



Chief Executive's Report

County Council Meeting 28.03.22

(figures to end of Feb 2022)

Economic Development & Planning:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Local Enterprise Office

Local Enterprise Development Plan 2021 -2024

The plan has been approved by Enterprise Ireland and copies are available on request. Minister Damien English is planning on visiting Wexford, and we are awaiting confirmation of dates. As part of his itinerary, he will launch the plan, meet a number of client companies and visit the Council Offices – full details of the itinerary will be fleshed out once the date has been confirmed.

Budgets and Metrics for 2022

The budget letter has been issued with a total allocation of €1,209,001 for 2022 covering pay, non-pay, training, consultancy and financial aid. Metrics will be agreed over the coming weeks and will be based around seven strategic objectives;

- Provide an enhanced and nationally recognised First Stop Shop referral and advisory service through the network for startup and expanding businesses.
- Fostering and supporting local entrepreneurship.
- Increasing the level of innovation within micro and small businesses.
- Improving competitiveness and productivity of small and micro enterprises through enhancing SME management capabilities
- Enhancing the confidence, ambition and leadership skills of small and micro enterprises.
- Increase the export capabilities of small and micro enterprises, in particular beyond the UK.
- Promoting economic development at local level.

National Enterprise Week

A series of training events took place over National Enterprise Week which ran from the 7th – 11th March. A highlight event of the week took place in Johnstown Castle celebrating International Women's Day with over 80 in attendance. This is the first networking event that took place since the pandemic started with a very apt theme "Together Again". The guest speaker was Jacinta Kidd. Judging for the county Wexford Student Enterprise Awards also took place during the week and the Awards Ceremony is scheduled to take place on the 22nd March at 6.45 pm in Carricklawn. Six companies were shortlisted and interviewed for the National Enterprise Awards and the winning company that will represent Wexford at the National Awards is Professional Hair Labs. The runner up was Hoop Medical Ltd.

Export Development Advisor

The procurement process has been completed and the contract has been awarded to the winning tender, Marketing Mix Communications. This role will be particularly important in working with our client portfolio to explore and develop export opportunities and assist existing exporters deal with Brexit issues.

Economic

Town and Village Streetscape Enhancement Scheme

Works are continuing across the towns of Enniscorthy, Gorey, Kilmore Quay and New Ross under the Town and Village Streetscape Enhancement Scheme 2021 which was announced by Minister Humphries, Department of Rural and Community Development in August 2021.

Out of 116 successful applications, 28 applicants have completed their works and €71,480 has been paid to the applicants.

| Municipal District | No of Applications received | Amount of Funding Requests received | Projects Completed & Claims Paid at 23rd Feb 2022 | Amount of Claims Paid at 23rd Feb 2022 |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Enniscorthy | 38 | €85,025 | 6 | €18,972 |
| Gorey | 29 | €69,597 | 8 | €14,855 |
| Kilmore Quay | 7 | €16,547 | 3 | €6,320 |
| New Ross | 42 | €116,835 | 11 | €31,333 |
| Total | 116 | €288,044 | 28 | €71,480 |

Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2021

Minister Heather Humphries announced on February 25th that 4 out of 7 projects put forward by Wexford County Council are to receive funding under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2021. Successful Project Measure projects will be announced later.

| Municipal District | Town/Village | Project Proposal | Funding Awarded |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Project funding applications | | | |
| New Ross | New Ross Municipal District | Refurbishment of derelict site Brennan's Lane and development of the shambles to communal outdoor dining space within town centre | €500,000 |
| Gorey Kilmuckridge | Craanford (No T&V Funding previously) | Reopen vacant shop as village hub - Tea Room & Exhibition space, Local shop & Farmers Market Days, Remote Working Centre, Digital Hub & Training | €100,000 |
| Rosslare | Murrintown | Establish Digital hub, support sport infrastructure, community café, led lighting, solar panels, insulation and rainwater harvesting, | €220,000 |
| New Ross | Ramsgrange | The regeneration of unused derelict space within the former convent at Ramsgrange Centre through the | |

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| | | development of a rural remote working hub with high-speed broadband. | €100,000 |
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Business in the Community Ireland World of Work



On the 14th February, a group of second year students from Coláiste Abbain, enjoyed a site visit to Wexford Library and Wexford Fire station. This trip gave the students an opportunity to visit a workplace, learn about each facility and ask questions.



Wexford Library



Wexford Fire Station

The students were given a tour of the library and an overview of all the services that the library has to offer from borrowing books, research, 3-D printing, study, eBooks, eResources, the Wexford Library App and how to sign up. They then went on to visit Wexford Fire Station where the students were shown the Fire Engines and given an explanation about the equipment used by the firefighters such as the self-contained breathing apparatus, hose and cutting tools.

Tourism



Fáilte Ireland unveiled its priorities for 2022 to support the recovery of the tourism industry at an in-person event attended by representatives from tourism and hospitality at the Convention Centre Dublin on Tuesday, 8th February 2022. Fáilte Ireland announced that it is doubling investment in Marketing for Domestic Tourism to €10M this year. Fáilte Ireland are the new sponsor for the weather bulletins on RTE which over the course of a year will see 90% of all adults 15+ watching Television viewing the sponsorship sting advertising at least once which is the equivalent to 3.3M people. The advertisement segments before and after the weather bulletins will feature clips of county offerings throughout Ireland in addition to encouraging domestic visitors to book short breaks for bank holidays, special events etc.

SPONSORSHIP PACKAGE 2023

RTE Weather

Weather Bulletins

- Weather Mid Morning
- Weather (One O'Clock)
- Farming Weather
- Weather (Late Afternoon)
- Weather (5 O'Clock)
- European Weather
- Irish Sign Language Weekly Weather
- Weather (Six O'Clock)
- Weather (Nine O'Clock)
- Weather (Late)
- The European Weather (Only Bulletin on RTE2)
- 60 bulletins per Week

RTE ONE
Over the course of a year 90% of all Adults 15+ watching television viewed the sponsorship slot at least once, equivalent to 3.3 Million people, with +4 reaching 87%. Sponsorship has a weekly reach +1 of 40% and +4 of 38%.

RTE 2



The availability of Staff in the hospitality sector was noted as a major concern. It is estimated that there are 40,000 Vacancies in Tourism Sector, over a quarter of the sectors workforce who were forced to avail of PUP subsequently left tourism and the hospitality sector to work in other industries. To help combat the crisis, Fáilte Ireland has revealed it is tendering for a company to run a new Excellent Employer initiative, which is designed to improve working conditions and make tourism & hospitality business more attractive to potential staff. To receive the Excellent Employer designation businesses must sign up for 3 years, commit for all their managers to receive formal training on staffing issues and allow a formal survey of staff each year.

Ireland: the destination of choice for French school trips 2022/23



Irlande

Vous êtes invité !
Discussion virtuelle le 3 février 2022
L'Irlande : la destination de choix pour les voyages scolaires 2022/23

Rejoignez le Tourisme Irlandais et ses partenaires pour une discussion virtuelle sur les nouvelles opportunités pour les groupes scolaires sur l'île d'Irlande.

Parmi les panélistes figurent des représentants de :

- Aer Lingus • Brittany Ferries • Irish Ferries
- Irish Educational & Cultural Tours • Celtic Group Hostels
- Association of Visitor Experiences & Attractions
- EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum

RDV de 10h - 11h30, le 3 février 2022

On February 3rd Tourism Ireland held a virtual discussion on school trips to the island of Ireland which featured experts in transport, accommodation and attractions from the Island of Ireland. A real concern from a Wexford perspective is the lack of youth hostels and budget hotels/accommodation.



On 12th January 2022 an Inaugural meeting between Rosslare Municipal District and the Urban Community of Dunkirk took place. The meeting was organised to create links, and to look at creating a more formal agreement for collaboration with both regions. Plans are in place for representatives to visit each region and to further enhance the collaboration process.

Outdoor Seating & Accessories for Tourism & Hospitality Businesses (OSAS)

The Outdoor Seating & Accessories for Tourism & Hospitality Business Scheme was funded by Fáilte Ireland and was administered by Wexford County Council. The scheme opened on 12th April 2021 and closed on 8th October 2021. This Scheme is now fully completed. A total of 211 applications have received funding with a value of €566,438.07



Most recent stats below:

| | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| DATE 22 February 2022 | 15-Apr-2021 to 22-Feb-2022 | |
| LOCAL AUTHORITY: | WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL | |
| OUTDOOR SEATING & ACCESSORIES FOR TOURISM & HOSPITALITY BUSINESS SCHEME | | |
| | NUMBER: | VALUE: |
| APPLICATIONS PAID | 211 | €566,438.07 |
| APPLICATIONS REJECTED | 33 | €0.00 |
| Total Number of Applications | 244 | €566,438.07 |
| | | |

PLANNING

Planning Applications

Numbers are those received from the 22nd January 2022 until the 18th February 2022.

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| No. of valid applications | 133 |
| No. of invalid applications | 18 |
| Extension of Duration | 9 |
| Exempted Development Declaration | 8 |

Numbers are those received from the 1st January 2021 until 18th February 2022.

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|----------------------------------|-----|
| No. of valid applications | 185 |
| No. of invalid applications | 27 |
| Extension of Duration | 8 |
| Exempted Development Declaration | 3 |

Pre-Planning Applications

Numbers are as follows up until the 18th February 2022.

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| No. of open pre-planning requests | 137 |
| No. of pre-planning meetings completed | 6 |
| Average waiting time to meeting | 32 days |

New Applications for Extension of Duration & Exempt Development (Section 5)

New Application for Extension of Duration for a Planning Permission and an application for Exempt Development from planning can now be made online at the following links:

<https://www.wexfordcoco.ie/planning/planning-applications/extension-of-duration>

<https://www.wexfordcoco.ie/planning/planning-applications>

Built, Cultural & Natural Heritage

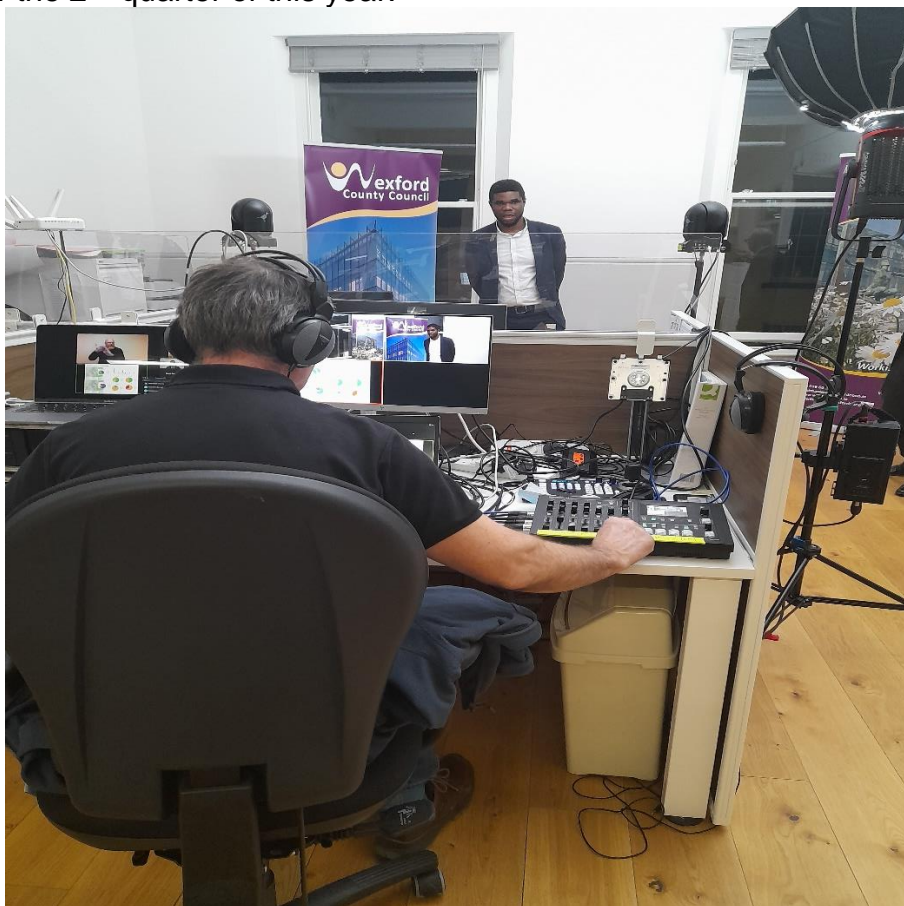
- Wexford County Council has been awarded funding under the Historic Towns Initiative 2022 for two projects. €250,000 has been awarded for the renovation of a heritage building as a food and community hub in Templeshannon, Enniscorthy and €40,000 has been awarded for a heritage-led regeneration plan for Wexford. The Historic Towns Initiative is a joint initiative between the Heritage Council and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
- Wexford County Council has received funding from the Heritage Council under the County Heritage Plan Projects Scheme 2022 for the three county-wide heritage projects. These projects are as follows: a Co. Wexford Thatch Survey; a Co. Wexford World War 2 Defence Heritage Recording Project, and a Wexford Wetlands Educational Project for schoolchildren.
- The Irish Walled Towns Network is inviting applications from local authorities who are partners in the network for funding for capital and interpretive projects. Both New Ross and Wexford are partners in the IWTN.
- The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage is inviting applications from local authorities for funding for projects under the National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP).
- WexBee Aware; In February 2022 apple trees were planted in various locations across the county under the Community Apple Orchard project with part-funding from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. Pollinator-friendly planting was also completed at a number of council-owned housing estates. A pollinator talk was given to the Green Schools Committee in the Presentation Secondary School in Wexford in December 2021.
- Rewilding Wexford; Three sites have been approved for native tree planting by the Forestry Service. The first of the sites, at Cushenstown, was planted in January 2022. The remaining two sites will be planted towards the end of 2022 during the next planting season.
- Website update; Information on heritage is now offered under the umbrella of 'Built, Cultural and Natural Heritage' which can be found in the Planning Section of Wexford County Council's website here [Built, Cultural and Natural Heritage | Wexford County Council \(wexfordcoco.ie\)](#). Project information and grant schemes will be added to this page as required.

Forward Planning

Enniscorthy Town Centre Urban Design Framework

A second public consultation took place online on 17th February which had over 70 people take part in workshops to give their views on the future of the town centre. The consultation was webcasted from the Enniscorthy Council Offices in Market Square with participants invited into break out rooms where they worked on issues identified from the first public consultation. Earlier in the day the team also ran a consultation with secondary school students who also positively engaged in getting their views across.

Work will now be carried out by the consultants to ensure that the regeneration framework is completed for the 2nd quarter of this year.



Building Control (22nd January 2022 – 18th February 2022)

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| ➤ Validated Commencement Notices: | 51 |
| ➤ Number of Building Control Inspections: | 38 |
| ➤ Validated Cert. of Compliance on Completion: | 10 |
| ➤ Number of Taking in Charge reports sent to the Districts: | 1 |

Planning Enforcement

The number of planning enforcement cases on 15th February 2022 are as follows: -

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| • Live Cases | 337 |
| • Cases Opened | 35 |
| • Cases Closed | 56 |

Planning Enforcement – Short-Term Letting

The cumulative number of short-term letting planning enforcement cases as of 15th February 2022 are as follows: -

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| ▪ Properties advertised on websites: | 102 |
| ▪ No. of warning letters served: | 63 |
| ▪ Cases Closed: | 60 |

Derelict Sites, Dangerous Structures and Vacant Sites

Report from 16th January 2022 to 15th February 2022 as follows:

- 24 property inspections/visits conducted.
- 2 property owners currently engaged with the County Council to carry out remedial works so that the properties will not be placed on Derelict Site Register.
- 7 Section 8(2) Notices posted on properties.
- 2 Dangerous Structure Notices issued.
- 2 properties placed on the Derelict Site Register

Disability Access Certificates (DACs):

The number of valid DAC applications, for the period from 1st January 2022 up to and including 18th February 2022, totals **3**.

| Applications Districts | Total for Districts | Await Assessment | Further Info. | Granted | Refused |
|------------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------|----------|----------|
| Enniscorthy | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gorey-Kilmuckridge | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| New Ross | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Wexford | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Rosslare | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2022 Totals | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |

Disability Proofing carried out as part of WCC Access activity

| Referrals | Total |
|-------------------------------------------|-------|
| LAC /PLAC & General Planning Applications | 21 |

Water Services



***1. Irish Water Asset
Delivery***

2. Minor Capital

***3. Rural Water
Programme***

***4. Water
Conservation***

Water Services



COVID -19

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

1. Irish Water – Asset Delivery



Capital Schemes

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| Enniscorthy Network Upgrade | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Survey works are now complete and design of the hydraulic model for the sewerage network is proceeding well ➤ Design work for rehabilitation/upgrade works will begin on receipt of the final hydraulic model. ➤ A schedule of high priority works has now been identified and is to be considered for funding ➤ The concept design report for the required works to Enniscorthy Network was received Q4 2021 ➤ A new gravity main for Mary street is required to alleviate flooding and will has been agreed to be designed in 2022 |
| Enniscorthy Intake Project | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ New water intake and pumping station at Clonhasten to be constructed with a plant upgrade to Vinegar Hill water treatment plant also to be completed. ➤ Planning permission was granted in September 2019 for the intake ➤ A new raw water distribution main and full water treatment plant upgrade is now to be included in the works programme. ➤ Irish Water Asset Planning recently confirmed this project will be delivered in 2023 |
| Wexford Drainage Area Plan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Complete drainage model of the Wexford Town foul drainage system. ➤ A full detailed hydraulic model identifying all pipelines and infrastructure and deficiencies in the network. ➤ Consultants Nicholas O'Dwyer appointed by IW. ➤ Drainage infrastructure survey works commenced in Wexford Town and Castlebridge. ➤ Model verification ongoing. |
| Gorey/Courtown Drainage Area Plan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Complete drainage model of the Gorey/Courtown foul drainage system ➤ Tender evaluation January 2022, with start onsite Q2 2022 |
| Newtown WTP Upgrade | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Upgrade to existing Treatment plant including improved raw water treatment, instrumentation and run to waste facility ➤ Preliminary design ongoing, IW have appointed Glan Agua as part of their early contractor involvement programme to design and build the new works |
| Fethard-on-Sea Sewerage Scheme | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Preliminary Design for the project now complete for issue to contractor for design and build. Irish water has advised that due to budget constraints, this project has been re-prioritised and will not go to construction in the near future. Irish Water has advised that it will |

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| | <p>be 2023 at the earliest before this scheme is re considered for funding.</p> |
| <p>Creagh WTP Upgrade</p> | <p>Upgrade of existing treatment plant including Intake improvements at Pallas and Kilmichael, DAFF plant refurbishment and installation of UV treatment</p> <p>Project scope agreed and awaiting appointment for preliminary design</p> |
| <p>Gorey Regional Water Supply</p> | <p>Gorey RWSS To be upgraded and new 8 ml/day WTP and 7,500m³ reservoir provided at Ballyminaun.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ballyminaun <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Planning granted to upgrade borehole sites and build new WTP at Ballyminaun. ○ CPO completed ○ Contract awarded to Glan Agua ○ Operational date early 2022 ➤ New Treatment plant and storage site at Ballyminaun <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Construction began October 2019. ○ Section 1 works have been completed and the contractor has now taken control of the borehole sites for section 2 works as programmed ○ Completion cert issued for new treatment plant, all water now being treated at new plant ○ Borehole upgrade works to be completed Q2 2022 |
| <p>Untreated Agglomeration Study (UTAS)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Arthurstown, Ballyhack and Duncannon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The project is overall on programme with the majority pipelines now installed and permanent road reinstatement due in April. ○ Mechanical & Electrical installation on the treatment plant has now begun, and it is expected the plant will be operational in Q4 2022. ➤ Kilmore Quay <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sisk has been appointed as the main contractor to build the new waste water treatment plant in Kilmore Quay. ○ The project commencement date was March 21st 2022 with a 16 month construction programme. ○ Some road closures will be required, however there will not be any road or construction works around the harbour area from June to September to facilitate the tourist season. |
| <p>Direct Labour Pipe Laying Crew</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Find & Fix - Leakage Reduction Programme. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Focusing on mains rehabilitation and will revert to Find & Fix as required. We have external finding resources at present with fixes being completed by WCC operational staff. ➤ Mains Rehabilitation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The 1.1km of mains replacement on Rectory Road in Enniscorthy is now complete. ➤ The mains replacement team is currently working on a 2.2km |

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| | replacement in the Ballygarret/Cahore area which is being carried out under a road closure. Local diversions are in place. Works are expected to continue until May 2022 |
| Ferns Sewerage Upgrade | ➤ Irish Water has advised that this project is to be re started with design works in April 2022. Further delivery dates to be confirmed. |

2. Minor Capital



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| IW Minor Water Schemes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Disinfection Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Disinfection upgrade project at 98% complete county wide excluding snagging. ○ Snagging on-going at various sites. ➤ Treated Water storage programme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3 sites in Wexford – Kilmallock bridge, Camolin and Kiltealy. ○ Kilmallock Bridge Reservoir planning granted; Tender to be issued May 2022 with start onsite early 2023 |
| IW Minor Wastewater Schemes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Stimulus Funding - Pump Upgrades <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The pump controls at Keellogues WWPS will be upgraded during Q1 2022. ○ Pump controls at Distillery Road WWPS have now been upgraded, and integration to SCADA being commissioned. ○ Pump and controls upgrades will take place at Taghmon and Piercestown WWPSs beginning December 2021 and continue in Q1 2022. ➤ Stimulus Funding - SCADA Upgrades <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SCADA will be upgraded at 9 No. WWPSs across the Wexford Town collection network beginning December 2021. Three sites have been completed, with the remainder underway expected to be completed during Q1 2022. ○ Funding has now also been approved for SCADA upgrades at 3 No. WWTPs (Ballymoney, Blackwater and Ballaghkeen) to take place Q1 2022. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Stimulus Funding – WWTP Minor Improvement Works <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Upgrade works to improve resilience of the inlet PS at Ballymurn WWTP is currently underway. ➤ Invest to Save <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Funding has been granted for a new sludge press at Rosslare Strand WWTP, with manufacture now underway. ○ Civil works are currently underway at Blackwater WWTP to improve energy efficiency and process control necessary to deal with fluctuations in loading. |
| IW Capital Maintenance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The capital maintenance budget for 2022 has been adjusted to €2,089,004 ➤ The latest available report from Irish Water shows spend to end of January at 100,521. |
| New Connections | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Connection works are ongoing county wide through February 2022 |
| Non Irish Water Small Capital Schemes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Somer’s Way Pumping Station, Ballycullane <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Decommission WWTP, construct PS and rising main to connect to Ballycullane WWTP. ○ Civil works to the PS are now complete on site and M&E works are 90% complete on site. Foul flows are now being pumped forward to the Irish Water WWTP. ➤ Ballinamorrhagh WWTP (TIC), Curracloe. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Site improvement works completed during Q1 2020. More to follow during Q2 2022. |
| DPI Resolution Scheme for Water Services Infrastructure | <p>Funding was granted by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government for the resolution of Developer Provided Infrastructure (DPI) Issues at 4 number estates in Wexford. Works to progress at these sites to remove the DPI and connect to the public network in 2021 and 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyle Close, Oulart- Water connection is complete with sewerage to follow in Q1 2022. • Mountain View, Ballindaggin- COF received from IW. Decision awaited from the Department regarding design proposal. • Gleann na gCaor, Monagear- Connection enquiry made. Design in progress • Cois Cuan, Arthurstown • Coolballow estate- Connection granted for decommissioning of DPI at Coolballow estate to connect to Wexford SS |

3. Rural Water



Measure 2 - Public Health Compliance

➤ Kilanerin GWS

- Hydrogeologist has been engaged and awaiting phase 1 of study into the causes of high nitrate level within the extracted raw water from the GWS borehole.
- Final Report has been received and is currently being reviewed and a meeting is being organised to discuss phase 2.

Measure 3 – Enhancement of Existing Schemes including Water Conservation

➤ Blackstairs GWS

- **Storage Tank** - consultant appointed to carry out the hydraulic model assessment has been finalised.
- Consultation has commenced with Consultants re: delivery of a hydraulic model and report.
- A final report has been received and is currently under review.
- **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. on the 6th December.
- No response was received from the Dept. and a follow up email was sent on 17th January. The Dept. responded on the 19th January 21 – they are reviewing the submission and will revert as soon as possible

Measure 5 – Transition of Existing Group Water Schemes and Group Sewerage Schemes

➤ Bing GSS – Community Wastewater Connection (CWwC)

- 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
- Application being submitted to Pre-Planning Part XI Week beginning 20th December 2021 following Appropriate Assessment Screening Report from SWC Promotions.
- Pre-planning Part XI assessment and Planners Report was received, and documents will be submitted for full planning.
- Works currently in development are preparation of site investigation works and main contract tender packages.
- Returned tender price from contractors for main contract works shall be subject to final Departmental assessment and approval.

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| Measure 6 – Community Connection Networks (Water) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Battlestown CWC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Following the Rural Water Monitoring Committee Meeting in January. The Dept. were informed in February that this scheme would not be proceeding via updates to the Wexford Tracker of Programmes. ➤ Ballinahask, Kilmuckridge CWC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Following the Rural Water Monitoring Committee Meeting in January. The Dept. were informed in February that this scheme would not be proceeding via updates to the Wexford Tracker of Programmes. |
| 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 30 new well grant applications were received in February 2022. ○ 22 Well Grants have been paid in February, totalling €37,814. |

4. Water Conservation



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| Water Conservation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Consumption Countywide consumption for February 2022 was 43.91MLD. This figure is up 1.1MLD on 2021 figures. Overall consumption is trending high. |
| Leak Detection & Repair | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Leak repairs Leak repairs are on-going throughout the county. 31nr operational leak repairs were completed in February 2022. ➤ Planned Leak Detection (PLD) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Planned leak detection was focused mainly in Rosslare, Wexford, Bunclody and Camolin. ○ Wexford has received 500nr Acoustic loggers to assist leak detection. These will be deployed in areas in Wexford and New Ross in March 2022, moving to Enniscorthy in May 2022. |
| Water Network Programme | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Rehab Submissions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ballygarret to Cahore rehab work was commenced March 2022. ○ Shareridge are to commence on the Forth Road, Gorey works, once Salville to Vinegar Hill upgrade works complete in March 2022. ➤ Find and Fix <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ LA Find crews were concentrated in South Regional. ○ 8nr repairs created savings of 6.0m3/hr in Wellingtonbridge, Campile, Carrigbyrne and Ferns during February. ○ Contractor Find crews commenced initial investigations in Killag DMA west side of Kilmore. ➤ BYS Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No works undertaken in February 2022. ➤ Pressure Management |

- 2022 funding was received for 1nr PRV replacement, 31nr PRV surveys with maintenance and 10nr advanced pressure control systems.

➤ **First Fix**

- Shareridge are conducting First Fix investigations and repairs around the county.

ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION

NATIONAL ROADS

N11/N25 Oilgate to Rosslare Harbour

Environmental surveys are continuing throughout the 33km scheme corridor and will continue through 2022 (e.g. mammal, bird and habitat surveys, noise, air quality, landscape & archaeological surveys etc).

Further transport surveys are also planned for April 2022 to analyse traffic demand on the existing corridor and connecting roads. A tender competition for a geotechnical investigation contract will commence in April, with investigation works anticipated during the summer. These separate activities will all inform the design development and environmental assessment of the scheme and will generate increasing engagement with land and property owners.

A project newsletter was published in February to provide the public with further information on the project's plans for 2022.

N25 Rosslare Europort Access Road

Documentation for a planning application and Compulsory Purchase Order are currently being finalised for approval to proceed to the statutory planning processes. Planning documents include the following:

- Planning & Environment Considerations Report
- Natura Impact Statement
- Screening Report for Appropriate Assessment
- Screening Report for Environmental Impact Assessment
- Design Report
- Option Selection Report
- Compulsory Purchase Order Schedule & Maps

It is anticipated that a Section 177AE planning application & CPO will be submitted to An Bord Pleanála in late April following approval to proceed. Copies of the applications will be available to view and notices of the applications, arrangements and further details will be published in advance. Any submissions or observations may be made to An Bord Pleanála which may at its discretion hold an oral hearing into the proposed development.

The project is consulting with directly impacted land and property owners in advance of the submission of the planning application. A project newsletter will also be published in April in advance of the planning application and will be circulated in local outlets and public buildings in Rosslare Harbour as well as the project website and social media to provide the public with further information on the planning process.

NATIONAL ROAD PAVEMENT SCHEMES

2021 Pavement Schemes

N11 Ferns Pavement Scheme

The tender for the construction contract was awarded on the 11th August. Works commenced on 26th October

The surface water pipework, watermain and footpath works have been completed.

The scheme should be completed by the end of March.

HD28 Pavement Improvement Works N11 Oilgate Village

The scheme was tendered in November.

We received approval from TII to award the on contract on the 10th March. Due to the traffic volumes on the N11 this scheme will need to be carried out at night.

Works should commence at the end of April with a 3-week programme.

2022 Pavement Schemes

N25 Ballykilliane to Orristown Pavement Scheme

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

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

Works are being carried out on the contract documents for the scheme with tender planned for April.

Pavement works should commence in June/July.

N80 Tomacurry to Ballycarney Phase 1

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

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

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

Pavement works should commence in July/August.

2022 Safety Schemes

N25 Ballygillane Roundabout

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

This scheme was tendered in November 2021.

A Letter of Intent was issued to the preferred bidder in January.

A Letter of Acceptance will be issued on the receipt of approval from TII.

It is hoped to commence the scheme in April with a 3-month construction period.

Winter Maintenance

The 2021/2022 winter maintenance programme commenced on Monday 18th October 2021. There have been 43 call outs up to Monday 14th March 2022.

REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROADS

Resurfacing/Strengthening

The 2022 strengthening programme (Machinery Yard) commenced in the Enniscorthy District on 31st January 2022 at Bola Beg, Ballindaggan. The road is being resurfaced with macadam. The County's strengthening programme for 2022 is presently being finalised.

108 km of road was strengthened in 2021, including own resources and community involvement schemes funding.

Surface Dressing Works

The 2022 surface dressing programme is presently being prepared.
125 km of road was surface dressed in 2021, including own resources.

Community Involvement Schemes

12 roads (14km total) with a total estimated cost €1.155m for 2022 are under consideration by DOT.

Local Improvement Schemes

22 lanes, totalling 9km in length, were resurfaced 2021 at a cost of €653,786 funded by the Dept of Rural & community Development.

Bridge Rehabilitation Grant

19 bridge rehabilitations for 2022 (excluding those damaged 25/12/2021) at an estimated repair cost of €603,000 are under consideration by DOT.

Specific Improvement Works – The Deeps Bridge

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

A structural inspection of the bridge was completed in 2021. This will inform the detailed design. A Stage 1 Appropriate Assessment Screening was completed, and the planned works did not screen out.

The resultant required Natura Impact Statement was completed and was submitted to An Bord Pleanála in 2021 as part of the planning application. The planning submission is presently being assessed by An Bord Pleanála. Design options will be developed over the coming months. Works are expected to commence Q 2-3 of 2022.

Climate Adaptation & Resilience Works

20 improvement projects for 2022 (excluding those damaged 25/12/2021) of estimated value of €1.134m are under consideration by DOT.

In 2021, Wexford County Council received €650,830 for 13 projects. Works are complete on 11 projects with 2 projects rolling into 2022 due to design complexities. The 2 projects transferred to 2022 are Grange Beach cliff stabilisation works in New Ross MD and Adhare Bridge works in Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD.

Active Travel Measures

The NTA confirmed an allocation on 24th January 2022 of €4.44m to Wexford County Council for projects in 2022. This funding is largely to complete projects approved in 2021 which are presently in design or construction stage.

In 2021, Wexford County Council completed 20 projects. There are 29 projects presently under construction. The remaining 22 are at design stage.

Over 7km of new footpath was constructed in 2021 in the county's towns and many of the villages providing important linkages for communities. The total value of work (construction and design) completed in 2021 was €3,145,653.

A design incorporating segregated cycle lanes, footpath and junction improvements has been finalised for Newtown Road (Wexford Borough District).

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

Flood Damage Christmas Day 2021 - Update

Of the 7 bridges that were severely damaged: Wilton Bridge; Kilcarbry Bridge Ballyroe buck Bridge; Mangan Lane Bridge; (Enniscorthy District); Aughnaglaun Bridge (Chapel, Adamstown); Cullenstown Bridge; Raheen Bridge (New Ross District), 3 are open to vehicular traffic at Mangan, Kilcarbry and Chapel (temporary).

Office of Public Works (OPW) Section 50 consent applications under the Arterial Drainage Act 1945 are being prepared and the design of permanent remediation works is ongoing. Derogation Orders have been received from Inland Fisheries Ireland. Permissions are necessary to undertake the permanent remediation works at Aughnaglaun (Chapel), Cullenstown Little, Wilton, Ballyroe buck Bridges.

Trees and debris lodged in bridges as a result of high-water levels have been removed from several sites with clearance works continuing. Minor damage to other bridges, specifically parapet walls, was experienced throughout the county and this is being assessed and repair works progressing well. There was significant damage to over 13km of road throughout the county which is presently being surveyed and repairs are ongoing. €4M was received from the Department of Transport specifically for flood damage repairs in the County.

PUBLIC LIGHTING

LED Upgrade (Non National Roads)

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

Design work is completed.

It is hoped to complete the upgrade of the remaining 300 to 400 lanterns on non-National roads and housing estates early in 2022.

Public Lighting Development Fund

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

- Ballygarrett Village – Contract awarded. Works to commence in March 2022.
- Balintray, Courtown – Contract awarded. Works to commence in March 2022.

Just One Life Road Safety Campaign

The Just One Life Road Safety Campaign kicked off with the first demonstration held in the National Opera House on 2nd March. This effective road safety initiative, in partnership with An Garda Síochána and Wexford Rotary, is aimed at all transitions year students throughout the county. Further demonstrations are planned later in the year.

Housing, Community, Libraries, Arts, Emergency Services & Community:

HOUSING

Covid 19 update

Private Residential Tenancy inspections and home visits have recommenced. The housing clinics will resume and Members will be notified on resumption.

Any backlog of inspections (private rented, grants and housing maintenance) will be worked through over the coming months.

Housing Supply

Capital Projects

| Project Address | No of Units | Municipal District Area | Current Position | Comment |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Carley's Bridge | 17 | Enniscorthy | Houses Complete | Houses complete 28 th Feb 2022. Keys handed over. Project complete ahead of target and on budget. |
| Ballycullane | 2 | New Ross | Houses Complete | Both Houses complete and keys will be handed over early March 22. Awaiting certs of compliance from ME |
| The Ballagh | 7 | Gorey / Kilmuckridge | Under Construction | ESB connection not made on 24 th Feb as they were delayed due to the recent storms. Works will not complete until Q2. |
| Castlebridge TAP | 1 | Wexford | Under Construction | Due to complete Q1 2022. Some delays due to ground conditions, Completion in Q2 22. |
| Ross Road | 1 | Enniscorthy | Under Construction | Finishing works proceeding. Expected completion Q1 2022 |
| Rosetown, Rosslare (deliver units in 2 phases) | 23 P1 12 P2 | Rosslare | Phase 1 (23 houses) Under Construction | Construction works commenced on site on 24 th May '21 for Phase 1 of 23 units. Phase 1 due to complete in Q4 2022. Funding Stage 3 is being prepared by consultants for submission in Q1 2022 for Phase 2 of the project, 12 units. |
| Whiterock Hill (deliver units in 2 phases) | 44 | Wexford | Stage 4 approved (Phase 1 for 22 Units) | Phase 1 (22 Units) Construction commenced 1st November 2021. Bases for apartments and site boundaries and retaining walls underway and progressing well. Discussions re pump station to enable Phase 2 (22 units also) have progressed and our consultants are reviewing IW proposals. Phase 2 to be negotiated with contractor in Q2 2022. |

| | | | | |
|---------------------|------------|----------------------|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ballyhine, Barntown | 7 | Wexford | Stage 3 | Part VIII approved. Stage 3 to be lodged in Q2 2022 |
| Bullawn | 3 | New Ross | Stage 2 | Part VIII approved. Stage 3 Q2 2022 |
| Wexford Street | 30 | Gorey / Kilmuckridge | Stage 2 | Stage 2 approved for €8.3m. Part VIII submitted Nov 21. Part VIII due for Council decision in March 2022 and Stage 3 will be submitted in Q2 2022 |
| Women's Refuge | 12 | Wexford | Stage 2 | Stage 3 submitted Feb 22. Design Team to commence construction Pre-quals while we are awaiting DHPLG funding approval for Stage 3. |
| Rosbercon | 35 (est) | New Ross | Stage 2 | Consultants appointed for the enabling works i.e. Knotweed and Site Clearance. Enabling works to commence on site Q2 2022. Enabling works including tendering expected to take 6 months. |
| Francis St. | 2 | Wexford | Stage 2 | Stage 1 approved on 4 th Oct. 21. Pre Planning approved. Consultants appointed. Stage 2 in Q2 22 |
| Killeens | 40 | Wexford | Stage 1 | Design Team selected through OGP participation. Appointment to be made in March following standstill period. |
| Creagh | 22 | Gorey / Kilmuckridge | Stage 1 | A revised Stage 2 will be lodged in Q2 2022. Appointing new consultants and we have increased numbers to 22 for VFM, higher densities and to incorporate more smaller units in line with requirements and the housing need in the Gorey area. Pre Planning complete. Agreed to add another floor and lifts to each apartment building. |
| TOTAL | 258 | | | |

Pre-Development Stage

| Project Address | No of Units | Municipal District Area | Comment |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Marconi Park | 1 | Enniscorthy | Tenders received on Feb 22. Contracts to be signed in March and site commence in April 22. |
| Newtown, Ferns | 1 | Enniscorthy | Site clearance Q2 Delayed due to an amount of Knotweed on site. |
| Monomolin | 5 | Gorey / Kilmuckridge | Diversion enabling works in design for services. Proposal to include 2 Special needs. IW have confirmed feasibility. Stage 2 will be submitted in Q2 2022. Pre-Planning complete. |
| Bride Street | 3 | Wexford | Proposal to demolish and construct 2 No 2 bed and 1 no 1 bed apartments on the site has been submitted. Awaiting ESB cost and programme to underground wiring as starting point in the enabling works. Demolitions can only happen once overheads are removed. |

| | | | |
|--------------|-----------|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ballygillane | 5 | Rosslare | Derelict house on site to be demolished. Pre-Planning approved. Stage 1 approved. Stage 2 application and Part VIII Q3 2022. Irish Water have approved Feasibility. Enabling works (demolition) to commence in Q2 22 |
| TOTAL | 15 | | |

Longer Term Projects

| Project Address | No of Units | Municipal District Area | Comment |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tagoat | 18 | Rosslare | Topographical Survey complete. Knotweed Management Company appointed. We have reviewed design for better density, value for money and we have pre-planning complete. Stage 1 Q2 2022. Fencing off boundaries in March 22. |
| Clonard | 26 | Wexford | Site cleared March 2019 – design for inner relief road required before we can proceed. No change |
| TOTAL | 44 | | |

Other Projects (early feasibility)

| Project Address | No of Units | Municipal District Area | Comment |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lacken | 1 | New Ross | Single stage approved. Substantial additional funding required. Funding approval received, granted with a shortfall of circa €172K. Agreement reached to design a new bungalow. Design underway. |
| Adamstown | 2 | New Ross | IW confirmed that there is capacity for the 2 houses in Adamstown so this job can now proceed to demolition of existing house. Enabling works to be tendered in April 2022. The 2 houses will have a with a total population equivalent (PE) of 8 |
| Belvedere | 6 | Wexford | Revised proposal to be Prepared. Q2 2022 |
| Creagh | 24 | Gorey / Kilmuckridge | Sketch design prepared for site investigations and surveys. Awaiting a decision as to whether the site will be transferred back to Housing. |
| Grogan's Road | 4 | Wexford | Pre planning approved. Stage 1 approved 16 th Nov 21 – DHPLG are looking for a fourth apartment. Design has been revised to incorporate 4 apartments. New Pre Planning required. Then proceed to Stage 2. Awaiting confirmation of feasibility from IW. |
| TOTAL | 37 | | |

Approved Housing Bodies

| Project Address | No of Units | Municipal District Area | Comment |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Cooperative Housing Ireland | | | |
| Mill Heights, Castlebridge | 25 | Wexford | 12 units completed. Remainder to deliver Q2 2022. |
| Cluid | | | |
| Pairc an Aird, Coolcotts | 67 | Wexford | To deliver Q4 2022. |
| Tobar Muire Place | 17 | Gorey / Kilmuckridge | To deliver late 2022 /early 2023. |
| Tuath | | | |
| Ramstown, Gorey | 68 | Gorey / Kilmuckridge | To deliver on a phased basis from 2022. |
| TOTAL | 177 | | |

Part V Acquisitions

| Project Address | No of Units | Municipal District Area | Comment |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Roxborough Manor, Mulgannon | 22 | Wexford | 14 complete. Remaining units to deliver 2022. |
| Cluain Beag, Clonard | 6 | Wexford | 4 units delivered remainder to deliver Q1 2022. |
| Clonhaston, Enniscorthy | 18 | Enniscorthy | To deliver on phased basis from 2022. (Issues with IW will result in reduced number of units. Currently engaged with developer.) |
| An Glasan, Enniscorthy | 5 | Enniscorthy | 4 units complete. Remaining unit to deliver Q1 2022. |
| Gleann an Ghairdin Ph 3 | 10 | Gorey / Kilmuckridge | To deliver 2022/2023. |
| Tobar Muire, Creagh Demesne | 4 | Gorey / Kilmuckridge | Construction commenced. To deliver Q2 2022.. |
| Ard an Bhile, Healysland, New Ross | 5 | New Ross | Commenced onsite. Expected to deliver late 2022/early 2023. |
| Spring View, Gorey Hill | 11 | Gorey / Kilmuckridge | Under Construction. To deliver on phased basis 2022/2023. |
| TOTAL | 81 | | |

Turnkeys

| Project Address | No of Units | Municipal District Area | Comment |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Clonhaston, Enniscorthy | 50 | Enniscorthy | To deliver on phased basis from 2022 (Issues with IW will result in reduced number of units. Currently engaged with developer.) |
| Ballynaglogh, Blackwater | 16 | Gorey / Kilmuckridge | Commenced onsite. To deliver 2022. |

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tobar Muire, Creagh Demesne | 39 | Gorey / Kilmuckridge | Construction commenced. To deliver from Q2 2022. |
| Cluain Beag, Clonard | 20 | Wexford | 11 units delivered remainder to deliver Q2 2022. |
| Ard an Bhile, Healysland, New Ross | 43 | New Ross | Commenced onsite. Expected to deliver late 2022/early 2023. |
| Roxborough Manor, Mulgannon | 13 | Wexford | Under Construction Delivery expected on phased basis in 2022. |
| Clonard Little | 10 | Wexford | Delivery expected Q1 2023 (includes 1 Part V). |
| Ard Uisce (Ph 3) | 8 | Wexford | Under Construction. Delivery expected Q2 2022. |
| Castlelands, Ferns | 20 | Enniscorthy | DHLGH Approval received Jan 2022. Under Construction. Expected to deliver Q3 2022 |
| Haughton Place, New Ross | 13 | New Ross | DHLGH Approval received Jan 2022. Expected to deliver 2023 (includes 1 Part V) |
| TOTAL | 232 | | |

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 28th February, 2022:

| Repairs | Enniscorthy | Gorey / Kilmuckridge | New Ross | Wexford | Rosslare | Total |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|----------|---------|----------|-------|
| Repair Requests (1st – 28 th February 2022) | 115 | 58 | 120 | 161 | 61 | 515 |
| Repair Requests Year to Date | 249 | 165 | 272 | 322 | 151 | 1159 |
| Accommodation Units Repaired (1st – 28 th February 2022) | 95 | 51 | 100 | 136 | 54 | 436 |
| Accommodation Units Repaired Year to Date | 197 | 131 | 200 | 253 | 115 | 896 |

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

Homeless Services and Support Unit (HSSU)

An integrated Homeless Service Centre (HSSU) was opened in Wexford in 2019 where relevant service providers proactively work in partnership with clients who are homeless or facing homelessness. The Centre offers homeless supports, advice and services in one location, with an emphasis on homeless prevention and supports.

This is a collaborative initiative by Wexford County Council working in partnership with the HSE and Focus Ireland. Some of the main services being provided through the HSSU working in partnership with external state agencies and NGO's are:

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

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

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| There were 177 calls to the HSSU from 1 st January 2022 to 28 th February 2022, the following is the breakdown of same:- | |
| 116 | Provided with advice and support in relation to housing and homeless prevention |
| 13 | Supported with temporary, short, medium and long-term accommodation and tenancy sustainment support through Place Finder and Social Care Workers |
| 36 | Ineligible at the time presentation for housing/homeless services. HSSU advised and assisted to regularise housing situation. |
| 12 | It was not possible to complete a full assessment. |

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT LEADER PROGRAMME –

The Article 48 team processed 25 LEADER claims in January & February. The value of the claims - €1,090,350.69 which will support 16 enterprises and 9 community groups throughout County Wexford.



These claims can be broken down as follows:

| Approved for Payment | Approved Payment |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Regan Organic Produce | € 66,037.50 |
| 2. WLD | € 13,285.00 |
| 3. Wexford Arts Centre | € 4,802.25 |
| 4. Zanna Cookhouse Ltd | € 188,494.44 |
| 5. Trudies Catering Kitchen | € 33,855.00 |
| 6. Wexford LCDC | € 24,205.17 |
| | |
| Total | € 330,679.36 |
| Promoter Paid | Claim Payment |
| 1. Good Food Ireland | € 33,425.00 |
| 2. Crossabeg Ballymurn Community Centre | € 77,103.89 |
| 3. Wexford Arts Centre | € 7,500.00 |
| 4. Cow House Studios | € 9,676.69 |
| 5. Murrintown Community Development Group | € 4,169.66 |
| 6. Bianci Divito | € 4,477.00 |
| 7. Clongeen Community Development Group | € 23,269.50 |
| 8. FDYS | € 25,020.49 |
| 9. Horeswood Community Hall Committee | € 21,068.43 |
| 10. Our Ladys Island Community Development Group | € 36,800.49 |
| 11. WLD | € 20,160.00 |
| 12. Kiltra School of Music | € 18,712.50 |
| 13. Inish Pebble Company Ltd | € 77,500.00 |
| 14. Three Sisters Cruise Company Ltd | € 200,000.00 |
| 15. WLD | € 24,998.00 |
| 16. Faythe Harriers | € 98,941.11 |
| 17. Tasty Parlour | € 1,867.33 |
| 18. Riverchapel Community Complex | € 7,711.57 |
| 19. Wexford Bus | € 67,269.67 |
| Total | € 759,671.33 |

| | |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| Total | € 1,090,350.69 |
|--------------|-----------------------|

JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE MEETING -

County Wexford Joint Policing Committee

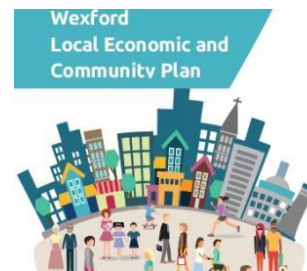
As in line with the rescheduled March Meeting date of Wexford County Council, it has been agreed to defer the Meeting of the Joint Policing Committee to the 28th of March 2022 at 10.00am in the Council Chamber & MS Teams.

The focus of the meeting '*Drug Misuse in County Wexford*'.



Wexford Local Economic and Community Plan

The LECP Guidelines were officially launched on the 11th November 2021. The new revised guidelines build on the lessons learned from the current LECP cycle, as well as reflecting the needs of communities as we emerge from the Pandemic. The new approach to the process, with a Framework LECP coupled with Implementation Plans covering a shorter period, will ensure LECPs are more agile and allow for emerging needs.



DRCD in collaboration with DHLGH will continue to support the development of the LECPs through a series of events over the coming months, which commenced with an online Introductory Event which was held in December. This event provided an overview of LECP Guidelines, highlighting what is new and the planned timeframes and is to be followed by a series of training webinars to ensure each LCDC will have the necessary skills to develop and implement their LECP.

LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (LCDC) -

A hybrid meeting of the Local Community and Development Committee was held on the 03rd of March 2022. Both the Chairperson and the Chief Officer welcomed several new members to the committee and was the first opportunity for the LCDC members to meet in person throughout the Covid period



Agenda items included SICAP, a PPN presentation regarding 'Apprenticeships', Healthy Ireland and Age Friendly, with the members of the Wexford LCDC approving funding of €300k to 194 community and voluntary groups under the Community Activities Fund 2021.



LOCAL ACTION GROUP (LAG) –

A hybrid meeting of the Local Community and Development Committee acting as the Local Action Group, was held on the 03rd of March 2022 with the members approving funding of approx. €219k for 7 projects under the LEADER Transitional Programme and EURI funding.

A regional meeting of the EMRA Chief Officers took place on 10th February 2022. via Microsoft Teams. The main items discussed included - LECP, LEADER, SICAP, Healthy Ireland & PPN. The next meeting is due to take in place in April.

SICAP

The LCDC approved the SICAP 2021 End of Year report and the 2022 Annual Plan at their March meeting. The 2022 SICAP budget allocations for Co. Wexford is €1,945,608, which represent a 11% (€193K) increase on 2021 funding. The LCDC approved Statement of Priorities for the remainder of the programme to the 31st of December 2023 are:



1. New communities with particular focus on those living in Direct Provision.
2. Traveller and Roma.
3. NEET – young people aged between 16-25 not in employment, education or training.

Community Activities Fund 2021

Funding of €300,129 was allocated to 194 groups by the LCDC under the Community Activities Fund 2021 during March. This once-off fund is being allocated under the DRCD's Community Enhancement Programme.

1. The Community Activities Fund supports groups, particularly in disadvantaged areas, with their running costs such as utility.
2. Groups also provided funding to carry out necessary repairs and to purchase equipment.

Burial Grounds

The perimeter wall at the old burial ground at the former St. Senans hospital, Enniscorthy were completed during February.

Playgrounds

Significant works were completed at Duncannon (inclusive roundabout), Cluain Dara, Gimont, Enniscorthy (complete surface replacement) and Mount Carmel, New Ross (new swings).

Age Friendly Strategy 2022-26

Special meetings of the Older People's Council and Age Friendly Alliance were held on 16th February 2022 to discuss and agree on the draft Age Friendly Strategy and action plan for the period 2022 to 2026. It is hoped that the final report will be presented at the April Council meeting for final approval.

Covid Care Concerts in Day Care Centres

Covid care concerts returned to Wexford on week beginning 21st February 2022 this time performing 15 concerts in Day Care centres throughout the county. The concerts featured world renowned tenor Anthony Kearns and musicians Lynda O Connor (Violin), Paul O Hanlon (Violin) and Gerald Peregrine (Cello). Feedback from the older people who attended included:

"that was so emotional, but good emotional. I feel like a new woman!"

A newly diagnosed dementia client said afterwards "My problem is my memory, you know, but I'm so happy that this music actually helped me to forget what is wrong with me. I felt normal again"

"It was without doubt the highlight of the year for our elderly after what has been an awful year for them with covid. Everyone was so engaged and are already asking when it will happen again".



Intergenerational Technology project with Colaiste Abhain

WCC Age Friendly Programme Manager Ann Marie Laffan, and Jason Carroll from Wexford Older Peoples Council and Wexford Carers Assoc. recently met with transition year students from Colaiste Abhain, Adamstown, to give them Acorn tablets which the students will use as part of an intergeneration IT project funded by Wexford County Council.



Acorn tablets for New Ross Memory Technology Resource Room (MTRR)

WCC Age Friendly Programme Manager Ann Marie Laffan, and Sergeant Eddie Wilde from New Ross Gardaí recently met with Lisa Farley from the Memory Technology Resource Room to learn more about the service she provides to older people living with dementia or other memory difficulties and their family members and/or carers. A variety of assistive technology is on display and Lisa also

provides information on devices and strategies that promote independence, safety and improve the quality of life for people experiencing memory difficulties. WCC have funded 4 tablets for clients of the service which will enable them to maintain their independence and stay connected with family and friends.



Walkability Report – Enniscorthy Age Friendly Town

A walkability audit of Enniscorthy was carried out in late 2021 with a report on the findings and recommendations to be published shortly. Work has already started on the ground which included the installation of age friendly seating in key locations in the town recently. This was funded by Healthy Ireland.



Healthy
Wexford

Comhairle Contae
Loch Garman
Wexford
County Council



WEXFORD
AGE FRIENDLY
COUNTY PROGRAMME



pobal
government supporting communities



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Telehealth

The Wexford Telehealth Pilot Project has been shortlisted for this year's CIO & IT Leaders Awards, taking place on Thursday, March 24 in The Shelbourne Hotel, Dublin. The category Wexford County Council has been shortlisted for is Pilot Project of the Year.



Phase 2 of the Telehealth pilot project has also commenced with Wexford one of six counties involved in this 2nd phase of the project. A demonstration workshop is planned for 9th March in Kilkenny and on 10th March in Waterford to recruit clinicians from each of the counties involved. Roll out of the project is planned for April or May 2022.

Wexford Dementia Alliance

A meeting of the newly established 'Purposefully Walking Group', a sub-group of the Wexford Dementia Alliance has been set up and met in February to identify solutions to issues identified by members in relation to people living with dementia. Working in partnership the state agencies involved, including the Garda and HSE are working to put processes in place.

Wexford Age Friendly and Comhairle na nÓg Postcard project

Wexford County Council and Comhairle na nÓg have joined forces on an intergenerational project that will connect older people and teenagers by sending a series of postcards to each other. The postcards are designed by local artist John Busher and depict local landmarks and stories from the olden days. Partners on the project include Wexford Gardaí Community Policing, Grantstown Day Care Centre, St. Louis Day Care Centre (Ramsgrange) and St. Bridget's Day Care Centre. The exchange of postcards commences in March 2022.

Accessing medical appointments meeting with relevant partners

A meeting was held on 21st February 2022 with all relevant agencies and voluntary groups to discuss the issue of older people accessing medical appointments. A working group has been established and will look at solutions for the issues identified for older people.

Age Friendly Hospital – Wexford General Hospital

Based on feedback received from the Age Friendly public consultations and Wexford Older Peoples Council, a meeting was held with Wexford General Hospital manager and Deputy Manager, other HSE staff and Local Link Manager to discuss making the hospital site more age friendly. The meeting was very positive with a follow up meeting planned.

Celtic Routes

Over 40 tourism businesses in Ireland have joined the Thematic Groups network, and a number more have expressed interest.

Our end of winter social media video has been viewed 43,000 times in the first week of posting on Facebook - 23rd of February.

The Project Officer presented to both the New Ross Municipal District Council meeting and the Gorey Kilmuckridge Municipal District Council Meetings in February, with a view to presenting to the Rosslare and Enniscorthy Municipal Districts and the Wexford Borough Council Meetings at the next available meetings.

All required Financial Claims and Management Verification Tests have been submitted and approved.



Healthy
Wexford

March 2022 Report

Healthy Ireland Fund 2019-2021 - Round 3

Activities under the **Healthy Ireland Fund Round 3** are nearing completion with the final date for fund activity spend 31st March 2022.

Covid impacts in early 2022 have caused some Action Partners to have to review activity but all working to complete by funding deadline. Returns and final reporting is required to Pobal by 6th May 2022, with all action partners required to provide final project reports and outcomes. Healthy County Coordinator will collate for upload along with financial reporting.

No detail has been provided for Round 4 Funding, as yet.

Healthy County Committee

The Healthy County Committee meets quarterly with most recent meeting being held on 8th February, and next due on 10th May. Working groups continue to meet and progress activities and initiatives to deliver on the Healthy County Plan Strategic Priorities. Below are some updates on current Healthy Wexford Initiatives. More detail is available here <https://www.wexfordcoco.ie/community/healthy-wexford/healthy-wexford-initiatives>

The '**Seeds to Success**' community growing series launched online on 27th January. With one episode per week releasing the six episode series runs to 3rd March. Once released all videos remain available to view online at - [Healthy Wexford YouTube](#).

To increase accessibility to those not online a 'boxset' DVD of the series will be created in March and available to borrow through Wexford Libraries.

With the premiere cancellation in January due to Covid, it is hoped to have an event to bring together community growers across the county in Q2, with an aim of increasing networking and knowledge sharing among all.





The **'Not Around Us'** committee continue to develop the initiative and early 2022 saw continuation of the roll out of signage to our playgrounds and libraries, and ongoing sign ups and promotion. Beach signage will be the next public space focus.

The time lapse video from the 'Not Around Us' Sand Art Engagement Event featured on the HSE National No Smoking Day webinar on 2nd March.

The Sand Art event photos and time lapse video

(<https://youtu.be/u8bk3OTIFoE>) will be used to highlight the initiative further and encourage additional sign ups across the county.



Continuing the youth engagement and co-creation activity, one of the youth groups signed up to the initiative plan to use 'Not Around Us' as their float theme in the St Patrick's Day Parade.

It is also hoped to encourage youth involving festivals and events to become 'Not Around Us' events. Initially the committee are encouraging this for St Patrick's Day Events.



The last two of the 'Happy To Chat' benches committed have now been delivered for placement in Clonroche and Castlebridge. This brings to a total of 11 benches provided under the initiative. More details here

<https://www.wexfordcoco.ie/community/healthy-wexford/healthy-wexford-initiatives/happy-to-chat-benches>

Healthy Wexford Promotion

The Healthy County Coordinator continues to grow and develop the Healthy Wexford social media – Facebook, Twitter, & Instagram. This social media is used to promote opportunities available and to highlight our funded and other activity. A Healthy Wexford YouTube Channel has also been created to house all initiative video activity in one location. Initiative updates are also added to Wexford County Council website.

Wexford Sports Active

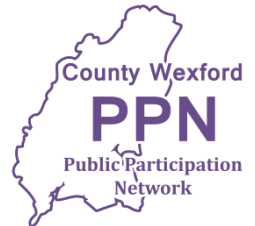
| Area of Work | |
|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Couch to 3K | Couch to 3K continues every Tuesday and Thursday in New Ross Town Park (Pierce Park) at 10.30am. There are 8 ladies doing this programme, two ladies aiming to walk 3K at the end of the programme and 6 ladies aiming to jog 5k. |
| Couch to 5K | Couch to 5K started in Enniscorthy Sports Hub on the 17 th of January for 8 weeks every Monday and Wednesday evening at 7pm. There are 28 participants on this programme both men and women. |
| Operation Transformation Walk/Parkrun 5K | SAW promoted and supported the parkruns in the County on Saturday 19 th February. Parkrun is a free timed walk or run every Saturday morning and we have parkruns in Gorey, Wexford and New Ross. |
| Marathon Kids | Marathon Kids started in 15 schools around Wexford on the 21 st of February and will run for 8 weeks where over 800 children around Wexford will complete a Marathon over the 8 weeks. This programme is funded through Sports Active Wexford. |
| Sports Leadership | Sports Leadership is continuing with transition years in Kennedy College for a 6-week programme. There are 20 young people completing this training. |
| Workplace Activity Programme | The new block of Online Yoga started on Wednesday 9 th February and takes place every Wednesday for four weeks from 7-7.40pm. Those who sign up have the option of doing the class live or receiving the recording to do in their own time over the next 7 days. Participants: 23 |
| Scooch | Sports Active Wexford partnered with Wexford Local Development and Men's Sheds Wexford to organise a Scooch tournament for all the Men's sheds in Wexford. This took place on Wednesday 23 rd of February in Oylegate Hall. Participants: 27 |
| Activator Poles | A new block of Activator Pole Walking started in Min Ryan Park on the 14 th of January at 1:30pm for 4 weeks. Total number of participants attended is 14. Another block of Activator Pole Walking is due to start in New Ross Library on Thursday 27 th at 2pm for 4 weeks. |
| Fit Over 50's | A six-week exercise programme for women aged over 50 has started in Kinetic Fitness on Monday's from 11am to 12pm. Total registered for the programme is 10 women. |
| Active Fellas | The Active Fellas Over 35's Soccer League is currently taking place in New Ross. This is run in partnership with the FAI and supported by Healthy Wexford through the Healthy Ireland fund. There are six teams taking part. Participants: 49 |
| Healthy Woodlands | The healthy woodlands programme in Tintern Abbey with Havenview is ongoing on a weekly basis with 4 residents participating. |
| Slaintecare | The recruitment process for the North sector is now completed, with Garda Vetting and HSE vetting pending. |

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | <p>Current caseload for the South Sector is 4 and CAMHS is also 4. The next block of participants is due to commence next week.</p> <p>On the 28th of January the Evaluation Report was launched at our webinar by Minster Butler.</p> |
| Couch to 3k | This 6-week programme is exclusively for Maryville Mental Health Services in New Ross Town Park. Currently four participants have registered. |
| VI Tennis Rosslare | VI Tennis continues to take place every Friday in Kelly's Hotel Tennis Centre. This programme is a partnership between Sports Active Wexford, Vision Sports Ireland and Enjoy Tennis. The programme is run on at term of 10-weeks. Sports Active Wexford is funding the current term. Participants: 5 |
| Wexford VI Walks | <p>Over the last few months Sports Active Wexford, Vision Sports Ireland and the Access Section of Wexford County Council have been working on putting together a plan for Wexford Vision Impaired Walks. This will be a six-part series, the first walk will take place in Orchard Peace Park in Enniscorthy on the Saturday 9th April.</p> <p>The recruitment process for participants, volunteers and walking leaders is currently taking place.</p> |
| Safeguarding | <p>2 x Safeguarding 1 Courses have been completed in 2022 with a total of 35 participants.</p> <p>1 x Safeguarding 2 Course has been completed in 2022 with a total of 11 participants.</p> |
| Coaching Teenage Girls in Sport | A Coaching Teenage Girls in Sport Workshop has been organised in line with the GAA, LGFA and Camogie to take place on the 7 th of March. |
| Community and Small Grant Scheme | <p>The COVID-19 Community and Club small grant scheme is part of a programme from the Government of Ireland, implemented through Sport Ireland and its network of Local Sports Partnerships to support the 2 sports sector. This specific fund was created in recognition of the operational challenges facing sport.</p> <p>A maximum of <u>€1,500</u> can be provided to each small club/ community group.</p> |
| General | The HSE have awarded SAW €7650 in funding with will cater for programmes with disability and inclusion during 2022 |



Mary Flynn, Sports Development Officer delivering t-shirts and booklets to 5th & 6th class pupils in St. Mary's school, Ballygarrett, one of the 15 Wexford schools completing the Marathon Kids 8-week challenge

Wexford Public Participation Network (PPN) Update March 2022



- Wexford PPN recently requested nominations for 2 new Secretariat Members (1 x Gorey/Kilmuckridge Municipal District and 1 x Social Inclusion Representative).
- Also nominations requested for a Community & Voluntary Representative on the Environment and Climate Change SPC. Closing dates for all the above - 16th March, 2022.
- The PPN Municipal District meetings were held online in January 2022.
- Re-Registration for all PPN member groups were held the January 2022.
- Some meetings of the PPN Secretariat are being held on zoom and more were held in person. It is hoped that in the near future that all meetings will be held in person.
- Information bulletins issued every 10 days in February.
- Wexford PPN are due to hold their first Plenary meeting in over 2 years in the Street, County Hall, Wexford on Thursday 10th March 2022 with numerous member group having booked a stand to exhibit their works.

ENVIRONMENT

A. COVID-19 RESPONSE

Throughout the third lockdown, work has continued in line with the CCMA's guidance document of 21st October, 2020. Office based staff are now working an alternate teams pattern to minimise attendance, ensuring that the office is covered while increasing physical distancing. All staff have the resources to work remotely while not physically in the office.

Outdoor staff continue to work to ensure the Civic Amenity Centres, Rapid Response Crews, Environment and Dog Warden Services remains operational.

Piers and Harbours staff are maintaining staffing levels in Wexford, Kilmore Quay and New Ross offices to provide support for essential workers.

B. COASTAL MATTERS

Harbours -

Department of Ag, Food & Marine (DAFM) recently announced a new scheme to develop works on LA harbours, called the Brexit Adjustment Local Authority Marine Infrastructure 2022 – 2023, with a total budget of €35m for all coastal local authorities. Wexford County Council is assessing the details of the scheme and will prepare suitable proposals to DAFM for approval. The first application deadline is 8th March 2022.

Fethard Harbour – New Slipway and Beach Access. Part XI planning application is being prepared for submission.

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

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

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

Beaches –

Ballymoney – we are looking at options to improve accessibility to the blue flag beach.

Duncannon – bathing water quality has not reached the standard required for blue flag. Works are continuing on the Duncannon blue flag farming and community project and the construction of the wastewater treatment system.

Curracloe – has been voted the Best Beach in Ireland for the third time in the Irish Independent Readers' Awards for 2022.

Coast -

Rosslare Coastal Erosion and Flood Relief Scheme: Nicholas O'Dwyer Ltd Consulting Engineers was appointed on 13th Dec 2021. They will progress the scheme through detailed design, statutory consents, tender, construction and handover. Preliminary surveys and works are getting underway.

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

The overall coastal protection scheme is progressing with environmental surveys about to commence. Monitoring of this section of the coast is ongoing.

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

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

Morriscastle Dune Restoration: The project involves installation of fencing and maram grass planting to restore and manage the dune system at main beach entrance. WCC received €11,475 in funding for this project under the National Biodiversity Action Plan Funding. Fencing works are completed on site; maram grass planting by the local community is scheduled for Spring 2022.

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

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

Grange, Fethard on Sea: works to protect sections of the public road from coastal erosion went to tender in Dec; due back mid Jan 2022. Tender recommendation report is being finalised.

C. PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

All public conveniences are now re-opened.

Minor refurbishment works to Curracloe Public Convenience and major refurbishment works to Carne Public Convenience have been completed.

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

3. Septic Tank Inspections:

Works have been completed on inspections for 2021. 91 inspections were carried out in 2021. Work has commenced on selecting areas and sites for Septic Tank Inspections in 2022. All work carried out is external with no requirement to enter a dwelling. Contractors are currently carrying out work on a number of sites in order to close the Advisory Notices

Progress is being made with open files. Letters were sent to owners requesting updates on works carried out, to enable the closing of files or offering extensions of time, as appropriate.

9 files have been closed and 1 extension of time have been granted in 2021. 18 Grant applications were paid in 2021. Seven new applications have been received this year to date, five of which are paid and two are currently under review.

| Year | Number of inspections | Pass | Fail | Outstanding | Closed in 2021 |
|------|-----------------------|------|------|-------------|----------------|
| 2019 | 156 | 48 | 108 | 23 | 11 |
| 2020 | 111 | 38 | 73 | 33 | 16 |
| 2021 | 91 | 24 | 67 | 53 | 14 |

There are currently 14 cases in the Court system for failing to comply with Advisory Notices. 5 of these are for hearing and 9 are for mention.

4. Climate Action

Both the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 and the Government of Ireland Climate Action Plan 2021 put additional responsibilities on Local Authorities in terms of Climate Action and moving to a climate neutral economy by 2050.

Local Authorities are identified as having a pivotal role to play in the decarbonisation transition. The Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 requires each Local Authority to prepare their own Climate Action Plan. The plan must cover both mitigation and adaptation measures and must be updated once every five years.

Wexford County Council is also tasked with developing a decarbonisation zone which will become the focus for a range of climate mitigation, adaptation and biodiversity measures. Enniscorthy is the proposed Decarbonisation Zone for County Wexford.

In terms of Energy efficiency Wexford County Council achieved a 39.7% energy saving by end of 2020. The target was 33%.

The Climate Action Plan 2021 sets an even more ambitious target of 50% energy efficiency by 2030 and an absolute reduction in greenhouse gas emissions of 51%.

5. Noise and NAP 2019-2023

Noise complaints are dealt with on an ongoing basis. Two complaints of persistent noise pollution are currently under investigation.

The Noise Action Plan (NAP) 2019-2023 relates to general noise nuisance from large infrastructure or from motorways. Since the first plan was produced, Wexford County Council has steadily improved its resources with respect to the management of noise.

Wexford County Council submitted the Annual Noise Action Report describing all actions undertaken within the previous calendar year to the EPA in January 2021.

6. Agriculture:

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

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

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

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

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

7. Duncannon EIP Project

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

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

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

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

E. WASTE MANAGEMENT

1. Landfills:

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

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

2. Recycling Services:

Bring Bank Network –

| WASTE CATEGORY | No. of Sites January 2022 | Recycling out (End January) 2021 (t) | Recycling out (End January)2022 (t) |
|----------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Glass bottles | 109 | 376 | 360 |
| Aluminium Cans | | 10 | 9 |
| Total | 109 | 386 | 369 |

Household Recycling Centres –

| Summary of Activities | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| WASTE CATEGORY | Enniscorthy | | New Ross | | Holmestown | | Gorey | |
| | Recycling out Jan- Jan 2021 (t) | Recycling out Jan- Jan 2022 (t) | Recycling out Jan-Jan 2021 (t) | Recycling out Jan-Jan 2021(t) | Recycling out Jan- Jan 2022 | Recycling out Jan - Jan 2022 | Recycling out Jan -jan 2021 | Recycling out Jan-Jan 2022 |
| Total Recycling out | 55 | 56 | 62 | 63 | 74 | 73 | 48 | 45 |
| Total Domestic Waste in | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 152 | 190 | N/A | N/A |
| Daily Average Customers | 2021 | 2022 | 2021 | 2022 | 2021 | 2022 | 2021 | 2022 |
| Jan-jan | 72 | 87 | 117 | 135 | 101 | 132 | 98 | 102 |

Due to net operating costs increases, an entry charge of €2 was introduced to all household recycling centres on 13th June 2017.

3. Rapid Response Crew

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

| Activity | To end Jan 2021 | Jan 2022 | To end Jan 2022 | % +/- |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------|------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Total Illegal Dumping/ Clean Ups | 372 | 270 | 270 | -27% |
| Gorey * | | 44 | | |
| Enniscorthy * | | 80 | | |
| Wexford * | | 68 | | |
| New Ross* | | 48 | | |
| Rosslare | | 30 | | |
| Total Bring Site Inspections | 805 | 862 | 862 | +7% |

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <i>Gorey</i> | | <i>209</i> | | |
| <i>Enniscorthy</i> | | <i>202</i> | | |
| <i>Wexford</i> | | <i>287</i> | | |
| <i>New Ross</i> | | <i>134</i> | | |
| <i>Rosslare</i> | | <i>30</i> | | |
| Total Ringbuoy Inspections | 1,338 | 1338 | 1338 | 0% |
| <i>Gorey</i> | <i>North</i> | <i>398</i> | | |
| <i>Enniscorthy *</i> | | | | |
| <i>Wexford*</i> | <i>South</i> | <i>940</i> | | |
| <i>New Ross*</i> | | | | |
| Other Works | <i>375</i> | 514 | 514 | +37% |
| <i>Gorey</i> | | <i>106</i> | | |
| <i>Enniscorthy</i> | | <i>167</i> | | |
| <i>Wexford</i> | | <i>118</i> | | |
| <i>New Ross</i> | | <i>77</i> | | |
| <i>Rosslare</i> | | <i>46</i> | | |

4. 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 other plastics, these should be clean and dry and loose. For a full list of plastics that may be recycled please see www.mywaste.ie.

5. Enforcement:

The Waste Enforcement Team carries out routine and non-routine inspections of Waste Facilities and problem sites in accordance with the Recommended Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections (RMCEI) as required by the EPA. The RMCEI Plan allocates 1,752 routine inspections by 25 Full Time Equivalent staff member. The inspection types cover the WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) Regulations; ELV (End of Life Vehicles) Regulations; Waste Management (Packaging) Regulations; Household and Commercial Food Waste Regulations; Batteries, Tyres, etc.

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

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

F. LITTER MANAGEMENT

| Total fixed penalty notices issued | TOTAL FOR 2021 | TOTAL FOR 2022 TO DATE |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| Fines Issued (All Fixed Penalty Notice Issued) | 199 | 46 |
| Fines Paid in Full● | 69 | 3 |
| Fines Cancelled/Proceedings Discontinued/Struck Out* | 71 | 7 |
| Successful Prosecutions** | 15 | 1 |
| Legal Proceedings In Progress | 61 | 48 |
| Amount Collected in Fines (directly/following proceedings) | €10,220 | €575.00 |

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

● Includes income from all Fixed Penalty Notices – under review breakdown for next report.

Most Court cases are successful, but it can take up to a year or more for a case to be heard in the District Court. Due to ease of COVID restrictions cases are starting to be listed in 2022 sooner than 2021.

Wexford County Council had one successful litter prosecution in November and one in December with both defendants receiving a €150 fine and Wexford County Council awarded legal costs of €250 per case. In January 2022 we have had one successful waste management case under section 18 of the Act with a €250 fine awarded and €550 in legal costs and one litter case whereby €250 fine was awarded with €250 in legal costs.

Litter Enforcement Activity 2009-2021

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

F.GENERAL

All environmental complaints are logged by the Customer Service Unit on the DASH CRM system. A 'Members' Portal' was also added in December 2020 to the DASH system and in 2021 the system recorded 139 queries from elected representatives.

The total figures for complaints received are as follows:

| | Jan – Dec 2017 | Jan – Dec 2018 | Jan to Dec 2019 | Jan to Dec 2020 | Jan to Dec 2021 | Jan 2022 |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|
| Incidents | 3600 | 4609 | 4749 | 4999 | 5136 | 431 |
| Closed | 3526 | 4563 | 3901 | 3909 | 3719 | 269 |
| Closure Rate | 98% | 99% | 82% | 78% | 72% | 62% |

Control of Dogs & Horses:

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

| Control of dogs | 2020 | 2021 (to 31-12-21) | 2022 |
|---------------------------|------|--------------------|------|
| Dogs collected | 532 | 429 | 33 |
| Dogs reclaimed | 127 | 133 | 10 |
| Dogs re-homed/transferred | 373 | 267 | 16 |
| Dogs put to sleep | 32 | 29 | 5 |
| Dog Fines | 5 | 18 | 0 |

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

To date in 2022 two horses have been in-pounded.

Environment Education and Awareness:

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

Green Schools: Applications for 1st flags on the theme Litter & Waste must be submitted to An Táisce by 1st March. All green school renewal applications and assessments must be completed and submitted to An Táisce by April 1st.

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

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

Circular Fashion Workshop:

Textile awareness including consumption and disposal will feature significantly in the 2022 national and regional work programme. The Regional Waste Management Office have funded Circular Fashion Ireland, to deliver 1 workshop per County to a second level school.

Trees for Wexford Campaign: The Trees for Wexford Campaign received 154 applications. Trees were distributed to groups on Friday 4th and Saturday 5th February from Holmestown Household recycling Centre. This year the scheme distributed 539 trees, 13,500 saplings. In total since 2014 71,957 trees / saplings have been distributed to voluntary groups.



National Tree Week: National Tree Week takes place from 20th March to 26th March 2022 and the theme is "More forests for a greener future".

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

National Spring Clean: An Táisce have opened registrations for National Spring Clean.

Community Engagement: Community talks are ongoing with virtual meetings and outdoor meetings taking place.

Sustainable Gardening Course: This 5 week online course will take place on Tuesday mornings from 1st February until 1st March. Due to unprecedented demand and the course filling up in less than 24 hours a second course is being run and is also full.

Tidy Towns: A series of tidy Towns online talks / presentations are being arranged for April and May. Themes will include Biodiversity, Sustainable waste/ Sustainable Development Goals/ Climate Action and litter management.

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

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



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



LIBRARIES, ARTS & ARCHIVES

March 2022

LIBRARY SERVICE

Response to Covid 19

In February the library was open to the public for browsing and borrowing, study, computers, printing and Wi-Fi, and both adult and children's events. From Monday 28th February the wearing of face masks was no longer mandatory on public transport, in taxis, shops, schools and other indoor public areas such as libraries. From Monday 28th also there was no longer a need to book a study space in advance of visiting the library.

Book Call Delivery Service

The Book Call Delivery Service provides books to vulnerable citizens in our community. This service gives an opportunity to request books to be delivered directly to home. The service has seen a decrease in requests as libraries are currently open to the public, although some members still request books in this way. Book requests for this service are taken individually by each local library and processed by Wexford libraries. There were 20 book call requests for the month of February.

Footfall

Over 16,646 persons visited Wexford Libraries in the month of February.

Issues of library materials

25,971 items were checked-out from Wexford Libraries in the month of February.

Study Spaces

Study spaces continued to be used daily in the libraries. In February, there were 174 users with a total of 405 bookings. There was a total of 652 hours of study space booked. From Saturday, 26th February 2022, study space capacity increased in Wexford Libraries and due to this there is no longer the requirement to book a study space at this library.

Literacy and Reader Development

The Art of Reading Online Book Club with new Laureate for Irish Fiction Colm Tóibín, Thursday 24th February.

In partnership with Libraries Ireland, the new Laureate for Irish Fiction, Colm Tóibín, will present The Art of Reading, a monthly book club for library book clubs across the country and offered as an online event for readers everywhere on the last Thursday of every month. Over the course of the year, the Laureate will discuss a selection of titles by Irish writers, highlighting outstanding Irish writing and celebrating the reader and book clubs. The Laureate will be joined by the featured writer in conversations about their books. The first online book club event featured Colm in conversation with Claire Keegan about her recent book *Small Things Like These*. It is available to view on the Arts Council social media.

Ireland Reads Campaign Public Libraries Initiative in partnership with Healthy Ireland

Ireland Reads was a campaign to get the whole country reading during the month of February, in the lead up to a National Day of Reading on Friday, February 25th. People all over Ireland were invited to get involved by pledging to 'squeeze in a read' on **Ireland Reads Day**.

To coincide with Ireland Reads Day on 25th February, Librarian Imelda Carroll interviewed bestselling and award-winning Irish author and Ambassador for Ireland Reads, Liz Nugent. This is part of a series of "Fully Booked" online literary events available through Wexford Libraries Facebook pages and YouTube channel.

Story Sack day took place in libraries at the end of February, parents and young children joined in this special Ireland Reads day story time.

Online children's Rhyme-times for children were made available for the entirety of Ireland Reads day from the Wexford Libraries Facebook page.

Win a Book Voucher

Wexford Libraries adult members were invited to enter a book token draw to celebrate Ireland Reads day. The winner was drawn from the library receipts collected from adults who returned or borrowed books during the week preceding Ireland Reads day.

Book of the Month Book Club Online met online on Wednesday 23rd February. This month they discussed *The Vanishing Half* novel by Brit Bennett.

Sensory Toys and Assistive Resources (STAR) Collection

The Special Educational Needs (SEN) Book Stock Collection support children with additional needs. It available to borrow from all five library branches. The SEN Books include stories for children with sensory issues, those who face challenges with sight, hearing, speech and language development, children who are non-verbal and books to assist with behavioural issues.

New: Sensory Reader Pens are a new addition to the STAR collection and introduced in February. C-Pens (Reader) were added to the STAR collection. The pen can read words along with full lines of text aloud with a natural speaking voice for independent reading. Suitable for people with dyslexia, reading difficulties or pronunciation, and people learning languages with vision difficulties. The devices have built-in dictionaries, offering users the option to access definitions of the words as they read.

Health and Well-being

The **Healthy Wexford** 'Not Around Us' initiative provides smoke and vape free spaces for young people. New signage was erected in the outdoor areas to the front of Libraries in February to inform the public of this initiative.

Business

Work Matters

The Libraries continued to promote Work Matters Business eResources online in the February e-mail newsletters, giving mention to business and employment eBooks and eAudiobooks on BorrowBox, and business training courses on Universal Class. Customers have also been advised that they can email Wexford Libraries in advance with their business queries for Mintel and Business.ie. Contact was made with a Local Enterprise group to promote the online research facilities available to them. Wexford Libraries contributed to the Local Enterprise Office National Enterprise Week Programme with an event by Mintel. On Friday 11 March, Analyst Brian O'Connor gave a Zoom presentation on "Demystifying Market Research". The talk introduced some of basic tenets of market research for new entrepreneurs and start-ups, through the lens of Mintel's own day-to-day research efforts.

History

Wexford Playwright Commission Award

Wexford County Council, in partnership with Wexford Arts Centre, is delighted to announce Eoghan Rua Finn as the recipient of the Wexford Playwright Commission Award themed around commemoration of the period 1916-23. This award provides a €10,000 bursary to the playwright to research and develop a new theatre work, addressing themes of commemoration of the period 1916 – 23. This commission forms part of Wexford County Council's Decade of Centenaries Programme (2012- 2023) and is funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media under their Community Strand. The aim of this new work is to respond, with sensitivity, to the historical context of the revolutionary period in County Wexford and to promote a deeper understanding of the significant historical events of one hundred years ago. The new work will encourage reflection today about the multiple identities, traditions and perspectives that are part of the overall Irish historical experience. Over the year Eoghan will further research and develop his script in relation to historical context of the period in County Wexford and will have full access to Wexford County Council Library and Archives with their extensive digital archives relating to this period.

Online Talks

The Transfer of Power in County Wexford in 1922 with Historian-in-Residence Barry Lacey 25th February at 10.00am. Historian-in-Residence Barry Lacey discussed County Wexford in the context of the months following the ratification of the Anglo-Irish treaty in January 1922, the transfer of power and the lead up to the Irish Civil War.

Local Studies

During the month of February there were 50 local studies enquiries and 20 genealogy enquiries. There were 17 sessions on the microfilm readers and 36 microfilms issued, along with 46 books and other hardcopy reference material issued.

ARCHIVES

Collections management

In addition to 32 research enquiries via email, telephone and post, a total of 5 researchers visited the Archive during February. Research topics included:

Research through the Edward Roe archive and a training log manual belonging to Richard Hanrahan for references to members of New Ross and Cushinstown companies of 1st Battalion, South Wexford Brigade, IRA who were active during the 1922-23 period; research through the burial registers of

Crosstown cemetery for family history purposes (1912-70); research in the Wexford Festival Opera archive for production photos, posters, publicity materials and press cuttings for the period 1968-79.

Acquisition

A small leather pocketbook was deposited in the Archive which recorded handwritten genealogical details of the Barringtons of Ballycogley (1740-1776) and which accompanied a detailed pedigree of the family researched by a descendant (1661-present).

Preservation

A recent acquisition of three auction posters were conserved during the month. Originally pasted onto a wooden board, the printed posters had sustained adhesive damage and paper tears – the conservation project involved their removal from the board and minor paper repair. The auctions, dated 1881, 1900 and 1912 detailed house properties in the Faythe, Clifford and Bride Street in Wexford town and in Clonard Great on the town's outskirts.

ARTS

Spring 2022 online training supports for Artists

Wexford County Council Arts Office are currently supporting and delivering *Friday Fix 2022* an online training initiative for artists. These informal sessions will take place on the last Friday of each month on Zoom and present an opportunity for Wexford artists and members of Artlinks to connect whilst also participating in sessions aimed at helping develop their career. Hosted by curator and mentor Eamonn Maxwell, the programme over the next few months will feature sessions on working in the public realm, promoting yourself online, writing about your work, residences, artists copyright, and studio visits.

Artlinks- Open call Artists' Bursaries

The closing date for applications was 28th February and applications are currently under review. Artlinks offers professional development support for emerging and professional artists in the Southeast Region with Wexford, Carlow, Kilkenny and Waterford art offices. Total fund for Wexford is €25,000 for artists across all artforms. The Artlinks award in Wexford has average grants of €1,000 - €3,000 max. Another element of Artlinks, an additional Collaborative Award for artists from two or more Artlinks counties worth €10,000 and will be announced in March 2022.

Small Arts Festival and Experimental Events Grant Scheme 2022

Closing date was Tuesday 22nd February 2022 applications are being collated and reviewed. This grant scheme aims to promote and support a diverse range of small arts festivals and experimental events throughout Wexford County. The focus is on festivals/events of high artistic quality that are innovative and have a strong emphasis on public engagement. The total award fund is €25,000 with an average of 12 festival/ events awarded per year with grants between €1,000 - €3,000 max.

Screen Wexford Full time Film/ TV Coordinator

Interviews for film coordinator took place on 10th February 2022 following a procurement process. This contract is co funded by Arts and Economic Development Departments.

Screen Wexford- The Peggy Walsh Award for Female Camera Talent

This mentorship programme is aimed at supporting female cinematographers and camera operators by arranging a key mentor from the Irish film and television industry to advise on professional career advancement through development of technical and creative skills over a period of six months. The

programme will run for three years and is open to Wexford based female camera talent or those who are originally from the county. The total value of the award is €4000. The successful applicant will be chosen by Wexford native Jessica Drum – camera op and Chief Executive of the Screen Guilds of Ireland.

The Irish Society of Cinematographers will be involved in recruiting the Cinematographer who will provide mentorship, with the mentor receiving a fee of €1000 to cover their time. The mentee will receive a bursary of €2000 to support the making of work during the mentorship. They will also receive €1,000 in support from 24-7 Dramakit rental company as well as a sponsored annual membership with Women in Film & Television Ireland who promote greater representation of women on screen and behind the camera. For further information on screen Wexford and opportunities go to [PEGGY WALSH MENTORSHIP AWARD FOR FEMALE CAMERA TALENT IN WEXFORD - Screen Wexford](#)

Local Live Performance Programming Scheme Phase 3 (LLPPS) (February-June 2022)
Wexford County Council Arts Department is overseeing the implementation of the LLPS scheme funded through the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media. The aim of this once-off scheme is to provide up to 100% of costs for events which had been cancelled, postponed or curtailed. As part of LLPS 2022 some of the funding would be applied, where appropriate, by the local authorities to assist community and voluntary pantomime productions which had to be curtailed or cancelled in December 2021 and/or January 2022 as a result of the additional public health restrictions. In July 2021 Wexford County Council held an open call for professional events companies to be part of a panel for delivery of services for the Local Live Performance Programme Scheme across the 5 municipal districts.

Youth Film Coordinator appointed

Wexford County Council appointed Therese Dalton to the role of Youth Film Coordinator which was advertised in January. Her role will be to facilitate and manage the County Wexford Youth Film programme. This programme is based in St. Michael's Theatre in New Ross and is a core arts office programme which offers film workshops in developing new film skills to young people around county Wexford aged 13-18.

North Wexford Traditional Signing Féile

North Wexford Traditional Singing Féile was a recipient of the Small Arts Festival and Experimental Events Grant Scheme 2021 this was postponed due to Covid19. However, the festival this year happened on 11th – 13th March with a series of traditional signing events, traditional song workshops and an online screening of the short Documentary Á n Scéal.

Platform 31

Following on from its successful pilot in 2020-21, the Association of local authority Arts Officers (ALAAO) is again collaborating with the Arts Council to present Platform 31. This is a nationwide scheme for artists in all art forms which includes an €8,000 bursary to the artists and invaluable developmental and mentoring supports for the awarded artist over the course of one year. The nationwide invitation went out to artists of any discipline and practice, based in Ireland, as well as multi-disciplinary practice. This scheme is envisioned as a platform for the participants to value their time, to showcase their work and their collaborations, sharing their learnings locally and nationally as a legacy of the project. Closing Date is 30th March.

Cultural Companions

The Arts Dept. & Community Dept. of Wexford County Council with the Age Friendly Co Coordinator encourages older people to attend arts and cultural events. The Cultural Companions are continuing to attend their 'Coffee and Chat' in Clayton Whites Hotel on the first Thursday of every month. The next 'Coffee and Chat' will take place 3rd March 2022 where the members will compile a calendar of events they wish to attend in the coming months.

Music Generation

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

Ongoing Primary School Programmes: 22 primary schools to date have reaffirmed 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 over the previous eighteen months, either through video, online or in person.

Yellow Bellows are back, live and weekly in the Presentation Arts Centre. This is a new Wexford County Singing Group for young people aged 12-18 years. The young people explore singing and performing dynamic songs in a range of styles including rock & pop. Currently there are 14 young people signed up. Musician educators Anita Mahon and Diarmuid Comerford are visiting schools in Enniscorthy, both primary and secondary, doing taster workshops with young people to encourage attendance.

A social media plan also highlights the ongoing experiences of the **CAMHS Ukulele Workshops**. Music Generation Wexford partnered with CAMHS to deliver an introductory series of four ukulele workshops conducted by musician educator, Gayle Murphy, with a group of young people from Nov – Dec 2021. Such was the positive feedback from these workshops from the young people, their parents and the support team in CAMHS it resulted in these workshops continuing for a further five weeks, leading into the CAMHS Songwriting Workshops that were held in the February mid-term break.

CREATIVE IRELAND

Calmast and the Seashell Girl Guides from Ballygarrett/Cahore participated in the “Fish or Foul?” project. Over the five-week project, the Girl Guides will explore printmaking, drawing and mono-printing by using materials found on the local beaches. Items collected will be used to create a set of collagraph prints and the final works will be exhibited and sold as a fundraiser for Seal Rescue Ireland.

The Traveller Wellbeing through Creativity pilot initiative is a call to relevant groups and organisations to deliver three impactful pilot initiatives. Grant funding up to €50,000 will be provided for each of the projects in 2022 under this initiative. To apply contact Creative Ireland programme via their online application.

Cruinniú na nÓg, will take place on Saturday, 11th June 2022. Wexford County Council has advertised an open call to creative practitioners, artists, and organisations to deliver an event/programme or project for the 2022 Cruinniú programme. Closing date for applications is Wednesday 16th of March 2022, 5pm.

FIRE SERVICE

Wexford Fire Service Report February 2022

Call statistics

| Incident Type | Calls February 2022 | Calls to date 2022 | Calls to this period 2021 |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| Chimney fire (WCC / Private) | 6 / 4 (10) | 30 | 40 |
| Domestic fire (WCC / Private) | 1 / 7 (8) | 12 | 10 |
| Road Traffic Accident | 13 | 22 | 8 |
| Industrial fire | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Commercial fire | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| Assembly fire | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Agricultural fire | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Motor Vehicles | 2 | 4 | 1 |
| Forest/bog/grass etc | 1 | 3 | 5 |
| Rubbish | 0 | 4 | 5 |
| Non-fire rescues | 8 | 10 | 12 |
| False alarms – good intent | 15 | 36 | 32 |
| Malicious false alarms | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Miscellaneous | 5 | 7 | 10 |
| Total | 64 | 132 | 130 |

Fire calls by brigade to date

| INCIDENT TYPE | WEXFORD | GOREY | ENNISCORTHY | NEW ROSS | BUNCLODY | TOTAL |
|-------------------------------|---------|-------|-------------|-------------|----------|-------|
| CHIMNEY FIRE | 9 | 6 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 30 |
| DOMESTIC FIRE | 5 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 12 |
| ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENT | 5 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 1 | 22 |
| INDUSTRIAL FIRE | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| COMMERCIAL FIRE | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| ASSEMBLY FIRE | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| AGRICULTURAL FIRE | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| MOTOR VEHICLES | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| FOREST/BOG/GRASS ETC | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| RUBBISH | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| NON-FIRE RESCUES | 5 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| FALSE ALARMS - GOOD INTENT | 16 | 5 | 7 | 7 | 1 | 36 |
| MALICIOUS FALSE ALARMS | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| MISCELLANEOUS | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 7 |
| TOTALS | 48 | 23 | 36 | 19 | 6 | 132 |

Fire Safety Certificate Applications

Number of Applications received in February 2022: 10
Number of Applications received to date: 18
Number of Applications to this period 2021: 17

Special Projects:

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

This project is practically complete. Final snag works including the water and sewer connections to the site will be completed by end of February.

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

The proposed boathouse and external toilet facility on-site has completed pre-planning and revisions to the proposal are being prepared prior to submission of a Part VIII planning application.

The activity centre building was lodged for Part 8 planning in March by WCC's Architects Department and the period for public comment will close on 20/04/2022.

1.2 Min Ryan Park

Sole Sports and Leisure has been appointed to construct the skate park and MUGA on a design and build basis. The MUGA is now complete and open to the public. Work on the Skate Park was to commence the end of March, however the contractor has identified a supply issue in relation to materials. Wexford County Council is following up the matter with the contractor as a priority. Public lighting at these installations will follow.

1.3 Enniscorthy Technology Park Phase 1

Phase 1 – the development of three serviced sites is substantially complete and the construction of the first building is well under way, and due for completion this year.

1.4 Gorey District Park

The external area of the park opened to the public on 12th August 2021 and the new playground and adult gym equipment is fully installed and in use. The final landscape planting has re-commenced this month, to be completed in 2 weeks. Works on the building are to re-commence in April.

1.5 South East Greenway

Contracts for the works on Lots 1, 2 and 3 have been awarded to Glás Civil Engineering and works are nearing completion on-site. Lots 1 and 2 are the urban sections at Rosbercon & Ferrybank and Lot 3 extends from Raheen to Glenmore. Works on Lots 1 & 3 are scheduled for substantially completed by the end of March 2022.

Landowner agreements on the accommodation works are progressing well and it is planned that Lot 5A

(Ferrybank to Curraghmore) will be tendered for works in May 2022. The detailed design of on Lot 4 (New Ross to Mount Elliott) will be finalised by the end of May and we would expect to issue tender documents for works in June

The current expected date for the full completion of the Greenway is Q1 2024.



1.6 Trinity Wharf

Due to significant inflation in the market since tenders were received, the original tender process for the works contract for the new access road to the site has been abandoned. A revised tender invitation issued before Christmas and tenders have been received. Works are now expected to commence in Q2 2022.

Procurement of consultants for design services for the site development and public infrastructure works is underway. The pre-qualification process is completed and the successful design firms have been issued with tender documents. Tender submissions are due by end of March.

1.7 New Ross Fire Station

The contract to construct the New Ross Fire Station has been awarded to Kevin Thorpe Ltd. Works commenced on site on May 6th following lifting of Level 5 restrictions and will take 9 months to complete. The construction is approximately 75% complete, the main building with second fix M&E well underway. The drill tower has been erected and the installation of the utility services are almost complete. Completion is expected in April 2022.



1.8 Wexford Arts Centre Extension

The main works contract has been awarded to McKelan Construction Ltd and works commenced on site on May 6th following lifting of Level 5 restrictions. The works are on-going and substantial completion is planned for August 2022.

1.9 High Hill, New Ross

The Contract has been awarded to MJS Civil Engineering and works are progressing on-site. Groundworks, drainage and ducting works are now substantially completed within the main section of the park. The installation of the staircases and masonry work is complete. Pedestrian road crossings and surfacing works have yet to commence. Some tree planting and bareroot planting is currently underway in the current planting season. Herbaceous planting is scheduled to coincide with paving works and Autumn bulb planting will continue after the paving works. Works are expected to be substantially completed by July 2022.



1.10 Monck Street Enhancement Scheme

The contract has been awarded for the advance supply of natural stone paving materials. Delivery commenced in January 2022 and progressing. Tenders for the main works contract have been assessed and a contract for works has been awarded to Tony Kirwan Civil Engineering Ltd. Street works are scheduled to commence on site the first week of April and will take 4 months to complete.

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

This project consists of removal of the oil tank structures on the Quay and the development of public realm works on the site. The Advance Works Contract (Removal of Tanks) was completed in July 2021. A Part 8 development consent application for the development of the public realm space on the site has been completed and was advertised on 21st December 2021. The date for public submission is now closed and Planning will prepare a report for Council.

1.12 Templeshannon Regeneration, Enniscorthy:

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

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

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

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

1.13 John Street Building Regeneration Project

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

The CPO process to acquire outstanding property required for the project has been approved. The Notice to Treat and to Enter, under the CPO, have been served and the Part 8 development consent process will commence by early Summer.

1.14 Esmonde Street

RPS is progressing with the detailed design. Priority Geotech Ltd undertook site investigation works in September. Irish Water have now approved proceeding with the design of the sewer upgrade and CCTV and survey works has been completed. The detailed design is due to be completed by June 2022 and the award of a works contract by Q4 2022.

WCC will submit an application for category 1 funding under the current call for RRDF.

1.15 Mechanics Institute

Consulting Engineers were appointed in March 2020 to undertake design, tendering and construction management services for essential maintenance works at the Mechanic's Institute. Tenders will be re-advertised in Q1 2022 and it is expected that a works contract be awarded in Q2 2022. There is a timeframe of 6 months for completion of construction works.

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

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

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

The process of negotiation for tourism design services with the preferred tenderer from the 2017 Hook Heritage Ltd competition has closed without an award of contract following the withdrawal of the preferred tenderer in December. WCC will advertise for tourism coordinator services this month for the project. The tourism coordinator will assist with the procurement of interpretative design service and we would expect an appointment by mid-2022. The environmental consultant has been appointed and will commence initial studies and investigative works in the coming month.

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

1.17 Enniscorthy Tourism Project:

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

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

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

1.18 Courtown Coastal Protection & Beach Nourishment Scheme

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

Tender for the intrusive site investigation works and the environmental and marine surveys required to develop the preliminary design for the project have been received and are currently being assessed. The investigative works and surveys are commencing in early Q2 2022.

1.19 Rosslare Europort to Waterford City Greenway

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

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

1.20 Wexford Town to Rosslare Greenway

Fehily Timoney and Company has been appointed to provide consultancy services for a feasibility study, route selection, preliminary design and environmental assessments for the development of this project. Constraints have been identified and ecological surveys are on-going.

The scoping and route options process has commenced and it is planned to make a presentation to the joint Wexford and Rosslare MDCs in March on this project.

1.21 Oyster Lane Car Park, Wexford

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

Tenders have been received for detailed design services and are currently being assessed. It is planned to appoint a design team in April 2022.

Detailed design is programmed to be completed in July with an award of the works contract in October 2022.

1.22 Crescent Quay – Dredging

An award of contract was made to RPS Consulting Engineers in June 2021 for design services for engineering assessment, environmental and foreshore consent applications in respect of this project. RPS are currently specifying and procuring investigative works to inform the dredging strategy.

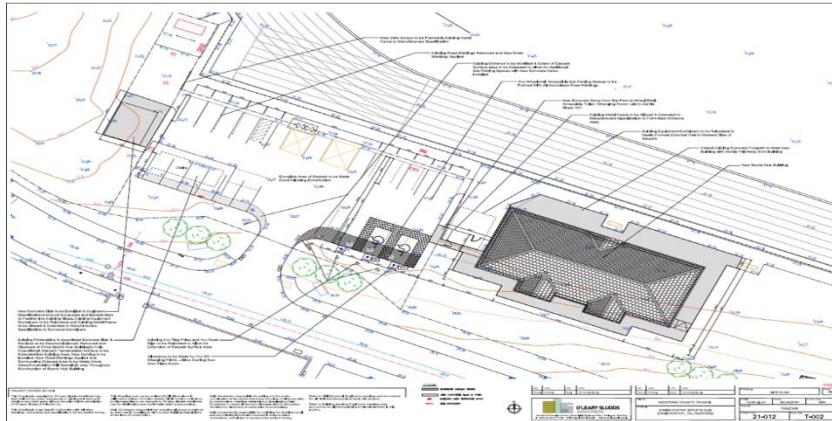
1.23 Old Dublin Road Business Park, Enniscorthy

The final masterplan has now been completed and presented at the Enniscorthy MDC's October 2021 meeting. A contract for the initial phase 1 works was advertised in January 2022, these works include new footpath, pedestrian crossings, new entry signage and landscaping. The tender evaluation process is underway, it is expected Phase 1 works will commencing in Q2 2022.

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

1.24 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. Tender documents are now complete and have been issued to the Department for Tourism, Culture, Art, the Gaeltacht, Sports and Media for approval. Tender advertisement will follow DTCAG approval and it is expected that a works contract will be awarded in Q2 2022.



1.25 Curracloe Water Sports Activity Facility

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

Tenders for design services was advertised in Jan 2022, the tender evaluation process is underway, it is expected a consultant will be appointed for design services in April 2022.

2. Flood Defence Schemes

2.1 Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme:

Statutory Process - The scheme confirmation documents required for ministerial consent were submitted to the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER) in March 2020. In April 2021, WCC issued supplementary environmental information to the OPW and DPER to support the approval process. The Minister for the Department of Public Expenditure & Reform (MDPER) issued his decision to refuse the scheme on 4th March 2022. Following the decision, the OPW confirmed their commitment to delivering an effective scheme for Enniscorthy to provide the community with much-needed protection from extreme flood events, both now and into the future.

Next Steps - WCC, OPW & lead consultant Mott McDonald (MMD) met on the 11th March to discuss the ministers decision and agree the next steps. The ecology baseline data is to be updated. The

scheme alternatives are to be assessed, shortlisted and consulted on publicly, and the EIAR & NIS updated for the preferred option. MMD are to issue a programme of work.

A special meeting of the EMD was held on the 15th March to update councillors on the ministers decision and the next steps for the scheme.”

2.2 Wexford Flood Relief Scheme:

The project brief for design services for Wexford Flood Relief Project was advertised on Eenders in early 2020. Seven tender submissions were received by the extended closing date of the 9th July 2020. Following a detailed tender assessment and evaluation process the decision not to award a contract arising from this tender competition has been advised to all tenderers. A further procurement process will be advertised in Q1 2022.

REPORT ON CORPORATE ACTIVITIES

1. FOI OFFICE REQUESTS

| Type | |
|------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Freedom of Information | 14 |
| Customer Complaint | 4 |
| Ombudsman Complaint | 0 |
| Access to Information on the Environment | 0 |
| Data Access Request | 1 |
| Total | 19 |

CCTV Request System

A new system has been developed for the submission of CCTV footage requests from AGS to the County Secretary.

The system provides a consistent and compliant process for dealing with such requests under GDPR and Data Protection Legislation.

The system was piloted in the Wexford District and has now been rolled out to all the districts with the assistance and cooperation of the Gardaí.

2. CRM / CUSTOMER SERVICE UNIT REPORT ON ACTIVITIES 01/02/2022 – 28/02/2022

| Area | February |
|-------------------------|----------|
| Agricultural Burns | 24 |
| Environment Complaints | 287* |
| Change of Circumstances | 43 |
| Housing Validation | 143 |
| Quick Calls | 1791** |

| | | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------|------|--|
| Road Faults Log | | 42 | |
| Emails | | 2822 | |
| | a. <i>Incoming External Emails</i> | 661 | |
| | b. <i>Incoming Internal Emails</i> | 583 | |
| | c. <i>Emails forwarded externally</i> | 1195 | |
| | d. <i>Emails Replied to internally</i> | 383 | |
| Total | | | |

* 89 (31%) of these calls relate to Community Clean Ups

** 780 (44%) of these calls are in respect of various Housing Services, 282 (36 %) of which are for Housing Maintenance.

3. PROCUREMENT SECTION ACTIVITY

Tenders

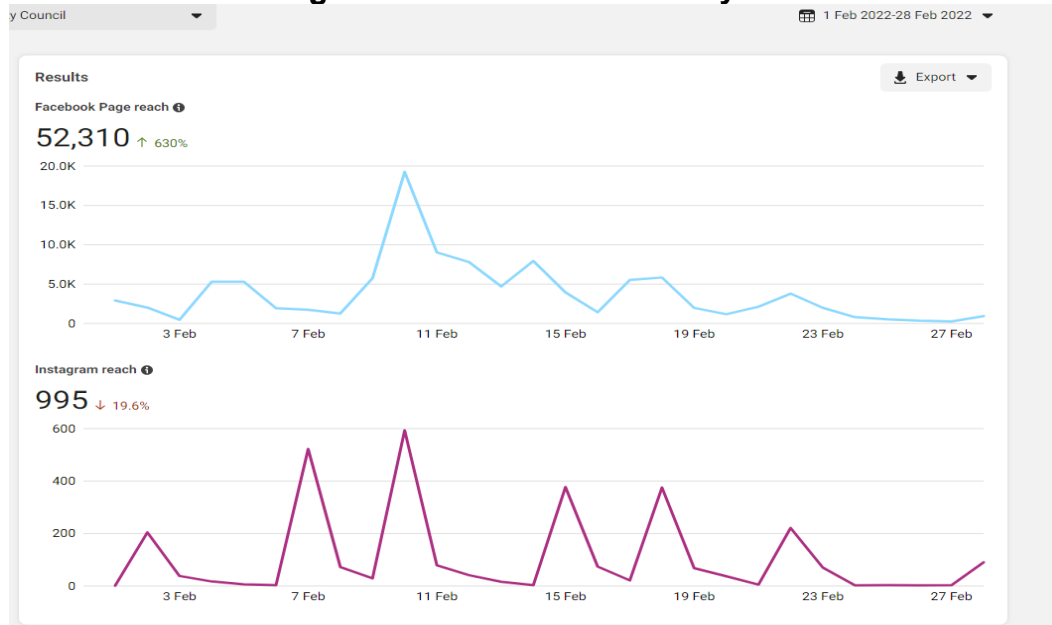
| | |
|------------------------|----|
| No uploaded | 2 |
| No of tenders received | 60 |

4. Social Media Stats February 2022

Twitter stats full month of February 2022



Facebook and Instagram Reach 01- 28 February 2022



5. Members Portal Queries February 2022

| Representation Type by Section | 2022 | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|-------------|
| | Feb | | | | | | |
| Type | No Pers. Data | Pers. Data | No Pers. | Pers. Data | Sens. Data | Total | % |
| Roads - Wexford MD | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 9% |
| Environment | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 4% |
| Housing | 15 | 14 | 15 | 14 | 0 | 29 | 64% |
| Roads - Enniscorthy MD | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 7% |
| Roads - Gorey - Kilmuckridge MD | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 7% |
| Roads - Wexford MD | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 7% |
| Housing | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2% |
| Total | 27 | 18 | 27 | 18 | 0 | 45 | 100% |

Finance:

Annual Financial Statement 2021

Work is nearing completion on the preparation of the 2021 Annual Financial Statement/Final Accounts. A copy of the Final Accounts together with a summary report on the contents will be included on the agenda for consideration of members at the April meeting. The Q4 finance Report to 31st December 2021 has been circulated and the contents of the report represent the preliminary figures for 2021 before the end of year final adjustments.

The Local Government Audit Service will now commence initial preparatory work for the 2021 Audit of Accounts.

Capital Programme 2022 – 2024

The Three Year Capital Programme is currently being prepared and will be included on the agenda for consideration of members at the April meeting.

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee met on 16th March commencing their work programme for 2022. The next meeting is scheduled for June 2022.

Cash Flow/Overdraft

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

**Tom Enright,
Chief Executive.**