

**Public Spending Code
Quality Assurance Report for 2019**



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

August 2020

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:



Tom Enright
Chief Executive
Wexford County Council

Date:

24th August, 2020 .

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 was further updated for the 2015 and 2016 reporting requirements and the latest updated guidance note (version 3) has informed the completion of the 2019 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. (The PSC originally required projects in excess of €2m to be published under this requirement but this has now been changed to €10m) 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). The report, which will be generated as a matter of course through compliance with steps 1-4 set out above.

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 between €0.5m - €5m
		Capital Projects between €5m - €20m
		Capital Projects over €20m
		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 – 2019)

The Inventory contains **190** Projects under the three stages and comprises a total value of **€641m**. 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 2019.

	Current Expenditure	Capital Expenditure	
Project Numbers	> €0.5m	> €0.5m	Totals
Expenditure Being considered	0	74	74
Expenditure Being Incurred	47	39	86
Expenditure recently ended	0	30	30
Totals	47	143	190

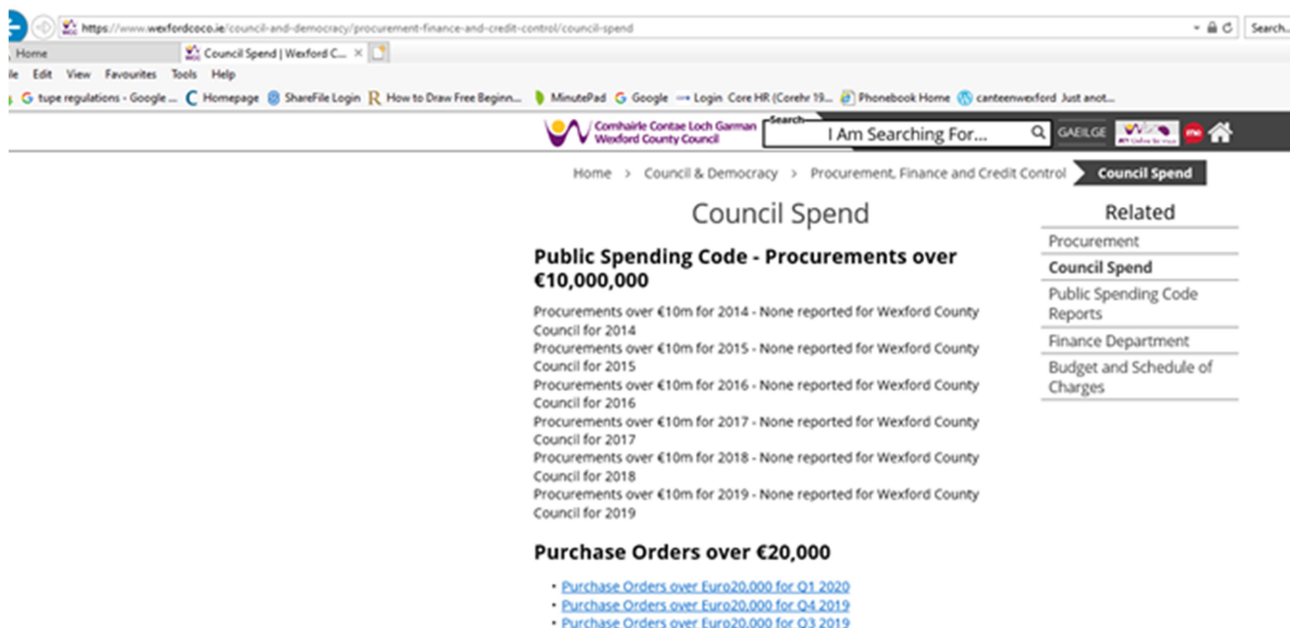
	Current Expenditure	Capital Expenditure	
Project Total Values	> €0.5m	> €0.5m	Totals
Expenditure Being considered	0	€313m	€313m
Expenditure Being Incurred	€113m	€158m	€271m
Expenditure recently ended	0	€57m	€57m
Totals	€113m	€528m	€641m

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

In compliance with the requirement to publish information on all procurements undertaken by Wexford Co 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



For 2019 Wexford Co Council has reported no projects in this category. The requirement relates to Procurements over €10m rather than Project Costs. Therefore while the project inventory reports on 10 projects over €10m, there is currently no single procurement within these projects 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/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 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:

Table 1.2 – Compliance Levels			
	Project Reviewed	Compliance	Recommendations
1	Trinity Wharf Project	Satisfactory	0
2	10 House Scheme at Slippery Green, Wexford	Satisfactory	0
3	New Ross Flood Relief Scheme	Satisfactory	0

The formal report on the In-depth review has been submitted to the Management Team within Wexford Council for consideration. The report including the completed templates is included in Appendix C to this report. The projects examined in the indepth review have provided satisfactory assurance that there is compliance with the Public Spending Code and no recommendations have arisen from the 2019 Indepth Review.

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 2019.
- 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, in general, satisfactory compliance with the requirements of the Public Spending Code. Three Projects were examined. The project documentation examined provided satisfactory assurance that this is in compliance with the Public Spending Code and no additional recommendations were identified.
- 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 Co Council. The contents of this report provide details of the QA exercise completed. The report has been considered by the Management Team of Wexford Council and has been certified by the Accounting Officer, Tom Enright, Chief Executive.

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

Appendix A - Inventory of Projects and Programmes Over €0.5m - 2019

Wexford County Council 2019 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

Local Authority	Expenditure		being considered			Expenditure being incurred			Expenditure recently ended		
	Current		Capital				> €0.5m			> €0.5m	
Local Authority	> €0.5m	Capital Grant Schemes >		Capital Projects		Current Expenditure	Capital Grant Schemes	Capital Projects	Current Expenditure	Capital Grant Schemes	Capital Projects
		€0.5m	€0.5 - €5m	€5 - €20m	€20m plus						
Wexford County Council	€m	€m	€m	€m	€m	€m	€m	€m	€m	€m	€m
Housing & Building											
9 Units Baile Eoghain Gorey								€1.90			
50 Units Killeens, Wexford				€10.00							
8 Units Cherryorchard Infill											€1.60
26 Units Clonard, Wexford				€7.00							
Wexford Women's Refuge Proposal (12 units)			€3.50								
Purchase of Land for Housing Purposes			€3.00								
Taghmon 18 Houses								€3.70			
Rathangan Capital Assistance Scheme											€1.05
Creagh (10 Houses)								€1.80			
Whiterock (44 Units)				€10.30							
House Purchases 2017 - Wexford District											€4.63
House Purchases 2017 - New Ross District											€3.07
House Purchases 2017 - Enniscorthy District											€1.80
House Purchase 2017 - Gorey District											€1.80
House Purchases 2018 - Wexford District											€3.57
House Purchases 2018 - New Ross District											€2.64
House Purchases 2018 - Enniscorthy District											€1.81
House Purchase 2018 - Gorey District											€1.56
House Purchases 2019 - Wexford District								€2.40			
House Purchases 2019 - New Ross District								€1.00			
House Purchases 2019 - Enniscorthy District								€1.00			
House Purchase 2019 - Gorey District								€1.00			
DPA 2017											€1.40
Slippery Green Wexford (10 Houses)								€2.35			
Danescastle (10 Units)								€1.85			
Grantstown Voluntary Housing (16 Units)			€2.20								
Oilgate (2 Units)											€0.60
Ballywish (10 Units)			€2.20								
Ballyhine (6 units)			€1.26								
Glentire (6 Units)								€1.39			

Rosetown (36 Units)				€7.70							
Carley's Bridge (17 Units)			€3.90								
Creagh (12 units)			€2.50								
Coolcotts (7 Units)								€1.51			
Turnkey Programme 2017 (8 Units)											€1.54
Turnkey - Glen an Gardin (23 Units)								€5.48			
Turnkey - Ard Uisce (35 Units)											€8.03
Turnkey - Whitewater Estuary, Ballyhack			€0.70								
Turnkey - Airhill Bevedere Road			€1.67								
Riverchapel Lane, Riverchapel											€0.78
Gleann Aoibhinn, Courtown								€2.24			
Part V - Knockmullen, gorey			€3.75								
Part V - Ard Uisce Wexford			€3.25								
Part V Gleann and Ghairdin, Gorey											€2.27
Part V Roxborough Manor, Mulgannon Wex			€4.34								
Planned Maintenance Programme 2017											€0.90
Planned Maintenance Programme 2018											€0.65
Planned Maintenance Programme 2019								€0.50			
Energy Efficiency Programme 2017											€0.55
Energy Efficiency Programme 2018								€0.60			
Energy Efficiency Programme 2019								€0.53			
Capital Advance Leasing (CALF) 2017											€2.06
Capital Advance Leasing (CALF) 2018								€4.90			
Voids Programme 2017											€0.70
Voids Programme 2018											€0.92
Voids Programme 2019								€0.70			
John's Gate Street Flats Refurbishment								€0.87			
St Martin's Road, Rosslare Hbr Tky (4 Units)											€0.81
Rath an Duin, Turnkey (3 Units)											€0.71
DPA Scheme 2019											€0.57
Belvedere Road Wexford (7 Units)			€1.40								
Wexford Street Gorey (20 Units)								€5.00			
Rosbercon New Ross (28 Units)				€5.50							
Bullawn New Ross (3 Units)			€0.60								
CAS Scheme with VHBs								€4.50			
Maintenance of LA Housing						€6.60					
Housing Assessment, Allocation & Transfer						€0.86					

Housing Rent and TP Administration						€0.81					
Housing Community Development Support						€0.80					
Admin of Homeless Service						€0.96					
Support to Housing Capital Programme						€2.32					
RAS Programme						€8.20					
Housing Loans						€1.51					
Housing Grants						€2.67					
Road Transportation and Safety											
New Ross Residual Network 2018 (MT Elliot)											€1.40
Enniscorthy Residual Network 2019 (Ferns)			€0.80								
2017 HD28 Pavement Renewals								€1.07			
2019 HD28 Pavement Renewals								€1.22			
New Ross Flood Relief											€3.88
Wexford Inner Relief (Clonard to Newtown Rd)			€3.00								
Wexford Inner Relief (Ballinagee to R730)			€5.00								
N11 Killens - Kitestown + Kyle Upper											€4.62
Gorey inner Relief (College Road)			€1.00								
Old N11 Enniscorthy (Dublin Road)			€1.10								
Public Lighting Upgrade Programme								€5.50			
Oylegate - Rosslare Hbr (Design)								€12.16			
MT Elliot Payement Strengthening			€1.40								
Killeens to Newtown Phase 2			€1.50								
N30 Tomfarney to Clonroche								€2.26			
N25/R733 Roundabout (Whitford)			€0.75								
Kitestown Junction			€1.20								
N25 Holmestown to Kilcoole			€3.20								
Wexford - Castlebridge Surfacing/Paths								€2.85			
John Street/Goats Hill Regeneration								€0.85			
Irishtown Regeneration											€0.65
N25 Ballygillane Roundabout			€1.90								
New Ross Flood Relief Scheme Phase 3			€1.50								
Installation of Right turning lane N80 Bcarney			€0.60								
N25 Maldron Roundabout to Whitford (1.8 Kms)			€1.20								
New Ross Bridge to Kilkenny boundary (0.8 Kms)			€0.50								
N25 Kilmore Junction to Ashfield Cross (4.6 Kms)			€3.50								
N30 Forestwood to Cloneigh (2.6 Kms)			€2.00								
N80 Scarawalsh to Ballycarney (3.7 Kms)			€2.00								

NP Roads - Maintenance & Improvement						€1.70					
Regional Rds - Maintenance & Improvement						€2.53					
Local Roads - Maintenance & Improvement						€22.49					
Public Lighting						€1.83					
Road Safety Engineering Improvements						€0.51					
Maintenance & Management of Car Parking						€1.44					
Agency & Recoupable						€1.23					
Water/Surface Water Projects											
Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme								€49.10			
Enniscorthy Minor Flood Scheme			€0.60								
CFRAM Flood Relief Scheme				€9.00							
Imprv to DPI (Developer Provided Infrastructure)			€1.20								
Rural Water Programme			€1.20								
Water Supply - Irish Water SLA						€4.45					
Waste Water Treatment - Irish Water SLA						€2.43					
Admin of Group & Private Installations						€1.36					
Support to Irish Water Capital Programme						€0.99					
Special Projects											
Trinity Wharf					€28.16						
Wexford Crescent Development								€2.98			
Templeshannon Urban Renewal				€6.00							
Min Ryan Park, Wexford								€4.76			
Enniscorthy Technology Park Phase 1								€2.72			
Gorey Market House Development				€6.00							
Greenway (New Ross to Waterford)				€14.50							
Greenway (Rosslare Harbour to Waterford)					€30.00						
Greenway (Wexford to Rosslare)			€4.50								
Greenway (Wexford to Curracloe)			€3.00								
Carrigfoyle Activity Park								€3.50			
John's Street Business Hub			€2.31								
Kilmore Quay Relief Road			€1.00								
Gorey Park Development								€2.30			
Wexfordia Hook Redevelopment Project				€6.80							
Wexfordia Heritage Park Development Project				€8.40							
Wexfordia Dunbrody Development Project				€7.80							
High Hill Park New Ross			€1.50								
Esmonde Street Development - Gorey			€1.50								

Enniscorthy Technology Park Phase 2			€1.00								
Enniscorthy Tourism Project				€15.00							
Wexford Arts Centre			€2.50								
New Ross Public Realm			€3.00								
New Ross Fire Station			€1.68								
Crescent Quay Dredging			€1.00								
Courtown North Beach & Marina					€23.00						
Economic Development											
Wexford Quay Public Realm (Ballast Office)			€0.50								
Castlebridge Urban Renewal			€0.80								
Oyster Lane Town Block			€1.75								
Development Management											
SICAP Programme 2018 - 2022								€8.50			
LEADER programme								€9.80			
Town & Village Renewal Programme 2018								€1.33			
Town & Village Renewal Programme 2019								€0.69			
Forward Planning						€1.10					
Development Management						€2.24					
Planning Enforcement						€0.91					
Community Function						€1.82					
Building Control						€0.81					
Economic Development & Promotion						€4.46					
Property Management						€0.86					
Environmental Services											
Holmestown Landfill Capping			€1.10								
Kilmore Quay Pier Extension			€3.00								
Water Safety Training Centre Curracloe			€2.00								
Old Landfill Remediation			€0.60								
Coastal Protection Works (Rosslare Strand)				€7.00							
Provision of Slaney Pontoons/Marina Infrast.			€2.00								
Lady's Island Lake - Water Level Management			€1.50								
Landfill Operation & Aftercare						€2.37					
Recovery & Recycling Facilities						€1.56					
Litter Management						€1.02					
Street Cleaning						€1.87					
Waste Regulations, Monitoring & Enforcement						€0.71					
Safety of Structures & Places						€0.99					

Operation of Fire Services						€5.09					
Water Quality, Air/Noise Pollution						€0.98					
Recreation and Amenity											
Improvements Enniscorthy Library			€3.00								
Improvements New Ross Library			€2.00								
Operation of Library & Archive Services						€5.22					
Outdoor Lesiure Areas Operations						€1.80					
Community, Sport & Recreation Development						€1.12					
Operation of Arts Programme						€1.67					
Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare											
Operation & Maintenance of Piers & Harbours						€0.96					
Veterinary Services						€0.73					
Miscellaneous Services											
Enniscorthy MD Offices								€1.23			
Enniscorthy Courthouse											€0.85
Profit/Loss of Machinery Account						€0.66					
Profit/Loss of Stores Account						€0.88					
Administration of Rates						€2.18					
Local Representation/Civic Leadership						€1.40					
Motor Taxation						€1.14					
Agency & Recoupable Services						€2.85					
Totals	0.00	0.00	110.66	121.00	81.16	113.10	0.00	158.04	0.00	0.00	57.41
Category Total									113.10	0.00	528.26
Summary Totals					312.81			271.13			57.41
Overall Totals											641.36
									Current	1%	1.13
									Capital	5%	26.41
Project Count	0	0	57	14	3	47	0	39	0	0	30
Category Total									47	0	143
Summary Totals					74			86			30
Overall Totals											190

Appendix B – Checklists of Compliance

In completing the checklists, the following approach was applied.

- ❖ 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, i.e. the annual number of appraisals (e.g. Cost Benefit Analyses or Multi Criteria Analyses), evaluations (e.g. Post Project Reviews). 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 DPFR 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.

Checklist 1: – General Obligations not specific to individual projects/programmes

General Obligations not specific to individual projects/programmes	Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 - 3	Discussion/Action Required
1.1 Does the organisation ensure, on an ongoing basis, that appropriate people within the organisation and its agencies are aware of their requirements of the Public Spending Code (incl. through training)?	3	All relevant staff & agencies have been notified of their obligations under the PSC
1.2 Has training on the Public Spending Code been provided to relevant staff within the organisation?	2	As training is rolled out within the sector it is expected that WCC staff will engage with this training
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.
1.4 Has the organisation in its role as Sanctioning Authority satisfied itself that agencies that it funds comply with the Public Spending Code?	N/A	No project relevant to the PSC
1.5 Have recommendations from previous QA reports (incl. spot checks) been disseminated, where appropriate, within the organisation and to agencies?	3	
1.6 Have recommendations from previous QA reports been acted upon?	3	Yes
1.7 Has an annual Public Spending Code QA report been certified by the organisation Chief Executive, submitted to NOAC and published on the organisation's website?	3	Yes
1.8 Was the required sample of projects/programmes subjected to in-depth checking as per step 4 of the QAP?	3	Yes
1.9 Is there a process in place to plan for ex post evaluations/Post Project Reviews? 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
1.10 How many formal Post Project Review evaluations have been completed in the year under review? Have they been issued promptly to the relevant stakeholders / published in a timely manner?	7	If and where appropriate
1.11 Is there a process to follow up on the recommendations of previous evaluations/Post project reviews?	2	
1.12 How have the recommendations of previous evaluations/post project reviews informed resource allocation decisions?	2	If and where appropriate

Checklist 2 - Capital Expenditure being considered

(To be completed in respect of capital projects or capital programme/grant scheme that is or was under consideration in the past year)

Capital Expenditure being considered - Appraisal and Approval	Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 - 3	Comment/Action Required
2.1 Was a preliminary appraisal undertaken for all projects > €5m?	3	Projects listed at this level include those under the direction of other bodies who complete the appraisal
2.2 Was an appropriate appraisal method used in respect of capital projects or capital programmes/grant schemes?	3	Yes, in conjunction with the relevant government body/agency
2.3 Was a CBA/CEA completed for all projects exceeding €20m?	Yes	1 project – In progress
2.4 Was the appraisal process commenced at an early stage to facilitate decision making? (i.e. prior to the decision)	3	Yes, in conjunction with the relevant government body/agency
2.5 Was an Approval in Principle granted by the Sanctioning Authority for all projects before they entered the planning and design phase (e.g. procurement)?	3	Required to secure grants
2.6 If a CBA/CEA was required was it submitted to the relevant Department for their views?	N/A	The only projects listed at this level are under the direction of other bodies who complete the appraisal
2.7 Were the NDFA consulted for projects costing more than €20m?	N/A	The only projects listed at this level are under the direction of other bodies who complete the appraisal
2.8 Were all projects that went forward for tender in line with the Approval in Principle and if not was the detailed appraisal revisited and a fresh Approval in Principle granted?	3	Tenders were in line with approvals
2.9 Was approval granted to proceed to tender?	3	Yes
2.10 Were procurement rules complied with?	3	Yes
2.11 Were State Aid rules checked for all supports?	N/A	N/A for Local Government
2.12 Were the tenders received in line with the Approval in Principle in terms of cost and what is expected to be delivered?	3	Yes
2.13 Were performance indicators specified for each project/programme which will allow for a robust evaluation at a later date?	2	No
2.14 Have steps been put in place to gather performance indicator data?	2	No

Checklist 3: - Current Expenditure being considered

New Current expenditure or expansion of existing current expenditure under consideration

Current Expenditure being Considered – Appraisal and Approval	Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 - 3	Comment/Action Required
3.1 Were objectives clearly set out?	3	Outlined to Members of Council as part of the budget process
3.2 Are objectives measurable in quantitative terms?		To an extent
3.3 Was a business case, incorporating financial and economic appraisal, prepared for new current expenditure?	N/A	No new expenditure
3.4 Was an appropriate appraisal method used?	N/A	No new expenditure
3.5 Was an economic appraisal completed for all projects exceeding €20m or an annual spend of €5m over 4 years?	N/A	No new Projects/Programmes of this level
3.6 Did the business case include a section on piloting?	N/A	
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	
3.8 Have the methodology and data collection requirements for the pilot been agreed at the outset of the scheme?	N/A	
3.9 Was the pilot formally evaluated and submitted for approval to the relevant Department?	N/A	
3.10 Has an assessment of likely demand for the new scheme/scheme extension been estimated based on empirical evidence?	N/A	
3.11 Was the required approval granted?	N/A	
3.12 Has a sunset clause (as defined in section B06, 4.2 of the Public Spending Code) been set?	N/A	
3.13 If outsourcing was involved were procurement rules complied with?	N/A	
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?	3	The expenditure will form part of the national KPIs
3.15 Have steps been put in place to gather performance indicator data?	3	Yes

Checklist 4: - Incurring Capital Expenditure

Complete if your authority had capital projects/programmes that were incurring expenditure during the year under review

Incurring Capital Expenditure	Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 - 3	Comment/Action Required
4.1 Was a contract signed and was it in line with the Approval in Principle?	3	Yes where appropriate
4.2 Did management boards/steering committees meet regularly as agreed?	3	Yes where appropriate
4.3 Were programme co-ordinators appointed to co-ordinate implementation?	3	Internal co-ordinating team in place in most cases
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 place in most cases
4.5 Were monitoring reports prepared regularly, showing implementation against plan, budget, timescales and quality?	3	Progress reports were prepared in most cases
4.6 Did projects/programmes/grant schemes keep within their financial budget and time schedule?	2	In most cases
4.7 Did budgets have to be adjusted?	Yes	Yes, up and down
4.8 Were decisions on changes to budgets / time schedules made promptly?	3	Yes
4.9 Did circumstances ever warrant questioning the viability of the project/programme/grant scheme and the business case incl. CBA/CEA? (exceeding budget, lack of progress, changes in the environment, new evidence, etc.)	No	All feasibility exercises completed at the consideration stage of projects
4.10 If circumstances did warrant questioning the viability of a project/programme/grant scheme was the project subjected to adequate examination?	N/A	
4.11 If costs increased was approval received from the Sanctioning Authority?	3	Yes this would be a requirement for grant approval
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?	3	No

Checklist 5: - Incurring Current Expenditure

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

¹ Evaluation proofing involves checking to see if the required data are being collected so that when the time comes a programme/project can be subjected to a robust evaluation. If the data are not being collected, then a plan should be put in place to collect the appropriate indicators to allow for the completion of a robust evaluation down the line.

Checklist 6: - Capital Expenditure Completed

To be completed if capital projects were completed during the year or if capital programmes/grant schemes matured or were discontinued.

Capital Expenditure Completed	Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 - 3	Comment/Action Required
6.1 How many post project reviews were completed in the year under review?	7	
6.2 Was a post project review completed for all projects/programmes exceeding €20m?	N/A	N/A
6.3 Was a post project review completed for all capital grant schemes where the scheme both (1) had an annual value in excess of €30m and (2) where scheme duration was five years or more?	N/A	N/A
6.4 Aside from projects over €20m and grant schemes over €30m, was the requirement to review 5% (Value) of all other projects adhered to?	Yes	
6.5 If sufficient time has not elapsed to allow for a proper assessment, has a post project review been scheduled for a future date?	N/A	
6.6 Were lessons learned from post-project reviews disseminated within the Sponsoring Agency and to the Sanctioning Authority? (Or other relevant bodies)	Yes	
6.7 Were changes made to practices in light of lessons learned from post-project reviews?	Yes	
6.8 Were project reviews carried out by staffing resources independent of project implementation?	No	Resourcing levels limit the possibilities here

Checklist 7: - Current Expenditure that (i) reached the end of its planned timeframe or (ii) was discontinued. (To be completed if current expenditure programmes 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
7.1 Were reviews carried out of current expenditure programmes that matured during the year or were discontinued?	N/A	No programmes relevant to PSC in 2019
7.2 Did those reviews reach conclusions on whether the programmes were efficient?	N/A	No programmes relevant to PSC in 2019
7.3 Did those reviews reach conclusions on whether the programmes were effective?	N/A	No programmes relevant to PSC in 2019
7.4 Have the conclusions reached been taken into account in related areas of expenditure?	N/A	No programmes relevant to PSC in 2019
7.5 Were any programmes discontinued following a review of a current expenditure programme?	N/A	No programmes relevant to PSC in 2019
7.6 Were reviews carried out by staffing resources independent of project implementation?	N/A	No programmes relevant to PSC in 2019
7.7 Were changes made to the organisation's practices in light of lessons learned from reviews?	N/A	No programmes relevant to PSC in 2019

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

Public Spending Code Quality Assurance Step 4 Review 2019

Internal Audit Department
August 2020



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 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 2019 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 requirement 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 included 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 €
1.	Special Projects	Trinity Wharf Project	Capital	Being Considered	28.16M
2.	Housing	10 House Scheme, Slippery Green, Wexford	Capital	Being Incurred	2.35M
3.	Roads	New Ross Flood Relief Scheme	Capital	Recently Ended	3.875M
Total					34.385M

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 in order 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 all 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 2018 and the average percentages over a three year period are shown in table 1.2 below.

Table 1.2 – Inventory and Selected Project Values 2014-2019 (€M)									
YEAR	INVENTORY VALUE	INVENTORY VALUE	INVENTORY VALUE	SELECTED PROJS.	SELECTED PROJECTS	% SELECTED	% SELECTED	AVG. % 3 YRS	AVG. % 3 YEARS
	CAPITAL	REVENUE	TOTAL	CAPITAL	REVENUE	CAPITAL	REVENUE	CAPITAL	REVENUE
2014	€100.10	€100.60	€200.70	€11.70	€0.00	11.69%	0%		
2015	€127.31	€97.27	€224.58	€50.67	€0.00	39.80%	0%		
2016	€208.75	€95.96	€304.71	€13.00	€6.03	6.23%	6.28%	19.24%	2.09%
2017	€339.90	€101.97	€441.87	€2.00	€1.40	0.59%	1.37%	15.54%	2.55%
2018	€406.04	€110.60	€516.64	€12.30	€0.00	3.03%	0.00%	3.284%	2.55%
2019	€528.26	€113.10	€641.36	€34.385	€0.00	6.51%	0.00%	3.377%	0.46%

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 indepth checks for each selected project are included in Appendices 1 to 3 of this report.

Table 1.3 – Compliance Levels				
	Project Reviewed	Compliance	Recommendations	Appendix No
1	Trinity Wharf Project	Satisfactory	0	Appendix 1
2	10 House Scheme, Slippery Green Wexford	Satisfactory	0	Appendix 2
3	New Ross Flood Relief Scheme	Satisfactory	0	Appendix 3

APPENDIX 1

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	Trinity Wharf Development
Detail	Wexford County Council has identified Trinity Wharf as a key development site as part of the town's economic development and urban regeneration.
Responsible Body	Wexford County Council
Current Status	Expenditure Being Considered
Start Date	November 2015
End Date	N/A
Overall Cost	€28,156,000

Project Description

Trinity Wharf is a 3.6ha site close to the centre of Wexford Town. The site is located in a wonderful location overlooking Wexford Harbour and bounded by water on three sides. The site offers a unique opportunity to create a world-class mixed use development which has the potential to bring significant economic benefits to the town.

Wexford County Council has identified Trinity Wharf as a key development site, as part of the town's economic development and urban regeneration. Wexford County Council believes that Wexford town offers a very attractive environment for international companies seeking to locate in the county or for existing companies looking to expand.

The proposed development incorporates a 120 bedroom hotel, conference centre, 3 no. office blocks, 83 residential apartments and multi-storey car park, developed with a focus on implementing low carbon construction methods and developing buildings to meet the Near Zero Energy Building (NZEB) standard. Along with an integrated network of public spaces and amenities, the development of the site will be arranged around a central public realm plaza, which will be capable of hosting open-air performances and events, becoming a focal point for Wexford Town.

A pedestrian boardwalk will integrate Trinity Wharf with the town's existing quay front infrastructure, linking the site to Wexford's town centre with a landscaped pedestrian / cycle route along the waterfront, while the 64 berth Trinity Wharf marina will provide the facilities for leisure craft activities and marine tourism. A proposed greenway following the railway line will link the site to other parts of the town and Rosslare Strand and Harbour.

Wexford County Council envisages that the Trinity Wharf development will take place over a period of 5-10 years and, when completed, will allow for over 1,500 people working and living at Trinity Wharf.

The project will involve a large amount of collaboration between the public and private sectors, with each entity responsible for delivering various phases of the project.

Section B - Step 1: 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 **Trinity Wharf Project, Wexford**. 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
The objective of the project is to develop the Trinity Wharf site as part of the town's economic development and urban regeneration. The proposed development incorporates a 120 bed hotel, conference centre, 3 no. office blocks, 83 no. residential apartments and a multi-story car park along with an integrated network of public spaces and amenities arranged around a central public realm plaza. A pedestrian boardwalk will integrate this development with the town's existing quay front infrastructure.	Estimated total project costs €28.2m	Site Acquisition Feasibility Study Appointment of Multi-Disciplinary Design Team led by Scott Tallon Walker, Architects to prepare the Development Strategy Public Consultation process including public information event Appointment of Roadplan Consulting Ltd to prepare the detailed design, procurement and contract administration services	Site Investigations/Surveys Overall Masterplan Scheme Design for the full development Planning application for the full development	N/A

Description of Programme Logic Model

Objectives: The objectives of the project are to develop the Trinity Wharf site as part of the town's economic development and urban regeneration. The proposed development incorporates a 120 bed hotel, conference centre, 3 no. office blocks, 83 no. residential apartments and a multi-story car park along with an integrated network of public spaces and amenities arranged around a central public realm plaza. A pedestrian boardwalk will integrate this development with the town's existing quay front infrastructure.

Inputs: Estimated total project costs €28.2m

Activities: Site Acquisition

Feasibility Study

Appointment of Multi-Disciplinary Design Team led by Scott Tallon Walker, Architects to prepare the Development Strategy

Public Consultation process including public information event

Appointment of Roadplan Consulting Ltd to prepare the detailed design, procurement and contract administration services

Outputs: Site Investigations/Surveys

Overall Masterplan

Scheme Design for the full development

Planning application for the full development

Planning approval to develop the project awarded by An Bord Pleanála in April 2020

Outcomes: N/A

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

The following section tracks the **Trinity Wharf Project, Wexford** from inception to conclusion in terms of major project/programme milestones



Section B - Step 3: Analysis of Key Documents

The following section reviews the key documentation relating to appraisal, analysis and evaluation for the **Trinity Wharf Project, Wexford**.

Project/Programme Key Documents	
Title	Details
Contract for Sale	Memorandum of Agreement dated 19 th November 2015 between Deerland Properties Wexford Ltd and Wexford County Council for the acquisition of the Trinity Wharf site
Feasibility Study	Feasibility Study for Marina at Trinity Wharf prepared by RPS Group
EO No. 128/2018	Approval to acceptance of pricing document of Scott Tallon Walker for the development of the Trinity Wharf site and related works to planning application stage
EO No. 351/20018	Approval to extend the appointment of RPS Group to complete preliminary design, environmental and marine investigative analysis and prepare documentation and drawings to support a planning and foreshore consent application for marina as part of Trinity Wharf development
EO No. 615/2018	Approval to payment to Priority Geotechnical Ltd. For ground investigation works at Trinity Wharf
Public Consultation and Information Event Documents	Drawings, models, leaflets, submissions and responses arising from the public consultation process and information event in September 2018
EO No. 739/2018	Approval to the appointment of Aquatic Services Unit Ltd for the provision of a Benthic Survey in relation to the Trinity Wharf Development

EO No. 66/2019	Acceptance of quotation of Roughan O'Donovan for bird survey at Trinity Wharf
EO No. 67/2019	Approval to the appointment of RSK for the provision of an asbestos walkover survey, investigation of stockpiles, TP investigations, laboratory analysis and project management reports re Trinity Wharf developments
EO No. 538/2019	Approval to the acceptance of tender of Roadplan for consultancy services Trinity Wharf Phase 1 – Entrance road and association works project
EO No. 1128/2019	Approval to the acceptance of the tender of PWC for the provision of financial and property services for the development of a financial model and the completion of a Cost Benefit Analysis report for the development of Trinity Wharf Project
Planning Approval	Approval awarded by An Bord Pleanala April 2020

Key Document 1: Contract for Sale

Copy of the signed contract for sale available on file

Key Document 2: Feasibility Study

This is a detailed document which includes background information, site description, maps and images, concept development, computational modelling overview and environmental scoping.

Key Documents 3 – 5 and 7 -11: Executive Orders resulting from the tender processes for the provision of various services relating to the development of Trinity Wharf

Key Document 6: Public Consultation and Information Event documents

Drawings, models, leaflets, submissions and responses arising from the public consultation process and information event in September 2018

Key Document 12

An Bord Pleanála decision no. 303726-19 April 2020 approving the proposed development at Trinity Wharf, Wexford

Section B - Step 4: Data Audit

The following section details the data audit that was carried out for the **Trinity Wharf Project, Wexford**. It evaluates whether appropriate data is available for the future evaluation of the project/programme.

Data Required	Use	Availability
Contract for Sale	To confirm Wexford County Council acquisition of site	Available on Project File
Feasibility Study	To evaluate the appraisal stage of the project	Available on Project File
EO No. 128/2018	To confirm the appointment of Scott Tallon Walker for the development of the Trinity Wharf site and related works to planning application stage	Available on Project File
EO No. 351/20018	To confirm the appointment of RPS Group to complete preliminary design, environmental and marine investigative analysis and prepare documentation and drawings to support a planning and foreshore consent application for marina as part of Trinity Wharf development	Available on Project File
EO No. 615/2018	To confirm approval to payment to Priority Geotechnical Ltd. For ground investigation works at Trinity Wharf	Available on Project File
Public Consultation and Information Event Documents	Evidence that a public consultation and information process had been undertaken as part of the project appraisal	Available on Project File
EO No. 739/2018	To confirm appointment of Aquatic Services Unit Ltd for the provision of a Benthic Survey in relation to the Trinity Wharf Development	Available on Project File

EO No. 66/2019	To confirm acceptance of quotation of Roughan O'Donovan for bird survey at Trinity Wharf	Available on Project File
EO No. 67/2019	To confirm approval to the appointment of RSK for the provision of an asbestos walkover survey, investigation of stockpiles, TP investigations, laboratory analysis and project management reports re Trinity Wharf developments	Available on Project File
EO No. 538/2019	To confirm approval to the acceptance of tender of Roadplan for consultancy services Trinity Wharf Phase 1 – Entrance road and association works project	Available on Project File
EO No. 1128/2019	To confirm approval to the acceptance of the tender of PWC for the provision of financial and property services for the development of a financial model and the completion of a Cost Benefit Analysis report for the development of Trinity Wharf Project	Available on Project File
Planning Approval	Evidence that Approval awarded by An Bord Pleanala April 2020	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 **Trinity Wharf Project, Wexford** 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: In-Depth Check Summary

The following section presents a summary of the findings of this In-Depth Check on the **Trinity Wharf Project, Wexford**

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:

- Executive Orders appointing various consultants and contractors and the associated tender processes
- Feasibility Study
- Public Consultation Process Documentation

APPENDIX 2

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	10 House Scheme at Slippery Green, Wexford
Detail	Construction of 10 no. social housing units at Slippery Green, Wexford
Responsible Body	Wexford County Council
Current Status	Expenditure Being Incurred
Start Date	August 2016
End Date	N/A
Overall Cost	€2,350,000.00

Project Description

The property for this development is in the ownership of Wexford County Council since August 2016. Planning for the construction of 10 houses was granted in 2015 to Suntricity Ltd. T/A Irish Housing Corporation (Pl. Reg. no. 20150927) There was some reconfiguration of layouts from this planning permission although the character was not compromised which negated a resubmission of planning. The site is located to the west of Wexford town centre within the 50km/hr speed limit and there is a good mix of social and private houses in the area. It is located in an area of increasing housing demand. The houses are a mixture of two storey and dormer dwelling and all houses front on to public spaces with secure private gardens to the rear of each. The development is within 10 minutes walking distance of the town centre. Public roads and footpaths were already in place as were existing water and sewerage services, all with capacity to service the new development.

Section B - Step 1: 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 10 House Scheme at Slippery Green Wexford. 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
The provision of 10no. Units of Social Housing in the Wexford Urban Area	The primary input is funding of €2.35m from DHPLG	Acquisition of site with planning permission for 10 social housing units from Suntricity Ltd. Formal approval from DHPLG Appointment of Consultancy and Construction service providers	Delivery of 10 no. Social Housing Units at Slippery Green, Wexford	The availability of a supply of social housing units to meet the demand in an area where a need has been identified.

Description of Programme Logic Model

Objectives: The provision of 10 no. Units of Social Housing in the Wexford Urban Area

Inputs: The primary input to the programme was the capital funding of €2.35m from DHPLG

Activities: There were a number of key activities carried out through the project including:
Acquisition of site with planning permission for 10 social housing units from Suntricity Ltd.
Formal approval from DHPLG
Formal approval from DHPLG
Appointment of Consultancy and Construction service providers

Outputs: Delivery of 10 no. Social Housing Units at Slippery Green, Wexford

Outcomes: The availability of a supply of social housing units to meet the demand in an area where a need has been identified.

Section B - Step 2: Summary

Timeline of Project/Programme

The following section tracks the 10 House Scheme at Slipperry Green Wexford from inception to conclusion in terms of major project/programme milestones



Section B - Step 3: Analysis of Key Documents

The following section reviews the key documentation relating to appraisal, analysis and evaluation for the 10 House Scheme at Slippery Green Wexford.

Project/Programme Key Documents	
Title	Details
Deed of Transfer dated 12 th September 2016	Deed of Transfer Suntricity Ltd to Wexford County Council
DHPLG approval notification	Approval in principle notification dated 17 th October 2016
EO No. 26/2017	Acceptance of Tender for provision of quantity surveying services by McMinn O'Reilly Mahon
EO No. 27/2017	Acceptance of Tender for provision of architectural services by O'Brien Finucane Architects
EO No. 28/2017	Acceptance of Tender for provision of mechanical and electrical services by Delapp & Waller
EO No. 29/2017	Acceptance of Tender for provision of civil and structural engineering services by Downes Associates
Report on Tenders from McMinn O'Reilly & Mahon for proposed construction of 10 dwellings at Slippery Green	Report from consultant quantity surveyors evaluating tenders received and recommending acceptance of tender from Bawn Developments Ltd.
Stage 4 approval from DHPLG	Approval dated February 2018 from DHPLG for construction of 10 no. houses at Slippery Green, Wexford
EO No. 172/2018	Approving acceptance of tender from Bawn Developments for the construction of 10 no. houses at Slippery Green, Wexford

Key Document 1: Deed of Transfer dated 12th September 2016

Deed of Transfer of site at Slippery Green, Wexford Suntricity Ltd to Wexford County Council

Key Document 2: DHPLG approval notification

Approval in principle notification dated 17th October 2016

Key Document 3: EO No. 26/2017

Acceptance of Tender for provision of quantity surveying services by McMinn O'Reilly Mahon

Key Document 4: EO No. 27/2017

Acceptance of Tender for provision of architectural services by O'Brien Finucane Architects

Key Document 5: EO No. 28/2017

Acceptance of Tender for provision of mechanical and electrical services by Delapp & Waller

Key Document 6: EO No. 29/2017

Acceptance of Tender for provision of civil and structural engineering services by Downes Associates

Key Document 7: Report on Tenders from McMinn O'Reilly & Mahon for proposed construction of 10 dwellings at Slippery Green

Report from consultant quantity surveyors evaluating tenders received and recommending acceptance of tender from Bawn Developments Ltd.

Key Document 8: Stage 4 approval from DHPLG

Approval dated February 2018 from DHPLG for construction of 10 no. houses at Slippery Green, Wexford

Key Document 9: EO No. 172/2018 approving acceptance of tender from Bawn Developments

Approving acceptance of tender from Bawn Developments for the construction of 10 no. houses at Slippery Green, Wexford

Section B - Step 4: Data Audit

The following section details the data audit that was carried out for the 10 House Scheme at Slippery Green Wexford. It evaluates whether appropriate data is available for the future evaluation of the project/programme.

Data Required	Use	Availability
Deed of Transfer dated 12 th September 2016	To confirm Wexford County Council ownership of the site at Slippery Green, Wexford	Available on Project File
DHPLG approval notification	To confirm DHPLG approval to the construction of 10 houses at Slippery Green, Wexford	Available on Project File
EO No. 26/2017	To confirm appointment of Quantity Surveyors following a framework agreement tender process	Available on Project File
EO No. 27/2017	To confirm appointment of Architectural service providers following a framework agreement tender process	Available on Project File
EO No. 28/2017	To confirm appointment of Mechanical & Electrical service providers following a framework agreement tender process	Available on Project File
EO No. 29/2017	To confirm appointment of Civil & Structural Engineering Services following a framework agreement tender process	Available on Project File
Report on Tenders from McMinn O'Reilly & Mahon for proposed construction of the dwellings	To verify the method used to select the contractor appointed to construct 10 houses at Slippery Green	Available on Project File
Stage 4 approval from DHPLG	To confirm DHPLG stage 4 approval to the construction of 10 houses at Slippery Green, Wexford	Available on Project File
EO No. 172/2018	To confirm appointment of the Construction Contractor following an open procurement procedure	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 10 House Scheme at Slippery Green Wexford 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)

All data appropriate to all stages of this project is available on file

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 all stages of this 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: In-Depth Check Summary

The following section presents a summary of the findings of this In-Depth Check on the 10 House Scheme at Slippery Green Wexford

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 include:

- Documentation relating to the site acquisition
- Approvals from DPHLG
- Details of the procurements procedures relating to the appointment of consultants and contractors
- Various Executive Orders appointing consultants and contractors

APPENDIX 3

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	New Ross Flood Relief Scheme
Detail	This scheme provided for the establishment of two flood defence lines on both banks of the Barrow Estuary designed to protect New Ross from flooding.
Responsible Body	Wexford County Council
Current Status	Expenditure Recently Ended
Start Date	July 2014
End Date	October 2019
Overall Cost	€3,875,000

Project Description

Low-lying parts of New Ross have suffered flooding from the River Barrow for many years. The flooding is associated with combination of high tides and strong southerly winds which cause water levels in the estuary to rise. The occurrence and severity of the flooding is well documented. The New Ross Flood Relief Scheme provided for the establishment of two flood defence lines on both banks of the Barrow Estuary designed to protect New Ross from flooding.

A brief summary of the 2,100m scheme is:

- Upgrading 800m of earthen embankments
- 260m of glass panelling
- 640m of RC wall
- 160m of stone wall
- 25m of sheet piling
- Demountable barriers & pumping of foul & storm water

Section B - Step 1: 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 New Ross Flood Relief Scheme. 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 provide for the establishment of two flood defence lines on both banks of the Barrow Estuary designed to protect New Ross from flooding.	The primary input to the programme was funding of €3.8m from Department of Transport, OPW and Wexford County Council	Tender competition for the appointment of contractor resulting in the appointment of MJS Civil Engineering Ltd to carry out the works necessary to provide the New Ross Flood Relief Scheme	The provision of a flood relief scheme comprising two flood defence lines on both banks of the Barrow Estuary designed to protect New Ross from flooding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Protection to the N25 National road at both Marshmeadows and at Rosbercon• Reduced dangers to public health arising from overflowing foul sewers and drowning (at Marshmeadows) from flooding depths of 2m+• Reduced damage to roads and services by eliminating silt deposition• The eastern flood earthen embankment has doubled up to provide added recreational value in the form of the Great River Walk which was opened recently and hugely enjoyed by many.• Provision of a sense of security for residents and businesses in New Ross who had been affected by flooding, and the threat of flooding .

Description of Programme Logic Model (Note: One paragraph each here if possible)

Objectives: The objectives of New Ross Flood Relief Scheme was the to provide for the establishment of two flood defence lines on both banks of the Barrow Estuary designed to protect New Ross from flooding.

Inputs: The primary input to the programme was funding of €3.8m from Department of Transport, OPW and Wexford County Council

Activities: There were a number of key activities carried out through the project including, the tender competition for the appointment of contractor resulting in the appointment of MJS Civil Engineering Ltd to carry out the works necessary to provide the New Ross Flood Relief Scheme.


Outputs: The provision of a flood relief scheme comprising two flood defence lines on both banks of the Barrow Estuary designed to protect New Ross from flooding

Outcomes:

- Protection to the N25 National road at both Marshmeadows and at Rosbercon
- Reduced dangers to public health arising from overflowing foul sewers and drowning (at Marshmeadows) from flooding depths of 2m+
- Reduced damage to roads and services by eliminating silt deposition
- The eastern flood earthen embankment has doubled up to provide added recreational value in the form of the Great River Walk which was opened recently and hugely enjoyed by many.
- Provision of a sense of security for residents and businesses in New Ross who had been affected by flooding, and the threat of flooding .

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

The following section tracks the New Ross Flood Relief Scheme from inception to conclusion in terms of major project/programme milestones



July 2014	Appointment of TJ O'Connor as Consulting Engineer for New Ross Flood Relief Scheme
July 2016	Tendered on E-tenders using Contract for Minor Building and Civil Engineering Works
November 2016	Report and Recommendation on Tenders from TJ O'Connor, Consulting Engineers
February 2017	Appointment of MJS Civil Engineering for construction of Flood Relief Scheme at New Ross
May 2018	New Ross Flood Alleviation Scheme technical report from TJ O'Connor, Consulting Engineers
October 2019	Final Account Report and recommendation for payment.

Section B - Step 3: Analysis of Key Documents

The following section reviews the key documentation relating to appraisal, analysis and evaluation for the New Ross Flood Relief Scheme.

Project/Programme Key Documents	
Title	Details
Report and Recommendation on Tenders (November 2016)	Report from TJ O'Connor Consulting Engineers detailing tender assessment and recommendation
EO No. 86/2017	Appointment of MJS Civil Engineering for the construction of flood defence scheme at New Ross
New Ross Flood Alleviation Scheme Technical Report (May 2018)	TJ O'Connor Consulting Engineers Technical Report on New Ross Flood Alleviation Scheme
Final Account Report and Recommendation (October 2019)	Final Account and recommendation for payment

Key Document 1: Report and Recommendation on Tenders (November 2016)

This comprehensive document provides details of the tendering process in relation to the New Ross Flood Relief Scheme

Key Document 2: EO No. 86/2017

Executive Order formally appointing the successful tenderer, MJS Civil Engineering Ltd.

Key Document 3: New Ross Flood Alleviation Scheme Technical Report (May 2018)

This document sets out the background and technical details of the New Ross Flood Relief Scheme and also describes some of the anticipated benefits to the town as a result of this scheme.

Key Document 4: Final Account Report and Recommendation (October 2019)

This document is a report from the Senior Executive Engineer following the completion of the project. It sets out the costs, sources of funding, work undertaken and the benefits accruing.

Section B - Step 4: Data Audit

The following section details the data audit that was carried out for the New Ross Flood Relief Scheme. It evaluates whether appropriate data is available for the future evaluation of the project/programme.

Data Required	Use	Availability
Report and Recommendation on Tenders (November 2016)	To verify the method used to select the Contractor to carry out New Ross Flood Relief Scheme	Available on Project File
EO No. 86/2017	To confirm the formal appointment of MJS Civil Engineering as contractors for the project	Available on Project File
New Ross Flood Alleviation Scheme Technical Report (May 2018)	To confirm that a post-project evaluation had been undertaken by the Consulting Engineers (TJ O'Connors)	Available on Project File
Final Account Report and Recommendation (October 2019)	To confirm approval to payment of final account which included and overview of the costs, funding, works undertaken and outcomes	Available on Project File

Data Availability and Proposed Next Steps

All data appropriate to the current stage (recently ended) of the project is available on file

Section B - Step 5: Key Evaluation Questions

The following section looks at the key evaluation questions for New Ross Flood Relief Scheme 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)

The project is recently ended 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: In-Depth Check Summary

The following section presents a summary of the findings of this In-Depth Check on the New Ross Flood Relief Scheme

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 include:

- Report and Recommendation on Tenders (November 2016)
- EO No. 86/2017
- New Ross Flood Alleviation Scheme Technical Report (May 2018)
- Final Account Report and Recommendation (October 2019)