

**Public Spending Code
Quality Assurance Report for 2024**



**To be submitted to
National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC)**

May 2025

Certificate

This Annual Quality Assurance Report sets out Wexford County Council's approach to completing the Quality Assurance requirements as set out in the Public Spending Code. It is based on the best financial, organisational and performance related information available across the various areas of responsibility.

Signature of Accounting Officer:



Eddie Taaffe
Chief Executive
Wexford County Council

Date:

26th May, 2025

Introduction

Wexford County Council has completed the Quality Assurance (QA) requirements as set out in the Public Spending Code and the purpose of this report is to present the results of each of the 5 Steps in the QA exercise and to report on compliance with the requirements of the Public Spending Code as established during this exercise.

The Public Spending Code was written specifically with Government Departments in mind and some of the terminology is very specific to that sector. In order to inform the QA exercise for the Local Government Sector a Guidance Note was developed for the sector to assist in providing interpretations from a Local Government perspective.

This guidance note is updated as changes are made to the requirements for the QA exercise. The latest updated guidance note (version 4 – 2021 Revision) has informed the completion of the 2024 report.

Requirements of the Quality Assurance Aspect of the Public Spending Code

The Quality Assurance obligation involves a **5 step** process as follows:

- **Step 1** - Drawing up inventories of projects/programmes at the different stages of the Project Life Cycle that have a total Project Life Cost of €500k or more.
- **Step 2** - Publishing summary information on the organisation's website of all procurements in excess of €10m, related to projects in progress or completed in the year under review. A new project may become a "project in progress" during the year under review if the procurement process is completed and a contract is signed.
- **Step 3** - Completing the 7 checklists contained in the PSC. Only one of each checklist per Local Authority is required. Checklists are not required for each project/programme.
- **Step 4** - Carrying out a more in-depth check on a small number of selected projects/programmes based on criteria established within the Public Spending Code.
- **Step 5** - Completing a short summary report for the National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC). This report, which has been generated as a matter of course through compliance with steps 1-4 set out above, is provided to meet the requirement of Step 5.

STEP 1 – Project Inventory

This section presents the project inventories of Wexford County Council for projects with a total life cost in excess of €500,000. The inventory is presented in three stages as set out in the following table which also outlines the Expenditure Category/Band relevant for inclusion in each stage:

Project/Programme Stage		Category/Band
1	Expenditure being considered	Capital Projects greater than €0.5m
		Capital Grant Schemes greater than €0.5m
		Current Expenditure programme - Increases over €0.5m
2	Expenditure being incurred	Capital Projects greater than €0.5m
		Capital Grant Schemes greater than €0.5m
		Current Expenditure greater than €0.5m
3	Expenditure that has recently ended	Capital Projects greater than €0.5m
		Capital Grant Schemes greater than €0.5m
		Current Expenditure greater than €0.5m

The Project inventory, set out in the format described above, is included in Appendix A. (Appendix A – Inventory of Projects and Programmes over €0.5m – 2024)

The Inventory contains **236** Projects under the three stages and comprises a total value of **€1,415m**. The following table provides an overview of the number of projects under each Project/Programme stage and under each of the categories in each of these stages. It also provides an overview of the Project Costs under each category. There were no items identified under Capital Grant Schemes for 2024.

	Current Expenditure	Capital Expenditure	
Project Numbers	> €0.5m	> €0.5m	Totals
Expenditure Being considered	0	92	92
Expenditure Being Incurred	52	65	117
Expenditure recently ended	0	27	27
Totals	52	184	236

	Current Expenditure	Capital Expenditure	
Project Total Values	> €0.5m	> €0.5m	Totals
Expenditure Being considered	0	€799m	€799m
Expenditure Being Incurred	€187m	€332m	€519m
Expenditure recently ended	0	€97m	€97m
Totals	€187m	€1,228m	€1,415m

STEP 2 - Summary of Procurements in excess of €10m

In compliance with the requirement to publish information on all procurements undertaken by Wexford County Council that were in excess of €10m the following is the location of this publication on the Council's website:

<https://www.wexfordcoco.ie/council-and-democracy/procurement-finance-and-credit-control/council-spend>

The following presents a screen print from the web page:

**Comhairle Contae Loch Garman**
Wexford County Council

I am searching for...

English Irish Accessibility Tools  My

Home > Council & Democracy > Procurement, Finance and Credit Control > Co

Council Spend

Public Spending Code - Procurements over €10,000,000

Procurements over €10m for 2014 - None reported for Wexford County Council for 2014

Procurements over €10m for 2015 - None reported for Wexford County Council for 2015

Procurements over €10m for 2016 - None reported for Wexford County Council for 2016

Procurements over €10m for 2017 - None reported for Wexford County Council for 2017

Procurements over €10m for 2018 - None reported for Wexford County Council for 2018

Procurements over €10m for 2019 - None reported for Wexford County Council for 2019

Procurements over €10m for 2020 - None reported for Wexford County Council for 2020

Procurements over €10m for 2021 - None reported for Wexford County Council for 2021

Procurements over €10m for 2022 - None reported for Wexford County Council for 2022

Procurements over €10m for 2023

Procurements over €10m for 2024

For 2024 Wexford County Council has reported one project in this category. The requirement relates to Procurements over €10m rather than Project Costs. Therefore, while the project inventory reports on 17 projects over €10m, only one of these projects involved procurement in excess of €10m that meets the reporting requirement in Step 2 of the QA process.

STEP 3 - Checklists

Step three of the Quality Assurance procedure for the Public Spending Code involves the compilation of a number of checklists. There are 7 checklists in all. Checklists 2, 4 and 6 are capital related checklists while checklists 1, 3, 5 and 7 are Revenue/Current Expenditure related.

The Checklists are informed by the Project Inventory and the following table outlines the approach taken for the completion of the Checklists.

Checklist Completion aligned with Project Inventory	
Expenditure Type	Checklist to be completed
General Obligations	General Obligations - Checklist 1
A. Expenditure being considered	Capital Projects/Programmes - Checklist 2 Current Expenditure – Checklist 3
B. Expenditure being incurred	Capital Projects/Programmes – Checklist 4 Current Expenditure – Checklist 5
C. Expenditure that has recently ended	Capital Projects/Programmes – Checklist 6 Current Expenditure – Checklist 7

All checklists as outlined above have been completed and can be found in [Appendix B](#) of this document.

Findings on Completion of Checklists

While the responses included in the Checklist indicate a satisfactory level of compliance there are indications that there continues to be room for improvements in some areas of business and in certain aspects of the requirements. However, no specific serious issues/concerns were evident during the completion of this element of the QA exercise.

STEP 4 - In-Depth review of a sample number of projects

Step 4 of the Quality Assurance Process involved the examining of a sample selection of projects included on the Project Inventory to test the standard of practices in use and compliance with the Public Spending Code within the organisation.

Internal Audit In-Depth Checks

The Internal Audit Unit of Wexford County Council was assigned the task of completing the In-depth checks. The approach taken was to initially randomly select a number of projects from the inventory having regard to the various stages of the life cycle and the values of project listed and the business area of the local authority in order to have, in as far as possible, a good range of project types and sizes for review.

The In-depth review has been completed and the overview report together with the completed templates setting out the relevant checks for each of the three projects is included in [Appendix C](#) of this report.

The selected projects, level of compliance and number of recommendations per project is summarised in the following table:

	Project Reviewed	Compliance	Recommendations
1.	South East Greenway (New Ross to Waterford)	Satisfactory	0
2.	Gorey Relief Road Ballytegan St Walerans	Satisfactory	0
3.	Wexfordia New Ross Tourism Project	Satisfactory	0

The formal report on the in-depth review has been submitted to the Management Team within Wexford County Council for consideration. The report including the completed templates is included in Appendix C to this report. The projects examined in the in-depth review have provided satisfactory assurance that there is compliance with the Public Spending Code.

Conclusion

This report has set out all the requirements of the Quality Assurance aspect of the Public Spending Code.

- A Project Inventory has been prepared outlining the various projects/programmes – capital and current that were being considered, being incurred, or recently completed by Wexford County Council in 2024.
- The relevant publication in relation to procurements over €10m has been placed on Wexford County Council's website.
- The 7 checklists required to be completed under the terms of the Public Spending Code Quality Assurance requirement have been completed and provide reasonable assurance that there is satisfactory compliance with the Public Spending Code. The level of compliance reported would suggest there are elements of the expenditure life cycle that could be improved but nothing of a serious nature was highlighted during this compliance exercise.
- A more in-depth review of a sample of the projects contained in the Project inventory has been completed and further confirmed that there is satisfactory compliance with the requirements of the Public Spending Code. Three Projects were examined. The project documentation examined provided satisfactory assurance that all three projects are in compliance with the Public Spending Code
- The final step of the QA exercise, as required under the Public Spending Code, is the compilation and publication of a summary report outlining the Quality Assurance Exercise undertaken by Wexford County Council. The contents of this report provide details of the QA exercise completed. The report has been considered by the Management Team of Wexford County Council and has been certified by the Accounting Officer, Eddie Taaffe, Chief Executive.
- The 2024 final report can be located on Wexford County Council's website at

<https://www.wexfordcoco.ie/council-and-democracy/procurement-finance-and-credit-control/public-spending-code>

Overall, the QA exercise has provided reasonable assurance to the management of Wexford County Council that the requirements of the Public Spending Code are being met.

Appendix A - Inventory of Projects and Programmes Over €0.5m - 2024

Wexford County Council 2024 Inventory of Projects and Programmes over €0.5m

The following contains an inventory of Expenditure on Projects/Programmes with a value above €0.5m, categorised by Expenditure being considered, Expenditure being incurred, and Expenditure recently ended. Only projects with Total Project Expenditure matching these criteria are included in the Inventory table.

Expenditure Being Considered - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)						
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Anticipated Timeline	Projected Lifetime Expenditure
Housing & Building						
Grantstown Voluntary Housing (16 Units)	CAS Housing Units		€34,701.38		2024-2026	€2,000,000.00
Bride Street (3 Units)	House Purchase Project		€22,932.14		2019-2026	€1,313,168.00
Ramsfort Gorey (SSF) (20 Units)	Affordable Housing Project		€23,475.87		2021-2026	€2,100,000.00
Monamolin (5 units)	House Construction Project		€33,885.30		2023-2026	€1,353,469.00
Ballygillane (5 units)	House Construction Project		€83,162.50		2023-2026	€1,039,472.00
Grogan's Rd, Wexford (4 units)	House Construction Project		€24,705.95		2023-2026	€589,091.00
7 Units Belvedere Road	House Construction Project		€0.00		2024-2026	€1,400,000.00
Rosbercon New Ross (60+ Units)	House Construction Project		€609,138.29		2024-2026	€18,000,000.00
Adamstown (3 Units)	House Construction Project		€17,529.55		2024-2026	€532,339.00
50 Turnkey Units Clonhaston	Turnkey Project		€0.00		2024-2026	€11,255,000.00
Wexford (5 TAP units)	House Construction Project		€0.00		2024-2026	€1,500,000.00
Clonard, Wexford	House Construction Project		€550,581.66		2024-2026	€16,729,078.00
Creagh (Hockey Pitch)	House Construction Project		€0.00		2024-2026	€6,500,000.00
The Lyre, Enniscorthy	House Construction Project		€0.00		2024-2026	€25,000,000.00
Castlemoyle, New Ross	House Construction Project		€0.00		2024-2026	€10,500,000.00
Cluain Fada, New Ross	House Construction Project		€12,939.60		2024-2026	€7,000,000.00
Park Wexford (10 Units)	House Construction Project		€0.00		2024-2026	€3,000,000.00
Mulgannon Wexford	House Construction Project		€0.00		2024-2026	€25,000,000.00
Crossfarnogue, Kilmore Quay	House Construction Project		€0.00		2024-2026	€3,500,000.00
Presentation Convent, Francis St, Wexford	CAS Housing Units		€0.00		2024-2026	€4,000,000.00
4 St. Michaels Place, Gorey	CAS Housing Units		€0.00		2024-2026	€625,000.00
St. Josephs House, Monastery Building, Gorey	Turnkey Project		€0.00		2024-2026	€1,600,000.00
Riverchapel Road, Riverchapel, Gorey	Turnkey Project		€0.00		2024-2026	€1,645,000.00

Expenditure Being Considered - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)						
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Anticipated Timeline	Projected Lifetime Expenditure
Coolballow Road, Wexford 20 Units	Turnkey Project		€0.00		2024-2026	€5,797,716.00
Ard Usice Whiterock Hill, Wexford 10 units	Part V		€0.00		2024-2026	€3,090,633.00
Spring View Gorey Hill, Gorey, 12 units	Turnkey Project		€0.00		2024-2026	€4,216,200.00
Ard an Bile, New Ross, 32 Units	Turnkey Project		€430.50		2024-2026	€8,647,311.00
Acquisition 14 turnkey units Gorey	Turnkey Project		€307.50		2024-2026	€4,720,000.00
Carrig on Bannon, Wexford 10 units	Turnkey Project		€0.00		2024-2026	€2,498,600.00
Cnoc na Greine, Greenville, Enniscorthy, 14 units	Turnkey Project		€0.00		2024-2026	€4,266,255.00
Hollyway Greenhill, Clonhastan, Enniscorthy 5 units	Turnkey Project		€0.00		2024-2026	€1,310,500.00
Deerpark, Ballowen, Ramsfort Park, Gorey- 2 units	Part V		€0.00		2024-2026	€653,333.00
18 & 19 Grattan Street, Gorey Wexford 2 units	CAS Housing Units		€0.00		2024-2026	€869,146.00
Road Transportation & Safety						
N25 Maldron Roundabout to Whitford (1.8 Kms)	Road Construction/Resurfacing		€0.00		2020-2026	€2,000,000.00
New Ross Bridge to Kilkenny boundary (0.8 Kms)	Road Construction/Resurfacing		€0.00		2020-2026	€500,000.00
N25 Kilmore Junction to Ashfield Cross (4.6 Kms)	Road Construction/Resurfacing		€0.00		2020-2026	€2,464,104.00
N30 Forestwood to Cloneigh (2.6 Kms)	Road Construction/Resurfacing		€0.00		2020-2028	€3,000,000.00
N25/R733 Duncannon Road Roundabout	Road Construction/Resurfacing		€0.00		2024-2027	€1,000,000.00
N80 Ballycarney to Clohamon	Road Construction/Resurfacing		€0.00		2025-2028	€10,000,000.00
Wexford Inner Relief Road (Clonard to Newtown Road)	Road Construction/Resurfacing		€0.00		2022-2025	€2,670,518.00
R772 Tinnock to Gorey	Road Construction/Resurfacing		€0.00		2024-2026	€1,200,000.00
N25 Whitford Roundabout to Drinagh	Road Construction/Resurfacing		€0.00		2025-2028	€5,000,000.00
Roxborough Cycle Scheme Wexford Town	Active Travel Route		€62,680.38		2022-2026	€670,000.00
Active Travel throughout County	Road Construction/Resurfacing		€16,224.20		2024-2026	€3,750,000.00
Rosslare Harbour Access Road	Road Construction		€0.00		2025-2027	€15,000,000.00
Enniscorthy North Business Park - Road Network	Road Construction/Resurfacing		€0.00		2024-2026	€3,400,000.00

Expenditure Being Considered - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)						
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Anticipated Timeline	Projected Lifetime Expenditure
Oilgate to Rosslare Harbour	Road Construction		€0.00		2024-2030	€390,000,000.00
Water/Surface Water Projects						
Enniscorthy Minor Flood Sch.(Lyre River/Bishopswell)	Flooding Prevention works				2022-2027	€600,000.00
DPI improvements TIC by Wexford Co Council	Imps to Water/WW in Housing Ests		€0.00		2022-2027	€2,000,000.00
Measure A8 Ramsgrange Unsewered Villages	Sewerage Upgrade		€0.00		2024-2027	€3,460,000.00
Environmental Services						
Holmestown Landfill	Temporary & Permanent Capping		€7,397.43		2021-2025	€1,500,000.00
Climate Action Targets 2030	Energy Efficiency		€0.00		2024-2030	€6,500,000.00
Lady's Island Lake - Water Level Management	Drainage Works/Development		€0.00		2023-2025	€3,600,000.00
Fethard Harbour Slipway	Slipway Improvements		€24,183.00		2022-2025	€616,000.00
New Ross Quayside Pontoon	Upgrade of Quayside Pontoon		€0.00		2020-2025	€800,000.00
Special Projects						
Greenway (Wexford to Rosslare)	Greenway project		€155,765.11		2019-2028	€36,000,000.00
John's Street Business Hub	Business Hub Develop. New Ross		€49,175.82		2021-2027	€9,000,000.00
Wexfordia Hook Redevelopment Project	Enhanced Tourist Facility		€75,426.22		2021-2027	€6,800,000.00
Wexfordia Heritage Park Development Project	Enhanced Tourist Facility		€134,342.54		2021-2027	€8,500,000.00
Esmonde Street Development – Gorey	Public Realm in Esmonde Street		€265,918.26		2019-2027	€2,841,986.00
Enniscorthy Technology Park Phase 2	Expansion of Technology Park		€0.00		2022-2027	€1,750,000.00
Wexford Inner Relief Road (Ballinagee to R730 - SETU)	Road Construction/Resurfacing		€0.00		2022-2027	€4,000,000.00
Enniscorthy Town Centre Enhancement	Upgrade Enniscorthy Town Centre		€75,290.95		2021-2027	€9,630,000.00
Dunbrody Centre Extension	Single storey ext & roof terrace		€0.00		2024-2027	€2,000,000.00
Crescent Quay Dredging	Dredging works in Wexford Town		€0.00		2021-2027	€1,000,000.00
CFRAM Wexford Town Flood Relief Scheme	Flooding Prevention works		€441,654.89		2021-2029	€9,000,000.00
Ballast Office Restoration	Upgrade of Ballast Office		€2,494.04		2023-2026	€750,000.00

Expenditure Being Considered - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)						
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Anticipated Timeline	Projected Lifetime Expenditure
Enniscorthy North Business District (Phase 2)	Develop Active Travel Network		€0.00		2022-2026	€3,400,000.00
Enniscorthy Sports Hub (Phase 2 - Building)	Development of Building		€0.00		2021-2027	€1,600,000.00
Forth Mountain Activity Centre	Development of Activity Centre		€0.00		2021-2027	€5,000,000.00
Gorey Relief Road Ballytegan St Walerans	Access Rd to Major develop. site		€0.00		2021-2029	€20,000,000.00
Bridgetown Flood Defence Scheme - Minor	Flood Defence Scheme		€0.00		2024-2027	€700,000.00
New Ross Flood Def. - Marshmeadows to Halting Site	Flood Defence Scheme		€0.00		2024-2027	€500,000.00
Courtown North Beach & Marina	Breakwater const. & Beach Nourish		€79,314.35		2020-2027	€635,000.00
Planning/Economic & Development						
Kilmore Quay Buisness Hub	Business Park in Kilmore Quay		€0.00		2023-2027	€2,500,000.00
St Waleran's Centre of Sports Excellence	New Shared Sports Complex		€102,485.65		2023-2027	€10,000,000.00
Development of Spawell Road Complex	Development of Business Complex		€0.00		2023-2027	€600,000.00
New Ross Courthouse	Refurbishment of Courthouse		€0.00		2024-2027	€850,000.00
Derelict Sites Regeneration Programme	Redevelopment of Derelict Sites		€0.00		2024-2026	€750,000.00
Recreation & Amenity						
Enniscorthy Library	New Library provision		€0.00		2024-2026	€6,839,571.00
Buncloody Library	New Library provision		€0.00		2024-2026	€3,145,222.00
Archive Storage	Storage Development		€0.00		2022-2026	€500,000.00
New Ross Skate Park	Development of Skate Park		€0.00		2025-2027	€500,000.00
Courtown Riverchapel Sports Complex Phase 2	Extension of Sports facilities		€0.00		2022-2026	€750,000.00
Wexford Sports Field Project	Joint Development of Amenity Area		€0.00		2022-2026	€1,000,000.00
Bridgetown to Kilmore Quay Trail (Phase 2)	Walkway/Cycleway		€0.00		2023-2026	€2,000,000.00
Kilmore Quay Recreational Trail (Phase 1)	Walkway/Cycleway		€18,118.95		2022-2027	€678,400.00
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare						
Ballyhack Ferry Piles - Preliminary Works	Repair & construction works		€0.00		2024-2027	€1,000,000.00

Expenditure Being Considered - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)						
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Anticipated Timeline	Projected Lifetime Expenditure
Miscellaneous Services						
Roof on the Tholsel	Replacement of Roof on Civic Off.		€0.00		2025-2026	€600,000.00
Quay Street Pedestrianisation	Pedestrianisation Quay St. New Ross		€0.00		2025-2027	€1,081,105.00
Castlebridge Urban Renewal	Dev. Playground & Comm Facilities		€0.00		2022-2026	€800,000.00
Buncloody Public Realm Project	Public Realm in Main Street Buncloody		€5,736.00		2021-2025	€500,000.00
Totals		€0.00	€2,929,998.03	€0.00		€799,183,217.00

Expenditure Being Incurred - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)							
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expend. Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/ Programme Anticipated Timeline	Cumulative Expenditure to-date	Projected Lifetime Expenditure (Capital Only)
Housing & Building							
Wexford Street Gorey (30 Units)	House Construction Project		€7,016,202.67		2021-2025	€9,875,002.52	€12,445,445.00
2 Turnkey Units, Old Forge Road	Turnkey Project		€4,944.50		2023-2025	€524,944.50	€534,400.00
18 Units Tagcoat	House Construction Project		€2,333,113.98		2021-2025	€2,491,105.16	€5,197,647.00
12 Part V Forgelands, 123	Part V Acquisitions		€592,578.23		2023-2025	€2,390,543.23	€3,587,460.00
60 Units Killeens Wexford	House Construction Project		€331,755.75		2023-2025	€864,371.87	€5,918,654.00
Creagh (22 units)	House Construction Project		€5,910,278.87		2021-2025	€6,056,184.68	€8,814,210.00
Bullawn New Ross (3 Units) SN	House Construction Project		€61,645.16		2021-2025	€144,737.56	€844,560.00
39 Turnkey Part V Tobar Muire Creagh	Turnkey Project		€0.00		2021-2025	€2,346,073.00	€9,547,500.00
4 Part V Tobar Muire Creagh	Part V Acquisitions		€3,075.00		2021-2025	€423,593.00	€966,817.00
11 Part V Springview, Gorey	Part V Acquisitions		€0.00		2021-2025	€0.00	€2,282,000.00
Gleann an Ghairdin , Gorey 20 units	Part V Acquisitions		€2,826,465.08		2023-2025	€5,127,744.08	€5,768,100.00
8 Turnkey Greenhills, Clonhasten	Turnkey Project		€900.00		2022-2025	€2,000,112.34	€2,035,600.00
Francis Street, Wexford (2 units)	House Construction Project		€26,789.28		2024-2025	€44,864.13	€543,597.00
	Housing Construction Projects						
Ballytegan Ave Ext Rd/Assc Ser			€27,955.00		2024-2025	€27,955.00	€2,429,471.00
Energy Refitting Programme 2024	Energy Retrofit Project		€4,302,972.30		2024-2025	€4,302,972.30	€4,800,000.00
Energy Refitting Programme 2025	Upgrade and Retrofit Programme		€1,901,681.00		2024-2025	€1,901,681.00	€4,280,000.00
Phase 1 173 Units - St Walerans, Gorey	House Construction Project		€22,630.38		2022-2026	€470,040.42	€10,000,000.00
Vacant/Derelict URDF	Repurpose derelict buildings		€357,607.33		2022-2026	€358,207.33	€6,500,000.00
10 Part V Units Ard Uisce Ph 4	Part V Acquisitions		€616,937.92		2022-2026	€616,937.92	€3,090,633.00

Expenditure Being Incurred - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)							
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expend. Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/ Programme Anticipated Timeline	Cumulative Expenditure to-date	Projected Lifetime Expenditure (Capital Only)
110 & 111 Pearsons Brook Pt V	Part V Acquisitions		€0.00		2024-2025	€512,515.85	€514,794.00
2 Part V Units Ballyowen/Rams	Part V Acquisitions		€647,641.58		2024-2025	€647,641.58	€653,333.00
40 Tkeys Gleann An Ghairdin	Turnkey Project		€4,104,953.50		2024-2025	€4,104,953.50	€10,326,900.00
8 Part V Units Ard An Bile Phase 2	Part V Acquisitions		€3,690.00		2024-2025	€3,690.00	€1,736,183.00
8 Part V Units Phase 3 An Glasan E/c	Part V Acquisitions		€0.00		2024-2025	€2,015,509.50	€2,056,000.00
8 Turnkey Units An Glasan E/c	Part V Acquisitions		€1,333,409.59		2024-2025	€1,333,409.59	€1,362,400.00
Wexford Women's Refuge (12 units)	CAS Housing Units		€3,242,406.81		2021-2025	€6,876,861.21	€6,902,833.16
4 Units at Forgeland, Enniscorthy	Turnkey Project		€1,108,311.16		2024-2025	€1,108,311.16	€1,130,000.00
14 Turnkey Units Phase 2 Churchview	Turnkey Project		€3,626,613.49		2024-2025	€3,629,995.99	€3,670,554.00
Ard na Naoimh, Gorey	Turnkey Project		€260,000.00		2024-2025	€260,000.00	€694,420.00
Forgelands, Enniscorthy, Wexford 12 units	Turnkey Project		€1,600,065.00		2024-2025	€1,600,065.00	€3,889,800.00
Maintenance of LA Housing	Annual Operational Costs	€9,377,478.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Housing Assessment, Allocation & Transfer	Annual Operational Costs	€1,205,649.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Housing Rent and TP Administration	Annual Operational Costs	€944,462.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Housing Community Development Support	Annual Operational Costs	€668,839.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Admin of Homeless Service	Annual Operational Costs	€2,961,458.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Support to Housing Capital Programme	Annual Operational Costs	€2,996,869.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
RAS Programme	Annual Operational Costs	€19,086,279.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Housing Loans	Annual Operational Costs	€2,158,940.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Housing Grants	Annual Operational Costs	€7,196,702.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Housing Assistance Programme	Annual Operational Costs	€732,434.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00

Expenditure Being Incurred - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)							
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expend. Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/ Programme Anticipated Timeline	Cumulative Expenditure to-date	Projected Lifetime Expenditure (Capital Only)
Road Transportation & Safety							
Public Lighting LED Upgrade Programme	Public Lighting Upgrade		€32,308.91		2019-2025	€5,419,237.05	€5,500,000.00
Rosslare Harbour Access Road (Preliminary Design)	Road Construction/Strengthening		€300,188.28		2020-2026	€1,124,759.82	€1,200,000.00
Oylegate - Rosslare Harbour (Design)	Road Construction/Strengthening		€1,669,608.10		2020-2025	€6,197,913.36	€6,354,603.00
New Ross Flood Relief Scheme Phase 3	Flooding Prevention works		€0.00		2021-2025	€712,660.91	€1,000,000.00
N80 Scarawalsh to Ballycarney (3.7 Kms)	Road Construction/Strengthening		€1,149,435.29		2020-2025	€1,149,435.29	€1,600,000.00
Grange Beach Cliff Stabilisation	Stabilisation works		€395,213.92		2024-2026	€395,213.92	€510,750.00
Greenlink Baginbun to Dunbrody	Road Construction/Strengthening		€406,491.17		2024-2026	€406,491.17	€1,107,960.00
N80 Scarawalsh to Ballycarney Phase 1	Road Construction/Strengthening		€0.00		2020-2025	€1,355,454.88	€1,533,265.93
Newtown Road Pedestrian/Cycle - Active Travel	Active Travel Route		€3,177,645.13		2022-2025	€4,179,857.31	€4,199,040.39
NP Roads - Maintenance & Improvement	Annual Operational Costs	€1,376,032.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Regional Rds - Maintenance & Improvement	Annual Operational Costs	€3,146,344.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Local Roads - Maintenance & Improvement	Annual Operational Costs	€34,026,669.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Public Lighting	Annual Operational Costs	€1,997,541.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Road Safety Engineering Improvements	Annual Operational Costs	€940,399.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Maintenance & Management of Car Parking	Annual Operational Costs	€1,664,540.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00

Expenditure Being Incurred - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)							
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expend. Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/ Programme Anticipated Timeline	Cumulative Expenditure to-date	Projected Lifetime Expenditure (Capital Only)
Agency & Recoupable	Annual Operational Costs	€1,294,003.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Water/Surface Water Projects							
DPI Resolution Multi annual Prog 2021 - 2024 (Not TIC)	Wastewater Infrastructure Improve/Develop		€0.00		2019-2025	€86,784.99	€770,522.00
Water Supply - Irish Water SLA	Annual Operational Costs	€5,453,748.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Waste Water Treatment - Irish Water SLA	Annual Operational Costs	€3,238,856.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Operations & Maintenance of Public Conveniences	Annual Operational Costs	€780,395.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Admin of Group & Private Installations	Annual Operational Costs	€1,890,821.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Support to Irish Water Capital Programme	Annual Operational Costs	€639,327.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Local Authority Water & Sanitary Services	Annual Operational Costs	€1,466,772.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Special Projects							
Fleadh Cheoil na hEireann 2024-2025	Delivery of Fleadh Cheoil na hEireann		€3,633,814.22		2023-2025	€3,789,321.87	€4,000,000.00
Trinity Wharf	Mixed Use Employment Development		€2,884,829.21		2021-2027	€8,921,766.78	€28,156,238.00
Wexfordia - New Ross Tourism Project	Enhanced Tourist Facility (Norman Centre)		€807,200.00		2020-2026	€2,697,483.20	€7,800,000.00
E/C Murphy Flood Regeneration Project	Town Centre Regeneration		€446,113.72		2023-2025	€937,667.50	€1,274,000.00
Adoration Convent	GSU Student Accom Development		€4,024.00		2021-2026	€687,784.26	€6,549,000.00
Templeshannon Urban Renewal	Regeneration Project		€55,103.54		2022-2025	€496,700.42	€6,000,000.00
Wexford Minor Flood Works (Racecourse)	Flood Relief Works		€15,819.33		2018-2025	€419,345.77	€525,000.00

Expenditure Being Incurred - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)							
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expend. Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/ Programme Anticipated Timeline	Cumulative Expenditure to-date	Projected Lifetime Expenditure (Capital Only)
Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme	Flood Defence Works		€491,565.26		2015-2030	€6,525,539.31	€49,043,114.00
Greenway (New Ross to Waterford)	Greenway project Consolidation and Development of Site		€6,714,091.45		2022-2027	€16,516,444.48	€38,000,000.00
Gorey Market House Development	Public Realm Project		€149,823.85		2020-2025	€640,244.66	€6,039,172.00
Oyster Lane Town Block	Development of Trails		€717,562.43		2023-2025	€2,004,407.01	€2,045,256.13
Carrigfoyle Activity Park	Development of Water Activity Centre		€57,460.03		2020-2025	€1,676,363.09	€1,691,303.63
Curracloe Water Sports Activity Centre			€156,681.28		2024-2025	€156,681.28	€1,975,000.00
Ferndale Gym	Community Support Project		€497,945.91		2023-2025	€655,539.03	€1,760,831.00
Development Management							
SICAP Programme 2024-2028	SICAP Programme		€2,439,656.29		2024-2028	€2,439,656.29	€10,000,000.00
Forward Planning	Annual Operational Costs	€1,152,567.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Development Management	Annual Operational Costs	€2,260,648.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Planning Enforcement	Annual Operational Costs	€1,286,296.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Community Function	Annual Operational Costs	€3,928,180.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Building Control	Annual Operational Costs	€880,011.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Economic Development & Promotion	Annual Operational Costs	€23,282,045.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Property Management	Annual Operational Costs	€949,505.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Heritage and Conservation Services	Annual Operational Costs	€535,181.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Environmental Services							
Coastal Protection Works (Rosslare Strand)	Coastal Protection Works		€180,935.12		2020-2029	€496,963.36	€7,930,889.00
Seaview Coastal Protection Works (Kilmore Quay)	Coastal Protection Works		€36,267.69		2021-2025	€714,353.41	€2,500,000.00
Landfill Operation & Aftercare	Annual Operational Costs	€1,918,078.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00

Expenditure Being Incurred - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)							
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expend. Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/ Programme Anticipated Timeline	Cumulative Expenditure to-date	Projected Lifetime Expenditure (Capital Only)
Recovery & Recycling Facilities	Annual Operational Costs	€1,797,247.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Litter Management	Annual Operational Costs	€1,137,469.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Street Cleaning	Annual Operational Costs	€2,743,169.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Waste Regulations, Monitoring & Enforcement	Annual Operational Costs	€731,349.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Maintenance & Upkeep of Burial Grounds	Annual Operational Costs	€609,737.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Safety of Structures & Places	Annual Operational Costs	€1,470,577.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Operation of Fire Services	Annual Operational Costs	€7,625,224.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Water Quality, Air/Noise Pollution	Annual Operational Costs	€1,489,615.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Climate Change and Flooding	Annual Operational Costs	€706,413.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Recreation and Amenity							
Improvements New Ross Library	Redevelopment of Library facilities		€0.00		2024-2026	€0.00	€3,410,000.00
Astro Turf Enniscorthy	Development of an astro turf facility		€264,749.50		2023-2025	€392,349.86	€719,625.00
Operation of Library & Archive Services	Annual Operational Costs	€5,924,762.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Outdoor Leisure Areas Operations	Annual Operational Costs	€3,002,172.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Community, Sport & Recreation Development	Annual Operational Costs	€1,750,518.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Operation of Arts Programme	Annual Operational Costs	€2,227,186.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare							
Courtown Pier Refurbishment Works	Refurbishment Works		€737,750.00		2024-2026	€737,750.00	€737,750.00
Operation & Maintenance of Piers & Harbours	Annual Operational Costs	€1,943,772.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00

Expenditure Being Incurred - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)							
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expend. Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/ Programme Anticipated Timeline	Cumulative Expenditure to-date	Projected Lifetime Expenditure (Capital Only)
<i>Veterinary Services</i>	<i>Annual Operational Costs</i>	€1,157,186.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Miscellaneous Services							
28 New Crew Cabs	Purchase of Assets		€450,066.36		2024-2025	€450,066.36	€2,190,158.00
Duncannon Fort	Enhanced Tourist Facility		€268,530.51		2024-2025	€268,530.51	€740,000.00
Upgrade of CCTV Systems	Upgrade CCTV-all Co. towns		€236,854.00		2020-2025	€236,854.00	€844,993.00
Development of Rosslare Harbour Community Facilities	Community & Family Resource Centre		€307,596.41		2024-2025	€307,596.41	€654,886.00
Brennan's Lane/Shambles Project	Public Realm Project		€1,045,818.53		2022-2025	€1,078,598.03	€1,300,000.00
<i>Profit/Loss of Stores Account</i>	<i>Annual Operational Costs</i>	€891,271.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
<i>Administration of Rates</i>	<i>Annual Operational Costs</i>	€3,641,051.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
<i>Local Representation/Civic Leadership</i>	<i>Annual Operational Costs</i>	€2,571,354.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
<i>Motor Taxation</i>	<i>Annual Operational Costs</i>	€1,168,161.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
<i>Agency & Recoupable Services</i>	<i>Annual Operational Costs</i>	€3,323,264.00	€0.00			€0.00	€0.00
Totals		€187,348,565.00	€71,995,773.02	€0.00		€136,335,839.01	€332,186,668.24

Projects/Programmes Completed or Discontinued in the reference year - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)						
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non-Grant)	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Completion Date	Final Outturn Expenditure
Housing & Building						
10 Turnkey Clonard	Turnkey Project		-€62,922.10		2024	€2,273,829.83
4 Part V Goreybridge, Courtown	Part V Acquisitions		€195,202.20		2024	€993,788.06
Phase 2 - Rosetown 12 Units	House Construction Project		€1,894,434.19		2024	€3,246,089.94
Ballyhine (7 units)	House Construction Project		€1,257,970.04		2024	€2,440,038.66
Whiterock (22 Units) Phase 1	House Construction Project		€191,272.49		2024	€6,824,857.17
Whiterock (22 Units) Phase 2	House Construction Project		€3,380,688.95		2024	€6,785,992.19
Rosetown (23 Units) - Phase 1	House Construction Project		€22,665.50		2024	€6,005,556.58
Castleland, Ferns (20 Units)	Turnkey Project		€5,352,551.34		2024	€5,355,503.34
12 Houses at Danescastle	House Construction Project		€0.00		2024	€1,821,840.51
Road Transportation & Safety						
N25 Ballygillane Roundabout	Road Construction/Strengthening		€243,781.10		2024	€2,613,470.22
The Deeps Remediation	Road Construction/Strengthening		€866,057.06		2024	€3,296,717.40
Ashfield Cross/Ballykillane Phase 1	Road Construction/Strengthening		€0.00		2024	€1,807,328.55
Special Projects						
Enniscorthy Technology Park Phase 1	Development of Technology Park		€126,481.19		2024	€2,935,966.04
New Ross Public Realm (Emigrant Park)	Removal of Oil Tanks & Devel of Public space		-€119,061.26		2024	€1,969,727.67
Monck Street, Public Realm	Paving, Surfacing & Streetscape Works		€0.00		2024	€1,232,921.24
Gorey Park Development	Development of Park in Gorey		-€4,417.98		2024	€3,272,466.72
Kilmore Quay Relief Road	Link Road in Kilmore Quay Village		€0.00		2024	€1,432,807.67
Wexford Arts Centre	Refurb Works & increased accessibility		€106,835.37		2024	€3,133,903.85
Min Ryan Park, Wexford	Public Park for Wexford Town		-€6,006.00		2024	€5,320,540.28
Greenway (Rosslare Harbour to Waterford)	Greenway project along old railway		€0.00		2024	€0.00

Projects/Programmes Completed or Discontinued in the reference year - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)						
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non-Grant)	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Completion Date	Final Outturn Expenditure
Environment						
New Ross Port Dredging	Feasibility Study		€0.00		2024	€0.00
Duncannon EIP	Pollution Prevention Works		€48,915.38		2024	€739,363.72
Gorey Fire Station	Refurbishment of Fire Station Facilities		€815,043.28		2024	€977,851.76
Development Management						
SICAP Programme 2018 – 2023	Social Inclusion/Community Prog		€68,042.83		2024	€16,270,877.04
LEADER programme 2020 – 2024	Grant Programme Extended		€1,236,797.71		2024	€13,811,684.00
Agriculture, Health, Education & Welfare						
New Ross Port Enhancement	Enhancement Works to Port		€507,825.45		2024	€1,275,065.36
Miscellaneous Services						
New Ross Destination Towns	Public Realm Project		€42,743.65		2024	€767,120.22
Totals		€0.00	€16,164,900.39	€0.00		€96,605,308.02

Appendix B – Checklists of Compliance

PUBLIC SPENDING CODE (PSC)

CHECKLISTS 1 - 7

Checklists in respect of Capital investment are updated to reflect Public Spending Code: *A Guide to Evaluating, Planning and Managing Public Investment, December 2019*

QA Checklists – Step 3

When completing the checklists, organisations should consider the following points.

- ❖ The scoring mechanism for the checklists is as follows:
 - Scope for significant improvements = a score of 1
 - Compliant but with some improvement necessary = a score of 2
 - Broadly compliant = a score of 3
- ❖ For some questions, the scoring mechanism is not always strictly relevant. In these cases, it may be appropriate to mark as N/A and provide the required information in the commentary box as appropriate.
- ❖ The focus should be on providing descriptive and contextual information to frame the compliance ratings and to address the issues raised for each question. It is also important to provide summary details of key analytical outputs covered in the sample for those questions which address compliance with appraisal / evaluation requirements the annual number of formal evaluations, economic appraisals, project completion reports¹ and ex post evaluations. Key analytical outputs undertaken but outside of the sample should also be noted in the report.

Local Authority Notes

1. Capital Grant Schemes relate to Projects (recorded in the capital account) where expenditure relates to payments on the foot of grant applications from individuals/groups to the local authority e.g. Housing Aids for the elderly. It has been agreed with DPER that the Capital Grant Scheme element of the Project Inventory will only be used in exceptional circumstances where a LA commences its own grant scheme or primarily funds such a scheme as all other grant schemes are related to schemes commenced at Departmental level and are to be accounted for in the 'capital programmes' column of the QA inventory. The treatment of Capital Grant Schemes within the Project Inventory can therefore be clarified as follows:
 - a. Where a Capital Grant Scheme is 100% funded by Government Grant – Project Cost to be included under Capital Programme;
 - b. Where a Capital Grant Scheme is 100% funded by the Local Authority – Project Cost to be included under Capital Grant Scheme;
 - c. Where a Capital Grant Scheme is primarily funded by Government Grant with an element of local funding – Project Cost to be included under Capital Programme with a note made for each element funded by own resources e.g. Includes 20% local funding;
 - d. Where a Capital Grant Scheme is primarily funded by Local Funding with an element of government grant funding – Project Cost is to be recorded under Capital Grant Scheme with a note made for each element funded by government grant, e.g. Includes 40% government grant funding.
2. As noted in the general guidance above there may be questions where the scoring mechanism or indeed the question itself are not relevant to some or all local authorities. In such case it is acceptable to mark the answer as N/A and include commentary, where appropriate.

¹ Project completion reports (previously called post project reviews) – see Department of Public Expenditure & Reform, Circular 06/2018 available [here](#)

Checklist 1 – To be completed in respect of general obligations not specific to individual projects/programmes.

	General Obligations not specific to individual projects/programmes.	Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 - 3	Comment/Action Required
Q 1.1	Does the organisation ensure, on an ongoing basis, that appropriate people within the organisation and its agencies are aware of their requirements under the Public Spending Code (incl. through training)?	3	All relevant staff & agencies have been notified of their obligations under the PSC
Q 1.2	Has internal training on the Public Spending Code been provided to relevant staff?	2	As training is rolled out within the sector it is expected that WCC staff will engage with this training
Q 1.3	Has the Public Spending Code been adapted for the type of project/programme that your organisation is responsible for, i.e., have adapted sectoral guidelines been developed?	3	Yes. A guidance document has been developed for the QA adapting the PSC to Local Government structures and approach.
Q 1.4	Has the organisation in its role as Approving Authority satisfied itself that agencies that it funds comply with the Public Spending Code?	N/A	No project relevant to the PSC
Q 1.5	Have recommendations from previous QA reports (incl. spot checks) been disseminated, where appropriate, within the organisation and to agencies?	3	
Q 1.6	Have recommendations from previous QA reports been acted upon?	3	Yes
Q 1.7	Has an annual Public Spending Code QA report been submitted to and certified by the Chief Executive Officer, submitted to NOAC and published on the Local Authority's website?	3	Yes
Q 1.8	Was the required sample of projects/programmes subjected to in-depth checking as per step 4 of the QAP?	3	Yes
Q 1.9	Is there a process in place to plan for ex post evaluations? Ex-post evaluation is conducted after a certain period has passed since the completion of a target project with emphasis on the effectiveness and sustainability of the project.	2	If and where appropriate
Q 1.10	How many formal evaluations were completed in the year under review? Have they been published in a timely manner?	4 (No)	4 Appraisals completed
Q 1.11	Is there a process in place to follow up on the recommendations of previous evaluations?	2	If and where appropriate
Q 1.12	How have the recommendations of reviews and ex post evaluations informed resource allocation decisions?	2	If and where appropriate

Checklist 2 – To be completed in respect of capital projects/programmes & capital grant schemes that were under consideration in the past year.

	Capital Expenditure being Considered – Appraisal and Approval	Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 - 3	Comment/Action Required
Q 2.1	Was a Strategic Assessment Report (SAR) completed for all capital projects and programmes over €10m?	N/A	No longer relevant
Q 2.2	Were performance indicators specified for each project/programme which will allow for a robust evaluation at a later date? Have steps been put in place to gather performance indicator data?	3	
Q 2.3	Was a Preliminary and Final Business Case, including appropriate financial and economic appraisal, completed for all capital projects and programmes?	3	
Q 2.4	Were the proposal objectives SMART and aligned with Government policy including National Planning Framework, Climate Mitigation Plan etc?	3	
Q 2.5	Was an appropriate appraisal method and parameters used in respect of capital projects or capital programmes/grant schemes?	3	
Q 2.6	Was a financial appraisal carried out on all proposals and was there appropriate consideration of affordability?	3	
Q 2.7	Was the appraisal process commenced at an early enough stage to inform decision making?	3	
Q 2.8	Were sufficient options analysed in the business case for each capital proposal?	3	
Q 2.9	Was the evidence base for the estimated cost set out in each business case? Was an appropriate methodology used to estimate the cost? Were appropriate budget contingencies put in place?	3 3 3	
Q 2.10	Was risk considered and a risk mitigation strategy commenced? Was appropriate consideration given to governance and deliverability?	3 3	
Q 2.11	Has the Preliminary Business Case been sent for review by the External Assurance Process and Major Project Advisory Group for projects estimated to cost over €200m?	N/A in 2024	No projects of this value
Q 2.12	Was a detailed project brief including design brief and procurement strategy prepared for all investment projects?	3	
Q 2.13	Were procurement rules (both National and EU) complied with?	3	
Q 2.14	Was the Capital Works Management Framework (CWMF) properly implemented?	3	
Q 2.15	Were State Aid rules checked for all support?	N/A	
Q 2.16	Was approval sought from the Approving Authority at all decision gates?	3	
Q 2.17	Was Value for Money assessed and confirmed at each decision gate by Sponsoring Agency and Approving Authority?	3	
Q 2.18	Was consent sought from Government through a Memorandum for Government to approve projects estimated to cost over €200m at the appropriate approval gates?	N/A	No Project of this value

See Note 2 in the opening guidelines in relation to the interpretation of Capital Grant Schemes in the context of Local Government

Checklist 3 – To be completed in respect of new current expenditure under consideration in the past year.

	Current Expenditure being Considered – Appraisal and Approval	Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 – 3	Comment/Action Required
Q 3.1	Were objectives clearly set out?	3	Outlined to Members of Council as part of the budget process
Q 3.2	Are objectives measurable in quantitative terms?	2	To an extent
Q 3.3	Was a business case, incorporating financial and economic appraisal, prepared for new current expenditure proposals?	N/A	No new expenditure
Q 3.4	Was an appropriate appraisal method used?	N/A	No new expenditure
Q 3.5	Was an economic appraisal completed for all projects/programmes exceeding €20m or an annual spend of €5m over 4 years?	N/A	No new Projects/Programmes of this level
Q 3.6	Did the business case include a section on piloting?	N/A	
Q 3.7	Were pilots undertaken for new current spending proposals involving total expenditure of at least €20m over the proposed duration of the programme and a minimum annual expenditure of €5m?	N/A	
Q 3.8	Have the methodology and data collection requirements for the pilot been agreed at the outset of the scheme?	N/A	
Q 3.9	Was the pilot formally evaluated and submitted for approval to the relevant Vote Section in DPER?	N/A	
Q 3.10	Has an assessment of likely demand for the new scheme/scheme extension been estimated based on empirical evidence?	N/A	
Q 3.11	Was the required approval granted?	N/A	
Q 3.12	Has a sunset clause been set?	N/A	
Q 3.13	If outsourcing was involved were both EU and National procurement rules complied with?	N/A	
Q 3.14	Were performance indicators specified for each new current expenditure proposal or expansion of existing current expenditure programme which will allow for a robust evaluation at a later date?	N/A	
Q 3.15	Have steps been put in place to gather performance indicator data?	3	

Checklist 4 – To be completed in respect of capital projects/programmes & capital grants schemes incurring expenditure in the year under review.

	Incurring Capital Expenditure	Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 - 3	Comment/Action Required
Q 4.1	Was a contract signed and was it in line with the Approval given at each Decision Gate?	3	Yes, where appropriate
Q 4.2	Did management boards/steering committees meet regularly as agreed?	3	Yes, where appropriate
Q 4.3	Were programme co-ordinators appointed to co-ordinate implementation?	3	Internal co-ordinating team in most cases
Q 4.4	Were project managers, responsible for delivery, appointed and were the project managers at a suitably senior level for the scale of the project?	3	Internal co-ordinating team in most cases
Q 4.5	Were monitoring reports prepared regularly, showing implementation against plan, budget, timescales and quality?	3	Progress reports were prepared in most cases
Q 4.6	Did projects/programmes/grant schemes keep within their financial budget and time schedule?	2	In most cases
Q 4.7	Did budgets have to be adjusted?	Yes	Yes, up and down
Q 4.8	Were decisions on changes to budgets / time schedules made promptly?	3	Yes, in most cases
Q 4.9	Did circumstances ever warrant questioning the viability of the project/programme/grant scheme and the business case (exceeding budget, lack of progress, changes in the environment, new evidence, etc.)?	No	All feasibility exercises completed at the consideration stage of projects
Q 4.10	If circumstances did warrant questioning the viability of a project/programme/grant scheme was the project subjected to adequate examination?	N/A	
Q 4.11	If costs increased or there were other significant changes to the project was approval received from the Approving Authority?	3	This would be a requirement for grant approval
Q 4.12	Were any projects/programmes/grant schemes terminated because of deviations from the plan, the budget or because circumstances in the environment changed the need for the investment?	0 (No)	No projects were terminated in 2024

See Note 2 in the opening guidelines in relation to the interpretation of Capital Grant Schemes in the context of Local Government

Checklist 5 – To be completed in respect of current expenditure programmes incurring expenditure in the year under review.

	Incurring Current Expenditure	Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 -3	Comment/Action Required
Q 5.1	Are there clear objectives for all areas of current expenditure?	3	Yes, as part of the budget process
Q 5.2	Are outputs well defined?	3	National KPIs are in place for local government
Q 5.3	Are outputs quantified on a regular basis?	3	KPIs are established each year for specific services
Q 5.4	Is there a method for monitoring efficiency on an ongoing basis?	3	Yes, budget performance monitoring is in place
Q 5.5	Are outcomes well defined?	3	Annual Services Plans and SMDWs
Q 5.6	Are outcomes quantified on a regular basis?	3	Annual Services Plans and SMDWs
Q 5.7	Are unit costings compiled for performance monitoring?	3	National KPIs are in place for local government
Q 5.8	Are other data compiled to monitor performance?	3	Yes, budget performance monitoring is in place
Q 5.9	Is there a method for monitoring effectiveness on an ongoing basis?	3	Yes, budget performance monitoring is in place
Q 5.10	Has the organisation engaged in any other 'evaluation proofing' of programmes/projects?	2	If and when appropriate

Checklist 6 – To be completed in respect of capital projects/programmes & capital grant schemes discontinued in the year under review.

	Capital Expenditure Recently Completed	Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 - 3	Comment/Action Required
Q 6.1	How many Project Completion Reports were completed in the year under review?	4 (No)	4 Project Completion Reports
Q 6.2	Were lessons learned from Project Completion Reports incorporated into sectoral guidance and disseminated within the Sponsoring Agency and the Approving Authority?	3	Yes
Q 6.3	How many Project Completion Reports were published in the year under review?	N/a	
Q 6.4	How many Ex-Post Evaluations were completed in the year under review?	2	
Q 6.5	How many Ex-Post Evaluations were published in the year under review?	N/a	
Q 6.6	Were lessons learned from Ex-Post Evaluation reports incorporated into sectoral guidance and disseminated within the Sponsoring Agency and the Approving Authority?	3	Yes
Q 6.7	Were Project Completion Reports and Ex-Post Evaluations carried out by staffing resources independent of project implementation?	Yes	
Q 6.8	Were Project Completion Reports and Ex-Post Evaluation Reports for projects over €50m sent to DPER for dissemination?	N/A in 2024	No projects of this value in 2024.

See Note 2 in the opening guidelines in relation to the interpretation of Capital Grant Schemes in the context of Local Government

Checklist 7 – To be completed in respect of current expenditure programmes that reached the end of their planned timeframe during the year or were discontinued.

	Current Expenditure that (i) reached the end of its planned timeframe or (ii) was discontinued	Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 - 3	Comment/Action Required
Q 7.1	Were reviews carried out of current expenditure programmes that matured during the year or were discontinued?	N/A	No programme relevant to PSC in 2024
Q 7.2	Did those reviews reach conclusions on whether the programmes were efficient?	N/A	No programme relevant to PSC in 2024
Q 7.3	Did those reviews reach conclusions on whether the programmes were effective?	N/A	No programme relevant to PSC in 2024
Q 7.4	Have the conclusions reached been taken into account in related areas of expenditure?	N/A	No programme relevant to PSC in 2024
Q 7.5	Were any programmes discontinued following a review of a current expenditure programme?	N/A	No programme relevant to PSC in 2024
Q 7.6	Were reviews carried out by staffing resources independent of project implementation?	N/A	No programme relevant to PSC in 2024
Q 7.7	Were changes made to the organisation's practices in light of lessons learned from reviews?	N/A	No programme relevant to PSC in 2024

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

Public Spending Code Quality Assurance Step 4 Review 2024

Internal Audit Department
May 2025



SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1.1 In accordance with Circular 13/13 “The Public Spending Code: Expenditure Planning, Appraisal & Evaluation in the Irish Public Service – Standard Rules & Procedures” this review was completed on behalf of the Accounting Officer (Chief Executive) as part of the Quality Assurance element of the Public Spending Code (PSC).
- 1.1.2 In line with the Quality Assurance requirements a Project Inventory was drawn up by Wexford County Council’s PSC coordinator. The purpose of this inventory was to identify all projects/programmes of Wexford County Council which were at different stages of the Project Life Cycle during the 2024 financial year and where the total project value exceeded €0.5m. This review will focus on the projects included in this inventory.
- 1.1.3 Step 3 of the Quality Assurance exercise involved the completion of high-level checklists that capture various areas of compliance.
- 1.1.4 Step 4, which is the basis of this review report, involves the selection of projects for an in-depth review of compliance with the planning, appraisal, and evaluation requirements of the PSC. The value of capital projects selected for in depth review should be at least 5% of the total value of all capital projects on the project inventory and, the value of revenue projects selected for in depth review should be 1% of the total value of revenue projects on the project inventory. This minimum is an average calculated over a three-year period.
- 1.1.5 Three projects at various stages of the project life cycle were selected for in-depth review, to assess the level of compliance with the Public Spending Code through a more detailed analysis. The project inventory, including details of the selected projects, is attached in Appendix A of this report.
- 1.1.6 Details of the projects chosen are shown in Table 1.1 below

Table 1.1 – Projects selected for In Depth Review					
No.	Section	Project	Cap/Rev	Stage	Value €M
1.	Special Projects	South East Greenway (New Ross to Waterford)	Capital	Being Incurred	38M
2.	Special Projects	Gorey Relief Road Ballytegan St Walerans	Capital	Being Considered	20M
3.	Special Projects	Wexfordia - New Ross Tourism Project	Capital	Being Incurred	7.80M
Total					€65.80M

1.2 PURPOSE, OBJECTIVES & SCOPE

1.2.1 The objectives of this review were as follows:

- To provide an independent professional opinion on compliance with the Public Spending Code and more specifically, the quality of the appraisal, planning and implementation of work done within each programme. The projects were examined to assess if the practices implemented are of a high standard.
- The scope of the audit included a review of compliance with the Public Spending Code within each of the selected projects.
- Projects selected for in depth review comprise a representative sample from Projects at different stages of the life cycle. Priority was given to projects which were potentially higher risk. The value of capital projects selected for in depth review should be at least 5% of the total value of all capital projects on the project inventory and the value of revenue projects selected for in depth review should be 1% of the total value of revenue projects on the project inventory. This minimum is an average calculated over a three-year period. The total value of all projects selected in respect of 2014 to 2024 and the average percentages over a three-year period are shown in table 1.2 below.

YEAR	INVENTORY VALUE		INVENTORY VALUE		INVENTORY VALUE		SELECTED PROJECTS. CAPITAL	SELECTED PROJECTS. REVENUE	% SELECTED		AVG. % 3 YRS		AVG. % 3 YEARS	
	CAPITAL	REVENUE	TOTAL	REVENUE	TOTAL	CAPITAL			CAPITAL	REVENUE	CAPITAL	REVENUE	CAPITAL	REVENUE
2014	€100.10	€100.60	€200.70	€100.60	€200.70	€11.70	€0.00	€0.00	11.69%	0%		0%		
2015	€127.31	€97.27	€224.58	€97.27	€224.58	€50.67	€0.00	€0.00	39.80%	0%		0%		
2016	€208.75	€95.96	€304.71	€95.96	€304.71	€13.00	€6.03	€6.03	6.23%	6.28%	19.24%	2.09%		
2017	€339.90	€101.97	€441.87	€101.97	€441.87	€2.00	€1.40	€1.40	0.59%	1.37%	15.54%	2.55%		
2018	€406.04	€110.60	€516.64	€110.60	€516.64	€12.30	€0.00	€0.00	3.03%	0.00%	3.28%	2.55%		
2019	€528.26	€113.10	€641.36	€113.10	€641.36	€34.39	€0.00	€0.00	6.51%	0.00%	3.38%	0.46%		
2020	€550.45	€170.34	€720.79	€170.34	€720.79	€32.43	€9.28	€9.28	5.89%	5.45%	5.14%	1.82%		
2021	€566.75	€146.95	€713.70	€146.95	€713.70	€29.95	€2.99	€2.99	5.28%	2.03%	5.89%	2.49%		
2022	€629.36	€151.20	€780.55	€151.20	€780.55	€32.11	€4.93	€4.93	5.10%	3.26%	5.42%	3.58%		
2023	€859.85	€152.14	€1,011.99	€152.14	€1,011.99	€64.16	€1.73	€1.73	7.46%	1.14%	5.95%	2.14%		
2024	€1,227.98	€187.35	€1,415.33	€187.35	€1,415.33	€65.80	€0.00	€0.00	5.36%	0.00%	5.97%	1.47%		

1.3 ASSURANCE

- 1.3.1 Given the outcome of the various reviews set out in table 1.3 below, it is our opinion that in general there is satisfactory compliance with the Public Spending Code within Wexford County Council.
- 1.3.2 The following table summarises the results of our work. The quality assurance in-depth checks for each selected project are included in Appendices C1 to C3 of this report.

Table 1.3 – Compliance Levels				
	Project Reviewed	Compliance	Total Recommendations	Appendix No.
1.	South East Greenway (New Ross to Waterford)	Satisfactory	0	Appendix C1
2.	Gorey Relief Road Ballytegan St Walerans	Satisfactory	0	Appendix C2
3.	Wexfordia - New Ross Tourism Project	Satisfactory	0	Appendix C3

Quality Assurance – In Depth Check

Section A: Introduction

This introductory section details the headline information on the programme or project in question.

Programme or Project Information	
Name	South East Greenway
Detail	Development of a greenway along the disused railway line from New Ross to Waterford
Responsible Body	Wexford County Council (WCC)
Current Status	Expenditure Being Incurred
Start Date	April 2018
End Date	Est. November 2029
Overall Cost	€38M

Project Description

Kilkenny, Waterford, and Wexford councils are collaborating on a strategic opportunity to develop the South East Greenway on a disused railway from Mount Elliott in New Ross through Co. Kilkenny to Ferrybank in Waterford City, which will ultimately connect with the Waterford-Dungarvan Greenway. The project is part of a strategy to develop an integrated network of greenways and blueways as outdoor recreational amenities and tourist destinations for the South East. The 24km greenway project commenced in 2019. To date, 9km are complete and 6km opened to the public in July 2023. The remainder, divided into 11 lots, is at various phases of development. WCC is the lead authority for delivery of the project.

Section B - Step 1: Programme Logic Model Mapping

As part of this In-Depth Check, Internal Audit Unit, Wexford County Council has completed a Programme Logic Model (PLM) for the **South East Greenway (SEG) Project**. A PLM is a standard evaluation tool and further information on their nature is available in the [Public Spending Code](#).

Objectives	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes
- To deliver a Greenway that links New Ross to Waterford city and connects with a network of Greenways in the SE region - Main High-level Objective: To develop the region's attractiveness for tourism, grow the economy, and create employment - Sub-objectives: - Promotion of Physical Activity - Environment & Sustainable Mobility - Socio Economic Rationale	€38M funding allocated by Department of Transport Tourism & Sport (DTTAS) & Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) 2019-2024	- Project Execution Plans (PEPs) & Multi Criteria Analyses (MCA) - Funding Application to DTTAS - Part VIII Planning Applications - Tender activities & appointment of consulting engineers, contractor, conciliator, and sub-consultants - Conciliation process - Land transfer - Contract Administration of the South East Greenway	- Section 85 & Funding Agreements - Planning approvals LAC1611 & LAC1803 - Project Execution Plans - Grant approvals - Consultants Briefs & Scope of Services - Conciliation Reports - Landowner Agreements	9.1km completed to date: - Lot 1 Rosbercon to The Red Bridge 3 km - Lot 2 Ferrybank 1.2 km - Lot 3 Rosbercon to Glenmore 4.9 km 6km open to the public - Remaining lots in development - To provide a 24km greenway from New Ross to Waterford City

Description of Programme Logic Model

Objectives:

To deliver a Greenway that links New Ross to Waterford city and connects with a network of Greenways in the SE region.

Main High-level Objective: To develop the region's attractiveness for tourism, grow the economy and create employment

Sub-objectives:

- Promotion of Physical Activity: To provide an accessible recreational amenity suitable for all users that promotes and encourages healthy living and wellness through walking and cycling.
- Environment & Sustainable Mobility: To deliver an off-road greenway that promotes modal shift and enhances air quality
- Socio Economic Rationale: To act as a catalyst for regeneration in New Ross and the SE region

Inputs:

€38M funding allocated by Department of Transport Tourism & Sport (DTTAS) & Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) 2019-2024

Activities:

Project Execution Plans (PEPs) & Multi Criteria Analyses (MCA)

Funding Application to DTTAS

Part VIII Planning Applications

Tenders activities incl. preparation of tender documents, tender assessments, reports & recommendations.

Appointment of Technical Advisors (TA):

Lots 1, 2 & 3, Phases 0-7: Malachy Walsh & Partners

Lot 5A, Phases 0-5: MWP, Phases 6 & 7: Roughan & O'Donovan

Remaining lots, various phases: Fehily Timoney & Co

Appointment of Contractor for Lots 1, 2, 3 & 5A: Glas Civil Engineering Limited

Appointment of Conciliator (GMOB Consultants) & Conciliation Process

Land transfer of CIE rail corridor to the three Local Authorities (LAs)

Contract Administration

Outputs:

Section 85 & Funding Agreements between the three LAs

Planning approvals LAC1611 & LAC1803

Project Execution Plans

Grant approvals and allocations of €38M

Consultants Briefs & Scope of Services

Interim and Final Conciliation Reports

Landowner Agreements

Outcomes:

9.1km of greenway completed to date:

- Lot 1 Rosbercon to The Red Bridge 3 km
- Lot 2 Ferrybank 1.2 km
- Lot 3 Rosbercon to Glenmore 4.9 km

6km opened to the public July 2023

Remaining lots in various stages of development

Ultimate outcome - to provide a 24km greenway from New Ross to Waterford City that links with the Waterford-Dungarvan Greenway.

Section B - Step 2: Summary Timeline of Project/Programme

The following section tracks the **South East Greenway Project** from inception to conclusion in terms of major project/programme milestones.



Mar 2017	Part VIII Planning Approval LAC 1611
Apr 2018	PEP 1.0 - Preliminary Design Phase
Sept 2018	Part VIII Planning Approval LAC 1803
Sept 2018	Preparation of Project Brief for Consulting Engineering Services
Nov 2018	Application to DTTAS for National and Regional Greenway Fund
Jan 2019	Appointment of Malachy Walsh & Partners as consulting engineers
Apr 2019	PEP 2.0 - Phase 4 Detailed Design and Tender Preparation
Jun 2019	DTTAS initial Grant Approval. Subsequent annual grant allocations.
Jan 2020	PEP 3.0 - Phase 4 Detailed Design and Tender Preparation. Updated PEP 3.1 May 2020
Apr 2021	PEP 4.0 - Phase 5 Construction & Implementation
May 2021	Appointment of Glas Civil Engineering Ltd as contractor for Contract A Lots 1 & 2 and Contract B Lot 3



Apr 2022	Revised fee for design services from Malachy Walsh & Partners accepted
Sept-Nov 2022	Conciliator's Interim and Final Reports issued re. Contracts A & B claims by Glas Civil Engineering Ltd
July 2023	Lots 1,2,3 constructed and 6km of greenway opened to the public
Oct 2023	Appointment of Roughan O'Donovan Consulting Engineers as Technical Advisor for Lot 5A phases 6 & 7
Oct 2023	Appointment of Glas Civil Engineering Ltd as works contractor for Lot 5A
Mar 2024	Charter for Accommodation Works for SEG signed by LA Chief Executives and circulated to TII.
Apr 2024	Transfer of Rail Corridor land from CIE to 3 LAs.
May 2024	Appointment of Fehily Timoney & Co. as Technical Advisor for the remaining lots at various phases
Oct 2024	Updated PEP issued by FTC to WCC. This will be a live document continuously updated as the project progresses through the project phases.

Section B - Step 3: Analysis of Key Documents

The following section reviews the key documentation relating to appraisal, analysis and evaluation for the **South East Greenway Project**.

Project/Programme Key Documents	
Title	Details
Planning Outcome Report	Details of the outcome of four separate planning applications, two by WCC and two by Kilkenny Co. Co. including responses to submissions.
Project Execution Plans (PEPs) v 1.0, 2.0, 3.0, 3.1, 4.0 & FTC live version	PEP 1.0 - Preliminary Design Phase 2, dated 23 April 2018 PEP 2.0 - Detailed Design and Tender Preparation Phase 4, dated 26 April 2019. PEP 3.0, Update 1, dated 10 January 2020. PEP 3.1, Update 2, dated 27 May 2020 PEP 4.0 - Phase 5 Construction & Implementation, dated 14 April 2021 Live PEP issued by Fehily Timoney & Co. on 22 October 2024. This will be a live document continuously updated as the project progresses through the phases.
Application to DTTAS for National & Regional Greenway Fund	Detailed application to DTTAS, incl. Project Details, Costs, Business Case, Section 85 Agreement, Business Plan & Multi Criteria Analysis, dated 28 November 2018
Executive Orders 71/2019 & 376/2022	Appointment of Malachy Walsh & Partners as consulting engineers dated 23 January 2019. Acceptance of revised design services fee by Malachy Walsh & Partners, dated 21 April 2022
Grant Approvals	DTTAS Greenway's Funding Programme 2019-2021 grant approval for the period 2019 to 2021, award dated 21 June 2019, T&C dated 23 July 2019. Department of Transport letter re. Funding Round 2019-2021, confirming allocation for 2019-2022, dated 23 December 2020. Subsequent annual funding notifications from TII.
Executive Orders 284/2021 & 295/2021	Appointment of Glas Civil Engineering Ltd as contractor for Contract A Lots 1 & 2 and Contract B Lot 3, dated 05 May 2021 and 10 May 2021 respectively.

Conciliator's Interim & Final Reports Executive Orders 858/2022, 1025/2022 & 1024/2022	GMOB Consultants issued their Interim Conciliation Report dated 16 September 2022. The Final Conciliation Reports for Contract A and B re. claims by Glas Civil Engineering Ltd issued on 3 and 7 November 2022. Executive Orders dated 7 October and 23 November 2022 approving payment to Glas Civil Engineering Ltd as per the conciliation agreement, supplementary to the original EO 295/2021 and EO 284/2021 for their appointment for the construction of Contract B and A respectively. Appointment of Roughan O'Donovan Consulting Engineers as Technical Advisor for Lot 5A phases 6 & 7, dated 19 October 2023. TII approval dated 17 October 2023. Procurement Brief and Scope of Services of June 2023. Appointment of Glas Civil Engineering Ltd as works contractor for Lot 5A, dated 19 October 2023. TII approval dated 27 September 2023. Appointment of Fehily Timoney & Co. as Technical Advisor for the remaining lots at various phases, dated 3 May 2024. TII approval dated 9 May 2024. Consultants Brief and Scope of Services of November 2023 and February 2024 (retendered).
Executive Order 879/2023	Section 85 agreements between the three LAs signed 2016, 2017, 2018. Funding Agreements between the three LAs signed 2019, 2021, 2022.
Executive Order 878/2023	Records of meetings of Sponsoring Agency Management Group (SAMG), Steering Committee Meetings (SCM) & Chief Executives (CE) meetings & progress reports & presentations.
Executive Order 376/2024	
Section 85 & Funding Agreements	
Progress Meetings & Minutes	

Key Documents 1: Planning Outcome Report

Details of the outcome of four separate planning applications, two by WCC (LAC 1611 & LAC 1803) and two by KCC.

Key Documents 2: Project Execution Plans (PEPs) versions 1.0, 2.0, 3.0, 3.1, 4.0 & FTC live version

PEP 1.0 - Preliminary Design Phase 2, dated 23 April 2018

PEP 2.0 - Detailed Design and Tender Preparation Phase 4, dated 26 April 2019

PEP 3.0 - Update 1, dated 10 January 2020. PEP 3.1, Update 2, dated 27 May 2020

PEP 4.0 - Phase 5 Construction & Implementation, dated 14 April 2021

Live PEP first issued by Fehily Timoney & Co. on 22 October 2024. This will be a live document continuously updated as the project progresses through the phases.

Key Documents 3: Application to DTTAS for National & Regional Greenway Fund dated 28 November 2018.

Detailed application to DTTAS, incl. Project Details, alignment with Greenway Strategy, Landownership & Consultation, Route Design, Project Costs, Business Case, Preliminary Design Drawings, Section 85 Agreement, Business Plan & Multi Criteria Analysis.

Key Documents 4: Executive Order 71/2019 dated 23 January 2019 & Executive Order 376/2022 dated 21 April 2022

Appointment of Malachy Walsh & Partners as Technical Advisor (TA) / overall project consultants. Their appointment was made based on the recommendation of a Tender Assessment Report following procurement via a Multi Party Framework, originally advertised in the OJEU. Acceptance of revised design services fee by Malachy Walsh & Partners

Key Documents 5: Grant Approvals

DTTAS Greenway's Funding Programme 2019-2021 grant approval dated 21 June 2019, T&C dated 23 July 2019. Department of Transport letter re. Funding Round 2019-2021, confirming annual funding allocation for 2019-2022, dated 23 December 2020. Subsequent annual notifications of funding from TII. 2019: €8M, 2020: €7.7M, 2021: €10.67M, 2022: €4.25M, 2023: €3M, 2024: €4.985M.

Key Documents 6: Executive Orders 284/2021 dated 05 May 2021 & 295/2021 dated 10 May 2021

Appointment of Glas Civil Engineering Ltd as contractor for Contract A Lots 1 & 2 and Contract B Lot 3.

Key Documents 7: Conciliator's Interim & Final Reports & Executive Orders 858/2022, 1024/2022 & 1025/2022

Conciliator's Interim and Final Reports issued by GMOB Consultants re. Contracts A & B claims by Glas Civil Engineering Ltd. Interim Conciliation Report dated 16 September 2022. Final Conciliation Reports for Contract A and B issued on 3 and 7 November 2022 respectively. EOs 858/2022, 1024/2022 & 1025/2022 dated 7 October and 23 November 2022 approve payments to Glas Civil Engineering Ltd as per the conciliation report, supplementary to original EOs 295/2021 & 284/2021 for their appointment for the construction of Contract B and A respectively.

Key Document 8: Executive Order 879/2023

Appointment of Roughan O'Donovan Consulting Engineers as Technical Advisor for Lot 5A phases 6 & 7, dated 19 October 2023. A Procurement Brief and Scope of Services dated June 2023 was prepared. A mini competition to appoint technical consultants for Lot 5 A phases 6 & 7 was held using TII Framework for Technical Consultants for Projects >€3M. This competition was published to eTenders on 18 July 2023. A tender assessment and report were completed recommending the appointment Roughan O'Donovan, which TII approved on 17 October 2023.

Key Document 9: Executive Order 878/2023

Appointment of Glas Civil Engineering Ltd as works contractor for Contract C Lot 5A, dated 19 October 2023. Tenders were invited under the Public Works for Invited Procedure using the Civil Engineering Works Designed by the Employer by the closing date 5 May 2023. A tender assessment report and tender award recommendation was submitted to TII and approved on 27 September 2023.

Key Document 10: Executive Order 376/2024

Appointment of Fehily Timoney & Co. as Technical Advisor for the remaining lots (4, 4a, 5b, 6, 7, 8, 9) at various phases, dated 3 May 2024. Consultants Brief and Scope of Services November 2023 and February 2024 prepared. No response received to the tender which closed on 19 January 2024. Retender on eTenders of mini competition using TII Framework for Technical Consultant for Projects >€3m, TII191 1b. Tender deadline 25 March 2024, extended to 10 April 2024. Tender assessment report and award recommendation submitted to TII and approved 9 May 2024.

Key Documents 11: Section 85 Agreements & Funding Agreement

Various Section 85 agreements between the three LAs signed 2016, 2017, 2018. WCC is Lead Authority for the procurement and administration of the contract. Funding Agreements between the three LAs signed 2019, 2021, 2022 re. the apportionment of costs between the parties.

Key Documents 12: Progress Meetings & Minutes

Minutes of regular meetings of Sponsoring Agency Management Group (SAMG), Steering Committee Meetings (SCM) & Chief Executives (CE) meetings & progress reports & presentations. The Steering Group undertakes the function of the 'Project Board' as detailed in Section 6 of the DTTAS Common Appraisal Framework and Public Spending Code. The Group was chaired by WCC as the Sponsoring Agency and was attended by TII as the Sanctioning Authority, by the Technical Advisors and other significant stakeholders from KCC and others.

Section B - Step 4: Data Audit

The following section details the data audit that was carried out for the **South East Greenway Project**. It evaluates whether appropriate data is available for the future evaluation of the project/programme.

Data Required	Use	Availability
Planning Approval	Evidence of planning approval	Available on Project File
Application for DTTAS funding	To evaluate the appraisal stage of the project	Available on Project File
Project Execution Plans (PEPs)	Confirming project milestones, funding, roles and responsibilities and progress and approvals	Available on Project File
DTTAS/TII funding approval	Confirmation of grant funding and terms and conditions	Available on Project File
Tender Documents	Confirm compliance with public procurement procedures	Available on Project File
Executive Orders	Confirm approval for the appointment of Technical Advisors, Works Contractors & Conciliation payments	Available on Project File
Progress Meeting Minutes of Sponsoring Agency Management Group (SAMG), Steering Committee Meetings (SCM) & Chief Executives (CE) meetings & progress reports & presentations	Regular SAMG, SCM & CE meetings were held, providing evidence of project management	Available on Project File

Data Availability and Proposed Next Steps

All data appropriate to the current stage of this project is available on file.

Section B - Step 5: Key Evaluation Questions

The following section looks at the key evaluation questions for the **South East Greenway Project** based on the findings from the previous sections of this report.

Does the delivery of the project/programme comply with the standards set out in the Public Spending Code? (Appraisal Stage, Implementation Stage and Post-Implementation Stage)

This project is currently being incurred and all project documentation reviewed indicates compliance with the Public Spending Code.

Is the necessary data and information available such that the project/programme can be subjected to a full evaluation at a later date?

All data appropriate to the current stage of the project is available on file.

What improvements are recommended such that future processes and management are enhanced?

There are no recommendations arising from the review of compliance in this case.

Section C: In-Depth Check Summary

The following section presents a summary of the findings of this In-Depth Check on the **South East Greenway Project**.

Summary of In-Depth Check

The project documentation provides satisfactory assurance that there is compliance with the Public Spending Code. Controls upon which reliance can be placed are included in the following documentation:

- Planning Approvals
- Project Execution Plans (PEPs)
- Section 85 & Funding Agreements
- Tender Documents: Project Briefs & Scope of Services, Tenders, Tender Assessments & Recommendations
- Executive Orders appointing Technical Advisors, main contractor & approving conciliation payments
- DTTAS & TII grant allocations
- Conciliator's Reports
- Progress Meetings Minutes
- TII audit review December 2022
- Land transfer and Landowner Agreements
- Charter for Accommodation Works

Quality Assurance – In Depth Check

Section A: Introduction

This introductory section details the headline information on the programme or project in question.

Programme or Project Information	
Name	Gorey Relief Road
Detail	Gorey Relief Road – Ballytegan Avenue – St. Waleran's
Responsible Body	Wexford County Council (WCC)
Current Status	Expenditure Being Considered
Start Date	May 2019
End Date	Est. Jan 2029
Overall Cost	€20M

Project Description

The zoned lands of the Gorey Local Area Plan, 2017-2023 (extended to 2026) (LAP) includes over 30 hectares in the St. Waleran's Masterplan area. The LAP identifies a new spine route for the development of the St. Waleran's lands as part of the orbital route. The existing Gorey inner relief route is currently an incomplete orbital route, which is intended to connect adjacent Gorey neighbourhoods (Creagh, Ballytegan and Clonattin). The strategic longer-term development of this area requires completion of this orbital route, to improve the mobility network and reduce traffic pressure.

WCC is proposing to construct a section of the Gorey Relief Road as part of the St. Waleran's Masterplan. The section of road is proposed to connect from the yet-to-be-constructed phase 1 section (proposed housing development) to the Arklow Road. The scheme includes eventual completion of the Gorey Relief Road in full, including a bridge over the Arklow Road, providing future access for pedestrians, cyclists, vehicles and public transport to zoned land adjacent to Ballytegan Avenue. The scheme includes provision of services (water, wastewater, electricity, communications, gas etc.) for housing and a multi-use Sports and Recreation Area.

The current phase involves engaging a Technical Consultant for stage (i) services including development consent is funded by WCC. Future development will depend on obtaining other funding.

Section B: Evaluation - Step 1: Logic Model Mapping

As part of this In-Depth Check, Internal Audit, WCC has completed a Programme Logic Model (PLM) for developing the Gorey Relief Road. A PLM is a standard evaluation tool and further information on their nature is available in the [Public Spending Code](#).

Objectives	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes
• To further complete sections of the Gorey Relief Road • To provide for future pedestrian, cyclist and vehicle access to zoned lands adjacent to Ballytegan Avenue including proposed multi-use sports complex • To provide a bridge over railway and Arklow road which includes for pedestrian , cyclist and vehicular access - To make provision for services for water, wastewater, electricity, communications, gas etc.	• €1.5M Housing Finance Agency loan for land purchase • €730k of WCC's own resources for feasibility/option selection • €20M future funding or borrowing by WCC	• Land acquisition • Masterplan preparation - Engagement of Technical Consultants for initial options works, Preliminary Design & Development Consent	• Masterplan • Brief for Technical Consultancy Services • Appointment of consultants	Facilitate the growth of a sustainable community in a high quality, sustainable neighbourhood, supported by excellent local mobility connections, services and amenities and with strong links to surrounding areas and Gorey town centre.

Description of Programme Logic Model

Objectives:

- To further complete sections of the Gorey Relief Road
- To provide for future pedestrian, cyclist and vehicle access to zoned lands adjacent to Ballytegan Avenue including proposed multi-use sports complex
- To provide a bridge over railway and Arklow road which includes for pedestrian , cyclist and vehicular access
- To make services provision for water, wastewater, electricity, communications, gas etc.

Inputs:

- €1.5M Housing Finance Agency loan for land purchase
- €730k of WCC's own resources for feasibility/option selection
- €20M future funding or borrowing by WCC

Activities:

- Land acquisition
- Masterplan preparation
- Engagement of Technical Consultants for initial options works and stage (i) preliminary design & development consent

Outputs:

- To date:
 - St. Waleran's Masterplan
 - Brief for Technical Consultancy Services
 - Appointment of Fehily Timoney & Co. (FTC) to provide technical consultancy services
 - Future Expected:
 - Development Consent
 - Completion of a section of the Gorey Relief Road*
 - Eventual completion of the Gorey Relief Road in full including a bridge over the Arklow Road*

Outcomes:

- Facilitate the growth of a sustainable community in a high quality, sustainable neighbourhood, supported by excellent local mobility connections, services and amenities and with strong links to surrounding areas and Gorey town centre. *

* subject to funding approval to proceed to stages (ii-v) detailed design, procurement, construction and handover

Section B: Evaluation - Step 2: Summary Timeline of Project / Programme Life Cycle

The following section tracks the development of Gorey Relief Road from inception to date in terms of major project/programme milestones.



Sept 2007	Initial Gorey Relief Road Masterplan drawing produced by O'Connor Sutton Cronin, consultant engineers.
May 2019	Purchase of lands at St. Waleran's Gorey.
Nov 2021	St. Waleran's Demesne Masterplan produced by LOCI consultants published.
May 2024	Brief for Technical Consultancy Services and Instructions to Tenderers for Technical Consultancy Services prepared.
June 2024	Request for Tender for Technical Consultancy Services published as an open procedure (OJEU) on e-Tenders.
July 2024	Tender response deadline. No tender responses received.
Sept-Nov 2024	WCC negotiated with FTC as per article 32 of the procurement directive.
Nov 2024	FTC appointed for Technical Consultancy Services (Stage (i) Preliminary Design and Development Consent Process)
Dec 2024	Sub-consultants appointed (Kevin Cleary & Assoc., Landmark Design & Consultancy, Macro Works Ltd, Rubicon Heritage Services, Transport Insights)

Section B: Evaluation - Step 3: Analysis of Key Documents

The following section reviews the key documentation relating to appraisal, analysis, and evaluation for the development of Gorey Relief Road.

Project/Programme Key Documents	
Title	Details
Initial Masterplan	Initial Gorey Relief Road Masterplan drawing produced by O'Connor Sutton Cronin, consultant engineers.
Executive Order 413/2019	Approval of purchase of house & land (75.46 acres) at St. Waleran's Gorey signed by Chief Executive 17 May 2019.
Contract for Sale	Contract for Sale signed 31 May 2019 for purchase of St. Waleran's.
Masterplan	St. Waleran's Demesne Masterplan prepared by Loci consultants
Tender documents for Technical Consultancy Services	Brief for Technical Consultancy Services and Instructions to Tenderers for Technical Consultancy Services prepared. Request for Tender for Technical Consultancy Services published as an open procedure (OJEU) on e-Tenders.
No tender response message	WCC Procurement Section notification that no tender responses were received.
Fee Proposals	FTC Fee Proposals: 25/09/2024, updated Rev. 1 17/10/2024, & Rev. 2 04/11/2024.
Capital Project Endorsement Proposal	cPEP/2024/159 for Gorey Relief Road Technical Consultancy Services Initial Project Stage - Feasibility / Option Selection approved 26/11/2024.
Executive Order 1072/2024	Acceptance of fee proposal of FTC for Technical Consultancy Services (Stage (i) Preliminary Design and Development Consent Process) signed 28/11/2024.

Letter of Acceptance of Tender	Letter of Acceptance from WCC to FTC re. Technical Consultancy Service Contract A Stage (i) Services for Project 1 & 2 Gorey Relief Road – Ballytegan Ave., signed 16 & 17/12/2024.
Standard Conditions of Engagement for Consultancy Services (Technical)	Standard Conditions of Engagement for Consultancy Services (Technical) between WCC & FTC in respect of Technical Consultancy Service Contract A Stage (i) Services for Project 1 & 2 Gorey Relief Road – Ballytegan Avenue, contract signed 17/12/2024.
Appointment of FTC as Project Supervisor for Design Process (PSDP)	Appointment of Project Supervisor for Design Process (PSDP), contract signed between WCC & FTC signed 16/12/2024.
Collateral Warranties for Sub-Consultants	Collateral Warranties for Sub-Consultants and WCC with Kevin Cleary & Assoc., Landmark Design & Consultancy, Macro Works Ltd, Rubicon Heritage Services, Transport Insights signed 6-9/12/2024.

Key Document 1: Initial Masterplan

Initial Gorey Relief Road Masterplan drawing produced by O'Connor Sutton Cronin, consultant engineers, dated 14/09/2007.

Key Document 2: Executive Order 413/2019

Approval of purchase of house & land (75.46 acres) at St. Waleran's Gorey signed by Chief Executive 17 May 2019.

Key Document 3: Contract for Sale

Contract for Sale signed 31 May 2019 for purchase of St. Waleran's.

Key Document 4: St. Waleran's Demesne Masterplan

St. Waleran's Demesne Masterplan published on the WCC website on 08/11/2021 included Urban Analysis, Vision & Principles, Framework, Guidelines, Masterplan, Development Potential & Delivery. The Masterplan objectives are:

- To provide a clear understanding of the lands and to establish relevant constraints and opportunities to their development;
- To set out a longer-term vision for the development of the lands;
- To provide a robust framework for development of the lands;
- To provide a set of guidelines to inform later planning and design stages; and
- To facilitate phased and parcelled delivery of key infrastructure and development

It was prepared by Loci consultants with the support of other consultants for the following components:

- Urban planning and development – led by Loci;
- Transport and mobility, services and water – led by Atkins Consulting;
- Landscape and green infrastructure – led by Michael Cregan MILLI;
- SEA and AA screening and Preliminary Ecological Assessment Report – led by Minogue and Associates; and
- Archaeology and built heritage – led by IAC Ltd.

Key Document 5: Tender documents for Technical Consultancy Services

Gorey Relief Road – Ballytegan Avenue - Brief for Technical Consultancy Services and **Instructions to Tenderers** for Technical Consultancy Services prepared. **Request for Tender** for Technical Consultancy Services published as an open procedure (OJEU) on e-Tenders.

WCC will be progressing the scheme as two Projects, with Project 1 to be expedited:

Project 1 – Consists of the Primary Route / Orbital Route (Ballytegan Avenue) of the Phase 1a of the St Waleran's Demesne Masterplan. The route commences from the Phase 1 Housing Capital Section and provides access to the Sports/Recreation Area. The entrance to the Sports/Recreation

(SP/RE) Area may progress further along the proposed Ballytegan Avenue than indicated within the masterplan, subject to the concept design for the SP/RE Area.

Project 2 – Consists of the remaining Primary Route / Orbital Route (Ballytegan Avenue) of Phase 3 of the St Waleran's Demesne Masterplan. The Route continues from the SP/RE Area crossing Irish Rail/Arklow Road and connecting with Arklow Road. The section East of the Arklow Road shall allow for future connection to the Clonattin Area as indicated above.

The Scheme is split into three parts namely, Contract A, Contract B and Contract C.

Contract A relates to the Preliminary Design and Development Consent Process (Stage (i)) for both Project 1 and Project 2, Project 1 being progressed as Part 8 and Project 2 being Progressed through a submission to An Bord Pleanála for approval.

This contract will be for a Lump Sum fee.

Contract B relates to the Detailed Design, Procurement, Construction and Handover (Stage (ii) to (v)) of Project 1.

Note it is currently WCC intention to progress construction of this project in advance of Project 2.

This contract will be for a percentage fee which will be converted to a lump sum fee at the conclusion of Stage (iii).

Contract C relates to the Detailed design, Procurement, Construction and Handover (Stage (ii) to (v)) of Project 2.

This contract will be for a percentage fee which will be converted to a lump sum fee at the conclusion of Stage (iii).

Key Document 6: No tender response message

WCC Procurement Section email notification dated 09/07/2024 confirming no responses to the Gorey Ballytegan Relief Road tender were received and suggesting moving to Article 32 direct award. WCC proceed to negotiate with FTC in accordance with Article 32 of the procurement directive.

Key Documents 7: Fee Proposals

Three FTC Fee Proposals were received with detailed price breakdown, as per the scope and proposal as set out in the Brief for Technical Consultancy Services and Form of Tender and Schedule Documents supplied by WCC. The initial fee proposal was dated 25/09/2024. An updated fee proposal Rev. 1 was dated 17/10/2024. Another updated fee proposal Rev. 2 was dated 04/11/2024 for €1,299,487.00 ex VAT for Contract A, B & C.

Key Document 8: Capital Project Endorsement Proposal

cPEP/2024/159 for Gorey Relief Road Technical Consultancy Services Initial Project Stage - Feasibility / Option Selection approved 26/11/2024. It identifies Project Manager and Project Director and outlines total estimated project cost comprising Technical Consultant for stage (i) including development consent, initial options works, surveys, geotechnical investigations etc. The source of funding is identified as future borrowing.

Key Document 9: Executive Order 1072/2024

Acceptance of fee proposal (€618,731.71 including VAT) of FTC for Technical Consultancy Services (Stage (i) Preliminary Design and Development Consent Process) signed 28/11/2024.

Recommendation for Appointment of Consultant (FTC) memo accompanying EO 1072/2024 notes: "subject to funding approval to proceed to construction I recommend Contracts B&C in the value of €796,452.97 excluding VAT (€979,637.15 including VAT) to be reviewed and accepted where appropriate."

Key Document 10: Letter of Acceptance of Tender

Letter of Acceptance from WCC to FTC re. Technical Consultancy Service Contract A Stage (i) Services for Project 1 & 2 Gorey Relief Road – Ballytegan Ave., signed 16 & 17/12/2024.

Key Document 11: Standard Conditions of Engagement for Consultancy Services (Technical)

Standard Conditions of Engagement for Consultancy Services (Technical) between WCC & FTC in respect of Technical Consultancy Service Contract A Stage (i) Services for Project 1 & 2 Gorey Relief Road – Ballytegan Avenue, contract signed 17/12/2024.

Key Document 12: Appointment of FTC as Project Supervisor for Design Process (PSDP)

Appointment of Project Supervisor for Design Process (PSDP), contract signed between WCC & FTC signed 16/12/2024.

Key Documents 13: Collateral Warranties for Sub-Consultants

Collateral Warranties for Sub-Consultants and WCC with Kevin Cleary & Assoc., Landmark Design & Consultancy, Macro Works Ltd, Rubicon Heritage Services, Transport Insights signed 6-9/12/2024.

Section B: Evaluation - Step 4: Data Audit

The following section details the data audit that was carried out for the development of Gorey Relief Road. It evaluates whether appropriate data is available for the future evaluation of the project/programme.

Data Required	Use	Availability
Masterplan	Evidence of examination of constraints and opportunities, provision of guidelines to inform later planning and design stages, facilitation of phased and parcelled delivery of development	Available on Project File
Brief for Technical Consultancy Services	Provides overview and objectives of scheme, proposed phasing of consent process and works, programme, and details of required scheme stage services and deliverables	Available on Project File
Tender Documents	To confirm compliance with public procurement procedures	Available on Project File
Executive Orders & Contract for Sale	To confirm approval for purchase of land and appointment of consultants	Available on Project File
Project Endorsement Proposal	To confirm project details, roles, responsibilities, milestones, funding and approval	Available on Project File
Progress Meeting Minutes	Evidence of project management	Available on Project File (from 2025)

Data Availability and Proposed Next Steps

All data appropriate to the current stage of this project are available on file.

Section B: Evaluation - Step 5: Key Evaluation Questions

The following section looks at the key evaluation questions for the development of Gorey Relief Road based on the findings from the previous sections of this report.

Does the delivery of the project/programme comply with the standards set out in the Public Spending Code? (Appraisal Stage, Implementation Stage and Post-Implementation Stage)

This project is currently under consideration and all project documentation reviewed indicates compliance with the Public Spending Code.

Is the necessary data and information available such that the project/programme can be subjected to a full evaluation at a later date?

All data appropriate to the current stage of the project is available on file.

What improvements are recommended such that future processes and management are enhanced?

There are no recommendations arising from the review of compliance in this case.

Section C: In-Depth Check Summary

The following section presents a summary of the findings of this In-Depth Check on the Gorey Relief Road.

Summary of In-Depth Check

The project documentation for the current stage of this project provides satisfactory assurance that there is compliance with the Public Spending Code. Controls upon which reliance can be placed include:

- Masterplan
- Brief for Technical Consultancy Services
- Project Endorsement Proposal
- Tender documents and Fee Proposals
- Executive Orders
- Purchase orders on WCC's financial system
- Progress Meeting Minutes

APPENDIX C3 – LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE (LEO)

Quality Assurance – In Depth Check

Section A: Introduction

This introductory section details the headline information on the programme or project in question.

Programme or Project Information	
Name	Wexfordia New Ross Tourism Project
Detail	To develop a new large-scale Norman Exhibition Centre, upgrade the existing Dunbrody Experience Visitor Centre, and carry out works to the Dunbrody Famine Ship
Responsible Body	Wexford County Council (WCC)
Current Status	Being Incurred
Start Date	2018
End Date	Est. Q2 2027
Overall Cost	€7.8M

Programme Description

Wexfordia is a county wide development initiative to drive rural regeneration and growth in Co. Wexford. The New Ross Tourism Project (N RTP) is one of a cluster of tourism attractions in Co. Wexford that WCC is developing with Fáilte Ireland. The N RTP includes:

- Creating a new Norman experience at the Murphy Building in New Ross
- Upgrading the existing Dunbrody Experience Visitor Centre
- Carrying out works to the Dunbrody Famine Ship.

Operating under the working title of 'The New Ross Tourism Transformation: The Story of the World's Greatest Knight & The Dunbrody Famine Ship Experience' the proposal involves the construction of a new large-scale Norman experience entitled 'William Marshal-The Story of the Greatest Knight that ever lived'. The Dunbrody Famine Ship and Visitor Centre currently receives approximately 70,000 visitors annually, the addition of a new immersive visitor experience will see significant incremental growth in numbers over the next 5 years. The cumulative development of these new experiences will transform New Ross into an important visitor destination that will increase visitor numbers, visitor dwell time and overnights in New Ross and the wider Wexford region.

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Section B - Step 1: Programme Logic Model Mapping

As part of this In-Depth Check, Internal Audit Unit, WCC has completed a Programme Logic Model (PLM) for the Wexfordia New Ross Tourism Project. A PLM is a standard evaluation tool and further information on their nature is available in the [Public Spending Code](#).

Description of Programme Logic Model

Objectives	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes
- Develop a new large-scale Norman Exhibition Centre, upgrade the existing Dunbrody Experience Visitor Centre, and carry out works to Dunbrody Famine Ship - Develop an attraction of international class and scale to attract 150,000+ visitors per annum - Conduct a Governance Review	- Estimated project cost of €7.8M €4.67M funding from Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF) €1.57M funding from Fáilte Ireland €1.57M funding from WCC	- Project appraisal & cost estimates - RRDF Application submitted for Category 1 funding - Building acquisitions - NRTP Project Steering Group established - Tenders for architect-led design team services	- Wexfordia detailed vision document - Approval for RRDF Category 1 funding - Governance Review Report - Consultants appointed - Survey Reports	The provision of a new Norman Exhibition Centre, the upgrade of the Dunbrody Experience Visitor Centre, and improvements to the Dunbrody Famine Ship Experience will attract more visitors, share local history and support the local economy

Objectives: The main objective of the project is to develop a new Norman focused tourism experience in New Ross that links with the current JFK Dunbrody Famine Ship exhibition and visitor centre. The proposal involves the development of a world class new immersive visitor attraction telling the unique Wexford Norman story through the Norman Knight William Marshal in an historic, vacant, premises on South Quay, New Ross and the creation of a new immersive visitor experience that transports the visitor back to New Ross town as a Port of emigration at the Dunbrody Famine Ship on South Quay. Works will include restoration and interpretation of the Ship.

To develop the Dunbrody Experience (and Norman Interpretative Centre) as a long term sustainable co-ordinated cluster of tourism attractions capable of attracting more than 150,000+ paying visitors (overseas and domestic).

Conduct a review of the best governance and operational arrangements for a cluster of heritage tourist attractions in Co. Wexford, including NRTP.

Inputs: The primary input is the estimated project cost of €7.8M, with RRDF funding of €4.67M approved.

WCC and Fáilte Ireland will co-fund the balance of €3.14M. (€1.57M each)

Activities: An appraisal of the project was carried out by CHL Consultants for WCC as part of a Feasibility Report for the expanded Dunbrody experience, which included initial cost estimates.

WCC submitted a RRDF Application to the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD), for Category 1 funding for the development of the Wexfordia NRTP.

The purchase of Murphy's Buildings 20 & 21 The Quay, New Ross in October 2021.

NRTP Steering Group was established, and meetings were held including stakeholders from WCC, Fáilte Ireland and JFK Trust.

Tenders were published for architect-led design team services, consultants for Dunbrody Experience Interpretation and Fit Out Supervision, for Norman Themed Visitor Centre Interpretive Design, and to provide Tourism, Procurement & Project Management Services.

Outputs: Wexfordia detailed vision document published.

DRCD approved Category 1 RRDF funding.

Wexford Heritage Attractions Governance Review Report issued.

Consultants appointed for architect-led design team services (Hawkins Brown Ireland Ltd (HB)), for Dunbrody Experience Interpretation and Fit Out Supervision (EPIC Interpretive Design), for Norman Themed Visitor Centre Interpretive Design (Bright 3D) and to provide Tourism, Procurement & Project Management Services (The Tourism Company Ireland).
Surveys Reports were issued for Topographic Survey, BIM Survey, Drone Survey and Asbestos Survey.

Outcomes: The provision of a new Norman Exhibition Centre, the upgrade of the Dunbrody Experience Visitor Centre, and improvements to the Dunbrody Famine Ship Experience will attract more visitors, share local history, and support the local economy.

Section B: Evaluation - Step 2: Summary Timeline of Project / Programme Life Cycle

The following section tracks the **Wexfordia New Ross Tourism Project** from inception to conclusion in terms of project/programme milestones.



Sept 2018	Wexfordia detailed vision document published.
Sept 2018	Appraisal of NRTP - Feasibility Report prepared by CHL Consultants.
July 2019	Planning Permission received for New Ross Tourism Project. (Ref No. 20190783)
Aug 2019	RRDF Application.
Feb - Oct 2020	Approval in principle, Letter of Offer, and advance funding approval for RRDF funding received from DRCD.
Oct 2020	Appointment of New Ross Boat Yard as Main Contractor for Dunbrody Famine Ship Works using negotiated tender with prescribed works.
Nov 2020	Project Execution Plan 2020/085 approved.
Feb 2021	First Western Training Ltd appointed to procure the services of a consultant (BOP Consulting) to conduct the Wexford Heritage Attractions Governance Review.
April – Sept 2021	Tender advertised on eTenders for the delivery of tourism, interpretive, and related services. Submissions were received by the May deadline and tender assessment was completed. The Tourism Company Ireland was appointed.
April - Oct 2021	Purchase process for Murphy's Buildings 20 & 21 The Quay, New Ross, including Contract of Sale, Executive Order approval and Transfer of Deeds.

Oct 2021

Wexford Heritage Attractions Governance Review Report issued.

Nov 2021

Works by New Ross Boat Yard to the Dunbrody Famine Ship Project completed.

Dec 2022 – Feb 2023

Tender advertised on eTenders for the provision of consultancy services for Dunbrody Experience Interpretation and Fit Out Supervision. Submission received by the January 2023 deadline and tender assessment completed. EPIC Interpretive Design was appointed in February 2023.

Mar 2023-Feb 2024

Tender advertised on eTenders for the provision of consultancy services for Interpretative Design of the Norman Themed Visitor Centre. Submission received by the May 2023 deadline and tender assessment completed. Bright 3D was appointed in February 2024.

Apr 2023 – July 2024

Tenders for architect-led design team services for the new Norman Themed Visitor Centre were held in two stages. Stage One was advertised on eTenders in April 2023, submissions were received and those shortlisted proceed to Stage Two which was advertised on eTenders in April 2024, with submissions received and assessed in June 2024. HB was appointed as the lead consultant in July 2024.

Oct 2023

Supplemental Agreement to the RRDF Partnership Agreement between Fáilte Ireland & WCC signed.

June 2024

Upgrading the Dunbrody Visitor Centre Experience Project is completed by EPIC Interpretive Design.



Section B: Evaluation - Step 3: Analysis of Key Documents

The following section reviews the key documentation relating to appraisal, analysis, and evaluation for the **Wexfordia New Ross Tourism Project**.

Project/Programme Key Documents	
Title	Details
Detailed Vision Document	Wexfordia detailed vision document published.
Project Appraisal	Appraisal of NRTP - Feasibility Report prepared by CHL Consultants.
Planning Permission	Planning Permission received for NRTP. (Ref No. 20190783) in July 2019.
RRDF Application Form	Application for RRDF funding for Wexfordia NRTP.
Approval in principle and Letter of Offer Advance Funding Approval – RRDF	Funding offer from DRCD in May 2020. Approval of advance funding for the NRTP in October 2020.
Executive Order No. 744/2020	Appointment of New Ross Boat Yard to undertake works to the Dunbrody Famine Ship.
Project Execution Plan	Project Execution Plan (2020/085) approved 18 th November 2020.
Executive Order No. 98/2021	Appointment of First Western Training Ltd to procure the services of a consultant to conduct the Wexford Heritage Attractions Governance Review, signed 22 nd February 2021.

Contract for Sale / Transfer of Deeds	Purchase process for Murphy's Buildings 20 & 21 The Quay, New Ross, including Contract of Sale signed in April 2021 and Transfer of Deeds signed in October 2021.
Executive Order 282/2021	Approval of purchase of property from Michael Murphy Limited at 20 & 21 The Quay, New Ross, signed 4 th May 2021.
Tender Documents for the delivery of tourism, interpretive, and related services for NRTP	Tender including Project Brief advertised on eTenders for the delivery of tourism, interpretive, and related services for NRTP in April 2021.
Executive Order No. 704/2021	Appointment of The Tourism Company Ireland for the delivery of tourism, interpretive, and related services for NRTP, signed on 28 th September 2021.
DRCD Inspection Report Letter of Final Findings	Desk check of file and site visit by DRCD on 28 th October 2021 and 15 th December 2021.
RRDF Partnership Agreements - Fáilte Ireland & WCC	RRDF Partnership Agreements signed 14th December 2021, 11th February 2022 and 23rd October 2023.
Funding Drawdown Requests	Funding Drawdown Requests to the RRDF, October 2022, October and November 2023.
Tender Documents for consultancy services for Dunbrody Experience Interpretation and Fit Out Supervision	Tender including Project Brief advertised on eTenders for consultancy services for Dunbrody Experience Interpretation and Fit Out Supervision in December 2022.
Executive Order 155/2023	Appointment of EPIC Interpretive Design for the delivery of Interpretive Design and related services at the Dunbrody Experience, signed on 27 th February 2023.
Tender Documents for consultancy services for Interpretive Design of the Norman Themed Visitor Centre	Tender including Project Brief advertised on eTenders for consultancy services for Interpretive Design of the Norman Themed Visitor Centre in March 2023.
Executive Order 120/2024	Appointment of Bright 3D for the delivery of Interpretive Design and related services at the Norman Themed Visitor Centre, signed on 13 th February 2024.

Tender Documents for architect-led design team services	Tender including Project Brief for architect-led design team services published on e-Tender, Q2 2023
Executive Order 560/2024	Appointment of HB for the provision of architectural and design lead consultancy services for the Norman Themed Visitor Centre New Ross signed 4 th July 2024.
Miscellaneous Debtors Invoices for Grant Claims to DRCD & Fáilte Ireland	Eight claims submitted to DRCD & Fáilte Ireland from October 2020 to October 2024

Key Document 1: Detailed Vision Document

In September 2018, Wexfordia detailed vision document published.

Key Document 2: Project Appraisal

In September 2018, Appraisal of NRTP - Feasibility Report prepared by CHL Consultants.

Key Document 3: Planning Permission

On 5th July 2019, the planning permission for NRTP was granted.

Key Document 4: RRDF Application Form

On 2nd August 2019, WCC applied to DRCD for Category 1 RRDF funding, for the development of the NRTP.

Key Document 5: Approval in principle, Letter of Offer and Advance Funding Approval – RRDF

On 5th May 2020, DRCD confirmed Category 1 RRDF funding for the development of the NRTP and on 1st October 2020, WCC received advance funding approval from the RRDF to support the project's progress.

Key Documents 6: Executive Order No. 744/2020

Appointment of New Ross Boat Yard to undertake works to the Dunbrody Famine Ship. The Executive Order was signed on 29th October 2020.

Key Document 7: Project Execution Plan (2020/085)

The Project Execution Plan (2020/085), approved on 18th November 2020 details the Project Brief, Project Phase, Project Development & Implementation Approach, Programme Milestones, Project Cost and Funding Certification.

Key Documents 8: Executive Order No. 98/2021

First Western Training Ltd were appointed on behalf of Fáilte Ireland and WCC to procure the services of a consultant (BOP Consulting) to conduct the Wexford Heritage Attractions Governance Review. The Executive Order was signed on 22nd February 2021.

Key Document 9: Contract for Sale / Transfer of Deeds

Purchase process for Murphy's Buildings 20 & 21 The Quay, New Ross, including Contract of Sale signed in April 2021 and Transfer of Deeds signed in October 2021.

Key Document 10: Executive Order 282/2021

Approval of purchase of property from Michael Murphy Limited at 20 & 21 The Quay, New Ross signed 4th May 2021.

Key Documents 11: Tender Documents for the delivery of tourism, interpretive, and related services for NRTP

Tender including Project Brief advertised on eTenders for the delivery of tourism, interpretive, and related services for NRTP in April 2021.

Key Documents 12: Executive Order No. 704/2021

Appointment of The Tourism Company Ireland for the delivery of tourism, interpretive, and related services for NRTP. The Executive Order was signed on 28th September 2021.

Key Document 13: DRCD Inspection Report Letter of Final Findings

DRCD Inspections were carried out, with a desk check of files on 28th October 2021 and a site visit on the 15th December 2021.

Key Documents 14: RRDF Partnership Agreements - Fáilte Ireland & WCC

Agreement signed by Fáilte Ireland on 14th December 2021 and WCC on 11th February 2022, following successful grant application for RRDF funding. Supplemental Agreement to the RRDF Partnership Agreement between Fáilte Ireland & WCC signed 23rd October 2023.

Key Documents 15: Funding Drawdown Requests - RRDF

The first funding drawdown request was made to DRCD on 12nd October 2020 for €782,583.00 (Payment received by WCC on 27th October 2020). The second was made on 12th October 2022 for €60,343.85 (Payment received by WCC on 24th October 2022). The third was made on 18th October 2023 for €213,279.98 (Payment received by WCC on 31st October 2023). The fourth was made on 28th November 2023 for €1,634,811.59 (Payment received by WCC on 11th December 2023).

Key Documents 16: Tender Documents for consultancy services for Dunbrody Experience Interpretation and Fit Out Supervision

Tender including Project Brief advertised on eTenders for consultancy services for Dunbrody Experience Interpretation and Fit Out Supervision in December 2022.

Key Documents 17: Executive Order 155/2023

Appointment of EPIC Interpretive Design for the delivery of Interpretive Design and related services at the Dunbrody Experience. The Executive Order was signed on 27th February 2023.

Key Documents 18: Tender Documents for consultancy services for Interpretative Design of the Norman Themed Visitor Centre

Tender including Project Brief advertised on eTenders for consultancy services for Interpretative Design of the Norman Themed Visitor Centre in March 2023.

Key Documents 19: Executive Order 120/2024

Appointment of Bright 3D for the delivery of Interpretative Design and related services at the Norman Themed Visitor Centre was signed on 13th February 2024.

Key Documents 20: Tender Documents for architect-led design team services

Tender including Project Brief for architect-led design team services published on e-Tender, Q2 2023.

Key Documents 21: Executive Order No. 560/2024

Appointment of HB for the provision of architectural and design lead consultancy services for the Norman Themed Visitor Centre New Ross was signed on 4th July 2024.

Key Documents 22: Miscellaneous Debtors Invoices for Grant Claims to DRCD & Fáilte Ireland

Eight claims submitted to DRCD & Fáilte Ireland from October 2020 to October 2024.

Section B: Evaluation - Step 4: Data Audit

The following section details the data audit that was carried out for the **Wexfordia New Ross Tourism Project**. It evaluates whether appropriate data is available for the future evaluation of the project/programme.

Data Required	Use	Availability
Application for RRDF Category 1 funding	Summary & project appraisal including key milestones & project rationale. Department confirmation of funding to allow project to proceed	Available on Project File
Tender Documents	To confirm compliance with public procurement procedures	Available on Project File
Executive Orders & Contract for Sale	To confirm approval for purchase of the buildings and appointments of consultants	Available on Project File
Meetings & progress reports	Provides evidence of project updates & project management	Available on Project File
Project Execution Plan	Provides evidence of project costings, sources of funding and approval by management	Available on Project File
Payments, grant claims & claim reports	To assess expenditure & claim recoupment	Available on File & WCC's Accounts System

Data Availability and Proposed Next Steps

All data appropriate to the current stage of this project is available on file.

Section B: Evaluation - Step 5: Key Evaluation Questions

The following section looks at the key evaluation questions for **Wexfordia New Ross Tourism Project** based on the findings from the previous sections of this report.

Does the delivery of the project/programme comply with the standards set out in the Public Spending Code? (Appraisal Stage, Implementation Stage and Post-Implementation Stage)

This project is currently being incurred and all project documentation reviewed indicates compliance with the Public Spending Code.

Is the necessary data and information available such that the project/programme can be subjected to a full evaluation at a later date?

All data appropriate to the current stage of the project is available on file.

What improvements are recommended such that future processes and management are enhanced?

There are no recommendations arising from the review of compliance in this case.

Section C: Summary and Conclusions

The following section presents a summary of the findings of this In-Depth Check on the **Wexfordia New Ross Tourism Project**.

Summary of In-Depth Check

The project documentation provides satisfactory assurance that there is compliance with the Public Spending Code. Controls upon which reliance can be placed are included in the following documentation:

- Project Appraisal (Feasibility Report prepared by CHL Consultants)
- Planning Permission (Ref No. 20190783)
- RRDF Funding Application
- Funding Approval, Letter of Offer and Partnership Agreements with Fáilte Ireland & WCC
- Project Execution Plan (2020/085)
- Wexford Heritage Attractions Governance Review Report
- Tender Documents & assessments
- Contract for Sale
- Executive Orders
- Project Reviews (NRTP Project Steering Group Meetings)
- Funding claims & reports
- Payments & receipts on the WCC's Accounts System