



Chief Executive's Report

County Council Meeting 11.07.22

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Local Enterprise Office

Professional Hair Labs – National Enterprise Awards Winner

Professional Hair Labs from Rosslare were announced as the winners of the National Best Export Award at this year's National Enterprise Awards in the Mansion House in Dublin. Known best for its cosmetic bonding adhesives for hair replacement and in particular its global leading brand GHOSTBOND, Professional Hair Labs is a manufacturer of cutting-edge cosmetic products.



Ministerial Visit

Damien English, Minister of State for Business, Employment and Retail visited the LEO Wexford Offices on Thursday 30th June. Following a reception in the Council Chamber, during which he met with LEO clients, Professional Hair Labs and the Wexford Food Family, the Minister met with with LEO staff and members of the Evaluation & Approvals Committee before travelling to visit the premises of 2 other LEO clients, Biostór in Rosslare and Hoop Medical in Ardavan Business Park.

National Women's Enterprise Day



Plans are underway for the National Women's Enterprise Day event in Wexford on 13th October. Panel confirmed to date :

MC : Joanne Hession – Founder & CEO, LIFT Ireland

Panel : Theresa Grant OBE – Former CE Northamptonshire Co Council

Chupi Sweetman Durney – Founder & CEO, Chupi Jewellery

Michelle O'Neill – FIFA World Cup & Olympic Assistant referee.

Trudie Power – Proprietor Trudies Kitchen

Laura Sinnott, Wexford Home Preserves has been selected as the Leading Light for Co Wexford.

Autumn Training Programme

Training needs are currently being reviewed and the autumn training programme is being developed.

Economic Development



Georgia Southern University Delegation at Enniscorthy Castle

On Sunday, June 5th, Dr. Carl Reiber, GS Provost & VP for Academic Affairs, Dr. Chris Curtis, GS Vice Provost for Research, Ms. Kendria Lee, GS Deputy Chief of Staff, Mr. Trip Addison, GS Vice President for University Advancement and External Affairs, Mr. Bart Gobeil, Executive Director, LTIC [Logistics Technology Innovation Corridor; former COO, State of Georgia], Dr. Dustin Anderson (GS Associate Provost for Student Success [including GS Centre for Global Engagement]) arrived in Enniscorthy for a tour of Enniscorthy Castle and a presentation on current initiatives in place and planned for Enniscorthy and Enniscorthy Technology Park.

The group were in Wexford to mark the occasion of the first student courses being run in Georgia Southern Universities Outreach Learning Centre in the Spawell Centre, to meet with Georgia Southern University Alumni who were touring Ireland and spent a number of days in Wexford. They also reviewed plans for plans for student accommodation in the Adoration Convent as part of the visit.

Georgia Southern University Student Group outside the Campus



The first Georgia Southern University students arrived in Wexford on Monday 23rd May eager and ready to commence their overseas studies and to experience life in Wexford. In total 29 students took part in various courses such as Global Issues, Humanities Issues, Irish Migration Courses and Educational Courses whilst in Wexford. They collaborated with other schools and educational representatives while in Wexford.



Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2022

The 2022 Town and Village Renewal Scheme has announced grants from €20,000 to €500,000 to help revitalise towns and villages post-Covid-19. The scheme's focus for 2022 will prioritise tackling vacancy and dereliction in towns and villages. Other regeneration projects that support active and vibrant town or village centres, remote working, upgrading shopfronts and street facades, and green spaces and parks etc will also be considered under this Scheme. The scheme is designed to breathe new life into towns and villages as attractive places to live and work under the Government's 5-year strategy "Our Rural Future" and "Town Centre First Policy".

The maximum number of applications that can be supported by the Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2022 in County Wexford is:

- I. 5 applications between €20,000 to €250,000
- II. 1 application between €20,000 to €500,000
- III. 2 application funding up to €50,000 (New Project Development Measure)
- IV. 1 application funding up to €50,000 (New Marketing Scheme Measure)
- V. 2 applications funding up to €400,000 (New Building Acquisition Measure)

Wexford County Council invited Expressions of Interest from town/village groups and Municipal Districts who may have a suitable project for consideration under the Scheme. A total of 18 EOI's were received from which 11 projects will be selected to submit a full application to DRCD by 22nd July.

2022 Streetscape Enhancement Measure,

This measure has been temporarily paused by DRCD in order to first facilitate the finalisation of the financial closure of the 2021 Streetscape Enhancement Measure based on the final returns which have been received from local authorities in recent weeks.

It is expected that the 2022 Streetscape Measure will commence in the coming weeks once the 2021 Measure has been fully closed.

Tourism

South-East Food Stories Pilot



Brian O Flynn, Head of Irelands Ancient East with Fáilte Ireland, Alan Quirke Director of Ireland South East and the Tourism Officers from The South East Region as well as businesses and food producers who took part in the Pilot South East Food Stories



PLANNING

Planning Applications

Numbers are those received from the 28th May 2022 until the 24th June 2022.

No. of valid applications	125
No. of invalid applications	9
Extension of Duration	2
Exempted Development Declaration	4

Numbers are those received from the 1st January 2022 until 24th June 2022.

No. of valid applications	765
No. of invalid applications	80
Extension of Duration	19
Exempted Development Declaration	26

Pre-Planning Applications

Numbers are as follows up until the 24th June 2022.

No. of open pre-planning requests	148
No. of pre-planning meetings completed	118
Average waiting time to meeting	117 days

Forward Planning

Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028

On Monday, 13th June 2022 the Elected Members of Wexford County Council fulfilled one of their principle statutory functions when they unanimously adopted the Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028. The adoption of the Plan marked the culmination of a prolonged and complex process, completed during a time of unprecedented policy change in Ireland. The Plan has had to address many issues, several of which are complex, with competing expectations and demands.

The preparation and content of the Plan was required to comply with the demands of EU Directives on the protection of the environment and habitats which in itself is a complex and formidable task. County-wide concerns have to be balanced with national and international issues. Individual economic interests have to be balanced against the protection of the environment and the public good. The Elected Members deserve great credit for always seeking to get the balance right, for seeing the bigger picture even when short term solutions appear easier, and it is hoped that the people of Wexford now and in the future will see and appreciate that.

The new Plan was the subject of extensive public consultation engagement in the form of public displays, information evenings, engagement with stakeholders and service providers, consideration of more than 260 written submissions and observations, briefing sessions for Elected Members, and the preparation of Chief Executive's Reports on the various public consultation stages. The Plan was informed and enhanced by this public consultation with key issues raised such as a Healthy Wexford, the need for sustainable communities and social inclusion, climate action and the protection of biodiversity forming underlying themes of the adopted Plan.

The new Plan, which will come into effect on Monday, 25th July 2022, sets out the spatial planning framework for development of the County over the six-year period from 2022 – 2028 and it will provide the backdrop against which all new planning applications will now be considered. The Plan contains a wide range of inter-related objectives from climate action, housing and sustainable communities and economic development to clean energy, transport, clean water, quality education and good health and well-being. In particular, the Plan contains objectives to:

- Ensure that the County's towns and rural areas are invigorated while also recognising the County's strong tradition of rural living.
- Aim to provide people with a choice of housing type, tenure, affordability, and location, and ensure that the design standards required by the Plan will result in attractive environments with a high quality of life.
- Develop a healthy and inclusive County with outstanding amenities for residents and visitors alike.
- Develop sustainable transport modes across the County.
- Develop necessary facilitating physical infrastructure; and
- Prioritise the protection and restoration of biodiversity, landscapes, and heritage.

The Plan will be available for public inspection from Monday, 25th July 2022 via the Council's website and Online Consultation Portal and in hard copy format at the Planning Department, County Hall. Copies of the Plan will also be made available for purchase in due course from the Planning Department.

Building Control (28th May 2022 – 24th June 2022)

➤ Validated Commencement Notices:	35
➤ Number of Building Control Inspections:	44
➤ Validated Cert. of Compliance on Completion:	12
➤ Number of Taking in Charge reports sent to the Districts:	0

Planning Enforcement

The number of planning enforcement cases as of 24th June 2022 are as follows: -

• Live Cases	323
• Cases Opened	15
• Cases Closed	21

Planning Enforcement – Short-Term Letting

The number of short-term letting planning enforcement cases as of 24th June 2022 are as follows: -

▪ Live Cases	26
▪ Cases Closed	26

Derelict Sites, Dangerous Structures and Vacant Sites

Report from 28th May 2022 to 24th June 2022 as follows:

- 20 property inspections/visits conducted.
- 2 Section 8(2) Notices posted on properties
- 2 No. CPO maps & 1 No. Land Registry Compliant mapping submitted to Property Management for CPO appraisal (2 Priory Street New Ross: 67 Upper John Street, and Gladney's)
- 3 properties removed from the Derelict Site Register – Former Harbour View Hotel, Rosslare Harbour; Westgate B&B, Wexford; Whitehouse, Rosslare Strand (Live register on website to be updated in September 22)
- 3 Property owners currently engaged with the County Council to carry out remedial works so that the properties will not be placed on Derelict Site Register

Disability Access Certificates (DACs):

The number of valid DAC applications, for the period from 1st January 2022 up to and including 24th June 2022, totals **36**.

Applications Districts	Total for Districts	Await Assessment	Further Info.	Granted	Refused
Enniscorthy	3	1	0	2	0
Gorey	6	2	1	3	0
New Ross	2	0	0	2	0
Wexford	13	2	3	7	1
Rosslare	11	0	1	10	0
2022 Totals	35	5	5	18	1

Disability Proofing carried out as part of WCC Access activity

Referrals	Total
LAC /PLAC & General Planning Applications	76

Access Related Items

Access Trails and Destination Parks

Works to improve and enhance the walkway in Carrigfoyle Trail are now complete. Plans are currently underway to update the storyboard on our website to reflect the new and extended accessible walkways as completed.

2021-2023 Disability Participation and Awareness Funding Projects (DPAF)

Innovative Community Engagement (I.C.E.) Project

It is expected by end of July allocations and supports as part of the DPAF will be distributed with agreements in place, the following is an update of location:

New Ross Municipal District

The Raheen Family Resource Centre is currently revisiting their project proposals given change in management at the centre.

Enniscorthy Municipal District

Bunclody Day Care Centre and Killealy C.D.A are at the stage of costing/ seeking quotations for proposed works.

Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District

Monageer Parish Grotto Group, currently revising proposed works, having found themselves in a position to achieve substantially more works by considering an alternative design approach such was the success of the on-site workshop. Proposals remain outstanding from the following groups Rangers FC, Ballycanew Men's Shed and Ballycanew-Ballyoughter C.D.A.

Rosslare Municipal District

Rosslare Community & Sports Centre (RCSC) & Our Lady's Island C.D.A. have had subsequent follow up meetings/workshops to allow for fine tuning of final proposals. In Rosslare collaboration with the District Engineer to address a public footpath issue outside the centre has been complete. This will assist in the RCSC finalising their proposal. Our Lady's Island C.D.A in tandem with proposals through the DRAF currently we are investigating the opportunity to relocate the Triobike no longer in use in JFK, to develop a collaborative community/cycling/intergenerational programme.

Advanced Digital Access Participation Project, (ADAPP)

This project is currently underway with video footage captured for the following locations:

Gorey Kilmuckridge Municipal District Office, the avenue Gorey included in the footage is the services and facilities of the library facility at this location, which will form its own virtual tour.

Wexford Borough District and Head Office at Carricklawn have had the necessary video footage to develop the virtual tour of these buildings.

New Ross Municipal District is another site which has had footage to develop the virtual tour captured, along with Fethard Castle as one of the Heritage Site chosen.

ADAPP is funded also through the DPAF to provide virtual tours of our main public offices and a selected number of heritage sites, it is expected that this project will be completed by end of July 2022. The Heritage Officer continues to support the development of the virtual tours for the heritage sites providing the essential information to ensure the virtual tour will provide an informative, interactive and a true to life visit albeit virtually.

Water Services

July 2022



**1. Irish Water Asset
Delivery**

Water Services

2. Minor Capital

**3. Rural Water
Programme**

4. Water Conservation



1. Irish Water – Asset Delivery



Capital Schemes

Enniscorthy Network Upgrade

- Survey works are now complete and design of the hydraulic model for the sewerage network is complete
- Design work for rehabilitation/upgrade works will begin on receipt of the final hydraulic model.
- A schedule of high priority works has now been identified and is to be considered for funding
- The concept design report for the required works to Enniscorthy Network was received Q4 2021
- A new gravity main for Mary street is required to alleviate flooding and has been agreed to be designed in 2022 and is progressing to site investigation

Enniscorthy Intake Project

- New water intake and pumping station at Clonhasten to be constructed with a plant upgrade to Vinegar Hill water treatment plant also to be completed.
- Planning permission was granted in September 2019 for the intake
- A new raw water distribution main and full water treatment plant upgrade is now to be included in the works programme.
- Irish Water Asset Planning recently confirmed this project will be commence construction in 2023
- Preliminary design report has been completed and under review
- A planning application is currently being compiled for review and submission.

Wexford Drainage Area Plan

- Complete drainage model of the Wexford Town foul drainage system.
- A full detailed hydraulic model identifying all pipelines and infrastructure and deficiencies in the network.
- Consultants Nicholas O'Dwyer appointed by IW.
- Drainage infrastructure survey works commenced in Wexford Town and Castlebridge.
- Model verification ongoing.

Gorey/Courtown Drainage Area Plan

- Complete drainage model of the Gorey/Courtown foul drainage system
- Tender evaluation January 2022, with start onsite Q2 2022
- Consultants JB Barry appointed by IW.
- Stage 1 commenced July 2022

Newtown WTP Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Upgrade to existing Treatment plant including improved raw water treatment, instrumentation and run to waste facility ➤ Preliminary design ongoing, IW have appointed Glan Agua as part of their early contactor involvement programme to design and build the new works ➤ Onsite work to commence Q1 2023
Fethard-on-Sea Sewerage Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Preliminary Design for the project now complete for issue to contractor for design and build. Irish water has advised that due to budget constraints, this project has been re-prioritised and will not go to construction in the near future. Irish Water has advised that it will be 2023 at the earliest before this scheme is re considered for funding.
Creagh WTP Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Upgrade of existing treatment plant including Intake improvements at Pallas and Kilmichael, DAFF plant refurbishment and installation of UV treatment ➤ Project scope agreed and awaiting appointment for preliminary design ➤ Preliminary design complete, tendering ongoing
Gorey Regional Water Supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ New Treatment plant and storage site at Ballyminaun <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 8 ml/day WTP and 7,500m³ reservoir provided at Ballyminaun. ○ Construction began October 2019. ○ Section 1 works have been completed and the contractor has now taken control of the borehole sites for section 2 works as programmed ○ Completion cert issued for new treatment plant, all water now being treated at new plant ○ Borehole upgrade works to be completed Q2 2022 ○ Section 1 works complete and new water treatment plant operational. Section 2 borehole works ongoing
Untreated Agglomeration Study (UTAS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Arthurstown, Ballyhack and Duncannon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The project is overall on programme with the majority pipelines now installed and permanent road reinstatement due in April. ○ Mechanical & Electrical installation on the treatment plant has now begun, and it is expected the plant will be operational in Q4 2022. ○ Commissioning of the plant has now begun. ➤ Kilmore Quay <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sisk has been appointed as the main contractor to build the new waste water treatment plant in Kilmore Quay. ○ The project commencement date was March 21st 2022 with a 16 month construction programme. ○ Some road closures will be required, however there will not be any road or construction works around the harbour area from June to September to facilitate the tourist season. ○ Work is progressing on programme to date with the new pump stations a, plant and network under construction. The main car park and harbour works are now adjourned until September 15th so as not to interfere with the tourism season.

Direct Labour Pipe Laying Crew	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find & Fix – Leakage Reduction Programme. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focusing on mains rehabilitation and will revert to Find & Fix as required. We have external finding resources at present with fixes being completed by WCC operational staff. • Mains Rehabilitation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cahore – Ballygarret is now complete and the crew has moved onto the new 2.3km mains rehab on the Old Dublin Road in Enniscorthy. 300m complete in the first 2 weeks.
Ferns Sewerage Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Irish Water has advised that this project is to be re started with design works in April 2022. Further delivery dates to be confirmed.
STVGP – Small towns and villages growth programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ IW programme to deliver additional capacity to existing towns and villages serviced by IW. Wellington Bridge and Tagoat are included in national programme ➤ Initial options report meeting held with defined scope agreed


2. Minor Capital



IW Minor Water Schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Disinfection Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Disinfection upgrade project at 98% complete county wide excluding snagging. ○ Snagging on-going at various sites. ➤ Treated Water storage programme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3 sites in Wexford – Kilmallock bridge, Camolin and Kiltaly. ○ Kilmallock Bridge Reservoir planning granted; Tender to be issued May 2022 with start onsite early 2023
IW Minor Wastewater Schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Stimulus Funding - Pump Upgrades <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The pump controls at Keellogues WWPS will continue during Q2 2022. ○ Pump and controls upgrades are well progressed at Taghmon and Piercestown WWPSs. ○ Pump and control upgrades for Ryland Road WWPS Bunclody, Mauritiustown WWPS Rosslare, and Rosemary Heights WWPS Ferns have been designed and are out for tender. ➤ Stimulus Funding – SCADA Upgrades

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SCADA will be upgraded at 9 No. WWPSs across the Wexford Town collection network beginning December 2021. Six sites have now been completed, with the remainder underway expected to be completed during Q2 2022. ○ SCADA upgrades at 3 No. WWTPs (Ballymoney, Blackwater and Ballaghkeen) are now practically complete on site. ○ SCADA upgrades at a further 3 No. WWTPs (Carrick, Kilmuckridge and Bridgetown) have now received funding and are being priced. <p>➤ Stimulus Funding – WWTP Minor Improvement Works</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Upgrade works to improve resilience of the inlet PS at Ballymurn WWTP is currently underway. ○ Upgrade of PS, valve chamber, kiosk, controls and hardstanding at Carne WWTP are practically complete. <p>➤ Invest to Save</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Funding has been granted for a new sludge press at Rosslare Strand WWTP, with manufacture now complete, and installation currently scheduled for July 2022.
IW Capital Maintenance	<p>➤ The capital maintenance budget for 2022 has been adjusted to €2,3550,387</p> <p>➤ The latest available report from Irish Water shows spend to end of May at 880,448</p>
New Connections	<p>➤ Connection works are ongoing county wide through June 2022</p>
Non Irish Water Small Capital Schemes	<p>➤ Ballinamorrhagh WWTP (TIC), Curracloe.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Site improvement works are currently taking place to improve primary treatment.

DPI Resolution Scheme for Water Services Infrastructure	<p>Funding was granted by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government for the resolution of Developer Provided Infrastructure (DPI) Issues at 4 number estates in Wexford. Works to progress at these sites to remove the DPI and connect to the public network in 2021 and 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Kyle Close, Oulart- Water connection is complete with sewerage to follow in Q4 2022. ➤ Mountain View, Ballindaggin- COF received from IW. Survey complete and full design underway. ➤ Gleann na gCaor, Monagear- Connection enquiry made. Design in progress ➤ Cois Cuan, Arthurstown ➤ Coolballow estate- Connection granted for decommissioning of DPI at Coolballow estate to connect to Wexford SS
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3. Rural Water	
Measure 2 - Public Health Compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Kilanerin GWS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hydrogeologist Final Report has been received and reviewed into the causes of high nitrate level within the extracted raw water from the GWS borehole. ○ Group Water Scheme and NFGWS discussing the various options Recommended.
Measure 3 - Enhancement of Existing Schemes including Water Conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Blackstairs GWS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Storage Tank - Hydraulic model assessment has been undertaken by the Consultants. ○ A report has been provided and assessed. ○ Initial assessment is that a new storage tank is not the best solution. ○ GWS reviewing recommendations, discussions are ongoing. ○ Reservoir Bypass -WCC have been informed of potential additional costs required to carry out works. ○ A report has been compiled and submitted to the Dept.; the Dept. requested further information. ○ Additional reports were completed and submitted to the Dept. in December. Follow up with Dept. March 2022. ○ June 2022, spoke to the Dept. awaiting response.

Measure 5 – Transition of Existing Group Water Schemes and Group Sewerage Schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Bing GSS – Community Wastewater Connection (CWwC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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 ○ Stage 2 of the part XI process commenced on 23rd March when the documents were submitted to Planning. ○ Works currently in development are preparation of site investigation works and main contract tender packages. ○ Returned tender price from contractors for main contract works shall be subject to final Departmental assessment and approval. ○ Site visit arranged for June with committee and landowners regarding pumping station sites. ○ Site visit and meeting took place in June with the committee and landowners regarding pumping station sites.
Measure 6 – Community Connection Networks (Water)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ MARWP 2022-2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Exploratory works have commenced for suitable projects for submission in the next round of the programme.
Measure 8 – Individual wells (private or household wells)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Individual Well Grants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A total of 14 new well grant applications were registered in June 2022. ○ 16 Well Grants have been paid in June, totalling €26,426. ○ Transition has started to a paperless system for Individual Well Grants. IT are currently designing a Workflow.
Measure A8 – Waster Water Collection & Treatment Needs for Villages & Settlements without access to Public Waste Water Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ New Advance Phase of MARWP 2022-2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Submissions requested from all local authorities ○ Deadline 15th September 2022 ○ Matrix Being constructed for Priority funding ○ Limited to two applications

4. Water Conservation



Water Conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Consumption Countywide consumption for May 2022 was 44.18MLD. This figure is up 0.35MLD on 2021 figures. Overall consumption is trending high.
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Leak Detection & Repair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Leak repairs Leak repairs are on-going throughout the county. ➤ Planned Leak Detection (PLD) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Planned leak detection was focused mainly in Bunclody, Murntown, Duncannon Arthurstown, Wygram. ○ Wexford has received 500nr Acoustic loggers to assist leak detection which are deployed in various locations around the county
Water Network Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Rehab Submissions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ballygarret to Cahore rehab work is now complete with savings of 2.3m³/hr ➤ Find and Fix <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ LA Find crews were concentrated in South Regional. ○ Monthly total savings of 9.8m³/hr during June ○ ➤ BYS Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Works underway in St John's Villas and Pearse Road Enniscorthy by Irish Water's Contractor Shareridge. ➤ Pressure Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2022 funding was received for 1nr PRV replacement, 31nr PRV surveys with maintenance and 10nr advanced pressure control systems. ➤ First Fix <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Shareridge are conducting First Fix investigations and repairs around the county.

ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION

NATIONAL ROADS

N11/N25 Oilgate to Rosslare Harbour

Tender documents for a geotechnical investigation contract are currently being finalised and it is anticipated that fieldworks could commence in September after the main harvest seasons have ended. Environmental surveys within proposed corridor are ongoing.

Traffic studies and traffic modelling has commenced. Traffic model will be developed to allow for multi-modal approach, which includes consideration of demand responses (Trip Generation, Distribution, Mode Share, etc.)

The design of the development will evolve through the year and will generate increasing engagement with land and property owners. The Project Liaison Officer will engage with all impacted landowners.

N25 Rosslare Europort Access Road

Documentation for a planning application under Section 177AE and Compulsory Purchase Order have been finalised. Approval to commence Statutory Processes has been received on 3rd June 2022. It is anticipated that a Section 177AE planning application & CPO Maps and Schedules will be submitted to An Bord Pleanála by the end of June.

Any submissions or observations may be made to An Bord Pleanála which may at its discretion hold an oral hearing on proposed development.

Letters of Intent, to publish the land acquisition documentation, have been posted by registered post to all affected landowners included in the land acquisition documentation. Public notices on proposed development and land acquisition were published in local papers on 27th June.

A project newsletter, to provide the public with further information on the planning process, is prepared and will be circulated in local outlets and public buildings in Rosslare Harbour immediately after submission of planning documents to An Bord Pleanála is made.

NATIONAL ROAD PAVEMENT SCHEMES

2021 Pavement Schemes

HD28 Pavement Improvement Works N11 Oilgate Village

The scheme was tendered in November.

We received approval from TII to award the on contract on 10th March.

Due to the traffic volumes on the N11 this scheme will need to be carried out at night.

Works should commence by mid-July with a 2-week programme.

2022 Pavement Schemes

N25 Ballykilliane to Orristown Pavement Scheme

(Estimated Total Scheme Cost €1,600,000)

This scheme is 2 km in length and runs between the R739 Kilmore junction to the L7050 Orristown junction on the N25.

Works are being carried out on the contract documents for the scheme with tender planned by mid to late July.

Pavement works should commence by September.

N80 Tomacurry to Ballycarney Phase 1

(Estimated Total Scheme Cost €1,600,000)

The total scheme length is 3.7km. The allocation from TII for 2022 allows for the first 2 km at the southern end to be completed in 2022.

Work has commenced on the design of this scheme, with tender planned in August.

Pavement works should commence in September.

2022 Safety Schemes

N25 Ballygillane Roundabout

(Estimated Total Scheme Cost €2,590,000)

This scheme was tendered in November 2021.

Works commenced on 23rd. May and should be substantially completed by the end of the year.

2022 Additional Maintenance Allocations

N30 Forestwood Pavement Repair

€250,000

Wexford County Council applied for and received additional maintenance funding from TII to carry out pavement repairs on the N30 at Forestwood. It is hoped to tender this scheme by the end of July.

Drainage and Verge Maintenance

€110,000

Wexford County Council applied for and received additional maintenance funding for drainage and verge maintenance works on the N11, N25 and N30. These maintenance works were completed during May and June.

A consultant will be appointed to carry out a drainage design for a section of the N25 between Barntown and Larkins cross that flooded twice since 25th December 2021

Former National Road - R744 Millpark Road Enniscorthy €350,000

This allocation was for the upgrade of former national roads. This will be used to carry out pavement repairs on Millpark road from Castle Hill to Arnolds Cross. This scheme will be tendered in August.

REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROADS

The Regional and Local Road Grant Allocations were announced on 15 February 2022. Wexford's allocation was €23,749,787 up €4,529,827 on 2021. This allocation included €4,000,000 for Christmas day 2021 flood damage.

Resurfacing/Strengthening

The 2022 strengthening programme (Machinery Yard) commenced in the Enniscorthy District on 31st January 2022 at Bola Beg, Ballindagban.

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

Kiltillahan to Ballytarsna; Mountforest to Smiths Cross; Oulartard to Tinnacross; Creagh; (All in Gorey-Kilmuckridge District); Mulgannon road; Glasganny Castlebridge; Farmhill Crossabeg; (All in Wexford Borough District).

Roads completed (Clause 804 stone) in the last month were:

Abbeydown; (Enniscorthy District); Knocklahaun; Killenagh to Ballyoughna; Monamolin; Baurela towards Kilbride; (All in Gorey-Kilmuckridge District).

Surface Dressing Works

The 2022 surface dressing programme commenced 10 June in Enniscorthy MD.

The following roads surface dressed in the last month were:

Mocurry East; Carrigunane to Ballybrennan; Macmine; Garrenstackle; Coolree; Rossard \ Ballinacoola; Gorteen; Graigue Beg; Tombrick; (All in Enniscorthy District); Gaurran Lower (Grange Lower); Kilgarvin to Depot; Old Ross to New Bridge; Bushpark to Raheen; Breezemount to Oldcourt Cross; Clonsharragh; Harrylock to Broomhill; Kelly's cross towards Carnivan; Forrestalstown; Shanwole cross roads to Wattle cross roads; Clonleigh Road; Kilmannock; Taulaght; Chapel lane; Raheenakennedy Lane; Pollpeasty to Forralstown; Arnestown to Finshoge; Finshoge to Ballymacar; Finshoge to Ballylane; (All in New Ross District).

Community Involvement Schemes

€614,350 grant has been allocated to County Wexford for 2022. The roads to be completed in 2022 are being finalised.

One road has been resurfaced at Ballyharren in the Wexford Borough District.

Local Improvement Schemes

Wexford County Council has been allocated €431,760 grant to resurface 13 private lanes in the county.

Resurfacing these will start in the next month.

A second application has been submitted to the Department of Rural Community and Development for consideration to fund an additional 14 private lanes.

Bridge Rehabilitation Grant

There are 19 bridges for repair with grant of €603,000. Work has commenced on Abbey Bridge in New Ross District. This excludes bridges funded under Christmas day storm damage.

Work has commenced on 3 of these: Kiltrea Bridge; (Enniscorthy District); Mulmontry Bridge; Glebe Bridge (Rosslare District).

Specific Improvement Works – The Deeps Bridge

The Deeps Bridge Remediation Project – RPS Consulting Engineers Ltd was appointed as Project Supervisor for the Design Process in March 2021. An underwater inspection of the bridge structure was carried out in 2021 and no defects were found below the water.

An Bord Pleanála has granted permission for the project to proceed. The design and tender documents are being developed at present. It is expected to go to tender for construction in September. Works are expected to commence Q 4 of 2022 or Q1 of 2023.

General Maintenance

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

ACTIVE TRAVEL MEASURES

The NTA confirmed an allocation of €4.44m to Wexford County Council for projects in 2022. This funding is largely to complete projects approved in 2021 which are presently in design or construction stage.

A design incorporating 1km of segregated cycle lanes, footpaths and junction improvements is in Part 8 Planning for Newtown Road (Wexford Borough District).

Designs are being developed for cycleways at: Beechlawn/Clonard Avenue (1.7km); Roxborough (3.5km) both in Wexford Borough District; Oaklands to Kents Cross (2km) in New Ross District; Rosslare Harbour to Kilrane (1km) in Rosslare District and the R772 Clogh to county boundary Improvement Cycle Scheme in Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD.

7.3km of new footpath was constructed in 2021.

Over 1.5km of new footpath was constructed to date in 2022.

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.

Works are almost complete bar installing Led trays in the Heritage decorative lanterns across the county. It is hoped to complete the upgrade of these remaining lanterns on non-National roads and housing estates by mid-2022.

A plan will be put in place to upgrade the remaining lanterns in housing estates that were taken in charge over the last 4 to 5 years.

Public Lighting Development Fund

Additional public lighting is being installed at the following locations under the Public Lighting Development Fund.

- Ballygarrett Village – Works completed. Awaiting ESB connection.
- Balintray, Courtown – Works completed. Awaiting ESB connection.

Further works are planned,

North Parade Gorey – infill lighting on ESB Network poles

Clonattin Road Gorey – infill lighting on ESB Network poles

Ramsfort Avenue Gorey – infill along by GAA pitch

Killinick Village

The Ballagh – Church to the school

The Ballagh – Ballagh Cove to regional road

Killenagh Village

Wexford Town – Seamus Kelly roundabout to Spawell Road

Wexford Town – Mulgannon

Rathgarogue Village

Davistown Village

Other locations will follow further to consultations with Municipal District Engineers.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

1.1 Forth Mountain Activity Park – Phase 1 – Trails and Carpark

Final snag works including the water and sewer connections to the site have been completed. Additional works to improve the accessibility along some of the existing trails will be completed in July.

Forth Mountain Activity Park – Phase 2 - Activity Centre Building:

The proposed boathouse and external toilet facility on-site have completed pre-planning and the Part 8 planning documents are being prepared. The Part 8 application will be advertised in September.

The activity centre building was lodged for Part 8 planning in March by WCC's Architects Department and the period for public comment closed on 20/04/2022. A response to a request from An Bord Pleanála for further information relating to the project is currently being prepared.

1.2 Min Ryan Park

Sole Sports and Leisure has been appointed to construct the skate park and MUGA on a design and build basis. The MUGA is now complete and open to the public. Recommencement of works on the Skate Park is now overdue. Works are now expected to recommence in early July and will take up to eight weeks to complete. Public lighting at these installations will follow.

1.3 Enniscorthy Technology Park Phase 1

Phase 1 – the development of three serviced sites is substantially complete and the construction of the first building is well under way. Robert Troy TD Minister of State at the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment visited the Park in March.

1.4 Gorey District Park

The external area of the park opened to the public on 12th August 2021 and the new playground and adult gym equipment is fully installed and in use. The final landscape planting is now virtually complete. Work on the building has recommenced and is due for completion in July 2022.

1.5 South East Greenway

Contracts for the works on Lots 1, 2 and 3 have been awarded to Glas Civil Engineering and works are nearing completion on-site. Landowner agreements on the accommodation works are progressing well and it is planned that Lot 5A (Ferrybank to Curraghmore) will be tendered for works in July 2022 with Lot 6 (Glenmore) will follow in August.

The detailed design of Lot 4 (New Ross to Mount Elliott) is advancing and we would expect to issue tender documents for works in Q3 2022.

1.6 Trinity Wharf

Due to significant inflation in the market since tenders were received, the original tender process for the access road undertaken in 2021 was abandoned. A revised tender invitation issued in December 2021 and tenders have been received and have been assessed. Works are expected to commence in Q3 2022.

Procurement of consultants for design services for the site development and public infrastructure works is underway. The pre-qualification process is completed, and the successful design firms have been issued with tender documents. Tender submissions were received on 31/03/2022. Appointment is expected in July.

1.7 New Ross Fire Station

The contract to construct the New Ross Fire Station was awarded to Kevin Thorpe Ltd. Works commenced on site in May 2021 and the works are now substantially complete.



1.8 Wexford Arts Centre Extension

The main works contract has been awarded to McKelan Construction Ltd and works commenced on site in May 2021. The works are on-going and substantial completion is now expected in September 2022.

1.9 High Hill, New Ross

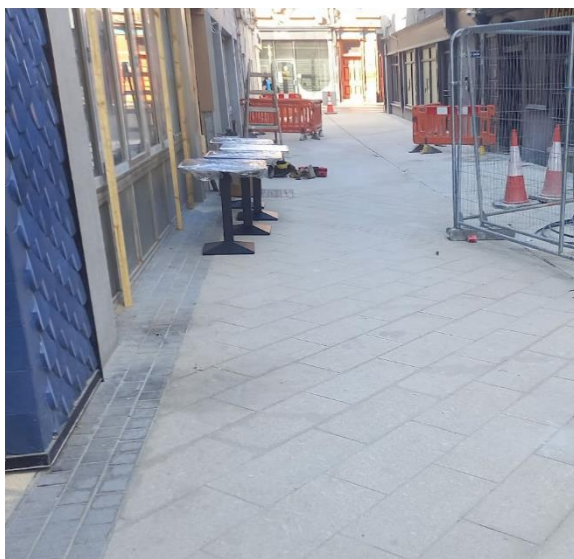
The Contract has been awarded to MJS Civil Engineering and works are progressing on-site. Groundworks, drainage and ducting works are now substantially completed within the main section of the park. The installation of the staircases and masonry work is complete. Surfacing works and paving to the landing area are underway and the pedestrian Crossings to North St. & Chapel Lane have been completed. Tree planting and bareroot planting is substantially completed. Herbaceous planting is scheduled to coincide with remaining paving works and Autumn bulb planting will continue after the paving works. Works are expected to be substantially completed by July 2022.



1.11 Monck Street Enhancement Scheme

The main works contract was awarded Tony Kirwan Civil Engineering Ltd in February 2022 and works commenced on site on 21/03/2022.

The works are expected to be substantially completed in August 2022.



1.12 New Ross Public Realm – Phase 1: Removal of Bulk Fuel Storage Tanks

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 completed in July 2021.

A Part 8 development consent application for the development of the public realm space on the site was confirmed at the Council's meeting in March 2022. Tender documents for the works contract are expected to issue in August.

An application for category 1 capital funding under the RRDF scheme was submitted in April 2022.

1.13 Templeshannon Regeneration, Enniscorthy:

The Templeshannon Regeneration Strategy identifies a number of enabling projects required to achieve regeneration, including:

- Improving the public realm and streetscape in Templeshannon area;
- Establishing a new link to the town centre by construction of a new pedestrian bridge;
- The management and progressive transformation of the Leisure Centre Car Park;
- The creation of new urban blocks for infill development.

The site investigation (SI) work for the pedestrian bridge has been completed. The preliminary design and bridge options report has been completed taking account of the results of the SI works and is currently under review.

WCC is engaged with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in regard to a further funding application to support regeneration in Enniscorthy. The planning Department is working in collaboration with Special projects to develop a strategic plan for Enniscorthy and is currently being drafted.

1.14 John Street Building Regeneration Project

WCC was successful in securing RRDF funding to design a redevelopment of the old grain stores at John Street, New Ross, which will see these buildings converted into a high-quality enterprise hub.

A design team was appointed in April 2019 and initial surveys and investigative works have been completed. A portion of the grain store building has been purchased by agreement. The CPO for the project has been approved by An Bord Pleanála and the acquisition of the outstanding property to facilitate the development is progressing. The CPO is proceeding, the Notice to Entry has been served and the site is now in our possession. The Preliminary design will follow with the Part 8 consent process planned to commence in Autumn 2022.

1.15 Esmonde Street

RPS is progressing with the detailed design. Site investigation works are now completed. Irish Water have now approved proceeding with the design of the sewer upgrade and CCTV and survey works has been completed. The detailed design for the sewer upgrade being finalised.

WCC submitted an application for category 1 funding under the current call for RRDF for this project.

1.16 Gorey Market House

A Part VIII planning application for re-development of the Market House into a multi-purpose performance/exhibition/retail space was approved in May 2018.

A call for Expressions of Interest / Tender Proposals from private sector investors was advertised in January 2020 and 2 submissions were received by the closing date of 13/02/2020. This tender process was concluded in May 2021 without the award of a contract.

WCC will prepare new documents seeking expressions of interest from the private sector for developing this project. KPMG has been appointed to advise on this process and requests for tenders will issue in August 2022.

1.17 Mechanics Institute

Consulting Engineers were appointed in March 2020 to undertake design, tendering and construction management services for essential maintenance works at the Mechanic's Institute. The invitation to tender has been re-advertised and tenders received. Tender assessment is underway and it is expected that a works contract will be awarded in Q3 2022. Construction works are scheduled to take 6 months.

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

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

The tourism and environmental design teams for the INHP have commenced work on the preliminary design and the environmental assessments. It is planned to submit a planning application for the project to An Bord Pleanála by the end of 2022.

The process of negotiation for tourism design services with the preferred tenderer from the 2017 Hook Heritage Ltd competition has closed without an award of contract following the withdrawal of the preferred tenderer in December. WCC has advertised for tourism coordinator services for the project through the existing multi party and a successful tenderer will in July. The tourism coordinator will assist with the procurement of interpretative design services and we would expect an appointment of interpretive designer by Q3 2022.

The environmental consultant has been appointed and is commencing initial studies and investigative works.

The contract for tourism co-ordination and management services for the New Ross Tourism project was awarded to Alan Sherwood & Associates in November 2021 and he is currently reviewing the outline interpretive design and developing a plan for procurement of detailed design services.

1.19 Enniscorthy Town Centre & Tourism Project:

This project provides for the phased development of a new tourism project of scale centred on Enniscorthy Castle that will have the capacity to significantly increase tourism visitor numbers to the town. The proposed project will link with associated tourism projects to be developed at the Irish National Heritage Park, Hook Lighthouse and the JFK / Dunbrody in New Ross.

The Enniscorthy Tourism Plan report was presented to the Enniscorthy MDC in July 2021.

Tenders for preliminary design and planning consent services have been received for Phase 1 of the project and are currently being assessed.

1.20 Courtown Coastal Protection & Beach Nourishment Scheme

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

Priority Geotechnical Ltd. have been appointed to carry out the Marine and Land based surveys and Boreholes at Courtown. They commenced work on the 23rd May the site investigation work is expected to last two to three weeks subject to weather and tides. Marine profiling surveys will also be carried out in parallel at this time and this work is being carried out by Hydrographic Survey Limited.

1.21 Rosslare Europort to Waterford City Greenway

The Economic SPC of Wexford County Council and the Transportation SPC of Waterford City & County Council have written to the Minister for Transport seeking inclusion of the out-of-service Rosslare to Waterford railway line in the up-coming national rail review. The application for planning consent for the Rosslare to Waterford greenway project has been paused, pending a decision from the DOT on the future of the rail corridor.

WCC is reviewing advancing the Rosslare Harbour to Rosslare Strand section as a stand-alone project that could link to the EuroVelo and the Wexford to Rosslare greenway project.

1.23 Wexford Town to Rosslare Greenway

Fehily Timoney and Company 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 on-going.

The scoping and route options process has commenced and a presentation was given to the joint Wexford and Rosslare MDCs in late March on this project. Public consultation on the preferred route corridor options will commence on 11th May 2022 with the window for receipt of submissions closing on June 10th.

1.23 Oyster Lane Car Park, Wexford

A Part 8 submission has been made for the demolition of existing unoccupied buildings on the old Tesco site and for construction of a temporary surface level car park. The plan was presented to the Wexford MDC September meeting and the Part 8 process commenced formally on 26th October 2021. The Part 8 was confirmed at the March 28th full Council meeting.

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

Procurement of detailed building surveys is ongoing. Detailed design is programmed to be completed in August with an award of the initial works contract (demolition works) in Q4 2022. The main car park works contract is expected to commence in Q1 2023.

1.24 Crescent Quay – Dredging

An award of contract was made to RPS Consulting Engineers in June 2021 for design services for engineering assessment, environmental and foreshore consent applications in respect of this project. RPS are currently specifying and procuring investigative works to inform the dredging strategy. The tender report for the appointment of a marine sediment sampling contract is expected in September 2022.

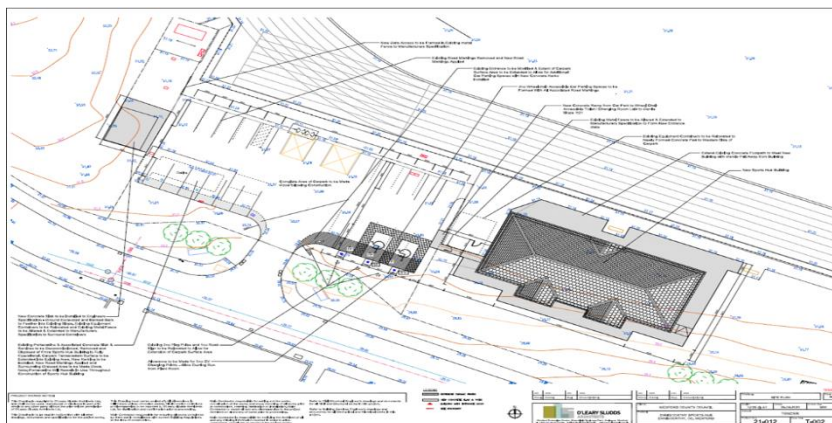
1.25 Old Dublin Road Business Park, Enniscorthy

The final masterplan has now been completed and presented at the Enniscorthy MDC's October 2021 meeting. A contract for the initial phase 1 works was advertised in January 2022, these works include new footpath, pedestrian crossings, new entry signage and landscaping. The Phase 1 works contract has been awarded to Hughes and Hennessy. Works will commence in July.

A further application for funding of the masterplan was made to the NTA's active travel programme in January 2022.

1.26 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 Sport Hub building. The tender documents issued to the Department for Tourism, Culture, Art, the Gaeltacht, Sports and Media (DTCAG) have been approved and the works are currently out to tender, with a tender deadline of 6th July. It is expected that a works contract will be awarded in Q4 2022.



1.27 Curracloe Water Sports Activity Facility

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

The tender for design services was advertised in Jan 2022, the tender evaluation process is now complete and an appointment of a consultant is imminent.

2. Flood Defence Schemes

2.1 Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme:

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

The Minister for State, Mr Patrick O'Donovan and senior officials from the OPW & WCC attended a special meeting of Enniscorthy MDC on 4th May 2022 to update the members in relation to the Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme.

The minister supported a WCC proposal to progress the new River Slaney Bridge and the Flood Defence Scheme as two separate standalone projects.

Flood Defence Scheme - The scheme alternatives are to be assessed, consulted on publicly and a preferred option identified. MMD have issued a programme of

work – the preferred option report & environmental assessment reports are scheduled to be completed in Q2 2023. At that stage planning options will be reviewed, and the preferred planning route selected.

New River Slaney Bridge - The ecology baseline data is currently being updated. ROD have issued a programme of work – planning is expected to be submitted in Q3 2023.”

2.2 Wexford Flood Relief Scheme:

The project brief for design services for Wexford Flood Relief Project was advertised on Etenders in early 2020. Seven tender submissions were received by the extended closing date of the 9th July 2020. Following a detailed tender assessment and evaluation process the decision not to award a contract arising from this tender competition has been advised to all tenderers. A further procurement process has been advertised with tenders due to be returned on July 11th.

REPORT ON CORPORATE ACTIVITIES

1. FOI OFFICE REQUESTS

Type	
Freedom of Information	7
Customer Complaint	4
Ombudsman Complaint	3
Access to Information on the Environment	3
Data Access Request	0
Total	17

2. PROCUREMENT SECTION ACTIVITY

Tenders

No uploaded	7
No of tenders received	14

3. CRM / CUSTOMER SERVICE UNIT REPORT ON ACTIVITIES JUNE 2022

Area		June	
Agricultural Burns		6	
Environment Complaints		250*	
Change of Circumstances		40	
Housing Validation		140	
Quick Calls		2775	
Road Faults Log		45	
Emails		2926**	
	a. <i>Incoming External Emails</i>	577	
	b. <i>Incoming Internal Emails</i>	500	
	c. <i>Emails forwarded externally</i>	1136	
	d. <i>Emails Replied to internally</i>	237	
Total Emails & Calls		6182	

* 65 (26%) of these calls relate to Community Clean Ups

** 1,231 (42 %) of these calls are for Housing Maintenance

4. MEMBERS PORTAL FIGURES JUNE 2022

No.of Representations by Section	2022		
	Jun		
Section	Cases	Total	%
Customer Service	2	2	3%
Enniscorthy Municipal District	1	1	1%
Environment	7	7	10%
Finance	2	2	3%
Gorey - Kilmuckridge Municipal District	1	1	1%
Housing	40	40	55%
Property	1	1	1%
Roads	1	1	1%
Roads - Enniscorthy MD	12	12	16%
Roads - Gorey - Kilmuckridge MD	3	3	4%
Roads - New Ross MD	1	1	1%
Roads - Rosslare MD	1	1	1%
Roads - Wexford MD	1	1	1%
Total	73	73	100%

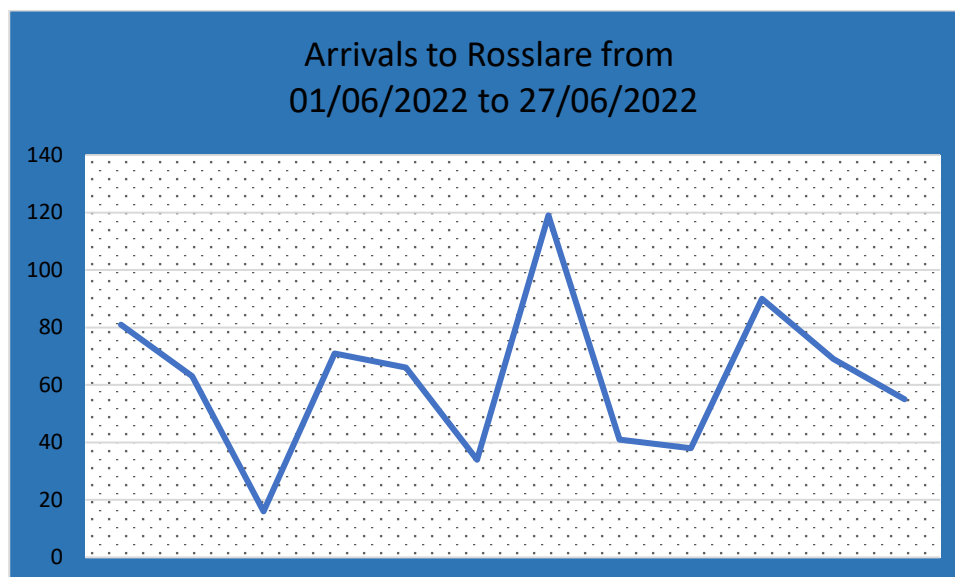
UKRANIAN RESPONSE UPDATE

Ukraine Update

The Ukraine Team is led by Ms Amanda Byrne A/Director of Services with the following staff; Mr Ger Mackey SEO (until July 23rd), Mr Michael Sweeney, Senior Staff Officer (commenced June 27th), Ms Olga Bodnaruk, Clerical Officer (commenced June 6th), Mr. Billy Dobbs, Station Officer, Fire Services (commenced March 26th) and Ms Niamh Bolger Assistant, Staff Officer (commenced March 26th).

Information Update

Estimated number of displaced Ukrainians in Wexford as of Friday 24th of June is 1170 of whom 370 are children under 18.



The numbers arriving daily had been reducing from Easter but recent weeks have seen an increase.

There continues to be three main elements to the work;

No.1 Providing support and coordination for the Community Response Forum.

The Forum met on the 15th of June. Access to English classes continues to be an issue and there seems to be a mismatch between classes provided and areas of interest/demand, this will be explored further. Cllr. Barbara-Anne Murphy questioned if Community Employment Schemes could waive the 1year unemployed requirement for Ukrainians in places where posts cannot be filled. This query will be escalated. It was also agreed that a representative of the Friends of Ukraine group will be invited to attend future meetings.

A fund of €187,521 has been made available to the WLD for the delivery of SICCAP supports to displaced Ukrainian nationals through the LCDC.

The team collate information and circulate on a weekly basis.

Thematic Areas	Lead
Accommodation	IPAS
Social Welfare Supports	Department of Social Protection
Employment	Department of Social Protection
Childcare and Education	WWETB
Healthcare	HSE
Community Supports	Wexford Local Development
Other Supports	Community Response Forum

No.2 Red Cross Pledged Properties

The list of potential self-contained properties has increased to 145 with some local additions. At this point Wexford County Council staff have assessed 128 properties (there are a number we cannot contact), of those 47 are no longer interested/available.

Some 95 beneficiaries have been moved (or are in process of) into 29 properties

A further 20+ properties have been assessed at this point so the focus for the next week(s) will be on family placement. All staff on the team are involved in this process. The properties are generally in rural and remote locations so priority is given to placing families coming into the country via Rosslare as many have their own car.

No.3 Other Accommodation Options

The Department of Housing, Heritage and Local Government are preparing a funding programme for potential longer term communal accommodation projects. We have properties identified and will progress those once the funding mechanism is available.

Other issues – *ongoing from last month*

Work is being done to develop an accurate information support and currently the best available information for number in the county is that database updated weekly by Wexford Local Development Staff.

There are also displayed Ukraine's the county living with family or in other arrangements independent of IPAS and the Red Cross. Some of these arrangements are breaking down and as a result families now require IPAS accommodation.

HOUSING

Housing Supply

Capital Projects

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Current Position	Comment
The Ballagh	7	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Houses Complete	Houses complete. Handover due 1 st week in July.
Castlebridge TAP	1	Wexford	Houses Complete	House complete June 2022
Ross Road	1	Enniscorthy	House Complete	House complete June 2022
Rosetown, Rosslare (<i>deliver units in 2 phases</i>)	23 P1 12 P2	Rosslare	Phase 1 Under Construction	Phase 1 of 23 units due to complete in Q4 2022. Stage 3 for Phase 2 submitted to DHLGH May 2022. Ready to go to tender as soon as funding is approved.

Whiterock Hill (<i>deliver units in 2 phases</i>)	22 P1 22 P2	Wexford	Phase 1 Under construction. Stage 4 for Phase 2 to be submitted	Phase 1 (22 apartments), site boundaries and retaining walls progressing well. Phase 2 costs and contribution cost for pump station to be agreed with DHLGH. All costs will be submitted in July '22.
Ballyhine, Barntown	7	Wexford	Stage 3	Part VIII approved. Stage 3 to be lodged in August 2022
Bullawn	3	New Ross	Stage 2	Part VIII approved. Stage 3 Q3 2022. Awaiting ESB pole relocation before further progress can be made.
Wexford Street	30	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Stage 2	Stage 2 approved for €8.3m. Stage 3 documents have been submitted to the Department for approval.
Women's Refuge	12	Wexford	Stage 2	Stage 3 funding approved 25 April 2022. Out for construction tender June 22.
Rosbercon	38 (est)	New Ross	Stage 2	Consultants preparing documents for the enabling works i.e. Knotweed and Site Clearance. Revised Stage 1 approved for €11.2m by DHLGH 3 June 2022. Proposal for site will be presented to New Ross MD in Sept. 2022
Francis St.	2	Wexford	Stage 2	Stage 1 approved on 4 th Oct. 2021. Consultants appointed. Stage 2 in Q3 2022

Killeens	45+	Wexford	Stage 1	Design Team appointed. Reviewing densities presently in context of Development Plan. Site currently being cleared and site surveys to commence week of 4 July 2022.
Creagh	22	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Stage 1	A revised Stage 2 will be lodged in Q3 2022. Part VIII to be lodged in July 2022. Proposing Design Build contract. Tender to OGP in Q3 2022.
TOTAL	266			

Pre-Development Stage

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Marconi Park	1	Enniscorthy	Construction to commence in July 2022

Newtown, Ferns	1	Enniscorthy	Costing to inform decision pending.
Monamolin	5	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Diversion enabling works in design for services. IW have confirmed feasibility. Stage 2 will be submitted in Q3 2022.
Bride Street	3	Wexford	Engineer appointed and demolition scheduled for July 2022. ESB outage date confirmed.
Ballygillane	5	Rosslare	Derelict house on site to be demolished. Pre-Planning approved. Stage 1 approved. Stage 2 application and Part VIII Q3 2022. Irish Water have approved Feasibility.
TOTAL	15		

Longer Term Projects

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Tagoat	18	Rosslare	Topographical Survey complete. Knotweed Management Company appointed. Part 8 to be lodged and site clearance in July 2022.
Clonard	26	Wexford	Decision on cost and procurement of the main road pending. A proposal has been submitted by a neighbouring developer.
TOTAL	44		

Other Projects (early feasibility)

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Lacken	1	New Ross	Funding approval received. Design underway for new dwelling.
Adamstown	2	New Ross	Engineer appointed for the demolition works. Demolition tenders being prepared. Design of replacement 2 houses is complete.
Belvedere	6	Wexford	Revised proposal being developed for Q3 2022
Creagh	24	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Sketch design prepared for site investigations and surveys.
Grogan's Road	4	Wexford	Pre planning approved. Stage 1 approved 16 th Nov 21. Design has been revised to incorporate 4 apartments. Proceed to Stage 2 in Q3 2022 subject to confirmation of IW feasibility.

TOTAL	37		
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Approved Housing Bodies

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Cooperative Housing Ireland			
Mill Heights, Castlebridge	25	Wexford	All units delivered
Cuil na Dara, Clonard	25	Wexford	DHLGH approval received May 2022. To deliver 2023/2024
Cluid			
Pairc an Aird, Coolcotts	67	Wexford	To deliver Q4 2022.
Tobar Muire Place	17	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	To deliver late 2022 /early 2023.
Hewittlands, New Ross (LAGS site)	48	New Ross	DHLGH Approval in Principle received June 2022. AHB will now proceed to seek planning permission.
Tuath			
Ramstown, Gorey	68	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	To deliver on a phased basis from 2022.
Gleann an Ghairdin	24	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	To deliver Q4 2022/Q1 2023
Forgelands, Old Forge Rd, Enniscorthy	10	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval received June 2022. To deliver late 2022
Peter Mc Verry Trust			
The Quay, New Ross	6	New Ross	DHLGH Approval received May 2022. CAS Acquisition of 6X1 bed Apt

Clanmil			
Fearach Cnoic, Enniscorthy	10	Enniscorthy	On Hold indefinitely due to lack of IW capacity
Co Operative Housing Ireland (CHI)			
Moongate, Clonard Rd, Wexford	38	Wexford	DHLGH Approval received June 2022. To deliver 2023
Cuil na Dara, Clonard (Ph 2 of Pairc na Daire)	25	Wexford	DHLGH Approval received June 2022. To deliver 2023
TOTAL	363		

Part V Acquisitions

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Roxborough Manor, Mulgannon	22	Wexford	18 units complete. Remaining units to deliver Q3 2022.
Cluain Beag, Clonard	6	Wexford	4 units delivered remainder to deliver Q2 2022.
Clonhaston, Enniscorthy	5	Enniscorthy	To deliver on phased basis from 2022. (Issues with IW resulting in reduced number of units. Reduced number of units to be constructed. Currently engaged with developer.)
An Glasan, Enniscorthy	5	Enniscorthy	All units delivered
Gleann an Ghairdin Ph 3	10	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	To deliver 2022/2023.
Tobar Muire, Creagh Demesne	4	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Construction commenced. To deliver Q2 2022.
Ard an Bhile, Healysland, New Ross	5	New Ross	Commenced onsite. Expected to deliver late 2022/early 2023.
Spring View, Gorey Hill	11	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Under Construction. To deliver on phased basis 2022/2023.
Ard na hAbhann, Newtown Rd	2	Wexford	Under Construction. Funding approval received May 2022
Pearson's Brook, Creagh , Gorey	2	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Under Construction. Funding approval received June 2022.To deliver Q3 2022
TOTAL	72		

Turnkeys

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Ballynaglogh, Blackwater	16	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	4 units delivered. Remaining units expected to deliver in Q3 2022
Tobar Muire, Creagh Demesne	39	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Construction commenced. To deliver from Q2 2022.
Ard an Bhile, Healysland, New Ross	43	New Ross	Commenced onsite. Expected to deliver late 2022/early 2023.
Roxborough Manor, Mulgannon	13	Wexford	10 units delivered. Remaining units to deliver Q3 2022.
Ard Uisce (Ph 3)	8	Wexford	4 units delivered. Remainder expected Q3 2022.
Castlelands, Ferns	20	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval received Jan 2022. Under Construction. Expected to deliver Q3 2022
Haughton Place, New Ross	13	New Ross	DHLGH Approval received Jan 2022. Expected to deliver 2023 (includes 1 Part V) On hold – developer may apply for permission for increase in unit numbers
TOTAL	152		

The Housing Dept. continue to periodically seek Expressions of Interest for the provision of social housing units via Turnkey acquisition. Future calls will be targeted at smaller unit types in areas of need identified in the Housing Delivery Action Plan (HDAP) and will include proposals for land. All proposals received by Wexford County Council are assessed by an Internal Assessment Committee.

Housing Maintenance

The following table shows the number of repairs carried out from 1st January to 30th June, 2022:

Repairs	Enniscorthy	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	New Ross	Wexford	Rosslare	Total

Repair Requests (1st – 30 th June 2022)	90	62	111	96	47	406
Repair Requests Year to Date	635	456	744	733	371	2939
Accommodation Units Repaired (1st – 30 th June 2022)	73	48	70	81	42	314
Accommodation Units Repaired Year to Date	408	291	404	483	224	1809

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

Homeless Services and Support Unit (HSSU)

An integrated Homeless Service Centre (HSSU) was opened in Wexford in 2019 the Centre offers homeless supports, advice and services in one location, with an emphasis on homeless prevention and supports. This is a collaborative initiative by Wexford County Council working in partnership with the HSE and Focus Ireland. Some of the main services being provided through the HSSU working in partnership with external state agencies and NGO's are:

WCC Services	Focus Ireland Services	HSE Services
Homeless Assessment	Tenancy Sustainment Services	Substance Misuse Outreach Services
Homeless Prevention and support services through early intervention	Housing First Project	Mental Health
HAP Place Finder Service	Advice & Information Service	Tusla Aftercare
Links to external agencies where appropriate		Tusla Domestic Violence Womens Refuge
Advice and information		

It is important to point out that the figures below represent the total number of calls to the HSSU - it is not reflective of the number of individuals/families as quite often the same client may make multiple calls to the HSSU.

There were 565 calls to the HSSU from 1 st January 2022 to 22 nd June 2022, the following is the breakdown of same:-	
352	Provided with advice and support in relation to housing and homeless prevention
43	Supported with temporary, short, medium and long-term accommodation and tenancy sustainment support through Place Finder and Social Care Workers
136	Ineligible at the time presentation for housing/homeless services. HSSU advised and assisted to regularise housing situation.
34	It was not possible to complete a full assessment.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

LEADER PROGRAMME

The Article 48 team processed 8 LEADER claims in June. The value of these claims was €90,558.36 which will support 1 x enterprise and 7 x community groups throughout County Wexford.



These claims can be broken down as follows:

Promoter Paid	Claim Payment
1. Wexford Rape & Sexual Abuse Support Service	€1,338.21
2. Tombrack Community Garden Association	€14,262.69
3. Tombrack Community Garden Association	€7,610.17
4. Enniscorthy Street Rhythms Dance Festival	€18,562.50
5. Wexford Rape & Sexual Abuse Support Service	€440.14
6. Ceadogan Rugs Ltd	€13,458.17
7. Faythe Harriers Hurling & Camogie Club	€16,392.22
8. Horeswood Community Hall Committee	€18,494.26
TOTAL	€90,558.36

LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (LCDC) MEETING –

A hybrid meeting of meeting of the Local Community and Development Committee was held on the 23rd of June 2022.

Agenda items included –

- SICAP,
- Local Economic Community Plan
- PPN
- Chief Officers Report
- LCDC Beach Mat Pilot Initiative
- Programme Update from Ms. Catherine Mcloughlin –
WCC Heritage & Biodiversity Officer



The next meeting of the Local Community and Development Committee is scheduled for the 21st of July 2022.

LOCAL ACTION GROUP (LAG) MEETING -

A hybrid of Local Community Development Committee acting as the Local Action Group was held on the 23rd of June 2022.



Items discussed included – LEADER Transitional & EURI Programme with the members of the LAG approving funding for Community and Enterprise projects totalling **€368k** under the funding programmes.

The meeting was also an opportunity for the LAG members to meet the Chairman of the 'Enniscorthy Community Allotments' Mr. Michael Devereux, who presented details of the LAG approved project under agenda item *Leader Programme Case Study*.

The project has recently completed filming with RTE and is scheduled to be included in the 'Nationwide Programme' autumn schedule.



The next meeting of the Local Action Group is scheduled for the 21st of July 2022.

JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE MEETING -

County Wexford Joint Policing Committee

The next meeting date of the Joint Policing Committee is scheduled for the 11th of July 2022.



In advance of this, Chairman of County Wexford JPC, Cllr. Michael Whelan & Chief Superintendent, Anthony Pettit hosted a delegation from the County Wicklow policing committee which included JPC Chairman, Cllr. Gerry Walsh.

The meeting which included a tour of the Wexford Garda Divisional Office was an opportunity for both committees to discuss policing issues/opportunities and to look at proposals for a future joint meeting of the policing committees.



Age Friendly

Minister Mary Butler launches Wexford Age Friendly Strategy 2022-2026

Wexford County Council launched its 2nd Age Friendly Strategy and Action Plan, for 2022 to 2026 which will enable the Council and its Age Friendly partners to make the county a better place to live and grow older in. Speakers at the event included Cathaoirleach Cllr Barbara-Anne Murphy, Chief Executive of Wexford County Council Mr Tom Enright, Wexford OPC Chair Kevin Molloy, Dr. Yvonne Byrne (report author) and Alice Corbett, Age Friendly Ireland, with Minister Mary Butler officially launching the strategy. Minister James Browne and Senator Malcolm Byrne and members of Wexford Older Peoples Council and Age Friendly Alliance were amongst the invited audience.



In launching the strategy Minister Butler said: “The current Programme for Government outlines a vision of an Age Friendly Ireland and documents policy approaches to supporting older people. Strategies such as Sláintecare, The National Positive Ageing Strategy, and Healthy Ireland, are hugely significant in how we prepare for, and support, an ageing population. At a national level, both myself and the Department of Health are very aware of Wexford County Councils efforts with helping to develop and deliver local Age Friendly Strategies. This feeds into our national policy frameworks to ensure that the voice of older people is included and referenced in decisions we make. Wexford County Council Age Friendly Strategy is a vital resource.”



Wexford County Council's Age Friendly Programme Manager, Ann Marie Laffan, who acted as MC for the launch thanked all those who contributed to the strategy, in particular the Age Friendly Alliance and Wexford Older Peoples Council members many of whom were in attendance at the launch. She added that she is looking forward to working with all involved to implement the new strategy and the actions contained therein.

A copy of the Wexford Age Friendly Strategy is available on the Wexford County Council website.



July 2022 Report

Healthy Ireland Funding

Responses to queries on Round Three returns have been progressed. Initial contract received for Round Four which will be June 2022 to Dec 2025. Queries have been submitted to Pobal on the contract in advance of signing and we await response on same.

Healthy County Coordinator

Advertisement for the role of The Healthy County Coordinator (3 Year Contract) has recently been published with the closing date for receipt of completed applications - Thursday 7th July 2022.

Healthy County Committee

The work of the Healthy County Committee continues, with the main committee having met most recently on 10th May and working group meetings and activity continuing. The Mental Wellbeing Working Group (MWWG) meeting was held on 15th June and the Not Around Us committee meets on 28th June.

Healthy Wexford are supporting the Understanding Radon event at New Ross Library on 28th June, the committee are also working on the Free Period Product initiative, we are collaborating with Wexford PPN to develop a Community Growing Network, and the MWWG have organised SafeTALK training in Wexford on 28th June.

Wexford Sports Active

International Yoga Day	SAW delivered a free yoga class on Curracloe Beach for International Yoga Day on June 21 st 14 Participants attended the session.
Swimmin' Women	Swimmin Women started in Bunclody Outdoor Swimming Pool on Wednesday 15 th June and will run for 9 weeks. This is aimed at middle aged women. Participants: 22 Ladies
Swim For A Mile	Swim For a Mile started in Bunclody Outdoor Swimming Pool on Wednesday 15 th June and is aimed at men and women to increase their swimming ability over 12 weeks. Participants: 10 men and women
Playground Leadership	By the end of June we have 213 playground leaders from 4 th and 5 th class trained up in 12 primary schools. 339 junior children also take part in these sessions and following the training the playground leaders will now organise games and activities for junior children on yard during their breaks. This training continues into June.
Primary School Balance Bike Programme	5 teachers from 3 schools were trained up in the Balance Bike programme on the 2 nd of June. All schools have subsequently received the bikes for the period of one week to deliver the programme to the junior and senior classes in their schools. This programme is supported by WWETB Shielbaggan Outdoor Education and Training Centre.
Active School Week	Active School Week took place over June in schools across Wexford. SAW delivered talks, programmes, supports and equipment to schools to support them in achieving their Active School Flag.
Activator Pole Walking Taster	In collaboration with Wexford GAA for their Active Aging Campaign, SAW delivered a free Activator Pole Walking Programme to 11 participants on the 21 st of June. Ages ranged from: 55 to 73
Street Paddler Programme	We are supporting the Street Paddler Programme for 10 identified young people with the Slaney Youth Diversion Project. This will be a 4-week canoeing training programme at the Bunclody Outdoor adventure hub for the month of July.

Resistance Training in Knockeen Nursing Home	The 4-week resistance training programme finished on the 20 th of June. Average number of participants each week were 18 to 20 ranging up to 99 years old.
The Exercise Effect	<p>All practitioners are in role and delivering exercise programmes. The line management is now being re-structured offering, one of the IEP's a co-ordination role. This post is being interviewed on the 30th of June. The Exercise Effect Standard Operation Procedure is being updated to its third model of practice.</p> <p>The Sports Inclusion Disability Officer presented about the Exercise Effect Programme at the Sport Ireland National Development Officers Conference on the 8th of June.</p>
Healthy Woodlands	The healthy woodlands programme is continuing for Havenview Residents in Tintern Abbey on a weekly basis on Tuesdays. Participants: 4.
CAMHS RAG Tree Equine Therapy	SAW delivers the Health and Fitness module for Rag Tree Equine Therapy Centre every Friday afternoon to approximately 16 teenagers. 14 girls, 1 transgender and 1 boy.
Ard Aobhinn Go for Life Games Day	SAW delivered a 2 hour games session to Ard Aobhinn disability day service on the 16 th of June to approximately 15 service users.
Fun In the Sun	Fun In The Sun will take place over 7 days in July and August. The venues confirmed are designated disadvantaged areas: 26 th July Enniscorthy, 27 th July Riverchapel, 28 th July New Ross, 29 th July Duncannon, 4 th August Bunclody, 5 th August Wexford and 6 th August Rosslare. SAW will link with GAA, FAI, Leinster Rugby, Cricket Leinster and local tutors to organise these sports fun days.
Traveller Women Kayaking	On June 23 rd the Clonroche Traveller Womens group took part in Kayaking in Bunclody Outdoor Adventure Hub. This programme is linked with Wexford Local Development and Shielbaggan Outdoor Education and Training Centre. Participants: 15
Tag 4 Every Mum	SAW delivered a TAG 4 Every Mum taster session in collaboration with Leinster Rugby to promote a fun & social tag rugby activity for mothers in their community. The session was delivered on the 1 st of June with 4 participants.
Physical Activity Promotion Grant Scheme	Our Physical Activity Promotion Grant Scheme remains open for applications. This annual funding scheme is aimed at providing small-scale support to

	clubs and organisations and is designed to assist with a wide variety of projects to include the introduction of new physical activity projects/initiatives for target groups; projects which reflect a wide geographical and socially inclusive remit. Maximum grant is €500. Closing date for applications is 30 th June.
Safeguarding	76 x Safeguarding 1 Courses have been completed in 2022 with a total of 102 participants. 2 x Safeguarding 2 Course has been completed in 2022 with a total of 18 participants

Anna Flynn, Sports Inclusion Development Officer, making a presentation of The Exercise Effect Programme, at the Sport Ireland National Development Officer's Conference in Clayton Hotel, Liffey Valley, Dublin on June 8th.



Celtic Routes

Refreshed content has been agreed for the Out of Home publicity campaign beginning in very early June at Cardiff and Bristol airports, motorway service stations in England and Wales, and at Rosslare Europort. The Times on Saturday and The Sunday Times inserts have been agreed and printed ready for distribution. Travel Journalist trips have been agreed and scheduled for July to October. Social Media platforms for Celtic Routes have seen over 72 million people have had an opportunity to see Celtic Routes content. Website realignment will be finalised in early July with the inclusion of over 70 tourism business under the Celtic Experience Collection. Midterm evaluation has been circulated to the Partners and final evaluation parameters have been discussed. Legacy options have also been discussed and are ongoing.

ENVIRONMENT

A. COASTAL MATTERS

Harbours -

Department of Ag, Food & Marine (DAFM) announced funding approval for projects under a new scheme to develop works on LA harbours, called the Brexit Adjustment Local Authority Marine Infrastructure 2022 – 2023. The DAFM approved 23 projects with a total construction cost of €1.4m in Co. Wexford; works are now underway to progress these projects.

Fethard Harbour – New Slipway and Beach Access. Part XI planning was submitted to Planning Department on 5th April 2022. The public planning notice was in the local newspaper on 20th April 2022. This scheme was included in the above DAFM approved projects.

Ports Past and Present: Rosslare Ports Fest took place on 17th and 18th June in Rosslare Harbour, event details in progress – updates available on website. There is ongoing engagement with the Rosslare community, artists and our project partners in University College Cork and two Welsh universities. Regular updates and further information is available at <https://portspastpresent.eu/>

Beaches –

National Blue Flag Awards 2022 hosted by An Taisce in association with Wexford County Council – held at Curracloe beach on Friday 20th May.

- 6 blue flag beaches: Ballymoney, Morriscastle, Ballinesker, Curracloe, Rosslare, Carne.
- 2 blue flag marinas: New Ross and Kilmore Quay.
- 9 green coast award beaches: Cahore, Oldbawn, Culleton's Gap, St Helen's Bay, Ballyhealy, Cullenstown, Grange, Baginbun, Booley Bay.

Ballymoney – consulting engineers appointed to do a feasibility report on improving accessibility on the path to the blue flag beach. Report will be produced in Q3 2022.

Ballyconnigar Bridge: the pedestrian bridge was washed away during the extreme rainfall on Christmas Day 2021. The contract to build a new bridge was awarded on 17th May; work will commence on site as soon as possible.

Coast -

Rosslare Coastal Erosion and Flood Relief Scheme: Nicholas O'Dwyer Ltd Consulting Engineers was appointed on 13th Dec 2021. Steering meetings with WCC, OPW and the consultants are now underway and will be held on a monthly basis. The process of collecting and reviewing data for the project has commenced.

Seaview, Kilmore: emergency works to protect the access road were completed in Jan 2022. Additional coastal protection works were carried out at the end of the public road.

Environmental surveys are complete. Bathymetric surveys about to commence. This information will provide information for the planning application, to be submitted later in 2022.

Lady's Island Water Level Management Structure – An Bord Pleanála granted planning permission for this development, dated 3rd Sept 2021. Foreshore licence application has been lodged and is under consideration by the Dept of Housing Local Government and Heritage. A public notice for the foreshore was in the local and national papers on 9th February 2022; with comments / submissions to be received by 10th March 2022.

Bike Stands; work is being finalised to install approximately 50 bike stands at 13 beach/coast locations around the coast. This funding for these was received through the Active Travel Scheme.

Morriscastle Dune Restoration: The project involves installation of fencing and maram grass planting to restore and manage the dune system at main beach entrance. WCC received €11,475 in funding for this project under the National Biodiversity Action Plan Funding. Fencing works are completed on site; maram grass planting by the local community was carried out 30th April 2022. An Taisce is carrying out further maram grass planting with the local secondary school on 19th May.

St Helen's Bay Preliminary Coastal Erosion Risk Management Study: Wexford County Council appointed consulting engineers to assess the erosion risk to assets including 23 properties and look at options to mitigate the risk.

Ballyhealy Preliminary Coastal Erosion Risk Management Study: in the process of appointing consulting engineers. This project involves assessing the erosion risk of 5 properties and look at options to mitigate the risk.

Grange, Fethard on Sea: works to protect sections of the public road from coastal erosion went to tender. Arrangements for funding and contract award are being finalised with Roads Department.

B. WATER, AIR & NOISE

1. 91 inspections were carried out in 2021. Work has commenced on selecting areas and sites for Septic Tank Inspections in 2022. 65 inspections have been carried out to date with a further 25 inspections planned before end of May. Wexford have a minimum of 106 inspections to carry out in 2022. All work carried out is external with no requirement to enter a dwelling. Contractors are currently carrying out work on a number of sites in order to close outstanding Advisory Notices.

Progress is being made with closing existing open files. 28 files have been closed for 2021 and 18 extension of time have been granted in 2022. There are currently 97 open files for the years 2016-2021 and 42 open for 2022.

Sixteen new applications have been received this year to date, fifteen of which are paid and one is currently under review.

Year	Number of inspections	Pass	Fail	Outstanding	Closed in 2022
2019	156	48	108	22	0
2020	111	38	73	16	5
2021	91	24	67	39	14
2022	65 to date	13	52	42	23

There are currently 23 cases in the Court system for failing to comply with Advisory Notices. 3 of these are for hearing and 20 are for mention.

All NIP files up to end of 2016 have now been closed off. 2017 have 9 open files with 2 on hold due to new N11 route selection, 5 due to assessment of public sewer for Ramsgrange and 2 are in court. 2018 have 9 open files with good progress on 7 of these, 2 are in court. 2019-2022 figures can be seen in the Table above.

2. Section 4 Discharge Licences:

The Council currently has 99 active Discharge Licences. Two new applications have been received and are currently under review.

Invoices for the annual statutory Fee for discharge licences will be dispatched in June. Reminder invoices were issued in October 2021. Invoicing for outstanding bad debt was issued in March 2022 and accounts adjusted where applicable. Invoicing for 2022 were issued on the 1st of June 2022 with reminders to follow later in the year for those which remain unpaid.

3. Climate Action

The Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 requires each Local Authority to prepare their own Climate Action Plan. The plan must cover both mitigation and adaptation measures and must be updated once every five years. Wexford County Council is also tasked with developing a decarbonisation zone which will become the focus for a range of climate mitigation, adaptation and biodiversity measures. Enniscorthy is the proposed Decarbonisation Zone for County Wexford.

The Government of Ireland Climate Action Plan 2021 sets an ambitious target of 50% energy efficiency by 2030 and an absolute reduction in greenhouse gas emissions of 51%. In terms of Energy efficiency, there has been an increase of the organisation performance in 2021 with 42% improvement in energy against 39% in 2020. WCC is ahead of the target glidepath to 2030. The increase of performance is mainly due to a reduction of the public lighting consumption. Carbon emissions in 2021 are 28% below baseline level.

The Local Government Management Agency (LGMA) is now collecting Climate Action KPI data from all local authorities. The data was submitted in April. The main indicators for

Climate action are training completed for staff and elected members and details of the Climate Action team.

The local authority Climate Action Training Programme continues to be rolled out. 392 staff members having completed Climate Training. Training was provided in the areas of Planning, Flood Risk Management, Community Engagement & Championing Leadership. Training under the pillar of Green Public Procurement is currently underway.

The Sustainable Energy Communities (SEC) have applied to the SEAI for funding to complete their Energy master plans. Wexford County Council through a MOU has committed to the provision of Bridge funding for finance applied to the SEAI.

Wexford is involved in two Creative Climate projects to raise awareness and promote behavioural change. The first project through the Wexford County Council Arts Office is on the theme of the pilot Decarbonisation Zone in Enniscorthy and has a biodiversity and rewilding focus. The second project is called Linte na Farraige and is through the Creative Climate Fund and is in collaboration with the Dublin Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) and third level institutions. It aims to connect the public visually to the risks from future sea levels.

4. Agriculture:

Wexford County Council continues to undertake a significant number of farm inspections in accordance with the WFD. A total of 78 farm inspections undertaken as a result of pollution incidents or complaints, 45 of these farms were found to have non-compliances. Wexford County Council engage with landowners to undertake the necessary rectifications works through encouragement of improvement of farming infrastructure and farming practices.

Section 12 & 23 notices under the Local Government Water Pollution Act 1977-1990 were served upon on nine individuals.

A total of 120 Agricultural related Planning Permission Applications were assessed and a further two planning permissions were queried to assess if the applicant had complied with the conditions of planning permissions granted.

Wexford County Council completed odour monitoring assessments on a two separate sites in 2021 on foot of several hundred complaints from the public. These sites included a pig farm and a composting facility where compost is produced by processing straw and animal wastes. Section 24 & Section 26 notices under the Air Pollution Act 1987 have been served upon these businesses.

WFD inspections	Farm inspections	Farms with Nitrates Directive non-compliances	Section 12 & 23 notices served	Section 3 notices served
2019	60	19	5	0
2020	102	50	5	2
2021	78	45	9	0
2022	13	4	0	0

5. Duncannon EIP Project

Wexford County Council is currently lead partner in the Duncannon Blue Flag Farming & Communities Scheme. We were successful in receiving funding of €550,000 to run this project for 3 years.

The project is now engaging with 36 farmers covering over 950ha of the 1300ha catchment. To date, engagement with all farmers continue with approximately 4 visits to each farm every year where baseline and final “Pollution Potential Zone” surveys are carried out.

The project runs a results based reward scheme where an annual payment is made to each farmer based on their PPZ survey which ranges from €1,000 & €4,000. The farmer can also avail of a water protection improvement works grant which can be used to carry out like fencing watercourses, establishing arable grass margins, resurfacing clean yard areas, hedgerow establishment, riparian margins etc. To date, the EIP project has paid €130,000 in annual payments to farmers while funding of approx. €25,000 has being paid to farmers that have completed works.

No. of farmers	36
No. of visits/ engagement	379
Area signed up to EIP	955HA/1300HA
Km's fencing of watercourses	4.5km
Establishment of arable grass margins	1200m

C. WASTE MANAGEMENT

1. Landfills:

Holmestown Landfill remains temporarily closed. Environmental monitoring and maintenance of infrastructure continues at both Killurin and Holmestown in accordance with the conditions of our waste licences.

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.

2. Recycling Services:

Bring Bank Network –

WASTE CATEGORY	No. of Sites May 2022	Recycling out (End May) 2021 (t)	Recycling out (End May)2022 (t)
Glass bottles		1836	1550
Aluminium Cans		50	39
Total	1110	1886	1589

Household Recycling Centres –

Summary of Activities								
WASTE CATEGORY	Enniscorthy		New Ross		Holmestown		Gorey	
	Recycling out Jan- May 2021 (t)	Recycling out Jan- May 2022 (t)	Recycling out Jan-May 2021 (t)	Recycling out Jan-May 2022(t)	Recycling out Jan-May2021	Recycling out Jan - May 2022	Recycling out Jan May 2021	Recycling out Jan-May 2022
Total Recycling out	274	251	305	275	375	359	245	213
Total Domestic Waste in	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1182	1004	N/A	N/A
Daily Average Customers	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022
Jan-May	72	69	117	111	136	120	84	76

1 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 May 2021	May 2022	To end May 2022	% +/_
Total Illegal Dumping/ Clean Ups	1,373	137	910	-41%
<i>Gorey *</i>		30		
<i>Enniscorthy *</i>		30		
<i>Wexford *</i>		46		
<i>New Ross*</i>		20		
<i>Rosslare</i>		11		
Total Bring Site Inspections	3,691	726	3,764	+2%
<i>Gorey</i>		187		
<i>Enniscorthy</i>		182		
<i>Wexford</i>		223		
<i>New Ross</i>		111		

<i>Rosslare</i>		23		
Total Ringbuoy Inspections	6,690	1,536	7,086	+6%
<i>Gorey</i>	<i>North</i>	448		
<i>Enniscorthy *</i>				
<i>Wexford*</i>	<i>South</i>	1,088		
<i>New Ross*</i>				
Other Works	2,103	449	2,638	+23%
<i>Gorey</i>		87		
<i>Enniscorthy</i>		130		
<i>Wexford</i>		96		
<i>New Ross</i>		76		
<i>Rosslare</i>		60		

3. New Recycling Items

From September, soft plastics can be recycled through the domestic waste collection service. Soft plastic may include bubble wrap, plastic bags and similar wrapping are included in the new items that may be recycled. As with any other plastics, these should be clean and dry and loose. For a full list of plastics that may be recycled please see mywaste.ie

2 LITTER MANAGEMENT

The Wexford County Council (Segregation, Storage and Presentation of Household and Commercial Waste) Bye-laws, 2018 came into effect from the 2nd January, 2019. From this date, anyone contravening the bye-laws will be liable to a fixed penalty of €75.

Complaints regarding litter are now being handled through the Customer Service Unit. Environment was the first section to use this central system.

Any evidence collected from littering incidents is used in bringing action under the Litter Pollution legislation. It has been noted that less evidence is being recovered. More transactions have moved online and people are removing waste that may incriminate them. The use of CCTV has been halted due to restrictions imposed by the Data Protection Commissioner. The local press regularly reports on such cases. We will continue to target illegal dumping black-spots and the county's roads throughout the year.

Total fixed penalty notices issued	TOTAL FOR 2021	TOTAL FOR 2022
Fines Issued (All Fixed Penalty Notice Issued)	199	102
Fines Paid in Full●	69	33
Fines Cancelled/Proceedings Discontinued/Struck Out*	71	59
Successful Prosecutions**	15	9
Legal Proceedings In Progress	61	45
Amount Collected in Fines (directly/following proceedings)	€10,220	€7,500

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

- Includes income from all Fixed Penalty Notices

January 2022: We had one successful waste management case under section 18 of the Act with a €250 fine awarded and €550 in legal costs and one litter case whereby €250 fine was awarded with €250 in legal costs.

February 2022: We had five successful cases, one under the Litter Management Act with a fine of €350 euro and €250 in legal costs along with 4 successful cases under the Waste Presentation bye-laws 2018 where we were awarded a total of €400 in fines and €1400 in legal costs.

March 2022: Gorey District Court cases were not heard on the day due to courtroom timeframes and will be heard in April. There were no cases for hearing in Wexford District Court this month.

April 2022: Four cases this month are listed between Wexford District Court and Gorey District courts. Two were listed for hearing and two were listed for mention. Seven cases have been withdrawn, due to defendants obtaining bins or completing necessary works following inspections by our Water Services team. Wexford County council had one case under the Waste Presentation Bye-Laws and were awarded legal costs of €550 and a fine of €120. A defendant pleaded guilty to our case under the Litter Pollution Acts and was given until June to reimburse our Legal costs and pay the litter fine of €150.00

May 2022:

10 cases overall were listed for mention this month between Wexford District court and Gorey District court. There was two cases listed for hearing one of which was adjourned for the defendant to obtain legal aid and a legally binding agreement was made outside the Court in relation to the second case.

June 2022:

Due to COVID-19 Gorey District Court was cancelled this month, new dates for hearing are being determined on the 6th of July 2022. Wexford District Court proceeded as normal on the 27th of June where cases listed for mention were provided with hearing dates for July and September 2022.

Litter Enforcement Activity 2009-2022(May)

	Fines Issued	Court	Reports
2022 to date	70	19	690
2021	100	19	2721 (down 15%)
2020	213	20	3187 (up 15%)
2019	341	13	2758 (down 9%)
2018	324	22	3050 (up 15%)
2017	218	27	2651 (Up 12%)
2016	274	17	2,354 (up 22%)
2015	242	17	1,927 (up 11%)
2014	154	17	1,732 (up 10%)
2013	140	15	1,571 (up 21%)
2012	182	16	1,292 (down 3%)
2011	209	17	1,329
2010	370	27	1,338

F.GENERAL

All environmental complaints are logged by the Customer Service Unit on the DASH CRM system. A 'Members' Portal' was also added in December 2020 to the DASH system.

The total figures for complaints received are as follows:

	Jan – Dec 2017	Jan – Dec 2018	Jan to Dec 2019	Jan to Dec 2020	Jan to Dec 2021	Jan-May 2022
Incidents	3600	4609	4749	4999	5136	1837
Closed	3526	4563	4092	4358	3758	1167
Closure Rate	98%	99%	86%	87%	73%	64%

Control of Dogs & Horses:

The Council employs one Dog Warden and an acting Dog Warden for holidays and relief. The main pound is Pets First Kennels, Ballycarney, Co Wexford.

Control of dogs	2020	2021 (to 31-12-21)	2022
Dogs collected	532	429	203
Dogs reclaimed	127	133	38
Dogs re-homed/transferred	373	267	143
Dogs put to sleep	32	29	19
Dog Fines	5	18	10

There are now 31 registered Dog Breeding Establishments with a number of applications on hand awaiting inspection.

To date in 2022 ten horses have been in-pounded and six rehomed.

Environment Education and Awareness:

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

Green Schools: 3 schools, Colaiste Abbain, Selskar College and Catherine McCauley Jnr School were all successful in achieving their first green flag on Litter & Waste. An online awards ceremony was held on 25th May. In total 22 schools were awarded green flags in the following themes; Litter & Waste(3); Water(2); Travel (1); Biodiversity(7); Global Citizenship Litter & Waste (2); Global Citizenship Energy (4); Global Citizenship Marine Environment (3).

School Workshops: 2 schools will participate in a Marine Workshop & Seashore Safari in June. The Marine Explorer workshop is an ideal way for children to learn about nature and the environment. The workshop involves a classroom based talk and a visit to a local seashore. It allow children the opportunity to learn through discovery and exploration, as well as being able to benefit from engaging group work and hands on

activities in the field. A qualified and experienced biologist is on hand to answer any questions that the pupils may have.

Climate Literacy Programme:

The Environment Section are funding 5 schools to participate in a Pilot Climate Literacy Programme. Expressions of interest was sought from all secondary schools. This 10 week course includes in-school teacher training, resources, lesson plans and an interactive student workbook. The costs of the 10 week course are covered by the Environment Section and a different topic is explored each week including climate change, sustainable development, climate justice, biodiversity loss, taking action, fast fashion, sustainable transportation, food, soil and plastic pollution. Students run an action project on the last two weeks of the course. The facilitator leaves the school at the end of the course and the teacher continues to teach the course with a new group of students. This course can be run in schools for many years once the teachers are trained.

National Food Waste Recycling Week: National Food Waste Recycling Week ran from May 30th until the 6th June 2022. It is a new national campaign from MyWaste.ie to encourage people to recycle their food waste. The week was officially launched by Cathaoirleach Cllr. Barbara-Anne Murphy at Enniscorthy Household Recycling Centre on Saturday 28th May. An information day was held on food waste and free food waste caddies were distributed. The event was supported by Enniscorthy Tidy Towns and Sustainable Enniscorthy. The week focused on how segregating food waste was a positive climate action and posts went out on social media over the 7 days.



Community Clean Ups: Registrations and support for community clean ups will continue in 2022. 1331 community cleans ups were supported in 2021.

National Spring Clean: National Spring Clean was extremely busy for march and April and details of the Snap Into action competitions was circulated to all participating groups and all primary schools.

Community Engagement: Community talks are ongoing with virtual meetings and outdoor meetings taking place. A talk on waste prevention was given at Wexford Library on May 10th

Keep Wexford Beautiful Competition: The Keep Wexford Beautiful Competition was officially launched by Cathaoirleach Councillor Barbara-Anne Murphy. Closing date for receipt of all applications is 24th June 2022.

Marram Grass Planting Workshops: A marram grass planting workshop in association with An Taisce Clean Coasts took place on Saturday 30th in Morriscastle. Members of Kilmuckridge Tidy Towns and the local community attended. A second workshop took place on Thursday 19th May with students from Colaiste an Atha, Kilmuckridge.



Local Authority Prevention Network (LAPN): Funding was sought and approved for water refill dispenser at Blue Flag beaches. It is hoped that these will be installed during the bathing season.

Dog Fouling Awareness Campaign: The 'Bag It Bin It' will be reinforced by a social media campaign to run from early March. The campaign is set to firmly emphasize that dog fouling is your responsibility as a dog owner. The campaign will address a range of issues surrounding dog fouling, from its effect on the public who use our streets, parks and beaches, to attitudes to cleaning up as dog owners, from health issues to civic pride. The campaign will reach across social media and local community groups and Tidy Towns groups will be asked to share images on social media.



Green Dog Walker: The Green Dog Walker Campaign is being promoted and registrations are through the website.

LIBRARIES, ARTS & ARCHIVES

July 2022

LIBRARY SERVICE

Travelling Tales Launch

On Tuesday 14th June a launch was held for the Travelling Tales exhibition. An Cathaoirleach Barbara Anne Murphy officially launched the exhibition and associated

book. Travelling Tales was a multi-generational visual arts and writing project, celebrating the voices of Traveller children in three Co. Wexford schools. The schools involved were Our Lady of Lourdes, Bunclody, Bunscoil Rís, New Ross, and St Fintan's National School in Taghmon. Children from these schools worked with author Caroline Busher and artist John Busher, exploring the heritage and culture of their community.

Beginning in 2019, the project was supported by Wexford Public Library Service and the Dormant Accounts Fund. With John and Caroline, the children wrote stories and poems, created artwork, puppets, ceramics and textiles, and made a short film. All of this formed part of the exhibit and are documented in the Travelling Tales book which has been published by Wexford County Council and is being circulated to primary schools in County Wexford. At the launch the children read some of their stories to the group, they sang songs and the short animated film was screened.

Services to Ukrainian Nationals

Wexford Library Service is part of the County Community Response Forum and is working with agencies and volunteers to support Ukrainian families use all library services.

Translators accompany groups and library staff on library tours, to help adults and children join the library and learn to use the library App and all eResources. These eResources include Borrowbox for literacy and reading, Transparent Languages to learn english, Libby and PressReader. The book collection provides fiction for children in the dual languages Ukrainian and English languages. Adults are introduced to the Wexford County Council website translation service Recite. Children are invited to join storytime, the Summer Stars Reading Adventure and to take part in all summer events. A guide to use the library is translated into Ukrainian and is available on the website. Libraries are also used as venues for group and one to one tuition.

IT Literacy

Wexford Libraries' Age Friendly Digital Ambassador Programme continues to grow with training courses returning for older users throughout the libraries. People had the opportunity to ask questions and practice with Tekcentral training providers. This aims to provide senior citizens with help accessing the internet, downloading library apps and accessing our online resources. Local Libraries will provide tutoring sessions over the phone and in person, for older people. Through these tutoring sessions, participants will be

empowered to access the range of online library services, particularly BorrowBox which is used to download books and audio books to a phone, tablet, or laptop/computer.

Health and Wellbeing

The Triple P Lifestyle Seminar “Positive Parenting for Healthy Living” took place in Libraries across the county. These seminars were facilitated by TUSLA CFSN Coordinator Linda McCann. The 90 minute seminar, suitable for all parents of children up to 12 years, focused on supporting parents to learn how to use positive parenting to promote their child’s health, development and well-being and to encourage their children to learn the skills they need to develop healthy lifestyle habits.

The Environment

Two public meetings took place in New Ross library on the 28th June on the topic of radon gas. Exposure to radon gas in Ireland is linked to 350 lung cancer cases each year in Ireland so it is a significant public health hazard. The meetings were hosted by Wexford Public Libraries, in partnership with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and supported by Healthy Wexford. Experts in radon provided information on practical ways of protecting your family from radon. Information was also provided about the Digital Radon Monitors loan scheme that you can borrow for free from your local Wexford library to measure radon levels in your home.

Literacy and Children’s Services

Summer Stars 2022

Summer stars was launched on countywide in June. Summer Stars is an exciting reading-based programme which is available free of charge to children across the country.

Children are invited to register for the adventure and encouraged to enjoy reading many books during the summer holidays. All participants will be given a Summer Stars Reading Card to track their own progress and a library reward stamp will be added to their reading card at the library after each book is read. There will be rewards along the way, and at the end of the adventure, all children who participate are invited to attend an award event at which they will be presented with their own Summer Stars certificate. Many events for children will also be held in the library during the summer. The Reading Adventure is free to join, and all are welcome.

Mobii Vista Interactive Magic Table.

A number of visits to use the Omi Vista magic tables were facilitated in June in New Ross and Gorey Libraries. The Mobii Omi vista magic table is an interactive sensory projection system that can be used for games, music and social activities to motivate all generations on a table or floor surface. The projection system more familiarly known as a Magic Table, is used to provide sessions for children and adults with learning difficulties or people with Dementia and Alzheimer's. It offers fun and interactive floor and table activities and games. The magic table has been designed to provide a diverse selection of meaningful person-centred activities for all adults with learning disabilities, regardless of age or ability, with all the elements necessary to stimulate, engage, relax and provide enjoyment.

Art and Culture

Nature in art – The Master, with Dave Daly

Wexford artist Dave Daly gave an illustrated talk about the great Swedish painter Bruno Liljefors (1860-1939) and his influence on generations of artists and how painting nature has developed over the past century. Dave described how observing nature directly in the field is the key to understanding the natural world and being able to portray it on paper.

Local Studies

In June 32 local studies enquiries were responded to. There were also 23 genealogy enquiries. 28 microfilms were used along with 72 local reference books.

Decade of Centenaries

Professor Diarmaid Ferriter

Professor Diarmaid Ferriter is an Irish historian, broadcaster and university professor in Modern Irish History at University College Dublin. He has written eleven books on the subject of Irish history and co-authored another.

His most recent book is *Between Two Hells: The Irish Civil War*. It was this period of Irish history that he discussed in the library. The lecture covered the background to the Civil War, the devastation wrought by the conflict itself and its troubled and complex legacy. More than 100 people were in attendance.

The Battle of Enniscorthy with Historian in Residence Barry Lacey

At the outbreak of civil war in county Wexford, Enniscorthy Town was a battleground for several days in early July, playing host to heavy fighting between anti-treaty IRA forces and the National Army. Historian in Residence Barry Lacey discussed the build up to the battle, personalities involved and its aftermath in this illustrated talk.

This initiative is funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media under the community strand of the Decade of Centenaries 2012-2023 programme.

Decade of Centenaries – Wexford County Archives

‘The Treaty 1921: Records from the Archives’ exhibition – presented by the National Archives in association with Wexford County Council – which opened in County Hall on 23 May closed to the public on 10 June. Feedback from the invigilators and from visitors to the exhibition was very positive – the exhibition attracted a total of 454 visitors over the 14 days that it was open to the public.

To complement the Treaty exhibition, a talk was delivered by Lisa Dolan, Outreach Archivist from the Military Archives, Dublin in County Hall on the evening of 7 June. Lisa’s talk, ‘From Truce to Civil War period – sources from the Military Archives relating to County Wexford (1921-23)’ attracted an attendance of 58 and was a very useful way of establishing contact with the relatives of participants from the period.

The Archivist delivered a talk in Wexford town library on 30 June on ‘The 1921-23 period in County Wexford as reflected in the holdings of Wexford County Archive’. An illustrated presentation, the event was an invaluable means of publicising a number of important collections from the period, some of which are soon to be uploaded to the archive’s website for enhanced public access.

Community Projects Funding 2022 – call for applications

Wexford County Council, in association with the Decade of Centenaries Programme of the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media announced community funding available for local groups and local cultural and sporting institutions throughout County Wexford to play their part by developing a project to mark the centenary of historical events in their local area.

The funding will support local and community organisers to develop projects or events that commemorate the Decade of Centenaries: the War of Independence; the Civil War; labour

unrest; social changes; cultural life in the 1920s, local responses to Dáil Éireann; the truce; partition; local connections with the wider world and new political representation at a local level. The following projects were successful.

Kilanerlin-Ballyfad Community Development Association	Inch Historical Site Information Board
Nolan's Forge Bunclody	Day of Culture
Wexford Literary Festival	Re-enactment of The Battle of Enniscorthy 1st — 4th July 1922
The Gap Arts Festival	Discovering Caravaggio
The Gap Heritage Group	Liam Mellows Publication
North Wexford Traditional Singing Circle	Local Legacies 1922/2022 – Kathleen A. Browne A community research, song composition and film project
St Kearns Commemoration Committee	St Kearns Storyboard

ARCHIVES

Collections management

In addition to 57 research enquiries via email, telephone and post, a total of 16 researchers visited the Archive during June. Research topics included: research through the Power estate papers (1710-1893); research through extant burial registers for the four municipal burial grounds in Wexford town (1883-1946); research undertaken by the Savannah students (see below).

Outreach

Wexford County Archive welcomed 13 students from the Irish Research & Teaching centre at Georgia Southern University, Savannah in early June. The students whose primary interest was to find further evidence of the links between Savannah and Wexford for the 1847-52 period spent two days in the reading room undertaking detailed research through editions of the *Wexford Independent* and through some relevant handwritten correspondence from the Graves papers for the period.

Local Live Performance Programming Scheme (LLPPS)

Round 3 (Jan – June 2022) & Round 4 July – November 2022)

The Arts Department is overseeing the implementation of the LLPPS schemes funded through the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media via all local authorities nationwide.

The aim of this scheme is to provide support the live performance /music industry which has been so badly affected by Covid. Ongoing work is continuing with the five Municipal Districts. A panel of qualified event companies are currently delivering Round 3 in the five districts with the final concerts/ events happening by end June 2022.

June performances included Sharon Shannon & Muireann nic Amhlaoibh in Carrig on Bannow Church, a Ukrainian concert in St Michaels Theatre, New Ross, Billy Roche and his band in the National Opera House, Jack Lukeman in Bunclody Golf club, local live bands in Ferns, Comedy on the Quays in Wexford Town and a series of family fun days took place in Courtown and Gorey.

An Open call for Round 4 was sent to the panel of events companies in June 2022 with closing date Monday 4th July.

Peripheries MEET – Gorey school of Art

The Arts Department was delighted to support Gorey School of Art in 2021/22 correspondence programme with a group Exhibition Peripheries MEET #2 which was opened **from 18-25th June. The exhibition revolved around the** eight participating artists who discussed their work with mentors and most importantly, between themselves. The mentors tried to question the motives behind the student's artmaking, whether personal, public, or both, and gave them feedback in terms of their motives. This exhibition is the outcome of that questioning.

PLATFORM 31 The Arts Department is delighted to announce visual artist **Serena Caulfield** as the recipient of Platform 31 Artists Support Scheme 2022. This scheme was designed to support and enable career development for 31 mid-career artists – one artist was selected by a national panel from each of the 31 local authorities around Ireland. There are two elements of support for participating artists in this pilot scheme: financial

and developmental. Participating artists receive a bursary of €8,000 bursary to invest in themselves and their practice, combined with participation in a developmental programme which includes coaching, advisory support, and networking opportunities.

Small Arts Festival and Experimental Events Grant Scheme 2022 recipients:

SpringMoves Dance festival –

SpringMoves Dance Festival took place in Wexford town Friday 17 – Sat 18th June – with live outdoor street dance events taking place the Bullring mall, and indoors workshops and dance events in the National Opera House. In addition, the festival included a performance by the highly acclaimed Liz Roche Dance company in the National Opera House and a masterclass in dance meets circus in partnership with ISACS – the Irish Street Arts Circus and Dance Ireland.

Irish-Polish Folk Night, PolskaÉire Festival 2022 in Gorey opened with the Ryszard Tatomir's photography exhibition "The amazing world of salt – Wieliczka Salt Mine" followed by The Irish-Polish Folk Night which was a tuneful return to their musical roots and an opportunity to strengthen Irish-Polish ties through traditional and folk music. On the Saturday a PolskaÉire festival for kids was held with free shows and entertainment in the Civil Square, Gorey.

County Wexford Youth Film Project is based in St. Michael's Theatre, New Ross. The project trains young people aged 13 – 20 in the art of filmmaking and provides them with an opportunity for creative expression through an accessible and exciting medium. In July & August CWYFP will offer free Filmmaking and Animation workshops in St. Michael's Theatre. This workshop is free to teenagers across County Wexford and is funded by The Arts Department, Wexford County Council, and the Creative Community Programme.

CREATIVE IRELAND

Cruinniú na nÓg 2022

On Saturday June 11th young people across County Wexford danced, sang, drummed, juggled and painted as part of the annual Cruinniú na nÓg celebrations. Cruinniú na nÓg, Ireland's national day of creativity for children and young people, was celebrated right across Ireland with thousands of young people participating in the event. Young people dove into the past with writer Caroline Busher, explored early year music at the National

Opera House and launched an art installation created by young artists at the ArtBank in Bunclody. The County Libraries were bursting with creativity from the Big Dig workshop with the Irish School of Archeology, workshops exploring imagination, animation, drumming and Calmast exploring the science of colour.

The rain held off for the most part and allowed young people to explore their surroundings with nature themed events happening in parks, gardens and trails around the County. Kilmokea House and Gardens hosted foraging workshops, The Blackbird Cultur-Lab explored growing and the magic of trees, the biodiversity parade in the Peace park celebrated the local flora and fauna, and the Tara Hill Art Trails organised by Gorey School of Art engaged families with outdoor art activities accessible through QR codes on the day. Amongst all the activity on the day the winners of the *This is Art* competition were announced with a Wexford artist taking the top prize in the 16- 18 year old category. Cruinniú na nÓg is a collaboration between the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, the Creative Ireland Programme, local authorities and RTÉ.

South-East Greenway Art project

An Open call for artists took place in May 2022 for expressions of interest from visual artists for a public art commission along the South-East Greenway valued at €20,000. Led by the Arts office and Special Projects Team, and funded through Wexford's Creative Ireland programme, the focus of this project is on socially engaged arts practice with a professional artist developing art work in collaboration with local communities and surrounding areas. The work must respond to the context of the South-East Greenway and related themes identified in the artists brief along the Wexford rural route. This process will result in public art presented along the Greenway for visitors to experience and share. Closing date for expressions of interest: Thursday 23 June 2022 and selection panel meets at the end of June.

'Re-Imagining Enniscorthy' Public Art & Community Decarbonisation

To coincide with National Biodiversity Week in May 'Re-Imagining Enniscorthy', a public art & community engagement project, led by visual artist Elaine Harrington and Ciara Roche, aims to develop a local ecology network for people led climate action, based in Enniscorthy. This project is supported Creative Ireland and the Per Cent for Art Scheme and is supported by the Arts Department and Climate Action Team of Wexford County Council.

The project aims to create a local ecology network through differing strands of community food growing, and free community workshops, connecting private, public, and communal green spaces in the town. The project runs from April 2022 – April 2023 and it aims to continue and have a legacy for local communities in Enniscorthy and surrounding districts.

Summer 2022 online training supports for artists

Funded through Creative Ireland and delivered by Visual Artists Ireland (VAI) the Arts Department has arranged ***Starting & Re-Starting Your Career*** a webinar (via zoom) for Wexford artists to attend on 22nd June. This webinar addressed entering the art world and focused on those artists who may have lapsed practices and wished to re-establish themselves, their studio practice and begin producing work again. Another webinar and in person clinic will be advertised in July.

Creativity in Older Age Scheme – My Place, My Community: A Memoir

My Community: A Memoir is a project where older people from the estates of Belvedere, Ashfield and Ferndale at Coolcotts, Wexford come together to tell the story of their place and the people who lived there through story, film and song over the last 40 years. Some tales will take the reader back in time to when the three estates were first built; others will offer a contemporary perspective on the area's recent history and culture. Many of these stories will reflect how life in the locality has changed dramatically down through the years, particularly for members of the original community. Contributors will include settled people, members of the Travelling community, those from the more recently-arrived 'new communities' and from the diaspora.

Together they will publish a book that documents the collective memory of their community. It will feature photos from the archives, as well as some people's personal photos. A short film will document the creative process involved. It will complement the publication by featuring additional material that may include footage of the local area, footage shot during the song writing workshops, as well as short interviews or vox-pops with the participants. An intergenerational element will be included where possible, to transfer knowledge and skills, to compare experiences then and now and in the final celebration performance.

CIVIL DEFENCE

Civic Duties

We completed 18 civic duties to include

- 6th May Wexford Athletics Sinnott town Lane
- 7th May Darkness into Light New Ross
- 8th May Wexford Athletics – Sports Hub
- 8th May CBS – 5K Run
- 13th May Wexford Athletics – Senior Road Race
- 15th May Wexford Athletics Sports Hub
- 20th May Wexford County Council – Blue Flag Beach Awards
- 22nd May Fleadh Ceol, Wexford CBS
- 11th June Community Games Bree
- 12th June Wexford Athletics Sports Hub
- 17th June Wexford Athletics Sports Hub
- 18th June Bumblance – Fund Raiser Wexford Quays
- 19th June Rebellion Day, Enniscorthy 1798 Centre
- 24th June Wexford County Council – Skeator Rock Official Opening
- 25th June Community Games Finals – Sports Hub
- 26th June Glynn 5K Run
- 26th June Relay For Life – 5k Walk Min Ryan Park
- 26th June Waterford Viking Marathon

IBTS Supports

Gorey Clinic 9th May, 10th , 11th and 12th June in Gorey

Weekly Training

Weekly training is continuing in Wexford, Enniscorthy, Gorey and New Ross.

FIRE SERVICES

Wexford Fire Service Report May 2022

Call statistics

Incident Type	Calls May 2022	Calls to date 2022	Calls to this period 2021
Chimney fire (WCC / Private)	0 / 1 (1)	47	79

Domestic fire (WCC / Private)	2 / 5 (7)	39	31
Road Traffic Accident	18	61	27
Industrial fire	3	4	5
Commercial fire	0	3	1
Assembly fire	0	1	2
Agricultural fire	1	2	5
Motor Vehicles	3	10	9
Forest/bog/grass etc	5	38	39
Rubbish	3	13	19
Non-fire rescues	5	25	38
False alarms – good intent	16	98	82
Malicious false alarms	0	1	0
Miscellaneous	6	29	22
Total	68	371	359

Fire calls by brigade to date

INCIDENT TYPE	WEXFORD	GOREY	ENNISCORTHY	NEW ROSS	BUNCLODY	TOTAL
CHIMNEY FIRE	13	10	10	11	3	47
DOMESTIC FIRE	19	8	3	8	1	39
ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	17	10	22	8	4	61
INDUSTRIAL FIRE	3	0	0	1	0	4
COMMERCIAL FIRE	0	1	2	0	0	3
ASSEMBLY FIRE	1	0	0	0	0	1
AGRICULTURAL FIRE	0	0	2	0	0	2
MOTOR VEHICLES	0	5	2	2	1	10
FOREST/BOG/GRASS ETC	10	14	6	0	8	38
RUBBISH	4	3	3	3	0	13
NON-FIRE RESCUES	14	3	5	3	0	25
FALSE ALARMS - GOOD INTENT	47	17	16	13	5	98
MALICIOUS FALSE ALARMS	0	0	1	0	0	1
MISCELLANEOUS	13	5	6	4	1	29
TOTALS	141	76	78	53	23	371

Fire Safety Certificate Applications

Number of Applications received in May 2022:	10
Number of Applications received to date:	57
Number of Applications to this period 2021:	42

Finance:

Budget 2023

The Finance (Local Adjustment Factor) Regulations 2022 are to be issued shortly. It is expected that these regulations will revert the Local Property Tax (LPT) public consultation period and Local variation factor decision timeline to the pre 2021 timelines. The 2021 timelines were amended to facilitate the national LPT revaluation exercise.

It is expected therefore that the 30 day public consultation period will be completed in August.

The results of the public consultation exercise will feed into the first statutory decision in relation to preparation of Wexford County Council's 2023 Budget, the Local Property Tax – Local Adjustment Factor (LAF), which is expected to be included on the agenda for the September meeting. Members will be required to make a decision on the local variation factor for the 2023 Local Property Tax charge in the county and a report will be issued to members in advance of that meeting to facilitate their consideration of this decision. The report will include details of the public consultation and we also expect to have details of the outcome of the national revaluation exercise and its impact on LPT levels in County Wexford from 2023 and will include these in the report together with other relevant information to assist the decision making process.

Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan (RIHL) and Local Authority Home Loan (LAHL)

Circular 20/2022 of 3rd June 2022 has confirmed that due to an increase in the cost of finance from the Housing Finance Agency (HFA)², the fixed interest rate for all new loans drawn down under the Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan (RIHL) and under the Local Authority Home Loan (LAHL) will increase from 1 July 2022.

This notification will result in changes to customer interest rate which will also increase under both the Rebuilding Ireland Home Loans and Local Authority Home Loans, and these increases also became effective from 1 July 2022. The following table provides a summary of the changes now being applied to all new loan drawdowns

Loan Type	Duration	Existing Rate	New Rate	Increase
RIHL/LAHL	Up to 25 years	2.495%	2.845%	0.350%
RIHL/LAHL	25 to 30 years	2.745%	2.945%	0.200%

- These HFA interest rate increases will be passed on to new borrowers for new mortgages drawn down from 1 July 2022 onwards.
- The new interest rates will be 2.845% for mortgages up to 25 years and 2.945% for mortgages between 25 and 30 years.
- The interest rates on existing mortgages will not be affected.

Audit of Accounts 2021

In accordance with the Local Government (Financial and Audit Procedures) Regulations 2014, the Local Government Auditor will formally commence the Audit of Wexford County Council Accounts for 2021.

Audit Committee

The next meeting of the Audit Committee is scheduled for October and is expected to include consideration of the 2021 Statutory Audit Report.

Cash Flow/Overdraft

The Council continues to operate with an overdraft facility, Ministerial Sanction is in place for borrowing by way of overdraft in the amount of €20m for the period to the 31st December, 2022.

Eamonn Hore,
A/Chief Executive.