

Chief Executive's Report

County Council Meeting 10.10.22

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Local Enterprise Office

Annual Employment and Development Survey 2022

The Department of Enterprise. Trade and Employment (DETE) has a mandate to coordinate and advise on enterprise policy and has responsibility to carry out an Annual Employment and Development Survey with the assistance of the Local Enterprise Offices. This data is critical to the development of enterprise policy and consequently in helping to facilitate future job creation. Data collected will be used for planning analysis purposes by government departments and state agencies authorised by DETE. The information is combined with survey information from other enterprise state agencies to assist in evaluating and formulating industrial policy using a single comprehensive data source.

LEO Wexford has recently commenced the collection of the required survey data from its' client base. The results of the survey are due to be released early in 2023.

Lunchtime Webinars

A successful series of lunchtime webinars ran during the month of September covering areas such as 'Survive & Thrive through High Inflation', 'Sustainability is Your Business' and 'Cash-Your Lifeblood', offering business the opportunity to hear timely advice from industry experts.

National Women's Enterprise Day 2022

Entitled "Our Future Our Way", National Women's Enterprise Day takes place on **Thursday, 13th October,** in the **Ashdown Park Hotel, Gorey.** Join female entrepreneurs and budding businesswomen from across Wexford as we look to the future.

Registration, refreshments, networking: 9.30am Panel Discussion, Q&A, networking: 10.30am - 12.30pm Lunch: 12.45pm – 2pm

MC: Joanne Hession, Founder & CEO of LIFT Ireland

LIFT is a national award-winning social enterprise raising the level of leadership across the country. Over 30,000 people have participated in LIFT roundtables since its inception four years ago.

Panel of speakers:

Chupi Sweetman: <u>Chupi</u> is the designer of luxury, award-winning jewellery. Employing over 60 people, Chupi has built a borderless brand that is adored by fans in over 65 countries across the world.

Michelle O'Neill: Michelle is an international assistant soccer referee. She is the first Irish football match official to officiate at an Olympic Games - in Japan in 2021. In 2019, she became the first-ever Irish person to officiate at a World Cup Final - USA v Netherlands. Michelle has also officiated at top-level UEFA matches.

Trudie Power: Trudie is the co-founder of award-winning <u>Trudie's Kitchen</u> and chairperson of Wexford Food Family. Founded in 2000, Trudie's Kitchen now supplies leading supermarket chains and employs 22 people at its catering facility outside New Ross.

Wexford Local Enterprise Office's leading light, **Laura Sinnott** of <u>Wexford Home</u> <u>Preserves</u>, artisan maker of multiple award-winning *jams*, marmalades, savoury and specialty *preserves*, *will also be in attendance at the networking event*. The company supplies over 350 shops nationwide and makes award-winning Simply Better products for Dunnes Stores.

The morning programme will conclude with lunch featuring local Wexford produce.

Book online at : https://www.localenterprise.ie/Wexford/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/

Tourism

Rose of Tralee Tour – Further PR and Media statistics



Audience Records across Rose Of Tralee Social Platforms

- More than 13.7m impressions across the combined Social Platforms (FB/Twitter/You Tube & TicTok)
- > 55% of Social Audience are between 18-34
- On Rose of Tralee International Festival TicTok & You tube almost 1.5 million videos views were achieved

Television Audience

- > Total Reach 1.3 m viewers to live broadcasts
- Over the 2 nights an average of 42% of the total Audience watching live shows up from 39% in 2019
- > Proved popular amongst 18–34-year-old audience 46% for the 2 nights
- Live TV shows were watched in Over 80 Countries including UK the US Australia, Canada & Spain with growth in streaming from UAE
- On RTE Social Platforms the shows proved incredibly popular with 1.6 million views and counting.
- Over 400,000 RTE viewers tune into the Wexford Rose Tour with truly stunning footage of County Wexford.

PLANNING

Planning Applications

Numbers are those received from the 27th of August 2022.until the 23rd of September 2022.

No. of valid applications	122
No. of invalid applications	7
Extension of Duration	1
Exempted Development Declaration	6

Numbers are those received from the 1st of January 2022 until 23rd of September 2022

No. of valid applications	1161
No. of invalid applications	109
Extension of Duration	25
Exempted Development Declaration	38

Pre-Planning Applications

Numbers are as follows up until the 23rd of September 2022

No. of open pre-planning requests	165
No. of pre-planning meetings completed	202
Average waiting time to meeting	100 days

Built, Cultural & Natural Heritage

Built Heritage

- Conservation work is on-going at a number of archaeological monuments in Co. Wexford with funding support from the National Monuments Service of the Department of Housing, Heritage and Local Government through the Community Monuments Fund. The monuments are Ishartmon Church, Fethard Castle and Mountgarrett Castle
- Conservation work is beginning at New Ross town wall, William Street, to preserve a section of the medieval town wall. This project has received funding support through the Irish Walled Towns Network.
- Work is nearing completion on the World War II defence heritage recording project, which received funding through the County Heritage Plan scheme from the Heritage Council.

Cultural Heritage

- Funding was received under the Decade of Centenaries fund for an audit and database compilation of the War of Independence and Civil War memorials of Co. Wexford.
- Funding was received from the Heritage Council and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for the compilation of a heritage-led regeneration plan for Wexford town. This work is on-going.

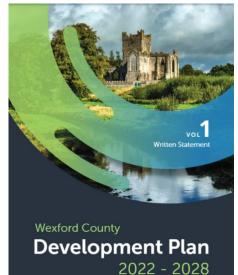
Natural Heritage & Biodiversity

- A dragonfly identification workshop was held in early September in partnership with the National Biodiversity Data Centre. The location for the workshop was Lady's Island and participants were given an illustrated talk and walk around the island.
- Projects supported via the Local Biodiversity Action Fund are nearing completion. The following projects were given funding in Co. Wexford in 2022; dune restoration works at various coastal locations, a county-wide wetland survey and database compilation, invasive species removal from a historic graveyard and a county-wide barn owl survey.

Forward Planning

Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028

Following receipt of confirmation from the Office of the Planning Regulator of its satisfaction with the Council's responses to the remaining outstanding issues, the new County Development Plan came into effect on Monday, 25th July 2022. New planning applications received from that date onwards will be assessed against the policies, objectives, and development management standards in the new Plan. It is proposed to hold information sessions on the Plan for Agents in the coming months. The Plan is currently available to view online on the Council's website and in hard copy format at the Planning Department, Carricklawn. The graphic design and production of the Plan is underway and once this process is completed hard copies will be available for circulation and purchase.



New Local Area Plans for Wexford and Enniscorthy Towns

Background work has commenced for the new Local Area Plans for Wexford and Enniscorthy Towns. Consultants have been appointment to carry out the Strategic Environmental Assessment, Appropriate Assessment and Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for Wexford Town Local Area Plan.

Building Control (27th August 2022 – 23rd September 2022)

•	Validated Commencement Notices:	58
٠	Number of Building Control Inspections:	22
•	Validated Cert. of Compliance on Completion:	30
•	Number of Taking in Charge reports sent to the Districts	0

Planning Enforcement

The number of planning enforcement cases as of 23rd of September 2022.are as follows:

•	Live Cases	337
•	Cases Opened from 1 st January 2022	184
•	Cases Closed from 1 st January 2022	207

Planning Enforcement – Short-Term Letting

The cumulative number of short-term letting planning enforcement cases as of 23^{rd} September 2022 are as follows: -

•	Live Cases	23
•	Cases Opened since 1 st January 2022	23

6

Cases Closed since 1st January 2022

Derelict Sites, Dangerous Structures and Vacant Sites

Report from 27th August 2022 to 23rd September 2022 as follows:

Derelict Site Register on the Council Website is being updated. Work in progress and should be ready this October.

- 7 property inspections/visits conducted.
- 2 property owners currently engaged with the County Council to carry out remedial works so that the properties will not be placed on Derelict Site Register.
- 4 Section 8(2) Notices posted on properties.
- 2 Dangerous Structure Notices issued.
- 0 Properties appraised as per Vacant Sites / Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015; 0 submitted to DOS for approval. The new RZLT will supersede the Vacant Sites Levy

Disability Access Certificates (DACs):

The number of valid DAC applications, for the period from 1st January 2022 up to and including 23rd of September 2022, totals **48**.

Applications Districts	Total for Districts	Await Assessment	Further Info.	Granted	Refused
Enniscorthy	6	0	2	4	0
Gorey	7	0	0	5	2
New Ross	5	0	2	3	0
Wexford	18	1	0	15	2
Rosslare	12	0	1	11	0
2022 Totals	48	1	5	38	4

Disability Proofing carried out as part of WCC Access activity

Referrals	Total
LAC /PLAC & General Planning Applications	93

Access Related Items

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

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

New Ross Municipal District

The Raheen Family Resource Centre resubmitted their project proposals with work started on the proposed accessible community garden space.

Enniscorthy Municipal District

Bunclody Day Care Centre has started works on their accessible community garden expected completion date for November. Kiltealy C.D.A have completed works and are holding an open event on the 19th of October reporting a huge positive response from the community and service users to the works.

Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District

Monageer Parish Grotto Group, are revising proposed works which are expected to be available by end of September. Gorey Rangers FC, Ballycanew Men's Shed and Ballycanew-Ballyoughter C.D.A have all started on their respective projects.

Rosslare Municipal District

Rosslare Community & Sports Centre (RCSC) having revised their proposals are now in position to move forward with works. The proposals for Our Lady's Island are ongoing. It is hoped the linkage with Heathy Wexford and WCC Community Department to provide an enhanced project building on current facilities to pilot an example of accessible intergenerational play, engagement and opportunities.

The possibility for the relocation of the Triobike and a collaborative community/cycling/intergenerational programme is being followed up with the newly appointed Cycling Officer.

Advanced Digital Access Participation Project, (ADAPP)

All virtual tours of heritage sites as chosen has been completed and this initiative was launched as part of National Heritage Week 2022.

The current programme of virtual tours of our public building is expected to be completed by end of October 2022.

Water Services



1. Irish Water Asset Delivery

2. Minor Capital

3. Rural Water Programme

4. Water Conservation



1. Irish Water – Asset Delivery

Capital Schemes		
Enniscorthy Network Upgrade	 A new gravity main for Mary Street is required to alleviate flooding and has been agreed to be designed in 2022 and is progressing to site investigation All residents and business owners have been contacted in relation to planned works, by mail and in person. SI is complete and detail Stage 4 design is planned for late Oct. 	
Enniscorthy Intake and Vinegar Hill Upgrade Project	 Planning submission for the WTP has been submitted to the local authority. Tenders are currently being pre-pared fowling detail design discussions in Workshop 6 Tenders are being finalised and should be ready within the next month. 	
Wexford Drainage Area Plan	 Complete drainage model of the Wexford Town foul drainage system. A full detailed hydraulic model identifying all pipelines and infrastructure and deficiencies in the network. Consultants Nicholas O'Dwyer appointed by IW. Drainage infrastructure survey works complete in Wexford Town and Castlebridge. Model verification ongoing. 	
Gorey/Courtown Drainage Area Plan	 Complete drainage model of the Gorey/Courtown foul drainage system Tender evaluation January 2022, with start onsite Q2 2022 Consultants JB Barry appointed by IW. Stage 1 commenced July 2022 	
Newtown WTP Upgrade	 Upgrade to existing Treatment plant including improved raw water treatment, instrumentation and run to waste facility Preliminary design ongoing, IW have appointed Glan Agua as part of their early contactor involvement programme to design and build the new works Onsite work to commence Q1 2023 	
Fethard-on-Sea Sewerage Scheme	Preliminary Design for the project now completes for issue to contractor for design and build. Irish water has advised that due to budget constraints, this project has been re-prioritised and will not go to construction in the near future. Irish Water has advised that it will be 2023 at the earliest before this scheme is re considered for funding.	

Creagh WTP Upgrade	 Upgrade of existing treatment plant including Intake improvements at Pallas and Kilmichael, DAFF plant refurbishment and installation of UV treatment Project scope agreed and awaiting appointment for preliminary design Preliminary design complete, tendering ongoing
Gorey Regional Water Supply	New Treatment plant and storage site at Ballyminaun Plant In operational phase with Glan Agua
Untreated Agglomeration Study (UTAS)	 Arthurstown, Ballyhack and Duncannon The project is now at commissioning stage. Expect to enter 12-month operational phase with Sisk from start of October 2022.
	 Kilmore Quay Main contractor Sisk is on site to build the new wastewater treatment plant in Kilmore Quay. Work is progressing to programme to date with the new pump stations and pipe network under construction. Main Contractor is due to commence works on the Quay which will involve new traffic management. Works on the L3056 road has commenced and is expected to take 9-11 weeks with a road closure in place.
Direct Labour Pipe Laying Crew	 Find & Fix - Leakage Reduction Programme. Focusing on mains rehabilitation and will revert to Find & Fix as required. We have external finding resources at present with fixes being completed by WCC operational staff.
	 Mains Rehabilitation Old Dublin Road in Enniscorthy 2.3km of mains rehabilitation is due for completion in mid-October.
Ferns Sewerage Upgrade	 Asset Planning Strategic assessment is programmed for first half of 2023 where long and short list of upgrade options will be considered Stage 2 will assess options and Stage 3 will bring forward detailed design and tender documentation.
STVGP – Small towns and villages growth programme	 IW programme to deliver additional capacity to existing towns and villages serviced by IW. Wellington Bridge and Tagoat are included in national programme Initial options report meeting held with defined scope agreed
Coolree Reservoir Rehabilitation works	 Rehabilitation works to the embankment, spillway and valve tower at Coolree Reservoir Preliminary scope outlined with ongoing feasibility studies to determine best solution
Bunclody Water supply- Supply Demand Balance	 Hydrogeological assessment underway Workshop -2 held during September for treatment plant upgrade

2. Minor Capital



IW Minor Water Schemes	 Treated Water storage programme 3 sites in Wexford – Kilmallock bridge, Camolin and Kiltealy. Kilmallock Bridge Reservoir planning granted; Tender issued to market September 2022 	
IW Minor Wastewater Schemes	 Stimulus Funding - Pump Upgrades Pump and control upgrades for Ryland Road WWPS Bunclody, Mauritiustown WWPS Rosslare, and Rosemary Heights WWPS Ferns are under construction Stimulus Funding - SCADA Upgrades SCADA upgrades at 3 No. WWTPs (Carrick, Kilmuckridge and Bridgetown) are on order Stimulus Funding - WWTP Minor Improvement Works Upgrade works to improve resilience of the inlet PS at Ballymurn WWTP is currently underway. Invest to Save Funding has been granted for a new sludge press at Rosslare Strand WWTP, with manufacture now complete, and installation is underway 	
IW Capital Maintenance	 > The capital maintenance budget for 2022 has been adjusted to €2.35million > The latest available report from Irish Water shows spend to end of August at €1.9million 	
Non Irish Water Small Capital Schemes	 Willows, Wellington Bridge Site improvement works are currently underway Corderraun Close, Dunmain Site improvement works are complete 	

DPI Resolution Scheme for Water Services Infrastructure	Funding was granted by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government for the resolution of Developer Provided Infrastructure (DPI) Issues at 4 number estates in Wexford. Works to progress at these sites to remove the DPI and connect to the public network in 2021 and 2022	
	 Kyle Close, Oulart- Water connection is complete with sewerage to follow in Q4 2022. Mountain View, Ballindaggin- COF received from IW. Survey complete and full design underway. Cleann na gCaor Monagear Connection enquiry made Design in 	
	 Gleann na gCaor, Monagear- Connection enquiry made. Design in progress Cois Cuan, Arthurstown Coolballow estate- Connection granted for decommissioning of DPI at Coolballow estate to connect to Wexford SS 	

INTA STATE

3. Rural Water	
Measure 2 - Public Health Compliance	 Kilanerin GWS Hydrogeologist Final Report has been received and reviewed into the causes of high nitrate level within the extracted raw water from the GWS borehole. Group Water Scheme and NFGWS discussing the various options Recommended.
Measure 3 – Enhancement of Existing Schemes including Water Conservation	 Blackstairs GWS Storage Tank - Hydraulic model assessment has been undertaken by the Consultants. A report has been provided and assessed. Initial assessment is that a new storage tank is not the best solution. GWS reviewing recommendations, discussions are ongoing. Reservoir Bypass -WCC have been informed of potential additional costs required to carry out works. A report has been compiled and submitted to the Dept.; the Dept. requested further information. Additional reports were completed and submitted to the Dept. in December. Follow up with Dept. March 2022. June 2022, spoke to the Dept. awaiting response.
Measure 5 – Transition of Existing Group Water Schemes and Group Sewerage Schemes	 Bing GSS - Community Wastewater Connection (CWwC) Departmental agreement to progress the scheme to tender stage. Works currently in development are land acquisition/wayleave maps. Permission from landowners to enter lands for SI investigations have been returned Stage 2 of the part XI process commenced on 23rd March when the documents were submitted to Planning.

	 Works currently in development are preparation of site investigation works and main contract tender packages. Returned tender price from contractors for main contract works shall be subject to final Departmental assessment and approval. Site visit and meeting took place in June with the committee and landowners regarding pumping station sites.
Measure 6 - Community Connection Networks (Water)	 MARWP 2022-2024 Exploratory works have commenced for suitable projects for submission in the next round of the programme.
Measure 8 – Individual wells (private or household wells)	 > Individual Well Grants A total of 26 new well grant applications were registered in August 2022. 13 Well Grants have been paid in June, totalling €37,550.07 Paperless system in place for Individual Well Grants. IT are currently designing a further Workflow.
Measure A8 - Waster Water Collection & Treatment Needs for Villages & Settlements without access to Public Wastewater Service	 New Advance Phase of MARWP 2022-2024 Submissions requested from all local authorities Deadline 15th September 2022 Matrix Being constructed for Priority funding Limited to two applications Feasibility studies submitted to the Department for Ramsgrange and Glynn for review by expert panel

4. Water Conservation



Water Conservation	 Consumption Countywide consumption for September 2022 was 43.3MLD. Overall consumption is trending high.
Leak Detection & Repair	 Leak repairs Leak repairs are on-going throughout the county. Planned Leak Detection (PLD) Operation Planned leak detection was focused mainly in Fardystown, Wexford, Duncannon, New Ross, Enniscorthy and Gorey
Water Network Programme	 Rehab Submissions Trance 7 rehab and BYS proposals have been submitted for Irish Water for approval of 2023 works. Find and Fix LA Find crews were concentrated in South Regional, New Ross, Gorey and Enniscorthy.
	 > BYS Services Works underway in St John's Villas, Pearse Road, Redmond St and Drumgoold Villas in Enniscorthy by Irish Water's Contractor Shareridge. St Johns Villas and Pearce Road are scheduled for decommissioning in October 2022.
	 Pressure Management PRVs were replaced at three rocks at Forth mountain and Ballinra in Screen. A new PRV was installed in Clonroche.
	 First Fix Shareridge are conducting ongoing First Fix investigations and repairs around the county.

ROADS & TRANSPORTATION

MAJOR NATIONAL ROADS PROJECTS

N11/N25 Oilgate to Rosslare Harbour

- Ground Investigation Tenders are being assessed. It is anticipated that fieldworks could commence early in October.
- Environmental surveys within proposed corridor are ongoing.
- Traffic studies and traffic modelling is ongoing.
- The overall design of the development is progressing, including junction and structures strategies. The proposed alignment has been reviewed by the Management Group and will be presented to affected landowners in early October.

N25 Rosslare Europort Access Road

The position on this project remains unchanged, we are still awaiting a decision from An Bord Pleanála.

- Section 177AE planning application & CPO Maps and Schedules were submitted to An Bord Pleanála on 5th July 2022.
- 3 submissions were submitted to An Bord Pleanála which may at its discretion hold an oral hearing on proposed development. Anticipated date for the decision by An Bord Pleanála is 7th December 2022.

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.
- Invitations to tender were issued on 30th August with a tender return date of 16th.
 September. The tender assessment is due to be completed by the 3rd of October
- Pavement works will not commence before November.

N80 Tomacurry to Ballycarney Phase 1

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

- The total scheme length is 3.7km. The allocation from TII for 2022 allows for the first 2 km at the southern end to be completed in 2022.
- Works are continuing on the production of the tender documents. It is hoped to tender this scheme before mid-October.
- Pavement works will not commence mid-November.

2022 Safety Schemes

N25 Ballygillane Roundabout

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

- This scheme was tendered in November 2021.
- Works commenced on 23rd May and should be substantially completed by the end of the year.

2022 Additional Maintenance Allocations

N30 Forestwood Pavement Repair €250,000

- Wexford County Council applied for and received additional maintenance funding from TII to carry out pavement repairs on the N30 at Forestwood.
- These works were tendered in August. Construction is due to commence in mid to late October.

Drainage and Verge Maintenance €110,000

- Wexford County Council applied for and received additional maintenance funding for drainage and verge maintenance works on the N11, N25 and N30. These maintenance works were completed during May and June.
- A consultant will be appointed to carry out a drainage design for a section of the N25 between Barntown and Larkins cross that flooded twice since the 25th December 2021

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

- This allocation was for the upgrade of former national roads.
- Pavement repairs will be done on Millpark road from Castle Hill to Arnolds Cross.
- This scheme was tendered in August with a tender return date of 7th September.
- A contractor will be appointed in the first week of October.

REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROADS

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

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

Roads completed (Clause 804 surfacing) in the last month:

- Moores Cross to Knockroe; (New Ross District);
- Knockmore; (New Ross District);
- Barmoney; (Rosslare District).

Roads completed (macadam surfacing) in the last month:

- Garrison to Waddington; (Rosslare District);
- Grange to Verengly; (Rosslare District);
- Barrsytown to Danescastle; (Rosslare District).

Surface Dressing Works

The 2022 surface dressing programme (126km) commenced 10 June in Enniscorthy MD and finished in Wexford Borough District 20 September.

Roads surface dressed in the last month are:

- <u>Rosslare District</u>; Woodgraigue; Chour; Kilrane to Kisha; Ford of Ling; Cleariestown to Tracystown; Forth Mountain.
- <u>Wexford Borough District</u>: Muchwood to Carrigmannon ; New Line Rd Ballymorris to Hayestown ; Farmhill Crossabeg; Newtown Upper crossabeg ; Blackhall/Bulgan Glynn.

Community Involvement Schemes

€614,350 grant has been allocated to County Wexford for 2022. Seven roads are to be resurfaced in 2022.

Those resurfaced to date as follows:

- Rossard; (Enniscorthy District);
- Carrowreagh Lane; (New Ross District);
- Ballyharren; (Wexford Borough District).

Local Improvement Schemes

Wexford County Council was allocated €431,760 grant in May 2022 to resurface 13 private lanes. An additional grant of €349,267 was allocated in August 2022 to resurface 10 additional lanes. The total 2022 grant is €781,027 to resurface 23 lanes.

Lanes completed in the last month:

- <u>Enniscorthy District</u>; Mohurry, Kiltealy; Kiltealy Village, Enniscorthy; Monalee, Enniscorthy.
- <u>Gorey-Kilmuckridge District</u>; Camolin village to Camolin Park ; From L5068 to The Bleach; Ballydawmore, From L2024 to Nolan's farm yard.

Bridge Rehabilitation Grant

There are 19 bridges for repair with a grant of €603,000. This excludes bridges funded under Christmas day 2021 storm damage.

Bridges completed to date:

- Kiltrea Bridge; Kiltilly Bridge ;(Enniscorthy District);
- Gurlins Bridge; Aughnagan Bridge; (Rosslare District).

Flood Damaged Bridge Repairs

Repairs are complete at the following bridges:

- Enniscorthy District: Kilcarbry, Kiltilly, Ballinavary. Kiltrea Bridges
- New Ross District: Garraun, Paisleyhall.

Temporary structures in place pending statutory consents:

• Chapel Bridge, Adamstown and Cullenstown Little

Ongoing construction works at Raheen Bridge to be complete in October.

Specific Improvement Works – The Deeps Bridge

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

An Bord Pleanála has granted permission for the remediation project to proceed. The design and tender documents are complete. Tenders for construction are due back 26 October 2022. Works are expected to commence Q 4 of 2022 or Q1 of 2023.

General Maintenance

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

ACTIVE TRAVEL MEASURES

Active Travel Projects are progressing around the County. The National Transport Authority provided an allocation of €4.44m to Wexford County Council for Active Travel Infrastructure in 2022.

Active travel infrastructure is infrastructure that enables commuters to travel under their own physical energy on their daily commute etc. This could be by walking, cycling, wheeling (using a wheelchair or mobility aid), or scooting.

Active travel journeys are often short journeys like trips to school, work or to the shops.

According to the Central Statistics Office 29% of trips are to locations less than 2km from home, and of these, 57% are made by car. The aim of our Active Travel Projects is to support more people to walk and cycle for everyday short journeys, improving health, creating safer communities and reducing environmental impacts.

The list below outlines the allocations for 2022: -

	Project Name	2022			
	,	Allocation			
1	Beechlawn/Clonard Avenue Cycle Scheme, Wexford Town	€390,000			
2	Newtown Road Cycle Scheme	€1,000,000			
3	Monck Street Pedestrianisation Scheme	€770,000			
4	Rosslare Harbour to Kilrane Cycle Scheme	€80,000			
5	R723 Oakland Roundabout to Kent's Cross, New Ross Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme	€150,000			
6	Cycle Repair/Rest Facilities Kilmore Quay and Hook head	€13,296			
7	New Footpath Schemes – Enniscorthy, Davidstown, Kiltealy, Milehouse, Ballyhogue, Clohamon and Tombrack	€46,746			
8	New Footpaths Scheme – The Ballagh, Gorey, Ballycanew and Riverchapel	€210,336			
9	New Footpaths Scheme – Duncannon, Ballinaboola, Campile, Ballymitty and Bridgetown	€30,483			
10	Footpath Improvement Schemes – Oilgate, NewRoss, Fethard, Piercestown, Taghmon, Wellingtonbridge and Wexford Town	€250,000			
11	Light Segregation Cycle Schemes- Gorey and Wexford Town	€100,000			
12	Junction Tightening Schemes – Pedestrian Crossings €100,000				
13	Low – cost permeability measures	€40,000			
14	Safe to Schools Programme – Support Infrastructure	€150,000			
15	Enniscorthy Footpath improvement Schemes	€150,000			
16	Gorey footpath Improvement Schemes	€150,000			
17	New footpaths – Goat Hill, Ballywilliam and Oaklands to Priory Street	€100,000			
18	Pedestrian Improvement Schemes in Our Lady's Island, €39,000 Tomhaggard, Murntown, Barntown				
19	School Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Wexford Town	€90,000			
20	Roxborough Cycle Scheme, Wexford Town	€100,000			
21	Wexford Town Local Transport Plan	€150,000			

Many of the smaller projects such as the footpath schemes and junction tightenings have been completed.

The larger schemes such as the proposed Roxborough Cycle Scheme,

Clonard/Beechlawn Cycle Scheme and New Ross Cycle Scheme are at design stage with options assessments reports now submitted to the National Transport Authority for their review. Detail design, planning and public consultation will follow prior to going to tender on these projects. Meanwhile Part 8 Planning Approval has been granted for the Newtown Road Cycle Scheme which will proceed to tender shortly.

Meetings are taking place with three schools to finalise proposals for the Safe Routes to School Programme. The schools identified for this year are Rosslare Strand National School, St. Aidan's National School, Enniscorthy and Adamstown National school.

Car Free Day this year was on the 22nd of September. This was part of the wider European Mobility Week.

A number of events were supported by the Active Travel Department in recognition of this week including a Cycle Right programme for schools and Balance Bikes training for teachers. This was in conjunction with Sheilbaggan Outdoor Education and Training Centre.

A demo of a potential E-Bike scheme was given to Council staff with a view to exploring a pilot of such a scheme for Wexford Town. The pilot bike sharing scheme would involve

bringing approximately 60 E-Bikes to begin with to various locations around the town. Users would pick up, ride and drop off bicycles at points across the town.

The benefits of such a scheme could include transport flexibility, reductions in emissions, health benefits, reduced congestion and reduced fuel consumption.

Three new staff members have joined the Roads Department to make up the Active Travel Team. A new Senior Executive Engineer, Executive Engineer and a new Walking and Cycling officer will assist in the role out of the Active Travel Infrastructure projects. A fourth staff member will join the team shortly making up the full complement of the new section.

PUBLIC LIGHTING

LED Upgrade (Non-National Roads)

- Over 12,000 lanterns have been upgraded to LED since the beginning of 2016.
- Design works are completed.
- Works are almost complete bar installing Led trays in the Heritage decorative lanterns across the county. It is hoped to complete the upgrade of these remaining lanterns on non-National roads and housing estates by late 2022.
- A plan will be put in place to upgrade the remaining lanterns in housing estates that were taken in charge over the last 4 to 5 years.

Public Lighting Development Fund

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

- Ballygarrett Village Works completed.
- Balintray, Courtown Works completed. One ESB connection made. Awaiting a second ESB connection.
- Killinick Village -Completed
- Wexford Town Mulgannon

Further works are planned are as follows:

- North Parade Gorey infill lighting on ESB Network poles. Lights installed. Awaiting ESB connection.
- Clonattin Road Gorey infill lighting on ESB Network poles. Lights installed. Awaiting ESB connection.
- Ramsfort Avenue Gorey infill along by GAA pitch.
- The Ballagh Church to the school Survey Required.
- The Ballagh Ballagh Cove to regional road. Survey required
- Killenagh Village Lights installed. Awaiting ESB connection.
- Wexford Town Seamus Kelly roundabout to Spawell Road
- Rathgarogue Village
- Davistown Village

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

SPECIAL PROJECTS

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

Final snag works and additional works to improve accessibility along some of the existing trails has now been completed.

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

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

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

1.2 Min Ryan Park

Sole Sports and Leisure has been appointed to construct the skate park and MUGA on a design and build basis. The MUGA is now complete and open to the public. Works on the Skate Park recommenced in July and will be complete in October. Public lighting at these installations will follow.



1.3 Enniscorthy Technology Park Phase 1

Phase 1 – the development of three serviced sites is substantially complete and the construction of the first building is well advanced.

1.4 Gorey District Park

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

1.5 South East Greenway

Contracts for the works on Lots 1, 2 and 3 were awarded to Glas Civil Engineering and works are now substantially completed on site. Landowner agreements on accommodation works are progressing and it is planned that Lot 5A (Ferrybank to Curraghmore) will be tendered for works in coming weeks. The detailed design of Lot 4 (New Ross to Mount Elliott) is being advanced with a tender date planned for early 2023.

1.6 Trinity Wharf

Due to significant inflation in the market since tenders were received, the original tender process for the access road undertaken in 2021 was abandoned. A revised tender invitation issued in December 2021 and tenders have been received and have been assessed. I tis expected to award the works contract in October 2022.

Procurement of consultants for design services for the site development and public infrastructure works is underway. The pre-qualification process is completed, and the successful design firms have been issued with tender documents. Tender submissions were received on 31/03/2022. Appointment is expected in Q4 2022.

1.7 New Ross Fire Station

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



1.8 Wexford Arts Centre Extension

The main works contract has been awarded to McKelan Construction Ltd and works commenced on site in May 2021. The works are on-going and substantial completion is now expected in October 2022, with the Arts Centre due to reopen in time for the Opera Festival..

1.9 High Hill, New Ross

The Contract was awarded to MJS Civil Engineering and works are nearing substantial completion with the official opening to be held on October 6th 2022.



1.10 Monck Street Enhancement Scheme

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

The works are continuing and are expected to be substantially completed in October 2022 with the last parcel of the works now underway following the diversion of overhead electrical infrastructure by the ESB.



1.11 New Ross Public Realm – 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 completed in July 2021.

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

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

1.12 Templeshannon Regeneration, Enniscorthy:

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

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

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

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

1.13 John Street Building Regeneration Project

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

A design team was appointed in April 2019 and initial surveys and investigative works have been completed. A portion of the grain store building has been purchased by agreement. The CPO for the remaining sections is now formally complete. ODKM Architects are expected to commence the preliminary design in October, with the Part 8 consent process to follow.

1.14 Esmonde Street

RPS is progressing with the detailed design. Site investigation works are now completed. Irish Water have now approved proceeding with the design of the sewer upgrade and CCTV and survey works has been completed. The detailed design for the sewer upgrade being progressed. Irish Rail has requested additional site investigations to the abutments of the bridge for the sewer upgrade which will be tendered for in the coming month.

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

1.15 Gorey Market House

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

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

WCC are now considering options to attract private investment for the successful development of the Market House. KPMG has been appointed to advise on this process.

1.16 Mechanics Institute

Consulting Engineers were appointed in March 2020 to undertake design, tendering and construction management services for essential maintenance works at the Mechanic's Institute. The invitation to tender has been re-advertised and tenders received. Tender assessment is underway and it is expected that a works contract will be awarded in Q4 2022. Construction works are scheduled to take 6 months.

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

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

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

The process of negotiation for tourism design services with the preferred tenderer from the 2017 Hook Heritage Ltd competition has closed without an award of contract following the withdrawal of the preferred tenderer in December. WCC advertised for tourism coordinator services for the project through the existing multi party framework and Tourism Development International Ltd. (in association with John Ruddle) were the successful tenderer and have now been appointed. TDI will now assist with the procurement of interpretative design services. The environmental consultant has been appointed and is commencing initial studies and investigative works.

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

1.18 Enniscorthy Town Centre & Tourism Project:

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

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

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

1.19 Courtown Coastal Protection & Beach Nourishment Scheme

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

Priority Geotechnical Ltd. have been appointed to carry out the Marine and Land based surveys and Boreholes at Courtown. They commenced work on the 23rd May and the site investigation work was completed.

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 earlier this month, to get permission to carry out Benthic Grab samples. This work will commence once approval is granted.

1.20 Rosslare Europort to Waterford City Greenway

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

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

1.21 Wexford Town to Rosslare Greenway

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

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

Fehily Timoney and Company has been appointed to review the route options for the proposed Rosslare Harbour to Rosslare Stand greenway in light of the significant coastal protection works which has been carried out over the past two years by Irish rail. An ecological survey is on-going.

1.22 Oyster Lane Car Park, Wexford

A Part 8 submission has been made for the demolition of existing unoccupied buildings on the old Tesco site and for construction of a temporary surface level car park. The Part 8 was confirmed at the March 28th full Council meeting.

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

Procurement of detailed building surveys is complete. A tender advert for the initial works contract (demolition works) is planned to be published in early October, with works to commence early in 2023. The main car park works contract will follow.

1.23 Crescent Quay – Dredging

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

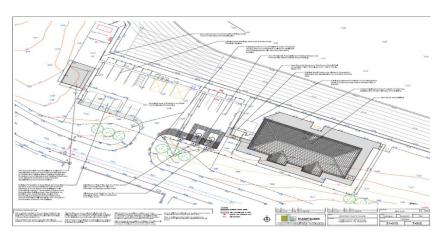
1.24 Old Dublin Road Business Park, Enniscorthy

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

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

1.25 Enniscorthy Sports Hub

O'Leary Sludds Architects were appointed in Feb 2021 for the detailed design, procurement of works contractor and construction management of the Sport Hub building. The tender documents issued to the Department for Tourism, Culture, Art, the Gaeltacht, Sports and Media (DTCAG) have been approved and the works tendered, with tenders received on 6th July. Tender assessment is ongoing. It is expected that a works contract will be awarded in Q4 2022.



1.26 Curracloe Water Sports Activity Facility

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

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

2. Flood Defence Schemes

2.1 Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme:

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

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

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

Flood Defence Scheme - The ecology baseline data is to be update and this currently in progress. The scheme alternatives are to be assessed, consulted on publicly and a preferred option identified. MMD have issued a programme of work –

the preferred option report & environmental assessment reports are scheduled to be completed in Q3 2023. At that stage planning options will be reviewed, and the preferred planning route selected.

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

2.2 Wexford Flood Relief Scheme:

The project brief for design services for Wexford Flood Relief Project was advertised on e-tenders in early 2020. Seven tender submissions were received by the extended closing date of the 9thJuly 2020. Following a detailed tender assessment and evaluation process the decision not to award a contract arising from this tender competition has been advised to all tenderers. A further procurement process has been advertised with tenders received on 11th July 2022. A new tender assessment board was set up and the tender assessment is proceeding.

HOUSING

SSHA 2022

Wexford County Council is currently carrying out a review of the Social Housing Supports List (Housing List) and 491 applicants were sent a form to update their details by 16th September 2022. A reminder text was sent to 198 applicants and a reminder letter was sent to 12 applicants who failed to return their completed form by the deadline. They were given a deadline of Wednesday 5th October to respond.

Applicants who have applied, or been reassessed, since 3rd September 2021, did <u>not</u> receive a form. Also transfer applicants, including those in Private Rented accommodation receiving HAP (Housing Assistance Payment), will <u>not</u> receive a form. Any applicant, whose circumstances have changed and don't receive a SSHA form, are advised to contact the Customer Service Unit or any Area Housing Officer for a 'change of circumstances' form.

Mid-Term Review of the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024

Housing Department are currently conducting a mid-term review of the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024 as per Dept Circular 28/2022. On the 15th July 2022 a letter was sent to stakeholders (ie adjoining Local Authorities, Local Traveller Consultative Committee (LTACC), Approved Housing Bodies and the HSE) inviting submissions. The assessment of need identified an additional 26 new families and it has been decided to amend the targets to reflect these new families. A notice will be placed in the local newspapers to say that the draft mid-term review document will be available for inspection shortly.

Housing Supply

Capital Projects

All completed housing units have been removed from the table below.

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Current Position	Comment
Rosetown Phase 1	23	Rosslare	Under Construction	Due to complete in Q4 2022.
Marconi Park	1 TAP	Enniscorthy	Under Construction	To Complete June 2023
Whiterock Hill <i>Phase 1</i>	22	Wexford	Under construction.	To complete in Q2 2023.
Rosetown Phase 2	12	Rosslare	Stage 3	Tenders due 28 th October. Construction to commence Q1 2023
Whiterock Hill Phase 2	22	Wexford	Stage 3	Tender approval Q4 2022 Commence construction Q4 2022
Women's Refuge	12	Wexford	Stage 3	Construction tenders Received 16 Sept. Stage 4 October 22. Appoint Contractor Q4 2022
Ballyhine, Barntown	7	Wexford	Stage 3	Construction Tenders OCT 2022 Construction to Commence Q1 2023
Bullawn	3	New Ross	Stage 2	Enabling Works to Commence Nov 22

TOTAL	264			
BallyGillane	5	Rosslare	Stage 1	Pe Planning approved. Appoint consultants in Q4 2022.
Monomolin	5	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Stage 1	IW have confirmed feasibility. Appoint consultants in Q4 2022.
Creagh	22	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Stage 1	Tender for Consultants October 2022 Part VIII approval October 2022
Killeens	60	Wexford	Stage 1	Design Team appointed. Reviewing densities. Pre Planning in Oct 2022
Francis St.	2	Wexford	Stage 1	Stage 2 in Q4 2022
Rosbercon	38 (est)	New Ross	Stage 2	Revised Stage 1 approved for €11.2m Enabling Works tenders due in on 24 th October 2022
Wexford Street	30	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Stage 2	Stage 3 documents submitted to the Department for approval in July 2022. Tender Oct 2022
				Tender Construction in Jan 2023 Construction to Commence Q1 2023

Pre-Development Stage

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Bride Street	3	Wexford	Demolitions complete in July 2022. Levels Survey complete, Funding application to be submitted in Q4 2022.
Tagoat	18	Rosslare	Part VIII due in October 2022. Appoint Consultants in Q4 2022
TOTAL	21		

Longer Term Projects

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Clonard	26	Wexford	Decision on cost and procurement of the main road pending. A proposal has been submitted by a neighbouring developer.
St Walerans	35	Gorey	Method of delivery under consideration
TOTAL	61		

Other Projects (early feasibility)

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Lacken	1	New Ross	Funding approval received. Design underway for new dwelling.
Adamstown	2	New Ross	Demolition tenders received. Appoint Contractor in September 2022. Design of replacement 2 houses is complete. Funding Application Q4 22
Belvedere	6	Wexford	Revised proposal being developed for Q4 2022
Creagh	24	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Sketch design prepared for site investigations and surveys.
Grogan's Road	4	Wexford	Pre planning approved. Stage 2 in Q4 2022
TOTAL	37		

Approved Housing Bodies

Project Address	No of Units Municipal District Area		Comment			
		Cluid				
Pairc an Aird, Coolcotts	67	Wexford	To deliver late 2022			
Tobar Muire Place	17	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	To deliver late 2022			
Hewittlands, New Ross (LAGS site)	48	New Ross	DHLGH Approval in Principle received June 2022. Awaiting Planning decision.			
	Tuath					
Ramstown, Gorey	68	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	24 units to deliver in 2022			
Gleann an Ghairdin	24	Gorey/Kilmuckridge	To deliver Q4 2022/Q1 2023			
Forgelands, Old Forge Rd, Enniscorthy	10	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval received June 2022. To deliver Q4 2022			
		Peter Mc Verry Trust				
The Quay, New Ross	6	New Ross	DHLGH Approval received May 2022. CAS Acquisition of 6x1 bed Apt			
	Clanmil					
Fearach Cnoic, Enniscorthy	10	Enniscorthy	Withdrawn. New proposal for site under consideration			

Co Operative Housing Ireland (CHI)				
Moongate, Clonard Rd, Wexford	38	Wexford	DHLGH Approval received June 2022. To deliver 2023	
Cuil na Dara, Clonard (Ph 2.1 of Pairc na Daire)	25	Wexford	DHLGH Approval received June 2022. To deliver 2023	
Pairc na Greine, Clonard (Ph2.2 of Pairc na Daire)	24	Wexford	DHLGH Approval received Sept 2022. To deliver 2024	
TOTAL	327			

Part V Acquisitions

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Roxborough Manor, Mulgannon	22	Wexford	18 units complete. Remaining units to deliver Q4 2022.
Clonhaston, Enniscorthy	5	Enniscorthy	Expected to deliver Q4 2022
Gleann an Ghairdin Ph 3	10	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	To deliver 2022/2023.
Tobar Muire, Creagh Demesne	4	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	2 units delivered, 2 to be delivered by end of 2022/early 2023
Ard an Bhile, Healysland, New Ross	5	New Ross	Commenced onsite. Expected to deliver late 2022/early 2023.
Spring View, Gorey Hill	11	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	Under Construction. 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
TOTAL	59		

Turnkeys

Project Address	No of Units	Municipal District Area	Comment
Ballynaglogh, Blackwater	16	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	4 units delivered. Remaining units expected to deliver in Q4 2022
Tobar Muire, Creagh Demesne	39	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	10 units delivered. Remainder to deliver by end of 2022/early 2023
Ard an Bhile, Healysland, New Ross	43	New Ross	Commenced onsite. Expected to deliver late 2022/early 2023.

Roxborough Manor, Mulgannon	13	Wexford	10 units delivered. Remaining units to deliver Q3 2022.
Ard Uisce (Ph 3)	8	Wexford	4 units delivered. 4 to deliver by mid October
Castlelands, Ferns	20	Enniscorthy	DHLGH Approval received Jan 2022. Under Construction. Expected to deliver Q4 2022
Haughton Place, New Ross	13	New Ross	Expected to deliver 2023/2024
TOTAL	152		

The Housing Dept. continue to periodically seek Expressions of Interest for the provision of social housing units via Turnkey acquisition. Future calls will be targeted at smaller unit types in areas of need identified in the Housing Delivery Action Plan (HDAP) and will include proposals for land. Current call open until early November, 2022. All proposals received by Wexford County Council are assessed by an Internal Assessment Committee. There are currently an additional 136 units being progressed to approval.

Housing Maintenance

The following table shows the number of repairs carried out from 1st January to 31st August, 2022:

Repairs	Enniscorthy	Gorey / Kilmuckridge	New Ross	Wexford	Rosslare	Total
Repair Requests (1st – 31 st August 2022)	129	71	125	101	54	480
Repair Requests Year to Date	1013	705	1121	1089	567	4495
Accommodation Units Repaired (1st – 31 st August 2022)	104	57	93	82	46	382
Accommodation Units Repaired Year to Date	564	395	546	152	301	2428

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

Homeless Services and Support Unit (HSSU)

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

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

It is important to point out that the figures below represent the total number of calls to the HSSU,

it is not reflective of the number of individuals/families as quite often the same client may make multiple calls to the HSSU.

There were 1,051 calls to the HSSU from 1 st January 2022 to 27 th September 2022, the following is the breakdown of same:-				
661	Provided with advice and support in relation to housing and homeless prevention			
68	Supported with temporary, short, medium and long-term accommodation and tenancy sustainment support through Place Finder and Social Care Workers			
245	Ineligible at the time presentation for housing/homeless services. HSSU advised and assisted to regularise housing situation.			
77	It was not possible to complete a full assessment.			

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

LEADER PROGRAMME

The Article 48 team processed 9 LEADER claims in August & September. The value of these claims were \in 281,367 which will support **7** x enterprise and **2** x community groups throughout County Wexford.



These claims can be broken down as follows:

Promoter Paid	Claim Payment
1. Enniscorthy Community Allotments	€37,200.00
2. Kilcannon Industries CLG	€4,194.78
3. Write by the Sea Literary Festival	€9,642.90
4. Curracloe United Pitch Irrigation	€37,131.52
5. Crossabeg Ballymurn Comm	€57,739.35
 Walking Track Dev. Davidstown/Courtnacuddy GAA 	€37,447.15
 Outside Gym, Terrarath Comm Council 	€39,751.78
8. Tasty Parlour Ltd	€41,010.41
TOTAL	€ 264,117.89

Payments Processed	Claim Payment	
1. Wexford Model Railway Club CLG	€17,250.00	
TOTAL	€ 17,250.00	

WEXFORD LOCAL ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY PLAN (LECP)

A Request for Tender was published on the 29th of August with the closing date for applications the 19th of September 2022. The Tender Assessment Evaluation Team meeting held the 23rd September, it is hoped that the successful contractor will commence workloads in October.

Ce Wexford Local Economic and Community Plan

A meeting of the LECP Advisory Steering Group was held on the 29th of September, items discussed included –

- Background to LECP
- LECP Development
- Creating the LECP
- Role of LECP Advisory Steering Group
- LECP Progress to Date
- Next Steps and Projected Timelines

Work is progressing on the development of the project working team who will focus on both the operational and development workloads.

Estimated timeframe for launch/delivery is Q4 2023.

JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE MEETING -

County Wexford Joint Policing Committee

The next meeting date of the Joint Policing Committee is scheduled for the 10th of October 2022.

WEXFORD GARDA YOUTH AWARDS 2022

The Wexford Garda Youth Awards 2022 are scheduled to take place - Monday, 10th October 2022 at 7.00pm in County Hall, Carricklawn, Wexford, with light refreshments and music from 6.45pm.

The awards, which are supported by Wexford County Council, will include presentations from Chief Superintendent Pettit, An Garda Síochána, Cathaoirleach Wexford County Council Cllr. George Lawlor and Chairperson of the County Wexford Joint Policing Committee, Cllr. Michael Whelan.





COMHAIRLE NA NÓG

The 2022 AGM for Comhairle na nOg is scheduled to take place on Friday 14th October County Hall, Carricklawn, Wexford.



TRAVELLER INTER-AGENCY GROUP MEETING

A meeting of the Traveller Inter-Agency Group was held 8th Sept 2022 County Hall, Carricklawn, Wexford. Items discussed included

- Needs Analysis Action Log review
- Sub-committee updates on Traveller Needs Analysis Action log
- Community based information/engagement one to one initiatives
- TIG Promotion updates

The next meeting date is scheduled for the 01st of December 2022.

Wexford PPN

Wexford PPN appointed Gillian Wild and her colleague Martin Fitzgerald as consultants to carry out the Strategic Plan 2023-2025 and the 1st meeting has been held to commence the process.

Information bulletins were emailed to all PPN members on 2nd, 9th and 16th September.

The South East Region PPNs (Wexford, Waterford, Carlow, Kilkenny and Tipperary) held a very successful Environment event "Time to Change – A Future for Everyone" embedding sustainability in local communities in Kilkenny Castle on Saturday 17th September with Breda Maher-CARO, Jannette O'Brien-Carlow Local Authority, Eanna Ni Lamhna-Radio and TV presenter, Jen Harris-Waterford Sustainable Living Initiative and Waterford Comhairle na nOg students as speakers.



In September Wexford PPN was represented at the Social Prescribing in Enniscorthy, NCBI Roadshow in Wexford Library and the National Ploughing Championships in Ratheniska.



(PPN Resource Officers Dan Bergin Laois PPN, Monica Gaynor County Wexford PPN, Minister Heather Humphreys -National Ploughing Championships September 2022)



Healthy Ireland Round Four Funding

To help inform our activities over the next three years, Healthy Wexford issued a short online Healthy Wexford Needs Analysis survey to gather the views and opinions of a range of agencies, groups and organisations to help in identifying health risks and priorities. The survey was shared broadly through stakeholder networks, at events, through social media and in print media to ensure broad reach.



Details of the Round Four application process were sent to Chief Officers on 28th September, with a requirement for applications to be submitted by 9th December. The Healthy County Committee has agreed a schedule and process to deliver same.

Progression on the transition funding projects, as agreed by the Healthy County Committee & approved by LCDC continues. Recruitment for the role of Healthy County Coordinator is currently underway.

Pilot Period Products Project

Stage one of the project continues with roll out of dispensers, offering free product, to our five libraries and at County Hall. As per grant requirements there is monthly monitoring of product levels with an interim report of project progression provided to funders, the Department of Health, in September. Stage two - roll out to FRCs commenced in September, following FRC consultation in July.

Recent Healthy Wexford Activity

Our Healthy County Coordinator attended the recent **Arts & Culture Plans 2023-27 Public Consultation** held in Kilmore which focused specifically on Social Inclusion, Wellbeing, Age Friendly Initiatives and Festivals

Healthy Wexford attended and exhibited at the recent **Wexford Social Prescribing** launch event in Enniscorthy

This event was an excellent opportunity to create awareness of the Needs Analysis Survey and other Healthy Wexford initiatives.

To mark **Sustainable Development Week**, Healthy Wexford & County Wexford PPN collaborated to create a Sustainable Development Goals display at County Hall, highlighting 50 Daily Actions.

Age Friendly

Creativity in Older Age Scheme 2022 – Music and Dance Programme in HSE Residential and Community settings

Following on from the success of last year's music therapy programme for older people both in residential care and in the community which was funded by Creative Ireland under the Creativity in Older Age Scheme 2021, this year we applied for and received funding from Creative Ireland for a project which combines music <u>and</u> dance and is aimed at older people with mental health difficulties based in both residential settings and living in the community. This year we ran the programme in the following locations:

- 1. St John's Community Hospital in Enniscorthy (HSE)
- Psychiatry of Later Life Team at Farnogue Residential Healthcare Unit in Wexford - 20 bed facility for older adults with a diagnosis of dementia and or other mental health conditions
- 3. **Psychiatry of Later Life Team HSE.** Community outreach for older adults who live independently at home but who generally have a range of mental health difficulties from depression and anxiety to addiction and many have cognitive impairment due to dementia.





The programme commenced in the summer and will continue to run until October. Feedback has been very positive. The benefits to the participants include allowing them to engage fully in fun and creative activities in a social environment, mitigates the negative impact of social isolation and develops and establishes new forms of creative engagement in these hospitals and the community.

Age Friendly Alliance meeting

The Wexford Age Friendly Alliance meeting took place on 27th September with a large turnout from all our partner agencies. Progress was reported on many of the actions contained within the new Action Plan/Age Friendly Strategy 2022-2026. A presentation was made by Alice Corbett, Age Friendly Ireland Regional Programme Manager and the meeting was also attended by Sinead O'Reilly from the National Dementia Office.

Older Peoples Council Meeting

The Wexford Older Peoples Council meeting was held on 9th September 2022 with a good attendance. Presentations were made by the Road Safety Authority and by Charlie Pritchard on the Tu Dublin Technology Project.

SPORTS ACTIVE

European Week of Sport

European Week of Sport (23rd-30th September).

Sports Active Wexford organised several events during the week while also promoting physical activity and local and national events including:

- Primary School Playground leaders
- Yoga in Curracloe
- Distribution on physical activity bags to all Wexford Libraries

Playground Leadership – Primary School

Playground Leadership has been restarted with Blackwater school on the 15th with 28 students trained up and now delivering games for younger children on their breaks.

Total participants: 12 male 16 female.

Positive Ageing Week

Positive Ageing Week (26th Sept – 2nd Oct)

Sports Active Wexford with a number of events happening around Wexford:

- Activators in New Ross, Wexford, and Riverchapel,
- Walks in Enniscorthy and Gorey,
- A walk and Talk tour of Ferns GAA Centre of Excellence with GAA legends,
- Promotion of positive ageing events in Rosslare Community Centre and Astro Active in Enniscorthy

Strong and Steady Classes

The strong and steady classes (postural stability for older adults) are being delivered from Wednesday 14th September in Coolcotts Community Centre. The initial 6-weeks is

delivered by physiotherapists in Wexford General Hospital. SAW will deliver the remainder of the programme. Total participants = 8 females.

Lady of Fatima School Physical Activity Classes

SAW delivered a 3-week physical activity programme to 12 students (5 boys and 7 girls) in Lady of Fatima School.

Activator Programme

SAW delivered a 4-week activator pole programme to service users in Ard Aobhinn Day Service. Total participants in attended = 13 (6 males and 7 females).

Rag Tree Equine Assisted Therapy CAMHS Open

SAW attended the Rag Tree Equine Assisted Therapy CAMHS Open on Friday 9th of September.

Innovation Fund

Further progress has been made on the Innovation Fund 'Augmented Reality Nature Walk'. SAW and Walkton Institute have signed the MOA and are working on the logic model of the programme.

Inclusive Golf

SAW in partnership with Golf Ireland have began delivering an inclusive 4-week programme on Tuesday 20th September in Bunclody Golf and Fishing Club to 4 participants in Havenview Residential Services and 1 Participant from BEAM day service. Total participants = 5 (males)

Rainbow Youth Club Taster Session

SAW delivered a taster games activity session on Thursday 29th September to children with additional needs from the Rainbow Youth Club in New Ross.

Safeguarding

10 x Safeguarding 1 Courses have been completed in 2022 with a total of 148 participants.

2 x Safeguarding 2 Course has been completed in 2022 with a total of 18 participants



Rag Tree Equine Assisted Therapy CAMHS Open Day on 9th September.



Participants from Havenview Residential Services and BEAM Day Services, on the first evening of a 4 week inclusive golf programme at Bunclody Golf Club on 20th September.

ENVIRONMENT

A. COASTAL MATTERS

Harbours -

Department of Ag, Food & Marine (DAFM) announced funding approval for projects under a new scheme to develop works on LA harbours, called the Brexit Adjustment Local Authority Marine Infrastructure 2022 – 2023. The DAFM approved 23 projects with a total construction cost of \in 1.4m in Co. Wexford; works are now underway to progress these projects. The DAFM issued a call for a second tranche of funding in August 2022 with and application deadline of 30/09/2022. Wexford CC is preparing an application for suitable projects.

Fethard Harbour – New Slipway and Beach Access. Part XI planning was submitted to Planning Department on 5th April 2022. The public planning notice was in the local newspaper on 20th April 2022. This scheme was included in the above DAFM approved projects. Following submissions received during the planning process, An Bord Pleanála is now assessing the requirements.

Ports Past and Present: the Project Team will have a presence at the Wexford Maritime Festival on 3rd & 4th September, 2022. There is ongoing engagement with the Rosslare community, artists and our project partners in University College Cork and two Welsh universities. Regular updates and further information is available at <u>https://portspastpresent.eu/</u>

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

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

It is proposed to operate the Pilot Boat Service for New Ross Port internally from 1st Jan 2023, an ex RNLI Mersey Class Lifeboat has been purchased in the UK, and is now undergoing remedial works to comply with MSO passenger boat regulations.

The new Marine Area Regulatory Authority (MARA) is due to be set up Q1 /Q2 of 2023, it will be located at Trinity Wharf with an expected workforce building to 200 in the coming years.

WCC has been approached by a number of companies in relation to possible shipping operations at Marshmeadows. Discussions are at a very early stage at present, it would be hoped that these may lead to regeneration of shipping activities at the Jetty.

Beaches –

The final routine sampling of bathing waters will be taken on 5th September 2022 at 18 bathing waters in Wexford. All bathing water results are shown on www.beaches.ie website. There were a total of 4 bathing water incidents with elevated levels of bacteria to date this year -3 of them at Kilmore Quay Small Beach and one at Grange beach. There are ongoing investigations at Kilmore Quay to establish a cause of contamination. The incident at Grange appears to be an isolated one.

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

Ballyconnigar Bridge: a new footbridge was installed at the start of the summer. Upgrade works were carried out along the path to the main beach. Wexford CC monitors this regularly.

Coast –

<u>Rosslare Coastal Erosion and Flood Relief Scheme</u>: Nicholas O'Dwyer Ltd Consulting Engineers was appointed on 13th Dec 2021. Steering meetings with WCC, OPW and the consultants are now underway and are held on a monthly basis. Topographic surveys to determine house and property levels will start in September 2022.

<u>Seaview, Kilmore:</u> 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 is undertaking coastal modelling; this information will form part of the planning application to An Bord Pleanála, to be submitted later in 2022.

<u>Lady's Island Water Level Management Structure</u> – 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.

<u>Morriscastle Dune Restoration</u>: The project involves installation of fencing and maram grass planting to restore and manage the dune system at main beach entrance. All works under phase 1 of this scheme are complete. Additional grant monies were received to extend the dune restoration works and this will progressed over the coming months.

<u>St Helen's Bay Preliminary Coastal Erosion Risk Management Study</u>: this report looked at the risk to 23 properties and golf course at St Helen's. Consulting engineers submitted the report to Wexford County Council at the end August 2022. The contents of the report will be presented to the Rosslare MD meeting.

<u>Ballyhealy Preliminary Coastal Erosion Risk Management Study:</u> This project involves assessing the erosion risk of 5 properties and look at options to mitigate the risk. Consulting engineers are appointed and the report is to be submitted Q4 2022.

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

B. WATER, AIR & NOISE

1. Septic Tank Inspections:

92 inspections have been carried out to date this year. Wexford have a minimum of 106 inspections to carry out in 2022. All work carried out is external with no requirement to enter a dwelling. Contractors are currently carrying out work on a number of sites in order to close outstanding Advisory Notices.

Progress is being made with closing existing open files. All files up to the end of 2016 have been closed. 60 files were closed for 2022. 38 extension of time have been granted in 2022. There are currently 74 open files for the years 2017-2021 and 31 open for 2022.

Twenty three new applications for grant assistance have been received this year to date, twenty of which are paid and two are currently under review.

Year	Number of inspections	Pass	Fail	Outstanding	Closed in 2022
2019	156	48	108	18	4
2020	111	38	73	13	8
2021	91	24	67	32	21
2022	92 to date	24	62	31	31

There are currently 18 cases in the Court system for failing to comply with Advisory Notices. 6 of these are for hearing and 12 are for mention. 4 cases have been closed with the work completed.

All NIP files up to end of 2016 have now been closed off. 2017 has 8 open files with 1 on hold due to new N11 route selection, 5 due to assessment of public sewer for Ramsgrange and 2 are in court. 2018 have 9 open files with good progress on 7 of these, 2 are in court. 2019-2022 figures can be seen in the Table above.

2. Air Quality:

Low Smoke Fuel Areas

The Air Pollution Act (Marketing, Sale, Distribution and Burning of Specified Fuels) (Amendment) Regulations 2022), provided for the introduction of the ban on the marketing, sale, distribution and burning of specified fuels in the specified area of Rep of Ireland from 31st October 2022.

3. Agriculture:

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

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

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

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

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

C. WASTE MANAGEMENT

1. Landfills:

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

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

2. Recycling Services:

Bring Bank Network –

WASTE CATEGORY	No. of Sites August 2022	Recycling out (End August) 2021 (t)	Recycling out (End August)2022 (t)
Glass bottles		3047	2616
Aluminium Cans		71	65
Total	109	3118	2681

Household Recycling Centres -

	Summary of Activities								
	Enniscorthy New I		Ross Holme		estown	Gorey			
WASTE CATEGORY	Recycling out Jan-Aug 2021 (t)	Recycling out Jan-Aug 2022 (t)	Recycling out Jan-Aug 2021 (t)	Recycling out Jan-Aug 2022(t)	Recycling out Jan- Aug2021	Recycling out Jan - Aug 2022	Recycling out Jan-Aug 2021	Recycling out Jan-Aug 2022	
Total Recycling out	440	406	492	449	621	597	398	352	
Total Domestic Waste in	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1910	1673	N/A	N/A	
Daily Average Customers	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	
Jan-Aug	73	70	120	112	160	144	89	82	

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

3. Rapid Response Crew

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

Activity	To end August 2021	August 2022	To end August 2022	% +/_
Total Illegal Dumping/ Clean Ups	1,869	160	1,337	-28%
Gorey *		45		
Enniscorthy *		37		
Wexford *		27		
New Ross*		19		
Rosslare		32		
Total Bring Site Inspections	5,880	748	5,988	+2%
Gorey		187		
Enniscorthy		184		
Wexford		243		
New Ross		111		
Rosslare		23		
Total Ringbuoy Inspections	10,704	1,536	11,694	+9%
Gorey	North	448		
Enniscorthy *				
Wexford*	South	1,088		
New Ross*				
Other Works	3,176	388	4,021	+27%
Gorey		66		
Enniscorthy		127		
Wexford		62		
New Ross		88		
Rosslare		40		

1 LITTER MANAGEMENT

As of the 1st of July 2022 the public can now pay environmental fines online relating to litter fines, waste bye laws fixed payment notices and waste collection permit fixed payment notices. Two fines to date have been paid since go live.

A payment option courtesy slip has also been created to send with fines issued to encourage the public to pay by providing them with the three options to pay; online, in person or over the phone.

Total fixed penalty notices issued	TOTAL FOR 2021	TOTAL FOR 2022-TO AUGUST
Fines Issued (All Fixed Penalty Notice Issued)	199	179
Fines Paid in Full•	69	90
Fines Cancelled/Proceedings Discontinued/Struck Out*	71	54
Successful Prosecutions**	15	14
Legal Proceedings In Progress	61	46
Amount Collected in Fines (directly/following proceedings)	€10,220	€16,231

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

• Includes income from all Fixed Penalty Notices

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

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

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

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

May 2022:

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

June 2022:

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

August 2022:

There was no court held during the month of August.

	Fines Issued	Court	Reports
2022	179	19	1510 (down 32%)
2021	100	19	2721 (down 15%)
2020	213	20	3187 (up 15%)
2019	341	13	2758 (down 9%)
2018	324	22	3050 (up 15%)
2017	218	27	2651 (Up 12%)
2016	274	17	2,354 (up 22%)
2015	242	17	1,927 (up 11%)
2014	154	17	1,732 (up 10%)
2013	140	15	1,571 (up 21%)
2012	182	16	1,292 (down 3%)
2011	209	17	1,329
2010	370	27	1,338

Litter Enforcement Activity 2009-2022(August)

F. GENERAL

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

	Jan – Dec 2017	Jan – Dec 2018	Jan to Dec 2019	Jan to Dec 2020	Jan to Dec 2021	Jan- August 2022
Incidents	3600	4609	4749	4999	5136	3146
Closed	3526	4563	4311	4442	4364	2010
Closure Rate	98%	99%	91%	89%	85%	64%

The total figures for complaints received are as follows:

Control of Dogs & Horses:

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

Control of dogs	2020	2021 (to 31-12-21)	2022
Dogs collected	532	429	337
Dogs reclaimed	127	133	64
Dogs re-homed/transferred	373	267	239
Dogs put to sleep	32	29	29
Dog Fines	5	18	13

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

To date in 2022 18 horses have been in-pounded and all have been rehomed or reclaimed.

Environment Education and Awareness:

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

Green Schools: 3 schools, Colaiste Abbain, Selskar College and Catherine McCauley Jnr School were all successful in achieving their first green flag on Litter & Waste. An online awards ceremony was held on 25th May. In total 22 schools were awarded green flags in the following themes; Litter & Waste(3); Water(2); Travel (1); Biodiversity(7); Global Citizenship Litter & Waste (2); Global Citizenship Energy (4): Global Citizenship Marine Environment (3). In total 92 primary schools and 18 secondary schools have been awarded the green flag.

Climate Literacy Programme:

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

LIBRARIES, ARTS & ARCHIVES

Community

Libraries hosted several community events during September.

- The Arts Department of Wexford County Council hosted Wexford Arts & Culture Plans 2023-2017 Public Consultation Focus Groups in Gorey and Wexford Branches.
- Comhairle na nÓg held an Awareness Evening re their services for young people in Gorey and Enniscorthy libraries.
- Wexford Local Development resumed the Elevate Programme in Enniscorthy Library with 25 First year secondary school students. This programme aims to support and promote educational achievement in County Wexford.
- Tutor Joe Brennan from the Art Ability programme in Enniscorthy visited with students to avail of the facilities of Enniscorthy Library. This collaboration will be expanded on in the coming months. The 'Art Ability' programme running since 2003, is a key priority in Wexford County Council's Art Plan "Advancing the Arts" 2018-22.
- NCBI brought its Advocacy Roadshow to Wexford Library. This aims to increase awareness of NCBI's local and national Advocacy Networks. This is a collaborative event between NCBI and Wexford County Council Library Service.
- Bunclody Library is currently hosting an exhibition of paintings from the ArtBank Outdoor Gallery.
- The FCJ Time Capsule Project Exhibition was launched in Bunclody Library at the end of September.

Environment

Nine talks on Climate Change and Sustainability were held in the libraries in September to coincide with Sustainable Development Week including Climate Change with Gerald Fleming in Wexford, Climate and Biodiversity Challenges with John Derham in Enniscorthy and The Coast Guard Service in Gorey Branch. Home Energy Kits and Radon Monitors are available for loan to the public.

IT Literacy

Wexford Libraries' Age Friendly Digital Ambassador Programme continues to grow with training courses returning for older users throughout the libraries. Wexford and Gorey libraries facilitated weekly computer classes run by Age Action and the Active Retirement Association over September. A clinic to Get started with eBooks, eAudiobooks and eMagazines held in Bunclody Library showed members how to access library apps in a relaxed atmosphere.

Literary Events

Best-selling Wexford-based author Carmel Harrington visited New Ross Library. A large attendance in Wexford Library for an interview with Booker-nominated local author Claire Keegan.

Culture Night

Culture Night was celebrated in all branch libraries. RTE news filmed the Cláirsí Neamhaí harp ensemble for Culture Night in Wexford Library.

Write by the sea This literary festival took place in Kilmore Quay over 3 days 23rd – 25th September 2022.Two Wexford Library staff interviewed authors over the course of the weekend.

Library Services for Children

Summer Stars came to a very successful conclusion for this year. Children were entertained and presented with certificates in all the branches during the month. Toddler Story Time and Baby Rhyme time continued in all branches. Lego table play is proving very popular in New Ross Library. School library visits have recommenced. The Classroom Novel scheme is proving popular with teachers again this Autumn. The Little Library Book Bags continued to be collected from branches over September as children started school. Junior Book Club has recommenced in Bunclody Library.

Literacy Apps

Library Literacy Apps continue to be successful. Wexford Branch now have Our Lady of Fatima in for TTRS (Touch, Type, Read and Spell) sessions weekly in the E Learning room and the Windmill Group will be starting soon. In total there were 41 new literacy apps issues in September.

Health and Well-being

Five talks on Health and Well Being were delivered by libraries in September on topics including mental health, sustainability, health and environment.

Heritage

New Ross Library held two well attended history lectures, one in association with the Kennedy Summer School. Enniscorthy Library held an Ancient Connections Welcomers workshop.

Services to Ukrainian Nationals

The first of 12 English conversation classes with Ukrainian Nationals in was hosted in Enniscorthy Library. Wexford Library hosted two English conversation classes which will also continue throughout the year. Mr. Brian Allen gave informal English classes to Ukrainian Nationals on Thursday mornings in Gorey Library throughout September. Information for Ukrainian refugees is available in all our libraries with updated printed information in both Ukrainian and Russian languages. Details of local community services are provided and a range of free library services are available.

Decade of Centenaries

Three very successful War of Independence Walking Tours were led by Historian in Residence Barry Lacey from Wexford, Gorey, Bunclody and Enniscorthy Libraries.

This initiative was funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media under the community strand of the Decade of Centenaries 2012-2023 programme. Plans are underway for events in other districts before year end.

ARCHIVES

Collections management

In addition to 74 research enquiries via email, telephone and post, a total of 6 researchers visited the Archive during September. Research topics included: research on planning matters in council minute books (2005-07); assessment of the Billy Colfer archive for items relevant to a forthcoming exhibition on his career; research through Crosstown cemetery burial records for family history research enquiries (1892-1935); research in the Civil War collection for coverage

The cataloguing of the Seamus Doyle archive began in September. One of the leaders of the 1916 Rising in Enniscorthy, Seamus' archive includes his 1916 medal, a small handwritten notebook of his account of 1916 and a brief account of Cumann na mBan in Wexford during Easter week 1916. The collection also comprises handwritten notes on 1798 and on County Wexford placenames, and a Coláiste Carman handwritten volume (1936-7). The collection has added significance given that there are some documents and a photo relating to Gretta Comerford, Seamus' wife who played a significant role in the 1916 Rising in Enniscorthy.

ARTS

Wexford Arts & Culture Plans 2023-27 Public Consultations – the Arts & Culture Consultations took place in person in the 5 municipal districts in September facilitated by Arts consultant Rowena Neville. Attendance was good at all five consultations with engaged discussions. In addition, an online questionnaire was circulated and has been extended until 3rd October for submissions. The feedback from these consultations will feed into the next County Arts Plan and Culture & Creativity strategy, both of which support Wexford County Councils work with communities, artists, arts, culture and creativity.

Culture Night 2022: Wexford County celebrated its biggest Culture Night in 2022 which took place Fri 23rd Sept in the five districts of Wexford, Gorey, Enniscorthy, Rosslare and New Ross. 34 in person events took place across the county in partnership with the 5 municipal districts. Culture night is managed by the Wexford Arts Office in partnership with the five municipal districts and supported by the Arts Council.

Creative Ireland: Southeast Greenway Art project Wexford County Council commissioned a team of artists and designers (Esther Gerrard, Aoife Banville and Ed Coveney) to work with local communities on a public art commission along the new South

East Greenway, specifically the 5km stretch from New Ross town centre to Shanbog. The focus of this commission is to explore themes of **Connections biodiversity, placenames** and the many **bridges** along the 5km stretch of the Greenway. Two community workshops were held on site in September with **workshops taking place in 2 Schools – St Candice's Rosbercon and Shanbog NS in Sept- October. Funded by Creative Ireland and managed by Arts Office in partnership with Special Projects.**

The Living Arts in Schools programme in partnership with Wexford Arts Centre announced this year's successful artists and schools. Following an open call, four primary schools and a team of 8 artists were selected to deliver this artist in residence in primary schools from 2022-23. Artists Deirdre Meehan-Buttimer and Fernanda Ferrari were selected for Castledockrell NS (Enniscorthy), Kate Murphy and Brid Colloton with St. Edan's NS (Ferns, Enniscorthy), Jeni Roddy and Lynn Haughton with Scoil Mhuire (Rosslare), and Sonya Weston and Deirdre Travers with St. Patrick's NS (Crossabeg). The aim of the Living Arts Project is to provide children with an understanding and appreciation of contemporary visual art.

Festivals supported through the Small Arts Festival Scheme

Jazz Piano Day 2022 (New Ross Piano Festival) took place on 22nd September as part of the overall 5-day festival. This event is a jazz element with free lunchtime concerts, which has been added through the small festival funding, in addition to showing the best of classical piano both nationally and internationally. This niche festival is very well attended by local and national audiences.

Write by the sea This literary festival took place in Kilmore Quay over 3 days 23rd – 25th September 2022. This growing literary festival takes place in Stella Maris Community Centre and has an extensive workshop programme in writing with invited national and international guest writers. It is very well attended by local and national audiences with record numbers this year. Highlights included Claire Keegan, Roddy Doyle, Lucy Caldwell interviews as well as numerous workshops, talks and readings.

Catch 22/Art-Tra took place August -September. This unique project was held at 15 outdoor galleries on beaches in South Wexford. Pieces from 14 contemporary artists were shown in situ. The artworks cover a wide range of media including sculpture, painting, textiles, photography and collage, utilizing both traditional and recycled materials.

Screen Wexford is funded by Arts & Economic departments of WCC to develop film industry in Wexford. In September it hosted a 16 mm film making workshop with partner Gorey School of Arts. Attended by filmmakers countywide and regionally.

As part of Culture night in the Presentation Art Centre in Enniscorthy, Screen Wexford presented 'Halted' a short documentary by Wexford filmmakers Robert Tyrrell and Joanne Heffernan and funded through Wexford County Councils 'New Voices Bursary' 2022. This Film which explores traveller culture was made in collaboration with FDYS Traveller Project. This screening was accompanied by an exhibition on Traveller culture and was extremely well attended on the night by the local traveller community.

Wexford County Youth Theatre supported by the Arts Office. **WCYT** recommenced September 2022 with drama facilitators Tony & Monika Fay McLean (Bare Cheek).

Auditions were held in their premises in William Street, Wexford, in Sept seeking new members aged 12 – 18 years.

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

Yellow Bellows are back with their singing group workshop for teenagers aged 12-18 yrs. The participants will take part in exploring signing, performing dynamic songs and styles will include rock and pop. The workshop started 30th September in the Presentation Arts Centre, Enniscorthy.

Bunclody Music Hub is an after-school group of instrumental and vocal tuition available to children & young people aged 7 -18 years which started in September.

Music Instrument Bank

MGW are pleased to announce that they have an official instrument storage room for over 4000 instruments owned by Music Generation Wexford in Head Office Ardcavan. This is a very significant music resource for young people throughout the county and allows great access for all.

Local Live Performance Scheme: Round 4 of the Local Live Performance Scheme (LLPPS) funded by the Department and managed by the Arts office is currently being delivered around the 5 districts. The event held by New Ross New Municipal District in the St Michael's Theatre on 2nd September was a concert with the High Kings and supported by local artists. Enniscorthy and Gorey are currently finalising their programme and more events will be announced in the coming week.

Gorey School of Arts Mentoring Programme 2022-23

An open call took place in Sept for this free mentoring & peer support programme for visual artists run by Gorey school of arts and funded by the arts office. It will take place Oct 2022 – May 2023 and involve groups exhibition at end in Peripheries gallery space.

FIRE SERVICES

Wexford Fire Service Report August 2022

Call statistics

Incident Type	Calls August 2022	Calls to date 2022	Calls to this period 2021
Chimney fire (WCC / Private)	0 / 0 (0)	51	83
Domestic fire (WCC / Private)	2 / 10 (12)	57	45
Road Traffic Accident	16	111	57
Industrial fire	2	7	8
Commercial fire	0	3	1
Assembly fire	1	5	3
Agricultural fire	1	4	9
Motor Vehicles	12	35	24
Forest/bog/grass etc	29	90	64
Rubbish	4	24	40
Non-fire rescues	9	53	65
False alarms – good intent	38	177	139
Malicious false alarms	0	1	1
Miscellaneous	16	74	32
Total	140	692	571

Fire calls by brigade to date

INCIDENT TYPE	WEXFORD	GOREY	ENNISCORTHY	NEW ROSS	BUNCLODY	TOTAL
CHIMNEY FIRE	14	11	10	13	3	51
DOMESTIC FIRE	24	11	8	12	2	57
ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	32	20	36	14	9	111
INDUSTRIAL FIRE	3	1	1	2	0	7
COMMERCIAL FIRE	0	1	2	0	0	3
ASSEMBLY FIRE	4	1	0	0	0	5
AGRICULTURAL FIRE	0	2	2	0	0	4
MOTOR VEHICLES	5	13	9	7	1	35

FOREST/BOG/GRASS ETC	23	30	18	7	12	90
RUBBISH	7	8	5	4	0	24
NON-FIRE RESCUES	19	12	13	8	1	53
FALSE ALARMS - GOOD INTENT	81	31	29	25	11	177
MALICIOUS FALSE ALARMS	0	0	1	0	0	1
MISCELLANEOUS	30	14	16	12	2	74
TOTALS	242	155	150	104	41	692

Fire Safety Certificate Applications

Number of Applications received in August 2022:	8
Number of Applications received to date:	85
Number of Applications to this period 2021:	81

UKRANIAN RESPONSE UPDATE

Information Update

The most recently released CSO data indicates some 1814 Ukrainian nationals currently in Wexford. The number of Individuals and percentage population per district is indicated below.

- Rosslare District 390 1.68% (+48)
- New Ross District 547 1.82% (+46)
- Enniscorthy District 331 1.13% (+62)
- Gorey District 210 0.68% (+25)
- Wexford District 217 0.69% (+36)
- Kilmuckridge District 119 0.65% (+42)

This indicates an increase of 259 in 6 weeks since CSO Series 5 data was issued on the of 19th August. Several new accommodation centres have come on stream in recent weeks.

Education (2021-2022 academic year))

Children enrolled in primary education in Co Wexford schools 2021/22 academic year: 284

Children enrolled in secondary education in Co Wexford schools 2021/22 academic year: 100

Full dataset available here: <u>https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/fp/p-aui/arrivalsfromukraineinirelandseries6/</u>

Community Response Forum.

The Forum met last on September 7th, with the next meeting on October 5th. Forum membership includes staff from the Department of Social Protection, HSE, Waterford Wexford Education Training Board, Wexford Local Development, Wexford Volunteer Centre, Wexford Civil Defence, the Irish Redcross and the Order of Malta. Representatives of the different local 'Friends of Ukraine' groups also attend.

There are always many examples of goodwill and support from communities across Wexford while some of the recurring difficulties are access to English classes, GP services and the need for more public transport in rural areas. Issues that cannot be resolved at local level are escalated to national working groups.

The Wexford County Council Ukraine team collate information and circulate via MS Teams on a weekly basis. Information is collated based on the thematic areas, each of which has a designated lead who reports to the Forum.

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

No.2 Red Cross Pledged Properties

The list of potential self-contained properties provided to the council for assessment has increased to 150 with some local additions. A further list of 297 shared accommodation pledges have been given also. On average from both lists 65% of the offers do not materialise for several reasons.

Wexford County Council staff have assessed all the vacant properties that are available for occupancy and some of the 'shared' properties with Garda Vetting in place.

Some 288 beneficiaries have been moved and a further 84 are planned.

Wexford County Council and Wexford Local Development hosted a very successful information evening for host families and those interested in becoming hosts on Tuesday the 6th of September in the Riverbank Hotel Wexford. The priority of the Ukraine team is to progress as many pledges as possible in the coming month concentrating on those that are vacant and most viable in terms of location and services.

No.3 Other Accommodation Options

The Department of Housing, Heritage and Local Government are preparing a funding programme for potential longer term communal accommodation projects. We have properties identified but no commitment has been given to progress them to-date.

CORPORATE ACTIVITIES

1. FOI OFFICE REQUESTS

Туре	
Freedom of Information	9
Customer Complaint	10
Ombudsman Complaint	2
Access to Information on the Environment	1
Data Access Request	1
Total	

CRM / Customer Service Unit Report on Activities September 2022

Area				Septe	ember
Agricultural Burns					17
Environment Complaints					336
Change of Circumstances					46
General Queries					0
Housing Validation					161
Quick Calls					2,932
Road Faults Log					32
Emails					3,032
	Email Category	Total	Section		
	Email (Received - External)	716	Unknown	716	
	Email (Received - Internal)	681	Unknown	681	
	Email (Sent - External/Internal)	1632	Unknown	1,632	
	Email (Sent - Internal)	3	Housing	3	
Total					6,596

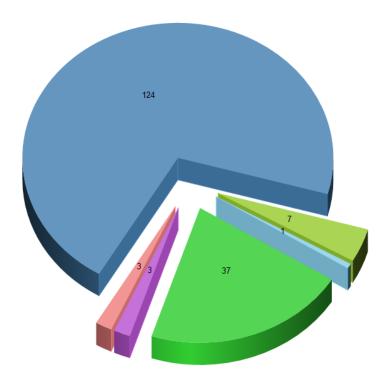
Public Representations - between 01/09/2022 and 30/09/2022

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No.of Representations by	2022		
Section	Sep		
Section	Cases	Total	%
Enniscorthy Municipal District	2	2	1%
Environment	4	4	2%
Finance	2	2	1%
Gorey - Kilmuckridge Municipal District	5	5	3%
Housing	118	118	67%
New Ross Municipal District	1	1	1%
Planning	2	2	1%
Roads	3	3	2%

Total	175	175	100%
Wexford Municipal District	1	1	1%
Water - Rural Water and Well Grants	1	1	1%
Roads - Wexford MD	2	2	1%
Roads - Rosslare MD	1	1	1%
Roads - New Ross MD	1	1	1%
Roads - Gorey - Kilmuckridge MD	4	4	2%
Roads - Enniscorthy MD	28	28	16%

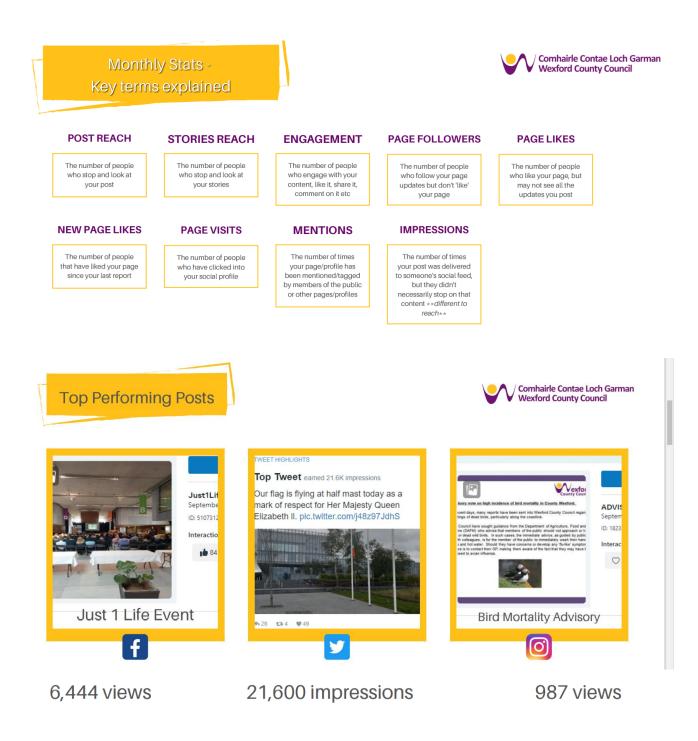
Public Representations by District between 01/09/2022 and 30/09/2022





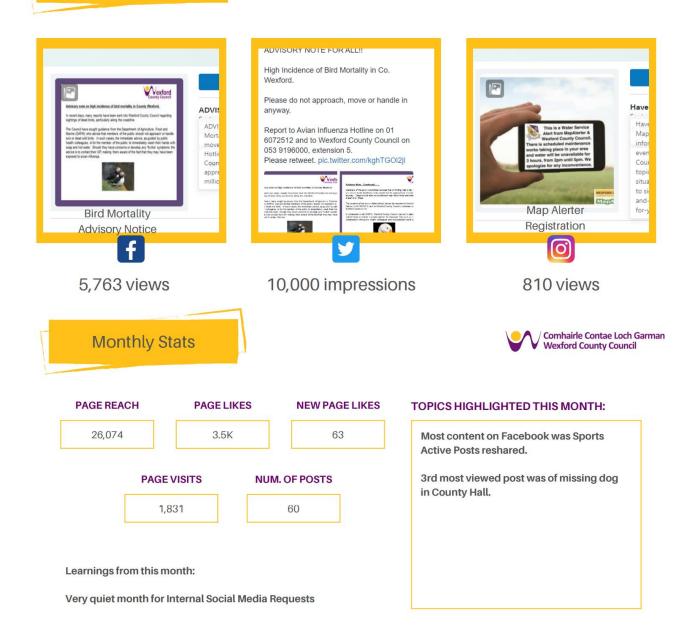
Comhairle Contae Loch Garman Wexford County Council

Monthly Social Media Report Month: September 2022



Top Performing Posts







Learnings from this month:

Just some of the comments received by flying flag at half mast. There was no engagement from Wexford County Council on these comments.



Wexford County Council

Comhairle Contae Loch Garman

TOPICS HIGHLIGHTED THIS MONTH:

Top Tweet earned 21.6K impressions Our flag is flying at half mast today as a mark of respect for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. pic.twitter.com/J48297JdhS



That is absolutely scandalous whoever made that decision should be ashamed of themselves, what i want to know is why was it even discussed???

Fly it full flag. You owe more to the people of Wexford than you do her! Just so you know, it would also be damning to your reputation to mention Fr. Murphy or 1798 again!

This beggars belief. The British monarchy caused incredible suffering, emigration and death on this Island and someone from the same county as the brave failen of 1798 decided to lower the flag that our men and women fought for. #readahistorybook







TYPES OF QUERIES RECEIVED:

- WATER ENQUIRIES NEW ROSS DISTRICT
- ROADS COMPLAINTS ON ROAD SURFACE CONDITIONS



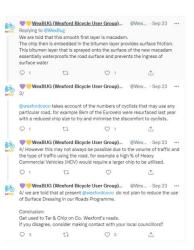
WexBUG (Wexford Bicycle User Group)
 WexBUg

Thread 1/ - ROAD SURFACING.
How many times have you come across what loc

Inread 1/ - KOAD SOURFACING. How many times have you come across what looks like a perfectly resurfaced road only to find that tar & chip gets added on top a few weeks later? We have been in communication with @wexfordcoco to see what's going on.

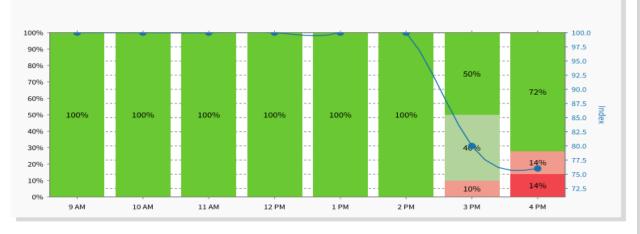
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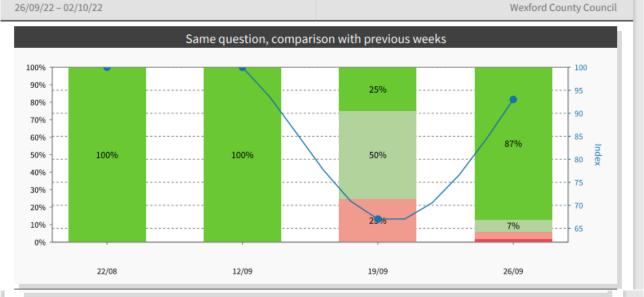
Hourly distribution



Weekly report

26/09/22 - 02/10/22

Unit report



Pain Points											
	0%	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%	100%
Customer service	-										- 0% - 0 resp.
Wait time	-										- 0% - 0 resp.
Staff availability	-										- 0% - 0 resp.
Something else	-										- 0% - 0 resp.

Highlights											
	0%	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%	100%
Customer service	-										- 0% - 0 resp.
Wait time	1										- 0% - 0 resp.
Staff availability	-										- 0% - 0 resp.
Something else	-										- 0% - 0 resp.

Finance:

Q2 Finance Report – to 30th June 2022

The Q2 Finance Report has been circulated to members. There is a reported deficit in the revenue position for this quarter which is largely informed by factors associated with the ongoing emergency events together with pressures emerging from the inflationary position of the economy. Energy Cost increases, including public lighting, which is a significant cost for the council, will be a particularly worrying aspect of operational costs for the second half of 2022 and the position on this element will be kept under close review in the coming months as the OGP work on the national tender for energy. The finances and cash flow of the council continue to be carefully monitored and managed as we move through the year and every effort will be made to protect the financial position of the council against any deterioration in the overall position to be reported at year end.

Budget 2023

Work has commenced on the preparation of Budget 2023 with the public consultation exercise completed in respect of the Local Adjustment Factor (LAF) for Local Property Tax applied to County Wexford property owners in 2023. There have been some changes notified in relation to the Local Adjustment Factor process for 2023 following the issue of the **The Local Property Tax (Local Adjustment Factor) Regulations** which came into effect on 18th July, 2022 and have made some changes to the way the Local Adjustment Factor (LAF) works. These changes are set out in the update report included on the agenda and will be discussed at the September meeting of the Council.

Circular Fin 08/2022 has also been received confirming Wexford County Council's provisional LPT Allocation (pre LAF decision) for 2023 and providing information on the outcome of the Local Property Tax revaluation exercise and is also notifying the council of some changes to the LPT allocation process which are also outlined in the update report included on the agenda for the September meeting.

The prescribed periods for the holding of the statutory budget Meeting and GMA Meetings in the districts have also been notified with the issue of Circular Fin 09/2022 and in light of changes referenced above a draft schedule of meetings has been included in the Update report for members for discussion and agreement at the September meeting.

Cash Flow/Overdraft

The Council continues to operate with an overdraft facility, Ministerial Sanction is in place for borrowing by way of overdraft in the amount of €20m for the period to the 31st December, 2022. The requirement for ongoing overdraft facilities into 2023 will be reviewed in the coming weeks as a formal application will need to be submitted to members in October to secure council approval and ministerial sanction for any extension of the facility into 2023.

<u>Audit</u>

- <u>Audit of Accounts 2021</u> The Audit of Wexford County Council's 2021 Accounts is ongoing and moving to completion. Once complete, the Local Government Auditor will prepare the statutory audit report to be submitted for consideration of the Council as soon as possible thereafter.
- <u>Audit Committee</u> The next meeting is scheduled for October 2022, and may include a discussion with the Local Government Auditor on the 2021 Audit. Following their meeting with the Local Government Auditor the Audit Committee will prepare their report for the council on the Annual Accounts and Audit process.

Tom Enright,

Chief Executive.