



Chief Executive's Report

County Council Meeting 12.06.23

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Savannah Delegation Visit

A delegation from Savannah, Georgia USA, visited Wexford in May to advance the long-standing relationship between not only Savannah and Wexford, but also the counties of South East Georgia and South East Ireland through the Tradebridge project. The Savannah delegation featured the Mayor of Savannah, Mayor Van Johnson as well as leadership from the Savannah Economic Development Authority, World Trade Centre Savannah, Visit Savannah, Savannah Port and Georgia Southern University.

A key focus of the delegation was the advancement of plans to develop the significant trade, tourism, education and cultural opportunities presented by the strong historic links between Wexford and Georgia. The comprehensive itinerary included a series of civic, economic and tourism meetings as well as discussions between GSU and SETU.

A key part of the project is to repurpose the Adoration Convent, an iconic heritage asset to a student accommodation centre for GSU. The President of GSU, Dr. Kyle Marero attended meetings with Wexford County Council to progress the appointment of the design team.





The formal signing of the agreement to appoint Stephen Carr Architects was also attended by Minister James Browne, Minister of State at the Dept of Justice; Julie Connell Head of US and Canada Unit, Dept of Foreign Affairs and Paul Flynn, Deputy Political Director at Dept of Foreign Affairs and former Ambassador to the UN New York.



Georgia Southern University's Centre for Irish Research and Teaching is the first public third level institution in the United States to open a learning facility in Ireland. The university, which has over 26,000 students has partnered with Wexford County Council to create a learning centre in the former County Hall building for students who travel here from the United States.



A banquet dinner in honour of the delegation was held at one of county Wexford's notable tourism locations – Johnstown Castle. In attendance was the Cathaoirleach who hosted the dinner and the five Chairs of the Municipal Districts. As the Fleadh Cheoil will be hosted by Wexford in 2024, the cultural element of the programme included music provided by members of Craobh Loch Garman.



In its second year of operation, 65 students and teaching faculty have already arrived in Wexford and will remain until June 12th, becoming a familiar sight around Wexford. Over the summer period a total of 150 students will study at the campus. Students will also have the opportunity to travel around the county on education field trips as well as undertaking work study placements.

Dr Kyle Marrero with students at GSU Wexford Campus on first day of their studies in Wexford.

Local Economic Community Plan (LECP)

The updated high-level goals and the SCOT (strengths, constraints, opportunities and threats) has been approved by the Advisory Committee and the Economic SPC. A special meeting for the Economic SPC is scheduled for the 15th June at which the actions, outcomes and objectives will be presented for discussion and ultimately approved, if deemed acceptable.

Tourism

Tourism Ireland Competition

As part of the strategic plan to attract international visitors from Continental Europe and to encourage visitors to dwell longer in County Wexford, Tourism Ireland in conjunction with Brittany Ferries and Visit Wexford are running a competition across its social media channels across Spain.



Rebellion 225

To encourage visitors to County Wexford, Rebellion 225 has been launched and is set to commemorate Ireland's history and heritage of 1798 through a number of historic, cultural and civic celebrations this May and June with €75,000 funds secured from Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

The significant commemorative dates are from the 26th of May to 21st of June. During this crucial time in 1798, some of the pivotal battles took place at Oulart Hill, the Three Rocks, Wexford, New Ross, Carrigbyrne and Vinegar Hill in Wexford and some of these Battles will be commemorated at public events across the county this summer.

An inaugural 1798 Summer School was organised at the 1798 National Rebellion Centre, which offered insights into the 1798 battles through historical guided walks, tours and public talks at various venues in Enniscorthy and took place from May 26th to May 28th. Dr Kevin Whelan opened the event and highlights included a march to Boolavogue, music and song at the Fr Murphy Centre, a 1798 Walking Tour, a guided tour of Vinegar Hill battlefield and lecture on women and rebellion by Dr Margaret Ward.

The Battle of Three Rocks 225 Commemoration Ceremony took place on Sunday 28th May, 2023

Other events that are due to take place include :

- Allabar Trio along with His Excellency Vincent Guerend, Professor Liam Chambers and Brian O'Clerigh will discuss 'The Ideals of Revolution: Liberté, Égalité, Fraternité – how the French Revolution influenced the Irish Rebellion' in Enniscorthy'.
- 'The Three Bullet Gate' commemoration will mark what was a key part of the Battle of New Ross, one of the bloodiest days of the Rebellion. Former Taoiseach Bertie Ahern has been asked to attend the Three Bullet Gate commemoration which is expected to include fitting music and historical talks.
- 'Rebellion Day' will take place on the grounds of the National 1798 Centre in Enniscorthy. An immersive experience 'Battle Encampment' will be available for visitors to tour and meet with re-enactors with lots of activities and attractions on-site.

- The 'Longest Day Commemoration' will see one of the most significant battles of 1798 being remembered and a will include a historical March with the Enniscorthy Re-enactment Society starting at the National 1798 Rebellion Centre to Market Square and over Enniscorthy Bridge, ending at the Abbey Square Car Park.
- 3 Landlords, 3 Castles, 3 Leaders will take place in Kilmore Quay and the Wexford town commemoration will take place at the Wexford Arts Centre.

The Killanne Commemoration will include a pike march to the graveyard in Killanne and will include various speakers.

The events in Rathangan, will include, historical talks, living history demonstrations, wreath laying ceremony.



Local Enterprise Office

A new **Energy Efficiency Grant** was launched by Minister Simon Coveney TD, Minister for Enterprise Trade & Employment on the 26th May 2023. The aim of this new grant support is to reduce the impact on the environment thereby increasing the agility and resilience of micro businesses. To avail of this grant enterprises much have received support/or will avail of support under Green for Micro, GreenStart or SEAI's energy audit. The grant rate is 50% of eligible costs up to a maximum of €5,000.



Export Start Programme

The first session of a new Export Start Programme by Wexford LEO commenced in May with 9 companies participating across a range of sectors from engineering, food, software and life sciences. The programme will combine workshops, one to one consultancy and culminate in target sales territory visits and meetings in November 2023.

Food Sector;

LEO Wexford recently attended an Enterprise Ireland Food Summit. The Summit looked at the future trends in food and beverage, and considering enterprise supports suitable to deliver future growth in the food sector. Some of the strategic drivers for the sector included innovation and sustainability across start-ups and scalable enterprises. These are now seen as essential cornerstones of any food enterprise and related service.

LEO Wexford will tender in the coming months for the development of a Food Strategy for County Wexford as food has been identified as a key pillar of Wexford's economic job creation strategy.

Other key work activities for the summer months include;

- Tendering and procurement for LEO Wexford training programmes and delivery for 2023-2027 will take place in June/July 2023.
- LEO Wexford, in association with LEO Kilkenny are jointly co-ordinating National Women's Enterprise Day for 2023. Planning and project management for both the local and national NWED event will be ongoing in Summer 2023
- Autumn/Winter 2023 Training Programme development, including the introduction of new courses, material and trainers to broaden the offering in line with client demand and industry indicators.
- A breakfast briefing session for agencies and support service providers such as accountants, financial advisors etc. to update them on the supports available to start-ups and micro enterprises through LEO Wexford.
- Development of an annualised calendar of events and initiatives into which events, programmes and PR content can be co-ordinated for 2023/2024.

National Enterprise Awards 2023 Wexford LEO winners of Regional Award

Jillian Duggan White and Nina Shelton from **Sully & Juno** represented LEO Wexford at the National Enterprise Awards that was held in the Mansion House Dublin on the 1st June. The company produce a range of clothing for adults and children with sensory needs. As winner of the South East Regional Award, the promoters were presented with their award by Minister Simon Coveney, Minister for Enterprise Trade and Employment.



Planning

Planning Applications

Numbers are those received from the 22nd of April 2023.until the 26th of May 2023.

No. of valid applications	150
No. of invalid applications	17
Extension of Duration	5
Exempted Development Declaration	12

Numbers are those received from the 1st of January 2023 until 26th of May 2023.

No. of valid applications	537
No. of invalid applications	56
Extension of Duration	15
Exempted Development Declaration	33

Pre-Planning Applications

Numbers are as follows up until the 26th of May 2023.

No. of pre-planning applications received from 01/01/2023	125
No. of pre-planning meetings closed from 01/01/2023	161
No. of open pre-planning applications as at 26/05/2023	87
Average days to meeting (For Applications received and closed since 01/01/2023)	29 days

Building Control (22nd April 2023 – 26th May 2023)

- Validated Commencement Notices: 63
- Number of Building Control Inspections: 30
- Validated Cert. of Compliance on Completion: 14
- Number of Taking in Charge reports sent to the Districts 0

Planning Enforcement

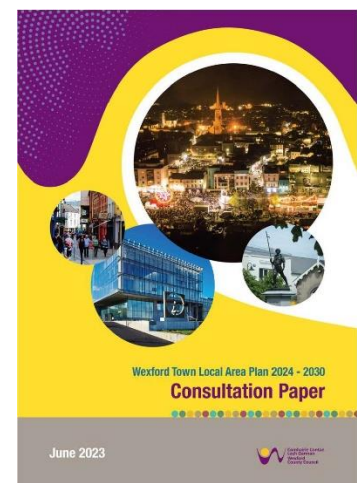
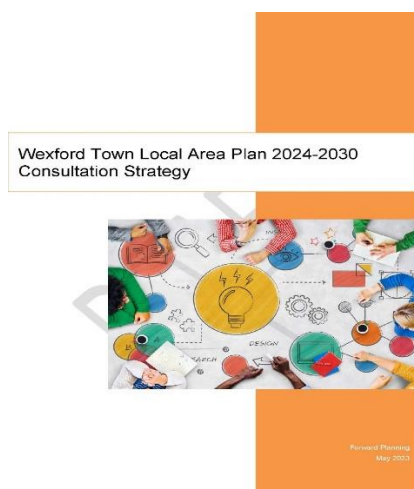
The number of planning enforcement cases as of 26th of May 2023 are as follows:

- Live Cases 348
- Cases Opened from 1st January 2023 95
- Cases Closed from 1st January 2023 73

Forward Planning

Wexford Town Local Area Plan

A series of meetings have taken place with the Members of the Borough District of Wexford to discuss the preparation of the new plan. The first two meetings focused on the process, function and required content of the plan. At the third meeting, held on Monday, 15th May 2023, the proposed Consultation Strategy for the plan and matters relating to the pre-draft public consultation stage, including the proposed Consultation Paper, were discussed. The consultants appointed to prepare both the Local Transport Plan and the Strategic Environmental Assessment of the plan attended the meeting to advise the Members of the respective processes, requirements and work completed to date.



Following input from the Members on both the Consultation Paper and the Consultation Strategy it was agreed that the pre-draft public consultation period would commence. It was also agreed to run a longer public consultation period in order to optimise public input. To this end, the pre-draft consultation stage will commence on **Thursday, 8th June 2023 and will end on Tuesday, 8th August 2023**. During this period, written submissions and observations on the new plan can be made. Written submissions and observations must be received by 4:00pm on Tuesday, 8th August 2023.

Two public consultation events will also be held during this period in Wexford Town Library. These events will take place on **Wednesday, 14th June 2023 from 10:30am to 1:30pm and Thursday, 13th July 2023 from 5:00pm to 8:00pm**.

Details of this public consultation stage will be published in the local newspapers, on the Council's website and online consultation portal and circulated via MapAlerter and the Council's social media platforms.

The team will also commence engagement with key stakeholders in June.

Background work on the plan also continues. The team is currently preparing a Social Infrastructure Audit and an Infrastructural Assessment Report. Work has also commenced on the procurement of consultants to prepare a strategy for Urban Design and Master planning and a strategy for surface water management using nature-based solutions.

The Draft Planning and Development Bill 2022 has been published and this will impact the format of the plan. The Planning section are reviewing the revised requirements of the Draft Bill and will advise further as soon as possible.

Wexford County Development Plan Monitoring

The implementation of the Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028, which was made by the Members of Wexford County Council on the 13 June 2022, is a key strategic focus for the Council.

The Council is required to monitor the implementation of the plan for a number of reasons including to:

1. Monitor the effects of implementing the plan under the SEA Directive.
2. Monitor the implementation of the Core Strategy as required in the Development Plan Guidelines for Planning Authorities; and
3. Ensure that the objectives of the plan are met as required under the Planning and Development Act 2000.

The Chief Executive must also submit a report to the Members on the achievement of the objectives of the plan two years after the plan is made.

The Forward Planning Team are in the process of setting up a system to monitor the various elements of the plan and have also commenced gathering monitoring data.

Built, Cultural & Natural Heritage

Community Monuments Fund

Wexford County Council has received capital funding totalling €200,000.00 for conservation works at Mountgarrett Castle (€100,000.00) and Tellarought Castle (€100,000.00) under the CMF scheme operated by the National Monuments Service. Funding for conservation works at Barrystown Mine (€100,000.00) was also received under this scheme. Works tenders are currently being prepared for Mountgarrett Castle and Tellarought Castle.

County Heritage Plan Scheme funding

Wexford County Council has received funding totalling €37,223.00 from the Heritage Council for the following projects under the County Heritage Plan scheme: A phase 1 audit of the historic church and graveyard sites of Co. Wexford (€17,850.00), a conservation management plan for St. Nicholas' of Clonmines (€12,915.00), and facilitation for public consultation of the County Heritage Plan (€6,458.00). The historic church and graveyard survey is currently underway following a competitive tender process.

Historic Towns Initiative funding

Wexford County Council has received funding from the Heritage Council and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for the undertaking of a heritage-led regeneration plan for Enniscorthy totalling €40,000.00. Tenders for this project are currently being evaluated following a competitive tendering process.

Built Heritage Investment Scheme funding.

Building owners in Co. Wexford have been awarded grant support totalling €159,015.22 from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to undertake repairs to Protected Structures and vernacular buildings. The Built Heritage Investment Scheme is administered through Local Authorities. Projects such as thatch renewal, timber sash window repair and lime render replacement will be undertaken.

Planning CSO Returns 2023

Permissions granted for dwellings

Month	Housing Developments (Total No. of units)	Apartments incl. Self-contained Dwelling Units (Total No. of units)	One-off Houses
January	50	3	26
February	15	1	17
March	154	30	33
April	158	88	19
TOTAL	377	122	95

- * Figures to 30th April 2023

- Housing Developments = 2 or more houses (Total no. of units)
- Apartments include Self-contained Dwelling Units (Total no. of units)
- One-off Houses
- Permissions exclude outline, retention, change of plans and continuation of use.

Planning Enforcement – Short-Term Letting

The cumulative number of short-term letting planning enforcement cases as of 26th of May 2023 are as follows: -

- Live Cases **13 (2020, 2021, 2022 & 2023)**
- Cases Closed since 1st January 2023 **7**

Derelict Sites, Dangerous Structures and Vacant Sites

Report from 22nd April 2023 to 26th May 2023 as follows:

- Derelict Site Register updated on Council Website. Updated **05/05/2023**
- **41** property inspections/visits conducted.
- **7** Section 8(2) Notices posted on properties.
- **17** Section 11.1 Notices posted on properties.
- **216** properties forwarded to Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (Urban Regeneration and Development Fund Section) consideration as per Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (3rd Round)

Disability Access Certificates (DACs):

The number of valid DAC applications, for the period from 1st January 2023 up to and including 26th of May 2023, totals **40**.

Applications Districts	Total for Districts	Await Assessment	Further Info.	Granted	Refused
Enniscorthy	6	1	1	4	0
Gorey	13	2	1	9	1
New Ross	5	1	0	4	0
Wexford	10	3	1	6	0
Rosslare	6	3	0	3	0
2023 Totals	40	10	3	26	1

Disability Proofing completed as part of WCC Access activity.

Referrals	Total
LAC /PLAC & General Planning Applications	19
Major Pre-Planning (from 1st January 2023)	5

Access Related Items

NDIS Reporting & Monitoring System

The Access Section recently completed a series of in-person training sessions with nominated staff members in using the new NDIS Reporting & Monitoring system. The system, endorsed by the Executive Team and created in close collaboration with ICT, is designed to both record and monitor all of Wexford County Council's obligations under the Disability Act 2005, and our actions under the National Disability Inclusion Strategy- as transcribed into our Strategy as adopted.

Nominated staff are now busy engaging with the system and uploading submissions, with the Access Section providing support and guidance through correspondence using an innovative internal messaging system in the mechanism.

In the coming weeks the Access Section will collaborate further with ICT in developing and producing in-depth reports from the system to provide insight into compliance with the Disability Inclusion Strategy across all WCC Departments.

Accessible Trails & Destination Parks Story Book – Major Update

The Access Section are working in collaboration with the GIS team to create a new-and-improved Accessible Trails & Destination Parks Story Book. This is an online guidebook designed to provide details of all accessible trails and destination parks in County Wexford, fully audited for accessibility, through the assistance of photos, information blurbs on features and pinned map locations.

Minor amendments are currently being made with a launch date expected in the coming weeks. The new Story Book will have a changed layout, easier navigation, improved integration with mapping, and greater capacity to update and edit Trails/Parks information and add new Trails as they open to the public.

Town Regeneration

The Town Centre First Policy aims to create Town Centres that function as viable, vibrant and attractive locations for people to live, work and visit, while also functioning as the service, social, cultural and recreational hub for the local community.

The Enniscorthy Town Team has met twice to date and are due to meet again on the 16th of June. A Town Centre First Plan is in place in Enniscorthy. Currently putting together a list of Agenda items for discussion with this Town Team over the coming weeks. Recently appointed DCU, University of Galway and .IE led by Professor Theo Lynn to do the digital Town blueprint for Enniscorthy Town, this will assess the digital readiness of Enniscorthy Town which is a feature of Town centre first plans.

Consultants Cunnane Stratton Reynolds Ltd, Dublin have been appointed as the urban design led team to prepare a Town Centre First Plan for New Ross Town. The Town centre first plan process has commenced in New Ross with extensive consultation having taken place to date with the Internal Town centre first Team, WCC departments and the New Ross Town Team. There will be further consultation over the summer period with all stakeholders in New Ross Town and ample opportunity for everyone to have their views heard with a Town hall type consultative event being held in St Michaels Theatre over the Summer period. A programme has been prepared and agreed with the Plan to be complete by the end of September.

Water Services



**1. Uisce Éireann Asset
Delivery**

2. Minor Capital

**3. Rural Water
Programme**

4. Water Conservation

Water Services



1. Uisce Éireann – Asset Delivery



Capital Schemes

Enniscorthy Network Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ A new gravity main for Mary Street➤ Ward & Burke are the selected contractors.➤ Estimated costs: Under negotiation c.€ 0.98M ex VAT.➤ Start Date provisionally end June / early July.➤ Road opening licence submitted for site investigation and for works and project.
Enniscorthy Intake and Vinegar Hill Upgrade Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Intake- land requirement and wayleave agreement, UÉ in consultation with owner, awaiting signed contracts.➤ Selected contractors price submitted and is under review internally by Uisce Éireann.➤ Looking to commence works end June 2023➤ Construction period Est 21months (Aug23-May25)➤ Irish Rail agreement has been signed.
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 UÉ.➤ Drainage infrastructure survey works complete in Wexford Town and Castlebridge.➤ Model verification complete, stage 3 to start Q2 2023
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➤ Consultants JB Barry appointed by UÉ.➤ Stage 1 complete, survey works to start Q2 2023

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. ➤ Work started March 2023, 18-month contract programme. ➤ Budget cost of 12million. ➤ Works on site ongoing.
Fethard-on-Sea Sewerage Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Preliminary Design for the project is now complete for issue to contractor for design and build. ➤ Uisce Éireann has advised that due to budget constraints, this project has been re-prioritised and will not go to construction in the near future.
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 ➤ Work started March 2023, 12-month contract programme. ➤ Budget of €2million ➤ Works on site ongoing.
Gorey Regional Water Supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ New Water Treatment plant and storage site at Ballyminaun Plant In operational phase with Glan Agua
Untreated Agglomeration Study (UTAS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Arthurstown, Ballyhack and Duncannon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This project is complete, and it is at final account stage with the contractor Sisk. ○ Sisk will operate this plant until November 2023 ➤ Plant was officially opened by the Minister on 2nd March 2023 ➤ Kilmore Quay <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ All Major Construction Works at plant are completed. ➤ M&E work ongoing ➤ Pipe network and commissioning of MHs completed. ➤ 2months approx. until commissioning of plant. ➤ Forecast completion 22/8/23 (2 months over) ➤ Seeding the Plant due to commence on the 19th of June.

Direct Labour Pipe Laying Crew	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mains Rehabilitation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Pipe laying works has finished on this section and crew currently undertaking connection works at Curracloe. ➤ Diversions are in place, due to end mid-June 23
Ferns Sewerage Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ UÉ Asset Planning Strategic assessment is programmed for first half of 2023 where long, and shortlist of upgrade options will be considered. ➤ Stage 2 will assess options and Stage 3 will bring forward detailed design and tender documentation. ➤ No update
STVGP – Small towns and villages growth programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ UÉ programme to deliver additional capacity to existing towns and villages serviced by UÉ. Wellington Bridge and Tagoat are included in national programme. ➤ Option reports complete for both projects with Uisce Éireann Delivery section now taking control of both. Outline design ongoing for both projects. ➤ First on-site meeting with designers at Tagoat held in February
Coolree Reservoir Rehabilitation works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Rehabilitation works to the embankment, spillway and valve tower at Coolree Reservoir ➤ Preliminary scope outlined with ongoing feasibility studies to determine best solution
Bunclody Water supply- Supply Demand Balance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hydrogeological assessment underway for improved Ground Water Resources for Bunclody ➤ Workshop -1 complete for upgrades to the existing plant to aid the current plant operation. Proposal is for new package plant to improve the resilience and capacity of Bunclody WTP ➤ Framework contractor appointed, start date TBC
Fardystown Phase 1 & 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Well rehabilitation works at Tanner Hill to progress via consultants HES to restore well output from this site. ➤ New wells proposed at Mayglass Church and Mulrankin to provide additional capacity for the Fardystown supply. ➤ New raw watermains will also be provided under this contract. ➤ Uisce Eireann will progress planning permission for the new well sites.

2. Minor Capital




UÉ Minor Water Schemes

- **Water Plant Generators**
 - Design of generator for Castlemoyle WTP, New Ross is underway.
- **Treated Water storage programme.**
 - 3 sites in Wexford – Kilmallock bridge, Camolin and Killealy.
 - Kilmallock Bridge Reservoir planning granted; Tender award issued, start date August 2023.

UÉ Minor Wastewater Schemes

- **Pump Upgrades**
 - New pumps and controls at Rosehill Heights WWPS in Rosslare Strand to improve resilience will be installed in June.
 - Replacement pumps are on order for Island Road WWPS Enniscorthy with new smart-controller to be installed also.
 - Upgrade of pumps at Marshalstown WWTP have been ordered.
- **SCADA Upgrades**
 - SCADA upgrades at 2 No. WWTPs (Kilmuckridge and Bridgetown) are progressing on site.
- **WWTP Minor Improvement Works**
 - Upgrade works to improve resilience of the inlet PS at Ballymurn WWTP are now completed on site.
 - Minor civil works to improve site access are now completed at Rosslare Strand WWTP.
 - Replacement of aeration system diffusers at Rosslare Strand WWTP is currently being priced and designed, with installation to take place in Q3 2023.

	<p>➤ Invest to Save</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Funding has been granted for a new sludge press at Rosslare Strand WWTP, and installation and commissioning is now 90% complete on site and expected to be in operation prior to the summer season.
UÉ Capital Maintenance	<p>➤ The budget for 2023 is currently set at €2.3m, with spend year to date at the end of March of €1,069,507.</p>
Non-UÉ Small Capital Schemes	<p>Ballinamorrhagh, Curracloe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Rehabilitation works are currently being priced for the secondary treatment plant.
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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Kyle Close, Oulart- Water connection is complete with sewerage to follow in 2023. ➤ Mountain View, Ballindaggin- COF received from UÉ. Survey complete. Application to Uisce Éireann for connection underway. ➤ Gleann na gCaor, Monagear- Connection enquiry made. Design in progress ➤ Cois Cuan, Arthurstown- Design in progress ➤ Coolballow estate- Connection granted for decommissioning of DPI at Coolballow estate to connect to Wexford SS <p>Additional funding applications made for Farrin Carraig and Beach View estates in Duncannon.</p>

3. Rural Water	
Measure 2 - Public Health Compliance	<p>➤ Kilanerin GWS</p> <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 discussing option of installing a nitrate monitor to give us access to reliable data for future solution. ○ Awaiting confirmation from the Dept. to reallocate funding to nitrate monitoring.
Measure 3 – Enhancement of Existing Schemes including Water Conservation	<p>➤ Blackstairs GWS</p> <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 have reviewed and discussed at committee and have confirmed they are agreeable to recommended option. ○ 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. ○ The Dept. have approved request for increased funding.
Measure 5 – Transition of Existing Group Water Schemes and Group Sewerage Schemes	<p>➤ Bing GSS – Community Wastewater Connection (CWwC)</p> <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. ○ Returned tender price from contractors for main contract works shall be subject to final Departmental assessment and approval. ○ Landowners have agreed to revised location of pumping station sites. ○ Update given to Dept. on progress to date. ○ SI e-tender completed; 3 submissions received costing between €140,000 - €190,000. ○ Amendments were made to scope of SI and project re-tendered; submission closes 2nd June.

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. ○ Expecting update from the Dept. in June with details of new 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 21 new well grant applications were registered to date in May 2023. ○ 6 Well Grants have been paid in this period, totalling €13,023. ○ 30 inspections carried out in May. ○ Workflow prototype has been developed to final stage, works to be completed in June.
Measure A8 – Wastewater Collection & Treatment Needs for Villages & Settlements without access to Public Wastewater Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ New Advance Phase of MARWP 2022-2024 ○ Submissions requested from all local authorities. ○ Deadline 15th September 2022 ○ Matrix was constructed for Priority funding. ○ Limited to two applications ○ Feasibility studies submitted to the Department for Ramsgrange and Glynn for review by expert panel. ○ Further information regarding the option for Glynn was requested from the Dept. which has been submitted. ○ Awaiting update from the Dept.
Lead Remediation Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 5 applications received to date on revised grant, 1 paid, 2 approved, 2 awaiting further documents.

4. Water Conservation



Water Conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Consumption Water Treatment Plant output for May 2023 was at 45.7MLD and increase on May 2022 figures of 44.21MLD.
Leak Detection & Repair	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Planned Operational Leak Detection (PLD)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Planned leak detection was focused mainly on Wexford town, Rosslare, Cahore, Kilmyshall, Marshalstown and Castledockrell in May 2023.
Water Network Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Rehab Schemes<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Wexford – Ballysilla to Lacken (Airfield Road project) – Final works completed in May 2023.○ Wexford – Ballinesker main install was completed in May.○ Wexford – Barnablake project still ongoing, scheduled completion in June.➤ Find and Fix<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ LA Find crews were concentrated on Wexford town New Ross and Blackwater schemes in May.○ RC Acoustic logger crew are still in Enniscorthy. Team commenced deployment of loggers in Rosslare in May.○ RC Find crews x 2 are investigating leaks in Killag and Courtown.○ F&F repairs by the LA in New Ross, Wexford town and Ballinellard.○ F&F repairs by the RC in Bunclody, Enniscorthy, Bree and Gorey in May.➤ BYS Services Wexford BYS Works -<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Edenvale Avenue/Dolphin Road commenced in May.➤ Pressure Management<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Survey of 80nr PRV's throughout the county completed in May.○ 5nr PRV controllers deployed, final commissioning works still to be completed.○ PRV major service works commenced in May.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Meter Installation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Banogue and Ballyhogue meters installed by RC in May. ➤ First Fix <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ UE Regional Contractor, Shareridge are conducting ongoing First Fix investigations and repairs around the county.

ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION

MAJOR NATIONAL ROADS PROJECTS

N11/N25 Oilgate to Rosslare Harbour

- Ground Investigation on-site works are ongoing.
- Environmental surveys, traffic studies and traffic modelling are ongoing.
- Pre-application consultation process with An Bord Pleanála in relation to Strategic Infrastructure Development is due to commence. Engaging in pre-application consultation with An Bord Pleanála assists in ensuring that all matters which are likely to be considered, relevant to the Bord's assessment, have been considered as far as possible in the application to be submitted.
- Archaeological Geophysical Survey Tender is under assessment. 5 no. contractors submitted the tender documents by the deadline.
- Additional Topographical Survey Tender is expected to be published in June 2023.
- The overall design of the development, including bridge options is ongoing taking into account comments received from the landowners collected on the Landowner Engagement Meetings held in April 2023.
- Engagement with the ESB/EirGrid, Irish Rail and other stakeholders is ongoing.

N25 Rosslare Europort Access Road

The position on this project remains unchanged.

The decision from An Bord Pleanála, has not been received as anticipated (i.e. on or before the 26th May 2023). Correspondence from the Bord has been received within the reporting period, that application 177AE for N25 Rosslare Europort Access Road is currently at Board level awaiting a decision and no estimated date has been given for when this is hoped to be decided.

NATIONAL ROAD PAVEMENT SCHEMES

2022 Pavement Schemes

N25 Ballykilliane to Orristown Pavement Scheme

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

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

The contract was awarded on 24th October.

Drainage works were completed in March. Pavement works commenced in May and are due to be completed by the 9th. June.

N80 Tomacurry to Ballycarney Phase 1

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

The total scheme length is 3.7km. The allocation from TII for 2022 allowed for the first 2 km at the southern be completed in March (Phase 1).

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 2022. The roundabout is substantially completed.

Works still to be completed: Final surface layer, Final accommodation works and landscaping.

Works to be completed in June/July 2023

2023 Pavement Schemes

N80 Tomacurry to Ballycarney Phase 2

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

This scheme is being designed at present. Scheme will be tendered June and constructed in August and September.

N25 Orristown to Ashfield Cross Pavement Scheme

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

This scheme is being designed at present. It is hoped to tender this scheme in July and construct the scheme in September and October.

2023 Additional Maintenance Allocations

Wexford County Council will be applying for additional maintenance funding from TII in 2023. This will relate to pavement repairs on sections of the N80 north of Ballycarney and sections of the N30.

Wexford County Council will continue to apply for additional maintenance funding for drainage and verge maintenance works on the N11, N25, N30 and N80.

A consultant has been appointed to carry out a drainage design for a section of the N25 between Barntown and Larkins cross that flooded twice since 25th December 2021. A preliminary meeting was held with the consultant on site in January. Design report due by June 2023.

Former National Roads Grant 2023

2 applications were made under this scheme for 2023.

- R772 Tinnock to Gorey (1.4km)
- R723 Rosbercon (0.8km).

Funding of €500,000 was received for the R772 Tinnock scheme. This amounts to 50% of the scheme. A consultant has been appointed to look at the possibility of including a cycle facility as part of the scheme.

It is hoped to tender this work in the third quarter of 2023.

REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROADS

The Regional and Local Road Grant Allocations were announced on 14 February 2023.

Wexford's allocation was €22,811,650. This allocation includes €1,000,000 for Christmas day 2021 flood damage and €1,500,000 for the Deeps Bridge remediation works.

Resurfacing/Strengthening

The 2023 strengthening programme (Machinery Yard) commenced in the Enniscorthy District on 25 January 2023 at Bucks Bridge, Ballindaggan.

Roads resurfaced in the last month were:

Killowen/Monagarrow; Hollyfort to Monaseed; Ballyadam; Mangan Lower; Killenagh; Bolacreen; Baurela towards Kilbride; Lacken; (All in Gorey-Kilmuckridge).

Surface Dressing Works

The surface dressing programme is commencing in Enniscorthy District on the 12 June.

Community Involvement Schemes

€502,650 was allocated in 2023. Nook Road was resurfaced in New Ross District in May.

Local Improvement Schemes

€411,705 was allocated to County Wexford in Round 1, 2023. The Round 1 letters of successful and unsuccessful applications have been issued. Works are expected to commence this month.

Bridge Rehabilitation Grant

Wexford County Council was allocated €610,000 to repair 17 bridges in 2023. One bridge (Kings Bridge, Cullenstown) is complete in Rosslare District. Repairs works has commenced on 2 bridges (Abbey Bridge & Barmoney Bridge) in New Ross District.

Christmas Day 2021 - Flood Damaged Bridges

Temporary Bailey Bridges are in place at Chapel and Cullenstown Little in the New Ross District. Detailed designs are in progress to construct 2 new concrete beam bridges. They both require Part 8 planning, and it is hoped work will commence in quarter 4 of this year. Wilton Bridge in Enniscorthy District will be repaired to its original form of masonry arches. Repair works will commence this month and are expected to be complete in September.

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.

Glas Civil Engineering commenced work 9 January 2023. The project is on schedule. The bridge surface has been stripped down to the bridge deck. A retaining wall on the east side of the bridge has been constructed. All concrete repairs are complete on the piers. Concrete repairs are in progress on the deck and parapets. Over 260 concrete repairs are complete out of approximately 300. It is anticipated the road will be open by the end of August and the works fully complete by the end of September 2023.



Deeps Bridge 2 June 2023

Winter Maintenance

The Winter Maintenance started 17 October 2022 and finished 30 April 2023. There were 55 treatments this season. This compares to 46 treatments the previous winter.

General Maintenance

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

ACTIVE TRAVEL

Section 38 Consultation process is complete for **Newtown Rd** from the junction at the hospital towards the Wygram Junction. A report was presented to and accepted by members of the Wexford Borough District on 17th April 2023. **This proposal involves road carriageway width narrowing to slow traffic down and junction tightening at entrances to prevent entering estates at high speed and facilitate safer pedestrian and cyclist movements.**

Tender documents are being finalised for the approved Active Travel scheme on the **Newtown Road from Maldron Road Roundabout** on the Ring Road to the Racecourse. Tenders will be published in the coming days.

Three Safe Routes to School Schools schemes (SRTS Round 1) which involve traffic calming at front of school to encourage active travel are being designed in house in consultation with schools.

Section 38 consultation process for proposed works in front of **Adamstown Scoil Naomh Abbann** is complete. A report on the proposed works was presented and accepted by members of New Ross Municipal district on 10th May 2023. Construction is expected to begin in July 2023 after state exams in the adjoining secondary school to minimise disruption to students.

Section 38 consultation process is currently live for **Scoil Mhuire Rosslare**. Completion of the process will close on 2nd June 2023. A report for the members of Rosslare MD will be prepared for the upcoming district meeting. Construction is expected in Sept 2023 after the busy summer period in Rosslare.

The proposed cycle lane upgrade in **Roxborough** will be discussed next Wednesday, 7th June with the NTA. It is expected that the design will move from Options Assessment to Preliminary design.

Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA)

Wexford Town ABTA – Baseline report is now complete providing a comprehensive overview of transport in Wexford Town and environs. Atkins propose to present the report week ending 9th June.

Enniscorthy ABTA – Tenders have been issued and are due back 23rd June.

National Bike Week

National Bike Week took place this year from the 13th to the 21st of May. A range of cycling events were held across the County from Cycle Safety to BMX and Balance Bikes Sessions, Mountain Biking for beginners and bike maintenance sessions. Sports Active Wexford and Sheilbaggan Outdoor Education Centre provided a lot of assistance to make the week as successful as it was.



Children from as young as two years of age get ready to take off on Balance Bikes at the Courtown BMX track as part of a Balance Bike Buddies Session

Public E Bike Sharing Scheme

A Public E Bike Sharing Scheme in association with Bolt launched in Wexford Town during Bike Week on the 17th of May. This scheme is being run on a trial basis for a year to allow both parties to examine the benefits for Wexford town. Two weeks in the scheme is proving very popular with over 504 users of the bikes and 1,048 rides. The average distance people cycle is 2.8 km taking 16 minutes approx. There are currently 28 parking locations across town with more being rolled out each day as the scheme gets established.

PUBLIC LIGHTING

LED Upgrade (Non-National Roads)

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

Design works are completed.

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

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.

Lighting stock should be fully Led by the end of 2024.

Public Lighting Development Fund

Additional public lighting will be installed at the following locations under the Public Lighting Development Fund in 2023.

- Ramsfort Avenue Gorey – infill along by GAA pitch. Lighting design being carried out and quotations due in June.
- The Ballagh – Church to the school – Lighting design being carried out and quotations due in June.
- The Ballagh – Ballagh Cove to regional road. Lighting design being carried out and quotations due in June.
- Wexford Town – Seamus Kelly roundabout to Spawell Road. 2 quotations received. A contractor will be appointed in June.
- Wexford Town - Kennedy Park. 2 quotations received. A contractor will be appointed in June.

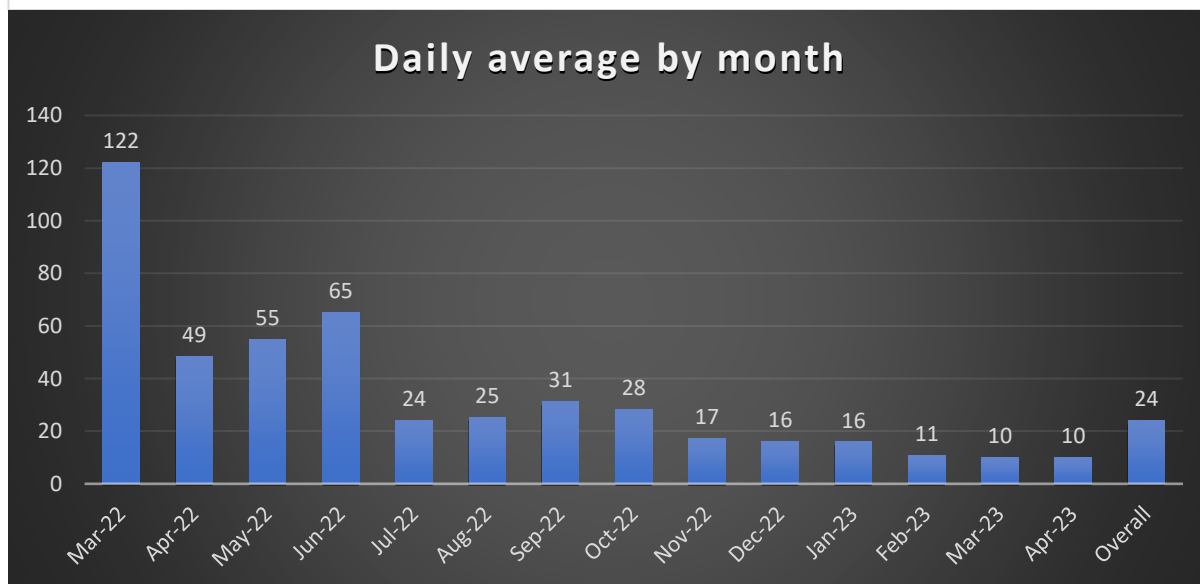
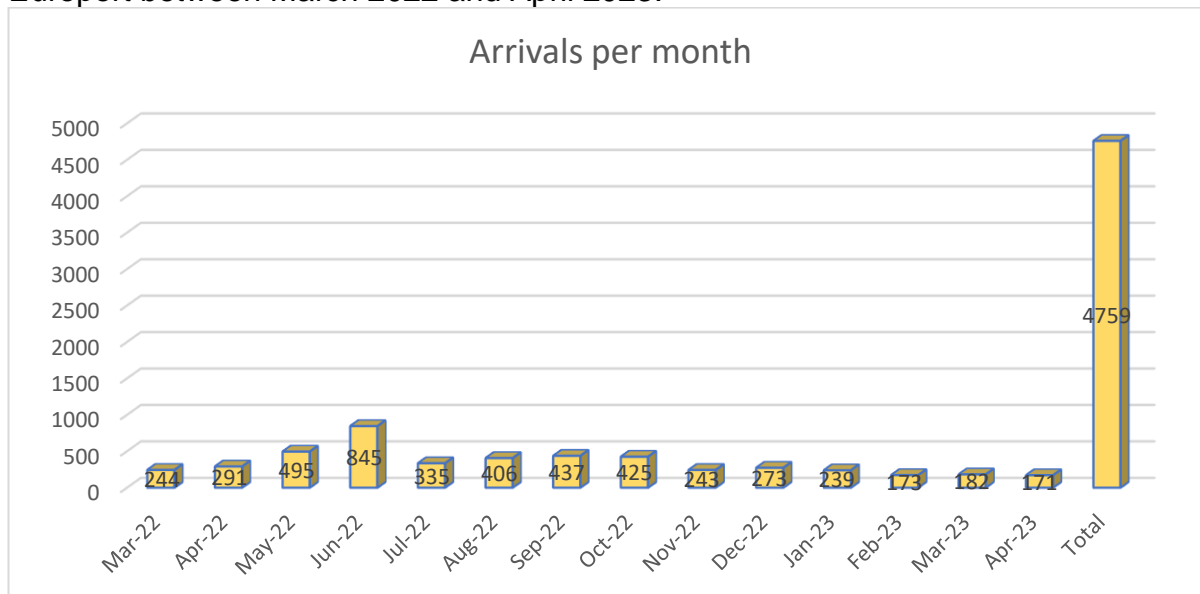
Other locations will follow further to consultations with Municipal District Engineers.

It should be noted that quotations are sought from the four recognised public lighting contractors in the country for these public lighting schemes. All four contractors are now working on the 3 National Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Programme (PLEEP) contracts across the country. This is leading to a delay in getting our Development Fund lighting contracts designed, tendered and completed.

UKRANIAN RESPONSE UPDATE

Arrivals at Rosslare Europort

A total of 4,759 Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection have arrived in Ireland through Rosslare Europort between March 2022 and April 2023.



Overall daily average	Overall monthly average	Average daily cars
24	340	5

Ukrainian Community Response Forum

The next meeting of the Ukrainian Community Response Forum will be held on the 26th June 2023. It was agreed at the last meeting that the meetings will be held every quarter. The Community Response Forums are providing essential local engagement spaces for all the public, non-profit and private bodies who are involved in the provision of services and supports locally. This forum ensures that groups operating locally are working together for the best outcomes for those in need of support.

Offer a Home

The team continue to place displaced Ukrainian families in properties across Wexford, in both rural and urban areas, to date some 95 properties have been allocated. The team are currently renewing contracts with homeowners under the scheme as the initial 6-month Licence Agreements are expiring.

Other Initiatives

Healthy Ireland Fund

Wexford County Council were awarded funding of €38,100 under The Ukrainian Refugee Health and Wellbeing Support Fund. The funding is provided through Sláintecare and Healthy Ireland. Nine different voluntary groups across Wexford were awarded funding and the funding has been disbursed. The groups carried out various activities such as horse riding, art therapy classes, yoga, kayaking, excursions, BMX biking and swimming lessons.

Community Recognition Fund

The fund was announced in early May and full details can be found under Community Section of this report.

CORPORATE ACTIVITIES

1. FOI OFFICE REQUESTS

Type	
Freedom of Information	12
Customer Complaint	14
Ombudsman Complaint	1
Access to Information on the Environment	1
Data Access Request	0
Total	28

2. PROCUREMENT SECTION ACTIVITY

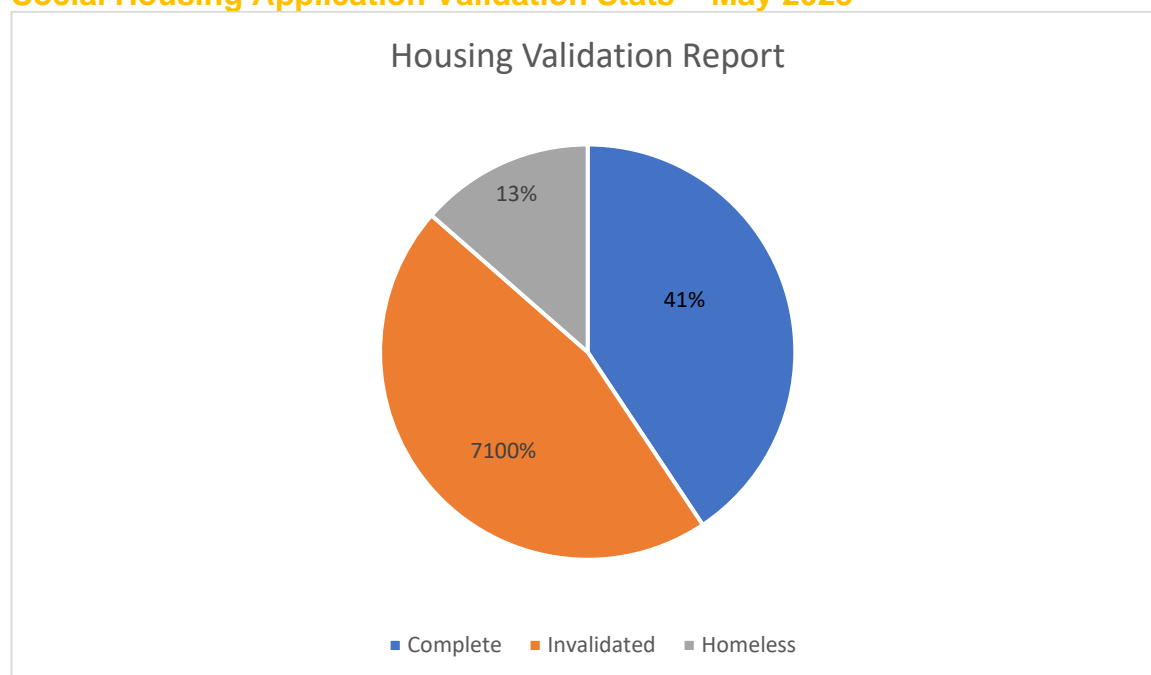
Tenders from 1st May, 2023 to 31st May, 2023

No uploaded	6
No of tenders received	44

CSU Stats – Phone Calls, Emails and Cases Handled – May 2023

Area	May
Phone Calls	4378
Environmental Complaints	330
Change of Circumstances	23
Housing Validation	155
Quick Calls	2487
Roads Fault Log	40
Emails (Received & Sent)	2886
Web Updates / Consultations	54 / 7
Newspaper Adverts	104

Social Housing Application Validation Stats – May 2023



Members Portal Queries by Section – May 2023

Section	Closed	Open	Total
Customer Service	0	2	2
Enniscorthy Municipal District	0	5	5
Environment	0	11	11
Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District	0	4	4
Housing	3	90	93
IT	0	0	0
Planning	0	4	4
Roads	0	4	4
Roads – Enniscorthy MD	1	6	7
Roads – Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD	0	9	8
Roads – New Ross MD	0	2	2
Roads – Wexford MD	0	5	5
Wexford Municipal District	0	2	2
Special Projects	0	0	0
TOTAL	4	146	150



Comhairle Contae Loch Garman Wexford County Council

Monthly Social Media Report Month: May 2023

Monthly Social Media Stats



PAGE REACH

PAGE FOLLOWS

NEW PAGE LIKES

PAGE VISITS

NUM. OF POSTS

Learnings from this month:

TOPICS HIGHLIGHTED THIS MONTH:

Due to technical issues with Meta we are unable to access the analytics links, therefore no stats available for May.

Monthly Social Media Stats



PAGE REACH

PAGE FOLLOWS

NEW FOLLOWERS

PAGE VISITS

NUM. OF POSTS

Learnings from this month:

TOPICS HIGHLIGHTED THIS MONTH:

Due to technical issues with Meta we are unable to access the analytics links, therefore no stats available for May.



Monthly Stats

IMPRESSIONS

132K

MENTIONS

209

NUM. OF TWEETS

71

PAGE FOLLOWERS

13,945

PAGE VISITS

1496

NEW FOLLOWERS

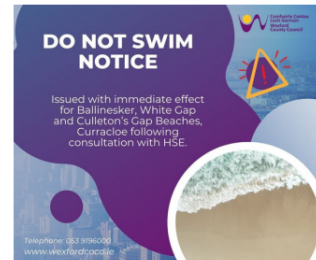
4

Learnings from this month:

Map Alerter taking over alot of our news feed on Twitter resulting in other posts not reaching enough of our audience.

TOP POST THIS MONTH:

Wexford County Council @wexfordcoco
DO NOT SWIM PUBLIC NOTICE - Ballinesker, White Gap and Culleton's Gap Beaches, Curracloe
With Immediate Effect.
For more information go to: <https://bit.ly/4520cEx>
pic.twitter.com/dbRShSzXu



9491 impressions



Monthly Engagements

TYPES OF QUERIES RECEIVED.

Evening @wexfordcoco @RSAIreland @GardaTraffic Is there any chance of you doing something about footpaths being used as parking for trucks? This is outside Redmond Cove in Wx Town today and every day #makewayday Not enough room for a buggy and the paths are in shit with them



@wexfordcoco why is this still driving around with British plates since at least 30th March? #Wexford



This is shocking! One of the best beaches in the country. @wexfordcoco what are you doing??????



Pádraig Byrne @byrne_padraig · May 15

⚠️ A "Do Not Swim Notice" has been issued for Curracloe beach in #Wexford from Ballinesker to Culleton's Gap. Testing showed elevated levels of intestinal enterococci bacteria. It will be reviewed on Wednesday. ⚠️

[Show this thread](#)

Positive Engagements

Application for this years tidy towns is in for #Ennisclorthy hoping to improve our score and town in general!! Thanks to @wexfordcoco for continued support @TidyTownslre



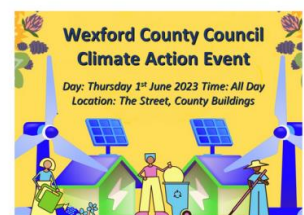
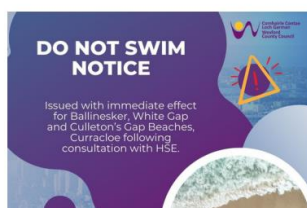
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Press Releases May 2023

- 03 May 2023 - National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy 2023-2029 Public Consultation Period Now Open
- 05 May 2023 - Wexford County Council host successful "Rubbish Film Festival" for Transition Year Students
- 15 May 2023 - Ballinesker, White Gap and Culleton's Gap Beaches Curracloe "Do not swim notices"
- 17 May 2023 - Launch of e-bikes in Wexford Town
- 17 May 2023 - Annual Artwork Awards and Snap Into Action Competition (held by Environment Dept)
- 22 May 2023 - WCC to hold Climate Action Event at County Hall
- 22 May 2023 - Duncannon hosts Regional Water Framework Directive Committee on the protection of Water Quality
- 22 May 2023 - National Biodiversity Week 2023
- 29 May 2023 - Wexford's Biodiversity promoted through Art



SPECIAL PROJECTS

1. Projects at Planning Stages

1.1 Enniscorthy Town Centre & Tourism Project:

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

The public realm aspects of the tourism projects will form part of the Call 4 URDF application expected in the Q4 2023.

Moloney O'Beirne has been appointed to prepare preliminary designs and Part VIII planning application for the Market Square and the Castle Quarter by September and November respectively to support the Call 4 application for Enniscorthy.

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

Phase 1 – Forth Mountain Activity Park, Trails and Carpark is complete.

The activity centre building was lodged for Part VIII planning in March 2022. In response to a request from An Bord Pleanála for further information relating to the project was completed and submitted to the Board. The Part VIII planning application was withdrawn in October 2022. A process to procure a consulting team to prepare an EIAR and prepare a planning submission to ABP is now required.

The Part VIII for the proposed boathouse and external toilet facility on-site was approved by WCC in February 2023. The tender for works was advertised, with tenders received on May 31st. It is expected that a contract award will be made by August with a commencement on site in Sept 2023.

1.3 Min Ryan Park

Sole Sports and Leisure was appointed to construct the skate park and MUGA on a design and build basis. The MUGA and skatepark are now both complete and open to the public. Killaree Lighting Services have now completed lighting installations to both features.

1.4 Gorey District Park

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

The second invitation to tender for the Changing Places unit did not result in an award of contract. A third invitation to tender for the Changing Places unit was advertised on eTenders. Tenders have been received and are being assessed.

1.5 John Street Building Regeneration Project, New Ross

A portion of the grain store building has been purchased by agreement and the CPO for the remaining sections is now formally complete. ODKM Architects are appointed and undertook a preplanning meeting for the building in February. The Concept Design Report was presented to the New Ross MDC at the May meeting with Part 8 expected to commence in July, subject to screening for appropriate assessment.

1.6 Gorey Market House

As agreed at the December meeting of Gorey - Kilmuckridge MDC, WCC publicly invited Expressions of Interest in February 2023 for the re-development of the Market House. A Competitive Dialogue procurement process is being used to identify best options for a town centre development, including a performance space. The deadline for receipt of initial expressions of interest was 20th April. The assessment report will be presented to the GKMD in June.

1.7 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.

Irish National Heritage Park: INHP

The tourism and environmental design teams for the INHP have commenced work on a preliminary design and the environmental assessments. It is planned to submit a planning application for the project to An Bord Pleanála in Q1 2024.

Hook Lighthouse

The tender competition for interpretative design services for the Hook Lighthouse was advertised in February with closing date for tenders on 30/03/23. The successful tenderer has been informed and will be appointed shortly.

The Brief for the associated architectural and related design services will be advertised in July as part of the framework created for architectural services focused on tourism and recreation projects. It is expected that the preliminary design will be completed in 2023 and submitted to ABP in 2024.

New Ross Tourism Project

Tenders for the interpretive fitout on the Dunbrody Visitor Centre Experience has been received and a contract awarded to EPIC Design, based in Dublin who are now preparing the preliminary design for the development.

Tender documents for the development of the Norman Centre in the Old Bank/Murphy buildings for interpretive design have been advertised with an appointment expected in June 2023. A framework for architectural services for tourism projects has been advertised with appointments expected in June and July respectively, the Norman Centre will be the first project from this framework.

1.8 Esmonde Street, Gorey

An on-site meeting took place with the Members in Gorey – Kilmuckridge MDC in February 2023 and proposals for the street were discussed. A presentation was made to the Members in April 2023. The Members agreed to proceed to detailed design with the proposed plans, with works expected to commence on-site in January 2024.

1.9 Rosslare Europort to Waterford City Greenway

The application for planning consent for the Rosslare to Waterford Greenway Project has been paused, pending the publication of the All-Ireland Rail Review, that will determine the future of the line.

The Rosslare Harbour to Rosslare Strand section is now being advanced as part of the Wexford Town to Rosslare Greenway Project.

1.10 Wexford Town to Rosslare Greenway

Fehily Timoney & Co has been appointed to provide consultancy services for a feasibility study, route selection, preliminary design and environmental assessments for the development of this project. Constraints have been identified and ecological surveys are on-going. Public consultation on the preferred route corridor options commenced on 11th May 2022 with submissions closing on June 10th 2022. The scoping and route options process is ongoing. It is now expected to submit to ABP for approval in H2 2024.

Fehily Timoney & Co has been appointed to review the route options for the proposed Rosslare Harbour to Rosslare Strand Greenway considering the significant coastal protection works which has been carried out over the past two years by Irish Rail. It is planned to submit this section of Greenway to the Part 8 process in Q1 2024

1.11 Old Dublin Road Business Park, Enniscorthy

In May 2021, outline proposals for the Old Dublin Road were presented to the Enniscorthy Municipal District. This was followed by a public consultation process in late June on the draft plan. The masterplan was presented to the Enniscorthy MDC's October meeting. The initial phase 1 works commenced in July/August 2022 and are now substantially completed.

An application for further funding has been prepared and submitted to the NTA, in conjunction with the Roads & Transportation Section, for the active travel elements of the masterplan.

1.12 Courtown Coastal Protection & Beach Nourishment Scheme

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

Priority Geotechnical Ltd. is appointed to carry out the marine and land-based surveys and boreholes at Courtown. They commenced work on the May 2022 and the site investigation work is complete.

Marine profiling surveys will also be carried out in parallel at this time and this work is being carried out by Hydrographic Survey Limited. An application to the Marine Foreshore Dept., was submitted in December 2022, for permission to carry out benthic grab samples. This work will commence once approval is granted.

It is planned to submit an application to An Bord Pleanála for development consent in Autumn 2023.

1.13 Crescent Quay – Dredging

RPS Consulting Engineers have been appointed to provide design services for dredging works at Crescent Quay. The sampling and testing of the proposed dredge material, to inform the statutory consent process, is underway. It is planned to submit the statutory consent applications by Q4 2023.

1.14 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. A competition to award a works contract for the sports hub building was advertised in May 2022. The lowest price tender opened for the project exceeded the available budget and no contract was awarded. A redesign process for the project is now underway.

1.15 Curracloe Water Sports Activity Facility

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

Following the tender process for design services in Jan 2022, Neville Conroy Architects is appointed. Surveying works and detailed design commenced in January 2023. It is planned to tender and commence works in 2023.

1.16 Ferndale Gymnasium, Wexford:

Sports Capital funding of €300,000 has been secured for this project, supporting a donation of €500,000 from William Neville and Sons for this project. Part VIII approved was received in 2022 and a design team has been appointed to prepare detailed designs and tender documents for the works. It is planned to tender for a works contractor by July 2023 and to commence works on site by Q4 2023.

Award of a contract, following public tender, for the construction of two MUGAs at an adjacent site is imminent, following confirmation of €100,000 in grant funding through the 2023 Community Recognition Fund.

1.17 Adoration Convent Wexford

Part VIII is in place for this project to convert the old convent into accommodation for students of Georgia Southern University Wexford campus. A design team appointment is approved by GSU. It is intended to tender out these works out in Q1 2024 with works to commence in Q2 2024.

2 Projects Under Construction

2.1 South East Greenway

Contracts for the works on Lots 1, 2 and 3 were awarded to Glás Civil Engineering and works are now substantially complete. Snagging works are ongoing.

The works have commenced on site, following a tender process, for fencing, public lights ducting and temporary car parks for the greenway section from New Ross to Glenmore. The expected completion date is June 2023.

The works contract tender for Lot 5a – Ferrybank to Curraghmore (5.5KM) was advertised in March with a contract award expected in July 2023.

Contract for Lot 4 – Mount Elliot will be advertised in October with works expected to commence on site early in 2024.

Wexford County Council's Arts Office, in partnership with the Southeast Greenway Project Team, has commissioned designers 'Elements Of Action' with visual artist Aoife Banville, to develop a pilot creative public art project for the Raheen to Glenmore section of the greenway. This works is expected to complete prior to the opening of this section.

2.2 Trinity Wharf

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

Procurement of consultants for design services for the site development and public infrastructure works is underway. The preferred tenderer is identified, and the standstill period has expired. The formal appointment of the design services consultant is expected in June 2023.

2.3 New Ross Emigrants' Park – Oil Tanks Site

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

RRDF funding of €814,393 for the project was announced in November 2022. The main works contract has been awarded to MJS and works have commenced. Completion is expected in September.

2.4 Mechanics Institute, Wexford

The works contract for essential maintenance works at the Mechanics Institute has been awarded to Roger Doyle Contractors and works commenced on site in January 2023. Works are expected to take 6 months complete.

2.5 Oyster Lane Site, Wexford

A Part VIII submission has been made for the demolition of existing unoccupied buildings on the old Tesco site, including the construction of a temporary surface level car park. The Part VIII was confirmed at the March 2022 County Council meeting.

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

The demolition contract has been awarded to John Tinnelly & Sons (Ireland) Ltd. Works are ongoing on site.

3. Projects Delivered under the Economic & Community Development Programme

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





4. Flood Defence Schemes

4.1 Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme

Statutory Process - The Minister for the Department of Public Expenditure & Reform (DPER) issued his decision to refuse the scheme on 4th March 2022. Details are available on www.gov.ie. 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.

Flood Defence Scheme - The hydrology and ecology baseline data is currently being updated. The scheme alternatives are to be assessed, consulted on publicly and a preferred option identified. MMD has issued a programme of work – the preferred option report & environmental assessment reports are scheduled to be completed in Q3 2023. It will be necessary to review planning options and the preferred planning mechanism selected.

New River Slaney Bridge - The ecology baseline data is currently being updated and the traffic surveys are complete.

4.2 Wexford Flood Relief Scheme

The contract for engineering and environmental services for the for the Wexford Town & Environs contract was signed by WCC and Nicholas O'Dwyer Ltd on 23rd March. Officials from the OPW, the sponsoring agency for the scheme, including the Minister Mr Patrick O'Donovan, attended. A preliminary cost estimate of €9.52m has been approved by the OPW for scheme, which will fully funded.

The appointment will include flood risk modelling; assessment of options for flood prevention; preliminary design; the preparation of planning and other statutory consent applications; detailed design; tendering for works contractors and construction management services.

HOUSING

Housing Supply

Capital Projects: Local Authority Build Programme

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Current Position	Comment
Rosetown Phase 1	23	Rosslare	Complete	Substantial Completion Date May 19 th 2023.
Marconi Park	1 TAP	Enniscorthy	Under Construction	Due to complete in Q2 2023
Whiterock Hill Phase 1	22	Wexford	Under construction.	To complete in Q4 2023.
Women's Refuge	12	Wexford	Under Construction	Construction commenced Feb 23. Currently 4 weeks behind due to ground conditions and piling requirements.
Rosetown Phase 2	12	Rosslare	Under Construction	Contractor appointed. Commence construction 1 st June 23
Whiterock Hill Phase 2	22	Wexford	Under Construction	Commenced construction April 23 Target Completion Q3 2024.
Ballyhine, Barntown	8	Wexford	Under Construction	Commenced on site 22 May 23 Additional Unit (Unused community centre will be converted to a one bed bungalow)
Wexford Street	30	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Stage 4	Stage 4 approved 3 May 23 proceed to contract. Commence July 23
At Approval Stages				
Bullawn	3	New Ross	Stage 2	Demolitions and archaeological Inspections complete 5 May 23. Stage 3 and Tender in Q3
Rosbercon	38 (est)	New Ross	Stage 2	Awaiting Funding approval for enabling works applied April 23. Appoint Enabling Contractor Q2 23.
Killeens	60	Wexford	Stage 2	Lodge Part VIII Q2 on track. Prepare Stage 3 and tender documentation for submission Q4 23
Creagh	22	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Combined Stage1 and 2	Stage 1 and 2 approved 16 May 23 Consultants to be formally appointed to prepare tender documentation. Allow 8 weeks to issue DB tenders.
Monomolin	5	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Single Stage	Bundle A for 3 projects. – (Monomolin, Ballygillane and Grogans Road). Consultants appointed for preliminary works for funding Part VIII and funding application Q2 23.

Francis St.	2	Wexford	SS approved	Funding Approved March 23. Part VIII Q2 and prepare tender documents Q3 2023
Ballygillane	5	Rosslare	Single Stage	Bundle A for 3 projects. – (Monomolin, Ballygillane and Grogans Road). Consultants appointed for preliminary works for funding Part VIII and funding application Q2 23.
Grogans Road	4	Wexford	Single Stage	Bundle A for 3 projects. – (Monomolin, Ballygillane and Grogans Road). Consultants appointed for preliminary works for funding Part VIII and funding application Q2 23
TOTAL	269			

Pre-Development Stage

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment	
Bride Street	3	Wexford	Single Stage	Appoint Archaeologist. Other appointments will follow Archaeology report. SS Funding application to DHLGH Q3 2023
Tagoat	18	Rosslare	Stage 2	Stage 1 and 2 Approved 8 May 23 Tender for DB construction July 23
Adamstown	3	New Ross	Single Stage	Demolitions complete. Funding application to DHLGH Q3 2023
TOTAL	24			

Longer Term Projects

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment	
Clonard	26	Wexford	A proposal has been submitted by a neighboring developer. Review programme road delivery June 23.	
St Walerans	35	Gorey	Part VIII Approved. Appoint Project Management Q2 23	
TOTAL	61			

Other Projects (early feasibility)

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Lacken TAP	1	New Ross	Surveys complete. Part VIII June 23. SS submission Q3 2023
Belvedere	6	Wexford	Pre Planning June 23 Single Stage Application in Q3 2023
Creagh	24	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Sketch design prepared for site investigations and surveys.
Group Housing TAP	5	Wexford	Levels Survey complete, Site Layout for discussion with stakeholders complete. Awaiting Brief
TOTAL	36		

Affordable Dwellings

	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Ramsfort Park	20	Gorey	9 No Expressions of Interest received 24 April 2023. Stage 2 (tender) calls scheduled for Q2 23
St Walerans	70	Gorey	Appoint Project Management Q2 23
TOTAL	90		

Approved Housing Bodies

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Cluid			
Hewittlands, New Ross (LAGS site)	48	New Ross	Decision to Grant planning issued Dec 2022. To deliver Q4 2024.
Bridgemedows, Enniscorthy	12	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval Nov 2022. To deliver Q2 2023 Nominations done.
Tobar Mhuire Place, Gorey	5	Gorey	To deliver Q3 2023.
Tuath			
Ramstown, Gorey	68	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	24 units delivered. Remainder to deliver 2023
Gleann an Ghairdin	24	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	To deliver Q2 2023
Co Operative Housing Ireland (CHI)			
Moongate, Clonard Rd, Wexford	38	Wexford	17 delivered Q2 2023. 21 to deliver Q3 2023.
Cuil na Dara, Clonard (Ph 2.1 of Pairc na Daire)	25	Wexford	DHLGH Approval received June 2022. To deliver 2023
Pairc na Greine, Clonard (Ph2.2 of Pairc na Daire)	24	Wexford	DHLGH Approval received Sept 2022. To deliver 2024
TOTAL	244		

Support has been offered to AHB's for other proposals amounting to 457 units across all districts. These proposals are subject to Planning and Departmental approval.

Offers of Support for AHB Proposals (Subject to Planning and Departmental Approval)

District	No of Units
Enniscorthy	135
Gorey	153
New Ross	41
Rosslare	17
Wexford	106
Total	457

Part V Acquisitions

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Greenhills, Clonhaston, Enniscorthy	5	Enniscorthy	Delivered Q1 2023
Gleann an Ghairdin Ph 3	10	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	8 to deliver from Q2 2023 2 to deliver Q4 2023
Gleann an Ghairdin, Gorey Ph 4	10	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	DHLGH Approval Dec 22. To deliver from Q2 2024
Tobar Muire, Creagh Demesne	4	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	2 units delivered, 2 to be delivered by end of 2023
Spring View, Gorey Hill	11	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Under Construction. Amendment to planning permission being sought. To deliver on phased basis from 2023.
Ard na hAbhann, Newtown Rd	2	Wexford	Under Construction. Funding approval received May 2022. To deliver late 2023
An Glasan, Greenville Lane	8	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval Feb 22. To deliver from Q4 2023
TOTAL	50		

Turnkeys

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Tobar Muire, Creagh Demesne	39	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	10 units delivered. Remainder to deliver 2023
Castlelands, Ferns	20	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval received Jan 2022. Under Construction. Expected to deliver Q3 2023
Haughton Place, New Ross (includes 1 Part V)	13	New Ross	Expected to deliver 2024
Clonard Little (includes 1 Part V)	10	Wexford	Under Construction. To deliver late 2023
Cross St., New Ross	2	New Ross	DHLGH Approval Nov 22. To deliver Q2 2023

An Glasan, Greenville Lane, Enniscorthy	8	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval Nov 22. To deliver Q3 2023
Greenhills, Clonhaston	8	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval Nov 22. Delivered Q1 2023
Gleann an Ghairdin, Gorey	40	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	DHLGH Approval Dec 22. To deliver from Q2 2024
Forgelands, Old Forge Rd, Enniscorthy	2	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval Jan 23. To deliver Q3 2023
Churchview, Ballynaglogh, Blackwater (Ph2)	14	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	DHLGH Approval Feb 23. To deliver Q3 2024
Ard Uisce, Wexford	2	Wexford	To deliver Q3 2023
Old Forest, Bunclody	8	Enniscorthy	Approved March 2023 To deliver Q4 2024
TOTAL	166		

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

Housing Maintenance

The following table shows the number of repairs carried out from 1st January to 30th April, 2023:

Repairs	Enniscorthy	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	New Ross	Wexford	Rosslare	Total
Repair Requests (1 st – 30 th April 2023)	98	82	140	145	81	546
Repair Requests Year to Date	503	376	548	564	356	2347
Accommodation Units Repaired (1 st – 30 th April 2023)	81	63	97	112	49	402
Accommodation Units Repaired Year to Date	396	286	396	412	249	1739
CLOSED Repair Requests (1 st – 30 th April 2023)	75	59	105	96	49	384
CLOSED Repairs Requests Year to Date	381	239	390	379	233	1622

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

Homeless Services and Support Unit (HSSU)

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

There were **543** calls to the HSSU from 1st January 2023 to 18th May 2023 the following is the breakdown of same:-

430 (79%)	Provided with advice and support in relation to housing and homeless prevention
25 (5%)	Supported with temporary, short, medium and long-term accommodation and tenancy sustainment support through Place Finder and Social Care Workers
63 (12%)	Ineligible at the time presentation for housing/homeless services. HSSU advised and assisted to regularise housing situation.
25 (4%)	It was not possible to complete a full assessment.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

LEADER PROGRAMME

LEADER FINANCE – 24/04/2023 – 31/05/2023

The Article 48 team processed **5** LEADER claims in May.

The value of these claims was **€75,782.71** which will support

4 community groups and **1** enterprise throughout County Wexford.

These claims can be broken down as follows:



Promoter Paid	Claim Payment
1. Wexford Harbour Boat and Tennis Club	€27,734.58
2. Enniscorthy Smart Town Team	€20,091.60
3. Horetown House Hotel Ltd	€6,250.00
4. Tomhagard Womens Shed	€15,000.00
5. Write By The Sea	€6,706.53
TOTAL	€75,782.71

JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE MEETING -

County Wexford Joint Policing Committee

The next meeting date of the Joint Policing Committee is scheduled for the 12th of June 2023.



LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING -

A hybrid meetings of the Local Community and Development Committee was held on the 23rd of May 2023.

The main items discussed included –

- *The Local Economic Community Plan 2023 – 2028.*

The next meeting of the Local Community and Development Committee is scheduled for the 15th of June 2023.



LOCAL ACTION GROUP MEETING -

A hybrid meeting of Local Community Development Committee acting as the Local Action Group was held on the 15th of June 2023.

Items discussed included –

- *Leader Administration and Project Extensions*

The next meeting of the Local Community and Development Committee is scheduled for the 15th of June 2023.



COMMUNITY RECOGNITION FUND

Following the recent Government announcement of funding for over 880 projects as part of the first ever Community Recognition Fund.

Wexford County Council are delighted to announce that the Department of Rural and Community Development have approved applications for the fund to 27 projects across County Wexford.

The major initiative is designed to support and reward communities that have welcomed families and citizens from Ukraine and other countries and aims to support the development of facilities that will be used in the future by all members of the community.

The successful projects under the Community Recognition Fund were announced on 18th May 2023.

WEXFORD LOCAL ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY PLAN (LECP)

A meeting of the LECP Advisory Steering Group was held on the 16th of May 2023, items discussed.

- *Revised High Level Goals*
- *SCOT Analysis.*



In line with the approved guidelines/subject to minor amendments, both items were approved by the Advisory Steering Group, to be approved by both the LCDC and Economic SPC.

Recent Healthy Wexford Activity



Our Healthy County Coordinator collaborated with FDYS in arranging Involve CLG to deliver their Traveller Culture and Identity Programme programme. This training was attended by Community Department team in addition to other agency staff.

The **Country Connects** series of monthly walks continues, led by Wexford Walking Trails in collaboration with Wexford County Council, Wexford IFA, and Healthy Wexford.

The April walk in Rosslare attracted circa 60 walkers. The May event is scheduled for 28th May at Three Rocks Trail, Forth Mountain.

Walks are open to all and full details available on Wexford Walking Trails website <https://wexfordwalkingtrail.ie/>



Wexford's '**Not Around Us**' message continues to spread with the first school to sign up, Colaiste Bride, Enniscorthy receiving their signage in May. This not only extends the number of smoke and vape free spaces for our young people but the engagement and activity of the school around the campaign further highlighted the negative health impacts of smoking and vaping.

Hear about their activity and see highlights of the visit in the most recent video on the [Healthy Wexford Facebook](#) or [Healthy Wexford YouTube](#)

Having identified a need for more **local social connection opportunities** to reduce loneliness and isolation, through both our Needs Analysis Survey and the Covid impact of reduced social connection, the **Mental Wellbeing Working Group** have developed an action in their 2023 workplan to try increase local social connection opportunities.

Following the first pilot event at Tomhaggard Social Centre on Saturday 22nd April, the second event is scheduled for Courtnacuddy on 20th May.



Funded by Healthy Wexford, with support from the Healthy Ireland fund Activator Poles are available to borrow from three libraries across the county, in a collaboration between Healthy Wexford, Sports Active Wexford and Wexford Public Libraries. **Activator Poles at the Library** are available to borrow from New Ross Library from 12th May, Wexford Library from 16th May and Enniscorthy Library from 7th June.



Wexford Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme

Work has been completed on the following Capital Enhancement Projects which includes increasing accessibility and/or including accessible pieces of playground equipment:

- Taghmon playground
- Fairgreen playground, Enniscorthy
- New Oilgate playground
- Calisthenics equipment at Maudlintown
- Ferndale playground



Fairgreen disability access carousel, Enniscorthy



Taghmon playground – resurfacing and disability access carousel.



Oilgate playground



Ferndale playground

Official opening of Calisthenics equipment at Maudlintown

The new Calisthenics equipment at St. Marys GAA in Maudlintown were officially launched by Mayor of Wexford, Cllr. Maura Bell on 5th May 2023 with local representatives, members of the local community including representatives from St. Marys GAA Club and Southend Family Resource Centre and teachers and students from the Faythe National School. Strength and conditioning coach, Mick Kelly gave those present a demonstration on how to use the equipment.



Enniscorthy Learn to Cycle Park launch.

The new Enniscorthy Learn to Cycle Park was officially opened by Cathaoirleach of Enniscorthy MD, Cllr. Aiden Browne on 31st March 2023 with local representatives and members of the local community including teachers and pupils of St. Aidan's Primary School, Enniscorthy in attendance. Sláintecare Healthy Communities provided part funding for this project.



PPN

PPN Plenary meeting took place in the Riverside Hotel, Enniscorthy. This was an opportunity for our members to network and showcase some of their group's work. Some of the workshops for the night included talks on Social Enterprise and Sustainable Energy Communities.



Plenary Meeting – May 2023

The monthly Secretariat meeting took place and the subcommittee have drafted a new Constitution and Election Policy for the PPN (both ratified at the Plenary meeting).

Wexford PPN attended the Kilmore Scope open day where there was an opportunity to see the great work carried out by some of our groups.

Funding and Information bulletins continue to be sent out regularly.

Sports Active

Learn to cycle (Bike Week)

Balance Bike buddies competed a Learn to cycle programme in the Enniscorthy Bike Track on Thursday the 18th May for the full day. Four schools from the local area and one community group (Down Syndrome Wexford) were in attendance. These 45-minute sessions included both peddle & balance bikes and were adapted to cater for the children's needs. Over 70 children were in attendance. Also, a fantastic way to display the fantastic facilities of the bike track in the area.

Marathon Kids - David Gillick visit

23 schools participated in Marathon Kids Programme 950 students took part across County Wexford. To complete the programme Olympian Champion David Gillick visited Rathnure National School and Ballindaggan National School on Friday 5th of May. David done a Q&A with the children and completed a run with the children. Forty-two children attended- 22 girls and 20 boys.

Playground Leaders

A playground Leaders course was conducted in Scoil Mhuire NS, Rosslare on the 11th May. 21 children in 5th class attended.

Strong and Steady

Strong and Steady has now begun delivery in Astro Active Enniscorthy on Wednesdays at 11:30am. There are 7 participants in this class each week. 2 males and 6 females.

Powerchair Soccer, Wexford Town

Brendan Corish, FAI Development Officer has organised a powerchair Soccer programme for children with physical disabilities in Presentation, Wexford Town on Thursdays at 6.30pm. Children (all male) from counties Carlow, Kilkenny and Wexford are in attendance.

Walking Rugby

10 participants from Reach Ability attended the 4-week Walking Rugby Programme. This was a collaboration with Leinster Rugby. Six males and 4 females.

Traveller Women Exercise Classes

SAW in collaboration with WLD have organised taster exercise classes for Traveller women groups in Clonroche, 8th & 16th MAY at 10am & New Ross, 15th & 22nd May at 10am. Good numbers in attendance so far with 8-10 women present.

Activator Pole Launch

Activators Poles have been launched in Wexford Town Library on the 16th May & in New Ross Library on the 12th May. Good turnout for both, 7 females in Wexford Town & 3 females and 1 male in New Ross. Activators Poles now ready to be leased out from each library.

Women's Couch to 3km

A couch to 3km programme in partnership with Wexford Local Development finished up on the May 2nd. There were 13 ladies attending.

Couch to 5km

Due to large interest from the success of the couch to 3km, a couch to 5km programme in partnership with Wexford Local Development will commence on the 23rd May at 10am. Expected attendance approx. 15ppl.

Safeguarding

9 x Safeguarding 1 Courses have been completed in 2023 with a total of 149 participants.
3 x Safeguarding 2 Courses have been completed in 2023 with a total of 21 participants.

Funding

Sports Active Wexford have been granted €2,000 from Sport Ireland for HER Outdoors week in August 2023.



Learn to Cycle, Enniscorthy. Bike Week





Playground Leaders, Scoil Mhuire, Rosslare.



Activator Pole Launch, Wexford Library.



Traveller Women Exercise Sessions.

ENVIRONMENT

A. COASTAL MATTERS

Harbours -

In April 2022, Department of Ag, Food & Marine (DAFM) announced funding of 23 projects with a total construction cost of €1.4m in Co. Wexford under a new scheme to develop works on LA harbours, called the Brexit Adjustment Local Authority Marine Infrastructure (BALAMI) 2022 – 2023. The DAFM approved a second tranche of funding in December 2022, with a total between first and second tranches of 25 projects with total construction cost of €1.79m. The DAFM funding has increased from 85% to 95%, with Wexford County Council paying the 5% match funding on construction. Note that WCC must pay all non-construction costs including design, environmental reports etc.

Ports Past and Present: There is ongoing engagement with the Rosslare community, artists, and our project partners in University College Cork and two Welsh universities. This 4 year project started in 2019 and the official project end date is 31st July 2023. A number of closure events were held in UCC at end April 2023.

Regular updates and further information are available at <https://portspastpresent.eu/>

The regularisation of the public lighting system on the Barrow is ongoing, new lights have been fitted to Marshmeadows access road and Jetty.

The new Marine Area Regulatory Authority (MARA) is due to be set up Q2 /Q3 of 2023, it will be located at Trinity Wharf with an expected workforce building to 200 in the coming years. We are currently engaging with the MARA establishment unit regarding licensing requirements for routine marine operations.

Upgrade works to the Jetty in Marshmeadows including, fendering, public lighting, CCTV and security fencing are significantly completed. New business has been generated with the arrival of the barge “Pompei” on 12th March. This is the first new business for the port in over a decade.

Significant movements of sand have been experienced this winter particularly along the South and East Coasts of the County. The navigation channel in Wexford Harbour has been considerably affected. Regular dredging works are being carried out at Courtown Harbour.

Beaches –

Ballymoney Blue Flag Beach – Access for All and Age Friendly Improvement Works. Wexford CC confirmed funding of €160,000 towards accessibility and age friendly improvement works which include the beach access and accessible toilets. Consultants are now appointed to do the detailed design of the improvement works to the access. Works on the accessible toilet started in April with completion due summer 2023.

Rosslare Strand – Bearlough: 2 new disabled car spaces at the entrance to Rosslare Burrow Holiday Park are completed. These spaces will provide access to the beach along the new macadam path to Bearlough.

Coast -

The Environment Dept monitors the coastline regularly, focussing on erosion risk areas. In addition, there has been a drop in beach levels at many beaches as a result of winter storms. We will also continue to monitor this and expect the beaches to recover over the next number of months.

Rosslare Coastal Erosion and Flood Relief Scheme: Nicholas O'Dwyer Ltd Consulting Engineers is appointed to progress the scheme. Key design parameters for the scheme are being finalised. Flood and erosion options are being developed and it is expected that public consultation days will be held in the coming months.

The project website and project email are now live and can be accessed at

<https://www.floodinfo.ie/rosslarefrs/>

There is provision on the website to email the project team with specific queries. Public consultation days will be held later in 2023.

Seaview, Kilmore: emergency works to protect the access road were completed in Jan 2022. Ecological, bathymetric and seabed surveys on the overall coastal protection scheme are complete. University College Cork has completed the coastal modelling. A planning application will be submitted to An Bord Pleanála which will include coastal protection works and a new beach access, the application is being prepared for submission.

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 further public consultation notice was published in local paper and Irish Independent on 29th March 2023, inviting submissions up to 28th April 2023.

Kilmannock Drainage Scheme – this is a land reclamation and drainage scheme dating from mid 1800s; draining approx 1,000 acres of land near the Great Island Power Station. Environment Dept carried out clearance / maintenance works at the drainage embankment area in Dec 2022. Survey works at the outfall point to the River Suir were carried out in February 2023 to determine the operation of the outlet valves on the drainage system. Further works are required to make the drainage scheme fully operational.

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. Co. in conjunction of LAWPRO is being supervised by the Sub-Catchment Unit of the EPA.

2. Water Sampling:

A Total of 344 water quality samples are taken by Council Scientists from 78 sampling sites in the county per year with analysis carried out by the EPA. 8 surveillance sites are being sampled 8 times per year.

3. Septic Tank Inspections:

139 inspections were carried out in 2022. Wexford had 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 several sites to close outstanding Advisory Notices. A minimum of 130 inspections will have to be carried out in 2023. 18 inspections have taken place up to the end April with 8 passes and 10 fails. 26 further inspections have been pre booked for May 2023.

Progress is being made with closing existing open files. All files up to the end of 2016 have been closed. 101 files were closed during 2022. 68 extensions of time were granted in 2022. There are currently 52 open files for the years 2017-2021 and 28 open for 2022, a total of 80 open cases. 25 files have been closed in 2023.

Year	Number of inspections	Pass	Fail	Outstanding	Closed in 2023
2019	156	48	108	12	2
2020	111	38	73	9	1
2021	91	24	67	21	5
2022	139	50	89	28	13
2023	18	8	10	8	2

There are currently 9 cases in the Court system for failing to comply with Advisory Notices. 7 of these are for hearing and 2 are currently for mention.

10 verification inspections were carried out in April 2023 on sites which have Advisory Notices open over 2 years.

4. Section 4 Discharge Licences:

The Council currently has 94 active Discharge Licences. Two new applications have been received in 2023 to date. Three applications were received in 2022, two of which are under review and one was formally granted in March 2023. Three discharge licences have been revoked in 2023.

5. Air Quality:

Wexford County Council enforces air quality requirements for 3 specific types of facilities, which must be registered with Wexford County Council. These Certificates must be renewed every 3 years. On-going enforcement action is carried out to ensure sites remain certified. Wexford has a 100% compliance record in this regard for all 3 below categories in 2022.

Vehicle Refinishers: At end of 2022, 59 facilities were registered with Wexford County Council under the “Deco Paints” Regulations, which is now the largest number in the country. WCC issues Certificates of Compliance to these facilities and issues “On the Spot Fines” of €500 where illegal operators are identified on foot of enforcement investigations – see Table below. The additional facilities were identified on foot of targeted enforcement action in 2022.

Dry Cleaners: At end of 2022, 8 Dry Cleaners and 1 Medical Device Company were registered with Wexford County Council under the “Solvents” Regulations. WCC issues Certificates of Compliance to these facilities – see Table below. Due to targeted enforcement action in Q3/Q4 of 2022, a new category of facility is due to be added to this register in Q2 of 2023.

Petrol Stations: At end of 2022, 80 sites were registered with Wexford County Council under the PVE Regulations, which is the largest number in the country. WCC also issues Certificates of Testing to these facilities under these Regulations – see Table below.

No. of Certificates of Compliance Issued:

Category of Facility	No. Issued in 2021	No. Issued in 2022	No. Issued in 2023 (to end Mar)	No. of On the Spot Fines Issued (to end Mar)
Vehicle Refinishers	19	24	10	0
Petrol Vapour Emissions	22	22	3	N/A
Solvents	3	5	0	N/A

Low Smoke Fuel Areas

The Air Pollution Act 1987 (SOLID FUELS) Regulations 2022 was signed by the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications Mr Eamon Ryan and came into effect on the 31st October 2022. Spot inspections have been carried out to ensure compliance with the 2022 Regulations.

6. Climate Action

The Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 requires each Local Authority to prepare their own Climate Action Plan(CAP). The plan will include both mitigation and adaptation measures and must be updated once every five years. The plan will also include the development of a decarbonisation zone(DZ) which will be the focus for a range of climate mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity measures. Enniscorthy is the proposed Decarbonisation Zone for County Wexford. Minister Eamon Ryan requested Wexford County Council to commence its Climate Action plan on 24th February 2023 with 12 months to prepare, complete and fully adopt the plan.

The Plan will set an ambitious target of 50% energy efficiency by 2030 and an absolute reduction in greenhouse gas emissions of 51%. Wexford County Council will be responsible for reducing greenhouse gas emissions from across its own assets and infrastructure, whilst also taking on a broader role of influencing, facilitating and advocating others to meet their own targets.

A Baseline Emissions Inventory for the County and the Decarbonisation Zone has been prepared, and a Climate Change Risk Assessment has also been completed.

A significant element of the Climate Action Plan is to encourage the public and various stakeholder groups to contribute to the preparation of the plan. A stakeholder engagement expo is organised for 1st June at Wexford County Council Headquarters and will cover the themes of Agriculture, Biodiversity and Food, Transport and Energy. There will be presentations and speakers on the day for the various themes and information stands and case studies of climate action taken in these areas. *Wexford County Council is asking the public to have their say on what climate actions should be addressed in the plan.*

A pre-draft consultation portal has been set up and an online form is available for people to contribute to the plan under a number of themes.

Input is also invited from our youth and workshops and presentations are organised for Transition Year students in a number of the schools in Co. Wexford.

Wexford County Council took part in the Reduce your Use campaign. This mandatory initiative through the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) and the Office of Public Works (OPW) aims to reduce the public sector's energy consumption over the winter period by 15% to help combat rising energy costs and reduce emissions.

The local authority Climate Action Training Programme continues to be rolled out. Staff members have completed Climate Training in the areas of Building Capacity, Raising awareness, Planning, Flood Risk Management, Community Engagement & Championing Leadership. Training under the pillar of Green Public Procurement is currently underway.

Wexford County Council continues to support communities and householders in their work towards climate action and sustainability. A Home Energy Information workshop by the South East Energy Agency and supported by Wexford County Council was held in Wexford library on 9th May 2023. The workshop provided information on energy efficiency measures, grants available to upgrade and information on community funding streams available. Wexford County Council through a MOU continues to provide Bridge funding for finance applied to the SEAI for the Sustainable Energy Communities.

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. As part of the project a Biodiversity walk is organised for 25th May at 7pm in Enniscorthy where Catherine Keena from Teagasc will give an overview of the importance of hedgerows for Biodiversity and carbon Sequestration. The second project is called Línthe 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. Línthe na Farraige is a series of light installations across Irish coastal sites. The lines of light represent future sea level rise, based on predictions from the 2021 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report, and historic storm surge data. The installations, designed by artists Timo Aho and Pekka Niittyvirta, demonstrate the need to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and adapt together to protect our coastlines, communities, and infrastructure from the effects of climate change. Its aim is to connect the public visually to the risks from future sea level.

7. Agriculture:

Wexford County Council continues to undertake a significant number of farm inspections in accordance with the WFD. A total of 65 farm inspections undertaken because of pollution incidents or complaints, 30 of these farms were found to have non-compliances. Wexford County Council engage with landowners to undertake the necessary rectifications works through encouragement of improvement of farming infrastructure and farming practices.

Section 12 & 23 notices under the Local Government Water Pollution Act 1977-1990 were served upon on 4 individuals where 2 of these farms were cross reported to DAFM.

A total of 95 Agricultural related Planning Permission Applications were assessed.

WFD inspections	Farm inspections	Farms with Nitrates Directive non-compliances	Section 12 & 23 notices served	Section 3 notices served
2019	60	19	5	0
2020	102	50	5	2
2021	78	45	9	0
2022	13	4	0	0
2023	46	19	2	0

8. Planning

The Environment Section makes an assessment and recommendations on planning applications relating to the environmental aspects of the application.

The main issues regarding the impact of planning on the environment which have arisen in recent years are as follows:

- 1) Density of housing.
- 2) Applications for extensions and upgrades of existing houses on sites where the soil is unsuitable for discharge of wastewater via a domestic wastewater treatment system.
- 3) Applications for detached granny flats and other detached ancillary accommodation.

As of the 30th April 2023, 385 files were referred to Environment from the Planning Department.

Q1. Breakdown of planning applications referred from Planning January-March 2023

Single dwellings	Commercial	Discharge/ glamping	Housing estates	Schools	Solar Farms	Sports	Agricultural	Compliance assessments
145	21	2	9	9	3	3	17	39

9. Duncannon EIP Project

Wexford County Council is currently lead partner in the Duncannon Blue Flag Farming & Communities Scheme. We were successful in receiving funding of €550,000 to run this project for 3 years. We were successful in a 12 month extension to the project for 2022 and further funding awarded of €171,197. The operational group have sought extensions from DAFM to ensure full expenditure of the project funding.

The project continues to engage with 35 farmers covering over 950ha of the 1300ha catchment. To date, engagement with all farmers continue with approximately 4 visits to each farm every year where baseline and final "Pollution Potential Zone" surveys are carried out.

The project runs a results-based reward scheme where an annual payment is made to each farmer based on their PPZ survey which ranges from €1,000 & €4,000. The farmer can also avail of a water protection improvement works grant which can be used to carry out improvements on fencing watercourses, establishing arable grass margins, road upgrades, hedgerow establishment, riparian margins, planting trees etc. To date, the EIP project has paid €320,000 in annual payments to farmers while funding of approx. €35,000 has been paid to farmers that have completed works. It is expected that final works will be completed on lands by 30th April 2023 and sampling under the EIP monitoring programme will be completed in February 2023.

No. of farmers	35
No. of visits/ engagement	620
Area signed up to EIP	955HA/1300HA
Km's fencing of watercourses undertaken	5.4km
Establishment of arable grass margins	1200m

C. WASTE MANAGEMENT

1. New Recycling Items

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

2. Food Waste

The Food Waste Regulations 2013 are in force in all towns with >500 population. They impose obligations on Waste Collectors and householders. Collectors must provide separate bins for collection of food waste and householders must segregate their waste by either using "brown bins" provided by their waste collection company; composting at home, bearing in mind that certain food wastes cannot be composted, or bringing it to an authorised facility. Householders in all towns and villages to whom the regulations apply were visited by Council staff as part of our ongoing information campaign. Food waste is now accepted at all four household recycling centres. The locations where the food waste regulations apply are outlined on map which shall be uploaded to the council's website shortly. Food waste inspections without notification are currently being carried out with householders and commercial businesses.

3. Recycling Services:

Bring Bank Network –

WASTE CATEGORY	No. of Sites April 2023	Recycling out (End April) 2022 (t)	Recycling out (End April) 2023 (t)
Glass bottles		1280	1185
Aluminium Cans		32	29
Total	108	1312	1214

Household Recycling Centres –

Summary of Activities								
WASTE CATEGORY	Enniscorthy		New Ross		Holmestown		Gorey	
	Recycling out Jan-apr 2022 (t)	Recycling out Jan-apr 2023 (t)	Recycling out Jan-Apr 2022 (t)	Recycling out Jan-Apr 2023(t)	Recycling out Jan- April 2022	Recycling out Jan - April 2023	Recycling out Jan-April 2022	Recycling out Jan-April 2023
Total Recycling out	207	201	220	213	286	258	174	161
Total Domestic Waste in	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	788	961	N/A	N/A
Daily Average Customers Jan-Apr	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023
	70	71	112	115	112	125	79	80

4. Rapid Response Crew

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

Activity	To end April 2022	April 2023	To end April 2023	% +/-
Total Illegal Dumping/ Clean Ups	773	161	849	+9.8%
Gorey *		37		
Enniscorthy *		59		
Wexford *		35		
New Ross*		20		
Rosslare		10		
Total Bring Site Inspections	3,038	952	3,684	+21%
Gorey		231		
Enniscorthy		228		
Wexford		287		
New Ross		155		
Rosslare		47		
Total Ringbuoy Inspections	5,550	1,338	5,692	+2.5%
Gorey	North	398		

<i>Enniscorthy *</i>				
<i>Wexford*</i>	<i>South</i>	<i>940</i>		
<i>New Ross*</i>				
Other Works	2,189	719	1,857	-15%
<i>Gorey</i>		<i>89</i>		
<i>Enniscorthy</i>		<i>214</i>		
<i>Wexford</i>		<i>163</i>		
<i>New Ross</i>		<i>209</i>		
<i>Rosslare</i>		<i>44</i>		

5. 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 submitted to the EPA on 28 February 2023. The 2023 RMCEI Plan allocates 6,597 routine inspections by 22 Full Time Equivalent staff members. 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, Mercury 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.

1 LITTER/WASTE MANAGEMENT

Total fixed penalty notices issued	TOTAL FOR 2022	TOTAL FOR JAN-APRIL 2023
Fines Issued (All Fixed Penalty Notice Issued)	229	77
Fines Paid in Full●	111	22
Fines Cancelled/Proceedings Discontinued/Struck Out*	83	54
Successful Prosecutions** (Litter fines & WPBL fines)	43	7
Legal Proceedings In Progress (Litter fines & WPBL fines)	49	50
Amount Collected in Fines -total	€18,530.57	€2,843 litter / €1,375 Waste – total €4,218.00
Amount awarded via the Court system (fines awarded) - overall	€5230	€1200

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

- Includes income from all Fixed Penalty Notices

February 2023:

One successful prosecution occurred in Gorey District Court under the Waste Presentation Bye-Laws 2018 whereby a fine of €150 and costs of €550 were awarded. Two successful prosecutions under the Litter Pollution Act where a total of €350 and €250 in costs were awarded.

March 2023:

Two successful litter prosecutions were heard in Gorey District Court in March, 2023 whereby a total of €400 in fines were awarded and a total of €500 in costs to Wexford County Council.

April 2023:

In Gorey District Court the Council had two successful prosecutions under the Waste Presentation Bye-Laws 2018 whereby each party received a fine of €150 and costs of €300 were awarded.

Year	Dumping Incidents Reported	Percentage Increase/Decrease	Community Clean Ups	Percentage Increase/Decrease
2019	2,925		741	
2020	3,187	Up 9%	628	Down 15%
2021	2,721	Down 15%	1,331	Up 112%
2022	2,188	Down 20%	1,023	Down 23%
2023				

The reduction in reported dumping incidents is also reflected in a similar decline in attendances by the Environment Clean Up Crew to incidents.

Litter/Waste Enforcement Activity 2009-2023(April)

	Fines Issued	Court	Reports
2023	77	7	847
2022	229	43	2188 (down 20%)
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.

The total figures for complaints received are as follows:

	Jan to Dec 2019	Jan to Dec 2020	Jan to Dec 2021	Jan to Dec 2022	Jan – April 2023
Incidents	4749	4999	5136	3896	1577
Closed	4568	4736	4876	3333	1229
Closure Rate	96%	95%	95%	85%	78%

Control of Dogs & Horses:

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

Control of dogs	2020	2021 (to 31-12-21)	2022	2023 (February) – April
Dogs collected	532	429	546	165
Dogs reclaimed	127	133	117	34
Dogs re-homed/transferred	373	267	370	118
Dogs put to sleep	32	29	51	17
Dog Fines	5	18	21	11

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

To date in 2023 two horses have been seized.

Environment Education and Awareness:

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

Green Schools: 32 schools will be awarded their green flag at an Awards Ceremony in Kilkenny on May 10th. St Edan's NS, Ferns, New Ross Educate Together National School and Colaiste Bride, Enniscorthy will receive their first Green Flag on the Litter & Waste theme. This year 3 schools will be awarded on the Water flag; 7 schools on Travel; 8 schools on Biodiversity; 4 schools on Global Citizenship Litter & Waste; 3 schools on Global Citizenship Energy, 3 schools on Global Citizenship Marine Environment and 1 school on Global Citizenship Travel. Great work has been completed by all the schools.



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

	Date	No. of Community Clean Ups
	April 2023	103
	Jan – Apr 2023	467

National Spring Clean: Registrations closed on 30th April for An Taisce's National Spring Clean.

Heritage Stewardship Fund: Application was submitted for a baseline hedgerow survey of Co. Wexford to the Heritage Council under the Heritage Stewardship Fund. Our application was successful with an award of €27,675.

100 Million Trees: On 19th April Min Ryan Park was planted with 500 native trees as part of 'The 100 Million Trees Project'. The project is a new national community-driven initiative developed by brothers, Richard and David Mulcahy, which aims to see the planting of 100 million native Irish trees across the island of Ireland throughout the next decade to reverse the environmental damage caused by the reduction of forests worldwide.



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 continually being promoted and registrations are through the website.

LIBRARIES, ARTS & ARCHIVES

Libraries, Archives and Arts Report to Wexford County Council, June 2023

CE Report

Bealtaine Festival

Events were held in all branches during May for Age & Opportunities annual Bealtaine Festival which celebrates art and creativity as we age.

May Day in Bygone Days with Historian in Residence Barry Lacey was held in Wexford Branch where traditions, customs and beliefs associated with May Day in County Wexford as reported in the School's Folklore Collection and accounts from local newspapers of the last century were discussed.

As part of the Poetry as Commemoration creative writing workshops across the country in 2022-23, two successful poetry workshops were held in Wexford County Archive in March, attendees creatively engaged with collections in the archive relating to the War of Independence and Civil War periods in Co. Wexford (1919-23). Poetry as Commemoration, a poetry reading event focusing on the work from these workshops was held in Wexford Branch as part of Bealtaine Festival.

Other Bealtaine Festival events included movies, yoga, and Activator Pole taster sessions.

My Open Library Service is operational at New Ross Library.

New Ross has joined Gorey in providing the My Open Library Service.

My Open Library is open 7 days a week from 8am to 10pm, 365 days a year. It is a fully automated service with swipe access by library card and PIN. Usual library services (borrowing, returns, printing, WiFi, internet access PC) are available on an automated self-service basis

during My Open Library hours. Already there has been very good uptake of My Open Library membership in New Ross and feedback from users, especially students at this time of the year, has been very positive.

Sensory Friendly Quiet Hour

The Sensory Friendly Quiet Hour runs from 4-5pm each Saturday in all our branches and will continue over the summer months. Sensory Hour supports library users, both adults and children who have sensory and/or extra needs. It offers a calm and sensory friendly environment for children and their families.

Wexford Library Service has purchased some additional resources for families to use during this time. Our STAR collection includes sensory puzzles, puppets, DUPLO and emotion/feeling/memory cards will complement the Sensory Friendly Quiet Hour. Dark dens, sensory book and toy resources, and new story sacks are all available for use in the branches. There are also a large range of sensory books, toys and assistive resources available to borrow and enjoy using at home.

Wexford Libraries will be working further to support students with special educational needs and those at risk of educational disadvantage during July. There will be library visits and outreach where resources from our STAR collection will be promoted for loan. A special Summer Stars programme will ensure that every child regardless of ability will have the opportunity to take part and benefit from the initiative.

Summer Stars Reading Adventure

Summer Stars 2023 will commence in all Wexford Libraries on Monday June 12th. The LGMA has developed and supplied FAI activity books that will be given to every child who signs up for the Summer Stars reading adventure. Summer Stars, supported by local schools and education practitioners, has become an important summer library initiative which encourages children to keep reading to maintain and improve their reading skills while on their summer break from school. Children will receive a reading card and can collect incentives such as bookmarks, pencils and medals for reading books throughout the summer months. Every child taking part will receive a Summer Stars certificate of achievement.

The Progress in International Reading Literacy Study **PIRLS**, which is one of the core studies of the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA) published interesting findings recently. The reading skills of hundreds of thousands of children across almost 60 countries were tested and Ireland placed second in the international league table, just behind Singapore. Every baby, toddler and child that can be encouraged to develop a love of books will be at an advantage educationally and socially. PIRLS has conducted these studies every five years since 2001 and is recognized as the global standard for assessing trends in reading achievement at the fourth grade. Ireland participated for the first time in 2011. These findings highlight and cement the value of the Summer Stars programme.

My Little Library Book Bags

The 'My Little Library Book Bag' initiative is a collaboration between libraries, the Department of Rural and Community Development, and the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth as part of the First 5 Strategy. The initiative, which sees every child in Ireland starting school this September receive 3 books and a bag of resources, will launch at Bloom Festival over the June Bank Holiday weekend. Wexford Library Services has worked

with our partners in the Wexford County Childcare Committee, TUSLA and CYPSC to identify all the children due to start Primary School in 2023. The My Little Library Book Bags have been distributed and delivered to our 5 branches. Invitations to collect the bags will issue via our network partners and a nationwide media and social media campaign. Each child will also receive a library card wallet and families will be encouraged to join the library if not already members. Library staff will go through the bags with the families, introducing the 3 picture books and resources in every bag and telling families all about the services and resources available for free in libraries locally and nationally.

Ballindaggin NS - Butterfly Mosaic Project

The exhibition of this project in Bunclody Library has been extended as the students from Ballindaggin NS are now finalists in the ECO-UNESCO Young Environmentalist Awards. The focus of this project is on the need to promote quality wildlife habitats for endangered butterflies.

Elevate Programme

The Elevate Programme resumed for 2023 in Enniscorthy Library during the month of May. Elevate is a programme sponsored by Wexford Local Development to promote and 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 to secondary school and encourage achievement & progression. Students from two Deis schools (St Aidan's and St Senan's) participate in the programme facilitated by author Caroline Busher. The students also used the PC suite in Enniscorthy Library during the month of May, under the supervision of their facilitator.

Community

Cllr. Maura Bell, Mayor of the Borough District of Wexford, launched an exhibition by Bridgetown Photographic Group which will be on display until the 15th May in Wexford Branch Library. The Wexford Volunteer Centre held walk in clinics in Gorey, New Ross and Bunclody Libraries. **BEAM Bunclody** - Providing training to adults with special needs, visited Bunclody Library weekly to borrow books and use the public pcs and hublets. **ALONE** held a drop in information morning in New Ross Library. The BTEI Art Exhibition Launch was held on 31st May in New Ross Library. The Exhibition continues until the 7th June and is hosted in conjunction with WWETB, St. Michael's Centre.

Environment

The Home Energy Saving Kit is available to borrow in Wexford libraries. The kit can be borrowed for up to two weeks and is free to borrow with a library membership card. The kit can help householders better understand energy use, thus reducing energy costs. In conjunction with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Digital Radon Monitors are currently available free to library members in all five library branches in the county.

IT Literacy

Age action provided free on-to-one 2-hour computer classes for people over 55 with little or no experience of using a phone, tablet, or laptop device in Wexford Branch.

Adult Events

Philip Davis gave advice In the Good Dog Workshop, in Enniscorthy Library.

Local author Mary Cotter visited Enniscorthy Library to read excerpts from her short story collections and first novel.

Gone for Coffee: An Evening of Poetry Readings based on Denis Collins' collection: "Gone for Coffee" was held in Wexford Branch in association with Selskar Writers.

Heritage

In Reflections on the Irish Civil War in County Wexford from March 1923 in New Ross Library, Barry Lacey, Historian in Residence, talked about the incidents which took place in Wexford during March 1923 as part of the Civil War and reviewed how the incidents were reported in the local papers of the time.

Services to Ukrainian Nationals

Informal English-speaking lessons continued throughout May in Wexford libraries. Ukrainian primary children with their teacher from St Aidan's NS, visited Enniscorthy Library regularly throughout May. The students are from 1st to 6th class, one visit covered the theme 'people that help us' and other visits were to read and borrow books.

Groups of Ukrainian service users from WWETB visited Gorey, New Ross and Enniscorthy Libraries during May to access the PCs and library eResources.

Distribution of information on library resources and e-Resources to Ukrainian Nationals also continued, with an increase in new members from the Ukrainian community throughout May. Our literacy App for children LOTE4Kids ie digital children's books in Languages Other Than English, is being actively promoted to Ukrainian Nationals as is Transparent Language Online our online language resource which gives access to over 110 languages including English for speakers of over 30 other languages.

Children's Services

Cruinniú na nÓg 2023

Cruinniú na nÓg is a national day of celebration and free creativity for children and young people under the age of 18. It takes place on June 10th this year. Part of Creative Ireland Programme's Creative Youth plan it is delivered in partnership with 31 Local Authorities and supported by RTÉ. Wexford Libraries began distributing Spinning Plates sets for Cruinniú na nÓg during May as part of Circus Explored. The sets were given out on a first come first served basis and were accompanied by a postcard with a QR code which gives access to tutorials to learn how to spin a plate with circus practitioners. Juggler Brendan will visit libraries on the 10th of June to give in person workshops on Spinning Plates. Claymazing and Explorers of the Imagination – Flights of Fancy will deliver action packed creative arts workshops too. Workshops will be also available in the lead up to Cruinniu na nÓg from Sew Fun Studios.

Empathy Day 8th June, Refugee Day 20th June

Wexford Libraries are promoting Empathy Day this year. Developed by Empathy Lab UK, the aims of the project are to develop and grow empathy, literacy and social activism (exploring racism, climate change, prejudice, neurodiversity, etc.) through reading high-quality literature. They define empathy as the ability to understand other people's emotions and perspectives. It is a core life skill and reading has been shown to be the number one way to build empathy skills. These skills can have huge benefits for children, socially, emotionally and educationally. There will be lots of great free resources and videos to support the day, with Empathy Day Live stream featuring author and poet Joseph Coelho launching the festival, joined by Cressida Cowell,

Chris Riddell, Jacqueline Wilson, and illustrators including Rob Biddulph which can be watched live, or on demand. Early years and library toolkits for Empathy Day have been sent to all branches and both mobile libraries for distribution to schools and individuals.

Libraries will create empathy-focused book displays, and book promotion by asking children to recommend books that make them see things through the eyes of another person. Books collected for Empathy Day will also tie in with titles for Refugee Day 2023, the international day to honour people forced to flee from their homes, on Tuesday June 20th.

Dormant Account Fund (DAF)

Literacy Support Programmes.

A range of literacy support programmes provided to schools and the community by the library include: TTRS, Nussy Reading and Spelling, Reading Eggs, Mathseeds, Times Table Rock Stars.

Local History

28 local studies enquiries and 29 genealogy enquiries were answered in Wexford Branch during May.

ARCHIVES

Collections Management

In addition to 38 research enquiries via email, telephone and post, a total of 5 researchers visited the Archive during May. Research topics included extant material on the Nuzum family from Enniscorthy, including a stained-glass window from the hotel formerly at Templeshannon which features the Nuzum coat of arms; family history research through marriage records of the Religious Society of Friends' archives (1800s); research through local newspapers for the opening of the Guillemot maritime museum on Wexford quay (1968); research on Duncannon Fort during its occupation by the military forces in 1921-22.

Outreach

The Archive held a poetry reading session in Wexford library on 23 May (11am-12pm) as a follow-on from two successful Poetry as Commemoration workshops facilitated by the Archive in March. The output from the creative process in the workshops was read to a small gathering of 20 attendees, with each writer giving a brief account of documents, photographs and artefacts in the Archive that provided the inspiration for their written work. These poems have now been deposited in the Irish Poetry Reading Archive in UCD for posterity, and in the Archive for future research on the turbulent 1919-23 period in County Wexford's history.

The Archive welcomed 12 students from the Irish Studies Department of Georgia Southern University along with two faculty personnel in late May. Continuing their research of Savannah's Irish neighbourhoods, the students are working on a walking trail app for two locations in Savannah in the mid- to late-19th century. Their area of research on this visit centered on the importance of Catholicism to Irish immigrants in the post-Famine period and on Wexford immigrant Daniel O'Connor's Carriage Works and Blacksmith shop. Archival material consulted by them in the reading room included extant minute books for the Catholic Young Men's Association in Wexford town (1855-1900) and poor law union minute books and issues of the *Wexford Independent* within the same timeframe.

Wexford County Arts Plan 2023-27

The plan was passed by Wexford County Council at the May meeting following recommendation by Housing, Community SPC in April and a presentation on the plan and consultation process, by the Arts officer to the SPC. The Plan will be published and launched in the coming months.

Wexford Culture Night Open Call

The call for Culture Night Sept 22, 2023, 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. The County Wexford Arts Department are now looking to hear from artists, creative practitioners, arts organisations, collectives and members from the wider community to get involved in Culture Night. Deadline for applications is Wednesday, 14th June 2023.

Sift Exhibition

Sift Exhibition is a touring exhibition of new multi-media artwork by artists from east Ireland and west Wales commissioned by Ancient Connections – the EU funded cultural and heritage programme linking Wales and Wexford Ferns. The Exhibition is open to the public from 17th April to 19th May 2023. Local artists David Begley and Sylvia Cullen gave a free guided tour on their works as part of the Ancient Connections exhibition on 18th May in addition to tours given by other local artists throughout the month.

Bealtaine Festival

To coincide with the Bealtaine Festival 2023, the Arts Office and the National Opera House presented a series of free music, song and dance workshops on 10th, 17th, 24th & 31st May followed by afternoon tea. The workshops were informal and designed for older people who like to sing, dance or just listen and watch: "Singing with Singer", vocal health expert Elizabeth Drwal, "Dance and Movement", with dancer/choreographer Deirdre Grant, "Songs from the Past", with Aileen Donohue & Peter McCamley and "Swing in the Afternoon2", with the Melanie O'Reilly Swing Trio.

Small Arts Festival and Experimental Events Grant Scheme 2023 recipients:

The Wexford May Bush Festival 2023 is a community driven festival which 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

The Gorey May Bush Féile 2023: Let's Decorate the May Bush - This event was held under the Circe Pavilion beside a communal May Bush with an evening of traditional music, song and dance. A discussion sharing traditions around welcoming in Summer also took place.

SpringMoves Dace Festival 2023 took place between 15th April to 10th May and began by hosting a premier screening of the Liz Roche Company short film in its first partnership panel with the Wexford Town Library. Street Dance Takeover came back to Wexford, with live exhibition battles, fun cyphers and workshops, hosting street dancers, MCs and DJs from all over Ireland.

Screen Wexford

Screen Wexford is funded by the Arts & Economic departments of WCC to develop film industry in Wexford. Screen Wexford CLG was established in March 2023.

- Handover from Al Butler outgoing Co Ordinator to Suzanne McKenzie.
- 2 permits secured by production companies to film in Wexford in May.
 - Tile Films for the documentary 'Normans' – locations: Bannow Island, St Mary's Church (Bannow Bay, County Wexford), Norman Mural on exterior wall of Carrig-on-Bannow Community Centre, Wexford Town, Wexford Harbour, Slaney River estuary
 - Passion Pictures UK filming a documentary 'Wild Hope'- locations: Curracloe Beach/Raven Beach, Rosslare Beach, Rosslare Village, Wexford Town
- Meet up with Crew networking held Mon 29th May 10-12pm @ The Hatch Lab in Gorey
- Steering Committee meeting for Screen Wexford held 26th May
- Upcoming Events:
 - Screen Wexford are involved in a 48 hour film festival weekend in conjunction with KinoD. Gorey School of Art will be the location. More details to come on this later.
 - Postproduction training course in 2 D compositing in association with Creative Media Academy Ireland

Music Generation Wexford

Primary School Programmes: 24 primary schools to date have confirmed their work with Music Generation Wexford and have committed to developing their programme within the school over this academic year. Most of these schools maintained their works with us either through video, online or in person.

Wexford Children's Opera Workshops: We worked with a group of 15 young people to explore the music for the opening scene composed by Andrew Synnott. Music Generation Wexford expanded the cast of young people by hosting auditions for the principal roles on March 24th. Our open workshop and auditions for the chorus took place on Wednesday, April 5th and Thursday, April 6th. This brand-new Opera in partnership with The Wexford Festival Opera, produced in collaboration with the young participants, will be premiered in July of this year.

Clonroche Traveller Girls Group: Music Generation Wexford are working in partnership with Wexford Local Development with a group of young traveller girls in Clonroche Community Centre from April to June. Musician educators are exploring songs and voice technique with the group.

Bunclody Music Hub 2022/23 | Bunclody Vocational College: Bunclody Music Hub now has an attendance of 73 students. The aim of the hub is to provide small group music tuition in a fun, positive atmosphere in the following: Button Accordion, Concertina, Fiddle, Guitar, Keyboard, Piano Accordion, Ukulele and Voice.

Instrument Bank: We are pleased to announce that we have an official instrument storage room for over 5000 instruments owned by Music Generation Wexford in Head Office Ardcavan.

CREATIVE IRELAND

Cruinniú na nÓg 2023

On Saturday 10th June children and young people are invited to take part in a range of events created by Wexford artists, creatives and organisations. This is a flagship initiative of the Creative Ireland Programme's Creative Youth plan to enable the creative potential of children and young people To view the events happening around County Wexford visit

<https://www.wexfordcoco.ie/arts-and-culture/creative-ireland-news-and-opportunities/cruinni-na-ng-2023>

CIVIL DEFENCE

Civil Defence – Operations / Training Report May & June 2023

Civic Duties May

- **May 14th** – Wexford Bike Week- Slow Roll Bike Ride Wexford town- Ambulance cover
- **May 27th** - 1798 Commemorations Oulart Hill- Medical Cover
- **May 28th** - 1798 Commemorations Three Rocks Monument- Ambulance Cover

Civic Duties June

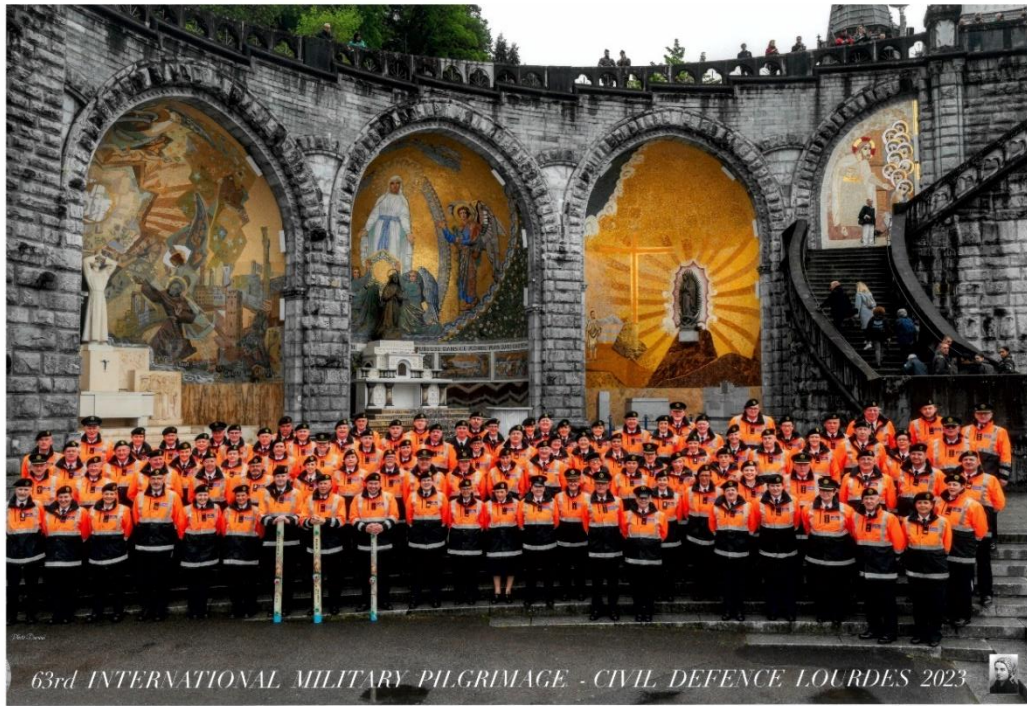
- **June 5th** – Normandy Food Festival- New Ross- Ambulance cover
- **June 9th** – Wexford Athletics – Enniscorthy- Ambulance cover
- **June 16th**- Wexford Athletics – Wexford Racecourse- Ambulance cover
- **June 18th** – Lacken Hill Community – Wexford - Ambulance cover
- **June 18th** - 1798 Commemorations Rebellion Centre- Enniscorthy- Ambulance Cover
- **June 18th**- Glynn Barntown Community 5km Run- Wexford-Ambulance cover.
- **June 22nd** – Wexford Athletics – Enniscorthy- Ambulance cover
- **June 24th & 25th**- Inclusion Games- Wexford- Transport cover
- **June 25th** – Community Games- Enniscorthy- Ambulance Cover

Weekly Training

- Weekly training continues in Wexford, Enniscorthy, Gorey and New Ross.
- Training includes FAR- new & recerts, CFR- New & Recerts, Water Awareness & Swiftwater Food Responder- New & Recerts. Patient Handling new & recerts
- Child Protection & CISM training for each unit- Gorey & New Ross completed. Wexford units remain.
- Boat training- Personal Survival Techniques- 2 more volunteers completed this course on May 20th.
- Search Managers Seminar June 10th Civil Defence HQ: 6 x volunteers including CDO & ACDO to attend.
- Radiation Monitoring Exercise June 10th

63rd International Military Pilgrimage to Lourdes May 11th- 15th 2023

- 27 Volunteers from Wexford Civil Defence attended the Military Pilgrimage May 11th- 15th.
- Approx 90 Irish Civil Defence volunteers were in attendance with the Irish Defence Forces.



63rd INTERNATIONAL MILITARY PILGRIMAGE - CIVIL DEFENCE LOURDES 2023



63rd International Military Pilgrimage Irish Defence LOURDES May 2023



Volunteer Recruitment Information Day May 27th

- 12 potential recruits joined us at County Hall for our recruit's information day.
- Info day consisted of- meet & greet, Civil Defence Induction & Information, Equipment & vehicle demonstrations.
- Interviews will be held June 3rd, 4th, 5th & 17th. Successful recruits will commence Minimum Training before being placed in their local unit.

FIRE SERVICES

Wexford Fire Service Report April 2023

Call statistics

Incident Type	Calls April 2023	Calls to date 2023	Calls to this period 2022
Fire Classification	Number	Number	Number
Chimney Fire in House (WCC / Private)	2 / 7 (9)	46	46
Other Fire in House (WCC / Private)	0 / 5 (5)	18	29
Caravan/Mobile Home	0	0	1
Flats (1) Local Authority	0	0	1
Flats (2) Privately Owned	1	1	1
Bedsit	0	0	0
Hospital	0	1	0
School	1	3	0
Other Institution	0	1	1
Factory	2	2	0
Chemical Plant	0	0	0
Storage Building/Warehouse	1	7	1
Shop/Supermarket	0	0	1
Office	0	0	1
Hotel/Guesthouse/Boarding House etc.	0	0	0
Place of Public Entertainment - Dance Hall, Disco, Cinema, Theatre, Bingo Hall	0	0	0
Public House (incl singing lounge)	0	0	0
Restaurant	0	0	0
Petrol Station - Garage	0	0	1
Hazardous Substance in transit (only cases where fire was involved)	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle	5	20	7
Unoccupied Building	0	0	2
Agriculture Business	1	3	1
Forest/Bog/Grass	5	19	33
Ship/Aircraft	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	0	1	4
Outdoor Storage	1	3	0
Outdoor Rubbish	1	7	10
Special Service Classification	Number	Number	Number
Entrapment	0	2	6
Gas/Chemicals	0	3	1
Hazardous substances in transit not involving fire	0	0	0
Hazardous Substances non Transit	0	0	0
Machinery	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	3	12	14
Other rescue	7	23	13
Rescue/Removal of persons from water	0	2	1
Road traffic accident	7	52	43
Water pumping/flooding	0	0	2

Incident Type	Calls April 2023	Calls to date 2023	Calls to this period 2022
False Alarm Classification	Number	Number	Number
Good Intent	29	94	82
Malicious	1	1	1
Total	79	321	303

Fire calls by brigade to date

INCIDENT TYPE	WEXFORD	GOREY	ENNISCORTHY	NEW ROSS	BUNCLODY	TOTAL
Fire Classification	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
Chimney Fire in House	21	6	9	8	2	46
Other Fire in House	3	3	6	6	0	18
Caravan/Mobile Home	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flats (1) Local Authority	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flats (2) Privately Owned	1	0	0	0	0	1
Bedsit	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hospital	1	0	0	0	0	1
School	0	0	3	0	0	3
Other Institution	1	0	0	0	0	1
Factory	0	0	1	1	0	2
Chemical Plant	0	0	0	0	0	0
Storage Building/Warehouse	0	3	1	3	0	7
Shop/Supermarket	0	0	0	0	0	0
Office	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hotel/Guesthouse/Boarding House etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Place of Public Entertainment - Dance Hall, Disco, Cinema, Theatre, Bingo Hall	0	0	0	0	0	0
Public House (incl singing lounge)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Restaurant	0	0	0	0	0	0
Petrol Station - Garage	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hazardous Substance in transit (only cases where fire was involved)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle	7	5	3	4	1	20
Unoccupied Building	0	0	0	0	0	0
Agriculture Business	0	1	1	0	1	3
Forest/Bog/Grass	2	6	2	1	8	19
Ship/Aircraft	0	0	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	1	0	0	0	0	1
Outdoor Storage	1	0	1	1	0	3
Outdoor Rubbish	2	1	4	0	0	7

INCIDENT TYPE	WEXFORD	GOREY	ENNISCORTHY	NEW ROSS	BUNCLODY	TOTAL
Special Service Classification	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
Entrapment	1	1	0	0	0	2
Gas/Chemicals	1	2	0	0	0	3
Hazardous substances in transit not involving fire	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hazardous Substances non Transit	0	0	0	0	0	0
Machinery	0	0	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	1	3	4	4	0	12
Other rescue	13	5	4	1	0	23
Rescue/Removal of persons from water	2	0	0	0	0	2
Road traffic accident	22	10	11	7	2	52
Water pumping/flooding	0	0	0	0	0	0
False Alarm Classification	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
Good Intent	28	23	20	19	4	94
Malicious	1	0	0	0	0	1
Total	109	69	70	55	18	321

Fire Safety Certificate Applications

Number of Applications received in April 2023:	15
Number of Applications received to date:	46
Number of Applications to this period 2022:	49

Finance:

Q1 Finance Report 2023

The Finance Report for the first quarter of 2023, i.e. to 31st March 2023, has been circulated. The results for Q1 confirm a very slight surplus but at such an early point of the year this position should be considered with a note of caution. Following a number of years of unexpected events, uncertainties still exist and the financial position of the council continues to be monitored very closely to ensure, in as far as possible, that there is no slippage back into a deficit position. In addition to this the results to the end of March also include accrued income for storm damage repairs incurred in 2022 above the level of grant received and formal confirmation of the funding of this expenditure is currently awaited.

Audit of Accounts 2022

In accordance with the Local Government (Financial and Audit Procedures) Regulations 2014, the Local Government Auditor is expected to formally commence the Audit of Wexford County Council Accounts for 2022 shortly. The official date has yet to be confirmed but some preliminary work is ongoing and the Finance staff are engaging with the Auditor in this regard.

Audit Committee

The next meeting of the Audit Committee is scheduled for the 21st June and will include consideration of the 2022 Annual Financial Statement and financial performance for 2022 together with consideration of the recently completed Public Spending Code quality assurance exercise and report for NOAC.

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, 2023.

***Tom Enright,
Chief Executive.***