



## **Chief Executive's Report**

**County Council Meeting 08.05.23**

# **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

## **Town and Villages Renewal Scheme**

The Remote Working Hub campaign is in the final stages of development and is due to launch at the end of May. The key focus is to promote Wexford as a destination for remote working and the remote working hubs as a cost efficient, productive and life changing option. We are using testimonials from clients in these remote hubs and are focusing on video content, online, billboards, radio, 3<sup>rd</sup> party digital advertising, bus exterior and print.

## **Building Acquisitions Measure 2023**

This measure to acquire derelict or vacant buildings, with the intention of using these projects for town regeneration purposes in line with the aims of Town and Village Renewal Scheme (TVRS), is available again this year. Buildings purchased under this Measure must be for use as multi-purpose community spaces. A total of €500k is available to each LA to purchase up to 3 properties where the drawdown of funds can be completed in 2023. The two selected properties for submission are;

The Old Post Office, Ballyhogue – supporting community development initiatives  
Old Credit Union Building, Gorey – to be used as family resource centre providing support to disadvantaged youth, outreach services to Ukrainian population, community support services.

## **Savannah Delegation May 2023**

On May 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> Wexford will host a 15 strong high-level delegation from Savannah, including:

Mayor Van Johnson – Mayor of Savannah  
Tripp Tollison - Head of Savannah Economic Development Agency (SEDA)  
Kay Ford – Chairperson of World Trade Centre, Savannah  
John Petrino – Manager of Savannah Port  
Joe Marinelli – President Visit Savannah  
Dr Kyle Marrero – President of Georgia Southern University  
Mike Sanders – Chair of GSU Foundation Unit

An itinerary is currently being prepared incorporating a mixture of economic, tourism and civic engagements, to build on Co Wexford's existing relationships with Savannah and to showcase opportunities for further development.

## **Tourism**

### **Rosslare Europort Billboard**

As part an international tourism campaign to encourage visitors from the UK and Mainland Europe to include County Wexford as part of their itinerary, Visit Wexford in conjunction with Irish Rail and Wexford County Council have secured a tourism advertisement on the large billboard at the roundabout at Rosslare Europort. Wexford's food, outdoor adventure, iconic attractions and trails feature on the billboard with a clear call to action, directing visitors to the Visit Website.



### **Rebellion 225**

To commemorate the 225-year anniversary of the 1798 rebellion total funding in the sum of €215,000 has been awarded to Wexford County Council. €75,000 has been allocated by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media towards hosting a number of commemorative events across the county, culminating with a 1798 summer school in Enniscorthy.



In addition, capital funding of €140,000 has been allocated by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage with €100,000 going to the National 1798 Rebellion Centre and €40,000 allocated to the Fr. Murphy Centre, Boolavogue.



### **Irish Hotel Occupancy Report**

County Wexford is once again leading the way in hotel occupancy for the month of March at 56% followed by Kilkenny at 55% and Dublin at 52%.

### **South East Greenway**

The section of the South East Greenway from Rosbercon to Glenmore is due to open in June. We are working closely 10 projects in the creating and development of viable businesses for the South East Greenway. A significant number of businesses have been directed to the LEO to participate in business advice clinics to develop their idea and concept.

### **Local Enterprise Office**

Enterprise Ireland Summit was held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April in the RDS Dublin. The Summit brought together their global team, key stakeholders including Local Enterprise Offices and Entrepreneurs. The Summit hosted by Richard Curran and included national and international speakers and distinguished guest and addressed issues such as economic outlook and sustainability. There was a particular focus on celebrating Enterprise Ireland's 25 years in business and introduced their new branding. CEO, Leo Clancy gave a detailed overview of the organisation and their supports, and they key achievements in 2022. They currently have 4,000 clients, 850 staff and 50 offices. They have experienced growth cross all regions with exports to the Euro Zone expanding by 28% to almost €8 billion and the UK up 13% to €9.2 billion. Exports to North America again had increased by 13% to €5.5 billion. It was noted that exports in the food and sustainability sector increased by 23%, technology and services by 18% and industrial and life sciences by 14%. Leo Clancy highlighted the important role play by Local Enterprise Offices.

### **Student Enterprise Awards:**

The finals of the Student Enterprise Awards takes place in Croke Park on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May and the following will represent our county;

Alexander Miller (Wasteknot) from Coláise Éamonn Rís in Wexford Town  
Junior Category

Alison and Amy Duffin (Positive Pots) from Ramsgrange Community School  
Intermediate Category

John Kavanagh, Brian Murphy and Fionn Nolan (Organised) from St. Mary's CBS, Enniscorthy  
Senior Category

# PLANNING

## Planning Applications

Numbers are those received from the 25<sup>th</sup> of March 2023 until the 21<sup>st</sup> of April 2023.

No. of valid applications	114
No. of invalid applications	12
Extension of Duration	2
Exempted Development Declaration	8

Numbers are those received from the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2023 until 21<sup>st</sup> of April 2023.

No. of valid applications	394
No. of invalid applications	32
Extension of Duration	10
Exempted Development Declaration	21

## Pre-Planning Applications

Numbers are as follows up until the 21<sup>st</sup> of April 2023.

No. of pre-planning applications received from 01/01/2023	85
No. of pre-planning meetings closed from 01/01/2023	134
No. of open pre-planning applications as at 21/04/2023	73
Average days to meeting (all meetings)	146 days

## Building Control (25<sup>th</sup> March 2023 – 21<sup>st</sup> April 2023)

- Validated Commencement Notices: **36**
- Number of Building Control Inspections: **13**
- Validated Cert. of Compliance on Completion: **12**
- Number of Taking in Charge reports sent to the Districts **0**

## Planning Enforcement

The number of planning enforcement cases as of 21<sup>st</sup> of April 2023 are as follows:

- Live Cases **362**
- Cases Opened from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 **75**
- Cases Closed from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 **47**

## Forward Planning

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

A series of information meetings has commenced with the Members of the Borough District of Wexford to discuss the preparation of the new Local Area Plan for Wexford Town. The first two sessions focused on the process, function and required content of the plan. The next meeting will be held on the 15 May 2023. At this meeting the Forward Planning Team will discuss and seek the Members input on matters relating to the pre-draft consultation period including the proposed Issues/Consultation Paper and the Consultation Strategy. The team will also outline progress and seek the Members input on the Local Transport Plan and Strategic Environmental

Assessment Scoping Report (required under the SEA Directive). Following the formalisation of the Consultation Strategy, Consultation Paper and the SEA Scoping Report, the 'pre-draft' consultation period will commence.

Consultants have been appointed to carry out the Strategic Environmental Assessment, Appropriate Assessment and Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. Consultants have also been appointed to prepare the Local Transport Plan and initiation meetings have been held with the consultants and the National Transport Authority. The team has commenced work on the procurement of consultants to prepare a strategy for Urban Design and Masterplanning and a strategy for Nature Based Solutions for surface water management.

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

### **Enniscorthy Town Local Area Plan**

Background work has commenced on the Enniscorthy Town Local Area Plan. Quotations were sought for the Appropriate Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment, but no submissions were received. A new procurement strategy is now being pursued. The Draft Planning Bill 2022 has been published and this will change the format of the plan. The Planning section are reviewing the revised requirements of the Bill and will advise further as soon as possible.

### **County Development Plan Monitoring**

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

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

- 1) monitor the effects of implementing the plan under the SEA Directive.
- 2) monitor the implementation of the Core Strategy as required in the Development Plan Guidelines for Planning Authorities; and
- 3) ensure that the objectives of the plan are met as required under the Planning and Development Act 2000. The Chief Executive must also submit a report to the Members on the achievement of the objectives of the plan two years after the plan is made.

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

## **Planning CSO Returns 2023**

Permissions granted for new construction only.

<b>Month</b>	<b>Housing Developments (Total No. of units)</b>	<b>Apartments incl. Self-contained Dwelling Units (Total No. of units)</b>	<b>One-off Houses</b>
<b>January</b>	50	3	26
<b>February</b>	15	1	17
<b>March</b>	154	28	30
<b>April</b>			
<b>May</b>			
<b>June</b>			
<b>July</b>			
<b>August</b>			
<b>September</b>			
<b>October</b>			
<b>November</b>			
<b>December</b>			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>73</b>

\* Figures to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

\* March 2023 figures to be confirmed by CSO

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

## **Built, Cultural & Natural Heritage**

### **Community Monument Fund**

Wexford County Council has received capital funding for conservation works at Mountgarrett Castle and Tellarought Castle under the CMF scheme operated by the National Monuments Service. Funding for conservation works at Barrystown Mine was also received under this scheme.



## County Heritage Plan Scheme funding

Wexford County Council has received funding from the Heritage Council for the following projects under the County Heritage Plan scheme: A phase 1 audit of the historic church and graveyard sites of Co. Wexford, a conservation management plan for St. Nicholas' of Clonmines, and facilitation for public consultation of the County Heritage Plan.

## Historic Towns Initiative funding

Wexford County Council has received funding from the Heritage Council and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for the undertaking of a heritage-led regeneration plan for Enniscorthy.

## Built Heritage Investment Scheme funding.

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

## Planning Enforcement – Short-Term Letting

The cumulative number of short-term letting planning enforcement cases as of 21<sup>st</sup> of April 2023 are as follows: -

- Live Cases    **20 (2020, 2021, 2022 & 2023)**

## Derelict Sites, Dangerous Structures and Vacant Sites

Report from 25<sup>th</sup> March 2023 to 21<sup>st</sup> April 2023 as follows:

- 21 property inspections/visits conducted.

## Disability Access Certificates (DACs):

The number of valid DAC applications, for the period from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 up to and including 21<sup>st</sup> of April 2023, totals **30**.

<b>Applications Districts</b>	<b>Total for Districts</b>	<b>Await Assessment</b>	<b>Further Info.</b>	<b>Granted</b>	<b>Refused</b>
Enniscorthy	5	0	3	2	0
Gorey	11	0	2	9	0
New Ross	4	0	1	3	0
Wexford	7	0	4	3	0
Rosslare	3	0	2	1	0
<b>2023 Totals</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</b>

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

<b>Referrals</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>LAC /PLAC &amp; General Planning Applications</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Major Pre-Planning (from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023)</b>	<b>5</b>



# TOWN REGENERATION

## **Town Centre First.**

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

There are over 500 Towns in Ireland with over 400 people and they all face similar challenges including building vacancy/dereliction-lack of vibrancy, how to increase employment in the Town centre, out of Town/Online shopping, poor pedestrian/cyclist access, less desire to live in the Town Centre, lack of parking, access to green spaces.

Town centre first was created to help address these challenges with the establishment of Town Centre first Teams and the creation of a Town Centre First plan (TCFP) which recognises that every Town is unique. It lays the foundation for each Town to develop at a local level, their own plan-led path forward. This will be expressed through a tailored TCF plan which is underpinned by a clear diagnosis of local strengths and challenges.

A Town Regeneration Officer (TRO) was appointed in Wexford in mid Jan 2023 initially to concentrate on Town Centre First in Enniscorthy and New Ross Towns. The role of the TRO is to establish and assist Town Centre First Teams in driving TCF objectives, supported by multi-disciplinary teams from within the LA, manage delivery and be the link between WCC and the Town Team, support the Town Team in developing a Town Centre First Plan, form part of a national network to support knowledge development and share best practice.

The Enniscorthy Town Team has been established and has met twice to date. A TCFP is in place in Enniscorthy and we're currently going through this with the Town Team and developing an understanding of Town Centre First along with brainstorming on suggested improvements for the Town centre and exploring funding streams to support these improvements. Developing a Digital Town blueprint for the Town and hosting a one stop shop facility and advice workshops for business and residential property owners utilising expertise within the Council to provide advice are also on the Agenda for this Town Team.

A Town Team has also been established in New Ross and has met on 4 occasions to date. This Team will be critical in the Town Centre first Plan process for New Ross. Consultants Cunnane Stratton Reynolds Ltd, Dublin have been appointed as the urban design led team to prepare a Town Centre First Plan for New Ross. This process will involve extensive consultation with all relevant stakeholders and Town hall type meetings similar to the Enniscorthy process in delivering a quality Town Centre first Plan for New Ross.

# WATER SERVICES



**1. Uisce Éireann Asset  
Delivery**

**2. Minor Capital**

**3. Rural Water  
Programme**

**4. Water Conservation**



## 1. Uisce Éireann – Asset Delivery



### Capital Schemes

<b>Enniscorthy Network Upgrade</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ A new gravity main for Mary Street</li><li>➤ Ward &amp; Burke are the selected contractors.</li><li>➤ Estimated costs: Under negotiation c.€ 0.98M ex VAT</li><li>➤ Start Date Provisionally end June / early July</li><li>➤ Price is under review from an internal Uisce Éireann budgetary approval process, a decision is expected at the beginning of June.</li></ul>
<b>Enniscorthy Intake and Vinegar Hill Upgrade Project</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Intake- land requirement and wayleave agreement, IW in consultation with owner, offer made.</li><li>➤ 2 contractors submitted a tender sum.</li><li>➤ Tender review period completed,</li><li>➤ Selected contractors price submitted and is under review internally by Uisce Éireann</li><li>➤ Looking to commence works end June 2023</li><li>➤ Construction period Est 21months (Aug23-May25)</li></ul>
<b>Wexford Drainage Area Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Complete drainage model of the Wexford Town foul drainage system.</li><li>➤ A full detailed hydraulic model identifying all pipelines and infrastructure and deficiencies in the network.</li><li>➤ Consultants Nicholas O'Dwyer appointed by IW.</li><li>➤ Drainage infrastructure survey works complete in Wexford Town and Castlebridge.</li><li>➤ Model verification complete, stage 3 to start Q2 2023</li></ul>
<b>Gorey/Courtown Drainage Area Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Complete drainage model of the Gorey/Courtown foul drainage system</li><li>➤ Tender evaluation January 2022, with start onsite Q2 2022</li><li>➤ Consultants JB Barry appointed by IW.</li><li>➤ Stage 1 complete, survey works to start Q2 2023</li></ul>

<b>Newtown WTP Upgrade</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Upgrade to existing Treatment plant including improved raw water treatment, instrumentation and run to waste facility.</li> <li>➤ Work started March 2023, 18-month contract programme</li> <li>➤ Budget cost of 12million</li> </ul>
<b>Fethard-on-Sea Sewerage Scheme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Preliminary Design for the project is now complete for issue to contractor for design and build.</li> <li>➤ Uisce Éireann has advised that due to budget constraints, this project has been re-prioritised and will not go to construction in the near future. Uisce Éireann has advised that it will be 2023 at the earliest before this scheme is re considered for funding.</li> </ul>
<b>Creagh WTP Upgrade</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Upgrade of existing treatment plant including Intake improvements at Pallas and Kilmichael, DAFF plant refurbishment and installation of UV treatment</li> <li>➤ Work started March 2023, 12-month contract programme</li> <li>➤ Budget of 2million</li> </ul>
<b>Gorey Regional Water Supply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>New Water Treatment plant and storage site at Ballyminaun</b> Plant In operational phase with Glan Agua</li> </ul>
<b>Untreated Agglomeration Study (UTAS)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Arthurstown, Ballyhack and Duncannon</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This project is complete, and it is at final account stage with the contractor Sisk.</li> <li>○ Sisk will operate this plant until November 2023</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ Plant was officially opened by the Minister on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023</li> <li>➤ <b>Kilmore Quay</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ All Major Construction Works at plant are completed.</li> <li>➤ M&amp;E work ongoing</li> <li>➤ Pipe network and commissioning of</li> <li>➤ 2months approx. until commissioning of plant.</li> <li>➤ Forecast completion 22/8/23 (2 months over)</li> <li>➤ Emergency works on outfall, currently being priced.</li> <li>➤ Staff Visit completed.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Direct Labour Pipe Laying Crew</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Mains Rehabilitation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Works has commenced on the new 1km of mains at Curracloe.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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

## 2. Minor Capital



### IW Minor Water Schemes


- **Water Plant Generators**
  - Additional generators have now been installed at Fardystown wellfield borehole sites.
  - Design of generator for Castlemoyle WTP, New Ross is underway.
- **Treated Water storage programme.**
  - 3 sites in Wexford – Kilmallock bridge, Camolin and Kiltealy.
  - Kilmallock Bridge Reservoir planning granted; Tender award issued, start date TBC

### IW Minor Wastewater Schemes

- **Pump Upgrades**
  - Smart pumps have now been installed at Campile WWPS.
  - An order has been issued for new pumps and controls at Rosehill Heights WWPS in Rosslare Strand to improve resilience.
- **SCADA Upgrades**
  - SCADA upgrades at 2 No. WWTPs (Kilmuckridge and Bridgetown) are underway on site.
- **WWTP Minor Improvement Works**
  - Upgrade works to improve resilience of the inlet PS at Ballymurn WWTP are now well progressed on site with new pumps installed.
  - Minor civil works to improve site access are underway at Rosslare Strand WWTP
  - Replacement of aeration system diffusers at Rosslare Strand WWTP is currently being priced and designed.
- **Invest to Save**
  - Funding has been granted for a new sludge press at Rosslare Strand WWTP, and installation and commissioning is now 90% complete on site and expected to be in operation prior to the summer season.

<b>IW Capital Maintenance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The budget for 2023 is currently set at €2.3m, with spend year to date at the end of February of €686,797.</li> </ul>
<b>Non IW Small Capital Schemes</b>	<p><b>Ballinamorrhagh, Curracloe</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Rehabilitation works are currently being priced for the secondary treatment plant.</li> </ul>
<b>DPI Resolution Scheme for Water Services Infrastructure</b>	<p>Funding was granted by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government for the resolution of Developer Provided Infrastructure (DPI) Issues at 4 number estates in Wexford. Works to progress at these sites to remove the DPI and connect to the public network.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Kyle Close, Oulart-</b> Water connection is complete with sewerage to follow in 2023.</li> <li>➤ <b>Mountain View, Ballindaggin-</b> COF received from IW. Survey complete. Application to Irish Water for connection underway.</li> <li>➤ <b>Gleann na gCaor, Monagear-</b> Connection enquiry made. Design in progress</li> <li>➤ <b>Cois Cuan, Arthurstown-</b> Design in progress</li> <li>➤ <b>Coolballow estate-</b> Connection granted for decommissioning of DPI at Coolballow estate to connect to Wexford SS</li> </ul> <p>Additional funding applications made for Farrin Carraig and Beach View estates in Duncannon.</p>



<b>3. Rural Water</b>	
<b>Measure 2 - Public Health Compliance</b>	<p>➤ <b>Kilanerin GWS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Hydrogeologist Final Report has been received and reviewed into the causes of high nitrate level within the extracted raw water from the GWS borehole.</li> <li>○ Group Water Scheme discussing option of installing a nitrate monitor to give us access to reliable data for future solution.</li> <li>○ Awaiting confirmation from the Dept. to reallocate funding to nitrate monitoring.</li> </ul>
<b>Measure 3 – Enhancement of Existing Schemes including Water Conservation</b>	<p>➤ <b>Blackstairs GWS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Storage Tank</b> - Hydraulic model assessment has been undertaken by the Consultants.</li> <li>○ A report has been provided and assessed.</li> <li>○ Initial assessment is that a new storage tank is not the best solution.</li> <li>○ GWS have reviewed and discussed at committee and have confirmed they are agreeable to recommended option.</li> <li>○ <b>Reservoir Bypass</b> -WCC have been informed of potential additional costs required to carry out works.</li> <li>○ A report has been compiled and submitted to the Dept.; the Dept. requested further information.</li> <li>○ Additional reports were completed and submitted to the Dept. in December.</li> <li>○ The Dept. have approved request for increased funding.</li> </ul>
<b>Measure 5 – Transition of Existing Group Water Schemes and Group Sewerage Schemes</b>	<p>➤ <b>Bing GSS – Community Wastewater Connection (CWwC)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Departmental agreement to progress the scheme to tender stage. Works currently in development are land acquisition/wayleave maps. Permission from landowners to enter lands for SI investigations have been returned.</li> <li>○ Returned tender price from contractors for main contract works shall be subject to final Departmental assessment and approval.</li> <li>○ Landowners have agreed to revised location of pumping station sites.</li> <li>○ Update given to Dept. on progress to date</li> <li>○ SI e-tender completed, 3 submissions received and being reviewed.</li> <li>○ Dept. have requested update on estimate of cost before going to full tender.</li> </ul>

<b>Measure 6 – Community Connection Networks (Water)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>MARWP 2022-2024</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Exploratory works have commenced for suitable projects for submission in the next round of the programme.</li> <li>○ Expecting update from the Dept. in May</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Measure 8 – Individual wells (private or household wells)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Individual Well Grants</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A total of 12 new well grant applications were registered to date in April 2023.</li> <li>○ 10 Well Grants have been paid in this period, totalling €24,959.</li> <li>○ 28 inspections carried out in April.</li> <li>○ Workflow prototype has been developed to final stage, works to be completed in May.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Measure A8 –  Waste Water Collection &amp; Treatment Needs for Villages &amp; Settlements without access to Public Wastewater Service</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>New Advance Phase of MARWP 2022-2024</b></li> <li>○ Submissions requested from all local authorities.</li> <li>○ Deadline 15<sup>th</sup> September 2022</li> <li>○ Matrix was constructed for Priority funding.</li> <li>○ Limited to two applications</li> <li>○ Feasibility studies submitted to the Department for Ramsgrange and Glynn for review by expert panel.</li> <li>○ Further information regarding the option for Glynn was requested from the Dept. which has been submitted.</li> <li>○ Awaiting update from the Dept.</li> </ul>
<b>Lead Remediation Grant</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 4 applications received to date on revised grant, 1 paid, 2 approved, 1 awaiting further documents.</li> </ul>

## 4. Water Conservation



<b>Water Conservation</b>	<p>➤ <b>Consumption</b> Overall consumption is still trending high following the cold weather spell in early December.</p>
<b>Leak Detection &amp; Repair</b>	<p>➤ <b>Planned Operational Leak Detection (PLD)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Planned leak detection was focused mainly on Wexford town, New Ross, and Gorey town areas during April.</li> </ul>
<b>Water Network Programme</b>	<p>➤ <b>Rehab</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Wexford – Ballysilla to Lacken (Airfield Road project) – Airfield road connected in April 2023, final connections to 7nr properties and a 2" to be completed in early May.</li> <li>○ Wexford – Ballinesker main install has commenced, completion date May 19th.</li> <li>○ Wexford – Barnablake project has commenced, completion in June.</li> <li>○ Gorey – Cahore main rehabilitation project completed in April.</li> </ul> <p>➤ <b>Find and Fix</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ LA Find crews were concentrated on Wexford town New Ross, Bree and Blackwater supplies in April.</li> <li>○ RC Acoustic logger crew are still in Enniscorthy. Loggers are being redeployed using a lift and shift model and alarms followed by investigations. Another 500nr loggers to be received in May and will be deployed in Rosslare.</li> <li>○ RC Find crews x 2 are investigating leaks in Camolin and Bunclody.</li> <li>○ F&amp;F repairs by the LA in New Ross and Wexford town.</li> <li>○ F&amp;F repairs by the RC in Gorey and Enniscorthy in April.</li> </ul> <p>➤ <b>BYS Services</b> <b>Enniscorthy BYS works –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ross Road – Main install complete 9nr properties outstanding to connect.</li> <li>○ RC design of Parnell road BYS commenced in April.</li> </ul> <p><b>Wexford BYS Works -</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ School Street works completed in April.</li> <li>○ RC design of Hantoon road and Deveroux Villas BYS commenced in April.</li> </ul>

- **Pressure Management**
  - Proposals for 2023 funding are currently being reviewed with UE.  
Approval received for 112 pressure loggers to monitor the Wexford network
- **Meter Installation**
  - Ballymurn Reservoir outlet meters, Hillcastle Reservoir Inlet meter and Rosslare Reservoir inlet meter installed by RC in April.
- **First Fix**
  - UE Regional Contractor, Shareridge are conducting ongoing First Fix investigations and repairs around the county.

## ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION

### MAJOR NATIONAL ROADS PROJECTS

#### N11/N25 Oilgate to Rosslare Harbour

- Ground Investigation on-site works are ongoing.
- Environmental surveys, traffic studies and traffic modelling are ongoing.
- Revised return date for Archaeological Geophysical Survey Tender is 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023
- Additional Topographical Survey Tender is expected to be published in May 2023.
- The overall design of the development, including bridge options is ongoing.
- Engagement with the ESB/EirGrid is ongoing. Drawings from ESB/EirGrid are expected to come through in early May 2023.
- Landowner Engagement Meetings with directly affected landowners took place on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2023 in Ferrycarrig Hotel. The respond from the landowners are:

Total affected Landowners: 187

Landowners that Project Team meet over the 2 days: 124 (66%)

Landowners who didn't show up for the meeting: 5 (3%)

Landowners who confirmed that couldn't attend: 33 (18%)

Landowners that Project Team couldn't reach: 25 (13%)

Valuable information was collected at the meetings which will help to finalise the design, which is required to determine the Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO).

## **N25 Rosslare Europort Access Road**

The position on this project remains unchanged.

Project Team has resolved all objections to the planning applications received by An Bord Pleanála, which resulted in withdrawal of all objections and cancelation of Oral Hearing, initially scheduled for 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

We are awaiting a decision from An Bord Pleanála, which is anticipated on or before the 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023.

## **NATIONAL ROAD PAVEMENT SCHEMES**

### **2022 Pavement Schemes**

#### **N25 Ballykilliane to Orristown Pavement Scheme**

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

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

The contract was awarded on 24<sup>th</sup> October.

Drainage works were completed in March. Pavement works with traffic management due to start first week of May.

#### **N80 Tomacurry to Ballycarney Phase 1**

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

The total scheme length is 3.7km. The allocation from TII for 2022 allows for the first 2 km at the southern was completed in March. There remains some additional accommodation works outstanding for completion in 2023.

### **2022 Safety Schemes**

#### **N25 Ballygillane Roundabout**

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

This scheme was tendered in November 2021.

Works commenced on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2022. The roundabout is substantially completed.

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

Works to be completed May/June 2023

## **2023 Pavement Schemes**

### **N80 Tomacurry to Ballycarney Phase 2**

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

This scheme is being designed at present. Scheme to be tendered early May and construct the scheme in July and August.

### **N25 Orristown to Ashfield Cross Pavement Scheme**

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

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

## **2023 Additional Maintenance Allocations**

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

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

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

### **Former National Roads Grant 2023**

2 applications were made under this scheme for 2023.

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

Funding of €500,000 was received for the R772 Tinnock scheme. This amounts to 50% of the scheme.

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

## **REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROADS**

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

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

### **Resurfacing/Strengthening**

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

Roads resurfaced in the last month were:

Marshalstown; Bree Village / Clonmore; (Both in Enniscorthy District); Mullaun; (Gorey-Kilmuckridge); Oaklands quarry; Ballinary Cross to Ballygowry; Horetown; Donard Cross to Lacey's Cross; Ballywilliam towards Ballyleigh; (All in New Ross District); Ballylannon; Verengly; (Both in Rosslare District).

### **Surface Dressing Works**

The surface dressing programme is expected to commence in June.

### **Community Involvement Schemes**

€502,650 grant was allocated in 2023. Nook Road was resurfaced in New Ross District in the last month.

### **Local Improvement Schemes**

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

### **Bridge Rehabilitation Grant**

Wexford County Council was allocated €610,000 to repair 17 bridges in 2023. Kingsbridge, Cullenstown, was completed in Rosslare District in the last month.

### **Christmas Day 2021 - Flood Damaged Bridges**

Temporary Bailey Bridges are in place at Chapel and Cullenstown Little. Section 50 consents have been received from the OPW for the 3 bridges (Chapel, Cullenstown and Wilton).

Detailed designs are in progress for all 3 bridges. Chapel and Cullenstown require Part 8 planning. They will be concrete bridge beam construction. Wilton Bridge will be repaired as was (masonry arch) commencing in July. All 3 re-constructions will commence in 2023.



## Specific Improvement Works – The Deeps Bridge

The Deeps Bridge Remediation Project – RPS Consulting Engineers Ltd was appointed as Project Supervisor for the Design Process in March 2021.

Glas Civil Engineering commenced work 9 January 2023. The project is on schedule. The bridge surface has been stripped down to the bridge deck. A retaining wall on the east side of the bridge has been constructed. All concrete repairs are complete on the piers. Concrete repairs are in progress on the deck and parapets. Over 200 concrete repairs are complete out of a total of 300. It is anticipated the works will be complete by the end of August 2023.



*Deeps Bridge 26 April 2023*

## Winter Maintenance

The Winter Maintenance started 17 October 2022 and finishes 30 April 2023. There have been 55 treatments to Wednesday 26 April 2023.

## General Maintenance

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

## ACTIVE TRAVEL

A Section 38 process for Newtown Rd from the junction at the hospital towards the Wygram Junction has commenced with a closing date for submissions to **1st May 2023**. **This proposal involves road carriageway width narrowing to slow traffic down and junction tightening at entrances to prevent entering estates at high speed and facilitate safer pedestrian and cyclist movements.**

Tender documents are being finalised for the approved Active Travel scheme on the Newtown Road from the Maldron Road Roundabout on the Ring Road to the Racecourse. It is expected construction on site will commence in June 2023.

A productive quarterly meeting with the NTA was held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March to discuss and visit schemes under design and requested additional funding (€1m) where there was a shortfall. This request for additional funding has now increased to €1.857m.

Three Safe Routes to School Schools schemes (SRTS Round 1) which involve traffic calming at front of school to encourage active travel are being designed in house in consultation with schools. A section 38 for proposed works in front of Adamstown Scoil Naomh Abbann is on public display with a further Section 38 for Scoil Mhuire Rosslare being finalised for public display in the coming weeks. Proposals for front of school Saint Aidan's Enniscorthy will be developed in May. It is expected construction will commence in summer 2023 for Adamstown.

An Options Assessment Report has been prepared in consultation with DBFL consultants for a proposed cycle scheme upgrade at Roxborough. This will encompass Active Travel improvements for a route of 2km from Drinagh to The Faythe. The report is now with the NTA for their approval before we move to the next stage of public consultation and Part 8 Planning Process.

Plans are now in place for Bike Week 2023 which takes place next month between the 13<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of May. A wide variety of events will be held around the County to promote cycling to all age groups and those of all abilities. Details are posted on the Council's Website under Bike Week and also on the national Bike Week website [National Bike Week 13th – 21st May 2023 - Transport for Ireland](#)

A Public E Bike Sharing Scheme in association with Bolt will be coming to Wexford Town in the coming weeks. Line marking of the parking spaces for the eBikes, which will be GPS fenced, is underway and the bikes are in storage in preparation for the roll out. This scheme is being run on a trial basis for a year to allow both parties to examine the benefits for Wexford town. Further parking spaces will be added as we identify the demand which arises in particular locations. Further bikes may also be added to cater for the demand should it arise.

## **PUBLIC LIGHTING**

### **LED Upgrade (Non-National Roads)**

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

Design works are completed.

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

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

## **Public Lighting Development Fund**

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

- Ramsfort Avenue Gorey – infill along by GAA pitch. Lighting design being carried out and quotations due in May.
- The Ballagh – Church to the school – Lighting design being carried out and quotations due in May.
- The Ballagh – Ballagh Cove to regional road. Lighting design being carried out and quotations due in May.
- Wexford Town – Seamus Kelly roundabout to Spawell Road. 2 quotations received and expect to award the contract by mid May

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

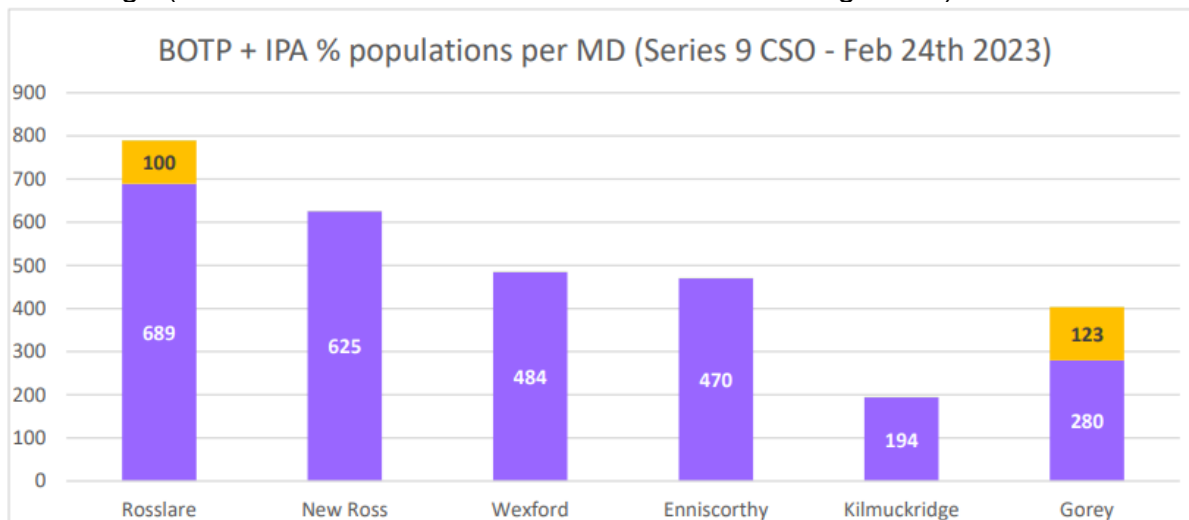
It should be noted that quotations are sought from the four recognised public lighting contractors in the country for these public lighting schemes. All four contractors are now working on the 3 National Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Programme (PLEEP) contracts across the country. This is leading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

# UKRANIAN RESPONSE UPDATE

## Population of Refugees & International Protection Applicants in Co Wexford Updated – February 24th 2023

Created using CSO Data (Series 9 Arrivals from Ukraine, Feb 12<sup>th</sup> 2023, with locally available numbers of people living in two Direct Provision Centres (Rosslare Harbour and Courtown in Gorey MD).

The graph below shows the absolute numbers of Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection (Ukrainians) in purple and the estimated number of International Protection Applicants in yellow using data latest available on February 24th 2023 from Central Statistics Office and local knowledge (IPA numbers via Direct Provision Centre Management)



Local Electoral Area (LEA)	Numbers arrived as February 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2023
Gorey	280
Kilmuckridge	194
New Ross	625
Rosslare	689
Wexford	484
Enniscorthy	470
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,742</b>

## Ukrainian Community Response Forum

The meeting of the Ukrainian Community Response Forum was held on the 24<sup>th</sup> April 2023. It was agreed at the last meeting that the meetings will be held every quarter. The Community Response Forums are providing essential local engagement spaces for all of the public, non-profit and private bodies who are involved in the provision of services and supports locally. This forum ensures that all of these groups operating locally are working together for the best outcome for those in need of support.

## Offer a Home

There was a small increase in offers due to our media campaign in March. The team continue to place displaced Ukrainian families in properties across Wexford, in both rural and urban areas, to date some 75 properties have been allocated.

## Other Initiatives

### Community Recognition Fund

County Wexford has been allocated **€1,509,870** under The Community Recognition Fund. The Fund aims to support the development of facilities that will be used in the future by all members of the community. It is separate in its objectives and scope to any other public funding streams which aim to support the development of public service needs arising from the significant number of arrivals from Ukraine.

Details of the fund were circulated to the elected members, Municipal District Administrators, members of the Local Economic and Community SPC, the Ukraine Community Response Forum, the LCDC and PPN (Peoples Participation Network). The fund was advertised through local media, social media and on [www.wexfordcoco.ie](http://www.wexfordcoco.ie) and expressions of interest invited. The closing date for expressions of interest was February 28th and the final date for receipt of applications by the Department is March 15th.

Over 40 expressions of interest were received and whilst not all met the criteria it has been possible to allocate funding to most of the eligible projects using the criteria of the scheme with an equitable allocation per district based on the latest CSO data.

## CORPORATE ACTIVITIES

### 1. FOI OFFICE REQUESTS

Type	
Freedom of Information	10
Customer Complaint	11
Ombudsman Complaint	3
Access to Information on the Environment	3
Data Access Request	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>28</b>

## 2. PROCUREMENT SECTION ACTIVITY

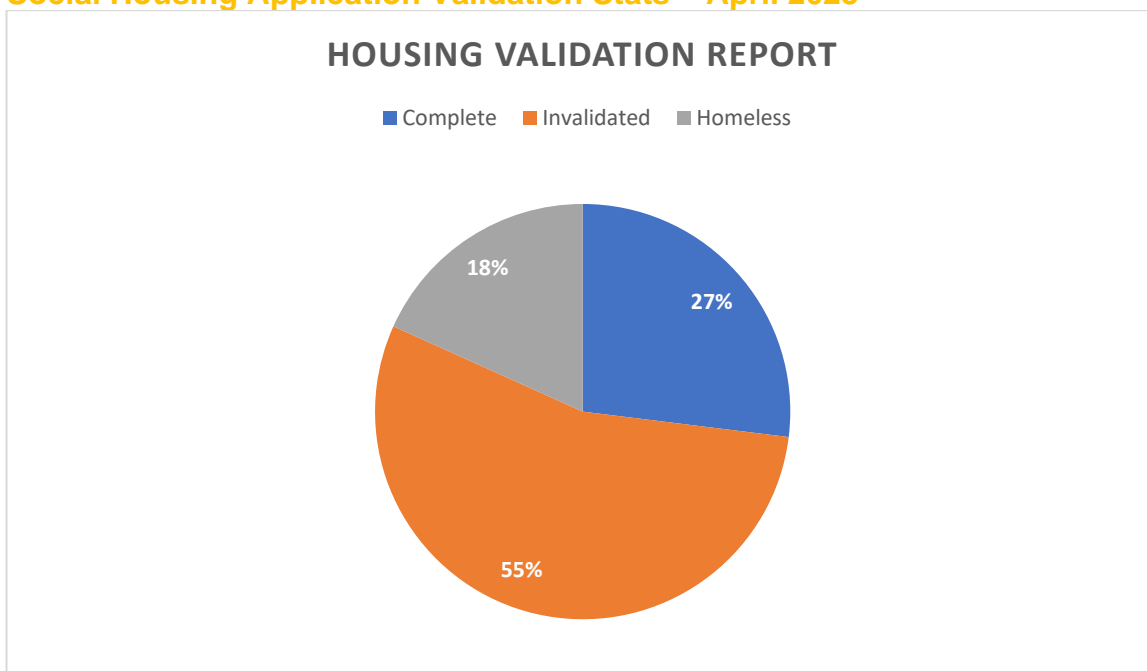
Tenders from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2023 to 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2023

No uploaded	8
No of tenders received	32

## 3. CSU Stats – Phone Calls, Emails and Cases Handled – April 2023

4. Area	April
Phone Calls	4,278
Environmental Complaints	301
Change of Circumstances	40
Housing Validation	115
Quick Calls	2,472
Roads Fault Log	67
Emails (Received & Sent)	2,544
Web Updates / Consultations	37 / 5
Newspaper Adverts	40

## Social Housing Application Validation Stats – April 2023



### Members Portal Queries by Section – April 2023

Section	Closed	Open	Total
Customer Service	0	1	1
Enniscorthy Municipal District	0	1	1
Environment	1	3	4
Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District	0	1	1
Housing	11	99	110
IT	0	1	1
Planning	0	10	10
Roads	0	4	4
Roads – Enniscorthy MD	0	11	11
Roads – Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD	2	6	8
Roads – New Ross MD	0	1	1
Roads – Wexford MD	0	5	5
Rosslare Municipal District	0	1	1
Special Projects	0	1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>159</b>

See Her Elected & Wexford Women's Coalition bring Schools' Roadshow to the county to help encourage more young women into politics and bring diversity to council chambers.





See Her Elected, the award-winning Government funded project which aims to encourage women from rural areas to engage in local politics commenced the roll out a Schools' Roadshow in County Wexford in association with the Wexford Women's Coalition in a bid to encourage more young women to see politics as a possible career path. The Schools' Roadshow is part of a political education series which hopes to encourage diversity in county council chambers in rural areas throughout the country.

The Wexford Women's Coalition and See Her Elected commenced visiting schools in March and got wonderful responses from students in Creagh College in Gorey, Enniscorthy Community College and FCJ Bunclody. These Schools benefitted from a See Her Elected presentation while members of the Wexford Women's Coalition shared their lived experiences of the day-to-day life of being a County Councillor.

These School Roadshows engaged with students to increase their awareness and understanding of gender inequality in politics as well as encouraging them to get their names on the Register of Electors.

In recent months See Her Elected published 'A Guide to Running in the 2024 Local Elections' which is a user-friendly guide to running for election.



Only 26% of councillors in Ireland are women and there is a major difficulty with an under representation of women in local politics in rural Ireland. For example, there are only six women out of 34 councillors on Wexford County Council: 4 out of 32 in Waterford and only 2 out of 18 in Carlow. In almost one hundred years there have only been 15 women elected to Wexford County Council (since 1925).

There was wonderful engagement by the students in the schools visited and the feedback was very positive on the School Roadshow experience. The Women's Coalition intend to visit more schools around the Municipal Districts during the academic school year.



# **SPECIAL PROJECTS**

## **1. Projects at Planning Stages**

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

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

The public realm aspects of the tourism projects will form part of the Call 4 URDF application expected in the Q3 2023.

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

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

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

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

The part VIII for the proposed boathouse and external toilet facility on-site was approved by WCC in February 2023 and the detailed design is progressing. The tender for works has been advertised, with tenders due to be received in May. It is expected that a contract award will be made by August with a commencement on site by Sept 2023.

### **1.3 Min Ryan Park**

Sole Sports and Leisure was appointed to construct the skate park and MUGA on a design and build basis. The MUGA and skatepark are now both complete and open to the public. Killaree Lighting Services is appointed to install public lighting to both projects, which will be commence on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023 and will be complete by end of w/c May 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **1.4 Gorey District Park**

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

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

### **1.5 John Street Building Regeneration Project, New Ross**

A portion of the grain store building has been purchased by agreement and the CPO for the remaining sections is now formally complete. ODKM Architects are appointed and undertook a preplanning meeting for the building in February. The Part VIII application for approval by WCC will be prepared and presented to the New Ross MDC at the June meeting with Part 8 expected to commence immediately thereafter.

### **1.6 Gorey Market House**

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

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

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

#### Irish National Heritage Park: INHP

The tourism and environmental design teams for the INHP have commenced work on a preliminary design and the environmental assessments. It is planned to submit a planning application for the project to An Bord Pleanála in Q4 2023.

#### Hook Lighthouse

The tender competition for interpretative design services for the Hook Lighthouse was advertised in February with closing date for tenders on 30/03/23.

The Brief for the associated architectural and related design services was advertised in March. It is expected that the preliminary design and the planning applications will be completed in 2023 and submitted to ABP.

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

#### New Ross Tourism Project

Tenders for the interpretive fitout on the Dunbrody Visitor Centre Experience has been received and a contract award is expected in May.

Tender documents for the development of the Norman Centre in the Old Bank/Murphy buildings for interpretive and architectural services will be advertised in March 2023 with appointments expected in May and July respectively.

### **1.8 Esmonde Street, Gorey**

An on-site meeting took place with the Members in Gorey – Kilmuckridge MDC in February 2023 and proposals for the street were discussed. A presentation will be made to the Members in April. €2m of own funds is committed to the Esmonde Street project. It is then planned to proceed to detailed design, tender and contract award, with works to commence on site in January 2024.

### **1.9 Rosslare Europort to Waterford City Greenway**

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

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

#### **1.10 Wexford Town to Rosslare Greenway**

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

Fehily Timoney & Co has been appointed to review the route options for the proposed Rosslare Harbour to Rosslare Strand greenway considering the significant coastal protection works which has been carried out over the past two years by Irish Rail. An

ecological survey is on-going. It is planned to submit this section of greenway to the Part 8 process in Q1 2024.

#### **1.11 Old Dublin Road Business Park, Enniscorthy**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### **1.13 Crescent Quay – Dredging**

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

#### **1.14 Enniscorthy Sports Hub**

O'Leary Sludds Architects were appointed in Feb 2021 for the detailed design, procurement of works contractor and construction management of the Sport Hub building. A competition to award a works contract for the sports hub building was advertised in May 2022. The lowest price tender opened for the project exceeded the available budget and no contract was awarded. A redesign process for the project is now underway.

#### **1.15 Curracloe Water Sports Activity Facility**

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

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

#### **1.16 Ferndale Gymnasium, Wexford:**

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

#### **1.17 Adoration Convent Wexford**

Part VIII is in place for this project to convert the old convent into accommodation for students of Georgia Southern University Wexford campus. A design team appointment is approved by GSU. It is intended to tender in these works out in Q4 2023 with works to commence in Q1 2024.

## **2 Projects Under Construction**

### **2.1 South East Greenway**

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

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

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

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

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

### **2.2 Trinity Wharf**

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

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

### **2.3 New Ross Emigrants' Park – Oil Tanks Site**

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

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

### **2.4 Mechanics Institute, Wexford**

The works contract for essential maintenance works at the Mechanics Institute has been awarded to Roger Doyle Contractors and works commenced on site in January 2023.

Works are expected to take 6 months complete.

### **2.5 Oyster Lane Site, Wexford**

A Part VIII submission has been made for the demolition of existing unoccupied buildings on the old Tesco site, including the construction of a temporary surface level car park.

The Part VIII was confirmed at the March 2022 County Council meeting.

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

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



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

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







## 4. Flood Defence Schemes

### 4.1 Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme

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

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

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

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

### 4.2 Wexford Flood Relief Scheme

The contract for engineering and environmental services for the for the Wexford Town & Environs contract was signed by WCC and Nicholas O'Dwyer Ltd on 23rd March.

Officials from the OPW, the sponsoring agency for the scheme, including the Minister Mr Patrick O'Donovan, attended. A preliminary cost estimate of €9.52m has been approved by the OPW for scheme, which will fully funded.

The appointment will include flood risk modelling; assessment of options for flood prevention; preliminary design; the preparation of planning and other statutory consent

applications; detailed design; tendering for works contractors and construction management services.

## HOUSING

### Housing Supply

#### Capital Projects

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Current Position	Comment
Rosetown Phase 1	23	Rosslare	Under Construction	Waste and ESB connected. Testing and commissioning of Water underway. Handover May 2023
Marconi Park	1 TAP	Enniscorthy	Under Construction	Due to complete in Q2 2023
Whiterock Hill Phase 1	22	Wexford	Under construction.	To complete in Q4 2023.
Women's Refuge	12	Wexford	Under Construction	Construction commenced Feb 23
Rosetown Phase 2	12	Rosslare	Stage 4	Stage 4 approved March 23. Commence construction Q2 2023
Whiterock Hill Phase 2	22	Wexford	Under Construction	Site preparation commenced April 23 Target Completion Q3 2024.
Ballyhine, Barntown	7	Wexford	Stage 4	Contracts to be signed. Commence Construction Q2 2023
Francis St.	2	Wexford	SS approved	Funding Approved March 23. Part VIII Q2 and prepare tender documents Q3 2023
Bullawn	3	New Ross	Single Stage	Contractor appointed for asbestos removal and demolitions of superstructure. Commence Demolitions April 2023
Wexford Street	30	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Stage 3	Stage 4 Application to DHLGH March 2023. Awaiting Approval
Rosbercon	38 (est)	New Ross	Stage 2	Enabling Works tenders received. Seek Funding approval April 23. Appoint Enabling Contractor Q2 23.
Killeens	60	Wexford	Stage 2	Lodge Part VIII Q2 23. Prepare Stage 3 and Tender documents for Q4 23
Creagh	22	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Combined Stage 1/2	Application with DHLGH. Lodged 3 April 23 for Design Build Delivery. Consultants to be formally appointed to prepare tender documentation once approval is received. Allow 8 weeks to issue tenders.

Monomolin	5	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Single Stage	Bundle Tender for 3 projects. Consultants appointed. (Bundle A - Monomolin, Ballygillane and Grogans Road). Part VIII and funding application in Q2 23
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Ballygillane	5	Rosslare	Single Stage	Consultants appointed. (Bundle A). Submit Part VIII and funding application Q2 23
Grogans Road	4	Wexford	Single Stage	Consultants appointed. (Bundle A). Submit Part VIII Q2 23
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>268</b>			

### Pre-Development Stage

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment	
Bride Street	3	Wexford	Single Stage	Consultants appointed. SS Funding application to DHLGH Q3 2023
Tagoat	18	Rosslare	Combined Stage 1/2	Application to DHLGH March 23 for Design Build delivery. Tender estimated for construction in Q3 23
Adamstown	2	New Ross	Single Stage	Demolitions complete. Funding application to DHLGH Q3 2023 (Possibly 3 units)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23</b>			

### Longer Term Projects

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

### Other Projects (early feasibility)

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Lacken TAP	1	New Ross	Surveys complete. SS submission Q3 2023
Belvedere	6	Wexford	Single Stage Application in Q2 2023
Creagh	24	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Sketch design prepared for site investigations and surveys.
Group Housing TAP	5	Wexford	Levels Survey complete, Site Layout for discussion with stakeholders complete. Awaiting Brief
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>36</b>		

### Affordable Dwellings

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

### Approved Housing Bodies

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
<b>Cluid</b>			
Hewittlands, New Ross (LAGS site)	48	New Ross	DHLGH Approval in Principle received June 2022. Decision to Grant planning issued Dec 2022.
Bridgemeadows, Enniscorthy	12	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval Nov 2022. To deliver Q2 2023 Nominations have started
<b>Tuath</b>			
Ramstown, Gorey	68	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	24 units delivered. Remainder to deliver 2023
Gleann an Ghairdin	24	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	To deliver end Q3 2023
<b>Co Operative Housing Ireland (CHI)</b>			
Moongate, Clonard Rd, Wexford	38	Wexford	DHLGH Approval received June 2022. To deliver 2023
Cuil na Dara, Clonard (Ph 2.1 of Pairc na Daire)	25	Wexford	DHLGH Approval received June 2022. To deliver 2023
Pairc na Greine, Clonard (Ph2.2 of Pairc na Daire)	24	Wexford	DHLGH Approval received Sept 2022. To deliver 2024
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>239</b>		

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

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

District	No of Units
Enniscorthy	135
Gorey	158
New Ross	41
Rosslare	17
Wexford	106
<b>Total</b>	<b>457</b>

## Part V Acquisitions

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

## Turnkeys

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Tobar Muire, Creagh Demesne	39	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	10 units delivered. Remainder to deliver 2023
Castlelands, Ferns	20	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval received Jan 2022. Under Construction. Expected to deliver May Q2 2023
Haughton Place, New Ross (includes 1 Part V)	13	New Ross	Expected to deliver 2024
Clonard Little (includes 1 Part V)	10	Wexford	Under Construction. To deliver late 2023
Cross St., New Ross	2	New Ross	DHLGH Approval Nov 22. To deliver Q2 2023
An Glasan, Greenville Lane, Enniscorthy	8	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval Nov 22. To deliver Q2 2023
Greenhills, Clonhaston	8	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval Nov 22. Delivered Q1 2023
Gleann an Ghairdin, Gorey	40	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	DHLGH Approval Dec 22. To deliver from Q4 2023
Forgelands, Old Forge Rd, Enniscorthy	2	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval Jan 23. To deliver Q3 2023

Churchview, Ballynaglogh, Blackwater (Ph2)	14	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	DHLGH Approval Feb 23. To deliver Q3 2024
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>156</b>		

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 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2023:

Repairs	Enniscorthy	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	New Ross	Wexford	Rosslare	Total
Repair Requests (1 <sup>st</sup> – 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023)	113	95	118	133	104	563
Repair Requests Year to Date	405	294	408	419	275	1801
Accommodation Units Repaired (1 <sup>st</sup> – 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023)	96	72	88	101	77	434
Accommodation Units Repaired Year to Date	315	223	299	300	200	1337
<b>CLOSED</b> Repair Requests (1 <sup>st</sup> – 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023)	88	55	81	89	69	382
<b>CLOSED</b> Repairs Requests Year to Date	306	180	285	283	184	1238

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

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

### **LEADER PROGRAMME**

*LEADER FINANCE PERIOD – 30/03/2023 – 23/04/2023*

The Article 48 team processed 4 LEADER claims in April.

The value of these claims was €94,686.76 which will support 4 community groups throughout County Wexford.

These claims can be broken down as follows:



Promoter Paid	Claim Payment
1. Killealy Community Hall	€49,695.02
<b>Total</b>	<b>€49,695.02</b>



Payment Processed:	Payment Value
1. Killanne Regeneration Ltd.	€16,200.00
2. Taghmon Camross GAA Club	€22,416.75
3. Knockingall Organisation Community Centre Limited	€6,374.99
<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 44,991.74</b>

### **LAMA AWARDS 2023**

LAMA Awards 2023 - Now in its 17th year, the All-Ireland Community and Council Awards took place in the Minella Hotel, Tipperary on Saturday April 15th.

The awards presented by LAMA (Local Authority Members Association) and IPB Insurance, recognise and celebrate community and councils working together. They provide a great opportunity to highlight and celebrate the work done within our communities, to reward our local heroes and recognise the phenomenal contribution they've made to our lives.

Three projects from County Wexford were nominated under the 2023 programme –

- 1. Best Mental Health Initiative – Rag Tree Project (Sports Active)**
- 2. Best Innovation in Urban Planning – High Hill Norman Garden (Special Projects/NRMD)**
- 3. Best Community Health – Enniscorthy Allotments (Community Department).**



Enniscorthy Community Allotments (ECA) were awarded 'Best Community Health' under the award scheme. The project which *aims to promote and encourage the practice and knowledge of horticulture between members, to encourage biodiversity, organic and sustainable growing and to encourage the interaction between members and build community spirit*, was supported by the Local Community Development Committee, the Community Development Section, Enniscorthy Municipal District and funded by the Leader programme, has continued to go from strength to strength and these efforts are recognised with this national award.





## Healthy Wexford

### Healthy Ireland Round Four Funding

The 2022 Funding Return was approved. We are still awaiting approval of the Round Four Funding for 2023-2025, which is now expected in early May.

### Recent Healthy Wexford Activity

The **Country Connects** series of monthly walks continues with numbers growing at each Event. The March Walk in Kilanerin attracted a group of 62 walkers.



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

Photo Credit: Wexford Walking Trails Facebook

This event supports the 'Not Around Us' initiative to provide a smoke and vape free space for the children and young people attending.



Healthy Wexford

Cambridge Centre Leach Garman Wexford County Council

QUIT Free help to quit FREEPHONE 1800 201 203 www.quit.ie

[www.bit.ly/NotAroundUs](http://www.bit.ly/NotAroundUs)

Wexford County Council recently supported a motion where any event organised by, funded by, supported by or on Wexford County Council property which engages children or young people would be designated a "**Not Around Us**" supporting event and would display the "Not Around Us" logo and signage in promotion of the event and at the event itself.

We are now working to implement this designation in addition to working to extend the support of the campaign to the businesses of County Wexford.

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

The first of two pilot events took place in **Tomhaggard Social Centre** on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April, where this group invited those in the area to join them at a '**Community Get Together**' which would provide groups, individuals, and friends the opportunity to meet and connect over a cuppa. See some photos from the event here [Healthy Wexford Facebook](#)

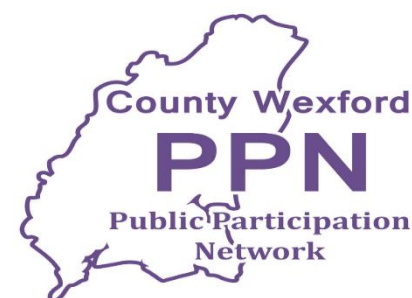
The next pilot event is planned for Courtnacuddy in May.



## Age Friendly

Older Peoples Council recruitment meetings held in all five Wexford Municipal Districts were completed in April. The events which were very well attended and resulted in lively engagement and interest in joining the Older Person's Council. The AGM is scheduled for May 31<sup>st</sup> in the Riverside Park Hotel, Enniscorthy where a new Council will be elected.

Sectoral reps attended the meetings including Gardaí, Fire Service, Library Personnel, Local Link, Community staff, members of the OPC Executive, Alone and the HSE along with Local Councillors and District Management teams .



## Creative Ireland Project – Song lines Wexford 2023

Billy Roche and Margaret Galvin delivered a singing and poetic performance to the residents of Grantstown Priory, Wellingtonbridge and St .John's Day Care Enniscorthy on April 19<sup>th</sup>.

The absolute joy that these interactive projects bring to the audience is heart warming to see and the therapeutic effect they have is evident from the Resident's enjoyment . This project consists of four sessions which will culminate in a ' Performance' from the residents in each location .

## PPN

PPN Municipal District meetings took place for Rosslare in Tomhaggard Community Centre, Wexford in Barntown Community Centre, and Enniscorthy in Galbally Social Centre.



### Wexford MD meeting

- The monthly Secretariat meeting and sub - committee group meeting for the Memorandum of Understanding took place.
- Wexford PPN was represented at the Council's Climate Action Steering group meeting and attended the first LEADER public Consultation in New Ross.
- Preparations are underway for the first Plenary meeting of the year, due to take place on 23<sup>rd</sup> May in Enniscorthy. The event promises to be informative, with a strong focus on our communities.
- Funding and Information bulletins continue to be sent out regularly.
- The following PPN Representatives have been appointed:
- Anne Sharry – Nomination accepted for Housing & Community Strategic Policy Committee.

### Rosslare MD Meeting

## Celtic Routes

At the monthly Steering Committee Meeting, the Project Officer detailed the compiled "Opportunities to See" for the Project.

The Social Media contract with Working Word details a total of 204,250,851 as shown here:

## OTE & AVE Results – phases 1, 2 & 3



The Celtic Routes PR campaign has achieved the following results for phase 1, phase 2 and phase 3 to date (for comparison)....

**NOTE ABOUT AVE FIGURES:** The AVE figures outlined here are purely based on press coverage and do not take into account influencer coverage, as we cannot use AVE to measure this. This means that the real reach and value of this campaign far exceeds the AVE figures stated here.

**NOTE ABOUT PHASE 4:** Phase 4 of the Celtic Routes project is currently in its early planning phase. As a result Phase 4 figures have not been included in these tables.

<b>Phase 1</b> (2020 – 2021) (complete)	70,963,247 Total opportunities to see	£517,341 AVE (target £400k)
<b>Phase 2</b> (2022 – 2023) (completed but awaiting some more media coverage)	132,463,443 Total opportunities to see	£425,734 AVE (target £500k)
<b>Phase 3 –</b> (late 2022 – summer 2023 - Celtic Experience Collection) (results to date)	824,161 Total opportunities to see	£21,653 AVE (target £300k)

The Media Buying contract with Golly Slater gives an Impressions total of 87,320,771.

Therefore, to the end of March 2023 **291,571,622** people around the world, through various formats have had the opportunity to view Celtic Routes.

## Phase 1

Campaign ran between Nov 2019 – June 2021

Delivered

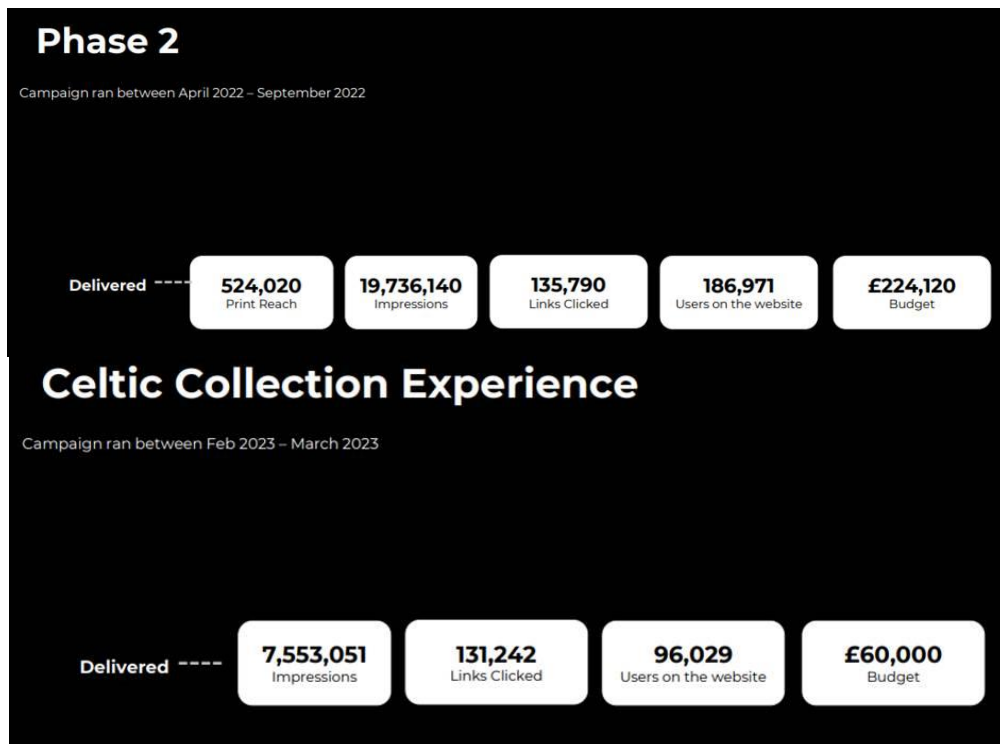
**60,031,580**  
Impressions

**125,022**  
Link clicks

**103,471**  
Users on the website

**£280,000**  
Budget





## Ancient Connections

### Events Completed:

The project has held the following events during this reporting period and in total to date has had **15,118 participants**:

- **23rd Feb-30th Mar** *Sift* Exhibition Small Arts commission's PEMBS
- **Jan - Mar 2023** Weekly Enterprise and Innovation training at Ferns
- **11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> March** Pilgrimage Symposium (Enniscorthy)
- **17<sup>th</sup> Apr-19<sup>th</sup> May** *Sift* Exhibition Small Arts Commissions WEXFORD
- **15<sup>th</sup> April** 'Do The Little Things' by Bedwyr Williams, public art launch event in Ferns.
- **22<sup>nd</sup> April** Ancient Connections Céilí and Tourist Ambassador Visit in Ferns
- **26<sup>th</sup> April** Bayeux France Delegation visit to Ferns.

### Upcoming Events:

- Cwtch Festival 29<sup>th</sup> April
- Pererin Wyf/SPAN Arts
- Final Event Pembs May 29<sup>th</sup> event
- Ferns Festival - Finale Event Wexford June 5<sup>th</sup>
- TA twmpath Pembs
- Discovering Medieval Ferns Wrap event 6<sup>th</sup> July
- IAFS St. Aidan's Monastery Day 29<sup>th</sup> June
- IAFS St. Aidan's Archaeological Camp 26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>

### Volunteer Hours:

€141,643.81 in-kind support in total since the project began. This is 77% of the amount we need to reach by the end of the project (€183,514.00).

### Marketing:

- Sky AdSmart campaign. A 30 second TV ad was made that went live on the 27<sup>th</sup> of January and ran until w/c 6<sup>th</sup> March.
- The OOH Campaign ran for 2 weeks. This was placed across 20 sites (10 Wales and 10 Ireland.) It began late January 2023 and continued until 26<sup>th</sup> February
- Travel writers – a Dutch travel writer and author of walking books, Francine Posma, has been engaged to walk the Wexford-Pembrokeshire Pilgrim Way route in early June and write an article for a prominent Dutch walking magazine. She will also be producing social media content and has agreed to have the article translated into English as well so that Orchard can maximise its usage in the UK and Ireland.



### Sports Active

#### Hike in Forth Mountain

Due to unfavourable weather conditions during 'Women in Sport' week, the hike in Forth Mountain was rescheduled to Wednesday 19th April at 10:30am. 9 women attended this event.

#### National Workplace Wellbeing Day

Sports Active Wexford led a walk for Wexford County Council Staff on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> of April for National Workplace Wellbeing Day in collaboration with the Walking and Cycling Officer.

#### Activator Pole Walking

Two indoor activator pole walking sessions were delivered in Wexford Library on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> April. Seven females attended both sessions. The Activator Poles which can be leased from Libraries will be launched next month in Wexford Library and New Ross Library.

#### Information Session for Older Adults in Wexford Library

Sports Active Wexford delivered an information session to older adults on Thursday 27th April for older adults. The workshop will go through some myths about exercise, ways to get more physically active as well as an introduction to activator pole walking and resistance training.

### Wexford Active Retirement Group

Sports Active Wexford delivered an activator pole and scooch taster session on Wednesday 26th April to participants in the Wexford Active Retirement Group.

### Strong and Steady

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

### Active Healthy Me

A meeting took place with the HSE to support the delivery of 'Active Healthy Me' within disability services in Wexford. This is a programme aimed to get service users more physically active. This will be launched on the 4th of May.

### Walking Football

16 participants from Reach Ability are attending the 5-week walking football programme in Astro Active. This finished on the 6<sup>th</sup> of April. It was a partnership programme with the FAI. 5 females and 11 males.

### Walking Rugby

21 participants from Reach Ability are registered to attend the Walking Rugby 4-week programme in Astro Active, Enniscorthy. This is a partnership programme with Leinster Rugby.

### Women's Couch to 3km

A couch to 3km programme was delivered in partnership with Wexford Local Development. There are 13 ladies attending. Due to unforeseen circumstances two sessions had to be rescheduled. The programme will finish on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### Safeguarding

7 x Safeguarding 1 Courses have been completed in 2023 with a total of 114 participants.  
3 x Safeguarding 2 Courses have been completed in 2023 with a total of 21 participants.

*Our Rag Tree project was shortlisted at the LAMA awards in the best Mental Health Initiative category.*



# ENVIRONMENT

## A. COASTAL MATTERS

### Harbours -

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

Fethard Harbour – New Slipway and Beach Access. Consulting engineers are appointed to progress the detailed design. A planning application was lodged with An Bord Pleanála with a notice published in the paper on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023, observations and submissions can be submitted up to 21<sup>st</sup> April 2023. This development is part of the above BALAMI scheme.

**Ports Past and Present:** There is ongoing engagement with the Rosslare community, artists, and our project partners in University College Cork and two Welsh universities. Regular updates and further information are available at <https://portspastpresent.eu/>

ISPS requirements for Marshmeadows Jetty have been approved for dry cargo operations. The process to extend certification for liquid cargoes is ongoing.

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

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

New Oil Spill Pollution Equipment has arrived on site at Marshmeadows.

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

### Coast -

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

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



being finalised. Flood and erosion options are being developed and it is expected that public consultation days will be held in the coming months.

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

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

There is provision on the website to email the project team with specific queries.

Seaview, Kilmore: emergency works to protect the access road were completed in Jan 2022. Ecological, bathymetric and seabed surveys on the overall coastal protection scheme are complete. University College Cork has completed the coastal modelling. A planning application will be submitted to An Bord Pleanála which will include coastal protection works and a new beach access, the application is being prepared for submission. A meeting with residents was held on 10<sup>th</sup> March to give an update on this scheme.

Lady's Island Water Level Management Structure – An Bord Pleanála granted planning permission for this development, dated 3rd Sept 2021. Foreshore licence application has been lodged and is under consideration by the Dept of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. A further public consultation notice was published in local paper and Irish Independent on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023, inviting submissions up to 28<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

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

## **Beaches –**

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

Rosslare Strand – Bearlough: 2 new disabled car spaces at the entrance to Rosslare Burrow Holiday Park are completed. These spaces will provide access to the beach along the new macadam path that was constructed in 2021.

## **B. PUBLIC CONVENIENCES**

All public conveniences are now re-opened.

<b>Public Conveniences</b>	<b>Open</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Slade	All Year	No updates
Dunncannon	All Year	No updates
Cullenstown	Seasonal	No updates
Kilmore	All Year	No updates

Carne	All Year	No updates
Bunclody		No updates
Rosslare Strand	All Year	No updates
Ballyconniger	Seasonal	No updates
Ballineskeer	All Year	No updates
Curracloe	All Year	No updates
Min Ryan Park	All Year	No updates
Vinegar Hill - Dryloo	All Year	No updates
Carrigfoyle	All Year	No updates
Morriscastle	75% of Year	No updates
Courtown	All Year	No updates
Ballymoney	All Year	Access for All and Age Friendly Improvement Works now agreed. Funding of €160,000. Works on the accessible toilet will start in the coming weeks with completion due summer 2023
Baginbun – Poratloo's	All Year	Percolation Test to be carried out
Cahore – Portasloo's	All Year	No updates
Carcur – Portaloo's	All Year	No updates

## C. WATER, AIR & NOISE

### 1. Water Framework Directive:

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

### 2. Water Sampling:

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

### 3. Septic Tank Inspections:

139 inspections were carried out in 2022. Wexford had a minimum of 106 inspections to carry out in 2022. All work carried out is external with no requirement to enter a dwelling. Contractors are currently carrying out work on several sites to close outstanding Advisory Notices. A minimum of 130 inspections will have to be carried out in 2023. 39 inspections have been pre booked for April/May 2023.

Progress is being made with closing existing open files. All files up to the end of 2016 have been closed. 101 files were closed during 2022. 68 extensions of time were granted in 2022. There are currently 53 open files for the years 2017-2021 and 30 open for 2022, a total of 83 open cases. 22 files have been closed in 2023.

Six applications for grant assistance have been received this year to date all of which have been put forward for payment.

Year	Number of inspections	Pass	Fail	Outstanding	Closed in 2023
2019	156	48	108	12	2
2020	111	38	73	9	1
2021	91	24	67	22	4
2022	139	50	89	30	11

There are currently 9 cases in the Court system for failing to comply with Advisory Notices. 6 of these are for hearing and 3 are currently for mention.

13 verification inspections are planned for April 2023 on sites which have Advisory Notices open over 2 years.

All NIP files up to end of 2016 have now been closed off. 2017 has 5 open files with 1 on hold due to new N11 route selection, 4 due to assessment of public sewer for Ramsgrange. 2018 have 5 open files with good progress on 3 of these, 2 are in court. 2019-2022 figures can be seen in the Table above.

#### 4. Section 4 Discharge Licences:

The Council currently has 96 active Discharge Licences. Two new applications have been received in 2023 to date. Three applications were received in 2022, two of which are under review and one was formally granted in March 2023. Two discharge licences were revoked in December 2022 and one in January 2023 and two more are in the process of being revoked.

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

**Dry Cleaners:** At end of 2022, 8 Dry Cleaners and 1 Medical Device Company were registered with Wexford County Council under the “Solvents” Regulations. WCC issues Certificates of Compliance to these facilities – see Table below. Due to targeted enforcement

action in Q3/Q4 of 2022, a new category of facility is due to be added to this register in Q2 of 2023.

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

**No. of Certificates of Compliance Issued:**

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

**Low Smoke Fuel Areas**

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

**5. Climate Action**

The Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 requires each Local Authority to prepare their own Climate Action Plan(CAP). The plan must cover both mitigation and adaptation measures and must be updated once every five years. The plan will also include the development of a decarbonisation zone(DZ). The DZ will be the focus for a range of climate mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity measures. Enniscorthy is the proposed Decarbonisation Zone for County Wexford. Preparatory work has commenced on the preparation of the CAP ahead of the official direction by the minister to prepare the plan which will be made by end 2022.

Wexford will then have 12 months to prepare and fully adopt the plan. Information webinars on the preparation and implementation of the CAP are scheduled for Senior management and separately the Climate Action teams.

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

**6. Agriculture:**

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

Section 12 & 23 notices under the Local Government Water Pollution Act 1977-1990 were served upon on 4 individuals where 2 of these farms were cross reported to DAFM. A total of 95 Agricultural related Planning Permission Applications were assessed. Wexford County Council continue to complete odour monitoring assessments on two separate sites for 2022 on foot of hundreds of complaints from the public. These sites included a pig farm and a composting facility where compost is produced by processing straw and animal waste. Section 24 & Section 26 notices under the Air Pollution Act 1987 have been served upon these businesses.

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

## 7. Planning

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

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

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

As of the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023, 277 files were referred to Environment from the Planning Department.

## 8. Duncannon EIP Project

Wexford County Council is currently lead partner in the Duncannon Blue Flag Farming & Communities Scheme. We were successful in receiving funding of €550,000 to run this project for 3 years. We were successful in a 12 month extension to the project for 2022 and further funding awarded of €171,197. In December 2022, the operational group applied for a final 5 month extension until May 2023 and were recently awarded this extension by the DAFM. It brought the projects total funding to €721,197.

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

The project runs a results-based reward scheme where an annual payment is made to each farmer based on their PPZ survey which ranges from €1,000 & €4,000. The farmer can also avail of a water protection improvement works grant which can be used to carry out

improvements on fencing watercourses, establishing arable grass margins, road upgrades, hedgerow establishment, riparian margins, planting trees etc. To date, the EIP project has paid €320,000 in annual payments to farmers while funding of approx. €35,000 has been paid to farmers that have completed works. It is expected that final works will be completed on lands by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023 and sampling under the EIP monitoring programme will be completed in February 2023.

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

## D. WASTE MANAGEMENT

### 1. Recycling Services:

#### Bring Bank Network –

WASTE CATEGORY	No. of Sites March 2023	Recycling out (End March) 2022 (t)	Recycling out (End March) 2023 (t)
Glass bottles		955	904
Aluminium Cans		24	22
Total	109	979	926

#### Household Recycling Centres –

#### Summary of Activities

WASTE CATEGORY	Enniscorthy		New Ross		Holmestown		Gorey	
	Recycling out Jan-Mar 2022 (t)	Recycling out Jan-Mar 2023 (t)	Recycling out Jan-Mar 2022 (t)	Recycling out Jan-Mar 2023(t)	Recycling out Jan- Mar 2022	Recycling out Jan - Mar 2023	Recycling out Jan-Mar 2022	Recycling out Jan-Mar 2023
<b>Total Recycling out</b>	153	<b>154</b>	168	<b>165</b>	216	<b>202</b>	133	120
Total Domestic Waste in	N/A	<b>N/A</b>	N/A	<b>N/A</b>	576	<b>687</b>	N/A	<b>N/A</b>
Daily Average Customers <b>Jan-Mar</b>	2022	<b>2023</b>	2022	<b>2023</b>	2022	<b>2023</b>	2022	<b>2023</b>
	65	<b>63</b>	115	<b>114</b>	126	<b>86</b>	73	<b>80</b>

## 2. Rapid Response Crew

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

<b>Activity</b>	<i>To end March 2022</i>	<i>March 2023</i>	<i>To end March 2023</i>	<b>% +/-</b>
<b>Total Illegal Dumping/ Clean Ups</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>+12.6%</b>
<i>Gorey *</i>		<i>48</i>		
<i>Enniscorthy *</i>		<i>55</i>		
<i>Wexford *</i>		<i>66</i>		
<i>New Ross*</i>		<i>51</i>		
<i>Rosslare</i>		<i>25</i>		
<b>Total Bring Site Inspections</b>	<b>2,310</b>	<b>952</b>	<b>2,732</b>	<b>+18%</b>
<i>Gorey</i>		<i>231</i>		
<i>Enniscorthy</i>		<i>228</i>		
<i>Wexford</i>		<i>287</i>		
<i>New Ross</i>		<i>155</i>		
<i>Rosslare</i>		<i>47</i>		
<b>Total Ringbuoy Inspections</b>	<b>4,014</b>	<b>1,338</b>	<b>4,354</b>	<b>+8%</b>
<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>				
<b>Other Works</b>	<b>1,701</b>	<b>393</b>	<b>1,138</b>	<b>-33%</b>
<i>Gorey</i>		<i>61</i>		
<i>Enniscorthy</i>		<i>125</i>		
<i>Wexford</i>		<i>68</i>		
<i>New Ross</i>		<i>85</i>		
<i>Rosslare</i>		<i>54</i>		

## 3. New Recycling Items

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



## 4. Waste Facility Permits:

We currently have sufficient permitted facilities throughout the county, such as Clean Soil and Stone, construction and demolition sites, ATF's / End of Life Vehicles and Pay to Use Waste Compactor Unit. The full list of Waste Facility Permits and Certificates of Registration can be viewed on the Council's website.

Altogether there are 68 registered operational Waste Facility Permits and Certificates of Registration for premises involved in waste management activities in the County. There are 3 applications being processed at present, one new application and two renewals.

## 5. Enforcement:

The Waste Enforcement Team carries out routine (planned) and non-routine inspections of waste facilities and problem sites or site where we have received complaints. This work is done in accordance with the Recommended Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections (RMCEI) as submitted to the EPA on 28 February 2023. The 2023 RMCEI Plan allocates 6,597 routine inspections by 22 Full Time Equivalent staff members. The inspection types cover the WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) Regulations; ELV (End of Life Vehicles) Regulations; Waste Management (Packaging) Regulations; Household and Commercial Food Waste Regulations; Batteries, Tyres, Mercury etc.

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

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

## 1 LITTER/WASTE MANAGEMENT

Total fixed penalty notices issued	TOTAL FOR 2022	TOTAL FOR JAN-MARCH 2023
Fines Issued (All Fixed Penalty Notice Issued)	229	64
Fines Paid in Full●	111	18

Fines Cancelled/Proceedings Discontinued/Struck Out*	83	33
Successful Prosecutions** (Litter fines & WPBL fines)	43	5
Legal Proceedings In Progress (Litter fines & WPBL fines)	49	48
Amount Collected in Fines -total	€18,530.57	€2038
Amount awarded via the Court system (fines awarded) - overall	€5230	€900

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

- Includes income from all Fixed Penalty Notices

### January 2023:

Cases were not heard due to limited capacity of the court, cases were adjourned for later in 2023

### February 2023:

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

### March 2023:

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

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

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

### Litter/Waste Enforcement Activity 2009-2023(up to March 2023)

	Fines Issued	Court	Reports
2023	64	5	487
2022	229	43	2188 (down 20%)
2021	100	19	2721 (down 15%)

<b>2020</b>	213	20	3187 (up 15%)
<b>2019</b>	341	13	2758 (down 9%)
<b>2018</b>	324	22	3050 (up 15%)
<b>2017</b>	218	27	2651 (Up 12%)
<b>2016</b>	274	17	2,354 (up 22%)
<b>2015</b>	242	17	1,927 (up 11%)
<b>2014</b>	154	17	1,732 (up 10%)
<b>2013</b>	140	15	1,571 (up 21%)
<b>2012</b>	182	16	1,292 (down 3%)
<b>2011</b>	209	17	1,329
<b>2010</b>	370	27	1,338

## F.GENERAL

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

The total figures for complaints received are as follows:

	<b>Jan to Dec 2019</b>	<b>Jan to Dec 2020</b>	<b>Jan to Dec 2021</b>	<b>Jan to Dec 2022</b>	<b>Jan – March 2023</b>
<b>Incidents</b>	<b>4749</b>	<b>4999</b>	<b>5136</b>	<b>3896</b>	<b>1241</b>
<b>Closed</b>	<b>4541</b>	<b>4733</b>	<b>4871</b>	<b>3283</b>	<b>855</b>
<b>Closure Rate</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>69%</b>

### Control of Dogs & Horses:

The Council employs one full-time Dog Warden and one part-time Dog Warden. The main pound is Pets First Kennels, Ballycarney, Co Wexford. As per government commitment, it is expected that Local Authorities will be resourced to recruit additional Dog Wardens in 2023.

<b>Control of dogs</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021 (to 31-12-21)</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023 (February) – March unavailable</b>
Dogs collected	532	429	546	87
Dogs reclaimed	127	133	117	13

Dogs re-homed/transferred	373	267	370	66
Dogs put to sleep	32	29	51	7
Dog Fines	5	18	21	7

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

To date in 2023 one horse has been seized.

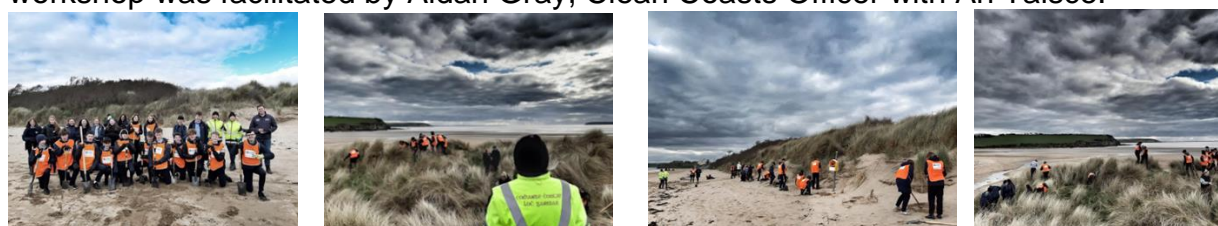
## Environment Education and Awareness:

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

**Green Schools:** St Edan's NS, Ferns, New Ross Educate Together National School and Colaiste Bride, Enniscorthy have applied for their first Green Flag on the Litter & Waste theme. In total 32 green school assessments have now been carried out and reports forwarded to An Taisce. This year 3 schools renewed their flag on Water; 7 schools on Travel; 8 schools on Biodiversity; 4 schools on Global Citizenship Litter & Waste; 3 schools on Global Citizenship Energy, 3 schools on Global Citizenship Marine Environment and 1 school on Global Citizenship Travel. Great work has been completed by all the schools.




**Marram Grass Planting Workshop:** A Marram Grass Planting Workshop took place on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February with a group of 28 students from Ramsgrange Community School. The workshop outlined the importance of our sand dune system, how to harvest marram and replant it. The workshop was facilitated by Aidan Gray, Clean Coasts Officer with An Taisce.



**Climate Action School Workshops:** We have engaged with Createschool on the Rubbish Film Festival to work with 5 secondary schools. Each school has created a short one minute film and a poster on an environmental issue of their choice. The films and posters will now be judged and A County Award of Best Film, Best Runner Up Film and Best Poster will be chosen. The County winners will be announced on April 18<sup>th</sup> online. All participating schools have been notified and sent an invitation to attend this online event. The County winners will be forwarded to the National Awards which will be held on the 3rd May in Solstice Arts Centre, Navan, Co Meath.

**National Tree Week:** National Tree Week took place from March 19<sup>th</sup> – March 26<sup>th</sup> and the theme this year was 'Biodiversity Begins with Trees'. 500 native saplings were distributed to schools and community groups during National Tree Week.

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

	Date	No. of Community Clean Ups
	March 2023	147
	Jan – Mar 2023	364

**National Spring Clean:** Registrations are now open for An Taisce's National Spring Clean.

**Snap Into Action Competition:** Details of the Snap Into Action Competitions are now available on our website and have been circulated on social media. Details of the school competition has been circulated to all primary schools. Closing dates for schools and community groups is May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The winning school and community group will each receive a prize of €500.



**Community Engagement:** A waste prevention / waste management talk will be given to the Delightful Dollies in Enniscorthy on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April. Communication with Tidy Towns groups and Clean Coasts is ongoing.

**Clean Coasts Roadshow:** Clean coasts roadshow took place on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30 pm. at the Stella Maris Community Centre, Kilmore Quay. Over 50 were in attendance. Ivan Donoghue of Wexford Sub Aqua Club gave a fascinating talk and powerpoint presentation 'What Lies beneath Wexford's Coastal Waters. This event was co-hosted by An Taisce's Clean Coasts and the Environment Section of Wexford County Council in partnership with Tomhaggard Clean Coasts Group.





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

**100 Million Trees:** On 25<sup>th</sup> March Halo Tiles Centre of Excellence was planted with 1000 native trees as part of 'The 100 Million Trees Project'. The project is a new national community-driven initiative developed by brothers, Richard and David Mulcahy, which aims to see the planting of 100 million native Irish trees across the island of Ireland throughout the next decade to reverse the environmental damage caused by the reduction of forests worldwide. The project's ambitious aim will be achieved through densely planting between 1,000 and 2,500 native Irish trees at a time across small areas of land using 'the Miyawaki method'. Named after Japanese Botanist, Professor Akira Miyawaki, who developed the technique in the 1970s. By planting excess trees together, they grow considerably faster, denser, are more biodiverse, and most importantly create a very rapid carbon sink and provide excellent areas of biodiversity.



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



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

## LIBRARIES, ARTS & ARCHIVES

### CE Report

**My Open Library Service is operational at New Ross Library.**

New Ross has joined Gorey in providing the My Open Library Service. The service provides additional unstaffed hours to the community ensuring that the library is open from 8am -10am 365 days of the year for browsing, borrowing, study, Wifi and PC usage.

### Poetry Ireland Day

Poetry Ireland Day took place on the 27<sup>th</sup> of April. Events to celebrate this day took place in branches throughout the county. Wexford Branch held Rock N Poet a discussion with Tom Mooney and Peter Murphy about what can make a song a poem or a poem a song.

### Dublin One City One Book – Wexford Author Andrew Hughes

'The Coroner's Daughter' by Enniscorthy native Andrew Hughes has been selected as the One City One Book for Dublin in 2023. Heroes and Villains in Crime Fiction, featuring Andrew Hughes and Cat Hogan in conversation with Caroline Busher in Wexford Branch Library, was a special event to partner Wexford Libraries and One Dublin One Book.

### 'Ireland and Canada Links' at Gorey Library

On Tuesday April 25<sup>th</sup> Her excellency, Nancy Smyth, Canadian Ambassador to Ireland visited Gorey & Kilmuckridge Municipal District. Towards the end of the ambassador's Gorey trip, in which she met with a number of business and educational representatives, the ambassador facilitated a talk on 'Ireland and Canada Links' at Gorey Library.

### Spring Moves Dance Festival

Spring Moves Dance Festival is an opportunity for Wexford locals to engage with national and international dance artists and companies and to discover new dance in our communities. SMDF is also a resource for professional dance artists and dance practitioners and a meeting place for creative research and collaboration. In support of this Wexford Branch Library held 'Dancing through literature: James Joyce's Ulysses' with a screening of the short film 'A book, a bible and a beach: Wanderings in James Joyce's Ulysses' by José Miguel Jiménez and Liz Roche. This was followed by a panel discussion moderated by Peter Murphy with Liz Roche (Artistic Director of Liz Roche Company), Cliona O'Farrelly (Professor of Immunology and Biochemistry at TCD & Twitter book club founder @Ulyssesin80), and Neltah Chadamoyo (Solas Sirens Theatre Collective).

### Comic Book Creators and Elevate Programme, Wexford Local Development

Comic Book Creators with Wexford Local Development is a five-week programme for children participating in the Elevate Programme which commenced in April in Enniscorthy Library. Writer



and comic book illustrator Colum Kavanagh will facilitate the workshops. The Elevate Programme aims to encourage and support young people in their education and personal development. Linking the library on this and other Elevate projects is an ideal way to help develop a positive relationship between participants and local services.

### **Sensory Friendly Quiet Hour and Autism Awareness**

**Advocates for Autism CLG, a not for profit organisation based in Gorey, which provides support for parents of autistic children and young adults held a talk in Gorey Library with Teresa Carr Buckley. The talk covered advice for parents on how to better understand their neurodiverse children.**

The Sensory Friendly Quiet Hour runs from 4-5pm each Saturday in all our branches.

### **Community**

People interested in volunteering in their local area were invited to call in to chat with Volunteer Development Officer Ewa Juodis in Enniscorthy Library. A group from the Reach Ability and their support workers gathered for a cinema morning in Enniscorthy Library on April 12th.

**A Garda information table with Garda personnel providing information for the community, showcasing garda services and supports available was held in Wexford Library.**

Mariia Kolomiiets, The Ukrainian Family Support Worker with Gorey Youth Needs hosted a special Pysanka Easter egg decorating workshop in Gorey Library. Pysanka is one of the key elements of the ritual traditions of a Ukrainian Easter.

**BEAM Bunclody** who provide training to adults with special needs visited Bunclody Library weekly to borrow books and use the public pcs and hublets. Bunclody Library are also facilitating FDYS Bunclody who are hosting weekly STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) workshops and a Chess Club in the library.

### **Environment**

Kate Doyle discussed nappy waste and the use of recyclable cloth nappies in New Ross Branch.

Wexford Library hosted Finding Medicine & Magic in your garden with Forager Feebee Foran.

### **Health and Well Being**

Beginner friendly Yoga, the benefits of cycling and Activator Poles sessions were held in libraries throughout the month. World Nutritionist Declan Gilmore gave a talk on Nutrition, Exercise, Water and Sleep in New Ross Branch.

### **Healthy Ireland at Your Library**

Starting Healthy Habits, an online SafeFood event with experts Dr Colman Noctor and Dr Aileen McGloin, which discussed how a small daily changes can start families on the way to a healthier life was facilitated in Enniscorthy Branch.

Wexford Branch held a talk by Dr. Ann Marie Eustace Ryan 'The Amazing power of the Microbiome with Gut Health'.

### **IT Literacy**

**A group of service users from the Wexford Irish Wheelchair Association completed the last in a series of a four week block of computer skills classes in Gorey Library with tutor Mary Breen of Gorey Active Retirement.**

The local ETB, in collaboration with Enniscorthy Library, started a seven-week digital Literacy for beginners in the IT suite of Enniscorthy library.

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

### **Business**

Alan Maher gave a talk on how to present for an interview in New Ross Library. This also included information the competency-based interview.

### **Heritage**

Artist Amanda Doran and traditional singer Rachel Uí Fhaoláin held a May Bush Decorating & Traditional Song Workshop as part of The Gorey May Bush Féile 2023.

Local historian and photographer Liam Ryan provided a presentation on the Hook peninsula in New Ross Library.

Bunclody library held a lecture on some of the treasures found in the National Gallery of Ireland.

Wexford Branch hosted Reflections on the Irish Civil War in County Wexford from March 1923 with Historian in Residence Barry Lacey and a talk from John Garaghy, on Mary Dorothea Heron, 1896-1960 Ireland's First Female Solicitor. The talk also discussed her friend Fintan O' Connor, a solicitor from Wexford, who was her classmate and held in the lobby of the Gresham hotel on Bloody Sunday 1920.

Traditional singer and folklore collector Rachel Uí Fhaoláin facilitated a discussion on old cures in Irish folklore in Enniscorthy Branch.

### **Services to Ukrainian Nationals**

Informal English-speaking lessons continued throughout April in several branches. Distribution of information on library resources and e-Resources to Ukrainian Nationals continues in all branches. Our literacy App for children LOTE4Kids ie digital children's books in Languages Other Than English, is being actively promoted to Ukrainian Nationals as is Transparent Language Online our online language resource which gives access to over 110 languages including English for speakers of over 30 other languages.

### **Children's Services**

#### **Spring into Storytime**

*Spring Into Storytime*, a *Libraries Ireland* initiative, is delivered online and in all libraries across the country in the month of April. Special story times including Bedtime Storytimes were held in libraries for preschool and primary school aged children.

#### **Local History**

A total of 20 genealogy enquiries were received and fulfilled with a total of 28 local studies enquiries received and answered throughout April.

## **ARCHIVES**

### **Collections Management**

In addition to 41 research enquiries via email, telephone and post, a total of 5 researchers visited the Archive during April. Research topics included photographs from the 1918-23 period in County Wexford for exhibition purposes; research through local government minutes for references to Fethard Sewerage Scheme (1950s-70s); research through *Wexford Journal*

issues for family history purposes (1814-40); primary sources for research on the 1798 period in County Wexford.

A collection of extant minute books and accounts (1959-2020) from Clonroche ICA Guild were temporarily deposited in the county archive in April. The guild recently closed owing to a lack of new members. On the closure of a guild, the records are transferred to the governing body at An Grianán in Termonfeckin Co. Louth. To ensure that a copy of the minute books is retained locally, the volumes will be digitised in-house in the county archive over the next few weeks.

## **Digitisation**

The earliest three registers of County Managers' Orders (Aug 1942 – Mar 1945) were outsourced for digitisation towards the end of the month. Managers' Orders represent a vital record series for Wexford County Council and warrant permanent preservation – a digital copy for ease of access also ensures that the original volumes are appropriately protected. These volumes from the 1940s to the 1960s are also important for facilitating enquiries related to institutional trauma in the 20<sup>th</sup> century through a new National Centre for Research and Remembrance (NCRR) in relation to former residents of Mother and Baby homes, industrial schools, reformatories, Magdalen laundries and related institutions.

## **ARTS**

### **Sift Exhibition**

Sift Exhibition opened in County Hall on the 14<sup>th</sup> April, a touring exhibition of new multi-media artwork by artists from east Ireland and west Wales commissioned by Ancient Connections, the EU funded cultural and heritage programme linking Wales and Ferns in Wexford. The exhibition weaves together the themes of journeying, sacred places, ancestral heritage, storytelling, and longing for home through photography, animation, sound, text, story, glass, and light. The artists have been inspired by the findings of the Ancient Connections wider project. The Exhibition is open to the public from the 17<sup>th</sup> April to 19<sup>th</sup> May 2023. It is open Monday to Friday, 9 am-5pm. Free public and school tours of the Exhibition are offered until 19<sup>th</sup> May.

### ***Do the Little Things* Public Art Project**

This was launched on 15<sup>th</sup> April in St. Edan's Cathedral, Ferns and included a Q&A with Artist Bedwyr Williams, music, storytelling, folklore and a beekeeping demonstration. This public artwork was designed for two locations: Ferns, Wexford and St Davids, Pembrokeshire and commissioned by Ancient Connections which is led by Pembrokeshire County Council, together with partners Wexford County Council, Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority and Visit Wexford funded by the European Regional Development Fund through the Ireland Wales co-operation programme. The artist, Bedwyr Williams' distinctive proposal was selected from a shortlist and connects the two communities of St Davids and Ferns through the practice of beekeeping, reflecting the medieval story of St David and his friendship with St Aidan, who brought bees back to Ireland from Wales.

### **Artlinks**

Artlinks, a partnership of local authorities Arts Offices in Carlow, Kilkenny, Waterford and Wexford have announced that it has awarded over €85,000 to artists in the South East. These bursaries for emerging and professional artists are supported by the Arts Council/An Chomhairle Ealaíon and they provide professional development opportunities and supports for artists who are resident in these four counties. A total of 46 Wexford applications were received and out of an increased fund of €30,000 for Wexford artists the assessment panel awarded 12

Bursaries in total to Wexford based artists across art forms of Visual arts, Literature, Music, Drama, Film and Street Arts.

### **Small Arts Festival & Failte Ireland Grants Scheme 2023**

The Small Arts Festival & Failte Ireland Grants Scheme 2023 had a photo shoot launch on 20<sup>th</sup> April to promote the Grant Scheme with this year's winning festivals.

### **Reimagining Enniscorthy**

The Climate Café, in connection with Wexford Environmental Network, took place at The Wilds, Enniscorthy, on 12<sup>th</sup> April where people were invited to drop by to join the conversation on climate change and to discuss ideas for a greener, more sustainable town.

### **Living Arts Project – Open Call Schools and Artists**

The Art Office in partnership with Wexford Arts Centre have issued an open call in April 2023 for applications from primary schools and visual artists to participate in the Living Arts Programme commencing in late September 2023 and running until May 2024. The deadline for applications is Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2023. The programme is highly subsidised by the Arts Office and schools can apply for a 15 week or 8-week programme of visual art to be delivered by a lead and assistant artist managed by Wexford Art Centre. In addition, visual artists are invited to apply as lead artists or assistant artists.

### **Screen Wexford**

Funded by the Arts & Economic Departments of Wexford County Council to develop film industry in Wexford, Screen Wexford CLG was established in March 2023.

Screen Wexford Meet-up was on 31st March in St. Michael's Theatre, New Ross hosted by Alan Boland of Crannog films on behalf of Screen Wexford. The meet-up is open to anyone interested in and/or currently working in video, gaming, social media, film and TV or any Screen related industries.

A Documentary Masterclass was held on 18th of April in Wexford Arts Centre with Luke McManus & Terence White. This was followed by a film showing and Director Q&A.

### **County Wexford Youth Film Project**

Lights! Smartphones! Action! a free workshop funded by The Arts Department on 15<sup>th</sup> April in St. Michael's Theatre, allowed participants to create a short stop motion film together using tools available for android and apple mobile devices.

### **Music Generation Wexford**

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

Wexford Children's Opera Workshops - Session 8: March 4<sup>th</sup>, our venue was the National Opera House. We worked with a group of 15 young people to explore the music for the opening scene of an opera composed by Andrew Synnott. Music Generation Wexford expanded the cast of young people by hosting auditions for the principal roles on March 24th. Our open workshop and auditions for the chorus took place on Wednesday, April 5th and Thursday, April 6th. This brand-new Opera in partnership with The Wexford Festival Opera, produced in collaboration with the young participants, will be premiered in July of this year.

CAMHS & Frankenstein Bolts - Following a unique two-day song-writing workshop with CAMHS Wexford, musician educators with Music Generation Wexford performed a live gig with Frankenstein Bolts and the Yellow Bellows along with the young musicians from CAMHS, for

young people, families, friends and a wider audience at the Presentation Arts Centre, Enniscorthy.

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

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

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

### Creative Ireland

Under the Creative Communities Ireland initiative Wexford County Council will support three projects this year.

#### **Coracles on the Canal**

Coracles on the Canal is a collaboration between visual Artist Andi McGarry, a prolific builder of project boats, and participants from the senior citizens housing association and the wider community of Rathangan and Duncormick. A flotilla of Coracles will be built on site at the McCall's Community Centre, tested and then introduced to the local Bridgetown canal for exploration.

#### **Duncannon Harbour Walls**

Artist Kate Murphy in collaboration with the Duncannon Harbour Workers, the Tidy Village Group, and the Duncannon Village Renewal Group, plan to revive local stories through images. Each of the images will represent some facet of fishing life and/or seaside activities in the area. Accompanying the murals will be one or more interpretive panel offering visitors an insight into the rich history of the village and its fishing community.

#### **Evolve**

Creative Ireland Creative communities programme, Wexford County Council and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) North Wexford will run a programme to support the recovery and wellbeing of young people attending CAMHS through art. Artists Sonya Weston and Deirdre Travers will in a positive and safe space support a group of teenagers to produce a publication of their own design.

### Decade of Centenaries

#### **Decade of Commemoration Programme – New play commission -Amongst Men**

In 2021 Wexford County Council, in partnership with Wexford Arts Centre, issued an open call for the commission of a playwright to research and develop a new theatre work, addressing themes of Commemoration during the period 1916 to 1923 in relation to Wexford County. Following this open call Wexford playwright Eoghan Rua Finn was selected. This new play Amongst Men was produced and directed by Four Rivers Theatre Company in partnership with Wexford Arts Centre. It opened in Wexford Art Centre over Easter and had a very successful run over eight nights in April. It then toured the Southeast with performances in Waterford and Kilkenny. This commission was supported by the Department of Tourism, Culture Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media under the Decade of Centenaries 2012-2023 initiative.

## **FIRE SERVICES**

Wexford Fire Service Report March 2023

## Call statistics

Incident Type	Calls March 2023	Calls to date 2023	Calls to this period 2022
Fire Classification	Number	Number	Number
Chimney Fire in House (WCC / Private)	3 / 5 (8)	37	39
Other Fire in House (WCC / Private)	1 / 7 (8)	13	20
Caravan/Mobile Home	0	0	1
Flats (1) Local Authority	0	0	1
Flats (2) Privately Owned	0	0	1
Bedsit	0	0	0
Hospital	1	1	0
School	2	2	0
Other Institution	0	1	1
Factory	0	0	0
Chemical Plant	0	0	0
Storage Building/Warehouse	6	6	1
Shop/Supermarket	0	0	1
Office	0	0	1
Hotel/Guesthouse/Boarding House etc.	0	0	0
Place of Public Entertainment - Dance Hall, Disco, Cinema, Theatre, Bingo Hall	0	0	0
Public House ( incl singing lounge)	0	0	0
Restaurant	0	0	0
Petrol Station - Garage	0	0	1
Hazardous Substance in transit (only cases where fire was involved)	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle	5	15	5
Unoccupied Building	0	0	1
Agriculture Business	1	2	1
Forest/Bog/Grass	1	14	20
Ship/Aircraft	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	0	1	3
Outdoor Storage	1	2	0
Outdoor Rubbish	2	6	7
Special Service Classification	Number	Number	Number
Entrapment	1	2	6
Gas/Chemicals	2	3	1
Hazardous substances in transit not involving fire	0	0	0
Hazardous Substances non Transit	0	0	0
Machinery	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	2	10	11
Other rescue	4	16	9
Rescue/Removal of persons from water	1	2	0
Road traffic accident	16	45	35
Water pumping/flooding	0	0	2

Incident Type	Calls March 2023	Calls to date 2023	Calls to this period 2022
False Alarm Classification	Number	Number	Number
Good Intent	23	63	58

Malicious	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>226</b>

### Fire calls by brigade to date

INCIDENT TYPE	WEXFORD	GOREY	ENNISCORTHY	NEW ROSS	BUNCLODY	TOTAL
Fire Classification	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
Chimney Fire in House	15	5	7	8	2	37
Other Fire in House	1	2	5	5	0	13
Caravan/Mobile Home	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flats (1) Local Authority	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flats (2) Privately Owned	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bedsit	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hospital	1	0	0	0	0	1
School	0	0	2	0	0	2
Other Institution	1	0	0	0	0	1
Factory	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chemical Plant	0	0	0	0	0	0
Storage Building/Warehouse	0	2	1	3	0	6
Shop/Supermarket	0	0	0	0	0	0
Office	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hotel/Guesthouse/Boarding House etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Place of Public Entertainment - Dance Hall, Disco, Cinema, Theatre, Bingo Hall	0	0	0	0	0	0
Public House ( incl singing lounge)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Restaurant	0	0	0	0	0	0
Petrol Station - Garage	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hazardous Substance in transit (only cases where fire was involved)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle	6	3	2	3	1	15
Unoccupied Building	0	0	0	0	0	0
Agriculture Business	0	0	1	0	1	2
Forest/Bog/Grass	0	5	2	1	6	14
Ship/Aircraft	0	0	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	1	0	0	0	0	1
Outdoor Storage	1	0	0	1	0	2
Outdoor Rubbish	2	1	3	0	0	6

INCIDENT TYPE	WEXFORD	GOREY	ENNISCORTHY	NEW ROSS	BUNCLODY	TOTAL
Special Service Classification	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
Entrapment	1	1	0	0	0	2
Gas/Chemicals	1	2	0	0	0	3
Hazardous substances in transit not involving fire	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hazardous Substances non Transit	0	0	0	0	0	0

Machinery	0	0	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	1	2	3	4	0	10
Other rescue	9	3	3	1	0	16
Rescue/Removal of persons from water	2	0	0	0	0	2
Road traffic accident	17	9	10	7	2	45
Water pumping/flooding	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>False Alarm Classification</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>
Good Intent	17	15	17	12	2	63
Malicious	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>241</b>

### Fire Safety Certificate Applications

Number of Applications received in March 2023: 10

Number of Applications received to date: 28

Number of Applications to this period 2022: 31



## **Finance:**

### **Audit of Accounts 2022**

Following the completion of the 2022 Annual Financial Statement/Final Accounts (AFS) it is expected that the Local Government Audit Service will commence the formal audit of the accounts shortly.

### **Capital Programme 2023 – 2025**

The 3 year capital programme, 2023 – 2025 is included as a separate item on the agenda for the consideration and approval of members. The programme sets out projected spending on Capital Projects over the 3 years of the programme and has been compiled on the basis that the identified funding for the projects will be secured during the term of the programme. The programme is also subject to review and revision annually.

### **Audit Committee**

The next meeting of the Audit Committee is scheduled for the 17<sup>th</sup> May and will include consideration of the 2022 Annual Financial Statement and financial performance for 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, 2023.

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