



# **Chief Executive's Report**

**County Council Meeting 11.03.24**

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# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## Local Enterprise Office

### 2024 Enterprise Ireland funding

Enterprise Ireland has announced funding of over €1.5m to support SME's through LEO Wexford. The funding will support Wexford based businesses in efficiency, sustainability and digitalisation supports in addition to targets for building capability through training, mentoring and management development initiatives. A particular focus for 2024 is on the rollout of the Energy Efficiency grant which provides grant aid up to €5,000 to assist businesses with the implementation of sustainability measures and the delivery of supports to the cohort of businesses with over 10 employees to foster strategic growth via increased levels of export activity.

### Productivity 24 South East LEAN Conference

The South East Regional Enterprise Development plan tasks the Local Enterprise Offices in the region (Carlow, Kilkenny, Wexford and Waterford) to develop four Regional micro-clusters in Pharma/ Lean Manufacturing/ Green/ Digital Marketing under the Strategic Objective of Smart Specialisation and Clustering.



Businesses in the region were invited to the Productivity24-South East LEAN Conference, a half-day conference designed to empower small business owners by highlighting LEAN thinking techniques and insights and by providing tangible examples of LEAN principles in action and inspiring businesses to adopt similar approaches.

The event featured prominent speakers including John O'Shanahan from LEAN BPI, Stuart Nelson from Jigsaw, Robert Hernan from Enterprise Ireland, and LEAN Experts Richie Dawson from LI4 and Pat Lynch from SETU. The conference was skillfully moderated by award-winning entrepreneur and broadcaster Aine Kerr. To demonstrate the theory in action, attendees were offered the opportunity to participate in a lean tour with Wexford's leading lean practitioner Adman sheds.



There was a strong representation from the Wexford business community. The conference cultivated meaningful interactions and knowledge exchange among attendees, creating a sense of community and collaboration among SMEs in the region which will serve to position the region as a hub for LEAN thinking and innovation in the future.



## Exciting Lineup for Local Enterprise Week 2024 launched in Wexford.

An Cathaoirleach of Wexford County Council has launched Local Enterprise Week which will take place March 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>. This year the LEO has collaborated with a number of different partners including industry leader Rory O'Connor from Scurri, the Wexford Chamber, the ICT Gateway at the Walton Institute in SETU and an exciting lineup of speaker to run events which provide both established business owners and budding entrepreneurs with the opportunity to be inspired, informed and engaged. The week will feature events aimed at identifying trends, facilitating peer learning, fostering growth ambition, stimulating digital adoption, innovation and entrepreneurship, and building a strong and resilient business community in the county.



LEO Wexford has a media campaign for the duration of Local Enterprise Week, ensuring prominent visibility and awareness amongst the business community.

Through strategic partnerships and targeted outreach, LEO Wexford is expected to make a significant impact in supporting and nurturing the local business ecosystem.

### Local Enterprise Week 2024

Join us for a National Spotlight event:

**Understanding and leveraging future trends for your business**  
Wednesday, March 6th: 2:00pm - 4:00pm

**The sustainability imperative for your business success**  
Thursday, March 7th: 12:00pm - 1:30pm

Live audience with Liz Bonnin, world renowned Natural History and Environmental broadcaster

**Local Enterprise Week 2024**  
4th - 8th March  
Making it Happen

Find out more at [localenterprise.ie/wexford](http://localenterprise.ie/wexford)

### Introduction to Google Analytics

Monday, March 4th: 14:00 - 17:00, Online

This course will help participants develop a basic understanding of Google Analytics 4 and how it works.

### Techforward: Cultivating Leadership and Strategic Growth

Monday, March 4th: 17:00 - 19:00  
Scurri Headquarters

### Supper with Blaise Brosnan. Mastering Entrepreneurship: Building Your Own Path to Wealth

Tuesday, March 5th: 17:45 - 20:30, (Invitation Only)  
Greennacres, Wexford

### Business Advice Clinic

Tuesday, March 5th: 09:00 - 17:00, Online

This FREE service gives you the opportunity to discuss your idea/business confidentially and seek further information on LEO supports and services. You will chat with a Business Advisors on a one-to-one basis for up to 60 minutes

### Start Your Own Business Course

Tuesday, March 5th: 18:00 - 22:00  
Wexford Enterprise Centre, Rosslare Road, Wexford

A Start Your Own Business course aimed at anyone who is thinking of starting their own business or has recently started a business.

### Trading Online Voucher Seminar

Wednesday, March 6th: 09:30 - 12:30, Online

This workshop aims to educate the potential Trading Online Voucher applicant as to how the voucher is to be used and how to complete the application form.

### Student Enterprise Programme

Thursday, March 7th: 12:00 - 20:00  
Wexford County Council

Wexford finals of the Student Enterprise Programme feature second level students showcasing businesses aiming for the national finals.

### International Women's Day Breakfast

Friday, March 8th  
Talbot Hotel Wexford



## **National Enterprise Awards 2024**

The National Enterprise Awards will take place this year on May 23<sup>rd</sup> at Dublin's Mansion House. These awards celebrate all that is best in entrepreneurship, small business and Irish enterprise.

Every county in Ireland will nominate a representative for the finals, and across 5 categories, an overall national winner, plus 5 category winners and regional winners will be chosen. Wexford has a superb track record at these awards – our finalists have over the years, taken home an array of awards.

2024 will be no different – 20 outstanding Wexford enterprises have been shortlisted for the awards, the finals and adjudication of which will take place on March 11<sup>th</sup>, with our county representative being interviewed for the national competition in April.



## **Economic Development**

### **Wexford County Council sign MOU with IDA**

As part of Wexford County Council's economic strategy to provide high quality property solutions for investment by companies with potential for job creation, Wexford County Council has secured a Memorandum of Understanding with the IDA to collaboratively deliver an advanced planning permit for an advance technology building (ATB) at Enniscorthy Technology Park. This phase will see a tender for design and planning services for the advanced building solution.



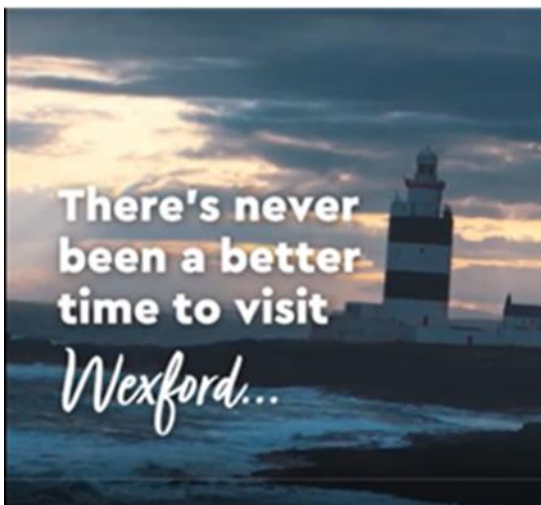
## Tourism



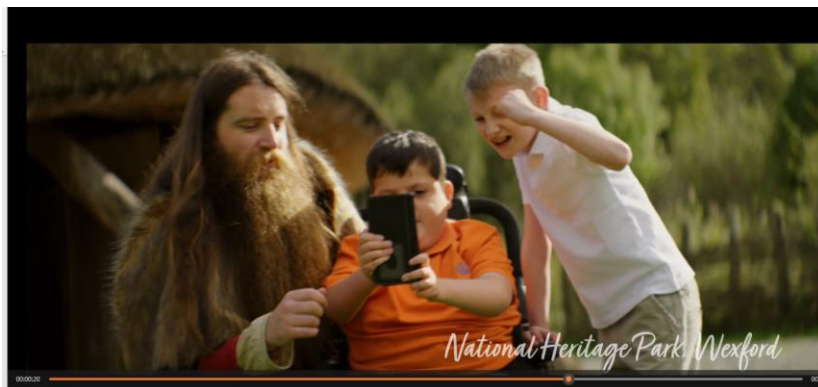
Fáilte Ireland held their Virtual Industry Briefing 2024 – 'Driving Sustainable Development' on Wednesday 21st February 2024, where they shared objectives for 2024 and presented key national initiatives for the year ahead.

Once again, they will be rolling out their "Keep Discovering" marketing Campaign which will inspire people to see a new side of Ireland and rediscover the joy of holidaying at home.

The Campaign will take place through various outlets including broadcast and video on demand, print media, audio, influencer programmes, social media as well as the Weather Sponsorship on RTE which has a 1.6 million average weekly reach.



County Wexford will feature as part of the campaign and will also be included in the Keep Discovering Irelands Ancient East TV advertisement, on RTE Weather, print media and geotargeted social media.



## Visit Wexford Networking Event



Visit Wexford held a business-to-business Networking Event at Wells House on Wednesday, February 28th, 2024.

This event was organised with the objectives of further enhancing relationships, creating connections, and exploring opportunities within County Wexford's tourism industry. The event featured speakers representing Visit Wexford, Rocket Science Media (Visit Wexford marketing consultants) Failte Ireland, Wexford County Council, and Local Enterprise Office, including updates on LEADER 2023-2027 Programme and on Rosslare Europort.



The event was well attended and created a great opportunity for those in attendance to network with each other.

## **Regeneration Unit**

### **Town Centre First**

The New Ross Town Centre First Plan was officially launched along with the other 26 Town Centre first pathfinder Towns in Adare on Wed 28<sup>th</sup> Feb. This was the National launch of the pathfinder Town Centre First Plans. It was launched by Minister Heather Humphries and Minister Kieran O'Donnell.

The New Ross Town Centre First team was represented by the chair Cllr Anthony Connick and team member Sean Connick along with Officials from Wexford County Council.

The Minister also announced a phase 2 Town centre first Plan with funding of €30,000 to Wexford County Council to work with Courtown/Riverchapel and develop a Town Centre first plan. In addition a further 3 Towns will be allocated €10,000 each to establish Town Teams, build capacity within these Teams and gather data.

Measure 3 in the suite of Town centre first supports is the project development measure which will see €50,000 allocated to 2 projects to progress these projects to shovel ready status. We have advertised for expressions of interest for this with the closing date for applications Fri 15<sup>th</sup> March.





Town Centre First plans are mentioned extensively in the recent RRDF fifth Call for Category 1 projects. Applications went in for 3 projects for New Ross Town. We are currently awaiting the call for the URDF funding application programme and Enniscorthy has been prioritised for submission through this process.

Town Centre First meetings are progressing in both Enniscorthy and New Ross with discussions ongoing re the role these Town Teams can play in trying to improve the nighttime economy in both Towns.

## **Vacant Homes**

To enhance awareness and support for owners of vacant/derelict properties and sites, the Regeneration Unit is planning a series of Roadshows scheduled for April 2024. These informative events will span the 5 Districts, aiming to enlighten the public about various grants and programmes tailored to address vacant and derelict properties, ultimately contributing to the reduction of Vacancy Levels in Co Wexford.

As part of our comprehensive outreach initiative, we are collaborating with the Planning Department to craft a detailed brochure encompassing all essential information. This brochure will not only be distributed during the Roadshow events but will also be made available at our District offices. Additionally, it serves as the cornerstone for our Marketing Package, which will be strategically utilised across various media channels, including an update to our web pages to ensure seamless reflection of the available assistance.



The Roadshows will consist of a drop in event from 2pm to 6pm in each of the venues below.

<b>Municipal District</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Venue</b>
New Ross	Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> April. 2pm to 6pm.	Tholsel, New Ross
Rosslare	Tues 9 <sup>th</sup> April. 2pm to 6pm.	Murrintown Community Centre
Wexford	Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> April. 2pm to 6pm	Borough District Offices, the Bullring, Wexford.
Gorey	Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup> April. 2pm -6pm.	Civic Offices, Gorey.
Enniscorthy	Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> April. 2pm-6pm	MD Offices, The Market Square, Enniscorthy.

### **Current Wexford Crói Cónaithe Stats as at 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024.**

<b>Actions</b>	<b>Number</b>
Applications Received	241
Approved	115
Refused	2
Grants paid out	13
Awaiting Inspection	4
Awaiting Information from Applicant	120
Queries received via email to date	Over 2,700
Outstanding Queries	25

### ***Ready to Build.***

In relation to Ready to Build we are looking at some possibilities for 2024. Brief details of Ready to Build are as below,

- Local authorities will make available serviced sites at reduced cost to support self-build home ownership.
- The level of discount to the individual will depend on the level of servicing cost incurred by the LA before the sale of the site but will not exceed €30,000 (being the max amount the Local Authority can claim from Dept to get services to the site).
- Have direct access to adequate mains water supply and mains wastewater disposal infrastructure.
- Local Authorities will manage the prioritisation of applicants in line with the framework of priorities as outlined by Department of Housing LG and Heritage.

# PLANNING

## Planning Applications

Numbers are those received from the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2024 until the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February 2024

No. of valid applications	172
No. of invalid applications	21
Extension of Duration	10
Exempted Development Declaration	6

Numbers are those received from the 27<sup>th</sup> of January 2024 until the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February 2024.

No. of valid applications	118
No. of invalid applications	12
Extension of Duration	4
Exempted Development Declaration	3

## Pre-Planning Applications

Numbers are as follows up until the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February 2024

No. of pre-planning applications received from 01/01/2024	56
No. of pre-planning meetings closed from 01/01/2024	39
No. of open pre-planning applications as at 23/02/2024	62
Average days to meeting (For Applications received and closed since 01/01/2023)	76 days

## Major Pre-Planning Data 2024 (up to 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024)

- Meetings Held **20 No.**
- Proposed Commercial Development **33,117 sqm. approx.**
- Total No. of proposed Housing Units **472 units approx.**

## Forward Planning

### **Wexford Town Local Area Plan**

The Infrastructure Assessment is progressing well and will be completed in March when final information is received from Uisce Éireann. As required, all lands in the study area have been examined to determine if the lands are currently serviced or could be serviced during the plan period. The outputs of this assessment will be an important consideration in the land use zoning and phasing in the Draft LAP.

Loci Consulting were appointed to prepare the Urban Design Strategy for the town and the Master Plan of the S.E.T.U/Ballynagee lands. McCloy Consulting was appointed to prepare the Rainwater Management Plan and Green Blue Infrastructure Strategy. Work has commenced on the preparation of these strategies.

The Local Transport Plan, which is being led by the Active Travel team with input from the Forward Planning Section, is progressing well with the Baseline and Context Reports almost complete. Work has commenced on the Options Report. The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment is also underway. The consultants have carried out their initial review and walk over of the town.

## Enniscorthy Town Local Area Plan

Consultants have been appointed to carry out the Strategic Environmental Assessment, Appropriate Assessment and Local Transport Plan for the LAP.

### Section 25A Report on the Implementation of the Objectives of the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Southern Region

Section 25A of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) requires that, every two years, a local authority must submit a report to the Regional Assembly setting out progress made in supporting the objectives, relevant to the Council, of the relevant Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy. This report has been completed and submitted to the Southern Regional Assembly. It shows the significant work that has been completed by Wexford County Council in implementing both the objectives of the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy and the objectives of the Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028.

#### Planning CSO Returns 2024

Permissions granted for new dwellings.

<b>Month</b>	<b><u>CSO</u></b> <b>Housing Developments (Total No. of units)</b>	<b><u>CSO</u></b> <b>Apartments incl. Self- contained Dwelling Units (Total No. of units)</b>	<b><u>CSO</u></b> <b>One-off Houses</b>	<b>LAC's  Local Authority</b>
<b>January</b>	0	3	25	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>5</b>

\* Figures to 31 January 2024

- Total number of units = 33
- Housing Developments = 2 or more houses (Total no. of units)
- Apartments include Self-contained Dwelling Units (Total no. of units)
- One-off Houses
- Permissions exclude outline, retention, change of plans and continuation of use.
- LAC's – Local Authority Development

## **Derelict Sites, Dangerous Structures, Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT), Urban Regeneration Development Fund (URDF) and Short Term Letting**

Report from 27<sup>th</sup> January 2024 to 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024

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

- 24 site inspections of derelict sites carried out – to progress Urban Regeneration project and dereliction in County Wexford.
- 10 Section 8.2 Notices issued - intention to put property on the Derelict Sites Register.
- 14 Section 11 Notices issued – listing the required works the property owner must carry out in a specified timeframe.
- 1 Section 22 Notice issued – valuation of the property to determine the market value.

**TOTAL 25**

### **Urban Development and Regeneration Fund Call 3 (URDF):**

- Focusing on Enniscorthy town, the Planning Inspector and the Town Regeneration Officer identified a further 8 units and opened new derelict sites files for progressing.
- 1 property from the URDF focus list moved to compulsory purchase order stage (CPO)
- 3 properties have been compulsory purchased since start of project.

### **Regulation of Short Term Lettings (STL):**

Letting of a house or apartment, or part of a house or apartment in the Designated Rent Pressure Zone (Gorey Electoral Area)

- Total of 10 files currently open

### **Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT):**

is a tax (3% of the market value of the land) aimed at activating serviced and residentially zoned land for housing. The Local Authority is responsible for identifying the land that is subject to RZLT but administered by the Revenue Commissioners:

- Newspaper notice published in local newspapers.
- Wexford County Council's website updated with new link for final map for 2024 included, and social media updated.
- The closing date for submissions is on or before 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024.

### **Building Control (27<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024)**

• Validated Commencement Notices:	<b>45</b>
• Number of Building Control Inspections:	<b>25</b>
• Validated Cert. of Compliance on Completion:	<b><u>19</u></b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>94</b>



## **Planning Enforcement**

The number of planning enforcement cases as of 23<sup>rd</sup> of February 2024 are as follows:

- Live Cases **369**
- Cases Opened from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 **40**
- Cases Closed from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 **31**

## **Disability Access Certificates (DACs):**

The number of valid DAC applications, for the period from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 up to and including 23<sup>rd</sup> of February 2024, totals **20**.

<b>Applications Districts</b>	<b>Total for Districts</b>	<b>Await Assessment</b>	<b>Further Info.</b>	<b>Granted</b>	<b>Refused</b>
Enniscorthy	2	1	1	0	0
Gorey	2	2	0	0	0
New Ross	1	1	0	0	0
Wexford	15	11	3	1	0
Rosslare	0	0	0	0	0
<b>2024 Totals</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>

**Disability Proofing completed as part of WCC Access activity.**

<b>Referrals</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>LAC /PLAC &amp; General Planning Applications</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Major Pre-Planning (from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024)</b>	<b>2</b>


# Water Services



## 1. Rural Water Programme

### Water Services



1. Rural Water	
Measure 2 - Public Health Compliance	<p>➤ <b>Kilanerin GWS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Hydrogeologist Final Report has been received and reviewed into the causes of high nitrate level within the extracted raw water from the GWS borehole.</li> <li>○ Group Water Scheme discussing option of installing a nitrate monitor to give us access to reliable data for future solution.</li> <li>○ Communication has been received from the Dept. regarding reallocate funding to nitrate monitoring.</li> <li>○ Group Scheme Committee is in discussions with Employer's Representative TJ O'Connor's and Contractor EPS regarding obtaining a detailed quotation for the proposed nitrate monitor installation at the WTP.</li> <li>○ GWS received a quotation from EPS for the full installation of the Nitrate Removal System. This shall be submitted as part of the next MARWP submissions. WCC has asked the GWS to confirm with EPS as to whether the nitrate monitor can be installed prior to the main nitrate removal system. If so, these works could potentially be carried out under this MARWP cycle.</li> </ul>
Measure 3 – Enhancement of Existing Schemes including Water Conservation	<p>➤ <b>Blackstairs GWS</b></p> <p>➤ New Manager appointed in December 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Storage Tank</b> – WCC received estimate to carry out bypass of tank.</li> <li>○ Currently drafting drawings and tender documents to take to 5 contractors for quotations.</li> <li>○ <b>Reservoir Bypass</b> -Contractor broke ground in early January. Estimate works complete by end of Qtr. 1 weather permitting.</li> </ul>
Measure 5 – Transition of Existing Group Water Schemes and Group Sewerage Schemes	<p>➤ <b>Bing GSS – Community Wastewater Connection (CWwC)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Departmental agreement to progress the scheme to tender stage. Works currently in development are land acquisition/wayleave maps. Permission from landowners to enter lands for SI investigations have been returned.</li> <li>○ Returned tender price from contractors for main contract works shall be subject to final Departmental assessment and approval.</li> <li>○ Landowners have agreed to revised location of pumping station sites.</li> <li>○ SI e-tender completed; 3 submissions received costing between €140,000 - €190,000.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Amendments were made to scope of SI and project re-tendered; submission closes 2<sup>nd</sup> June.</li> <li>○ SI re-tender completed; 3 submissions received are currently being reviewed.</li> <li>○ IGSL Ltd awarded contract</li> <li>○ The Road Opening Licence has been conditioned and moved to agreement stage.</li> <li>○ Landowner negotiations ongoing with Committee.</li> </ul>
<b>Measure 6 – Community Connection Networks (Water)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>MARWP 2024-2026</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Consultation meetings arranged with South Leinster Bundle (DBO's) 27<sup>th</sup> Feb.</li> <li>○ Dept workshop for rural water staff on 28<sup>th</sup> Feb.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Measure 8 – Individual wells (private or household wells)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Individual Well Grants</b></li> <li>➤ Waiting on details of updated well grant programme, not included in MARWP announcement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A total of 20 new well grant applications were registered in February 2024</li> <li>○ 20 Well Grants have been paid in this period, totalling €50,000 (approx.)</li> <li>○ 42 inspections carried out in February.</li> <li>○ Workflow prototype has been developed to final stage – due to staff shortages IT have not been able to finalise yet.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Measure A8 – Wastewater Collection &amp; Treatment Needs for Villages &amp; Settlements without access to Public Wastewater Service</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>New Advance Phase of MARWP 2022-2024</b></li> <li>○ Minister announced Ramsgrange is one of the successful projects under the €50 million Rural Water scheme.</li> <li>○ Detailed programme for the delivery of project to be submitted to Dept. by 10<sup>th</sup> May 24.</li> </ul>
<b>Lead Remediation Grant</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 8 applications received to date on revised grant, 5 paid, 2 approved, 1 awaiting further documents.</li> </ul>



# **ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION**

## **MAJOR NATIONAL ROADS PROJECTS**

### **N11/N25 Oilgate to Rosslare Harbour**

- Ground Investigation on-site works are due to re-commence in March 2024.
- Environmental surveys, traffic studies and traffic modelling are ongoing. Scope for 2024 traffic surveys is being prepared by Technical Advisors.
- Archaeological Geophysical Surveys are expected to be completed in coming weeks.
- Additional Topographical Surveys are expected to be completed in coming weeks.
- The design of the development is progressing including additional tasks in relation to the Service Area requirements, Park and Ride facilities and Active Travel.
- 8 no. Departures from Standard applications were approved by TII. Additional 2 no. Departures from Standard applications are being dealt by the Project Team and will be re-submitted for approval in due course.
- Preparation of Environmental, Planning, Design and other reports are ongoing.
- Preliminary Slaney Bridge Options Report is completed.
- Periodic Report in relation to the Connecting Europe Facilitates (CEF) funding is completed and formally submitted to EU Commission on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024.

### **N25 Rosslare Europort Access Road**

- Approval to commence Phase 5 – Enabling and Procurement has been received on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2024.
- Technical Advisors are commencing works on preparation of Phase 5 deliverables with estimated completion date of May 2025.

## **NATIONAL ROAD PAVEMENT SCHEMES**

### **2022 Safety Schemes**

#### **N25 Ballygillane Roundabout - (Estimated Total Scheme Cost €2,590,000)**

This scheme was tendered in November 2021. Works commenced on 23 May 2022. The roundabout is substantially completed.

Works outstanding: Landscaping works to be completed by March (Planting in January and February. Grass seeding in March).

### N30 Tominearly

Feasibility and Options report approved by TII. Stage 1 and 2 Safety Audit to be completed prior to any works. Consultants appointed with audits to commence shortly.

### N25 Tagoat

Preliminary designs completed and reviewed by TII Safety Officer. Feasibility and Options Report is currently being prepared.

## **2023 Pavement Schemes**

### N80 Tomacurry to Ballycarney Phase 2 - (Estimated Total Scheme Cost €1,600,000)

This scheme has been tendered and awarded. Drainage works have commenced and will be completed by Mid March. Pavement works are expected to commence in March and be completed in April.

### N25 Orristown to Ashfield Cross Pavement Scheme - (Estimated Total Scheme Cost €1,600,000)

This scheme is being designed at present and we expect to tender it in early March.

### HD28 N25 Blackhorse to Ballykelly Pavement Scheme – (Estimated Total Scheme Cost is €1,000,000).

This has been tendered and the contractor has been appointed.

Construction is expected to commence in April.

## **Former National Roads Grant 2023**

Funding of €500,000 was received for the R723 Rosbercon. Works are due to commence in early.

## **VRS (Vehicle Restraint System – Safety Barrier) Maintenance**

This contract commenced in 2023. To date 15 locations on the N11, N80 and N25 are complete under Planned Maintenance. One location was completed as an emergency replacement on the N11.

This contract is ongoing.

## REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROADS

Wexford's allocation for 2024 is €23,437,550. This allocation included €2,000,000 for Severe Weather damage.

### Resurfacing/Strengthening

The 2024 strengthening programme (Machinery Yard) commenced in the Gorey-Kilmuckridge District on the 8 January at Ballynancoran.

The Municipal Districts are assessing roads and preparing their 2024 programmes.

Roads completed (macadam surfacing) in the last month were:

Ballymoty; Ballynabarney to Gap Pub; Tonmamuck; Laraheen Hill; Ballymoty to Derry; Ballyday; (All in Gorey-Kilmuckridge); Halfway House; Dorans Crossroads; Kereight Cross to Gallbally; Marshallstown to Ballyorrl; (All in Enniscorthy District); Ballycush Lane; (Rosslare District); Redmond Square; (Wexford Borough District).

### Surface Dressing Works

The Municipal Districts are assessing roads and preparing their 2024 programmes.

### Community Involvement Schemes

A grant of €502,650 was received for 2024.

### Bridge Rehabilitation Grant

A grant of €603,000 was received to repair 14 bridges.

### Christmas Day 2021 - Flood Damaged Bridges

Temporary Bailey Bridges are in place at Chapel and Cullenstown Little in the New Ross District. Detailed designs are in progress to construct 2 new concrete beam bridges. It is hoped work will commence works in Q2/Q3 of 2024.

### Specific Improvement Grants

A grant of €1,005,000 was received for the Owenduff river embankment stabilisation (undermining the R733) and to pay the final account for the Deeps Bridge.

### Climate Change Adaptation & Resilience Works

A grant of €687,200 was received to complete 20 projects.

### Local Improvement Schemes

A list of applicants is maintained in order of date received. A programme of lane resurfacing will be drafted when Department funding is announced.

### Winter Maintenance

The Winter Maintenance commenced the 16 October 2023 and will continue to 30 April 2024. There have been 46 salt treatments to date.

### General Maintenance

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

## ACTIVE TRAVEL UPDATE

### Newtown Road (Part of the Pathfinder Project)

Works have progressed on footpath improvements and new protected cycle paths on the Newtown Road. Construction began on the southern side of the road between the Maldron Hotel to the Apple Green Service station near Coolcott's Lane in November. Sections of footpath have been broken out, new in-situ kerbing provided, cycle path delineator and new footpaths have been poured and drainage issues along the route resolved. The junctions at the Maldron hotel, at Glenville Road and at the L-76902 towards Crosbie Signs have been tightened.

Two new bus stops will be provided outside the Maldron Hotel, one on either side of the road. These are to facilitate passengers alighting and departing from buses and will provide shelter while they wait for a bus. In addition, and currently under construction, there will be a safe pedestrian crossing provided to assist bus passengers who are currently crossing four lanes of traffic just off a busy roundabout. The works area has been fenced and construction has begun on both bus stops. It is hoped to have the bus stops in place before end of April 2024.

Construction of footpaths on the northern side of the Newtown Road commenced in early February. Two-way traffic flow is being maintained in so far as possible for the duration of the works to minimise impact on traffic in the vicinity.



*Work to install infrastructure and services at new bus stop at Newtown Road*





*Work to new bus stop at Newtown Road outside the Maldron Hotel*

### Newtown Road Phases Two and Three

Phases Two and Three of the Newtown Road cycle scheme will involve the continuation of the above mentioned footpath upgrade and protected cycle way along by the Racecourse to the Hospital Junction and from there towards the town centre to Wygram. These schemes are at detailed design stage with work commencing on preparation of tender documents. The scheme will pass through the junction at Wexford General Hospital /Carricklawn which will see a major upgrade to ensure the safety of cyclists and pedestrians as they move through the junction. This will be undertaken as part of the connectivity across town on the proposed Beechlawn to Clonard Cycle Scheme.

### Beechlawn/Clonard Cycle Scheme

Active Travel is currently finalising the options report for the Beechlawn Clonard Cycle scheme focusing particularly on major junctions such as the double mini roundabouts at Clonard Church, the major junction at the Hospital on Newtown Road/Carricklawn and the junction of Whitemill road and Clonard Avenue adjacent to Kennedy Park National School. Proposals for enhanced permeability connections from surrounding residential, retail, industrial and schools areas to the upgraded cycle facility will also be proposed. It will commence at the junction at Newtown Road/Carricklawn at Wexford General Hospital where we are exploring protected junction options based on the new Cycle Design Manual. Consultation with local landowners is underway, including with the HSE. Land take at this junction will be critical to the delivery of a fully protected junction. From there it traverses through Carricklawn and Beechlawn through Clonard Avenue and terminates at Kennedy Park National School at Whitemill South.

### Roxborough Cycle Scheme (Part of the Pathfinder Project)

Proposals for improvements to active travel facilities at Rocksborough, Wexford Town from Drinagh to Maudlintown are being finalised. An options report was submitted to the National Transport Authority which received their approval. The next step is to finalise the preliminary design followed thereafter by proceeding to a Part 8 Planning process which is anticipated to commence in April 2024.

An arborist has been appointed to undertake a tree survey of street trees along the route to assess if there will be any impacts on trees and their root protection area (RPA)

Wexford County Council have also requested that the scheme extends to include the junction at the Faythe.

### **SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL SRTS**

Safe Routes to School – Construction outside St. Mary's National School, Rosslare Strand is now complete with enhanced safety for pedestrians and cyclists at the front of the school. Car parking is now further away from the school frontage to discourage engines idling which results in poor air quality. Ample parking is available a very short distance away in front of the community centre. A new footpath at Mauritiustown has also been provide enhancing the link from this residential area to the village centre and to the footpath network offering connectivity to the school and other village facilities.

Active Travel is in touch with Minister of State at the Department of Transport Jack Chambers with regard to a date for an official opening of the scheme.



*Front of school improvements at St. Mary's National School Rosslare Strand and footpaths at Mauritiustown enhancing connectivity back to the village centre*

St. Aidan's, Enniscorthy, Safe Routes to School scheme. Works are expected to be completed in March 2024 after the scheme was extended to include new footpaths in St. Aidan's Villas and new pedestrian crossings at top of Bohreen Hill.

### **Wexford Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA)**

A draft Options Development is now complete for the Wexford Town Area Based Transport Assessment which will help to inform sustainable mobility policy into the future. The draft will be presented to Management in the coming weeks for discussion before presentation to the National Transport Authority and Elected Members.

### **Enniscorthy Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA)**

Arup Consulting are currently working with the Active Travel team to develop a Baseline report for the Enniscorthy Area Based Transport Assessment following an initial meeting in

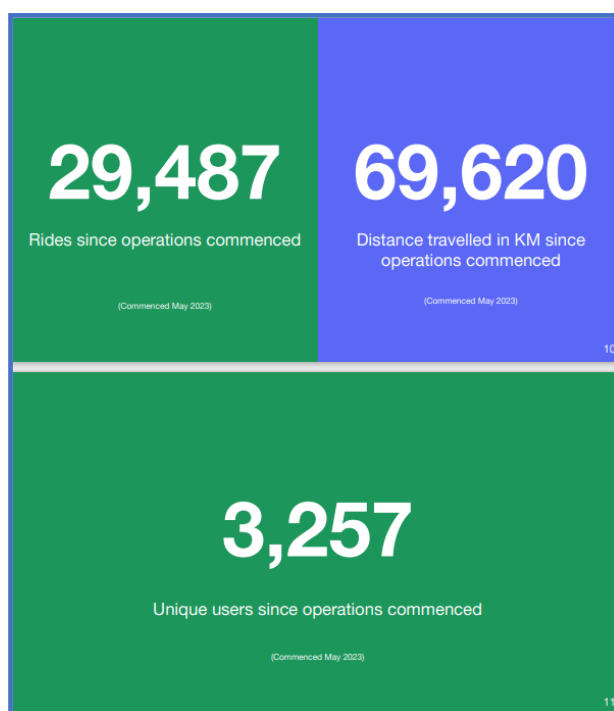
Enniscorthy in December 2023. Stakeholders for the study will be agreed in February. The transport assessment will be used to inform sustainable transport policy into the future for the town.

### **Public eBike sharing scheme**

There is currently a fleet of 55 bikes in operation while winter maintenance is ongoing to the larger fleet. The numbers will return to 80 bikes in the coming weeks and subsequently increase further coming into summer.

Four new parking locations were agreed with Wexford County Council and are up and running at Boggan's Garage in Ferrybank South, Crosstown Cemetery, Barrack Street and Coolcott's Lane. All of these have come about because of requests from members of the public for new locations. Three others are being agreed with business premises and will include a garage forecourt, a busy supermarket and public bus stop outside a hotel.

Co-ordination with the Fleadh committee will be conducted to determine demand management, new temporary parking locations and alterations to cycling zones. Discussions are being held with Bolt to provide additional bikes and parking locations at the Fleadh camp sites and park and ride locations.



*Above statistics showing usage since May 2023. Numbers dropped in November/December due to inclement weather but are on the rise again. 69,000 km haven been travelled on the Bolt eBikes by users since their arrival into Wexford*

## PUBLIC LIGHTING

### LED Upgrade (Non-National Roads)

Over 12,000 lanterns have been upgraded to LED since the beginning of 2016.

Design works are completed.

92.6% of lanterns have been upgraded to LED to date.

We have applied to TII for funding to upgrade the lights on the 3 roundabouts on the M11 at Scurlocksbush, Templescoby and Milehouse to Led. TII have not confirmed a budget for these works for 2024.

It is hoped the remaining non-national road lanterns will be upgraded to Led by the end of 2025. Cost savings are being used to fund the public lighting development programme including infill lighting where required. Funding for cable repairs will be required on the older cable networks in the towns. This is increasingly becoming a major cost element to our maintenance budget.

### Public Lighting Development Fund

Additional public lighting will be installed at the following locations under the Public Lighting Development Fund.

- Ramsfort Avenue Gorey – infill along by GAA pitch. Lighting design completed with three tenders received. The successful contractor will be appointed shortly.
- The Ballagh – Church to the school – civil works commencing next week.
- The Ballagh – Ballagh Cove – civil works completed. Awaiting certification and the ESB connection.
- Ballymitty – ESB connection confirmed for April 2024
- Redshire Rd, Murrintown – ESB connection confirmed for April 2024.
- Multiple sites under review at present for urban infill works and village works with limited public lighting.



## Housing Supply

### Capital Projects

**Summary**     Housing for All 2022-2026

<b>Dwellings Complete 2022</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Dwellings Complete 2023</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Dwellings to Complete in 2024</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>Dwellings to Complete in 2025</b>	<b>70</b>
<b>Dwellings to complete 2026</b>	<b>132</b>
<b>Dwellings to be funded in HFA</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Dwellings in Design</b>	<b>260</b>
<b>Affordable Housing</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Other Preliminary figures</b>	<b>76</b>

<b>Dwellings Complete under Housing for All in 2022</b>				
Project	No of Units	Municipal District		
Carleys Bridge	17	Enniscorthy		Dwellings complete in Feb 2022
Glentire, The Ballagh	7	Gorey		Dwellings complete July 22
Rosetown Phase 1	23	Rosslare		Dwellings complete December 22

Rosetown Phase 1



Glascanny	1	Wexford		TAP Dwelling complete June 22
Total	48			
Dwellings Complete 2023				
Project	No of Units	Municipal District	Current Status	Comment
Whiterock Hill Phase 1	22	Wexford	Complete	Complete Dec 2023.

## Whiterock Hill 22 Phase 1



Marconi Park	1	Enniscorthy	Complete	Complete June 23
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>			

### Dwellings Under Construction to complete in 2024

Women's Refuge	12	Wexford	Under Construction	Construction commenced Feb 23. To Complete 2024. On Target.
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Womens Refuge 12,  
Maudlintown

Whiterock Hill Phase 2	22	Wexford	Under Construction	To Complete Q4 2024. On Target.
Rosetown Phase 2	12	Rosslare	Under Construction	Construction commenced June 23. To Complete Q3 2024. On Target.
Rosetown Phase 2				
Ballyhine, Barntown	8	Wexford	Under Construction	Construction commenced May 23 To Complete Q3 2024.

**Ballyhine 8,  
Wexford**



Total	54			
Dwellings to complete in 2025				
Wexford Street	30	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Under Construction	Commenced on site July 23. Progressing to programme. To complete 2025.

**Wexford Street, 30  
Gorey**



Tagoat	18	Rosslare	Under Construction	DB Contract on site. Re routing ESB overheads and site preparation underway. To complete 2025
Creagh	22	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Under Construction	Commence on site Q1 24. DB Contract. On Site, clearing and testing underway. To complete 2025



Creagh 22,  
Gorey



Total	70			
Funded Projects for delivery 2025 - 2026				
Francis Street	2	Wexford	SS Approved	Three tenders received Feb 24. Assess tenders and appoint contractor in Q1 2024
Bullawn	3	New Ross	Stage 2	Demolitions and archaeological Inspections complete. Stage 3 and Tender in Q1 2024.
Rosbercon	50 +(est)	New Ross	Stage 2	Invasive Species removal complete. Site Investigations to commence Q1 24. To proceed as a DB contract.
Killeens	60	Wexford	Stage 2	Part VIII approved in February 2024. Stage 3 and tender documentation to follow in Q2 24.
Monomolin	5	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Single Stage	Bundle A – Monomolin and Ballygillane. DB Contract. Consultants appointed for preliminary works for funding application. Part VIII approved Jan 2024. Submit Funding for Bundle A Q1 24. Site clearance complete.
Ballygillane	5	Rosslare	Single Stage	Bundle A as above. Part VIII approved Sept 23. Funding Q1 24 Demolition of derelict house Q1 24
Grogans Road	4	Wexford	Single Stage	Bundle B – Grogans Road and Adamstown. DB Contract. Consultants appointed for

				preliminary works for funding. Part VIII submitted Dec 23. Consultation with neighbours complete. Funding application Q2 2024
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**Grogan's Road, 4  
Wexford**



Adamstown	3	New Ross	Single Stage	Bundle B as above. Part VIII submitted Dec 23. Funding application Q2 2024
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>132</b>			

<b>Dwellings yet to be funded in Housing for All Programme</b>				
Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District	Comment	
Bride Street	3	Wexford	Single Stage	Archaeology complete SS Funding application to DHLGH Q1 2024
Lacken TAP	1	New Ross	Single Stage	Surveys Complete. SS Submission Q1 2024
Belvedere	8	Wexford	Single Stage	Funding application Q1 24. Q1 2024
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12</b>			

**Affordable Housing**

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Ramsfort Park	20	Gorey	Tender assessment complete. Sign contracts for DB in Q1 24. Site Start Q2 24
<b>Ramsfort Park 20, Gorey</b>			



St Walerans	70	Gorey	Expressions of interest from developers and consortia for 173 houses including affordable units received Oct 23. Assessment and recommendation to follow.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>90</b>		

### Projects in Design / Pipeline to 2031

Location	Units	Municipal District	Comment
Clonard	56	Wexford	Pre Preparing 12 Dec 23. Stage Funding Application Q1 2024. Project will progress as a Design Build contract.
St Waleran's	35	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Expressions of interest from developers and consortia for 173 houses including 35 social dwellings received. Assessment nearing completion. Stage 2 Q1 24
Creagh	24	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Sketch design prepared for site investigations and surveys. Clear site and Pre Planning Q2 24
Group TAP Housing	5	Wexford	Levels Survey complete, Site Layout for discussion with stakeholders complete. Awaiting Final Brief
The Lyre	70	Enniscorthy	Preliminary master plan, pre planning and site Investigations / surveys in Q1 24.
Castlemoyle	75	New Ross	Master Planning nearing completion for land transfer to WCC
Bunclody PPP	65	Enniscorthy	Part of Bundle 7. Team lead Dublin City Council
Kilmore Quay	12	Rosslare	Closing out purchase and prepare to clear site for surveys. Q2 2024
Park	12	Wexford	Site cleared for levels and ground surveys Sketch Design in Q1 24
Cluain Fada,	21	New Ross	Pre Planning complete. Submit Single Stage Funding Application Q1 2024.
<b>Cluain Fada, 21 New Ross</b>			





<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>375</b>	
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## CAPITAL PROJECTS

### 1. Projects at Planning Stages

#### 1.1 Enniscorthy Town Centre & Tourism Project:

The Planning Department in collaboration with Special Projects has developed a strategic plan for Enniscorthy town centre, which was adopted at the Enniscorthy MD meeting in December 2022.

Regeneration works to the Market Square, Enniscorthy Castle Quarter and Templeshannon will form part of the Call 4 URDF application expected in Q3 2023.

The Part 8 process for Market Square and town centre street enhancement was commenced on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023, which was designed by Moloney O'Beirne Architects & Roughan & O'Donovan Consulting Engineers. Following a public submission, An Bord Pleanála have requested further information from WCC in relation to the proposed development. This was submitted to ABP on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

Preliminary design work on the Enniscorthy Castle Quarter project has now also commenced and it is intended to submit a Part 8 planning application for this in Q2 2024.

ODKM Architects have been appointed to undertake concept masterplanning design services for the Templeshannon Regeneration Project. This masterplan will be completed in time for the forthcoming URDF application.

#### ILLUSTRATED VIEW 01

VIEW FROM CASTLE STREET INTO MARKET SQUARE SPACE



## 1.2 Forth Mountain Activity Park – Phase 2 - Activity Centre Building

Phase 1 – Forth Mountain Activity Park, Trails and Carpark is complete. The activity centre building and boathouse are currently subject of a scope review.

## 1.3 Gorey District Park

The park is substantially completed and is now fully open to the public.

The second invitation to tender for the Changing Places unit did not result in an award of contract. A third invitation to tender for the Changing Places unit was advertised on eTenders. Tenders have been received and a contract awarded. The Changing Places unit has been installed with snagging to be completed by the end of April.



## 1.4 John Street Grainstore, New Ross

A Part 8 process for the Grainstore and building extension elements was commenced on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2024. An application for Category 1 funding, under the RRDF, was submitted on 8<sup>th</sup> February. A further development consent application will be made to An Bord Pleanála in the coming months for the public realm area to the rear of the property.



## 1.5 WEXFORDIA – Irish National Heritage Park (INHP), Hook Lighthouse and New Ross Tourism Projects

WCC secured RRDF Category 2 and Category 1 funding for the development of a cluster of tourism projects within the county.

### **Irish National Heritage Park: INHP**

The tourism and environmental design teams for the INHP have commenced work on a preliminary design and the environmental assessments. The preliminary design has been extended to include a design for a new Visitor Centre in order to support service requirements at the INHP and to mitigate against future flood events. It is planned to submit a planning application for the entire project to An Bord Pleanála in Q3 2024.

### **Hook Lighthouse**

Tandem Design have been appointed to provide Interpretive Design services on a new tourism development at the Hook Lighthouse.

A commencement meeting took place on 6th November and subsequent site visit took place on 22nd November where the Consultants met with the Manager and Board of Hook Heritage and representatives from Irish Lights and Fáilte Ireland. A Preliminary Research report was compiled in December 2023 and the Preliminary design for the Interpretive and Concept Design of the project is expected in Q1 2024.

The Brief for the associated architectural and related design services will be issued in Q1 2024 as part of the framework created for Architectural services focused on tourism and recreation projects. It is expected that the full preliminary design including Environmental reports, Interpretative and Architectural Designs will be completed in Q2 2025 and submitted to An Bord Pleanála at that time.



The works for the interpretive fitout of the Dunbrody Visitor Centre Experience have been procured and contracts will be awarded in early Q1 2024. Installation and fit out works on this project are planned to be completed by Q2 2024.

A framework for Architectural services for tourism projects has been advertised with stage 1 submissions received and assessment now complete. Tenders will be invited from shortlisted candidates in Q1 2024 for the Norman Centre project, with award of contract anticipated in Q2 2024.

An on-site meeting took place with the Members in Gorey – Kilmuckridge MDC in February 2023 and proposals for the street were discussed. A presentation was made to the Members in April 2023. The Members advised to proceed to detailed design with the proposed plans, with works expected to commence on-site in January 2024. €2m of own funds is committed to the Esmonde Street project.

[illegible]

All planning and design work on the Rosslare to Waterford greenway project has now been suspended following the publication of the All-Ireland Rail Review. The draft report issued in July 2023 appears to promote reopening of the train line in future.



The Rosslare Harbour to Rosslare Strand section is now being advanced in parallel with the Wexford Town to Rosslare Strand greenway project.

### **1.8 Wexford Town to Rosslare Greenway**

Fehily Timoney & Co has been appointed to provide consultancy services for a feasibility study, route selection, preliminary design and environmental assessments for the development of this project. Constraints have been identified and ecological surveys are ongoing. The scoping and route options process is ongoing. A second public consultation on the preferred route corridor options is imminent and it is now expected to confirm a preferred route in Q3 2024. Submission to An Bord Pleanála is programmed for Q3 2025.

Fehily Timoney & Co are also project technical advisors for the Rosslare Harbour to Rosslare Strand greenway. Public consultation on route options for this greenway will take place in parallel with the Wexford to Rosslare Strand route in March 2024. It is planned to confirm a preferred route in Q3 2024, with an expected Part 8 application (subject to screening) to follow.

### **1.9 Courtown Coastal Protection & Beach Nourishment Scheme**

Following a competitive tender process, RPS Ltd was appointed to undertake the Preliminary Design and Statutory Consents Phase of the Courtown coastal protection and beach nourishment scheme.

It is planned to submit an application to An Bord Pleanála for development consent in 2024, subject to advance approval of a Marine Area Consent by the Marine Area Regulatory Authority.

### **1.10 Crescent Quay – Dredging**

RPS Consulting Engineers have been appointed to provide design services for dredging works at Crescent Quay. The sampling and testing of the proposed dredge material, to inform the statutory consent process, is complete and results have been assessed. Further to a Preliminary design report issued by the consultants in August 2023, the scope of the project is currently under review.

### **1.11 Enniscorthy Sports Hub**

O’Leary Sludds Architects were appointed in Feb 2021 for the detailed design, procurement of works contractor and construction management of the Sports Hub building. A competition to award a works contract for the sports hub building was advertised in May 2022. The lowest price tender opened for the project exceeded the available budget and no contract was awarded. Further ‘top-up’ funding of €150,000 has now been awarded under the LSSIF scheme. The Dept. of Sport have requested to review tender documentation prior to issue and it will be retendered, thereafter.

### **1.12 Ferndale Gymnasium and MUGAs, Wexford:**

Sports Capital funding of €300,000 has been secured for this project, supporting a donation of €500,000 from William Neville and Sons for this project. Part VIII approved was received in 2022 and a design team has been appointed to prepare detailed designs and tender

documents for the works. The works were tendered in August and the tenders received in September. Tenders exceeded the available budget, so a design review for the building is currently being undertaken by the Design Team. This revised design is currently going through detailed design, with the project going back out to tender in March 2024.



Sole Sports and Leisure Ltd. have been awarded the contract, following public tender, for the construction of two MUGAs at an adjacent site, following confirmation of €100,000 in grant funding through the 2023 Community Recognition Fund. Works commenced on site in August 2023. Completion is expected in early March 2024.

### **1.13 Curracloe Water Sports Activity Facility**

WCC received Stage 2 compliance approval from Fáilte Ireland for the development of facilities to support water sports activities at Whitegap, Curracloe. The project will include showers, toilets, changing facilities and lockers.

Following the tender process for design services in Jan 2022, Neville Conroy Architects was appointed. Surveying works and detailed design commenced in January 2023.

Tenders for the enabling works package, published to etenders in December 2023, are currently being assessed. These works are expected to commence on-site in April 2024. The tender for the main building is currently advertised on etenders, with a tender deadline of 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024.





### 1.14 Adoration Convent Wexford

Part 8 approval is in place for this project to convert the old convent into accommodation for students of Georgia Southern University Wexford campus. The appointment of Stephen Carr Architects has been approved by GSU, and preliminary design and associated survey works are now complete. This was formally presented to GSU in January 2024. It is intended to tender out these works out in Q2 2024 with works to commence in Q4 2024.



### 1.15 New Ross Skate Park

Fehily Timoney and Company (with sub-consultants Brady Shipman Martin) have been engaged to prepare a preliminary design and Part 8 submission documentation for a new skate park for New Ross, to be located adjacent the Greenway car park in Rosbercon. Commencement of the Part 8 process is expected in March 2024.

## 2. Projects Under Construction

### 2.1 South East Greenway

Phase 1 of the South East Greenway - New Ross to Glenmore was officially opened on the 25th of July 2023. Work on Phase 2, a 5.5 km section from Ferrybank to Curraghmore commenced on site on 13 November 2023.

The tender to procure a technical advisor to complete The Southeast Greenway was commenced in December 2023 but we received no tender submissions. Tenders have been reinvited with a return date of late March. We expect to have a technical advisor appointed in May.

Faite Ireland have appointed The Paul Hogarth Company to create an Interpretation and wayfinding plan for SEG. Faite Ireland gave a presentation on the Southeast Greenway Interpretation Plan - Public Consultation Findings and Analysis to the four MDs that the greenway runs through, in January 2024.



## 2.2 Trinity Wharf

The contract for the construction of the access road was awarded to Glás Civil Engineering Ltd, in January 2023 and works commenced on site in late February. The sod turning took place on site on 2<sup>nd</sup> March with Minister Darragh O'Brien and elected representatives. Surfacing and finishing works are ongoing on site with completion expected in March 2024.

Procurement of consultants for design services for the site development and public infrastructure works is complete and Ayesa (formerly ByrneLooby) has been appointed to undertake this work with their design partners. The next main works contract is scheduled to commence on site in Q1 2025.





## 2.3 New Ross Emigrants' Park

This project consists of removal of the oil tank structures on the Quay and the development of public realm works on the site. The Advance Works Contract (Removal of Tanks) was complete in July 2021.

RRDF funding of €814,393 for the project was announced in November 2022. The works are now complete and the park was officially opened by Minister Heather Humphrey's on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023. The Emigrant park was the winner of the LAMA best urban planning award 2024.



## 2.4 Mechanics Institute, Wexford

The works contract for essential maintenance works at the Mechanics Institute has been awarded to Roger Doyle Contractors and works commenced on site in January 2023. The main contract work is substantially complete with conservation work to the rear to begin in early March.



## 2.5 Oyster Lane Site, Wexford

A Part VIII submission has been made for the demolition of existing unoccupied buildings on the old Tesco site, including the construction of a temporary surface level car park. Part 8 approval was confirmed at the March 2022 County Council meeting. A further Part 8 submission has since been approved for erection of a temporary performance structure and public realm area, instead of a surface carpark.

O'Connor Sutton Cronin consulting engineers have been appointed to provide design and construction related consultancy services for the project.

The demolition contract was awarded to John Tinnelly & Sons (Ireland) Ltd, with an extension to the main works contract also agreed for the demolition of the former Dun Mhuire Theatre. All demo works onsite are now complete.

The procurement process for the provision of the temporary performance structure at the site was unsuccessful with costs greatly exceeding the available budget. We are now looking at alternative options.

A works tender will issue in March for surfacing works to the site to make it suitable for use as a public space.



## 2.6 Murphy Floods Redevelopment

WCC has recently acquired the former Murphy Floods Hotel site, and adjacent derelict properties, in Enniscorthy Town Centre. The Council now seeks to advance a proposal to redevelop this vacant plot, which has previously secured Part 8 consent in July 2022. O'Connor Sutton Cronin Consulting Engineers were appointed in May 2023 to undertake full stage design services for the demolition and site preparation elements of the scheme.

A tender competition to appoint a works contractor for the demolition works onsite has commenced and tender assessment is underway. Phase 1 works are anticipated to commence on site in Q2 2024.

### 3. Projects Delivered under the Economic & Community Development Programme

	Project	Date Delivered
1	Forth Mountain Activity Park – Phase 1: Trails & Carpark	2021
2	Enniscorthy Technological Park, Phase 1	2021
3	Old Dublin Road, Enniscorthy Active Travel, Phase 1	2022
4	Gorey District Park	2022
5	Min Ryan Park	2022
6	Wexford Arts Centre Extension	2022
7	Monck Street Enhancement Scheme	2022
8	New Ross Fire Station	2022
9	High Hill Norman Gardens, New Ross	2022
10	Emigrants Park, New Ross	2023



### 4. Flood Defence Schemes

#### 4.1 Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme

**Statutory Process** - The Minister for the Department of Public Expenditure & Reform (DPER) issued his decision to refuse the scheme on 4th March 2022. Details are available on [www.gov.ie](http://www.gov.ie). Following the decision, the OPW confirmed their commitment to delivering an effective scheme for Enniscorthy.



**Flood Defence Scheme** – The project baseline data is to be updated, scheme alternatives are to be assessed, consulted on publicly and a preferred option identified. It will then be necessary to decide on the most appropriate planning route for the scheme. The hydrology and environmental baseline data is currently being updated; ecology survey reports are to be completed in Q1 2024.

**Phase 1 - New River Slaney Bridge** - It is intended to obtain planning consent for the construction of the new bridge as phase 1 of the flood defence scheme. This phase will include the construction of a new road bridge south of the town, the removal of the Seamus Rafter Bridge and the construction of a replacement pedestrian bridge. The baseline data for this phase is currently being updated. Traffic surveys are complete, ecology survey reports are to be completed in Q1 2024. The planning application is to be submitted in Q1 2025.

## **4.2 Wexford Town and Environs Flood Relief Scheme**

The Draft Hydrological Method Statement was resubmitted to the steering group on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb. The rescheduled Hydrology Workshop is to be held on the 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024.

The Constraints report has been returned to the consultants with comments.

Work has commenced on the installation of flow monitors and rain gauges in Coolcotts Reservoir, Bishopswater attenuation pond and at the rear of St Joesphs Community Centre.

A meeting was held with the Wexford District Engineer for traffic management for the installation of flow monitors in the surface water sewers particularly in the Distillery Road area.

A survey of the surface water networks in the Heritage Park carpark was carried out and mapped.





# HOUSING

## Housing Strategy & Services

Under the Housing for All Programme 2022 to 2026, Wexford County Council must deliver a minimum of 1,159 new housing units within the programme timeframe. The status of overall programme delivery is contained in the diagram below.

1,159 Target	–	(	527 Units Delivered	+	672 Units Projected	=	1,199 Delivery Pipeline	)	=	40 Shortfall/Over
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It is the Councils intention to continue to deliver new housing, above the target provided under the programme, where demand exists and Department funding is available.

The following tables outline the current delivery pipelines and status on projects. For LA Direct Build information, please refer to the Capital Development section of the Chief Executives Report.

## Turnkey Delivery

The Housing Section periodically seek Expressions of Interest for the provision of social housing units via Turnkey Acquisition. The current Expression of Interest opened on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024 and runs until 11<sup>th</sup> April 2024. All calls are seeking targeted delivery of smaller unit types (1 & 2 beds) in areas of need identified in the Housing Delivery Action Plan (HDAP). In addition, the process also seeks proposals for purchase of land in areas of need. All proposals received by Wexford County Council under the turnkey process are assessed by an Internal Assessment Committee.

Project Address	No of Units	Unit Profile	Municipal District Area	Comment
An Glasan, Greenville Lane, Enniscorthy	8	8 x 1-bed	Enniscorthy	To deliver Q1 2024
Castlelands, Ferns	20	6 x 2-bed 14 x 3-bed	Enniscorthy	To deliver Q1 2024
Tobar Muire, Creagh Demesne	39	11 x 2-bed 28 x 3-bed	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	10 units delivered. Remainder 29 units to deliver Q2 2024
Gleann an Ghairdin, Gorey	40	20 x 2-bed 20 x 3-bed	Gorey/ Kilmuckridge	To deliver from Q2 2024
Mangan, Hollyfort	2	2 x 3-Bed	Gorey/ Kilmuckridge	To Deliver Q4 2024
Churchview, Ballynaglogh, Blackwater (Ph2)	14	14 x 2-bed	Gorey/ Kilmuckridge	To deliver Q2 2024
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>123</b>			

## Part V Acquisitions

Project Address	No of Units	Bed no.	Municipal District Area	Comment
Forgelands, Old Forge Rd	12	6 x 3-bed 6 x 2-bed	Enniscorthy	6 delivered Q4 2023, 2 to deliver Q2 2024, 2 to Deliver Q4 2024 2 to Deliver Q2 2025
An Glasan, Greenville Lane	8	8 x 1-bed apt	Enniscorthy	To deliver Q2 2024
Gleann an Ghairdin Ph 3	10	4 x 2-bed 6 x 3-bed	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	8 units Delivered Q3 2023 2 units to deliver Q1 2024
Tobar Muire, Creagh Demesne	4	4 x 2-bed	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	2 units delivered Q4 2022, 2 units to be delivered Q2 2024
Gleann an Ghairdin, Gorey Ph 4	10	2 x 2-bed 2 x 2-bed apt 4 x 3-bed apt	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	8 units to deliver Q2 2024 2 units to Deliver Q2 2025
Spring View, Gorey Hill	11	2 x 3-bed 7 x 3-bed apt 4 x 3-bed apt	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Under Construction. To deliver on phased basis from Q1 2024.
Ard na hAbhainn, Newtown Rd	2	2 x 3-bed	Wexford	Delays on site To deliver Q3 2024
Deerpark (Ballowen or Ramsfort Park) Gorey	2	2 x 3-bed	Gorey/ Kilmuckridge	2 units to deliver Q3 2024
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>59</b>			

## Approved Housing Body Delivery

Project Address	No of Units	Bed No.	Municipal District Area	Comment
<b>Cluid</b>				
Hewittlands, New Ross (LAGS site)	48	10 x 1-bed 16 x 2-bed 22 x 3-bed	New Ross	To deliver Q3 2025
Ballytegan Rd, Gorey	86	3 x 1-bed 26 x 2-bed 52 x 3-bed 5 x 4-bed	Gorey/ Kilmuckridge	DHLGH approval received. To Deliver Q2 2026
Beechfield, Clonard	50	25 x 1-bed 23 x 2-bed 1 x 3-bed 1 x 4-bed	Wexford	To deliver Q3 2025
<b>Tuath</b>				
Ramstown, Gorey	74	10 x 1-bed 25 x 2-bed 33 x 3 bed	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	24 units delivered. Phase 2 - 20 units Delivered Q3 2023. Remainder 24 units to deliver Q2 2024. An additional 6 units will also deliver Q2 2024

	Co Operative Housing Ireland (CHI)			
Pairc na Greine, Clonard (Ph2.2 of Pairc na Daire)	24	22 x 3-bed 2 x 4 -bed	Wexford	To deliver Q2 2024
Forth View, Murrintown	23	9 X 2-bed 14 X 3-bed	Rosslare	To deliver Q3 2024
Focus				
Riverchapel Road, Gorey	6	6 X 1-bed apts	Gorey	To deliver Q2 2024
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>311</b>			

Support has been offered to AHB's for other proposals amounting to 404 units across all districts. These proposals are subject to Planning and Departmental approval.

District	No of Units
Enniscorthy	99
Gorey	48
New Ross	11
Rosslare	83
Wexford	163
<b>Total</b>	<b>404</b>

### Housing Maintenance

The following table shows the number of repairs carried out from 1<sup>st</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024:

Repairs	Enniscorthy	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	New Ross	Wexford	Rosslare	Total
Repair Requests (1 <sup>st</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup> February 2024)	194	98	152	202	108	754
Repair Requests Year to Date	416	220	329	427	260	1652
Accommodation Units Repaired (1 <sup>st</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup> February 2024)	135	78	119	150	77	559
Accommodation Units Repaired Year to Date	298	169	248	323	180	1218
<b>CLOSED</b> Repair Requests (1 <sup>st</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup> February 2024)	112	58	113	133	69	485
<b>CLOSED</b> Repairs Requests Year to Date	224	112	216	243	144	939

**Note:** The housing maintenance requests do not include duplicate calls for the same job, the ihouse system only records individual repair jobs.

### Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Programme

Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme 2022 was the second year of a new 10-year Energy Efficiency/Retrofit Programme to retrofit local authority housing stock. The new programme provides for a significant upscaling in the level of funding available and focuses on ensuring that the fabric of the home is upgraded, and an energy efficient heating system is provided. The table below outlines the targets set by the Department for Wexford to date.

<b>Department Targets for County Wexford</b>	
<b>Year</b>	<b>No of Properties</b>
2021	54
2022	68
2023	51
<b>Total</b>	<b>173</b>

The range of works undertaken in the properties include external wall and attic insulation, new doors, new windows, blocking of fireplaces, low energy lighting, high efficiency boilers, and upgraded heating system and controls. All properties received a minimum of a B2 BER rating after the works were completed.

Housing Maintenance Section completed energy upgrades to 147 properties in 2023. Completing the balance of our 2021 to 2023 targets in 2023. The value of the grant funded works for 2023 was €3.99 million.

The 2024 allocation has not been received from the department with an initial approval given of 65% of 2023 target (51 units): circa 33 units, **27** of which have been completed.

### **Planned Maintenances 2023/2024 Windows and Doors**

<b>Status update January to October 2023</b>	<b>Status</b>
Gorey District – Baile Eoghain – Windows and Doors	Complete
Wexford District – Ferndale Terrace – Windows and Doors	Complete
Enniscorthy – Ard Alainn & Father Murphy Close Windows and Doors	90% Complete
Wexford District - Churchview Wexford & Wexford 1offs (incl. Rosslare MD)	Contract awarded Works to commence Q1 2024
Doors Only Tender – Countywide	Contract awarded Works to commence Q1 2024

## Affordable Housing

### Online Survey to assess level of interest in Affordable Housing



Launched in February 2024, A survey of interest in affordable housing has been developed for the purpose of gathering the required information e.g., income levels, family size, housing type and location preferences.

The information will be used to inform the Council on the level of demand, locations preferred, and the house prices that people might be able to afford. It will help the Council to formulate its plans for Affordable Housing Options.

#### Complete the survey

The online survey is live and will close on **10<sup>th</sup> April**. You can view and complete the survey on WCC website [Affordable Housing Survey | Wexford County Council \(wexfordcoco.ie\)](https://www.wexfordcoco.ie/AffordableHousingSurvey), or simply click the link – [Affordable Housing Survey](https://www.wexfordcoco.ie/AffordableHousingSurvey)

For all queries, please contact [affordablehousing@wexfordcoco.ie](mailto:affordablehousing@wexfordcoco.ie)

## Choice Based Letting

21 properties were advertised on the Choice Based Letting website to 29/02/24.

As multiple properties were available in some cases, a total of 31 properties were available for allocation.

Number of Views & Expressions of Interest are as per table: -

Municipal District	Number of Properties Advertised	Properties Available for Allocation	Number of Views	Number of Expressions of Interest
Enniscorthy	5	5	1543	255
Gorey/Kilmuckridge	2	2	656	113
New Ross	5	5	1067	183
Rosslare	2	2	1032	183
Wexford	7	17	3597	856
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>7895</b>	<b>1590</b>

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### 2014 – 2022 LEADER PROJECT CLAIMS

From the 30/01/2024 – 27/02/2024 the Article 48 team processed **4** claims in December under the 2014 – 2022 LEADER Programme.

The value of these claims was **€110,189.18** which will support **1** enterprise and **3** community groups throughout County Wexford.

Promoter Paid:

Group	Amount
Rapparees-Starlights GAA Club	€12,520.82
Rosslare Community Development Association	€ 7,166.26
Naturally Cordial Ltd	€79,022.09

Payment Processed:

Group	Amount
Wexford Local Development – Blueway Training	€11,480.01

### JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE (JPC)

On the 16th of February, Wexford County Council's Community Department participated in the Property Marking Machine launch as part of a Joint Policing Committee (JPC) pilot initiative. This machine engraves unique identifying information onto property, providing traceability in case of theft and recovery which aids An Garda Síochána in reuniting lost or stolen items with their owners.



Cllr Michael Whelan, Chairperson of the JPC, welcomed this pilot initiative, noting that marking property with identification makes it less likely to be targeted by thieves, thus reducing property theft. Mr. Jer O'Mahony, IFA, commented that this machine is a game-changer for protecting farm property and facilitating their recovery if stolen. The purchase of this machine was made possible with the support of the Community Department.

### LOCAL ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMME

As of the close of the Local Enhancement Programme on the 23rd of February, we received a total of 189 general applications and 22 ring-fenced Women's Group applications. Our current task is to thoroughly assess each application to ensure compliance with the established criteria. Subsequently, we plan to submit the approved applications to the Department of Rural & Community Development in accordance with program guidelines.



## **SOCIAL INCLUSION & COMMUNITY ACTIVATION PROGRAMME (SICAP)**

The SICAP sub-committee met on the February 26<sup>th</sup>, to review and consider the Annual Progress Report and the Financial & Monitoring Reports for the 2023 Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme. The sub-committee members recommended acceptance to the LCDC, who in turn approved the Annual Performance Review at their meeting of the February 27<sup>th</sup>.

## **GARDA YOUTH AWARDS 2024**

The Wexford Garda Youth Awards 2024 were launched in County Hall on February 12<sup>th</sup>. The Garda Youth Awards celebrate outstanding young people between 13 and 21 years of age and recognises the good work being done by young people throughout the communities. The awards acknowledge the young people who by their presence make their communities and society in general, a better place in which to live. They also acknowledge the endeavours of young people who have faced and overcome challenges in their life. An Garda Síochána administer the Garda Youth Awards in County Wexford in association with Wexford County Council.



Nominations can be made online [Garda Youth Awards 2024 | Wexford County Council \(wexfordcoco.ie\)](https://wexfordcoco.ie). The deadline is **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March on or before 4.00pm.**

## **COMMUNITY RECOGNITION FUND**

Fund	Projects
€1,509,869.00	27

- **€240K** of CRF Fund claimed from Department of Rural and Community Development, to date.
- Further **€352K** projected to be claimed by end of March 2024.
- Target of **70%** of fund spend projected by end **Q2 2024** (*note: correction from previous report*).
- Fund delivery closes **October 2024**.

### **Municipal District Projects (commenced/complete this period):**

- Wexford Co. Council (Special Projects) - Kilmore Quay Playground (Total €145K) - commenced.
- Rosslare Municipal District - Community Resource Centre at Rosslare Harbour (Total €200K) - commenced.

### **Community Group Projects supported (amounts paid this period):**

- Riverchapel Community Freecycle Committee €5,000.00 – complete.
- The Killinick Project €15,150.00 - in progress.



*St. James GAA Grounds, Mersheen - Repairs to walking track and new LED flood lights, complete.*



*New Ross MD – Pearse Park Sensory Garden, work in progress*

## HEALTHY WEXFORD

### Healthy Ireland Fund Round Four

Financial and Progress Reporting has been prepared by the Healthy County Coordinator. Round Four projects are underway across both of the outcome areas. The **Healthy County Committee** had its first meeting of the year on 8<sup>th</sup> February, where project and funded activity updates were given. Working groups reported on current and planned activity for the year.

**Resilience Training for Community Leaders** gives community leaders the opportunity to upskill and share the learnings in their communities.

Resilience Training for Community Volunteers

**Strong Not Tough**

'Strong Not Tough' is the adult version of the international FRIENDS programme, developed in Australia.

This training will provide individuals with a toolbox of evidence-based approaches designed to enhance their emotional resilience and manage stress more effectively.

These tools will help individuals improve their self-awareness, enhance their emotional literacy, empathy skills and improve peer relations.

Healthy Wexford are offering this course to community leaders across County Wexford. The learning and concepts of the programme using the CBT approach provides an invaluable skillset to share with the wider communities, in their homes, clubs etc.

Supported by:

Wexford LCDC pobal

The Healthy Ireland Fund supported by the Department of Health

Course delivered by

Crisis Response Skills for Wexford

6<sup>th</sup> March 2024  
10am to 5pm

County Hall  
Carricklawn, Wexford

Pre-Booking required:  
Expressions of interest to  
annette.duffy@wexfordccoc.ie  
087 6065545

This is the third of these courses offered to community leaders, through support of the Healthy Ireland fund. Further courses are planned in June and October.

The first of the 2024 **Meet Your Neighbour** events are planned for March. Once finalised dates will be shared through Healthy Wexford social media and via Wexford PPN

Our **'Not Around Us'** working group continues to develop the campaign with planning for further extension to tourism and schools underway.







Our Healthy County Coordinator continued training on **HSE Foundation Course in Sexual Health Promotion** to help inform our work and activity, with days 3 and 4 completed in February, and the course completing in March.

Happy to Chat Café promotion continues without Healthy County Coordinator engaging through a range of avenues for further expansion of the initiative. The working group are also re-engaging with current supporters.



## **WEXFORD SLÁINTECARE HEALTHY COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME (SHCP)**

### **Edermine Rowing Club**

Cathaoirleach of Enniscorthy Municipal District Cllr. John O'Rourke and Cllr. Jackser Owens were in attendance at Enniscorthy Astro Active on Friday 2nd February to meet with the committee and members of Edermine Rowing Club and make a presentation to them of €15,000 grant funding from Wexford County Council's Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme. The grant funding is being used by the club to purchase 6 fully accessible rowing machines, 25 lifejackets, a new trailer, Level 1 coaching for 9 younger members of the club as well as to fund a new boat building project. The boat building project will be a wonderful opportunity for younger members of the club to learn skills in boat building from older members. The finished boat will be used later in the year for training and competitions.

### **Conundrum Community Transport mapping event 13<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

SHCP LDO attended and took part in the UCD led Conundrum Community Transport mapping event in Templeshannon on 13th February 2024. This was an opportunity to feed back some of the findings from the place standard audit particularly in relation to public transport in the town. A report with the findings of the public consultation will issue later.



## LAMA Awards

A huge well done also to all involved and particularly the local volunteers with the Taghmon Camross Parish Community Car Pilot project supported by Slaintecare through Wexford County Council which was shortlisted for the Best Community Transport Initiative at the LAMA Awards recently. This project was a partnership between Wexford County Council, Wexford Local Link, Wexford Local Development and Bolands Ford of Wexford Town.



## AGE FRIENDLY WEXFORD

### Sporting Memories

The 2<sup>nd</sup> “Sporting Memories” event took place on February 5th in Clonard Community Centre and was a joint event organised by the Alzheimer Society of Ireland, Wexford GAA and Wexford County Council. Sporting Memories provides an opportunity for the public to come along in person and chat over a cup of tea about their old sporting memories with many former greats of Wexford GAA.

This free event was for people of all ages and especially those living with dementia and their carers and family members. There was plenty of opportunities to reminisce about some of the county’s greatest sporting moments. Tony Dempsey, Age Friendly Ambassador for Wexford, was master of ceremonies for the event and All-Ireland winning hurler Tony Doran and All-Star midfielder George O’Connor were among the many sports stars in attendance on the day. There was also an exhibition of sports memorabilia.



Sporting Memories is an awareness and support programme that allows people with dementia to re-engage in the community which once played a huge role in their lives. Reminiscence is particularly important for people living with dementia, as remembering can instil a sense of competence and confidence which can make them feel empowered and connected.

### **Health Insurance Information Session**

Age Friendly Wexford, in collaboration with the Health Insurance Authority of Ireland, successfully organized a series of free informational talks on health insurance plans on Tuesday, February 20th. The event took place at the Wexford County Council and was well-attended. Additionally, these informative sessions were also held across all libraries in County Wexford, ensuring wide coverage and accessibility to the valuable information shared.



## **SPORTS ACTIVE**

### **Intro to Fitness**

Intro to fitness four-week online programme finished on 13th of February. 15 women registered for the programme.

### **Fit over 50's Wexford & Courtown**

Fit over 50's six week programme has started 19th of February in Wexford Town and Courtown. Wexford Town – 16 women participating, Courtown- 11 participants

### **Get Ireland Walking**

The Local GAA Club, Geraldine O'Hanrahans 'Get Ireland Walking' campaign concluded on February 18th. This ran on Sunday mornings due to not have flood lights at their pitch. Over the 6 weeks, 81 people attended.

### **Marathon Kids**

Starting on the 26th of February, 26 Primary Schools with 917 children participating in this 8 week running programme.



## **Playground Leaders**

Playground Leaders school programme has started again with Taghmon National school (10 male, 8 female) on 9th of February. Kilmyshall NS (6 male, 6 female) and Mayglass NS (7 male, 6 female) have also participated in the playground leaders programme in February.

## **Play Volley**

Play-Volley Coaching Programme with Gorey Training Initiative finished 6th of February in collaboration with Volleyball Ireland. 14 participated, 10 males & 4 females.

## **Get going, Get rowing**

Get going, Get rowing programme in collaboration with Rowing Ireland continued from pre-xmas in Colaiste Bride on Thursday the 22nd of Feb. 3 TY coaches with 12 first year participants.

## **Strong and Steady**

Strong and Steady in Coolcotts finished on the 28th February. This was a 20-week falls prevention programme for older adults run in conjunction with HSE WEXICOP physiotherapists and funded through Healthy Ireland. There were 5-participants (4 female and 1 male).

## **Innovation Fund Augmented Reality App Launch**

The augmented reality app launched on Tuesday 13th of February in Tintern Abbey. The app was a partnership project between Sports Active Wexford, Walton Institute, Mental Health Services and Coillte Ireland. The app received €70,000 which was funded through Dormant Accounts.

## **IWA Networking Day**

One staff member attended the IWA networking day on Sport Ireland Campus on the 27th February.

## **Inclusive Orienteering**

An inclusive Orienteering session was held in Pearse Park. 15 individuals attended from Cumas and 22 volunteers from Our Lady of Lourdes assisted with the programme.

## **Woodlands for Health**

Woodlands for health, a 12-week woodlands walking programme ran in conjunction with HSE mental health services and Tintern Trails finished on Tuesday the 20th February. 14 service users engaged with the walk (8 Male and 6 female).

## **Activators**

A 3-week activator pole programme started on Wednesday February 28th for a traveller women's group in Taghmon Family Resource Centre. 12 women attended.

## Safeguarding

- 4 x Safeguarding 1 Courses have been completed in 2024 with a total of 63 participants.
- 1 x Safeguarding 2 Course has been completed in
- 2024 with a total of 8 participants
- 1 x Safeguarding 3 Course has been completed in 2024 with a total of 13 participants.

## Staff Training



Launch of our AR Nature Walker app with Cathaoirleach of Wexford Co Co, Cllr. John Fleming, Cllr Garry Laffan, SAW team members, Stephen Barnes from Walton Institute, Sarah Dempsey IEP Mental Health Ireland, Kiera Deane OT, Kate and Pat from Tintern Trials, and service users from Wexford Mental Health Services.

## ENVIRONMENT

### A. COASTAL MATTERS

#### Harbours -

Fethard Harbour – New Slipway and Beach Access. This scheme is with An Bord Pleanála for planning permission.

Duncannon Harbour –Coastal team is monitoring structural cracks in the pier very closely. We are about to appoint consulting engineers to remedy the issue.

#### Operations -

The business development plan for the port is ongoing which is expected to be completed by early 2024. There is strong interest from several companies, now that Wexford County Council are the Port Operators, which will hopefully see new shipping business in the coming years. Proposals are currently being examined in relation to leasing the ground at Marshmeadows for shipping interests.

The Port facility of Raheen (Stafford's) has been placed on the market for sale, and contract documents are being agreed with the new owner. Expected completion of this process by end of February 2024.

Increase in shipping movements at Rosbercon Jetty is being hampered, uncertainty of tenure with the current tenant. It's hopeful that this will be resolved by Q1 2024.

Awaiting approval for both New Ross Port and Coastal County Oil Spill Pollution Plans. An approval exercise is planned for 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024 in conjunction with IRCG.

Engagement with the MARA licensing unit in relation to requirements for routine marine operations continues. Legal advice on the possible conflict of the LA Act and the MAP Act is being coordinated through the LGMA.

KIMO AGM was held in Falkenburg Sweden 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> October, Wexford County Council was represented. We have agreed to host the next international board meeting in May 2024 in Wexford.

Ballyhack Slipway Piles are in need of upgrade works. We are currently reviewing the lease arrangements with respect to the Ferry Company and examining possible options for works including funding requirements.

#### Beaches –

Curragloe beach won Ireland's Best Beach in the Irish Independent's 2024 Travel Awards. These annual awards are based on readers' votes; Curragloe has won this award four out of the past five years.

Applications for 6 blue flag beaches, 2 blue flag marinas and 10 green coast beaches were submitted to An Taisce in November 2023. The awards will be announced by An Taisce in May 2024. Ballymoney beach has not reached the water quality standard for blue flag and therefore will not be awarded the blue flag in 2024.

Ballymoney Blue Flag Beach – Access for All and Age Friendly Improvement Works. Public convenience completed. Design and tender works for the access path are being finalised, with the works expected to go to tender in February 2024.

Coastal Engineer and Water Safety Officer started inspections at beaches to review water safety, signage and access issues. At Cullenstown, the mouth of the river has changed course, moving towards the bathing area. This increases the risk to swimmers and due to strong currents and therefore “No Swimming” signs were put in place – this will be reviewed regularly by the team.

## **Coast -**

The Environment Dept monitors the coastline regularly, focussing on erosion risk areas.

**Rosslare Coastal Erosion and Flood Relief Scheme:** Nicholas O'Dwyer Ltd Consulting Engineers is appointed to progress the scheme. Key design parameters for the scheme are being agreed.

The project website and project email are now live and can be accessed at <https://www.floodinfo.ie/rosslarefrs/>

Site investigations contract to determine ground conditions for the flood scheme on the Burrow Road, Rosslare is going to tender shortly. This contract will be awarded in Q2 2024.

There is provision on the website to email the project team with specific queries. Public consultation day will be held later in Q2 2024.

**Seaview, Kilmore:** Wexford County Council lodged the planning application for Part XI development in January 2024. Planning Dept is progressing the scheme through the statutory planning process.

Further correspondence was issued to OPW to progress the funding of the scheme.

**Lady's Island Water Level Management Structure** – An Bord Pleanála granted planning permission for this development, dated 3rd Sept 2021. The foreshore has moved a step closer to finalising, with the DHLGH issuing site specific conditions and a valuation for the foreshore. Wexford County Council has accepted these conditions and valuation; the foreshore lease is now being finalised by the DHLGH.

Kilmannock Drainage Scheme – this is a land reclamation and drainage scheme dating from mid 1800s, draining approx 1,000 acres of land near the Great Island Power Station. Maintenance works including the installation of new outlet valves on the drainage channel were installed in early August 2023. Site inspections have confirmed that the operation of the drainage scheme has improved significantly since the valves were installed. This will be monitored closely over the coming months.

Ballyconnigar bridge: the bridge was damaged during winter flooding events and options to restore the bridge to access the south beach are under investigation. It is anticipated that a bridge will be in place for the 2024 summer season.

## B. PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Public Conveniences	Open	Comments
Slade	All Year	
Dunncannon	All Year	
Cullenstown	All Year	
Kilmore	All Year	
Carne	All Year	
Bunclody	All Year	
Rosslare Strand	All Year	
Ballyconniger	Seasonal	
Ballineskeer	All Year	
Curraclloe	All Year	
Min Ryan Park	All Year	
Vinegar Hill - Dryloo	All Year	
Carrigfoyle	All Year	
Morriscastle	All Year	
Courtown	All Year	
Ballymoney	All Year	Universal Access Toilet (UAT) to open Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July, External shower installed. <b>Beach Wheelchair Shed installed 08<sup>th</sup> February 2024.</b>
Baginbun – Portaloo's	All Year	
Cahore – Portaloo's /Dryloo's	All Year	
Carcur – Portaloo's	All Year	



## C. WATER, AIR & NOISE

### 1. Water Framework Directive:

Under the Water Framework Directive every catchment in the county must be assessed to identify required actions to maintain and improve water quality. This work which is being carried out by Wexford Co. Co. in conjunction of LAWPRO is being supervised by the Sub-Catchment Unit of the EPA.

### 2. Water Sampling:

A Total of 344 water quality samples were taken by Wexford County Council staff from 78 sampling sites in the county for 2023 with analysis carried out by the EPA. 8 surveillance sites were sampled 8 times per year in 2023. In 2024 a total of 340 river water samples will be taken from 76 sampling sites on 36 rivers by Wexford County Council staff. 7 surveillance sites will be sampled in 2024 with analysis of all samples carried out by the EPA lab in Kilkenny.

### 3. Septic Tank Inspections:

123 inspections under the National Inspection Plan were carried out in 2023. Wexford had a minimum of 130 inspections to carry out in 2023, which resulted in a shortfall of 7. All work carried out is external with no requirement to enter a dwelling. Contractors are currently carrying out work on several sites to close outstanding Advisory Notices. Of the 123 inspections carried out in Wexford, 54 were passes and 69 fails. Due to time constraints, the remaining 7 inspections will be carried out in 2024. A minimum of 130 inspections will have to be carried out in 2024 plus the 7 carried from 2023.

Progress is being made with closing existing open files. All files up to the end of 2016 have been closed. 75 files were closed during 2023. 39 extensions of time were granted in 2023. There are currently 55 open files for the years 2017-2022 and 43 open for 2023, a total of 98 open cases at the end of 2023.

Six applications have been received in January 2024 and are under review at present.

Year	Number of inspections	Pass	Fail	Outstanding	Closed in 2023
2019	156	48	108	10	4
2020	111	38	73	6	4
2021	91	24	67	17	9
2022	139	50	89	13	28
2023	123	54	69	43	25

There are currently 12 cases in the Court system for failing to comply with Advisory Notices. 3 of these are for hearing and 9 are currently for mention.

25 verification inspections were carried out in April 2023 on sites which have Advisory Notices open over 2 years. In total 72 verification inspections were carried out in 2023.

All NIP files up to end of 2016 have now been closed off. 2017 has 5 open files with 1 on hold due to new N11 route selection, 4 due to assessment of public sewer for Ramsgrange. 2018 has 4 open files with good progress on 2 of these, 2 are in court. A public sewer for Ramsgrange has been approved with a connection to Duncannon. 2019-2022 figures can be seen in the Table above.

The Minister announced the following changes to the Domestic Wastewater Treatment System grant scheme on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2023, following a recently completed review of the grants:

- an increase in the maximum grant available to €12,000, up from €5,000; (Up to 85% of cost of work up to max. of €12,000)
- removal of the requirement to register the system before prescribed date of 1st February 2013 in order to be eligible for a grant. The applicant does not have to register before applying for the grant. All work must be completed, and a completion certificate issued to the homeowner before the grant is paid.

These changes will apply to the following 3 DWWTS grants:

- Housing (Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems Financial Assistance) (under the National Inspection Plan)
- Housing (Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems Financial Assistance for Prioritised Areas for Action)
- Housing (Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems Financial Assistance in High Status Objective Catchment Areas)

The Eligibility criteria to qualify for the grant has not changed, the house served by the Domestic Wastewater Treatment system must, in the opinion of the local authority:

- a) be occupied by the applicant as their primary place of residence (e.g. not a holiday home),
- b) not be connected to a public sewerage scheme,
- c) not be currently under construction or constructed within the last 7 years,
- d) not have been paid a grant for the DWWTS within the last 7 years, and
- e) have all works completed satisfactorily in accordance with the Advisory Notice.

Any grant process that has commenced under the previous scheme, but has not been concluded, homeowners may be eligible to have their grant concluded under the new scheme, provided that all eligibility criteria are met.

#### **4. Section 4 Discharge Licences:**

The Council currently has 92 active Discharge Licences. Six applications were received in 2023 five are currently under review to date, one has been added to the live register in January 2024. Seven discharge licences were revoked during 2023 and one to date in 2024.

## **D. WASTE MANAGEMENT**

### **1. New Recycling**

Re-turn Scheme. Irelands new deposit return scheme. In February 2024 a new deposit return scheme will operate throughout Ireland. When you buy a drink in a plastic bottle, aluminium or steel can that feature the Re-turn logo, you pay a small deposit in addition to the price of the drink. When you return your empty, undamaged container to any retail outlet, you get your deposit back in full. The deposit will typically be 15c to 20c. For more information, please see [www.MyWaste.ie](http://www.MyWaste.ie)

2. Food Waste

From 1 January 2024 every household in Ireland, regardless of location, will be entitled to a brown bin collection service. No matter how remote your home is, you can organise your brown bin collection service through your current waste collector. Visit [mywaste.ie](https://mywaste.ie) to learn more. Food waste inspections without notification are currently being carried out with householders and commercial businesses.

3. Landfills:

The Household Recycling Centre at Holmestown continues to provide recycling services to members of the public as well as a disposal service for other waste streams such as residual waste, bulky waste, segregated food waste, garden waste and waste paint.

4. Recycling Services:

Bring Bank Network –

WASTE CATEGORY	No. of Sites January 2024	Recycling out (End January) 2023 (t)	Recycling out (End January) 2024 (t)
Glass bottles		363	336
Aluminium Cans		8	8
Total	108	371	344

Household Recycling Centres –

Summary of Activities								
WASTE CATEGORY	Enniscorthy		New Ross		Holmestown		Gorey	
	Recycling out Jan-Jan 2022 (t)	Recycling out Jan-Jan 2023 (t)	Recycling out Jan-Jan 2023 (t)	Recycling out Jan-Jan 2024(t)	Recycling out Jan- jan2023	Recycling out Jan- Jan 2024	Recycling out Jan-Jan 2023	Recycling out Jan-Jan 2024
Total Recycling out	53	56	64	63	71	705	44	48
Total Domestic Waste in	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	216	33.6	N/A	N/A
Daily Average Customers	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2022	2023
Jan-Jan	80	88	133	129	112	129	98	91

## 5. Rapid Response Crew

Our Rapid Response Crew operates out of Holmestown, with one two-man crew servicing Enniscorthy and Gorey Municipal Districts and a second servicing Wexford, Rosslare and New Ross Municipal Districts. Their headline activities for year to date are summarised below:

Activity	To end Jan 2023	Jan 2024	To end Jan 2024	% +/-
<b>Total Illegal Dumping/ Clean Ups</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>-1%</b>
Gorey *		46		
Enniscorthy *		74		
Wexford *		44		
New Ross*		47		
Rosslare		33		
<b>Total Bring Site Inspections</b>	<b>828</b>	<b>791</b>	<b>791</b>	<b>-4%</b>
Gorey		186		
Enniscorthy		184		
Wexford		247		
New Ross		134		
Rosslare		40		
<b>Total Ringbuoy Inspections</b>	<b>1,678</b>	<b>1,716</b>	<b>1,716</b>	<b>+2.2%</b>
Gorey	North	608		
Enniscorthy *				
Wexford*	South	1,108		
New Ross*				
<b>Other Works</b>	<b>514</b>	<b>760</b>	<b>760</b>	<b>+18.7%</b>
Gorey		120		
Enniscorthy		247		
Wexford		175		
New Ross		184		
Rosslare		34		

Other Works are as follows.

- 1- Beach and lifeguard work
- 2- Black spot checks
- 3- Town inspections every morning
- 4- Trails maintenance
- 5- Min Ryan Park maintenance and upkeep

\* Including Towns

# 1 LITTER/WASTE MANAGEMENT

Total fixed penalty notices issued	TOTAL FOR 2023	TOTAL FOR JAN-2024
Fines Issued (All Fixed Penalty Notice Issued)	212	28
Fines Paid in Full●	55	7
Fines Cancelled/Proceedings Discontinued/Struck Out*	56	4
Successful Prosecutions** (Litter fines & WPBL fines)	28	8
Legal Proceedings in Progress (Litter fines & WPBL fines)	41	34
Amount Collected in Fines -total	€13,023	Litter €1,190
Amount awarded via the Court system (fines awarded) - overall	€6,210.00	€1,080.00

Other fines may be paid prior to the hearing or withdrawn for evidential or legal reasons.

- Includes income from all Fixed Penalty Notices
- Fines paid in full- data excludes fines partly paid.
- Amount collected in fines- includes part payments.

## January 2024

Wexford County Council had five successful litter cases in Court in January, total fines of €780.00 and costs of €1,000.00 were awarded. Three successful Waste Presentation Bye-Law cases occurred in January, fines totalling €300 and costs of €750.00 were awarded. One successful case under the Water Pollution Act with a fine of €250 was awarded with a stay on costs. Also one successful case under the Waste Management Act where costs of €200 were awarded and a stay put on costs.

## Wexford Co. Council – National Litter Pollution Monitoring Surveys 2004-2020 Percentage of County Littered (Litter Pollution Surveys)

Year	Litter free	Slightly Littered	Moderately Littered	Seriously Littered	Grossly Littered
2022	24.2%	63.4%	11.3%	1.1%	0%
2021	6.9%	74.1%	15.5%	3.4%	0%
2020	9.4%	68.8%	18.8%	3.4%	0%
2019	9.8%	67.9%	18.8%	1.5%	0%
2018	10%	70.5%	17.7%	17.7%	0%
2017	18.3%	67%	14.7%	0%	0%
2016	12.10%	65.9%	21.9%	0.4%	0%
2015	10.60%	65.90%	18.43%	5.07%	0%



2014	37.40%	50.41%	12.30%	0%	0%
2013	51.92%	39.43%	7.69%	0.96%	0%
2012	26.79%	60.71%	12.50%	0%	0%
2011	7.5%	82.5%	10%	0%	0%
2010	13.2%	53.9%	28.9%	3.9%	0%
2009	0%	75.3%	21.0%	3.7%	0%
2008	9.4%	55.2%	26%	9.4%	0%
2007	5.4%	60.9%	17.4%	16%	0%
2006	0%	53%	23%	20%	3%
2004	0%	23%	56%	21%	0%

### Litter/Waste Enforcement Activity 2024(January)

	Fines Issued	Court	Reports
<b>2024</b>	28	10	238
<b>2023</b>	212	28	2284
<b>2022</b>	229	43	2188 (down 20%)
<b>2021</b>	100	19	2721 (down 15%)
<b>2020</b>	213	20	3187 (up 15%)
<b>2019</b>	341	13	2758 (down 9%)
<b>2018</b>	324	22	3050 (up 15%)
<b>2017</b>	218	27	2651 (Up 12%)
<b>2016</b>	274	17	2,354 (up 22%)
<b>2015</b>	242	17	1,927 (up 11%)
<b>2014</b>	154	17	1,732 (up 10%)
<b>2013</b>	140	15	1,571 (up 21%)
<b>2012</b>	182	16	1,292 (down 3%)
<b>2011</b>	209	17	1,329
<b>2010</b>	370	27	1,338

## E. CLIMATE ACTION

### Community Climate Action Programme

The Community Climate Action Programme funding scheme is now open to support and build low carbon communities across County Wexford. The fund is open to not-for-profit community groups and clubs. The closing date is **6<sup>th</sup> March 2024**.

Funding for 100% of the cost of a climate action project is available through this scheme, up to a maximum of €100,000. Project examples could be insulation of community buildings, solar panels, bicycle parking, rainwater harvesting, community gardens / allotments, etc.

Site meetings with interested groups are ongoing, with a total of **61 groups** visited to date. An information webinar was held on the 17<sup>th</sup> January which outlined how to make an application, basic guide to emissions calculations, planning permission information, case studies, assessment criteria, etc. A total of 46 attendees tuned in.

Further details on the programme are available [here](#)

## F. GENERAL

All environmental complaints are logged by the Customer Service Unit on the DASH CRM system.

The total figures for complaints received are as follows:

	Jan to Dec 2020	Jan to Dec 2021	Jan to Dec 2022	Jan – Dec 2023	Jan 2024
Incidents	4999	5136	3896	4235	443
Closed	4865	5024	3483	3525	302
Closure Rate	97%	98%	89%	83%	68%

### Control of Dogs & Horses:

The Council employs one full-time Dog Warden and one part-time Dog Warden. The main pound is Pets First Kennels, Ballycarney, Co Wexford.

Control of dogs	2021 (to 31-12-21)	2022	2023	2024- January
Dogs collected	429	546	575	54
Dogs reclaimed	133	117	128	14
Dogs re-homed/transferred	267	370	404	40
Dogs put to sleep	29	51	38	2
Dog Fines	18	21	14	1

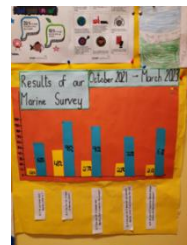
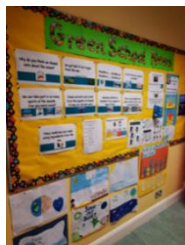
There are now 27 registered Dog Breeding Establishments with several applications on hand awaiting inspection.

In 2023 six horses were rehomed and four goats. One horse was reclaimed and one euthanised.

## Environment Education and Awareness:

Our aim is to promote awareness and active participation in a range of environmental initiatives.

**Green Schools:** St Patricks School, Enniscorthy and Gorey Educate Together Secondary School have both applied for their first green flag. Both these schools will receive an assessment visit before 15<sup>th</sup> March. Communication is ongoing with schools due to renew their green flag. All renewal visits must be completed by 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024.



**School Workshops:** Workshops for both primary and secondary schools covering topics on climate action, fast fashion, biodiversity, and waste management. 6 secondary schools are participating in Rubbish Film Festival workshops. Selskar College, Gorey Community School, St Peters College and Meanscoil Gharman are now complete. The workshop for Colaiste an Átha, Kilmuckridge and St Marys New Ross will be completed by end of February 2024.

**Leave No Trace Workshops:** 10 primary schools will participate in Leave No Trace Workshops. The aim of the programme is to introduce primary school learners to the principles of Leave No Trace and provide opportunities to explore and build awareness of their own behaviour in the outdoors in an interactive, fun and educational manner. This school programme consists of two half day workshops. Workshop 1 will introduce the principles of Leave No Trace and present the class with a project to prepare in advance of Workshop 2. The second workshop will provide an opportunity for participants to present their project and further develop and reinforce an understanding of the principles of Leave No Trace.

**Composting in Schools Programme:** 9 secondary schools are participating in the Composting for schools Programme. The schools participating are Bunclody Vocational School: CBS Secondary School New Ross: Colaiste Bride, Enniscorthy: Colaiste Eamonn Ris (Wexford CBS): Gorey Community School: Meanscoil Gharman, Enniscorthy: Ramsgrange Community School: St. Mary's Secondary School, New Ross: Selskar College, Wexford. The programme gives schools the opportunity to explore and improve waste management in school via waste prevention, reduction, reuse, and recycling.

As part of the programme teachers from each school will participate in online zoom training 1 hour per week over 5 weeks. After the training participating schools will receive 2 site visits which will.

- review waste management practices at the school
- discuss options related to waste prevention, reuse, recycling, on-site composting, and brown bin collection of bio waste
- create an action plan.

After the initial site visit and the creation of action plans by the schools, another site visit will be conducted to assist with implementing plans and provide additional tailored training for students, green school committees, teachers, caretakers, parent committees or other school staff. All teachers would be given access to BaseCamp to avail of the resources developed for the programme including

booklets, guides, instructional fact sheets, videos as well as learning resources. In addition, schools receive a €300 voucher for bins, tools, and supplies to help carry out their action plans.


**Picker Pal Programme:** 10 primary schools will be funded to participate in the picker pal programme, Schools will be sent Picker Packs which will contain supplies, safety card, the Picker Pals reader Picker Power and the Picker Pals Funbook for every child.

Schools also receive teacher resource materials, ongoing teacher support, access to online interactive resources, 6 Picker Pals TV episodes links sent directly to all classrooms and access to all Picker Pals competitions and projects run throughout the 2023/24 academic year.



**National Tree Week:** National Tree Week will take place from Sunday 3rd March 2024 to Sunday 10th March 2024. 500 saplings will be distributed to schools and community groups for planting during this week.

**Community Clean Ups:** Registrations and support for community clean ups continue.

	Date	No. of Community Clean Ups
	01/01/24 – 31/01/24	112
	01/01/23 – 31/12/23	1054

**Dog Fouling Awareness Campaign:** Promotion of the 'Bag It Bin It' campaign continues. Stencils have been provided to Enniscorthy Tidy Towns to support their dog fouling awareness campaign. An information / awareness stand was held with Enniscorthy Tidy Towns at Vinegar Hill on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February to highlight dog fouling. Green dog walker packs were distributed on the day.



**Green Dog Walker:** The Green Dog Walker Campaign is continually being promoted and registrations are through the website. Packs are provided to community groups for promotion at events.

## **LIBRARIES, ARTS & ARCHIVES**

### **Reading and Literacy: Right to Read at Your Library**

#### **Ireland Reads**

Ireland Reads is a national celebration of reading throughout the month of February culminating in Ireland Reads Day on the 24<sup>th</sup> of February. An initiative of the Government of Ireland and funded by Healthy Ireland it is supported by public libraries and many organisations that champion reading, literacy, and the arts. The slogan this year was 'get lost in a good book'.

Wexford Libraries held many varied events for adults and children to celebrate Ireland Reads this year including author visits, story times, creative writing workshops and other events to celebrate books and reading.

#### **Heritage**

On Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February, at 7:00pm Leas Cathaoirleach, Wexford County Council, Cllr. Ger Carthy officially launched the *War of Independence and Civil War in County Wexford Exhibition*. The Exhibition will remain in Wexford Library until 15<sup>th</sup> March. The exhibition will also be available online. This exhibition charts the breakdowns that ultimately led to the outbreak of hostilities in County Wexford following the declaration of the War of Independence from 21<sup>st</sup> of January 1919 to 11<sup>th</sup> of January 1921, during the truce period from 11<sup>th</sup> of July 1921 to 28<sup>th</sup> of July 1922 and in the Civil War from 28<sup>th</sup> of June 1922 to 24<sup>th</sup> of May 1923.

In this exhibition, for the first time, locally held records, medals, memorabilia, photographs and documents held by families of several of the Wexford people involved are used to tell the history of County Wexford at this time. This data was collected at community archive days held in Wexford and Gorey libraries in 2021 and 2022 where people were invited to bring in their family treasures and tell their stories.

### **Community and Culture**

#### **Happy to Chat Launched in Gorey Library**

'Happy to Chat' the new pilot initiative organised to increase social engagement and reduce loneliness and isolation in the community was launched in Gorey Library this month. The initiative continued in Wexford and Enniscorthy Branches. 'Happy to Chat' is supported by Healthy Wexford and Wexford Libraries.

#### **Information Cafes for Artists and Communities**

Wexford Arts Office and Creative Ireland held information hubs at Gorey and Wexford Libraries this month, to offer information and networking opportunities for artists and the wider community.

#### **Open Book Day**

On February 22<sup>nd</sup>, Enniscorthy Library celebrated Open Book Day: Celebrating Refugees in Education, a national day of solidarity with people seeking sanctuary in our places of education in Ireland. Books for all ages were displayed, and colouring sheets were available for younger visitors.



## Partnerships

The Elevate Programme recommenced in February in Enniscorthy Library, with six sessions over three days each week. Elevate is a programme sponsored by **Wexford Local Development** to promote and support educational achievement in County Wexford. Elevate works with pupils from 6<sup>th</sup> class in primary school to 6<sup>th</sup> year in secondary helping them to make a positive transfer from primary to secondary school, prepare for their Junior Certificate, get ready to complete their Leaving Certificate and encourage achievement and progression. The programme is facilitated by author Caroline Busher.

## Learning and Information

### St Brigid's Day

Bunclody Library held **Cross Making with Folklorist Michael Fortune** and Gorey Library hosted **St. Brigid's Cross Making Workshop** and **Talking Folklore: St. Brigid's Day Customs & Traditions** with local folklore collector and traditional singer Rachel Uí Fhaoláin

### Local History

A total number of 28 local studies enquiries were responded to and 7 genealogy enquiries were completed in Wexford library in February.

### Services to Ukrainian Nationals

To commemorate the 2nd Anniversary of the Invasion of Ukraine, Wexford Library hosted the launch of a photography exhibition: Live Stories from Ukrainians in County Wexford. Through photographs and text, the exhibition details the lives of some Ukrainian citizens currently living in County Wexford.

### IT Literacy

#### The Digital Help Hub

During February WWETB tutors were available for two sessions at the Digital Help Hub in Enniscorthy Library to help members of the public to use technology. There was one session in Wexford Library.

The Digital Help Hub is a free service offered, confidential and one-to-one and is an initiative of the ALL Adult Literacy for Life national strategy. WWETB, WLD, and Wexford County Council Library Service have worked together to bring this initiative to County Wexford. The **Digital Skill Group** under the tutelage of Noel McCormack (WWETB) continued their weekly classes in Enniscorthy Branch.

### Age Friendly Digital Literacy

Weekly classes for the over-55s facilitated by WWETB continued over February in New Ross Library.

### Age Friendly Health Insurance Information Session.

Age Friendly Wexford, Wexford County Council and Wexford Libraries hosted an information session in conjunction with the Health Insurance Authority of Ireland in Enniscorthy and New Ross Libraries this month.

### Age Friendly Homes

In New Ross Library, Deirdre Mullally, Age Friendly Local Wexford Coordinator, gave an informative talk on the Healthy Age Friendly Homes Programme recently launched in County Wexford. The programme is aimed at supporting older people to live in their own homes for as long as possible.

## Environment and Climate Action

### Environment

**SEAI Adult Energy Workshops:** Local Energy Empowerment: Home Energy Clinics Launching Now - A new world of home comfort and savings with SEAI grants.

Gorey Library hosted one of a series of Free Home Energy Clinics taking place around Ireland, aimed at bringing energy awareness and efficiency to our communities and homes. These Energy Clinics, led by the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications, the Local Government Management Agency (LGMA) and the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI), discussed how to reduce our use and energy bills while increasing our comfort.

### Zero Food Waste Demonstration

Carmen Sanchez, a tutor with WWETB, visited Bunclody Library and gave an informative talk and demonstration on zero food waste reduction and how you can use your leftovers to create delicious meals.

### Health and Well Being

Thursday the 1<sup>st</sup> of February was **World Cancer Day**. Wexford Library showed a World Cancer Day HIAYL Webinar on the HSE National Cancer Control Programme, which was screened live. Wexford Library also hosted the **'Eating Freely Program'**, a health talk with Mick Kelly, Sports Nutritionist. **Activator Poles Sessions** continued in Wexford Branch with Sports Active Wexford. Enniscorthy Library in association with Sports Active Wexford invited members of the public to participate in a three-week Tai-Chi programme. **Mediation – building bridges with Rónán O'Brien:** Members of the public were invited to Enniscorthy Branch to learn about Mediation and inter-personal communications to deal with conflict healthily.

## ARCHIVES

### Collections management

In addition to 43 research enquiries via email, telephone and post, a total of 8 researchers visited the Archive during February. Research topics included details of burials in Crosstown cemetery for family history purposes (1892-1940); Quaker burials in Cooladine cemetery (early to mid-1900s); social history research on the Lady's Island area (1880s-1950) and research through sports holdings for a forthcoming exhibition on 'Sporting Heroes of County Wexford' in Enniscorthy Castle.

### Acquisition

The Archive acquired a bowler hat belonging to former mayor of Wexford Corporation, Nicholas Byrne (elected Mayor in 1916 and in 1917) and a collection of photographs and printed poems relating to the London-Wexford Mummery Association (1940s-60s).

## ARTS

### Arts Department and Creative Ireland Information Cafes 2024

Information sessions took place in February to give details of all current and upcoming open calls from The Arts Department and Creative Ireland. They took place at St Michaels Theatre New Ross, Gorey Library, Presentation Centre Enniscorthy, Wexford Town Library and Stella Maris Centre in Kilmore Quay. Deryn O'Callaghan from Creative Places Enniscorthy presented at The Presentation Centre. Suzanne McKenzie did a presentation about Screen Wexford at the Presentation Centre and Wexford Library clinics. 120 artists from wide range of disciplines and members of community groups attended.

### **Small Arts Festival and Failte Ireland Festival Grant Scheme 2024**

The Small Arts Festival Scheme supports small arts festivals with public engagement and Failte Ireland supports historic, traditional culture, and food and drink festivals. The total festival fund is €45,000 and festivals can apply for between €1,000 - €3,000. Deadline for applications was the 16<sup>th</sup> of February. Successful festivals will be announced in early March.

### **Irish Writers Centre National Mentoring Programme 2024 Callout**

The Irish Writers Centre sets up mentorships across Ireland annually. Writers receive creative and professional mentoring from an acclaimed Irish writer of their choosing. Two writers from Wexford will receive an award. The programme accepts applications for literary fiction, creative non-fiction, children's / young adult fiction and poetry.

### **Arts Ability Assistant Artist Programme 2024 Open Call**

The call out for this initiative was opened on the 5<sup>th</sup> of February. The programme is run in partnership with Wexford Mental Health Association (WMHA) and HSE. The open call is for assistant artists to work with a lead artist on an Arts Ability Programme in either KTAC, CUMAS, W.R.I.D.S or with WMHA's music programme. There will be a 10-to-12-week period with mentoring and training provided.

### **Creative Communities Open call 2024**

The open call for the Creative Communities Scheme closes on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2024. There is a total fund of €40,000 available for creative programmes involving artists working with communities of place or interest. Community groups can apply for grants of between €1,000 - €3,000.

### **ArtLinks Breaking the Pattern Residency Closed**

This new three-month artist residency and work placement programme for emerging visual artists that are members of ArtLinks in Seville, Spain. Applications closed on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February. It was aimed at emerging artists or artists experiencing social barriers. ArtLinks (Carlow, Kilkenny, Waterford, and Wexford Local Authority Arts Services), is led by Carlow County Council Arts Service under the Invitation to Collaborate Arts Council of Ireland scheme. ArtLinks are partnering with Capacity Ireland as part of a Creative Europe Project and the Erasmus+ programme.

### **Bare Cheek's 'Envy' Film Premiere**

The premiere took place on February 29<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at Wexford Arts Centre. Envy has been nominated for and won several awards including at the Paris Indie Film Festival: Best Score for Wallis Bird, Best Screenplay for Marnie McCleane-Fay and Best Debut film; New Port Film Festival (India): Best International Feature and Berlin Lift-Off Film Festival: Official Selection.

## **CREATIVE IRELAND**

### **Community Creativity Challenge Fund 2024**

This funding call opened in February for applications that use creativity to promote inclusion, connection, and climate action. This year's project will also support the promotion of the Irish language in County Wexford. Projects must identify a community-focused area to address. Grants of between €4,000 and €8,000 are available. Deadline for applications is 15th March.

### **Cruinniú na nÓg Workshop Leader Call Out 2024**

On February 7th Wexford's Cruinniú na nÓg 2024 opened to receive workshop applications. The open call asked creatives to use their artform to help young people design aspects of a video game such as rules, objectives, story arc, characters, visual style, aesthetics, graphics, animation, and music. The mission of the game is to save County Wexford's environmental future. Deadline for applications is 3rd March.

### **Online Briefing session for Cruinniú na nÓg**

The session took place online on the 28<sup>th</sup> of February to give further information and guidance to artists applying to be a workshop leader for this year's Cruinniú na nÓg.

### **Screen Wexford**

#### **WWETB Miniature Hobbit Models**

Mark Maher, Hobbit Special Effects artist from Odyssey Films, installed the current display of Hobbit Houses/Village made by students from WWETB in the foyer of the Wexford County Council Offices, Carricklawn. The display will be there from February to March.

### **Crew Networking meeting in Gorey**

This networking event took place at The Hatch Lab on Friday 23rd Feb from 10am - 12pm

### **Music Generation**

#### **An Evening of Music at Riverside Park Hotel**

On Sunday the 25th of February Music Generation Wexford's Yellow Bellows played at the Riverside Park Hotel in aid of the Parkinson's Association of Ireland.

### **Connaught Brass Gig**

Music Generation performed with Connaught Brass Band at St Iberius Church on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February. The band also hosted school and youth workshops. This event was in partnership with Music for Wexford, Music Generation Wexford and the Loch Garman Brass Band

### **The Making of Seedlings Short Documentary**

'The Making of Seedlings', a short documentary taking an in-depth look behind the scenes of the futuristic climate change opera that was staged in association with Wexford Festival Opera in 2023 has been published on Youtube. The Opera was written and directed by Elizabeth Drwal in collaboration with young people from Music Generation Wexford's Opera Workshops and composed by Andrew Synnott.

# FIRE SERVICES

Wexford Fire Service Report January 2024

## Call statistics

Incident Type	Calls January 2024	Calls to date 2024	Calls to this period 2023
Fire Classification	Number	Number	Number
Chimney Fire in House (WCC / Private)	4 / 2 (6)	6	15
Other Fire in House (WCC / Private)	1 / 5 (6)	6	3
Storage Building/Warehouse	2	2	0
Shop/Supermarket	1	1	0
Motor Vehicle	6	6	5
Agriculture Business	0	0	1
Forest/Bog/Grass	1	1	0
Outdoor Storage	1	1	1
Outdoor Rubbish	1	1	1
Special Service Classification	Number	Number	Number
Entrapment	2	2	0
Gas/Chemicals	0	0	1
Miscellaneous	7	7	5
Other rescue	3	3	7
Rescue/Removal of persons from water	0	0	1
Road traffic accident	19	19	15
Water pumping/flooding	1	1	0

Incident Type	Calls January 2024	Calls to date 2024	Calls to this period 2023
False Alarm Classification	Number	Number	Number
Good Intent	16	16	31
Malicious	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>86</b>

## Fire calls by brigade to date

INCIDENT TYPE	WEXFORD	GOREY	ENNISCORTHY	NEW ROSS	BUNCLODY	TOTAL
Fire Classification	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
Chimney Fire in House	3	1	1	1	0	6
Other Fire in House	2	2	1	1	0	6
Storage Building/Warehouse	0	0	2	0	0	2
Shop/Supermarket	0	0	1	0	0	1
Motor Vehicle	2	1	3	0	0	6
Forest/Bog/Grass	0	0	1	0	0	1
Outdoor Storage	0	0	0	1	0	1
Outdoor Rubbish	0	0	0	0	1	1

INCIDENT TYPE	WEXFORD	GOREY	ENNISCORTHY	NEW ROSS	BUNCLODY	TOTAL
Special Service Classification	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
Entrapment	0	0	1	1	0	2
Miscellaneous	1	3	1	1	1	7



Other rescue	1	1	0	1	0	3
Road traffic accident	8	3	3	4	1	19
Water pumping/flooding	0	0	1	0	0	1
<b>False Alarm Classification</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>
Good Intent	8	1	3	3	1	16
Malicious	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>72</b>

### Fire Safety Certificate Applications

Number of Applications received in January 2024: 18  
Number of Applications received to date: 18  
Number of Applications to this period 2023: 8

## CIVIL DEFENCE

### Civil Defence – Operations / Training Report March 2024

#### Civic Duties:

- **March 10th – Great Gorey Run** - Ambulance cover & First aid
- **March 17<sup>th</sup>- St. Patricks Day Parade** Wexford- Marching & Ambulance cover
- **March 17<sup>th</sup>- St. Patricks Day Parade** Gorey- Ambulance Cover
- **March 23<sup>rd</sup>- Forth Mountain Trail**- Ambulance & First Aid cover

#### Weekly Training

- Weekly training commenced early January in Wexford, Enniscorthy, Gorey and New Ross.
- Training will include Missing Persons Search Responder & Leader courses, Water Awareness & Swiftwater Food Responder- New & Recerts. Minimum Training Standards courses. Severe Weather Response.
- New Training programme 2024- includes a county training night, 1 night a month. Focus on Severe Weather Response, Major Emergency Exercises etc.
- New Recruit training- Induction course, CFR and Manual Handling

#### Recruitment:

Throughout February we held an Induction night and interviews for potential volunteers. 24 applicants have joined Civil Defence and commence the Probationary volunteer stage. They will complete their minimum training standard competencies in March centrally and then join their units in the county. 1/3 of the initial enquiries came through the Wexford Volunteer Centre portal and they continue to promote Civil Defence especially in the New Ross, Gorey & Enniscorthy areas to build volunteer numbers.

# UKRAINIAN RESPONSE & INTEGRATION TEAM UPDATE

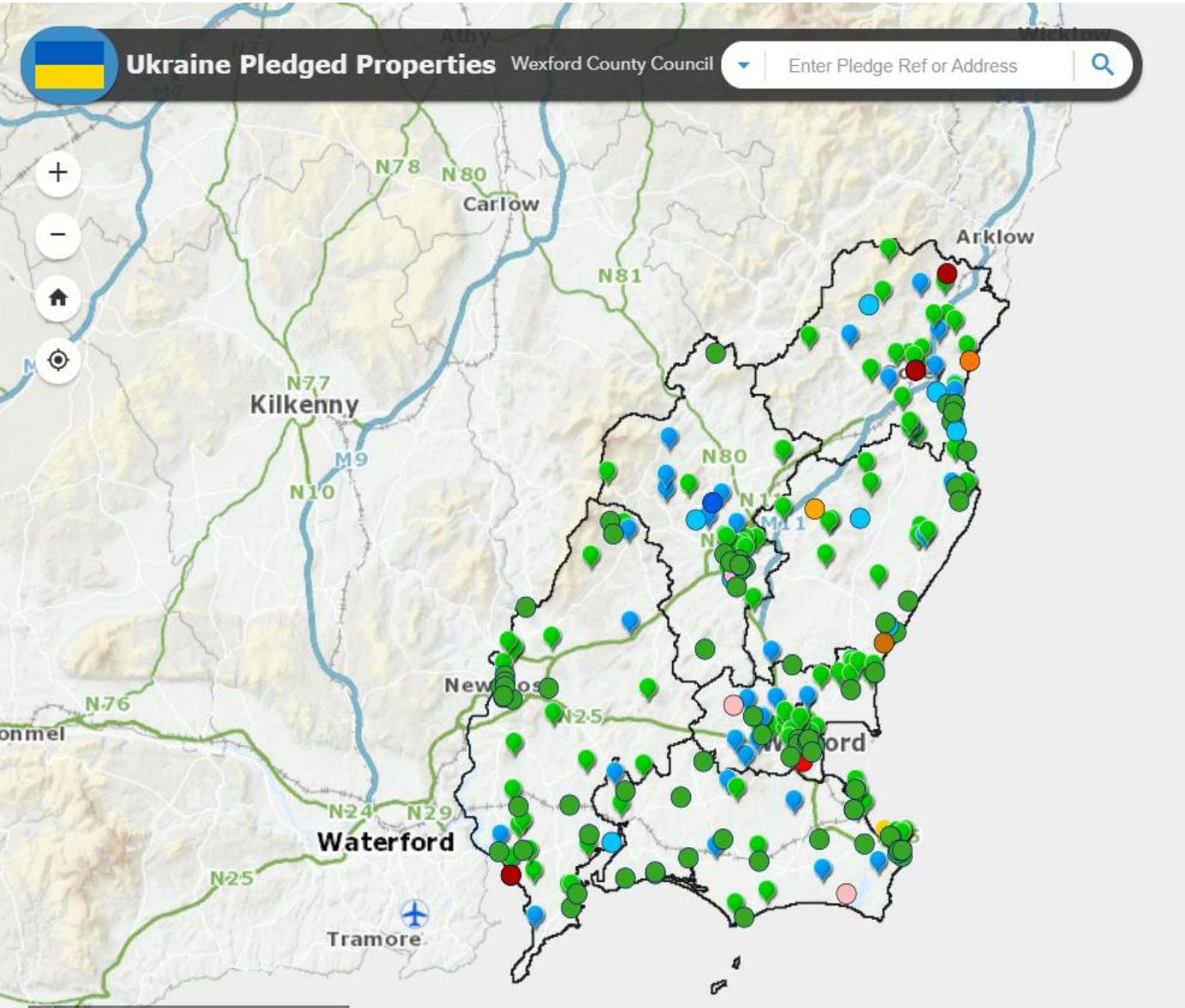
## Accommodation

The team continue to place displaced Ukrainian families who are Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection Orders (BOTP's) in properties across Wexford, in both rural and urban areas.

Pledge Type	Number of Properties	Number of People Placed
Offer a Home	189	645
Irish Red Cross	55	185

*Numbers of pledged properties and people placed by pledge type, source Ukraine Support Team, 31/01/24 – Offer A Home website/IRC Tracker*

Fig. No. 1 is an infographic showing the location of both Offer a Home and Irish Red Cross pledged properties currently housing Ukrainian people (BOTP's) in Wexford.



Ukraine Refurbishment Programme

Letters of Intent have issued for 6 properties with a further 6 properties undergoing the early stages of assessment.

Integration Support Forum

The Integration Support Forum (formerly Ukraine Community Response Forum) will meet Q1 of 2024. It was agreed that the next meeting of the forum would be in person with a facilitated session(s) to consider the revised remit.

Accommodation Breakdown for Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection Orders.

Fig. No. 2 Numbers in accommodation by type

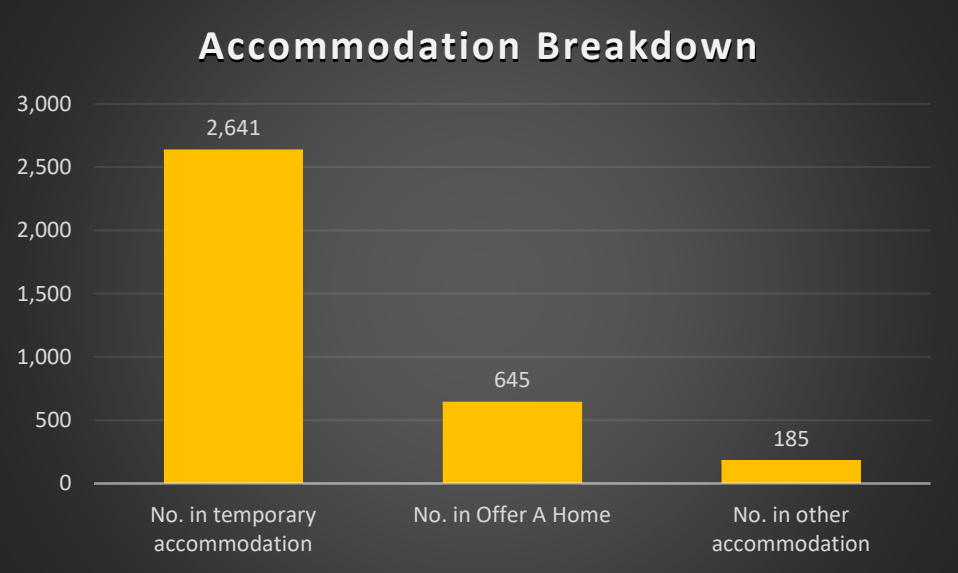


Fig. No. 3 Numbers in accommodation by district

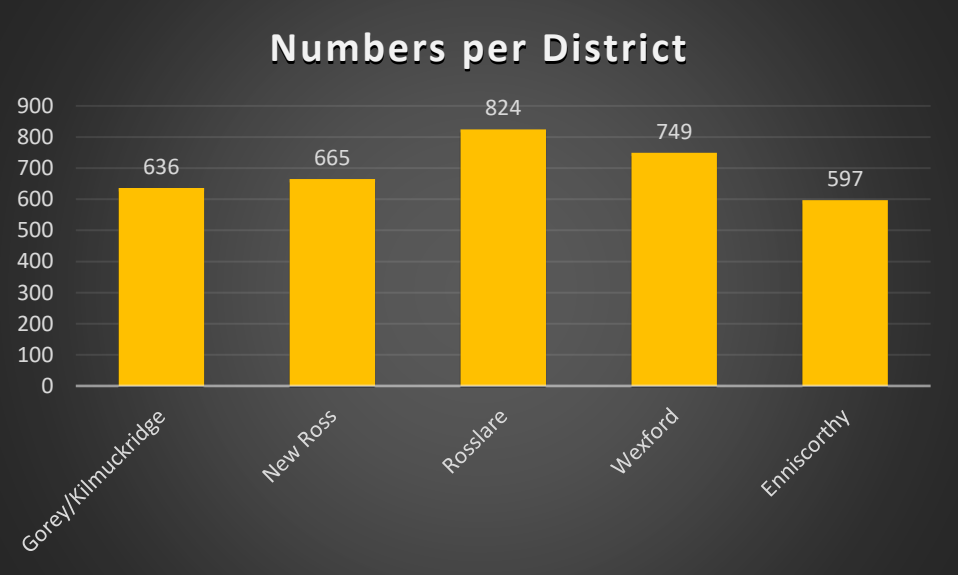


Fig. No. 4 Accommodation Dashboard for BOPT's and IPA's

Total Arrivals from  
Ukraine

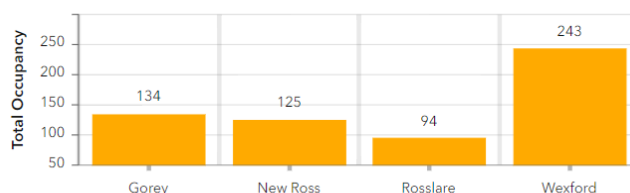
 **3,471**

Wexford accounts for  
**3.79%**  
of State total (91,576)

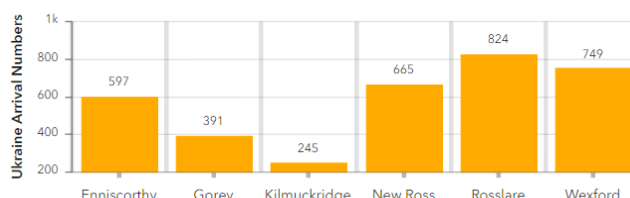
**9th**

highest number of arrivals in State (26 Counties)

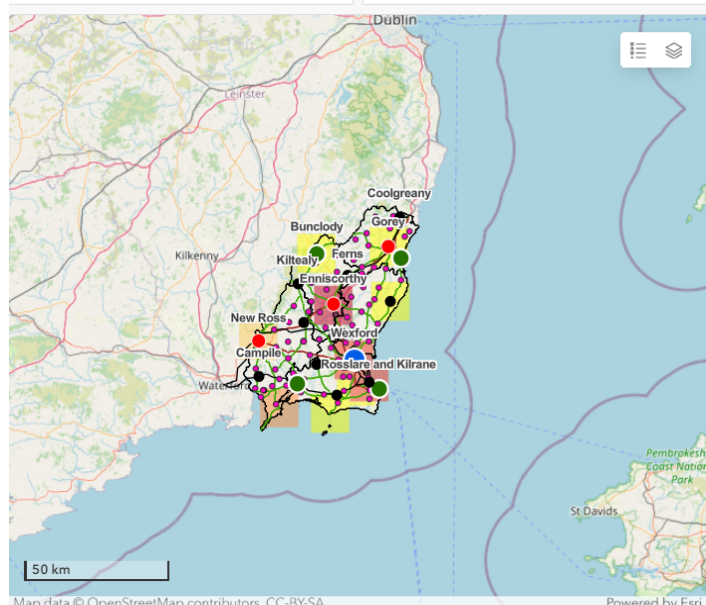
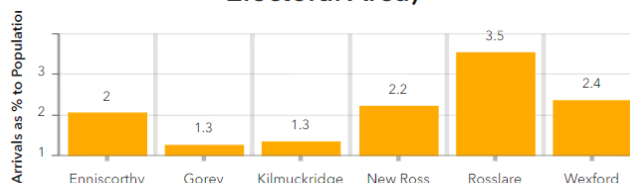
Total IPAS Occupancy (Local Electoral Area)



# of Arrivals from Ukraine (Local Electoral Area)



Arrivals from Ukraine as % of Population (Local Electoral Area)



Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors, CC-BY-SA

Powered by Esri

\*\* 33 IPAS Accommodation Centres in Wexford

For confidentiality reasons, current IPAS capacity is aggregated and grouped by settlement.

\*Source: CSO - Number of arrivals from Ukraine in Ireland based on PPSN allocations



*(The above figure of 33 IPAS centres includes BOPT's and IPA's)*

## School Enrolments

There are 558 Ukrainian primary school enrolments and 301 secondary school enrolments for the academic year 2023/2024 in County Wexford. CSO Series 11.

## Employment

As of 29 January 2024, there were 599 active employments of Ukrainians in County Wexford, source CSO.

## Local Authority Integration Team

The LAIT Co-ordinator Ms. Stephanie Warner and Support Worker Ms. Pauline Gallagher commenced employment on the 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023. The service is under development and the initial service planning meeting took place on the 31.01.24. The second support worker Mr. John Caulfield, Social Care Worker, Wexford County Council will start with the team on the 14<sup>th</sup> February.

An initial report to on their work for the members of the Council will be prepared in Q1.



*Gorey Family Resource Centre, recipients of the Community Recognition Fund celebrating the refurbishment of their centre.*

## CORPORATE ACTIVITIES

### 1. FOI OFFICE REQUESTS

Type	
Freedom of Information	10
Customer Complaint	15
Ombudsman Complaint	3
Access to Information on the Environment	2
Data Access Request	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>34</b>



PROCUREMENT SECTION ACTIVITY

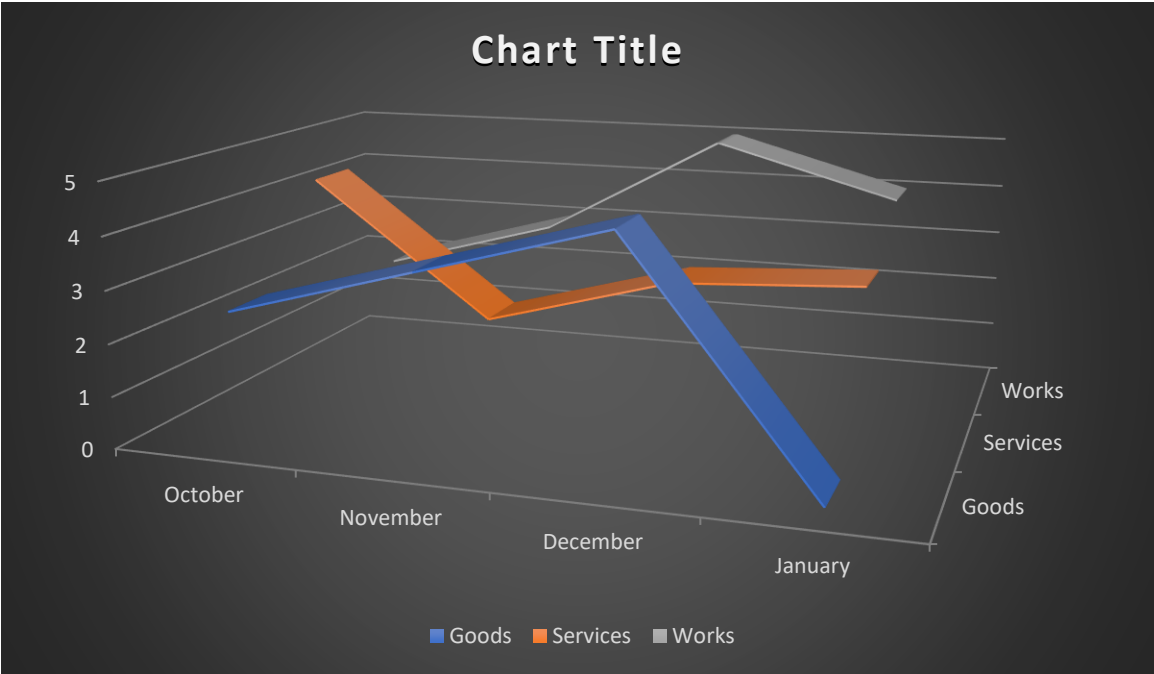
Tenders from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024

No. of Tenders Uploaded

Type	
Goods	0
Services	3
Works	4
TOTAL	7
Total Estimated Value	€2,690,000.0

No. of Tenders Received

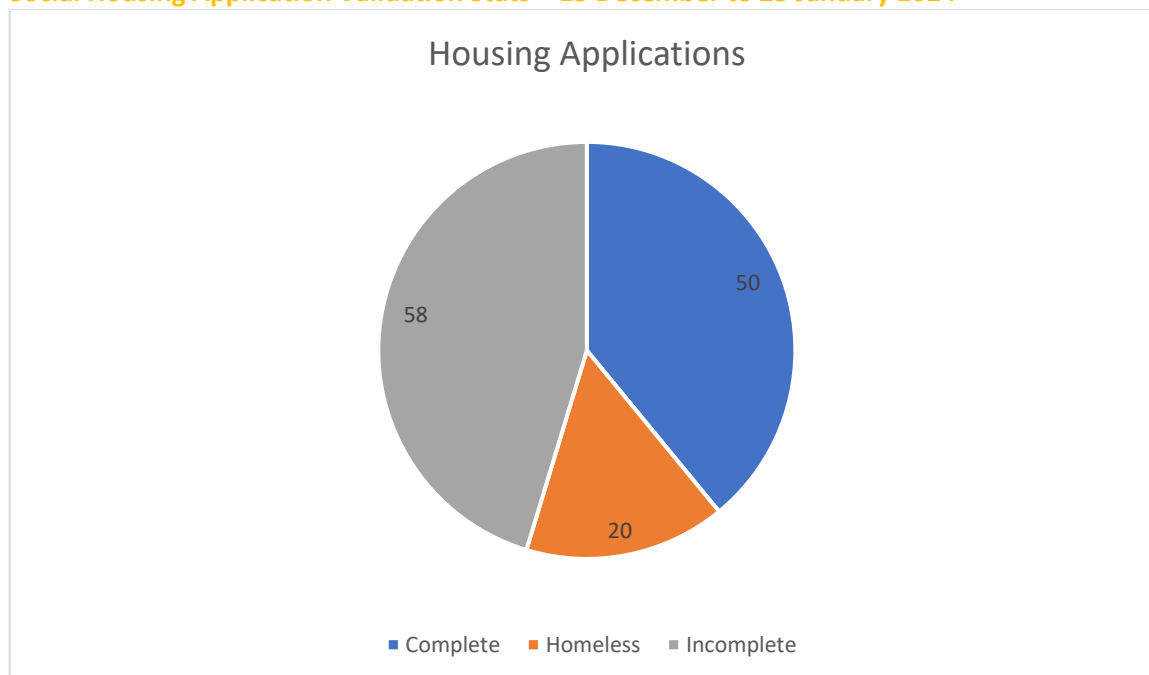
TOTAL	11
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## CSU Stats – Phone Calls, Emails and Cases Handled – 15 December to 25 January 2024

Area	15 December to 25 January 2024
Phone Calls	5642
Environmental Complaints	467
Change of Circumstances	31
Housing Validation	128
Quick Calls	3614
Roads Fault Log	85
Emails (Received & Sent)	3339
Web Updates / Consultations	106
Newspaper Adverts	257

## Social Housing Application Validation Stats – 15 December to 25 January 2024



Members Portal Queries by Section – 15 December to 25 January 2024

Section	Closed	Open	Total
Environment	2	7	9
Finance	0	1	1
Gorey – Kilmuckridge Municipal District	2	5	7
Housing	9	69	78
Planning	1	3	4
Roads	0	3	3
Roads – Enniscorthy MD	2	8	10
Roads – Gorey- Kilmuckridge MD	0	16	16
Roads – New Ross MD	0	2	2
Roads – Rosslare MD	0	2	2
Roads – Wexford MD	0	3	3
Wexford Municipal District	0	1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	16	120	136

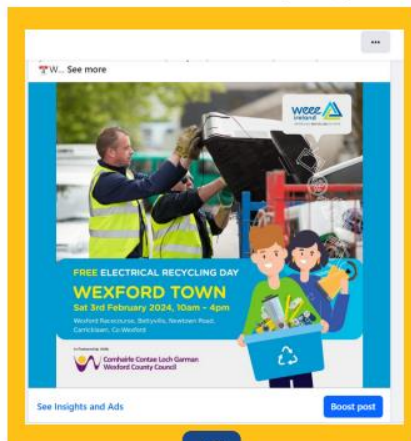
# COMMUNICATIONS

Month: 23rd Dec 2023 to 31st Jan 2024

## Top Performing Posts

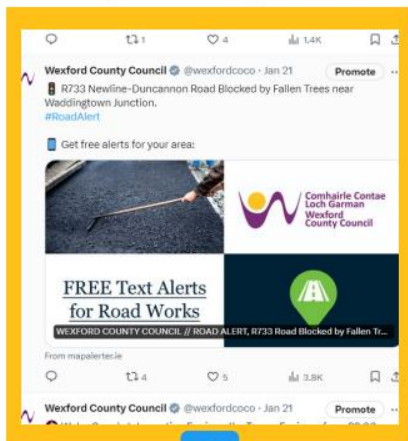


### Free Electrical Recycling



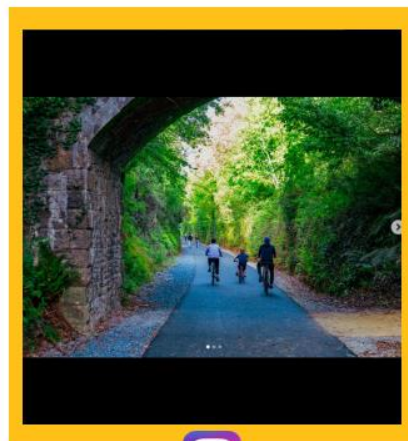
18K views

### Map Alert during Storm



3.8K Impressions

### Christmas Break - Visit Greenway

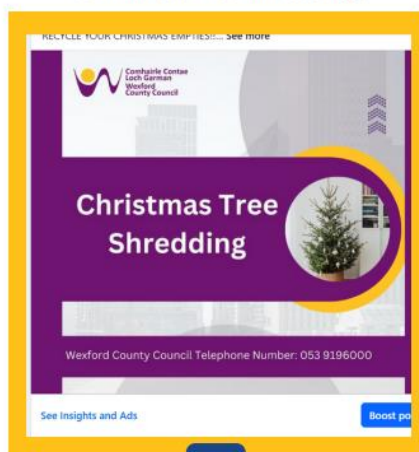


1.5K views

## Top Performing Posts



### Christmas Tree Shredding



13.1K views

### Phone Line Issues



3.3K impressions

### Weather Warning



1.2K Views

## Monthly Social Media Stats



### PAGE REACH

49,200

### PAGE VISITS

13,722

### PAGE FOLLOWS

8,435

### NEW PAGE LIKES

96

### NUM OF POSTS

43



### PAGE REACH

3,300

### PAGE VISITS

606

### PAGE FOLLOWS

2975

### NEW PAGE LIKES

131

### NUM OF POSTS

35



### IMPRESSIONS

110K

### PAGE FOLLOWERS

14,357

### NEW FOLLOWERS

40

We're working on improvements to [analytics.twitter.com](https://analytics.twitter.com). In the meantime, you may see some metrics are missing. You can access your Tweet Analytics and download reports [here](#). You can try the new version of account analytics beta [here](#).

## Monthly Social Media Content

- Exhibition launch in Wexford Library
- Expressions of Interest - Supply of Social Housing
- 2024 Rate Demand
- Recruitment
- Phone line issues at County Hall
- Sporting Memories Event
- Register to Vote
- Weather Warnings
- Free Electrical Recycling
- Road Closed - Storm Isha
- Curracloe named as Ireland's Best Beach
- Wexford County Council & Women for Election Event
- St. Patricks Day Committee - Enniscorthy
- Local Enhancement Programme 2024
- Design Team Appointed - Trinity Wharf
- County Rate Statutory Notice
- Fire Fighter Recruitment Video

- Screen Wexford - Open Call
- Elected Members approve planning for Housing - Monamolin
- Be Winter Ready
- Keep Your Chimney Cleaned
- Christmas Tree Shredding
- Happy New Year Post
- Window Display Competition - Enniscorthy
- Wexford Walking Trails
- Visit the Greenway at Christmas
- Merry Christmas Post
- Christmas Video from Wexford County Council





## Monthly Engagements

### TYPES OF QUERIES RECEIVED.



Heads up @wexfordcoco there is no diversion signage whatsoever in place at any of the road junctions after you take the initial diversion turn on the R733 at Ballymitty. Extremely frustrating when you don't know the back roads around Taghmon.

10:46 AM · Jan 31, 2024 · 262 Views



Post your reply

Wexford County Council @wexfordcoco · Jan 31  
Thanks for tagging us Leona, I have contacted relevant department and they are on route to check it out. Thanks again.

115 Views

Came across 2 dead dolphins today 🐬 Carnivan Beach, Wexford. Female one is more recently washed up, white underbelly-Common bottlenose? Logging it with @IWDGnews @Irishwildlife @AnTaisce



You and Hook Rural Tourism Ltd

2:05 PM · Jan 29, 2024 from Wexford, Ireland · 295 Views

## Press Releases January 2024

10.01.24 Wexford Co. Council and Wexford Local Development sign Framework Agreement worth up to 15.5 million euro Community  
12.01.24 Design Team Appointed for next phases of Trinity Wharf project\_ Special Projects  
18.01.24 Enniscorthy Technology Park planted as part of The 100 Million Tree Project Environment  
18.01.24 Local Enterprise Office Wexford created over 328 Jobs in 2023 LEO  
22.01.24 Local Enterprise Showcase Winners Sully & Juno LEO

<https://www.wexfordcoco.ie/wexford-county-council-press-releases-2024>

## Press Queries January 2024

7 Press Queries received in January.

### Queries:

- Coastal Erosion
- Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant
- Slurry Spreading
- Solar Farms & Farm Inspections
- Leased Properties
- Councillor Expenses
- Leased Properties



6 responses issued.

## **Finance:**

### **Annual Financial Statement 2023**

Work is progressing on the preparation of the 2023 Accounts. The preparation of the annual accounts will take a number of months to complete but it is expected that the Council will meet the submission deadline of the end of March.

### **Rate Accounts 2024**

Rate Demands for 2024 have been issued. The Council continues to promote the use of the portal for eBilling for all Rate Customers and communications were issued to advise that they can access their Rates Bill through the new Payment Portal which also provides additional payment options and other features. To date almost 1200 ratepayers have registered on the Payment portal.

### **Capital Programme 2024 – 2026**

Work has commenced on the preparation of the next 3 Year Capital Programme, 2024 - 2026 and it is planned to have this ready for consideration of members in the first quarter of 2024.

### **Audit Committee/Audit**

The annual reports to the council prepared by the Audit Committee, in accordance with Section 60 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 and Regulation 15 (1) of the Local Government (Audit Committee) Regulations 2014 are included on the agenda as separate item for consideration by members. The reports include the Audit Committee's consideration of the 2022 Audited Financial Statement (AFS) and the Local Government Auditor's Statutory Report on the accounts of Wexford County Council for 2022 together with the committee's report on their activities during 2023 and their annual work programme for 2024.

The next meeting of the Audit Committee is scheduled for 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

### **Cash Flow/Overdraft**

Ministerial Sanction is in place for borrowing by way of overdraft in the amount of €20m to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024.

**Eddie Taaffe,  
Chief Executive.**