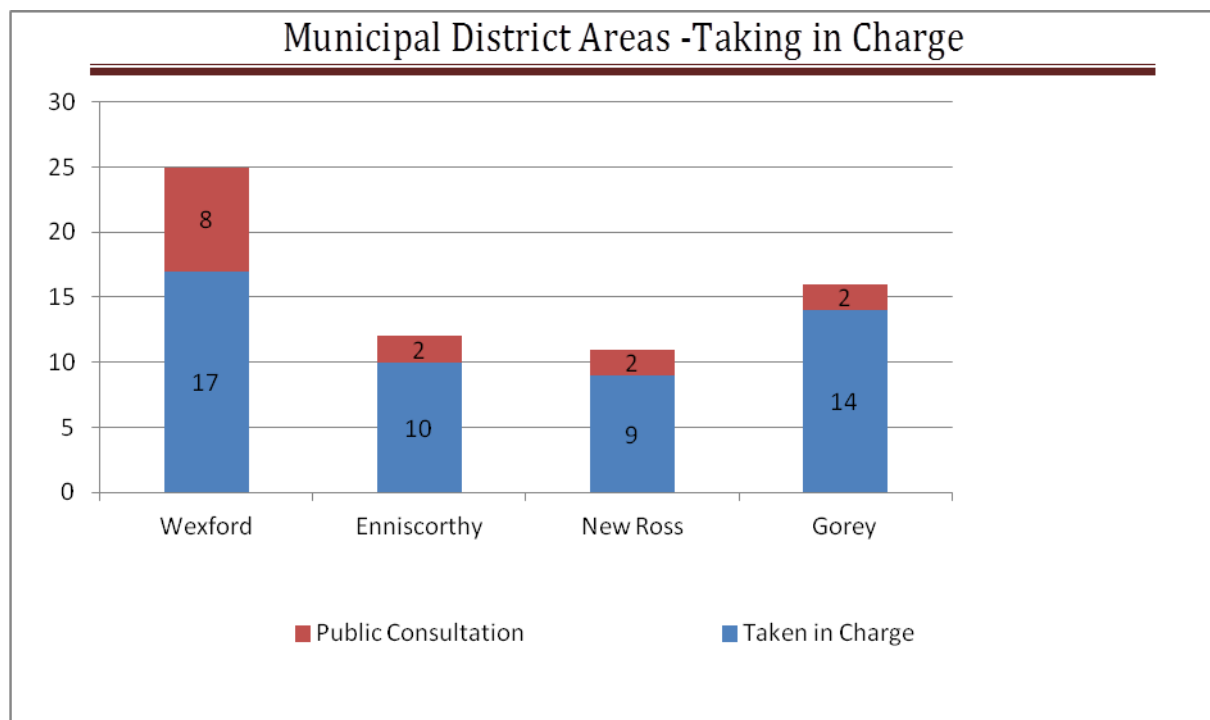
Woodview, Castlebridge

Rosehill Heights, Rosslare

\*Millhaven, Ballyedmond

\*Estates including Developer Provided Infrastructure (DPI)

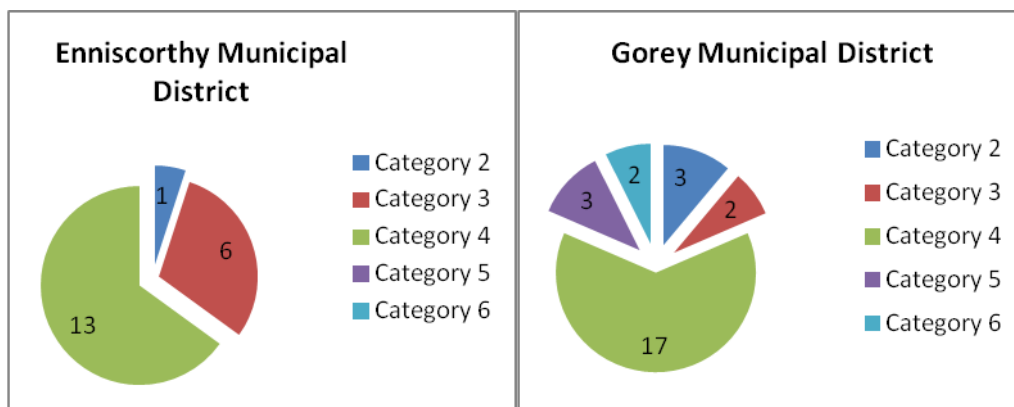
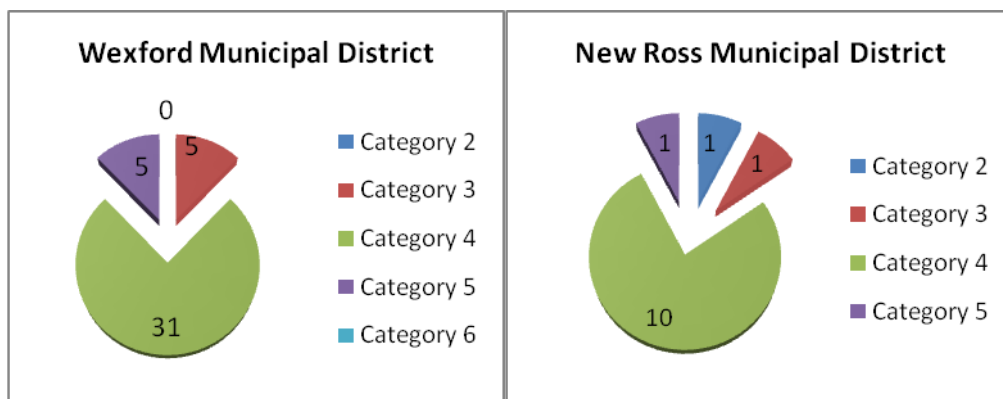
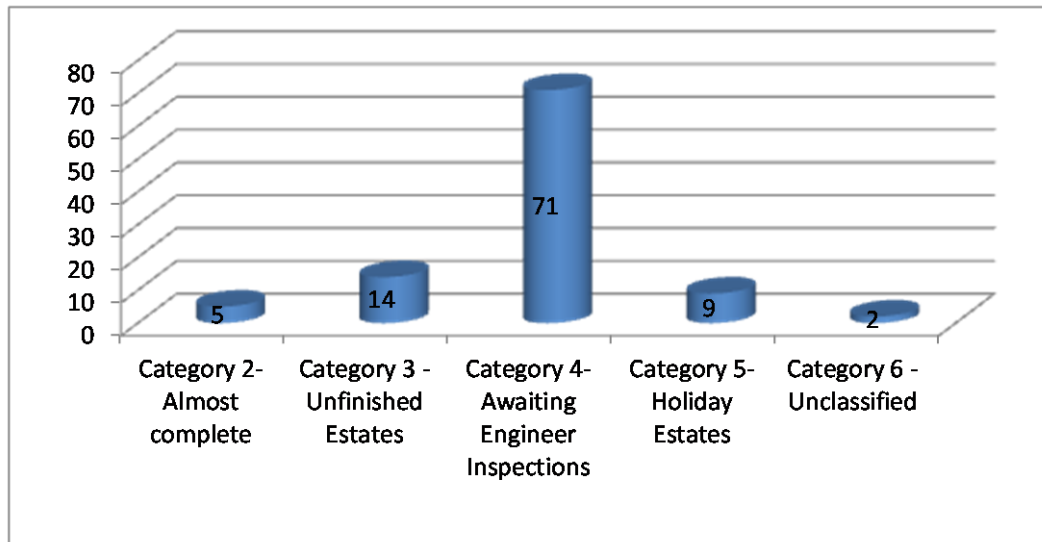
Radhairc na Bhfainthe has progressed through the public consultation stage and will be referred to the New Ross Municipal District meeting for the formal Taking in Charge in November.



The Municipal District Engineers are currently working on reports for 71 estates to progress them to the public consultation stage of the Taking in Charge process (see chart below). It is envisaged to have these 71 estates Taken in Charge by Quarter 1 2018. This will leave a total of 30 applications to be concluded to complete the number of Taking in Charge applications in 2018.



## TAKING IN CHARGE PROGRAMME 2018



Wexford County Council will be looking at updating our Taking in Charge policy in 2018 so that the Taking in Charge process becomes more streamlined and will continue to put a high priority in this area.

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

Activity on Derelict Sites/Dangerous Structures is as follows:

Notices Issued under Derelict Sites Act 1990

45 since 1<sup>st</sup> January

5 for the month of October (up to and including 24<sup>th</sup> October)

Notices issued under Sanitary Services Act 1964

10 since 1<sup>st</sup> January

2 for the month of October (up to and including 24<sup>th</sup> October)

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

6 since 1<sup>st</sup> January

**Planning Enforcement:** The number of planning enforcement cases as at 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2017 is as follows;

➤ Cases Opened – October	3
➤ Live Cases	462
➤ Cases Closed - October	4

**Gorey District Court:**

0144/2016 - Unauthorised change of use of residential green space at Ballymacoonogue, The Ballagh – case adjourned until 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2018 for hearing.

**Wexford District Court :**

**0123/2015** - Unauthorised sale of non-bulky goods at Dealz, Clonard Little, Wexford – case adjourned until 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2018 for mention

**0061/2015** - Unauthorised shed and container at Mayglass Road, Killinick – case adjourned until 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2018.

**0027/2014** - Unauthorised mobile homes at 3 Cottage Row, Taghmon – case struck out following the payment of legal fees and the grant of permission to erect a replacement dwelling and for retention of a mobile home for 2 years on site.

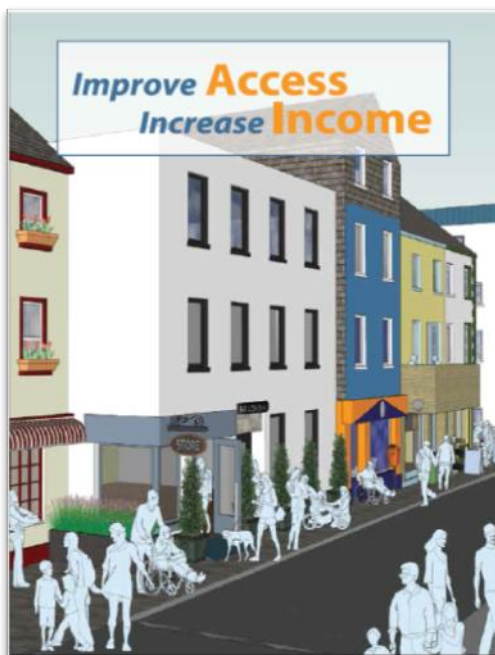
**Access Section:**

**Disability Access Certificates (DAC):** The current number of Disability Access Certificate applications, validated for the period up to and including 24/10/ 2017, totals 54. This is an increase of 9 applications from the previous report in September.

**Retail Booklet: Improve Access Increase Income:** The Access for All guidance booklet, '*Improve Access Increase Income*', designed for businesses was distributed at the Wexford Business and Networking Expo organised by Wexford Chamber of Commerce on 4<sup>th</sup> October.

*Businesses which are not accessible are losing potential income from a substantial and growing client base.*

It is proposed, before year end, to follow up directly with the Wexford Chamber of Commerce to further promote the guidance booklet.



**Access for All Gardens, Parks and Community Spaces Competition 2017:** The award event for the Access for All Gardens, Parks and Community Spaces Competition was held on Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> October in County Hall.

The competition is part of Wexford County Council's Access for All Programme, the aim of which is to assist community groups from around the County in making their community garden, park or space a more inclusive and accessible space for all the community.

Rosslare Harbour/Kilrane Environment Group received €5,500 for its overall winning entry, while entries from Monageer Grotto Group and Hollyfort Development Group/Tidy Towns were Highly Recommended and received awards of €2,500 and €1,000 respectively.



*Presentation to Overall Winners - Rosslare Harbour/Kilrane Environment Group*

## 2. Special Projects:

### SPECIAL PROJECTS – October 2017

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**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 and are currently preparing detailed design and contract documents. A tendering process for construction will commence in Qtr. 4, 2017 and a contractor will be appointed in Qtr 1, 2018. Preliminary enabling works commenced on site in June were completed in October.

**Wexford Quays:** Architects Scott Tallon Walker has completed the draft Stage 2A report on the Economic Development and Spatial Implementation Plan for the Wexford Quay front. This report was issued to the Council's Quays Working Group for review in August and comments returned to STW for inclusion in the report. STW are working to amend and complete the report for issue to WCC in mid November.

**Templeshannon Regeneration, Enniscorthy:** The strategy plan is being finalised with a view to presentation to members in quarter four of 2017.

**Enniscorthy Business Park, Killagoley:** Reddy Architecture + Urbanism have been appointed to develop the master plan, secure planning and develop & construct infrastructure services for the Enniscorthy Business Park at Killagoley. Initial surveys, studies and site investigation works are substantially completed and the development of master plan layouts is underway. An application for planning will be submitted in Qtr 4 2017.

**New Ross Business Park:** Wexford Co. Council has prepared documents for obtaining expressions of interest from developers willing to partner Wexford County Council in delivering an advanced technology building on this site. The pre-qualification stage was advertised via the eTenders platform in September. The procurement is following a 2 stage process. Following evaluation of the pre-qualification submissions, qualified applicants will be invited to submit a full tender submission by the end of the year. Tenders will be subject to a negotiation process in order to obtain the best possible solution.

**Gorey Market House:** A project is in progress to determine and procure the best use for the Market House in Gorey. To guide the procurement process, the Council sought the views of parties interested in the viable and sustainable re-development of the Market House. 21 submissions were received from a variety of interested individuals and groups. These submissions have now been reviewed and a report was presented to the Gorey District Councillors at the September District meeting for their consideration. The general projected approach was accepted by the members. Following pre-qualification, qualified applicants will be invited to submit a full tender setting out detailed proposals to progress the project in line with the Council's objectives and taking account of the building's importance as a focal point on Main Street and its status as a protected structure. The procurement process will follow a two stage process with the intention of awarding a concession contract to the successful applicant to deliver services of a cultural/community/heritage/artistic nature from the Market House. WCC will prepare a Part 8 application and conservation report to guide on the protection of the building and development of the adjoining lands.

**Gorey Town & District Park:** Tenders have been received for Construction of the Park and are currently being assessed. It is anticipated that a contractor will be appointed before year end and construction will commence in Q1 2018.

**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 Brief for Services. Funding must be expended by March 2020.

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

## **HOUSING**

**Refugee Resettlement Programme:** The final family from Phase 1 will transfer to their house in Enniscorthy on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017 together with the first two families from Phase 2 transferring to their houses in Wexford town.

A further two families will transfer to Enniscorthy by mid November. The remaining eleven families from Phase 2 will transfer to New Ross following the appointment of the Resettlement Support Worker for Phase 2. The interviews for this position will be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017.

**Social housing through the Private Rented Sector:** Staff continues to engage with property owners in the private rental sector area who have units that may be available to the local authority under four schemes in operation, namely the RAS Scheme, Lease Scheme, Repair and Leasing Scheme and the Buy and Renew Scheme. Inspections continue to be carried out on potential units.

**Housing Assistance Payment Scheme:** There has been significant take up by social housing applicants of the HAP Scheme since it was introduced 11 months ago. This year's target of 400 HAP tenancies has already been exceeded and the transfer of clients in receipt of rent supplement is ongoing. Currently there are 439 live HAP tenancies.

**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** – Construction complete. This house has now been allocated.
- **No 41 St Martin's Park, Ballycullane** – This is currently being snagged.
- **2 Special Needs Houses in Oilgate** – Roofs on, windows and doors installed, rendering to commence this week. Project on programme for completion in May 2018
- **9 houses in Baile Eoghain, Gorey** – First tender was unsuccessful and was terminated. Second tender process complete. Stage 4 to DHP with recommendation for approval to sign contracts.

- **8 houses in Cherry Orchard, Enniscorthy** – Under construction. Four bases in, including radon barriers, all houses have bases excavated.
- **2 houses in Cois Mara, Rosslare** – under construction, block work complete. On programme to date.
- **No 5 Mountain View in Rathnure** – Construction complete.

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** – Delay due to investigations of Attenuation system on site. Stage 2 submission to be lodged in November 2017.
- **10 Houses at Slippery Green, Wexford** – stage 3 approved Oct 2017. Expect to tender in November, 2017.
- **10 Houses in Creagh, Gorey** – Stage 3 approved in October 2017. Expect to tender in November, 2017.
- **10 Houses in Danescastle** – stage 2 approved in July 2017. Stage 3 to be submitted shortly
- **7 Houses in Coolcots** – preparing Stage 2 for submission in November 2017.
- **1 house at Ross Road Enniscorthy** – To tender in October 2017
- **14 Houses in Carricklawn** – Stage 1 in June 2017, Stage 2 under preparation for September 2017 On hold. Problems with title to be rectified by land owner before we finalise purchase. This will be a 2018 project at best.
- **1 house in Castlemoyle** - Stage 2 was submitted in Sept 2017 Costs to be brought down prior to proceeding to Stage 3 revised costs submitted.
- **18 houses in Taghmon** – Stage 1 approved in July. Consultants appointed. Stage 2 Nov 2017
- **1 house at Ballynaboola** - Stage 1 approved. Costs have been reduced and a new planning permission was lodged, stage 2 being prepared.
- **7 Units at Belvedere Road, Wexford** – Currently organising appointment of a design team and the first task will be to see how savings can be made. Stage 2 January 2018.
- **1 House in Castlemoyle for Special Needs** – Stage 1 approved. Stage 2 October, 2017 and submission to Planning for Part VIII.
- **3 Units at King Street, Wexford** – Stage 1 submitted June 2017. Design team appointed to undertake stage 2 detail costing, to be submitted for planning permission in October, 2017.

The number of units with Capital Approval is 143 as detailed above.

The following projects will be submitted to DHPCLG as the next round of Stage 1 applications:-

- |             |    |               |    |
|-------------|----|---------------|----|
| • Ballyhine | 3  | • Enniscorthy | 12 |
| • Ballywish | 12 | • Creagh      | 9  |

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

- |                     |    |
|---------------------|----|
| • Killeens          | 35 |
| • Rosetown          | 40 |
| • Gorey, Wexford St | 14 |
| • Clonard           | 26 |



## ENVIRONMENT

**COASTLINE:** Courtown Pier Refurbishment Works (€1.5m) are on schedule for completion in 2017. Nine minor harbour projects with an estimated cost of €568,000 will be completed in 2017 as part of the annual DAFM Fishery Harbour and Coastal Development Programme. A new disabled beach access / boardwalk was constructed at Carne beach (€50,000). The landscaping of Ely Square is scheduled for completion in 2017.

**STORM OPHELIA:** The full assessment of harbour infrastructure and the coastline is still ongoing but the following is a brief summary of the initial inspection programme.

### HARBOURS:

1. No major damage was caused to our harbour and piers infrastructure throughout the county. The rock revetment previously upgraded in Kilmore Quay protected the harbour to a large extent. The new South Pier at Courtown withstood the significant impact of the storm.
2. Some minor configuration of the revetment at some of the harbours will be required following its buffeting by the storm.
3. Some beach car parks at Cahore and Ballyconnigar were damaged

### THE COASTLINE:

1. Throughout the county beach levels were dropped considerably by the effects of the storm. This leaves many parts of the coastline more vulnerable to any further storms this winter.
2. Boardwalks to beaches were damaged at Courtown, Carne and Rosslare.
3. The rock revetment placed last Winter in Donaghmore adequately protected the public road and graveyard

**The annual environment awards will take place on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2017 at 7.00 p.m. in the Ferrycarrig Hotel, Wexford.**

## COMMUNITY

**Celtic Trails:** The Celtic Trails Project under the Ireland Wales Programme 2014-2020 Co-operation Programme has been approved by the Welsh European Funding Office (WEFO). It is expected that contracts will be signed in early December of 2017.

The joint beneficiaries are outlined below.

Carmarthenshire County Council.	Lead beneficiary
Ceredigion County Council	
Pembrokeshire Coast National Park	
Wexford County Council	Co Lead beneficiary
Waterford County Council.	
Wicklow County Council.	

The focus of the project will include:



- Increase in visitor numbers to the region
- Increase the number of longer repeat visits as well as attract new visitors leading to
- Increased profits and safeguarding jobs within the cultural heritage and tourism sectors

<b>Financial summary breakdown Overall Operation</b>					
€	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
Total Operation Costs (100%)	<b>48350</b>	<b>898196</b>	<b>690954</b>	<b>352189</b>	<b>1,989,689</b>
Total Match Fund (20%)	<b>9670</b>	<b>179639</b>	<b>138191</b>	<b>70440</b>	<b>397,940</b>
Total ERDF Grant (80%)	<b>38680</b>	<b>718557</b>	<b>552763</b>	<b>281749</b>	<b>1,591,750</b>

The Total matched funding requirement of 397,940 and divided between the 6 beneficiaries i.e. €66,323 each.

**WexSci - Science Week 2017:** Wexford County Council, supported by funding from Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), presents the first weeklong science festival in County Wexford to promote science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM).

Wexford has been identified by research from SFI as a low intervention county in terms of STEM participation. A festival programme has been developed to stimulate interest, curiosity and debate about STEM. Young people and adults have been invited to take part in the events in the five public libraries each day during Science Week from 12th to 19th November. In addition to events in public libraries, the **WexSci Science Showcase will take place in The Street, Wexford County Council, Carricklawn on Friday, 17th November, 2017.**

## **SPORTS PARTNERSHIP**

**Sport Ireland Funding:** We have received ongoing grant allocation funding from Sport Ireland for 2017.

Also we received the final 10% of funding for the allocation for the Community Sports hub.

We are awaiting the outcomes of our 3 applications for funding from the Sport Ireland Dormant Accounts Funding.

**Sports Active Wexford Strategic Plan Launch:** We were delighted to have launched our strategic plan by CEO of Sport Ireland John Treacy. It was a great event with many of our interagency partners present. John's comments were extremely positive and emphasised that there was "a great feeling of Partnership here in Wexford"

## **LIBRARIES, ARTS & ARCHIVES**

**Children's Book Festival 2017** was the largest ever in the County with over 70 events. This flagship literacy promotion festival is aimed at children and young people and was attended by over 1,500 children countywide.

**Wexford Library's Opera Fringe Events** were attended by over 700 people. Highlights included lectures by Colm Toibín and Lara Marlowe. Lectures on Tolstoy and the opera Medea were well received by a local and international audience.

**The Dresser Project** – Commissioned by Arts Dept, this exhibition by the artist Michael Fortune in Wexford Library opened on 20<sup>th</sup> Nov with 110 people in attendance. This 9 month collaborative arts programme involved the participation of over 50 Wexford county residents who invited artists into their home to photograph their kitchen dresser. Final exhibition consists of 17 large scale photographic prints along the glass facade of Wexford library.

Funding has been allocated to libraries under the **Healthy Ireland** Initiative. A core collection of recommended reads on mental and physical health will be provided in all branch libraries and additional health related events will be held. A national media campaign will highlight libraries' role in the promotion of health and facilitating access to health information.

Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht announced funding allocation for 2018 to Local Authorities for **Creative Ireland** initiatives has been doubled. Consultation meetings to advise a new Culture and Creativity Plan 2018-2022 will be held in November.

**'Advancing the Arts' - Draft Arts Plan 2018-2022** - was presented to Council in October 2017 for adoption. The plan will be designed/published in November 2017 and launched in Spring 2018.

**Music Generation.** Recruitment process for the Music Generation Co Coordinator took place in October 2017. Interviews will take place in November 2017.

**Bare Root exhibition** opened on 20<sup>th</sup> October in County Hall and will run until 1<sup>st</sup> December. Featuring 11 artists local, national and international, it explores the rural and farmyard environments and points nature and the man made intersect.

**Wexford Arts Expo-** opened in the newly refurbished Bullring Mall on 21<sup>st</sup> October by Mayor Jim Moore. This mall runs from North Main Street to Mallin street and features the work of over 60 artists. Run by Eamonn Buttle it contains over 30 units, 300 metres of wall space, and is open as a pop up gallery for the duration of the Opera Festival. It contains artists' works from a groups of seven local artists who are supported by the WCC Arts office.

## FIRE SERVICE

A recruits course for Retained Firefighters was held at Bunclody Fire Station from 11<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> September 2017. Four firefighters were recruited and trained for Gorey and New Ross fire brigades.

The board met to assess the seven expressions of interest received to supervise the new build of a fire station in New Ross and the material alteration / first floor extension of the fire station in Gorey. Additional back-up information was sought from the submissions.

The Licensing courts took place in Wexford County throughout September. During August and September 82 licensing notification(s) were received by the Fire Authority for the annual licensing courts.

Carbon Monoxide Awareness Week took place from 25<sup>th</sup> September to 1<sup>st</sup> October. The fire service promoted this locally.

**Fire Operations:** In August and September there were 110 incidents including 22 road traffic accidents, 25 false alarms with good intent and 9 small fires.

Incident type	Year to date	August/September
Fires	250	46
Special Services	104	6
Chimney Fires	98	5
False Alarms	143	25

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

Applications Received	Year to date	August/September
Fire Safety Certificates	72	20
Planning Referrals	519	120

Number of Inspections	Year to date	August/September
FSA Inspections	246	102

## CIVIL DEFENCE

**Civic Duties:** We covered 7 community duties for October 2017

Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> October, JFK Park, County Cross Country.  
 Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> October, Carrigbyrne Hill, Jack & Jill Foundation.  
 Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> October, Barnadown Equestrian Centre, Inter Schools Showjumping.  
 Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> October, JFK Park, Lake Region Charity Fun/Walk  
 Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> October, Ferns, Wexford Athletics, Cross Country  
 Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> October, Ramsgrange Community School, 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations  
 Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> October, Gorey, Halloween Family Fun  
 Duncormick Harvest Festival – Cancelled  
 Wexford Opera Festival – Fireworks – postponed until Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November

**Storm Ophelia – 16<sup>th</sup> October:** All volunteers were put on standby on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October at 1530. We had 43 volunteers available to help if needed at various times on Monday 16<sup>th</sup>. Monday morning at 0930 we started the bring volunteers in to Wexford HQ, we also put units in Gorey and New Ross on standby if required. The Civil Defence played its part in the process throughout the stormy weather.

In Wexford we had a welfare crew to provide soup, sandwiches and dinner during the day for the 18 volunteers. We had enough provisions to last well into the night if needed. We had three transport crews available to respond with 4 wheel drives and an ambulance. We manned the HQ at various times in the week.

## 4. Transportation, Water Services:

### **ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION**

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

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

##### **Progress Update October 2017**

Transport Infrastructure Ireland awarded the PPP Contract to a BAM Iridium consortium (the PPP Co.) on 26<sup>th</sup> 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 are over 80% complete, and in excess of 1 million m<sup>3</sup> of bulk earthworks have been excavated and re-used to date, including approx. 700,000 m<sup>3</sup> of rock. Outstanding blasting at Ballyverneen (Glenmore), Stokestown and Camlin will be completed in the coming weeks. Drainage, accommodation works, services works and other associated works are also progressing in co-ordination with earthworks.

The first concrete deck section on the Pink Rock side of the Barrow Bridge commenced in early October, deck falsework for the first 2 approach spans has been installed, and steel fixing is progressing. Further deck pours will continue in the coming weeks. The pier head for the central river pier is nearing completion and the four piers on the Wexford side are also progressing towards completion. In the coming months the approach spans on both sides of the river and the 3 central towers will be progressed in preparation for the construction of the 2 main bridge spans.

New local road realignments have opened under traffic management on Stokestown Road, Creakan Road and Ryleen Road following substantial completion of the associated underbridges. Works are progressing on Camlin Road Overbridge, Arnestown Road Overbridge, Glenmore Road Underpass (under N25), Lacken South Overbridge and Lacken North Underbridge. Temporary diversions are in place at all of these locations and the associated new local road realignments will open under traffic management in the coming months as the associated bridges are completed. Traffic management with traffic lights was in operation on the R733 for 10 days to facilitate the installation of a culvert under the road. This operation is now complete and the road has fully re-opened to traffic.

Temporary diversions and statutory 60km/h speed limits continue to operate on the N25 Wexford Road at Ballymacar and N25 Waterford Road at Glenmore. The diversions are via newly constructed sections of road and will remain in place until 2018. Extensive traffic management is being implemented to guide road users safely through and around the diversion routes. The 60km/h statutory speed limit orders for both N25 Ballymacar and N25 Glenmore were renewed on 1st October 2017 for a further maximum 12 month period. 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.

With the increased potential for the generation of muck onto public roads in winter weather conditions, monitoring and cleaning operations will intensify as required. Emergency and patrol crews were in operation during recent storms to maintain traffic management on public roads in safe conditions. No incidents or damage were reported during the storms. The site continues to be monitored for the generation of noise, vibration and dust.



The sixth quarterly project newsletter was published at the end of September 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](http://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 further short progress video was released by Wexford County Council in early October and is available on Council web and social media sites as well as selected local community sites. 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. Temporary diversion and traffic management at N25 Glenmore for construction of roundabout and road underpass (underpass installation at bottom of photo).**







**2. Barrow Bridge – Deck falsework in place for approach spans 1 & 2 at Pink Rock to left of photo.**

**3. Barrow Bridge – Deck falsework to approach spans 1 & 2 at Pink Rock.**





**4. Barrow Bridge – Steel fixing in deck box for approach spans 1 & 2.**



**5. Barrow Bridge - pier 4 (river pier) falsework in place for pier head.**







**6. Earthworks at Stokestown (rock blasting site).**

**7. Local road realignment at Camlin – new road realignment to left of picture, old local road to centre, and bypass under construction to right.**







- 8. N25 Ballymacar roundabout progressing with temporary diversion route continuing in operation (N25 to Wexford into background).
- 9. Ryleen Road Underbridge – local road re-opened under traffic mamangement.



- 10. N30 Corcoran’s Cross roundabout linking to N30 Enniscorthy Road into background

	<i><b>Total No of Landowners</b></i>	<i><b>Settled to date</b></i>
<i><b>M11 Gorey to Enniscorthy</b></i>	<i><b>201</b></i>	<i><b>197</b></i>

## 1. M11 Gorey to Enniscorthy PPP Scheme update

### Program

The contractor has 83% 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 July	Progress Reported in August	Progress Reported in September	Progress Reported in October
Site Clearance	96%	98%	98%	98%	98%
Fencing	85%	86%	86%	86%	86%
Drainage & Service Ducts	7%	14%	15%	17%	21%
Earthworks	23%	56%	62%	66%	69%
Structures – main Bridges		29%	33%	38%	45%
Structures – Culverts	29%	68%	71%	73%	85%
Structures – Access Structures	12%	67%	72%	80%	84%
Accommodation Works	6%	8%	8%	8%	8%

### Earthworks:-

Bulk Cut to Fill was approx. 986,821m<sup>3</sup> to the end of the year for 2016 (6 month Work Period). Bulk Cut to Fill as reported this year to the end of September 2017 is 1,574,148m<sup>3</sup>

### Blasting

The following program indicates the remaining duration for blasting for the project:

Area	Name	No of Blast remaining	Est. Completion date
M11, Cut 1	Frankfurt Junction	4	December 2017
M11, Cut 6	Crane Road	2	End November 2017
N30, Cut 1	Ballyorrlil	0	Complete
N30, Cut 4	Bessmount	TBC *	End December 2017

\*Contractor is ripping out rock at the moment and will determine if additional blasting is required. Affected landowners are being 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 these inspections are being addressed by the contractor.

- L1027, Ballygullen Road
- L2020, Crane Road

- L2021, Ballynabarny Road
- L2011, Tinnacross Road

**Applications submitted to WCC from the PPP:**  
Road Closure Applications

WCC are progressing the following road closure applications

Road	Application Status	Closure Date	Duration (months)	Status	New Opening Date
L2020, Ballynabarny	Granted	September 2017	5 Nights	Withdrawn	
L5096, Rocksprings Road	Granted	Jan 2017	6 (8)	Reopened on the 28/8/17 under TTM. ST 3 RSA conducted and findings to be implemented	
L2021, Crane Road	Granted	March 2017	6	17 November 2017	
L2012, Killalligan Road	Granted	Feb 2017	6 (8)	August 2017	6/10/17
L6122, Templescoby	Granted	April 2017	6	Closure reactivated, extension to be applied for.	
L6125, Monart East	Granted	Feb 2017	6 (8)	August 2017	20/10/17
L6055, Drumgold Road	Granted	October 2017	7	May 2017	
L2040, Knockrathkyle	Granted	Feb 2017	6 (7)	Opened under TTM 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2017	
L6052, Scurlocks bush	Granted	March 2017	6 (7)	Opened under TTM 26 <sup>th</sup> October 2017	
L1027, Ballygullen Road	Withdrawn	April 2017	2		
L2024, Corbally Road	Submitted	August 2017	6	On hold until L2020 (Application pending) is reopened	
L5092, Ballyeden Road	Granted	August 2017	6	Closed 28/8/17	
L2014, Ballyorrl Link	Submitted	August 2017	2	On hold until L2012, Killalligan Road is reopened	
L2015, Coolnahorna	Granted	August 2017	6	January 2018	
L6048, Glenteige Road	Granted	August 2017	7	February 2017	
L2030, Bessmount Rd	Submitted	August 2017	3	On hold until L6125 and L2012 is reopened	

### Drumgold Road Closure

To assist and address the local needs of vulnerable members of the community adjacent to the scheme a Local Access Road has been constructed by the Contractor to allow access across the site during the closure of the Drumgold Road. This road closure application has been granted by Wexford County Council and will commence on the 31/10/17.

### Newsletter

The Newsletter for this quarter will be issued and circulated in the coming week and will be available on the M11 website at [WWW.m11gtoe.ie](http://WWW.m11gtoe.ie). This website is updated on a monthly basis providing information on blasting and road closures and traffic management.

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

### **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 26<sup>th</sup>. August 2016.

Phase 2 from Irishtown to New Ross swimming pool will be completed in 2018 following works to the sewer network by Irish Water.

### **N11 Gorey to Enniscorthy Residual Network**

#### **R702 Enniscorthy Kiltalea Road**

This scheme was split into 2 contracts.

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

Contract 2 is from Milehouse Crossroads to Duffry Gate.

This includes installation of a 215mm Watermain for Irish Water and a roundabout at Milehouse.

Works commenced on Monday 31<sup>st</sup>. July and was substantially completed in mid October. The contractor is presently constructing a roundabout at Milehouse for a private developer.

#### **N11 Scarawalsh to Ferns South**

This contract involves the overlay of 5km of the N11 between Scarawalsh Bridge and Ferns. This scheme commenced on 24<sup>th</sup>. April and was substantially completed on the 9<sup>th</sup>. June. The accommodation works are now complete.

### **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)
- Killeen 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 are ongoing on these schemes. TII have been releasing funding as these schemes have been tendered during the year.

### Ballygillane Little Pavement Scheme

This scheme was completed in June.

### Ballynabola to Cushenstown Pavement Scheme

This scheme commenced on the 19<sup>th</sup>. June. It was substantially completed in October. The accommodation works will be completed by mid November.

### N25 Ballygoman to Knockeen Pavement Scheme

Construction works commenced on 2<sup>nd</sup>. October and are due to be completed by 8<sup>th</sup>. December.

### Tinnahask to Ballynaslaney Pavement Scheme

This scheme was tendered in early September. Construction works will commence on 2<sup>nd</sup>. November and are due to be completed by the 8<sup>th</sup>. December.

### Kyle Upper Pavement Scheme

This scheme will be tendered in November.

Construction works should commence in the first quarter of 2018.

### Killeen to Newtown Pavement Scheme

Survey works were 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.

## **2017 HD28 Pavement Renewals**

The NRA allocated an additional €520,000 for the 2015 HD28 pavement renewals programme.

This was split into 2 phases.

A contractor is due to be appointed for phase 1. Some of this phase will be completed in 2017 and the remainder in the first quarter of 2018.

Invitations to tender will be issued for phase 2 by the 31<sup>st</sup>. October. The tender return date will be 16<sup>th</sup>. November.

Construction works should commence in the first quarter of 2018.

## **Winter Maintenance**

The 2017/2018 winter maintenance programme commenced on Monday 16<sup>th</sup>. October. There have no call outs up to 26<sup>th</sup>. October 2017.

## **Public Lighting**

## **National Roads Lighting Upgrades**

I applied for 3 upgrade schemes last year.

- N11 Ferrycarrig
- N25 Maldron Roundabout
- N25 Whitford Roundabout

### **N11 Ferrycarrig**

Approval for the scheme was received from TII at a cost of €85,000 incl. vat. The works includes recabling and ducting 2.5km the installation of 43 no. Led lanterns.

All works have been completed.

### **N25 Maldon Roundabout and N25 Whitford Roundabout**

Approval for these schemes was received from TII early in June. The works involves replacing existing public lighting with 60 Led lights. I expect works to be completed by mid November.

Estimated cost will be €48,000 incl vat.

### **N25 Drinagh Roundabout**

This scheme was applied for in 2017. We received approval for the scheme in August. This scheme was completed in early September.

## **Non National Roads Lighting Upgrades**

Work has commenced on year 1 of the Led replacement programme. I expect to have 1,200 to 1,300 light upgraded to Led by the end of the year. We have over 800 upgraded to date.

We have applied to SEAI for a grant under the *Better Energy Communities* for this year's scheme. The application to SEAI was for 900 No. lanterns at a cost of €450,000. The net grant after payment to Carlow Kilkenny Energy Agency will be circa €108,000.

I expect the cost of installation will be in the region of €650,000.

The net cost to Wexford County Council will be in the region of €540,000

## **REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROADS**

### **Strengthening**

The strengthening (Clause 804) programme recommenced in the Wexford District on September 6.

Works completed within last month as follows: Sheas lane; Beaufield to Courtnacuddy; Ballyraun to Coolakip; and Ballinavarry( all in Enniscorthy District)

### **Improvement Works**

Works on New Ross Flood Relief Scheme ongoing.

Contract for Oaklands Roundabout (New Ross District) awarded to David Walsh Civil Engineering Ltd. Work expected to commence in January 2018

### **Storm Ophelia**

Cleanup following Storm. Over 700 trees blown down on day of Storm.

### **General Maintenance**

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



## **WATER SERVICES**

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

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

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

The WWTP is to be extended to cater for a PE of 26,000, an increase of 10,000 PE from the existing 16,000 PE. The 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 on target with programme. It is intended to have the inlet works complete in 2017.

##### **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 MI/day WTP and 7,500m<sup>3</sup> 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 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 DD's are being revised accordingly. Negotiations for wayleaves ongoing with landowners. Tender documents are in preparation.

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

Aecom has been appointed to design a waste water treatment plant 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. Options reports on potential sites for the schemes are currently under review. Both projects will be submitted for planning approval in Spring 2018.

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

Site Investigation works are complete for gas and water main installation around Wexford town. There are two areas of common gas / water mains to be laid. 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.

### **New Ross Sewerage Scheme – Irishtown to Nunnery Lane Sewers**

Committed funding has now been secured from Irish Water to commence the Project. Tenders have been analysed and contract award is expected in early November, with an immediate site start.

### **IW Asset Management: Water Conservation Stage 3– Watermain Rehabilitation Phase 2 (Direct Labour Crew)**

Ballylucas – Screen is 90% complete under construction by WCC Direct Labour Crew. The next phase will start in Mill Lands, Gorey in November. IW are funding this project for €2m for 9KM of pipeline rehabilitation.

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

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

Award and Regret Letters were forwarded on the 26<sup>th</sup> October, 2017.

### **Flow Monitoring & Sampling Programme**

Snagging 98% complete. 4 Additional sites added, Camolin North and South, Campile and Balycanew.

### **Sewer network pump station maintenance contract**

2<sup>nd</sup> round now in progress.

### **WWTP pre-planned Maintenance Contract**

Works progressing on site.

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

Works commenced at Newtown August 22<sup>nd</sup>. Preliminary Works commenced in pump room with fitting of gantry beam . Contract to be completed by mid December.

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

M&E fitout largely complete with replacement pumps and valve arrangements at both plants. . Filter upgrade works and dosing changeover works are underway.

### **IW Asset Management: pH Emergency (Automated dosing control)**

Coolgreaney wayleave agreement to be resolved.

### **IW Asset Management: Vinegar Hill Air Blowers replacement**

New air blowers installation and pipework complete and working well.

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

Commissioning Services Ltd. (CSL) has been appointed as Contractors. CSL received PO from IW. CSL visited sites on September 20<sup>th</sup> and will finalise designs. Works to be completed by January.

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

Value Engineering workshop meeting to be held September 28<sup>th</sup>. Works on initial block of sites to commence November.

#### **IW Asset Management: Milehouse Road Watermain**

250mm diameter watermain laid by Priority Construction as part of roads project at Milehouse Road, Enniscorthy. Works are now complete. The value of the works is €381,643. This amount will be invoiced to Irish Water.

#### **Suppressed Capital Maintenance scheme**

A capital maintenance budget of €930,000 has been allocated by Irish Water for Wexford for 2017. Our present approval from Irish Water is at 117% of budget at €1.163 million. Committed expenditure at present is €515,820.90. A number of projects through this fund are at mini-tender stage.

## **C. RURAL WATER PROGRAMME**

#### **Blackstairs Group Water Scheme – Contract No. 11 Pollpeasty**

Assessment of tender prices ongoing. Contract to commence early November.

#### **Oilgate Group Sewerage Scheme/ The Bing Group Sewerage Scheme**

Brief report on infrastructure upgrades required on both schemes was forwarded on the 13<sup>th</sup> October to the Department for consideration by the Expert Panel.

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

## **WATER CONSERVATION**

New Takeover Process being development by Irish Water.

Irish Water have approved the filling of the water conservation engineer position until the end of 2018. Nicola Jordan has accepted the position as temporary assistant engineer and is due to start on 20<sup>th</sup> November.

#### **Small Mains Replacement**

Wexford Small Mains Replacement Contract 1 – (ShareRidge Ltd.)

Small mains replacement in Ballymitty, Wellingtonbridge and Ferns is now substantially completed. Temporary road reinstatement is in place with permanent reinstatement to follow.

## **5. Finance:**

#### **Audit of Annual Financial Statement (AFS) 2016**

The LGAS audit of the 2016 financial records is now complete and the Local Government Auditor is finalising the Statutory Audit Report.

#### **Audit Committee**

The next Audit Committee scheduled for Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October has now been deferred to 13<sup>th</sup> December to facilitate a meeting with the Local Government Auditor to discuss the 2016 Accounts and associated audit.

### **Budget 2018**

During October all four Draft Budgetary Plan (GMA) meetings were held in the four Municipal Districts. The GMA allocations were all approved by members of the districts and discussion points raised at those meetings will now be fed into the preparation of the Statutory Budget.

The third and final stage of the 2018 Budget process will be the Statutory Budget Meeting which is scheduled for Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November at 10.00am.

In the meantime work is progress on compiling details of the spending programmes to be funded through the Budget process.

### **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, 2017. Members approved the seeking of ministerial sanction to secure a similar facility for 2018 and the application in respect of same is now with the DHPCLG to secure sanction of the minister to same.

**Tom Enright,  
Chief Executive.**