



Chief Executive's Report

County Council Meeting 13.06.22

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Local Enterprise Office

National Awards for Wexford students at Student Enterprise Finals

Students from Ramsgrange Community School and Gorey Community School have taken prizes at this year's Student Enterprise Programme National Finals. The Finals of the Local Enterprise Office initiative were held physically for the first time in three years at the Helix in Dublin with An Tánaiste Leo Varadkar and host RTE's Rick O'Shea, with students and teachers in attendance from all over the country.

Ramsgrange Community School students won second prize for their enterprise 'Little People, Big Pasts' in the Intermediate category.



Niall O'Shaughnessy, Gorey Community School was awarded Best Business Report in the Senior category for his enterprise 'Clonough Handmade Soaps'.



Ministerial Visit

Minister of State for Business, Employment & Retail, Damien English will visit the Local Enterprise Office Wexford on Thursday 30th June from 9am to 12.30pm. As part of his itinerary, he will meet with LEO staff and a number of client companies. Full details of the itinerary are currently being finalised.

Start-up / Priming grants





The number of grant applications from new start-up businesses in the manufacturing or internationally traded services sector in Co Wexford is increasing, with 5 companies approved for priming grants totalling €170,000 since the start of 2022.

Economic Development

Streetscape Enhancement Scheme 2021

The final report on the Streetscape Enhancement Scheme was sent to the DRCD on 31/05/2022

| Name of Town | Number of Complete Applications | Amount Paid Out |
|--------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Enniscorthy | 26 | €47,777.00 |
| Gorey | 17 | €36,092.00 |
| New Ross | 34 | €81,291.32 |
| Rosslare | 5 | €12,441.00 |
| Total | 82 | €177,601.32 |

| Before Photos | After Photos |
|---|--|
| KILMORE | |
|  |  |
| NEW ROSS | |
|  |  |



GOREY



ENNISCORTHY



Georgia Southern University

Wexford County Council is delighted to welcome the first students from Georgia Southern University to commence their studies on campus on Tuesday 24th May last. Students are taking part in a number of courses in programs such as Irish Migration, Inquiry in Global or Humanities Issues and Education.

The classes for this current group of students continue until 16th June.

Remote Working Brochure for County Wexford



Following the pandemic the work patterns of society have changed significantly presenting opportunities for County Wexford on regional balanced development. A remote working brochure is being finalised to promote remote working facilities in County Wexford.

Tourism

County Wexford is set to welcome the 2022 Roses from all over the world with the exciting Wexford Rose Tour.

County Wexford has been selected to host the Roses from the 2022 Rose of Tralee International Festival on the Wexford Rose Tour this August.



County Wexford will host this tour by Visit Wexford and Wexford County Council. The Wexford Rose Tour will showcase all that County Wexford has to offer; from old stone castles to fun sandcastles, to catching waves and catching up with friends and where 33 new Roses meet for the first time and enjoy adventures together, creating memories that last a lifetime.

The Wexford Rose Tour will take place across 3 days in August where Roses from across Ireland, the USA, Canada, Britain, Germany, Australia, New Zealand and the Middle East will be treated to a jam-packed itinerary. The tour includes stops at some of Wexford's most recognisable landmarks as well as some of our best-kept secrets.

This tour is an ideal platform to promote County Wexford to the domestic Market as well as a global Audience, when the Montage of the Wexford Tour features on the Live Rose TV show to an audience of up to 1.2million viewers.

The Wexford Tour will also feature on Visit Wexford's social media platforms as well as the various social media platforms that the Rose of Tralee International Festival uses, both of whom have hundreds of thousands of followers worldwide.

The launch of the Wexford Rose Tour took place at Wexford County Council, County Hall on Tuesday 31st May. The attendees captured Instagram-worthy moments, and had the opportunity to meet and congratulate the newly crowned 2022 Wexford Rose Joy Quigley.



The Rose of Tralee International Festival will run from Friday 19th to Tuesday 23rd August when the 2022 Rose of Tralee will be crowned at Munster Technological University live on RTÉ One.

PLANNING

Planning Applications

Numbers are those received from the 23rd April 2022 until the 27th May 2022.

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| No. of valid applications | 162 |
| No. of invalid applications | 13 |
| Extension of Duration | 1 |
| Exempted Development Declaration | 6 |

Numbers are those received from the 1st January 2021 until 27th May 2022.

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| No. of valid applications | 640 |
| No. of invalid applications | 71 |
| Extension of Duration | 17 |
| Exempted Development Declaration | 22 |

Pre-Planning Applications

Numbers are as follows up until the 27th May 2022.

| | |
|--|---------|
| No. of open pre-planning requests | 138 |
| No. of pre-planning meetings completed | 93 |
| Average waiting time to meeting | 37 days |

Built, Cultural & Natural Heritage

- Funding has been received from the Local Biodiversity Action Fund 2022 for 4 projects in Co. Wexford. These are a countywide survey on barn owls, a countywide survey on wetlands, removal of invasive species from a historic graveyard and further funding for dune restoration works along the coast. The LBAF is funded via the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

Building Control (23rd April 2022 – 27th May 2022)

| | |
|---|----|
| ➤ Validated Commencement Notices: | 76 |
| ➤ Number of Building Control Inspections: | 75 |
| ➤ Validated Cert. of Compliance on Completion: | 23 |
| ➤ Number of Taking in Charge reports sent to the Districts: | 0 |

Forward Planning

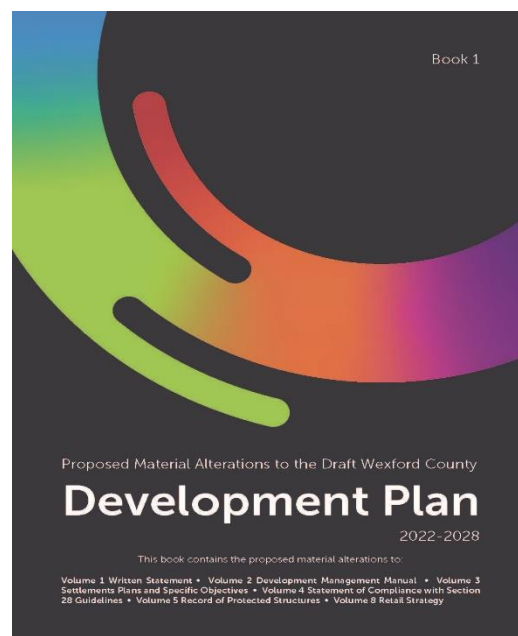
Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028

Following an engaging public consultation on the Draft Development Plan and consideration of the 168 submissions and observations received, the Members resolved to amend the Draft Plan. These amendments were deemed to be material in nature. The likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the Proposed Material Alterations (PMA) have been assessed. It was determined that certain PMA required Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). It was also determined that certain PMA required Appropriate Assessment (AA).

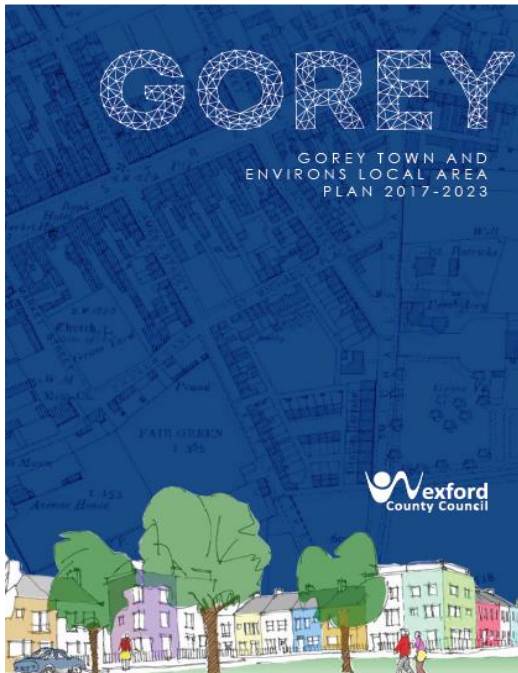
The Proposed Material Alterations (PMA), along with the Determinations, the SEA, and the AA, went on public display on Thursday, 7th April 2022 to Friday, 6th May 2022 inclusive. A total of 56 submissions and observations were received within the consultation period. A Chief Executive's Report is currently being prepared which will be submitted to the Members for their consideration. The Members have approved a special meeting of Wexford County Council on the 13th June 2022 to consider the PMA to the Draft Plan and the Chief Executive's Report.

Following completion of their considerations, the Members shall, by resolution, make the Wexford County Development Plan 2022 - 2028 with or without the PMA. The Members may decide to accept a PMA subject to any modifications to the PMA that they consider appropriate, which may include the making of a further modification to the PMA. In this regard a further modification to a PMA—

- (a) May be made where it is minor in nature and therefore not likely to have significant effects on the environment or adversely affect the integrity of a European site.
- (b) Shall not be made where it relates to—
 - (i) an increase in the area of land zoned for any purpose, or
 - (ii) an addition to or deletion from the Record of Protected Structures.



The Plan will come into effect 6 weeks after the day the Members make the Plan, save for any part of the Plan that may become the subject of a Minister Direction pursuant to Section 31 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended).



Extension of Duration of the Gorey Town and Environs Local Area Plan 2017 – 2023

The Members requested a report from the Chief Executive on the appropriateness of extending the lifetime of the Gorey Town and Environs Local Area Plan at the March monthly meeting. Following consideration of the Chief Executive's Report, at the meeting of Wexford County Council held on Monday, 9th May 2022, the Members resolved to extend the duration of the Local Area Plan for a period for up to three years in accordance with Section 19(1)(d) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). The Notice of the Resolution was published in local newspapers and on the Council's website. The notice of the Resolution and the Chief Executive's Report that informed the Members decision is available for

public inspection online on the Council's website (under the Gorey Town and Environs Local Area Plan section) and in hard copy format in the Planning Department and in the Gorey – Kilmuckridge Municipal District Offices.

Planning Enforcement

The number of planning enforcement cases as at 27th May 2022 are as follows: -

| | |
|----------------|-----|
| • Live Cases | 337 |
| • Cases Opened | 16 |
| • Cases Closed | 29 |

Derelict Sites, Dangerous Structures and Vacant Sites

Report from 23rd April 2022 to 27th May 2022 as follows: -

- 19 property inspections/visits conducted.
- 5 property owners currently engaged with the County Council to carry out remedial works so that the properties will not be placed on the Derelict Site Register.

Engaging with the following: -

1. Bradys, The Faythe
2. Westgate Tavern, Wexford Town
3. Meadowlands, Bunclody
4. Mansfield Drive, Wexford Town
5. Ballygillane Big, Rosslare

- 3 Dangerous Structure Notices issued.
 1. 27 & 28 Mary Street, New Ross.
 2. 10 Beackwalk, Seafield, Ballymoney.
 3. Maisies, Kilmuckridge
- 1 property (Gladneys, New Ross) submitted to Property Management Unit for CPO appraisal.

Disability Access Certificates (DACs):

The number of valid DAC applications, for the period from 1st January 2022 up to and including 27th May 2022, totals **32**.

| Applications Districts | Total for Districts | Await Assessment | Further Info. | Granted | Refused |
|------------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------|-----------|----------|
| Enniscorthy | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Gorey | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| New Ross | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Wexford | 12 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 0 |
| Rosslare | 11 | 2 | 0 | 9 | 0 |
| 2022 Totals | 32 | 6 | 8 | 18 | 0 |

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

The Vision Impaired Community Walking Programme, an initiative of Vision Sports Ireland, had its first walk on the morning of Saturday 14th May with many in Gorey Town Park – one of Wexford County Council's Accessible Trails & Destination Parks. It was a very successful walk, with a second outing scheduled for Saturday June 11th in Min Ryan Park.

Works to improve and enhance the walkway in Carrigfoyle Quarry Trail are scheduled to commence in June.

2021-2023 Disability Participation and Awareness Funding Projects

Innovative Community Engagement (I.C.E.)

On-site workshops with each of the participating community groups concluded on Friday 13th May. Each workshop was attended by Access Section staff, representatives of the community group, and staff and service users of local stakeholder groups. Minutes were taken at each workshop and circulated, containing suggested actions for consideration. Participating groups are currently in the process of considering their proposals, to be finalised upon receipt of costings for works. All five Municipal Districts are represented by one or more groups in this project, except for the Borough District of Wexford.

New Ross Municipal District

The Raheen Family Resource Centre is the only group which presented from the New Ross Municipal District for participation in this project. A very successful workshop was held on-site in April, with the group currently considering their project proposals to be finalized in the coming weeks. A further workshop between the Access Section, stakeholder groups and Raheen FRC is expected to be held in early June.

Enniscorthy Municipal District

The Enniscorthy Municipal District has two groups who have presented to participate in this project - Bunclody Day Care Centre and Kiltealy C.D.A. Both groups are currently finalising their respective projects and are engaging with contractors regarding quotations for works.

Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District

Four groups have presented to participate in this project from the Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District - Monageer Parish Grotto Group, Gorey Rangers FC, Ballycanew Men's Shed and Ballycanew-Ballyoughter C.D.A.

Following successful workshops with each group, proposals are currently being finalised and costed. Further workshops are scheduled for both Ballycanew Men's Shed and Ballycanew-Ballyoughter C.D.A. in early June.

Rosslare Municipal District

Rosslare Community & Sports Centre & Our Lady's Island C.D.A. are the two participating groups based in Rosslare Municipal District. Two very informative and enjoyable workshops were held with these groups, with staff and service users from local stakeholder groups Windmill Therapeutic, Rehab Group and St. Aidan's Services all in attendance. The participating groups are now considering the feedback from the workshops, with proposals for their projects due to be finalised in the coming weeks.



**1. Irish Water Asset
Delivery**

2. Minor Capital

**3. Rural Water
Programme**

4. Water Conservation

Water Services Monthly Report



COVID -19

- Water Services is operating in line with COVID-19 Local Authority Standard Operating Procedures issued by the LGMA.

1. Irish Water – Asset Delivery



Capital Schemes

| | |
|--|--|
| Enniscorthy Network Upgrade | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Survey works are now complete and design of the hydraulic model for the sewerage network is proceeding well 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 will has been agreed to be designed in 2022 which is progressing to site investigation |
| Enniscorthy Intake Project | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ 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 delivered in 2023➤ Preliminary design report has been completed and under review |
| Wexford Drainage Area Plan | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ 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 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Complete drainage model of the Gorey/Courtown foul drainage system➤ Tender evaluation January 2022, with start onsite Q2 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 |

| | |
|---|--|
| 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 |
| Gorey Regional Water Supply | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Gorey RWSS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To be upgraded and new 8 ml/day WTP and 7,500m3 reservoir provided at Ballyminaun. ➤ Ballyminaun <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Planning granted to upgrade borehole sites and build new WTP at Ballyminaun. ○ CPO completed ○ Contract awarded to Glan Agua ○ Operational date early 2022 ➤ New Treatment plant and storage site at Ballyminaun <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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 |
| 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 and regional contractor. • Mains Rehabilitation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently completing the 2.2km mains rehab in Cahore / Ballygarrett and will commence on the Old Dublin Road in mid-June until September. |
| Ferns Sewerage Upgrade | <p>➤ Irish Water has advised that this project is to be re started with design works in Q2 2022. Further delivery dates to be confirmed.</p> |


2. Minor Capital



| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| IW Minor Water Schemes | <p>➤ Disinfection Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Disinfection upgrade project at 98% complete county wide excluding snagging. ○ Snagging on-going at various sites. <p>➤ Treated Water storage programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3 sites in Wexford – Kilmallock bridge, Camolin and Killealy. ○ Kilmallock Bridge Reservoir planning granted; Tender to be issued Q2 2022 with start onsite early 2023 |
| IW Minor Wastewater Schemes | <p>➤ Stimulus Funding - Pump Upgrades</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The pump controls at Keelogue 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. <p>➤ Stimulus Funding – SCADA Upgrades</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SCADA upgrades at 9 No. WWPSs across the Wexford Town collection network began December 2021. Six sites have now been completed, with the |

| | |
|--|---|
| | <p>remainder underway expected to be completed during Q2 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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. ○ Civil and MEICA works are now complete at Blackwater WWTP to improve energy efficiency and process control necessary to deal with fluctuations in loading. |
| IW Capital Maintenance | <p>➤ The capital maintenance budget for 2022 has been adjusted to €1,777,800</p> <p>➤ The latest available report from Irish Water shows spend to end of April at €616,302.</p> |
| New Connections | <p>➤ Connection works are ongoing county wide through May 2022</p> |
| Non Irish Water Small Capital Schemes | <p>➤ Somer's Way Pumping Station, Ballycullane</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Decommission WWTP, construct PS and rising main to connect to Ballycullane WWTP. ○ Civil works to the PS are now complete on site and M&E works have been snagged and are now practically complete on site. Foul flows are now being pumped forward to the Irish Water WWTP. <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. Decision awaited from the Department regarding design proposal. Survey works underway for detailed design. ➤ 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 |
|--|--|

| | |
|--|---|
| 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. ○ May 2022, awaiting response from the Dept. |
| 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 |

| | |
|---|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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. |
| 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 11 new well grant applications were registered in May 2022. ○ 26 Well Grants have been paid in March to date, totalling €54,190. ○ 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 under development for prioritisation of locations for submission. ○ Limited to max two applications per Local Authority |

4. Water Conservation



| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water Conservation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Consumption <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Countywide consumption for May 2022 was 44.18MLD. This figure is up 0.35MLD on 2021 figures. |
| Leak Detection & Repair | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Leak repairs Leak repairs are on-going throughout the county. 32nr operational leak repairs were completed in May 2022. ➤ Planned Leak Detection (PLD) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Planned leak detection was focused mainly in Rosslare, Wexford, Bunclody and Camolin. ○ Fardystown, South Regional and Gorey Rural are areas targets for leak detection. ○ Acoustic Loggers were deployed in Rowe St and Wygram in Wexford town. 27nr points of interest were noted to be investigated further. Further loggers will be deployed in New Ross and Enniscorthy. |

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Water Network Programme | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Rehab Submissions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ballygarret to Cahore rehab work was commenced March 2022. ➤ Find and Fix <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ LA Find crews were concentrated in South Regional. ○ 8nr repairs created savings of 6.6m³/hr in New Ross, Arthurstown and Wexford during May 2022. ○ Contractor Find crews completed Bunclody investigations and commenced initial investigations in Murntown DMA. ➤ BYS Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Shareridge commenced main installation in St Johns Villas, Enniscorthy. ➤ Pressure Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PRV replacements underway in Gorey and Wexford areas. ➤ First Fix <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Shareridge are conducting First Fix investigations and repairs around the county. |
|--------------------------------|--|

ROADS & TRANSPORTATION

NATIONAL ROADS

N11/N25 Oilgate to Rosslare Harbour

Tender documents for a geotechnical investigation contract are being finalised and it is anticipated that fieldworks could commence in September after the main harvest seasons. The Project Liaison Officer will engage with all impacted landowners before commencement. Environmental surveys within proposed corridor are ongoing.

The initial design has been completed and distributed to the Project's Management Group members for comments. The design development will evolve through the year in tandem with the development of transport studies, ground investigation data, environmental assessments etc. The development of the design will generate increasing engagement with land and property owners.

N25 Rosslare Europort Access Road

Documentation for a planning application and Compulsory Purchase Order have been finalised for approval and it is anticipated that a Section 177AE planning application & CPO will be submitted to An Bord Pleanála by the middle of the June following approval to proceed. Phase 3 gateway review has been signed off by TII with approval to proceed to Phase 4 (Statutory Process) of the Project.

A project newsletter will also be published in advance of the planning application and will be circulated in local outlets and public buildings in Rosslare Harbour as well as the project website and social media to provide the public with further information on the planning process.

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 the 10th March. Due to the traffic volumes on the N11 this scheme will need to be carried out at night.

Works should commence in the first half of May with a 3-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 for latter end of June.

Pavement works should commence in August/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 July.

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 programmed to be complete in October 2022.

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 in early 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 the 25th. December 2021

Former National - 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 July.

Winter Maintenance

The 2021/2022 winter maintenance programme commenced on Monday 18th October 2021. There were 50 call outs up to Monday 25th April 2022.

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 31 January 2022 at Bola Beg, Ballindaggan.

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

Loggan; (Gorey-Kilmuckrdge District); Mr Oil to Adamstown Village; Grange/Ballybawn; Coleman Lane; Carrigadaggan; (All in New Ross District); Grange; St Martins Road Rosslare; Gregg; (All in Rosslare District); Glasganny Castlebridge; Cullentra; (Both in Wexford Borough District).

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

Clonmore; Ballynapierce; (Both in Enniscorthy District); Monarrig; Monageer to Ballymotey; Blackwater Golf Course; Ballinahask / Kilnew; (All in Gorey-Kilmuckrdge District); St Leonards to Taulaught; Forestalstown; Ballinatarsna to Burkestown; (All in New Ross District); Galbally/Sinnottsmill Castlebridge; (Both in Wexford Borough District).

Surface Dressing Works

The 2022 surface dressing programme will commence 10 June in Enniscorthy MD.

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 Wexford Borough District.

Local Improvement Schemes

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

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.

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.

Christmas 2021 Severe Weather Damage

Repair works are complete on damaged structures and roads reopened at Kilcarbry, Ballinavary, Gurteen, Raheen. Temporary access is in place at Chapel Bridge, Adamstown and Kiltilly Bridge pending statutory consents to proceed with permanent works. Delivery of a second bailey bridge to facilitate temporary access at Cullenstown Little is expected shortly.

Applications for minor works funding in Bridgetown and Duncormick have been submitted to OPW.

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 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.

General Maintenance

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

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.

It is hoped to complete the upgrade of the remaining 300 to 400 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.
- Ballinray, Courtown – Works completed. Awaiting ESB connection.

Further works are planned,

Gorey Town Park – replacement of defective / broken lighting

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.

Just One Life Road Safety Campaign

Now that covid restrictions have eased, the Just One Life Road Safety Campaign in conjunction with the Rotary Club, An Garda Síochána, the National Ambulance Service, Mental Health Ireland, the Fire Service & the HSE was re-introduced. Three events were held in the National Opera House in March & April to transition year students from schools around County Wexford. These events will continue in the new 2022/2023 school year.

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 undertaken in June.

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 consent application will be advertised in June.

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.

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 late June 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. Lots 1 and 2 are the urban sections at Rosbercon & Ferrybank and Lot 3 extends from Raheen to Glenmore. Works on Lots 1 & 3 are scheduled for substantial completion by June 2022.

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 June 2022. Lot 6 (Glenmore) will follow with tender documents expected to be advertised in July/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 following lifting of Level 5 restrictions. 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. Pedestrian road crossings, surfacing works and paving to the landing area are underway. 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.



1.10 Monck Street Enhancement Scheme

The contract has been awarded for the advance supply of natural stone paving materials. Delivery commenced in January 2022 and progressing.

Tenders for the main works contract have been assessed and a contract for works has been awarded to Tony Kirwan Civil Engineering Ltd.

Street works commenced on site the week of 21/03/2022 and are expected to be completed in late July 2022.

1.11 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.

An application for category 1 capital funding under the RRDF scheme was submitted in April 2022. Tender documents for the works contract are expected to issue in July.

1.12 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.

1.13 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.

1.14 Esmonde Street

RPS is progressing with the detailed design. Priority Geotech Ltd undertook site investigation works in September. 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 is still in progress.

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

1.15 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.

1.16 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.

1.17 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 and 2 tenders have been received and is being assessed. The tourism coordinator will assist with the procurement of interpretative design services and we would expect an appointment of interpretive designer by mid-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.

1.18 Enniscorthy 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.

1.19 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.

1.20 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.

1.21 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 commenced on 11th May 2022 with the window for receipt of submissions closing on June 10th.

1.22 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.

Detailed design is programmed to be completed in July with an award of the initial works contract (demolition works) in October 2022. The main car park works contract is expected to commence in Q1 2023.

1.23 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.

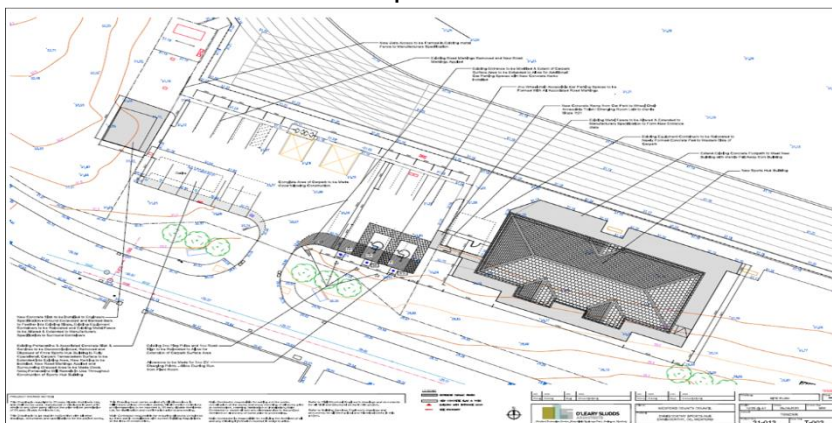
1.24 Old Dublin Road Business Park, Enniscorthy

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 after the June bank holiday.

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

1.25 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 a tender advertisement for the works will issue in June. It is expected that a works contract will



be awarded in Q3 2022.

1.26 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 this 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 are to issue a programme of work – planning is expected to be submitted in Q2 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 in to be returned on July 4th.

REPORT ON CORPORATE ACTIVITIES

1. FOI OFFICE REQUESTS

| Type | |
|--|-----------|
| Freedom of Information | 12 |
| Customer Complaint | 6 |
| Ombudsman Complaint | 3 |
| Access to Information on the Environment | 0 |
| Data Access Request | 1 |
| Total | 22 |

2. PROCUREMENT SECTION ACTIVITY

Tenders

| | |
|------------------------|----|
| No uploaded | 6 |
| No of tenders received | 13 |

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

| Area | | May |
|-------------------------|--|--------|
| Agricultural Burns | | 7 |
| Environment Complaints | | 277* |
| Change of Circumstances | | 58 |
| Housing Validation | | 120 |
| Quick Calls | | 607 ** |
| Road Faults Log | | 39 |
| Emails | | 2421 |
| | a. <i>Incoming External Emails</i> | 563 |
| | b. <i>Incoming Internal Emails</i> | 500 |
| | c. <i>Emails forwarded externally</i> | 1102 |
| | d. <i>Emails Replied to internally</i> | 256 |
| Total | | |

* 94 (34%) of these calls relate to Community Clean Ups

** 141 (23%) of these calls are in respect of various Housing Services, 47 (33%) of which are for Housing Maintenance.

4. MEMBERS PORTAL QUERIES May 2022

| Section | Closed | Open | Total |
|---|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Environment | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Gorey - Kilmuckridge Municipal District | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Housing | 0 | 31 | 31 |
| I.T. | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Roads | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Roads - Enniscorthy MD | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| Roads - Gorey - Kilmuckridge MD | 0 | 9 | 9 |
| Roads - Wexford MD | 0 | 5 | 5 |
| Roads Rosslare Municipal District | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Total | 1 | 57 | 58 |

5. Social Media Stats May 2022

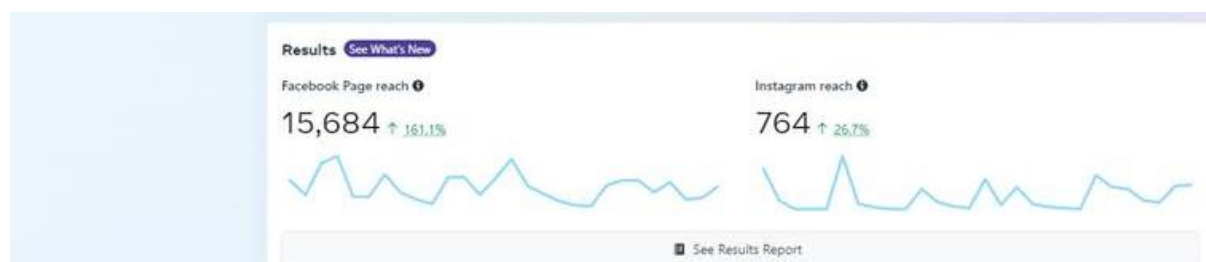
Twitter stats May 2022

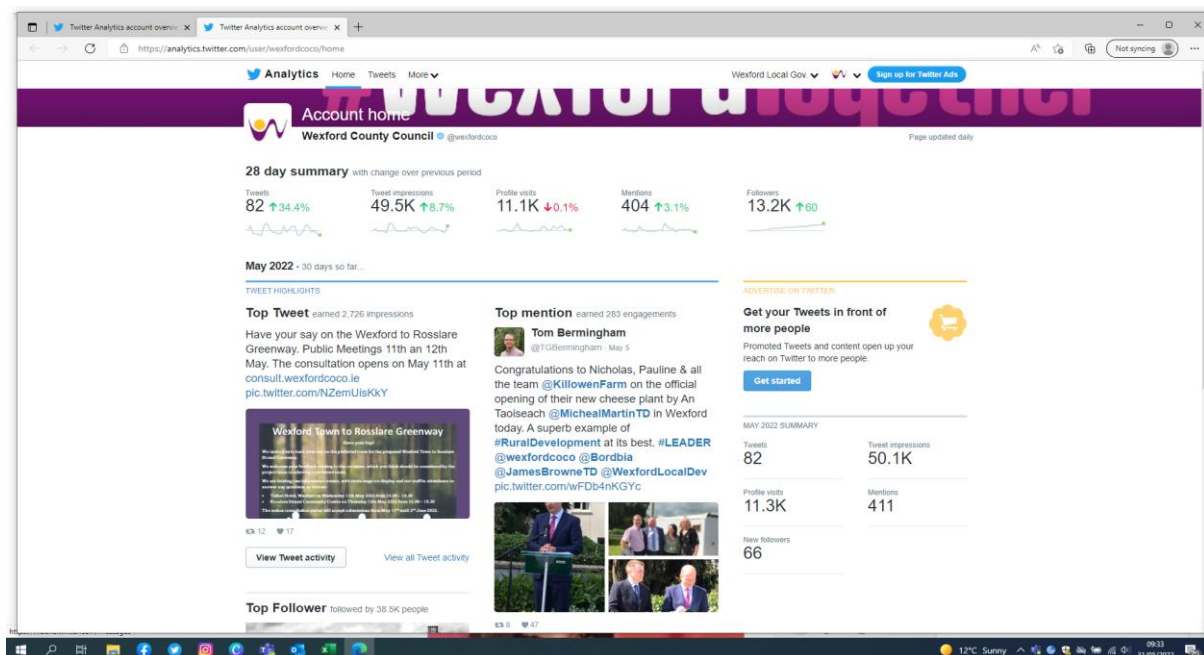
28 day summary with change over previous period



May 2022 • 30 days so far...

Facebook and Instagram Reach May 2022





UKRANIAN RESPONSE UPDATE

A small staff team will be in place by mid-June and support will continue to be required from other sections in particular the community department the relevant district offices.

There are three main elements to the work;

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

The Framework is constituted under nationally agreed themes each with a designated lead. The Forum meets monthly with the sub-groups meeting more frequently if required. Each lead agency provides a report on their thematic area. The IPAS contact for Wexford does not attend and accommodation updates are provided by Wexford County Council. The Forum is chaired by the Chief Executive and the last meeting took place on the 25th of May.

| 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 |

The most pressing issue reported at the meeting of the 25th of May is access to summer activities for children and young people. A full listing of activities is being prepared and gaps and access issues will be examined.

The work done by the various agencies is supported by community and voluntary 'Friends of Ukraine' groups in each district.

No. 2 Red Cross Pledged Properties

A list of 137 potential self-contained properties was issued from the Department of Children. Wexford County Council staff have completed 25 property inspections, several families have moved into properties with more in progress. We are using a qualitative approach to ensure a good fit between families and hosts so that arrangements are sustainable. Own door properties will be assessed before shared accommodation.

No.3 Other Accommodation Options

The Department of Housing, Heritage and Local Government have asked each Local Authority to submit details of potential longer term communal accommodation type projects. The properties identified are in private ownership and are in various states of repair for example the former Garda Station in Wexford Town.

Other issues

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 displaced 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 |
|--|----------------|-------------------------|--|--|
| Carley's Bridge | 17 | Enniscorthy | Houses Complete | Houses complete 28 th Feb 2022. Keys handed over. Project complete ahead of target and on budget. |
| Ballycullane | 2 | New Ross | Houses Complete | Both Houses complete and keys handed over in March 22. |
| The Ballagh | 7 | Gorey / Kilmuckridge | Under Construction | IW made wastewater connection on 30 th May, 2022. Handover in late June/early July 2022. |
| Castlebridge TAP | 1 | Wexford | Under Construction | Snagging underway. To hand over in June 22 |
| Ross Road | 1 | Enniscorthy | House Complete | Painting complete. To hand over in June 22 |
| 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 DHPLG May 2022. |
| 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 to be negotiated with contractor. Phase 2 and cost contribution for pump station to be agreed with DHPLG. Costs with neighboring contractor nearing agreement and pumpstation is in place and ready for testing by IW. |
| Ballyhine, Barntown | 7 | Wexford | Stage 3 | Part VIII approved. Stage 3 to be lodged in Q2 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 will be submitted in Q2 2022 |
| 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 appointed for the enabling works i.e. Knotweed and Site Clearance. Enabling works including tendering expected to take 6 months. Revised Stage 1 submitted 5 April 2022. Awaiting approval from DHPLG. |
| Francis St. | 2 | Wexford | Stage 2 | Stage 1 approved on 4 th Oct. 21. Consultants appointed. Stage 2 in Q2 22 |
| Killeens | 45+ | Wexford | Stage 1 | Design Team selected through OGP in May 2022. Officially appoint team in June 22. Reviewing densities presently versus draft Development Plan. |
| Creagh | 22 | Gorey / Kilmuckridge | Stage 1 | A revised Stage 2 will be lodged in Q2 2022. Appointing new consultants and we have increased numbers to 22 for VFM, higher densities and to incorporate more smaller units in line with requirements and the housing need in the Gorey area. 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 June 2022 |
| Newtown, Ferns | 1 | Enniscorthy | Site clearance Q2 Delayed due to an amount of Knotweed on site. |
| 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 | Proposal to demolish and construct 2 No 2 bed and 1 no 1 bed apartments on the site has been submitted. ESB and EIR wires to be undergrounded as Phase1.-Tenders out for engineering services to manage the demolitions. Tenders for engineering due 7 June 2022. |
| 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. Tender for engineering Services in June 2022 for demolitions. |
| TOTAL | 15 | | |

Longer Term Projects

| Project Address | No of Units | Municipal District Area | Comment |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------------------|--|
| Tagoat | 18 | Rosslare | Topographical Survey complete. Knotweed Management Company appointed. We have reviewed design for better density, value for money. Environmental surveys underway re contamination and costs for access road are being assessed. |
| Clonard | 26 | Wexford | Site cleared March 2019 – design for inner relief road required before we can proceed. No change. Roads in discussion with Schools and neighbouring developer regarding the Inner Relief Road. On Hold until road is resolved. |
| TOTAL | 44 | | |

Other Projects (early feasibility)

| Project Address | No of Units | Municipal District Area | Comment |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------------------|--|
| Lacken | 1 | New Ross | Funding approval received, granted with a shortfall of circa €172K. Design underway for new dwelling. |
| Adamstown | 2 | New Ross | IW confirmed that there is capacity for the 2 houses in Adamstown so this job can now proceed to demolition of existing house. Engineer appointed for the demolition works. Demolition tender to contractors in Q2 2022. The 2 houses will have a with a total population equivalent (PE) of 8 |
| Belvedere | 6 | Wexford | Revised proposal to be Prepared. Q3 2022 |
| Creagh | 24 | Gorey / Kilmuckridge | Sketch design prepared for site investigations and surveys. Awaiting a confirmation that land will be transferred back to Housing. |
| Grogan's Road | 4 | Wexford | Pre planning approved. Stage 1 approved 16 th Nov 21. Design has been revised to incorporate 4 apartments. New Pre Planning required. Then proceed to Stage 2 in Q3 2022 subject to confirmation of IW feasibility. |
| TOTAL | 37 | | |

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. |
| 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 |
| 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 |
| TOTAL | 242 | | |

Part V Acquisitions

| Project Address | No of Units | Municipal District Area | Comment |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|---|
| Roxborough Manor, Mulgannon | 22 | Wexford | 14 complete. Remaining units to deliver 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 |
| TOTAL | 70 | | |

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. |
| Cluain Beag, Clonard | 20 | Wexford | All units delivered |
| Ard an Bhile, Healysland, New Ross | 43 | New Ross | Commenced onsite. Expected to deliver late 2022/early 2023. |
| Roxborough Manor, Mulgannon | 13 | Wexford | Under Construction Delivery expected on phased basis in 2022. |
| Ard Uisce (Ph 3) | 8 | Wexford | Under Construction. Delivery expected Q2 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 | 172 | | |

The developer of the Clonhaston site has been in contact with the Housing Department advising that due to capacity issues with Irish Water, the number of units to be constructed will be significantly reduced. As a result, this turnkey proposal has been withdrawn.

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 31st May, 2022:

| Repairs | Enniscorthy | Gorey / Kilmuckridge | New Ross | Wexford | Rosslare | Total |
|--|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|---------|----------|-------|
| Repair Requests (1st – 31 st May 2022) | 105 | 71 | 104 | 89 | 63 | 432 |
| Repair Requests Year to Date | 545 | 394 | 633 | 636 | 324 | 2532 |
| Accommodation Units Repaired (1st – 31 st May 2022) | 94 | 57 | 73 | 74 | 52 | 350 |
| Accommodation Units Repaired Year to Date | 366 | 262 | 373 | 432 | 200 | 1632 |

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

Energy Efficiency/Retrofitting Programme 2022-2030

Wexford County Council has been advised by the Department that the target number of units to be completed under the Energy Efficiency/Retrofitting Programme for 2022, is 68. The funding being provided will allow for an average spend of €33,333 per property, with a further €2,365 being available per property for project management fees, bringing the overall average grant available to €35,698. The funding is to achieve a B2/Cost Optimal BER.

| BER Recorded | No. of Units | % |
|--------------------|--------------|-------------|
| No BER Rating | 2571 | 54% |
| A-C BER Rating | 765 | 16% |
| D-G BER Rating | 1421 | 30% |
| Total Stock | 4757 | 100% |

As can be seen from the above table, 54% of the housing stock currently have no BER ratings recorded. To address this, we propose to liaise with the SEAI to establish if BER ratings are available for some of these properties and will update our records accordingly.

It is also our intention to go to tender, to engage the services of Building Energy Rating (BER) Assessors to assess the remainder of the housing stock over a multi-annual programme. Newly assessed properties will be considered under future rounds of the Energy Retrofit Programme, having regard to the assessment criteria.

A report outlining the proposed property selection criteria was approved at the May SPC Meeting. The following outlines the selection criteria:

- The main criteria is the poorest BER rated houses to be prioritised ranging from G to D

Having Regard To:

- The number of units selected in each District will be on a pro rata basis having regard to the number of properties with a G to D BER within the District, as a percentage of the total number of units with a G to D BER across the County.
- Grouping of houses in close proximity, where possible, to maximise efficiency and economies of scale.
- Selection of a mix of house types e.g. 2-storey, mid terraced, bungalow etc. to maximise output and grant funding. Local authorities are entitled to claim a maximum of €33,333 (in 2022) per property but it can be averaged across all properties retrofitted. Bungalows, due to their footprint, tend to be more expensive and mid terrace, tend to be less expensive.
- Exceptional cases based on hardship/humanitarian grounds.
- Co-operation and buy-in from the tenants.
- Tenancies where there are significant rent arrears will not be prioritised.

A list of potential properties, which are pro rata (based on number of G to D properties in the District) spread across the Districts, has been forwarded to the Department for approval.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

LEADER PROGRAMME

The Article 48 team processed 13 LEADER claims in May. The value of these claims was €447,489.67 which will support 5 enterprises and 8 community groups throughout County Wexford.



These claims can be broken down as follows:

| Approved for Payment | Approved Payment |
|--|-------------------|
| 1. Faythe Harriers | €16,392.22 |
| 2. Tombrack Community Garden Association | €14,262.69 |
| 3. Enniscorthy Street Rhythms Dance Festival | €18,562.50 |
| 4. Tombrack Community Garden Association | €7,610.17 |
| 5. Wexford Rape & Sexual Abuse Support Service DAC | €440.14 |
| 6. Wexford Rape & Sexual Abuse Support Service DAC | €1,338.21 |
| TOTAL | €58,605.93 |

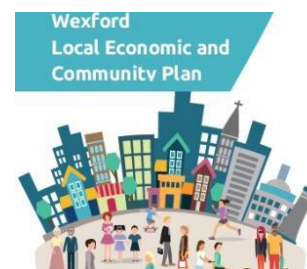
| Promoter Paid | Claim Payment |
|---|--------------------|
| 1. Greenhill Fruit Farm | €3,769.94 |
| 2. Purple & Gold Ltd. | €13,500.00 |
| 3. Crossabeg/Ballymurn Community Centre | €65,156.76 |
| 4. Ryan's Bakery Wexford Ltd. | €126,557.54 |
| 5. O'Regan Ironworks | €84,487.50 |
| 6. Riverchapel Community Complex Ltd. | €25,812.00 |
| 7. Wheelock Fruits | €69,600.00 |
| TOTAL | €388,883.74 |

| | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| TOTAL | € 447,489.67 |
|--------------|---------------------|

WEXFORD LOCAL ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY PLAN (LECP)

As a means of assisting Local Authorities with the drafting of Local Economic Community Plans, the Department of Rural Community Development have hosted three information/training events to date –

- LECP Webinar 1 – ‘*Getting started with the LECP process*’, 24th March 2022.
- LECP ‘*Economic Training Webinar*’ – which included an Overview of the Economic Elements of the LECP’s, Town Centre First Policy and Regional Economic Plans, 27th April.
- LECP ‘*Climate/Environment Training*’ Webinar’ Wednesday 25th of May 2022, with additional training webinars to follow.



As per the DRCD guidelines, work has commenced on establishing an ‘Advisory Steering Committee’ to assist in the preparation, drafting, adoption, implementation and monitoring of the LECP.

LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (LCDC) MEETING –

A hybrid meeting of the Local Community and Development Committee was held on the 26th of May 2022.

Agenda items included –

- SICAP,
- Local Economic Community Plan
- PPN
- Chief Officers Report



The next meeting of the Local Community and Development Committee is scheduled for the 23rd of June 2022.

LOCAL ACTION GROUP (LAG) MEETING -

A hybrid of Local Community Development Committee acting as the Local Action Group was held on the 26th of May 2022.



Items discussed included –

LEADER Transitional & EURI Programme – Administration Costs, Project Decommittments & Evaluation Committee Recommendations with the members approving funding for 9 Community projects totalling €180k under the funding programmes.

The next meeting of the Local Action Group is scheduled for the 23rd of June 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.



AGE FRIENDLY

Age Friendly Strategy 2022-26

The draft Wexford Age Friendly Strategy 2022-2026 was presented to the May Housing & Community SPC and the full Council meeting and was unanimously approved and adopted. A Ministerial launch by Minister Mary Butler, Minister of State for Mental Health and Older People took place on 30th May 2022.

WCC Age Friendly Creative Ireland funding for Day Care Centres

An application for grant funding submitted by Wexford County Council to the Creative Ireland Programme under the Creativity in Older Age Scheme 2022 was successful and secured funding of €32,140 to run a series of art and cultural activities in all Day Care Centres in the county over a 20-week period in 2022. The project is a joint initiative by the Community Section (Age Friendly Programme) and the Arts Department as part of their work on the WCC Culture Team.

Wexford Volunteer Expo 18th May 2022

Members of Wexford's Older Peoples Council attended the recent Volunteer Expo organised by Wexford Rotary Club and Wexford Volunteer Centre and held in the Talbot Hotel on 17th May. The event was a great opportunity to highlight the work of the Older Peoples Council members all of whom are volunteers as well as deal with queries raised by many older people in attendance.



Telehealth

Work on the Telehealth Pilot continues with Phase 2 of the project which will cover 5 counties in the South East including Wexford. The project will be led on this phase by the HSE with WCC on the stakeholder group.

Wexford National Opera House & St. Bridget's Day Care Centre, Wexford - Singing project "Musical Memories"

A collaborative musical project between The National Opera House and St. Bridget's Day Care Centre in Wexford Town, supported by Wexford County Council's Arts Dept. and Community Section's Age Friendly Programme culminated in a special presentation of "Musical Memories" in the National Opera House on Monday 23rd May. Devised by Elizabeth Drwal (vocal specialist and animateur) and Pete McCamley (actor, musician and animateur) they worked with the clients of St. Bridget's and looked at the songs that they liked and why, what memories they have around them and encouraged them to sing these songs. The project ran from 12th April to 23rd May and follows on from previous collaboration between Wexford County Council and the National Opera House which took place during the Festival Opera in 2021 with a number of outreach events.

Intergenerational Penpal Postcard project

The exchange of postcards on the 'Pen Pal Postcard' project is well underway between older people and teenagers throughout the county. The postcards which were designed by local artist John Busher, depict local landmarks and tell stories from the olden days. The project which was funded by the Government's Keep well campaign involves a series of postcard exchanges between older people based in Day Care Centres and on the Garda vulnerable person's database and teenagers from FDYS.



Healthy
Wexford

Healthy Ireland Funding

Initial details of the progression of Healthy Ireland Round Four funding have been provided to the Local Authority. This initial information suggests commencement of Round Four in January 2023, for a three year period with an interim programme to December 2022.

Healthy County Committee

The Healthy County Committee meeting of 10th May included a presentation on Substance Misuse Services in Wexford from Andy Hargreaves. Updates were given from the working groups & Members and a new working group created for the Period Products Project.

Some Recent Activity Updates:

Community Growing Gathering



Healthy Wexford collaborated with Wexford PPN to organise a Community Growers Gathering at Riverbank House Hotel on 19th May. The event included three informative and inspiring speakers, and an opportunity for growers to chat and network.

Speakers included

- Bridin Lyng-Moloney WWETB
- Lorraine Marrey Wexford Public Libraries,
- Dr Cara Daly, Plant Science Lecturer, SETU, Waterford

During the event Ann Lacey of Wexford PPN asked of growers interest in developing a community growers network or interest area within Wexford PPN. The response was a resounding yes and attendees were asked for suggestions of what this would include. Working together participants gave suggestions which will help to guide the future direction of this network.

Pilot Period Products Project – Stage one of the project is underway with roll out of dispensers, offering free product, to our five libraries and at County Hall. This is expected to be completed in the coming weeks and the newly formed working group will look at further project progression.



‘Not Around Us’ Beach Signage has begun to be rolled out at key beaches in collaboration with colleagues in the Environment Section. Locations included are Ballymoney, Morristcastle, Ballineskar, Curracloe, Rosslare Strand, Carne, Duncannon & Culleton’s Gap.

GARDA YOUTH AWARDS 2022

The 6th annual Co. Wexford Garda Youth Awards were launched in Co. Hall on the 9th of May. The Garda Youth Awards celebrate outstanding young people between 13 and 21 years of age and recognises the good work being done by young people throughout the communities. The awards acknowledge the young people who by their presence make their communities and society in general, a better place in which to live. They also acknowledge the endeavours of young people who have faced and overcome challenges in their life.

An Garda Síochána administer the Garda Youth Awards in County Wexford in association with Wexford County Council. Nominations can be made online at <https://www.wexfordcoco.ie/community/supports-grants-and-awards/garda-youth-awards>. Closing date for nominations is June 10th.



COMMUNITY FACILITIES PORTAL

Wexford County Council have developed a free on-line information sharing portal for not-for-profit community owned facilities, to inform the public, generate additional income for facility owners and promote usage. Many community facilities were under-utilised during the Covid restrictions, with a corresponding reduction in vital income. As society emerges from the Covid pandemic it is hoped that this initiative will be a useful tool for those wishing to use and/or hire not-for-profit community facilities. This initiative is aimed at promoting not for profit community facilities e.g. room/sports facilities available for use/hire, rather than general attractions/services e.g. tourism, walking trails, community services, etc.

Community facility owner are encouraged to submit their facility details at <https://www.wexfordcoco.ie/community/community-facilities-portal>

Information and map of facilities are also available at this location.



IPB Pride of Place 2022

Monageer Grotto, Park and Sensory Garden was runner up in the Creative Place category at the IPB Pride of Place awards ceremony held in the INEC in Killarney on the 16th of May. Pride of Place in association with Co-operation Ireland is an all-island competition that acknowledges the work that communities are doing all over the island of Ireland. It is recognition of the work being done to create viable, vibrant and visible communities.



CELTIC ROUTES

Filming for the Hero video has been completed in all Partner areas. Celtic Experience Collection businesses are being added to the website www.celticroutes.info. The Project organised and hosted a very successful showcasing event for EU Projects and particularly Ireland Wales funded projects in The Street on the 9th of May, with 9 Ireland Wales projects represented. Artwork, design and dissemination for marketing has all been approved for Stena Line and Irish Ferries for the summer months, along with the main billboard in Rosslare Europort. The first in person Steering Committee was held in Waterford on the 24th and 25th of May, with representatives of all Partner areas and contractors taking part. The Project Officer presented to both the Wexford District Council and the Enniscorthy Municipal District Council in May.



Europe Day, Wexford County Council, 9th May 2022.

Wexford Sports Active

| Area of Work | |
|--|--|
| Bike Week | Bike Week took place between the 14 th and 22 nd of May. Sports Active Wexford supported WexBUG and Courtown BMX club with events throughout the week. |
| Marathon Kids | Marathon Kids came to an end during May with over 900 children in 17 schools taking part. All children received a medal on completion of their Marathon over the 8 weeks. |
| Playground Leadership | By the end of May we will have 156 playground leaders from 4 th and 5 th class trained up in 8 primary schools. 188 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. |
| School Equipment | Equipment will be provided to a number of schools during May and June on loan to help with the increase of physical activity in schools. |
| Workplace Activity Programme | The new block of Online Yoga started on Wednesday 4 th May and takes place every Wednesday for four weeks from 7pm-7.40pm. Those who sign up have the option of doing the class live or receiving the recording to do in their own time over the next 7 days. Participants: 13 |
| Resistance Training in Knockeen Nursing Home | A 4-week resistance band programme commenced on Monday 23 rd in Knockeen Nursing Home to 20 participants ranging from 80 years old up to the age of 99 years old. |
| The Exercise Effect | All three exercise practitioners (North/South & CAMHS) are now fully in post and undergoing exercise interventions in the Mental Health Services. South is currently half way through their third block with 7 participants, North is in undergoing pre-assessment phase with 6 service users and CAMH is now completing their post-assessments with the third block. A project management meeting was held on the 4 th of May to discuss a new management structure for the IEP's. |
| Healthy Woodlands | The healthy woodlands programme is continuing for Havenview Residents in Tintern Abbey on a weekly |

| | |
|---|---|
| | basis on Tuesdays from 11am to 12pm. 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. |
| Vision Sports Ireland Visually Impaired Wexford Walks | The first VI Walk commenced on Saturday 14 th of May in Gorey Town Park with 4 participants and 1 participants parent. |
| Innovation Fund | SAW have now met with LIT & SETU to begin planning for the innovation fund project – Augmented Reality for people with disabilities. Coillte are project partners to help incorporate videos of the forests in Wexford into the Augmented Reality project. |
| Coaching Girls in Sport | 2 x Sport Ireland Coaching Teenage Girls in Sport workshop's completed. Total participants = 27 |
| 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 |
| Physical Activity Promotion Grant Scheme | Our Physical Activity Promotion Grant Scheme opened 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: 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. |



Mary, our Sports Development Officer, completed Playground Leader training with some of the senior students in Scoil Mhuire National School, Coolcotts, Wexford during May.



Participants really enjoyed our first Visually Impaired walk in Gorey Town park on 14th May in association with Vision Sports Ireland.

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 is scheduled for 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/>

ISPS requirements for Marshmeadows Jetty ongoing, the adjoining site has been purchased by GreenBioFuels.

The regularisation of the public lighting system on the Barrow has commenced.

The Pilot Boat Service for New Ross Port will be operated directly by the port from 1st Jan 2023.

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. Water Framework Directive:

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

2. Water Sampling:

A Total of 556 water quality samples are taken by Council Scientists from 85 sampling sites in the county per year with analysis carried out by the EPA. 11 surveillance sites are being sampled 12 times per year.

3. Septic Tank Inspections:

Works have been completed on inspections for 2022. 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 19 cases in the Court system for failing to comply with Advisory Notices. 5 of these are for hearing and 14 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.

4. 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 will be issued on the 1st of June 2022 with reminders to follow later in the year for those which remain unpaid.

5. 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.

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 April 2022 | Recycling out (End April) 2021 (t) | Recycling out (End April)2022 (t) |
|----------------|----------------------------|--|---|
| Glass bottles | | 1566 | 1330 |
| Aluminium Cans | | 42 | 33 |
| Total | 109 | 1608 | 1663 |

Household Recycling Centres –

| Summary of Activities | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|---|--|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| WASTE CATEGORY | Enniscorthy | | New Ross | | Holmestown | | Gorey | |
| | Recycling out Jan- Apr 2021 (t) | Recycling out Jan- Apr 2022 (t) | Recycling out Jan-Apr 2021 (t) | Recycling out Jan-Apr 2022(t) | Recycling out Jan- Apr2021 | Recycling out Jan - Apr 2022 | Recycling out Jan -Apr 2021 | Recycling out Jan-Apr 2022 |
| Total Recycling out | 225 | 207 | 248 | 220 | 294 | 286 | 197 | 173 |
| Total Domestic Waste in | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 882 | 788 | N/A | N/A |
| Daily Average Customers Jan-Apr | 2021 | 2022 | 2021 | 2022 | 2021 | 2022 | 2021 | 2022 |
| | 71 | 69 | 117 | 112 | 148 | 128 | 67 | 62 |

3 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 | <i>To end April 2021</i> | <i>April 2022</i> | <i>To end April 2022</i> | % +/- |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Total Illegal Dumping/ Clean Ups | 1,174 | 162 | 773 | -34% |
| <i>Gorey *</i> | | 28 | | |
| <i>Enniscorthy *</i> | | 41 | | |
| <i>Wexford *</i> | | 37 | | |
| <i>New Ross*</i> | | 29 | | |
| <i>Rosslare</i> | | 27 | | |
| Total Bring Site Inspections | 2,961 | 726 | 3,038 | +2.6% |
| <i>Gorey</i> | | 187 | | |
| <i>Enniscorthy</i> | | 182 | | |
| <i>Wexford</i> | | 223 | | |
| <i>New Ross</i> | | 111 | | |
| <i>Rosslare</i> | | 23 | | |
| Total Ringbuoy Inspections | 5,352 | 1,536 | 5,550 | +3.6% |
| <i>Gorey</i> | <i>North</i> | 448 | | |
| <i>Enniscorthy *</i> | | | | |
| <i>Wexford*</i> | <i>South</i> | 1,088 | | |
| <i>New Ross*</i> | | | | |
| Other Works | 1,623 | 488 | 2,189 | +34.8% |
| <i>Gorey</i> | | 116 | | |
| <i>Enniscorthy</i> | | 145 | | |
| <i>Wexford</i> | | 119 | | |
| <i>New Ross</i> | | 59 | | |
| <i>Rosslare</i> | | 49 | | |

1. New Recycling Items

From September, 2022 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.

2. Enforcement:

The Waste Enforcement Team carries out routine (planned) and non-routine inspections of waste facilities and problem sites or site where we have received complaints. This work is done in accordance with the Recommended Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections (RMCEI) as required by the EPA. The 2022 RMCEI Plan allocates 6,698 routine inspections by 22 Full Time Equivalent staff member. The inspection types cover the WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) Regulations; ELV (End of Life Vehicles) Regulations; Waste Management (Packaging) Regulations; Household and Commercial Food Waste Regulations; Batteries, Tyres, etc.

The Department of Environment, Climate and Communication have set national waste priorities for 2022 to 2024, a three year target and they are;

- Tackling significant illegal waste activity,
- Construction and Demolition Activity,
- End-of-Life Vehicles (ELV) & the Waste Metal Sector,
- Waste Collection – Household & Commercial.
- Producer Responsibility Initiatives and additional local priorities.

4 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.

| Total fixed penalty notices issued | TOTAL FOR 2021 | TOTAL FOR 2022 |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Fines Issued (All Fixed Penalty Notice Issued) | 199 | 96 |
| Fines Paid in Full● | 69 | 46 |
| Fines Cancelled/Proceedings Discontinued/Struck Out* | 71 | 46 |
| Successful Prosecutions** | 15 | 9 |
| Legal Proceedings In Progress | 61 | 46 |
| 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 have 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 Waste 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 were 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.

Litter Enforcement Activity 2009-2022

| | Fines Issued | Court | Reports |
|------|--------------|-------|-----------------|
| 2022 | 53 | 19 | 678 |
| 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 | 1834 |
| Closed | 3526 | 4563 | 4092 | 4358 | 3758 | 1106 |
| Closure Rate | 98% | 99% | 86% | 87% | 73% | 60% |

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 | 157 |
| Dogs reclaimed | 127 | 133 | 30 |
| Dogs re-homed/transferred | 373 | 267 | 110 |
| Dogs put to sleep | 32 | 29 | 14 |
| Dog Fines | 5 | 18 | 9 |

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

To date in 2022 eight 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 M'Cauley Jnr School submitted applications and have been assessed for their 1st green flag on the theme Litter & Waste. These schools if successful will be notified by An Taisce at end of April early May. 19 green school renewal applications and assessments were completed and submitted to An Taisce by April 1st.

School Workshops: Biodiversity and Leave No Trace workshops are being organised in schools. In total 10 schools will participate in the Leave No Trace and 20 schools in Biodiversity. It has been extremely difficult to timetable all schools due to current pressures on schools. The Leave no Trace workshops explore the 7 Principles of Leave No Trace and highlight the key impacts facing Ireland's environment such as dog fouling and littering, and how these impacts can be minimised through the Leave No Trace programme.

Biodiversity workshops are for both primary and secondary and delivered in a manner to suit the school's Covid policy either in-person, online or fully outdoors. Projects range from Biodiversity Bootcamps to Pollinator Projects, Bird Blitzes to Treemendous Trees! Workshops can be tailored to the needs of each school.

Circular Fashion Workshop:

Textile awareness including consumption and disposal will feature significantly in the 2022 national and regional work programme. The Regional Waste Management Office funded Circular Fashion Ireland, to deliver 1 workshop per County to a second level school. 60 transition year students from St Peter's College participated in this workshop on April 1st.

National Tree Week: National Tree Week took place from 20th March to 26th March 2022 and the theme was "More forests for a greener future". 500 native saplings were distributed to groups during National Tree Week 2022.

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

National Spring Clean: An Taisce have opened registrations for National Spring Clean. Details of the Snap Into action competitions will be circulated to all participating groups and all primary schools. These competitions have a closing date of 25th May.

Community Engagement: Community talks are ongoing with virtual meetings and outdoor meetings taking place. A talk on recycling and waste prevention was given to Ballyfad Community on Monday 4th April. Waste prevention talk took place in Wexford Library on May 10th at 11 am.

Sustainable Gardening Course: Two 5 week online courses took place on Tuesday mornings from 1st February until 1st March. 100 people registered to attend.

Tidy Towns: Litter management workshop took place for Tidy Towns groups on March 23rd. A series of Tidy Towns online talks / presentations were arranged for April. Tidy Towns & Sustainability took place on April 6th, Tidy Towns & Biodiversity April 13th and Tidy towns Special Awards on April 27th.

Marram Grass Planting Workshop: A marram grass planting workshop in association with An Taisce Clean Coasts took place on Saturday 30th in Morristown.

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

June 2022

LIBRARY SERVICE

Footfall

This month saw a vast increase in usage of Wexford Libraries across the county, with over 25,160 visitors in May. An average of 1006 per day. Issues continued to rise in line with increased footfall.

Services to Ukrainian Nationals

Wexford Library Service is reaching out to Ukrainian families newly arrived in Wexford to let them know of the free services that are on offer in Wexford Libraries. These services include:

- Free broadband, WiFi and computers in all Wexford Libraries.
- Access to printers, 3D printers and photocopiers in all our libraries.
- Tablets may be borrowed for use in all our libraries.
- Online English-language lessons from Beginner to Advanced level
- Borrow books, audiobooks, DVDs, music CDs, computer games and more free from our libraries. Ukrainian-language books for all age groups, from children to adult and Ukrainian/English and English/Ukrainian dictionaries, plus Ukrainian phrasebooks.

- Access items and apps for children and young people with additional needs from all our libraries .
- Ebooks that you can access anywhere, at any time, on any device, and all for free. [Borrowbox](#) – has a great range of digital books and digital audiobooks, including a small selection of Russian-language titles, mostly suited to teenagers and children. A selection of Ukrainian-language titles will be available shortly.
- [PressReader](#) – has 1,000s of newspapers and magazines including a selection of Ukrainian and Russian language publications.
- [Universal Class website](#) and use your library card number to register for a free account Access over 500 courses available with tutors who will oversee your learning.
- Events and activities and other resources
- Study spaces
- Parent, baby and toddler groups for rhymes and stories
- Book clubs for children and adults
- Meeting Spaces
- Work support. We offer an area to research, work and learn new skills in Wexford Town Library area with free onsite access to lots of databases with information on businesses, services and markets. You can find information on getting a job, setting up a business and much more.

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.

Science and Technology

At a special meeting of Wexford Science Café in Wexford Library held during the country-wide Pint of Science Festival, Amy Hassett spoke about her research in neuroscience, her work as a presenter of a science programme on RTÉ Junior, and her advocacy on behalf of women with disabilities.

Health and Wellbeing

Following targeted promotional activity through social media and electronic newsletters, May saw significant usage of Gorey and New Ross Libraries' Omivista Mobii magic table, which was utilised by a diverse range of groups/organisations from local communities. Omivista Mobii Magic Table helps people with dementia and children with sensory requirements to engage and communicate with a series of light-up interactive games.

The table contains a special projector that creates interactive light displays to enhance mobility and social/cognitive skills. The Omivista Mobii gives people the chance to play fun and engaging games with projected effects that trigger cognitive, physical and social interaction. This cutting edge interactive light projection system helps people living with sensory requirements to remain connected, while also improving well-being.

Parenting: Positive Parenting for Healthy Living

A lecture was presented by Geraldine O'Grady on "Positive Parenting for Healthy Living." The 90-minute seminar was aimed at parents with children up to twelve years of age. It focused on supporting the health and wellbeing of children while offering simple, practical strategies that have been proven to work, helping parents raise happy, confident children.

Literacy and Children's Services

Literacy, Numeracy, Writing and Typing: Nessy Reading & Spelling

Wexford libraries offered a range of online programmes to assist and improve literacy, numeracy and writing skills for children 6 years and older. The programme benefits children in developing pre-literacy skills, and helps children build reading competence, and students who experience reading and writing difficulties. They also assist adults who may require help with literacy skills. The programme offers support to students learning English as a second language.

Environment

Beekeeper Rob Marrey held a Bee hotel Making workshop for Wexford Libraries, as well as this activity, children learned about the solitary bees that visit gardens. The bee hotels were made using recycled materials from the garden, such as off-cuts of wood, bamboo and pinecones.

To celebrate **Biodiversity Week** the Library held a special talk for secondary school students by Krysten Maier of Seal rescue Ireland. Students learned about Ireland's native seals and the important role they play in our marine ecosystem.

A presentation was given on Reducing Household Waste, Recycling and Waste Prevention by Cliona Connolly, the Environmental Awareness Officer with Wexford County Council. Waste prevention is a key tool in protecting our global environment.

Community Information

Wexford Comhairle na nÓg held information evenings in libraries in the month of May raising awareness on the work they carry out as an organisation. They are local youth councils that give young people a voice and the recognised key structure for youth participation by children and young people.

Business & Partnerships

Alan Maher of Maher Consulting held events in Wexford Libraries during the month of May. This was a workshop on CV preparation and how candidates can effectively present themselves to potential employers. The second workshop was on Interview preparation. Key topics such as preparing properly for an interview, communication & presentation skills, key questions and tackling competency-based interviews were covered.

Wexford Local Development

Elevate Programme continued throughout the month of May. Elevate is a programme sponsored by Wexford Local Development to promote & support educational achievement in County Wexford. Elevate works with pupils from 6th class in primary school to 6th year in secondary helping them to make a positive transfer from 6th class to secondary school, prepare for their Junior Certificate, get ready to complete their Leaving Certificate and encourage achievement & progression.

Students from two Deis schools participate in the programme facilitated by author Caroline Busher. Wexford Libraries provides a welcoming environment, reading materials and other supports as required over the six weeks of the programme. The students availed of the PC suite facilities in the Library during the month of May, under the supervision of their facilitator.

Bealtaine

Writing workshop with Margaret Galvin

The aim of the workshop was to foster and encourage creative writing in later life and to facilitate participants to mine memories, across their lifespan. It celebrated the memory of the people, places and events that shaped the participants.

Heritage and Culture

Odd Women out: Waterford Playwrights Teresa Deevey and Rosamond Jacob.

Dr Úna Kealy and Aaron Kent discussed the Waterford playwrights Teresa Deevey (1896-1963) and Rosamond Jacob (1888-1960) - women

Events were held in each branch library as part of the National Opera House Education and Community Programme in conjunction with National Opera House Education Programme and Wexford Local Development. Music appreciation was well received with large audiences in attendance for these events.

Local Studies

During May there were 21 genealogy enquiries and 23 local studies enquiries. There were also 61 microfilms issued and 40 hardcopy reference materials accessed by members of the public.

| |
|------------------------------|
| Decade of Centenaries |
|------------------------------|

Treaty Exhibition County Hall

The Archivist Wexford County Council has facilitated the hosting of 'The Treaty 1921: Records from the Archives' exhibition which was officially opened in County Hall on 23 May with 52 attendees – presented by the National Archives in association with Wexford County Council, the exhibition will be open to the public until 10 June. This is the first collaboration between a national archive repository and a local authority archive. Two display cases of archival material from the period in Wexford County Archive collections were exhibited alongside the main exhibition.

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. Closing date for receipt of applications was 29th April.

ARCHIVES

Collections management

In addition to 54 research enquiries via email, telephone and post, a total of 7 researchers visited the Archive during May. Research topics included: a history of the Society of Friends in Wexford district through extant burial records (1810-1930); research through the minute books and registers of vessels from the New Ross Port & Harbour Commissioners' collection (1845-1900); research on Cardinal Tomás O Fiaich collection in the Nicky Furlong archive (1950-79).

Digitisation

Eleven volumes of minutes from the Enniscorthy Board of Guardians collection relevant to the Decade of Centenaries timeframe (1912-22) were digitised during the month and are now accessible online via the county archive's website.

ARTS

Wexford Culture Night Open Call – Open call for Culture night Sept 23 2022 took place in May. Culture Night is an annual all-island public event that celebrates culture, creativity and the arts. On that night venues and events are available to the public free of charge. Applications are being sought from Heritage and cultural organisations, groups and individual creative practitioners who are interested in delivering events as part of the Culture Night. Proposals that look at culture in the broadest sense are welcomed and include: architecture, design, languages, heritage, environment, and the arts. There will be four main strands under which Wexford County Council will programme free events throughout the districts of Gorey, Enniscorthy, Wexford, New Ross and Rosslare. Deadline for applications is Monday 20th June, 2022.

The Art Ability Programme – Assistant Artist Open Call

Wexford County Council (WCC) and the Health Service Executive (HSE) are delighted to announce that 4 assistant artists have been selected: Brid Colloton, Jenni Roddy, Luke Cosgrave, and Nick Jarman. This is a new initiative within the Art Ability Programme, the primary aim of which is to provide an opportunity for artists to develop their skills and experience in arts and health and participatory arts practice through hands on experience working with the lead artists in a professional arts and health care environment. In addition, mentoring and training will be provided to the assistant artist.

Living Arts in Schools 2022/2023, this programme sees four primary schools being selected for a 15/8 week visual art residency with a lead and assistant artist. The selection panel met in May and the schools selected were Scoil Mhuire, Rosslare, St Patrick's NS, Crossabeg, Castledockrell NS, St Edan's NS, Enniscorthy. The lead artists consist of Deirdre Meehan, Jenni Roddy, Kate Murphy, Sonya Weston while the assistant artists include Brid Colloton, Deirdre Travers, Fernanda Ferrarri, Lynn Haughton. They will begin the new residency in schools during October 2022.

Screen Wexford held a free "Coffee with Crew Wexford Film & TV Networking" workshop on 23rd May in The Presentation Arts Centre, Enniscorthy. This event was for Wexford based filmmakers to meet, support one another and learn new skills with the aid of expert workshops.

Small Arts Festival and Experimental Events Grant Scheme 2022 recipients:

The Wexford May Bush Festival 2022 The Wexford May Bush Festival which is a community driven festival invited individuals and communities across the County to participate by simply erecting a May Bush in their village, community, townland or home and posting their photos to <https://www.facebook.com/TheWexfordMayBushFestival>

The Gorey May Bush Féile 2022 | Let's Decorate the May Bush -. The event took place under the Circe Pavilion beside the communal May Bush with an evening of traditional music, song and dance while exchanging their traditions around welcoming in Summer.

Music Generation

A partnership between WCC, WWETB, and the national agency Music Generation promoting access to high quality performance music education for young people in Wexford County working in preschool, primary school, and youth work/ community settings.

May: Trad Jam with Goitse – Goitse with Music Generation Wexford invited young intermediate/advanced Irish traditional musicians to participate in a trad jam with the popular and multi-award-winning quintet and this took on 10th May. This trad jam was in person gave an opportunity for young musicians to get together, play, share tunes, socially interact, and perform with professional musicians.

CREATIVE IRELAND

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. Led by the Arts Department 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 in New Ross and surrounding areas. This commission is supported by the Creative Ireland Programme and is an action of the Culture and Creativity Strategy for County Wexford which aims to "create awareness of the unique heritage of County Wexford through interpretative programmes that encourage participation, reflection and creative thinking." 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.

'Re-Imagining Enniscorthy' Public Art & Community Decarbonisation

To coincide with National Biodiversity Week (13 – 22 May) the Arts Department announced 'Re-Imagining Enniscorthy', a public art & community engagement project, led by visual artist Elaine Harrington which aims to develop a local ecology network for people led climate action. This project is supported through Wexford County Council's Creative Ireland Programme and the Per Cent for Art Scheme and is a partnership between the Arts Department and Environment Department & Climate Action Team. Working over the course of a year, El Harrington with assistant local artist Ciara Roche, will engage with various communities in Enniscorthy, in a response to the climate crisis through a creative

exploration of Enniscorthy as Wexford's intended pilot Decarbonisation Zone. It 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 is hoped it will continue and have a legacy for local communities in Enniscorthy and surrounding districts. The first workshop 'Get Set, Grow' with GIY Ireland the first free community workshop took place on Sat 21 May in Enniscorthy Community Allotments. It covered introduction to growing from soil to seeds to planting out, and everything you needed to know to get started.

Mount Carmel Lace Project

The final phase in the Mount Carmel lace project was commenced in late May with the engagement of Bairbre Guilfoyle, chair of the Irish Lace Guild who has been commissioned to catalogue the needlepoint lace collection in the Mount Carmel monastery, New Ross. This project is being driven by the Archivist, Wexford County Council and is supported by the Creative Ireland programme and the final catalogue will be launched in an open day in New Ross in September.

FIRE SERVICES

Call statistics

| Incident Type | Calls April 2022 | Calls to date 2022 | Calls to this period 2021 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Chimney fire (WCC / Private) | 3 / 4 (7) | 46 | 78 |
| Domestic fire (WCC / Private) | 1 / 8 (9) | 32 | 25 |
| Road Traffic Accident | 8 | 43 | 18 |
| Industrial fire | 0 | 1 | 5 |
| Commercial fire | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| Assembly fire | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| Agricultural fire | 0 | 1 | 5 |
| Motor Vehicles | 2 | 7 | 6 |
| Forest/bog/grass etc | 13 | 33 | 37 |
| Rubbish | 3 | 10 | 15 |
| Non-fire rescues | 5 | 20 | 29 |
| False alarms – good intent | 24 | 82 | 68 |
| Malicious false alarms | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Miscellaneous | 5 | 23 | 16 |
| Total | 77 | 303 | 305 |

Fire calls by brigade April 2022

| INCIDENT TYPE | WEXFORD | GOREY | ENNISCORTHY | NEW ROSS | BUNCLODY | TOTAL |
|----------------------------|---------|-------|-------------|-------------|----------|-------|
| CHIMNEY FIRE | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 7 |
| DOMESTIC FIRE | 4 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 9 |
| ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENT | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 8 |
| INDUSTRIAL FIRE | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| COMMERCIAL FIRE | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| ASSEMBLY FIRE | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| AGRICULTURAL FIRE | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| MOTOR VEHICLES | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| FOREST/BOG/GRASS ETC | 7 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 13 |
| RUBBISH | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| NON-FIRE RESCUES | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 5 |
| FALSE ALARMS - GOOD INTENT | 15 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 24 |
| MALICIOUS FALSE ALARMS | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| MISCELLANEOUS | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 5 |
| TOTALS | 37 | 15 | 12 | 8 | 5 | 77 |

Fire Safety Certificate Applications

Number of Applications received in April 2022: 13

Number of Applications received to date: 46

Number of Applications to this period 2021: 34

Finance:

Q1 Finance Report 2022

The Finance Report for the first quarter of 2022, i.e. to 31st March 2022, has been circulated. The results for Q1 confirm a slight surplus but at such an early point of the year this position should be considered with a note of caution. There are a number of emerging concerns within the results in relation to pressures on the 2022 budget allocations including energy costs which are suggesting a 30% increase in this cost over budget by year end if the current inflationary situation does not abate. Material and maintenance costs are also an area of concern and may result in less work being completed to remain within budget allocations for the year if the situation regards supply and inflation continue. In addition to this the costs associated with dealing with the Ukrainian emergency and assistance programme in the county could not have been budgeted for in the 2022 budget so while it is assumed that these costs will be recouped to the council, confirmation of this is still awaited.

There is also a continuing underlying risk associated with the pandemic. The rates waiver in respect of businesses impacted by Covid was extended for some businesses to the end of Qtr 1. This is the final rates waiver support extended to businesses by the government and now that this has been removed and as other direct business support funding ceases the concern will turn to how many businesses will not be able to survive without this ongoing support and/or how many businesses will reshape their businesses to continue with remote or blended working and vacate or partially vacate business premises. This evolving situation will continue to be monitored closely during the year.

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 the 15th June and will include consideration of the 2021 Annual Financial Statement and financial performance for 2021.

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.

Tom Enright,
Chief Executive.