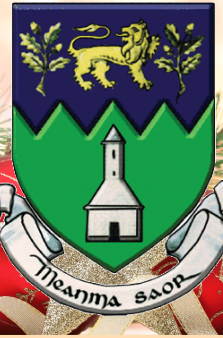


Countywise



Nuachtlitir Chomhairle Chontae Chill Mhantáin
Newsletter of Wicklow County Council

Winter / Gheimhridh 2015



**Arklow Duck Pond
Wins National Award**
See page 3

*Nollaig Shona
daoibh go léir*

Wicklow Wins Two Awards in 2015

IPB /Co-operation Ireland

Pride of Place Awards

Wicklow has taken two of the top prizes in the annual Irish Public Bodies(IPB) Co-operation Ireland Pride of Place Awards where they faced competition from all over the country.

Carnew Community Care won top prize in the Age Friendly Community Initiative category while Tiglin took runner-up position in the Community Health Initiative category.

The awards were presented at a ceremony in Ennis, Co. Clare, before an audience of 800 people from around the country. The winners were announced by RTE's Ciana Campbell.

In their citation the judges said of Carnew: *"The winner in this category concerns a community of which the judges said that it would be difficult if not impossible to find a more comprehensive range of facilities and initiatives to assist the elderly than those provided in this rural village. The quality and extent of sheltered housing and an excellent community building further endorse this wonderful model village as a standard bearer in Elderly Care".*

The judges were extremely impressed with the quality and ethos of the services offered in Tiglin Rehabilitation Centre in Ashford, highlighting the fact that Tiglin endeavours to help people become mentally sound, emotionally balanced, socially adjusted, physically well and spiritually alive. They added: *"The Centre provides individuals with an effective and comprehensive solution to life controlling addiction problems in order to become productive members of society. What Tiglin has to offer is quite unique with an exceptional success rate."*

Congratulating the two Wicklow winners, Cllr. John Ryan, Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council said: *"In every community there are ordinary people doing extraordinary things - you are all a part of that and this is what we are celebrating."*

Chief Executive of Wicklow County Council, Mr. Bryan Doyle, commended the prize winners and also congratulated the representatives from the other two Wicklow entries, Be Well Bray and Wicklow Town, on their commitment to and enthusiasm for the Pride of Place competition. He added that Wicklow County Council will continue to work *"with the community, in the community and for the community"*.

The Pride of Place Awards recognise and celebrate the achievements of people who work tirelessly to create pride in their local area and a better place for local residents. Forty-three groups, ranging from those in small rural communities to groups in inner-city housing estates, took winning or runner-up positions in the main and cities competitions. A further six groups received Special Awards, while one local authority received a special Council Award.



Representatives of Carnew Community Care and Wicklow County Council with Tom Dowling, Chairman Pride of Place Committee; Ronan Foley, CEO IPB Insurance; Cllr Mary Howard, Leas Cathaoirleach, Clare Co. Co. Jimmy Deenihan TD, Minister of State for the Diaspora and John Bruton, former Taoiseach and Deputy Chairman Co-operation Ireland.



Representatives from Tiglin and Wicklow County Council with Tom Dowling, Chairman Pride of Place Committee; Ronan Foley, CEO, IPB Insurance; George Jones, Chairman IPB Insurance; Cllr Mary Howard, Leas Cathaoirleach, Clare County Council; Jimmy Deenihan TD, Minister of State for the Diaspora; Tom Coughlan, County Manager, Clare County Council; John Bruton, former Taoiseach and Deputy Chairman Co-operation Ireland and Peter Sheridan at the 13th Annual IPB Pride of Place Awards in association with Co-operation Ireland at Tracey's West County Hotel Ennis.

Arklow's Duck Pond Wins National Award

Arklow's Duck Pond, Nature Walk and Leisure Area won a top award in the 2015 Excellence in Local Government Awards, beating off competition from around the country.



The 2015 Excellence in Local Government Awards, in conjunction with the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government, are held to recognise and celebrate the outstanding work being carried out by Local Authorities all over Ireland.

The Arklow Duck Pond won the award under the Parks and Recreations category. Other entrants came from Cork and Dun Laoghaire.

Commenting on the win, the Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Cllr. John Ryan, stated: *"I am delighted that Wicklow County Council, and particularly Arklow Municipal District, have been recognised nationally for this project. It is recognition of the fact that so many people in the community are delivering great work on a daily basis and I'm glad it hasn't gone unnoticed but rather has been held up as a national example of excellence by the judging panel."*

The Cathaoirleach of Arklow Municipal District, Cllr. Sylvester Bourke, also congratulated everyone involved in the project.

The award was presented to Wicklow County Council by Minister Alan Kelly and Ian Talbot, Chief Executive of Chambers Ireland.

Wicklow County Council, together with many community groups, has worked to improve the area in Arklow for locals and tourists. The Duck Pond measures 1km in circumference, is ideal for those interested in wildlife, leisurely walks or keeping fit and is used by young and old alike, night and day.

It is a project that has been developed by the local authority with assistance from many community groups over a number of years. It provides a diverse mix of amenities including Howards Way Slí ná Slaínte, seafront walk, crazy golf, outdoor gyms, skateboard park, playground, and running track.

A number of events are held in the area throughout the year such as a Haunted Halloween Treasure Trail and Environmental Treasure Hunts while an annual Bat Walk takes place during Heritage Week. The public can also visit Seaview Garden which is a very attractive sensory garden planted and maintained by volunteers from local services.



There are a series of "Nature Trail" signs around the Duck Pond which give information on flora and fauna and are designed to take visitors around the lake while pointing out some interesting points about its biodiversity. The signs have been attached to granite blocks which were taken from the Pier Head following restoration works.



The project is managed and maintained by Arklow Municipal District with assistance from Sunbeam House Services, National Learning Network, Arklow Men's Shed, Arklow Tidy Towns, Arklow Coastcare, Transition Year Students, Women of the World, Community Services, Age Action and Arklow Volunteer Centre. These groups are involved in projects that maintain and increase biodiversity of the lake along with educational projects in the area.

Christmas Parking Arrangements

Christmas Parking arrangements for Arklow Town

Free parking in Council owned car parks from Friday 4th December up to Thursday 31st December 2015 inclusive.

Free parking on the street restricted to two hours from Friday 4th December up to Thursday 31st December 2015 inclusive.

The Municipal District requests business owners and their staff to avail of parking in the car parks rather than parking on the street during this period.

The traffic wardens will be monitoring the traffic as normal and enforcing all other aspects of the parking bye laws in relation to illegal parking.

**FREE
PARKING
IN BRAY**
AFTER 11 am
EVERY SATURDAY
IN OCTOBER, NOVEMBER & DECEMBER
in the Florence Road and Herbert Road Car Parks



www.bray.ie

Christmas Parking in Wicklow Town

**ANY 3 HOURS
FREE PARKING FROM
7th - 31st DECEMBER**

**COMPLIMENTS OF
WICKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT**

******PARKING IS NOT PERMITTED
ON DOUBLE YELLOW LINES,
DISABLED BAYS OR RESIDENT'S AREAS.**

News from Wicklow Municipal District

One Year's Free Parking



Wicklow Municipal District in partnership with the Wicklow Town & District Chamber are sponsoring a prize of one year's free parking in Wicklow Town as part of the Wicklow Town & District Chamber Shop Local promotion.

Coastal Protection Works on the Murrough

Wicklow County Council welcomes the recent announcement by the OPW of the awarding of €135,000 in funding for coastal protection works on the Murrough, Wicklow. Wicklow County Council hopes to commence these works in January 2016.



News from Baltinglass Municipal District

Baltinglass Courthouse has recently been painted and is looking pristine. These works were funded from the Members' Discretionary Fund 2015 when the Members voted to set aside €24,000 from this fund for the painting and other internal refurbishment works.

The Members voted earlier in the year to have the monthly Municipal District Meetings held in various locations around the Municipal District. It was felt that this would help to raise the profile of the newly formed Baltinglass Municipal District and make the residents more aware of local government reform in the County. To date, meetings have been held in Dunlavin and Donard. It is intended to have the December meeting in Carnew. More meetings will be held around the Municipal District in the New Year.

At the November meeting of the Municipal District, the Members congratulated Carnew Community Care on winning top prize in the Age Friendly Community Initiative category of the 2015 IPB /Co-operation Ireland Pride of Place Awards beating stiff competition from all over the country.

Baltinglass Traffic Management Plan was approved by the Members at the September meeting and was approved by the full council in October. Further progress is subject to funding.

News from Greystones Municipal District

The Christmas Lights were officially switched on in Greystones on Saturday 21st November. This year's event was bigger and better than ever. Local school choirs sang Christmas carols to set the festive mood. Santa arrived on a fire engine to turn on the lights. There was a farmers market in Burnaby Park throughout the day and, as an exciting new addition to the event, there was an outdoor screening of the movie "Frozen".

Large numbers turned out to enjoy the Christmas Lights Ceremony for a lovely afternoon of family entertainment. The festive lights twinkling around the town are always a magical addition to the community each year.

The Greystones Municipal District worked alongside local business woman Alison Banton of Brooke and Shoals and Taragh Hanley to organise the annual event with the support of the businesses in Greystones. The business community and the Council join forces to organise and financially fund the annual Christmas Lights. Shopping locally and supporting businesses has always been a feature in Greystones and the Christmas Lights is a great way for the businesses to say "thank you".



Cathaoirleach of Greystones MD, Cllr. Grainne McLoughlin, Ms. Alison Banton, Greystones Business Community, Santa Claus and Mr. Paul Byrne, MC on the day.

News from Arklow Municipal District

Arklow Municipal District – New Offices

Arklow Municipal District will open to the public at their new offices in Castle Park, Arklow on Tuesday 8th December 2015. The staff look forward to welcoming you to our new offices.

Opening Hours – Monday to Friday 9.00 am to 1.00 pm & 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm.
Phone 0402 - 42700 E-Mail ArklowMunicipalDistrict@wicklowcoco.ie



Arklow Christmas Festival Continues

Arklow's first ever Christmas Festival continues up to Christmas with the Live Entertainment Mile shaping up with wonderful groups and singers agreeing to busk each weekend. There will be great choirs with Arklow Inver Ladies and Avoca National School "Singing Souls" serenading people in the Bandstand on Saturday the 5th of December. Great young talent such as Aoibhín Redmond and Áine, Érin and Siún will be entertaining the crowds going shopping in the town. The Vault Music Programme will be giving a performance on Saturday the 12th in the Bandstand, while Sing For Fun will be joining in on the Live Entertainment Mile on Saturday the 5th of December at AIB. "Small Town Crisis" will be rocking up around the parade ground every weekend of December also. For further details, list of entertainment spots or if you would like you/your group/band to be included, fill in the form on the website and we will get back to you with details www.arklowchristmasfestival.com

Due to the huge level of interest in stalls for the Arklow Christmas Market being held on Sunday 13th December, the committee have been forced to move from their proposed venue of Aras an Lorcaín to the River Walk, to cater for the sheer volume. The time has also been extended so the markets will now take place from 12-6pm. There will be arts and crafts, music and much more, so make sure to come down and support local craft and pick up some wonderful hand made products this Christmas.

There are still places remaining for stall holders, showcasing the wonderful talents of the people of Arklow and surrounding areas, in terms of crafts, baking, artisan food, paintings, pottery and much much more. If you are interested in taking a stall please go to www.arklowchristmasfestival.com where you can fill out the application form. Cost per stall is €20.00 and payable in advance. All Stall holders are responsible for their own stands, tables, chairs, gazebos and so forth.

As per any normal weekend in Arklow, there will be free parking in the town to encourage people to shop local and they will be greeted by various groups around the town on the Entertainment Mile stretching from Kavanagh's on the Wexford right down to Kenny's of the Harbour Bar and the Bridgewater. The business community will have the opportunity to work with other groups to promote Arklow by taking to the streets and let everyone see the great variety of offerings available in the town. A pre-Christmas boost to all retailers and keep people shopping in the town. There will be many special offers to shoppers and people are asked to shop local this year and keep business in town, and support local jobs.

So shop local this Christmas and support local jobs, keeping the money in town.

Check out our website for more information: www.arklowchristmasfestival.com and Facebook page: www.facebook.com/arklowchristmasfestival

Avail of Arklow local Radio for free advertising for your business also, check out: www.arklow.eswebradio.net

Road Safety

Wicklow County Council urge all road users to stay safe on our roads at all times but particular care is advised during the festive period. As of the 25th November 143 people have been killed on Irish roads this year. This figure is down 32 compared with the same date for 2014. However, there will be 143 families missing a loved one this Christmas.

The greatest gift you can give this Christmas is to safeguard the lives of others by driving responsibly, while the greatest gift you can receive is that other drivers and road users are careful with your life.

It is the hope of Wicklow County Council and An Garda Síochána that there are fewer families grieving and fewer people who need long-term care for injuries received in road crashes that could be prevented. We would ask all road users to be road safety aware this Christmas

- Don't Speed
 - Always wear your seatbelt
 - Don't drive if you are feeling tired
 - Don't use your mobile phone while driving
- AND
- Never ever drink or drug drive.



For Pedestrians and cyclists please be safe and be seen, and wear a high viz jacket.

Wicklow County Council would like to wish everyone a safe and Happy Christmas.
For further information log on to www.rsa.ie



Operation Transformation 2016

Operation Transformation (Series 9) will return to our screens in January 2016. Six leaders have been chosen, each of whom have very genuine reasons why they need Operation Transformation to help them lose weight and get fit and HEALTHY. A team of experts have developed an eight week programme tailored for each of the 6 participants.

Now is the time for you to form an Operation Transformation(OT) Group with your friends, family, neighbours or colleagues. OT groups can register here www.ot.rte.ie/news/get-involved-article-1/.

Wicklow Local Sports Partnership is looking forward to working with local Operation Transformation groups across the County in getting more active in 2016. To keep up to date on walks/events across the County please check out our Facebook page www.facebook.com/wicklowlocalsportspartnership.



If you are organising any walks/events and you would like us to get involved, please contact us at 0404 20100.

Get involved and Get active.



Age Friendly Wicklow

On the 12th November, Wicklow started on its Age Friendly journey with the establishment and first meeting of the County Wicklow Age Friendly Alliance. Members of the alliance include Bray Area Partnership, County Wicklow Partnership, County Wicklow Network for Older People, County Wicklow Citizens Information, the HSE, An Garda Síochána and Wicklow County Council. It is hoped that more partners will join the alliance as the journey continues towards making Wicklow an Age Friendly County. The Wicklow Programme is part of the national Age Friendly Cities and Counties Programme, which is now operational in all 31 local authority areas in the country. It is hoped that the alliance will oversee the development and roll out of an Age Friendly Strategy for County Wicklow.

However, the establishment of the Alliance is just the beginning and it is important that all the structures are put in place.

The County Wicklow Age Friendly Programme will work to develop a Strategy and Action Plan that will follow guidelines set down by the national Age Friendly Cities and Counties Programme. Central to this Strategy's development will be an extensive consultation and survey of older people throughout the county looking at their needs and agreeing actions that will make real change to the lives of older people at a local and county level. Therefore we will be looking for your input and contribution to the development of County Wicklow Age Friendly strategy. It is recognised that County Wicklow Network for Older People has already through its work, engaged in extensive consultation and this will be taken into account in the development of the Age Friendly Strategy.

County Wicklow Age Friendly programme aims to ensure that: communities are supportive and safe, community activities promote meaningful, intergenerational communication, and older person's contributions are valued and included.



Wicklow County Archives

The Wicklow County Archives are a unique collection of Wicklow records relating to the administration of the county and the people's interaction with this administration. They offer a rich research resource not only for the family historian and the local historian, but also for academic and other researchers of wide and varying interests who wish to learn about the shape and development of communities and the authorities who served them.

The following are a selection of some of the records held by the Wicklow County Archives.....

Dating from the late 1600s

Among the jewels of the collection are the 17th and 18th century Wicklow Borough records. These early minute books offer a snapshot of life in Wicklow from the mid-1600's.



17th & 18th century minute books of the Borough of Wicklow

Grand Jury Presentments 1818 to 1899

The Grand Juries were set up across the country from approximately the 17th century and were an early form of local government. The members were appointed by the County Sheriff, usually from the ranks of major local land owners. The Jury was initially concerned with the administration of justice, but later took on responsibility for building and maintaining roads, bridges, infirmaries, asylums, courthouses and gaols.

They met at Spring and Summer Assizes where presentments (works) were passed. The Grand Jury was superseded by the county council system in 1898 but retained its judicial function until it was abolished in 1924. The records hold a wealth of information about the county in the 19th century. Digitised copies are now available on the Wicklow County Archives website at www.wicklow.ie/archives-genealogy-service - with more digitised records from our other collections to follow next year.



Extract from the minute book of the Rathdrum Board of Guardians, showing their first meeting held at the Flannel Hall, Rathdrum in 1839 - the board included members of the famous County Wicklow families of Parnell and Synge.

Workhouse Registers (Rathdrum & Shillelagh)

The County Archives collection of admission and discharge registers of the Rathdrum and Shillelagh workhouses date from famine times and is one of the best collections in the country. Some of the headings under which information was recorded include, "Name of Pauper", "Single/Married/Widow/er", "Child of", "Trade/Calling", "Disabled and Nature of disability", "Observations on condition upon admission", "Date admitted or when born in the workhouse" and "Date of death or discharge". These are perhaps our most poignant records, illustrating the suffering of the poor in the lists of names of those admitted to this institution, not only in famine times but throughout the 19th and early 20th century.

County, Town & Rural District Council Minutes

Wicklow County Council came into being in 1899 when county councils became an important instrument in establishing democratic local government in Ireland for the first time, and in trying to improve social conditions for the people of the country. These council minutes are a wonderfully rich archival source illustrating the various aspects of local administration and democratic government in Wicklow during one of the most significant periods in Irish history.

Name of Pauper	Age	Sex	Trade/Calling	Admitted	Discharged
John Jones	45	M	Labourer	1849	
John Smith	35	M	Labourer	1849	
John Doe	25	M	Labourer	1849	
John Brown	15	M	Labourer	1849	
John White	10	M	Labourer	1849	
John Black	5	M	Labourer	1849	
John Grey	40	M	Labourer	1849	
John Green	30	M	Labourer	1849	
John Blue	20	M	Labourer	1849	
John Yellow	15	M	Labourer	1849	

Detail from the Admissions and Discharge register of the Rathdrum Workhouse, 1849

Genealogy service

The County Archives is also the home of Wicklow County Council's genealogy service - the Wicklow Family History Centre. For more information on this service, as well as more information on the County Archives' holdings, please see our website at the following link: www.wicklow.ie/wicklow-genealogy-service.



WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL RECYCLING CENTRES

**BRAY, WICKLOW, ARKLOW, AVOCA & RAMPERE
RECYCLING CENTRES**

All centres will be open as normal up to & including
Wednesday 23rd December 2015.

Centres will be closed for Christmas from
Thursday 24th to Monday 28th December 2015
and re-open for

Tuesday 29th and Wednesday 30th December 2015.

Centres will close again for New Year's from
Thursday 31st December to
Friday 1st January 2016.

**NORMAL OPENING HOURS RESUME
FROM SATURDAY 2ND JANUARY 2016.**

Stop Food Waste this Christmas and for the New Year Make 2016 a waste free zone in the kitchen!

Food waste increases by a massive 80% during the Christmas and most of it ends up in landfill. Add to this all the energy used to produce, package, transport and deliver the food to our homes and we have a very, very wasteful Christmas.

While some food waste is composted, most ends up in the bin. About 1/3 of all the food we buy gets thrown out!!
On average, wasted food costs each Irish household €700 a year. For some households this can be over €1000!
You can save money and the planet all in one go!

For our **'Twelve Days of Christmas'** Cookbook, using leftovers to extend your Christmas Cheer -
check our website: www.wicklow.ie or email us at eao@wicklowcoco.ie Phone **1890 22 22 76**

Go to www.StopFoodWaste.ie and check out how to.....

✓ Buy Better ✓ Get Savvy with Storage ✓ And Start some Canny Cooking with their Recipes

You can also get this information from the Environment Awareness Office, Wicklow County Council
Phone **1890 22 22 76**

Christmas leftover recipes and a clever menu planner is available on
www.lovefoodhatewaste.com

And why not decide to compost in the new year!.....

And while you are doing something to save on food waste...get going on composting the
kitchen and garden waste as well.

Composting is easy! Composter's and information is available through the
Wicklow County Council Recycling Centres or call **1890 22 22 76**
Email eao@wicklowcoco.ie

Bray Recycling Centre

Beechwood Close,
Boghall Road

Opening Hours:

Mon - Fri - 9am - 4pm

Sat - 9am - 2pm

Arklow Recycling Centre

Croghan Industrial Estate,,
Emoclew Road

Opening Hours:

Mon - Thurs - 9am - 4.30pm

Fri - 9am - 3.30pm

Sat - 9am - 1.45pm

Avoca Recycling Centre

Ballymurtagh

Opening Hours:

Tues - Thurs - 9am - 4.30pm

Fri - 9am - 3.30pm

Sat - 9am - 1.45pm

Closed for lunch everyday 1-2

The Murrough Recycling Centre

The Murrough, Wicklow Town

Opening Hours:

Mon - Thurs - 9:00am - 4.30pm

Fri - 9:00am - 3.30pm

Sat - 9:00am - 1.45pm

Closed for lunch everyday 1-2

Rampere Recycling Centre

Baltinglass

Opening Hours:

Mon - Thurs - 8:30am - 4.30pm

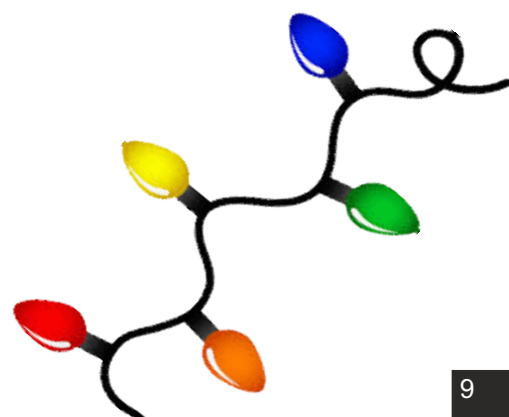
Fri - 8.30am - 3.30pm

Sat - 8:30am - 1pm

Christmas Tree Recycling

Bring your Christmas Tree to any of the collection points below. They will be
shredded, composted and used again! No wreaths, plastic trees or decorations please.

Arklow	Arklow Recycling Centre, Croghan Industrial Estate	4th to 16th January	Mon-Fri: 9.30am-3pm Sat: 9.30am-1pm
Aughrim	Tidy Towns Pavillion	4th to 16th January	Mon-Sat: 9am-4pm
Avoca	Avoca Recycling Centre	6 th to 17 th January	Tues-Fri: 10am-1, 2-4pm Sat: 9.30am-1pm Donations taken for Local Charity
Baltinglass	Rampere Landfill & Recycling Centre	4th to 16th January	Mon-Fri: 8.30am-3pm Sat: 8.30 am - 12pm
Blessington	County Council Yard, Naas Road	4th to 16th January	10am-4pm
Bray	Bray Recycling Centre, Beechwood Close, Boghall Road	4th to 16th January	Mon-Fri: 9.30am-3pm Sat: 9.30am-1pm
Bray	Festina Lente Foundation, Old Connaught Avenue	4th to 16th January	10am-4pm Daily
Greystones	Carpark in front of the Wicklow County Council Offices on Mill Road opposite the bottle banks	4th to 16th January	
Glen of the Downs	Horkan's Garden & Lifestyle Centre	4th to 16th January	10am - 4pm daily
Hollywood	Church Carpark, Hollywood	2nd January Donations in aid of Tidy Towns	10am - 12md
Wicklow	The Murrough Recycling Centre, Wicklow	4th to 16th January	Mon-Fri: 9.30am-3pm Sat: 9.30am - 1pm
Wicklow	Green King, Coolbeg (road opp. Beehive)	4th to 16th January	Mon-Fri: 8-5.30 Sat: 9-1





Tips for a Green NEW YEAR!

Aluminium is not just used in drinks cans, don't forget the Aluminium trays – from mince pies and your take away food trays. Just make sure these items are clean and dry. In Wicklow we will have used 2.5 million cans by the end of the season.

Bottle Banks. With over a million bottles used in county Wicklow over Christmas this puts a lot of extra strain on the bottle bank service. Do not leave your bottles on the ground in boxes or bags at the bottle bank - it is a litter offence leaving you open to potential prosecution.

Christmas Crackers and Christmas Cards are recyclable and remember to make sure all the Cardboard and paper is Clean and dry.

Decorations. Store all your Christmas decorations and reuse them next year.

Electrical items and batteries – make sure you recycle your used batteries and electrical goods. Shops selling batteries must now provide collection boxes to recycle old batteries. These are usually small blue boxes located close to the tills or information desks in store. Recycle any old or broken electrical items in your local recycling centres or by returning them to an electrical shop when purchasing new ones.

Food waste is a huge problem at Christmas. Use all your leftovers in new dinners and check out www.StopFoodWaste.ie for more information and recipes. We have a new Christmas Recipe book available to help on our website www.wicklow.ie.

Glass. Keep it separate for recycling at the bottle bank or recycling centre. Put each glass bottle into the correct bank for its colour. Mixing up the colours lowers the quality of recyclable glass.

Hazardous waste collections are held in different locations around the county during the year. Check out the locations near you.

Invest in a composter or water butt this year...both will save you money and be good for the environment.

Jars. Don't forget to recycle your used jars - mayonnaise, cranberry and pickled sauce jars. Clean out your glass jars to get rid of any left over food.

K is for keeping your curtains closed. This keeps heat in and saves energy and money. With all those guests to entertain, more heat is going to be generated anyway.

Lights on the Christmas Tree left on for 10 hours a day over the 12 days of Christmas produce enough CO2 to inflate 12 balloons, so turn them off when they are not needed. If you want to be more environmentally friendly, try switching to either LED lights, choosing lights that are powered by solar power or rechargeable batteries, or installing an energy-saving bulb to offset the energy usage.

Mobile phones. Recycle your old ones by giving them to one of the many local charities.

Newspapers. Get all those newspapers and magazines to the recycling centre.

Old clothes and bric-a-brac. Bring them to the local charity shop. You can always use our Oxfam Shop at the Wicklow Recycling Centre or the Five Loaves Shop at the Bray Centre.

Plastic bottles. Make sure all of them are recycled, even the shampoo and ketchup bottles!

Questions. If you have any about recycling, reducing your waste or saving energy, contact the Environmental Awareness Office on 1890 222276.

Reduce - Reuse - Recycle Make your new year's Resolution to prevent waste in 2016.

Save money by having less waste and using less energy...and help save the Environment at the same time.

Tree. If you have a real Christmas tree you can recycle it at one of the many designated locations in the county.

Unwanted gifts. When the festivities are over bring any clothes or toys that are unwanted to your local charity shop or give them away online through sites such as www.freetrade.ie.

Vegetables. Start a composter and recycle all your peelings and garden cuttings – composting turns spoil into soil! Why not start a Veg Patch in the New Year?

Wrapping paper. Don't forget to recycle the used wrapping paper. Better still, fold it carefully and use it again next year.

eXtra. All that extra cardboard needs to be clean and dry until you bring it to the recycling centre. It's no good if it's wet.

You are the answer to the environmental problems we face... Reduce, Reuse and Recycle as much as you can and that goes for water and energy as well as waste.

Zzzzz Remember to catch up on your sleep over the Christmas. It's been a tough year for all of us!



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

**Environmental Awareness Office,
Wicklow County Council**

T: 1890 222 276

Wicklow County Council adopts Annual Budget 2016

on 23rd November 2015

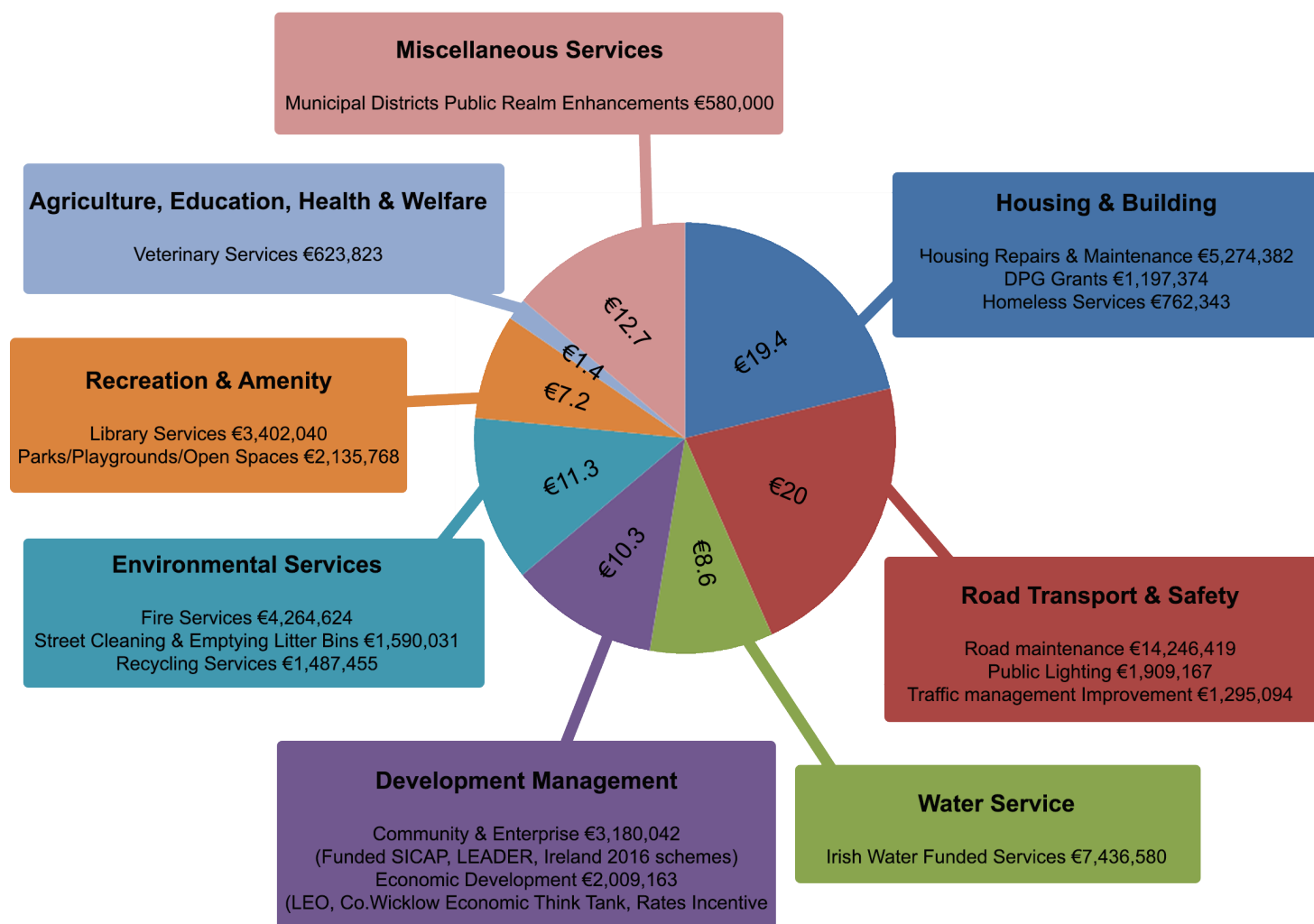
Local Property Tax 2016

Tough Call by the County Council provides additional €2.5 million funding

Councillors in County Wicklow took a difficult decision in September 2015 not to vary the Local Property Tax (LPT) rate for 2016. Wicklow County Council was struggling to maintain core services due to ongoing cuts to funding over the past 8 years. The members were also aware of the need for supplementary funds to build on the positive shoots of economic recovery that were finally emerging in a County hard hit by the recession. The €2.5million additional funds generated for the County were allocated to restore and maintain Countywide essential services, aid economic recovery and to continue to improve the quality of life of those in the County.

Homeless Services	€150,000	Additional funding for dedicated homeless services and for emergency accommodation.
Community Grants	€250,000	Important funding for community and sporting groups throughout County Wicklow.
Disabled Persons Grants (DPG)	€200,000	Additional funding for Housing Adaptation, Housing Aid for Older People and Mobility Aid grants.
Playgrounds	€185,000	Funding to maintain existing and new playgrounds; skateparks; parks.
Recycling Centres	€250,000	To maintain services in 5 Civic Amenity centres across the County.
Library Services	€300,000	To restore hard hit library services and to purchase new books.
Rates Incentive Scheme	€250,000	To assist Co. Wicklow ratepayers - full scheme details to be announced in January 2016.
Economic Development	€275,000	Supports the County Wicklow Economic Think Tank and the Local Economic & Community Plan.
Municipal Districts	€580,000	For public realm enhancement projects throughout the Municipal districts including additional public lighting, footpaths, road safety measures.
Bray-Greystones Cliff Walk	€50,000	To repair this important County amenity.

Wicklow County Council Budget 2016 €91,203,274



What are Strategic Policy Committee's (SPC's)?

Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs) are set up under legislation to formulate, develop, monitor and review policy relating to the authority's functions. There are five SPC's in Wicklow County Council:

- Housing & Corporate Estate Strategic Policy Committee
- Planning & Development Strategic Policy Committee
- Transportation, Water & Environmental Services Strategic Policy Committee
- Community, Cultural & Social Development Strategic Policy Committee
- Economic Development & Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee

Housing & Corporate Estate Strategic Policy Committee

- Who are we:** A committee of representatives from the following sectors:
Social Inclusion pillar of the Public Participation Network (PPN) (1)
Community & Voluntary pillar of the Public Participation Network (1)
Trade Union
Business/Commercial
Wicklow County Council elected members (6)
- What we do:** The Housing & Corporate Estate SPC was set up to advise and assist the housing section of Wicklow County Council in its work. Some of the functions of the housing section of Wicklow County Council are: the provision of social housing, assessment of housing needs, housing strategies, homelessness, housing loans and grants, Traveller accommodation, voluntary housing, private rented sector, housing standards and estate management.
- How often we meet:** Approximately 4 times per year

Planning & Development Strategic Policy Committee

- Who are we:** A committee of representatives from the following sectors:
Environment/Conservation pillar of the Public Participation Network (2)
Wicklow County Council elected members (6)
Development/Construction (1)
Agriculture/Farming (1)
Business & Commercial (1)
- What we do:** The Planning & Development SPC formulates, develops and reviews policies as they relate to the County Development Plan, Local Area Plans, Town/Settlement Plans, Heritage and other policies matters as they relate to planning.
- How often we meet:** Approximately 4 times per year

Transportation, Water & Environmental Strategic Policy Committee

- Who are we:** A committee of representatives from the following sectors:
Environment/Conservation pillar of the Public Participation Network (1)
Wicklow County Council (6)
Development/Construction, (1)
Agriculture/Farming, (1)
Trade Unions (1)
- What we do:** The Transportation, Water & Environmental Services SPC advises Wicklow County Council on: road construction & maintenance, traffic management, noise pollution, public lighting, maintenance of hedgerows, waste management, recycling centres, burial grounds, bathing water quality, waste water treatment and fire services.
- How often we meet:** Approximately 4 times per year

Community, Cultural & Social Development Strategic Policy Committee

- Who are we:** A committee of representatives from the following sectors:
Wicklow County Council elected members (7)
Social inclusion pillar of the Public Participation Network (1)
Community & Voluntary pillar of the Public Participation Network (2)
Business/Commerce (1)
- What we do:** The Community, Cultural & Social Development SPC engages meaningfully with elected members and community stakeholders in developing and implementing strategies for Library Services, Arts, Playgrounds, Community Infrastructure, Age Friendly initiatives, Sports Partnership and Anti Poverty
- How often we meet:** Approximately 4 times per year

Economic Development & Enterprise Support Strategic Policy Committee

- Who are we:** A committee of representatives from the following sectors:
Environmental pillar of Co. Wicklow Public Participation Network (1)
Wicklow County Council elected members (7)
Development/Construction (1)
Agriculture/Farming (1)
Trade Union (1)
Business Commercial (1)
Business – West Wicklow (1)
- What we do:** The Economic Development & Enterprise Support SPC considers matters which relate to the economic development and enterprise support functions of Wicklow County Council. The functions of the SPC include the preparation of the economic elements of the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP), the implementation and review of the economic elements of the LECP and the oversight by the elected members of the operation of the Local Enterprise Office (LEO).
- How often we meet:** Approximately 4 times per year

What are Joint Policing Committee's (JPC's)?

- Who are we:** Co. Wicklow JPC is made up of representatives from:
Public Participation Network municipal areas (5)
Public Participation Network member groups with a co-wide remit (1)
Public Participation Network community & voluntary college (1)

Chief Superintendent and Senior members of An Garda Síochána
Chief Executive of Wicklow County Council
15 Elected Public Representatives
5 Oireachtas elected members
- What we do:** The purpose of the committee is to provide a forum where members of the County Council and senior Garda officers responsible for the policing of the County, with the participation of Oireachtas members and community interests, can consult, discuss and make recommendations on matters affecting the policing of the area.
- How often we meet:** The committee meets quarterly and two of these meetings are public meetings

What is the Corporate Policy Group (CPG)?

The Corporate Policy Group is designed to enhance the democratic mandate and policy-making role of the elected members. It is supported by the Chief Executive and comprises the Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council and the Cathaoirleach of each of the five Strategic Policy Committees.

The main function of the Corporate Policy Group is to co-ordinate the work of the different Strategic Policy Committees and provide a forum where policy decisions affecting the whole Council are agreed for submission to the full Council for decision. The Corporate Policy Group also plays a key role in the preparation of the Annual Financial Budget.

Council Meetings

Wicklow County Council hold their Ordinary monthly meetings on the first Monday of the month. These meetings are held in the Council Chamber in County Buildings and are open to the public. The meeting is administered by the Meetings Administrator and chaired by the Cathaoirleach of the Council. The meeting agendas and minutes are published on www.wicklow.ie/council-meeting-agendas. On occasions it is necessary to call a Special Meeting. Notification of all meetings will appear on www.wicklow.ie.

Wicklow County Council was the first County Council in Ireland to make their monthly meetings accessible to deaf and hard of hearing viewers.

For some time now Wicklow County Council meetings have been captioned within the Council Chambers on a dedicated plasma screen. Now we have gone that step further offering transparency and accessibility to interested parties worldwide via www.seewritenow.ie

Wicklow County Council Meeting Schedule up to June 2016

11th January at 2pm	Ordinary Meeting
1st February at 2pm	Ordinary Meeting
7th March at 2pm	Ordinary Meeting
4th April at 2pm	Ordinary Meeting
9th May at 2pm	Ordinary Meeting
13th June at 2pm	Ordinary Meeting
20th June at 2pm	Annual Meeting

Each Municipal District also holds a monthly meeting to discuss matters pertaining to the municipal district. Meeting agendas and minutes are published on www.wicklow.ie

Arklow Municipal District	Second Wednesday of the month at 3.30pm, held in Arklow Municipal District Offices.
Baltinglass Municipal District	Fourth Monday of the month at 10.30am, held in various locations.
Bray Municipal District	First Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm, held in Bray Town Hall.
Greystones Municipal District	Fourth Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm, held in Greystones Municipal District Offices.
Wicklow Municipal District	Fourth Monday of the month at 3.00pm, held in Wicklow Town Hall

Wicklow

...Let's talk business

Local Enterprise Office Wicklow is launching their new training programme for the Spring in January 2016 – Don't miss out:

Are you wondering if your business idea has wings?

The Local Enterprise Office Wicklow offers an 'Investigating your Business Idea' course on Saturday 13th February 2016 which will help participants with the tools needed to take their business idea through the various investigative stages of research through to a plan to commercialise their idea.

Are you dreaming of becoming your own boss?

There is no better starting point than calling into your local Enterprise Office in Wicklow County Campus, Rathnew for business advice and to book into one of the 'Start Your Business Courses' we are running next year. This course is designed to inform you on all the different aspects of setting up a company and in helping you to put together that all important Business Plan that will form the strategy for your business.

Want to know more about Social Media and Search Engine Optimisation Courses?

LEO Wicklow also offers a range of IT courses tailored to the needs of small and medium enterprises. The Social Media courses are all about digital marketing and help businesses connect with their customers through the different social media channels. The first Social Media for Beginners course is on Thursday 28th January in Arklow. The Search Engine Optimisation(SEO) courses on offer shows how you can make sure that your business website ranks high in the most common search engines like Google, Yahoo and Bing which will drive customers to your website. The first SEO course in 2016 is on Thursday 4th February in Arklow.

Are you struggling to maintain a cash flow?

Our one day 'How to get Paid' Course aims to improve the way small businesses collect debts. Credit Management techniques will include: Handling new accounts, proper documentation, third party and legal options, draft credit applications forms, terms & conditions, managing your bank and using cash flow information. This course is on Wednesday 13th April 2016.

The Local Enterprise Office Wicklow offers many more courses and seminars throughout the year. To get more information or book onto a course go to: www.localenterprise.ie/wicklow or call 0404 30800. If you wish to receive our training brochure and news emails just email your details to: enterprise@leo.wicklowcoco.ie to be put on our database.



Civil Defence Officers Association National Training Seminar held in County Wicklow



Wicklow Civil Defence hosted the 2015 Civil Defence Officers Association National Training Seminar at The Arklow Bay Hotel on Wednesday 4th November and Thursday 5th November.

The Seminar was opened by Mr Paul Keogh TD, Government Chief Whip and Minister of State at the Departments of An Taoiseach & Defence. Councillor John Ryan, Cathaoirleach, Wicklow County Council welcomed the delegates to County Wicklow. Six speakers from Ireland, Wales and Germany addressed the Seminar attended by 150 delegates. 25 Trade Suppliers displayed a vast range of equipment over the course of the two days.



Council Staff Charity Fund celebrating 30 years

The Wicklow County Council Staff Charity Fund is celebrating 30 years in existence this year. This fund was created to enable staff make voluntary donations from their salaries, with these monies being donated to numerous local and national charities. Since 1985, this fund has donated more than €210,000 to worthy causes. These include St Vincent de Paul, Cancer Support, Bray Women's Refuge, Concern, Red Cross, Chernobyl's Children's charity, Simon Community and Childline to name a few. This fund will continue to support these and other charities into the future.

Stay Safe this Christmas

Keep candles out of reach of children and pets and never use candles on or near Christmas trees.

Always extinguish candles before going to bed and before you leave the house.

Always use an appropriate candle holder placed on a stable, heat resistant surface, never the floor.

Unplug all Christmas lights & electrical appliances before leaving your home or going to bed at night.

Don't overload sockets.

Extinguish cigarettes properly and do not allow ashtrays to get overfilled.

Check that your smoke alarms are in perfect working order.

Only buy Christmas lights marked with a safety standard (e.g. I.S., B.S. or C.E.)

Check all connections

Keep Christmas trees away from candles, heaters, fireplaces or other heat sources.

Place real Christmas trees securely in a sturdy base filled with water.

Dispose of the tree properly and never burn a Christmas tree.

Wicklow County Fire Service

Wicklow County Council launches 'Text Alerts'

for a range of Council service areas

Wicklow County recognises the value of providing relevant and timely information to the citizens of County Wicklow. In an effort to keep the public informed of emergency situations that inevitably occur from time to time and have an impact on our day to day lives, the Council has developed a short messaging service (SMS) or 'Text Alerts' for a range of County Council areas. Beneficial information on severe weather alerts, emergency road works and closures, instances of flooding and planned water disruptions can be communicated through SMS.

Members of the public are invited to sign up to receive alerts based on geographic location, i.e. the five Municipal District areas of Bray, Greystones, Arklow, Wicklow and Baltinglass. This means that timely text alerts will be audience specific and content relevant. The text alert initiative has been developed with the end user in mind and is designed to improve the quality and reach of important and relevant information from the Council to the consumer in the following areas:-

- Emergency road works and closures including scheduled road works, fuel spills and diversion advice
- Weather warnings in conjunction with Met Eireann to include adverse/severe weather updates, location of fallen trees and areas where traffic signals are non-operational
- Instances of flooding
- Planned disruption to public water supply in conjunction with Irish Water
- General alerts advising of change in opening times and bathing water alerts.
- Community notices in relation to public consultations processes such as Local Area Plans, the Local Property Tax and Council events



To sign up to receive text alerts simply log onto www.wicklow.ie/eAlerts. and submit the information requested. You will then be texted with important information in relation to a range of services by municipal district area.



Waste Prevention this Christmas

The busiest shopping period of the year is underway in the build up to Christmas. We produce more waste at this time of year and will continue to generate higher than normal volumes of waste right through Christmas and into the New Year with the January sales.

Wicklow County Council are encouraging people to think about opportunities to prevent waste at this time of the year before we go shopping. It's always nice to receive gifts but for many of us these days too much can be an issue and many gifts remain unused or little used. For the person who has everything they need, why not consider a gift of a service rather than a physical item. A nice meal out or a weekend away may be more valued than something that will sit unused in a drawer until thrown away. Many restaurants and hotels provide vouchers which can be given as a gift. Other activities and services can also be gifted such as spa treatments, tickets for a concert or a match. Money spent on services is money that stays in the Irish economy so everyone wins while waste is prevented.

Food waste also increases significantly at this time of year, creating a strain on the wallet as well as filling the bin with unnecessary waste. This year why not resolve to buy less and buy smarter when it comes to food. If there is a food item bought that frequently ends up in the bin, why not ditch the tradition and leave it out of the trolley. At parties, non-perishable items such as crisps and nuts are often put out first when guest arrive, while perishable items such as canapés and finger food come out later. Why not reverse the order to ensure perishable items get used up while non perishable items become the reserves. Wicklow County Council has produced a book of recipes for making full use of the leftovers and copies are available from the Environmental Awareness Office.

Wicklow's five recycling centres in Arklow, Avoca, Baltinglass, Bray and Wicklow are open throughout the week including Saturday, offering free recycling services. With pay by weight charges for bin collections' coming in 2016 this free recycling offers a great way to slim your bin. The recycling centres are able to take a greater range of recycling materials than the green bin at home because the material is placed in separate containers. A good tip is to pay a visit to your local recycling centre before Christmas, getting rid of as much of your recycling as possible beforehand, leaving the house less cluttered and more space in your household bin. Don't forget to pay another visit in the New Year to recycle all the Christmas wrapping and remember that all household electrical items can be recycled free if you replace an electrical item over Christmas or during the sales. The charity shops in the recycling centres in Bray, Arklow and Wicklow will be happy to take unwanted gifts or clothes where more space is needed in wardrobes.

Wicklow County Campus, Clermont House, Rathnew

IT Carlow Providing Third Level Education for Wicklow

'Education is not the filling of a pail but the lighting of a fire!' - W.B. Yeats

Why undertake a programme with I.T. Carlow?

The New Year is nearly upon us. It's now time to prepare yourself for your future. It's time to progress. At IT Carlow Wicklow Campus we have the course for you. Delivered locally in Clermont House, Rathnew, IT Carlow's Degrees and Masters in Humanities, Business and Law, to name but a few, will enable this progression. Our courses are an investment in you.

How will this benefit you?

In order to obtain a promotion at work, additional qualifications will often be sought. The courses offered by IT Carlow will give you this. Our programmes are designed for those who are keen to develop and consolidate their skills through lectures, discussion and application of academic principles.

The programmes aim to help students progress to a standard of understanding and analytical thinking that enables them to advance in their careers.

Perhaps you feel that you've never quite fulfilled your academic potential. Some adult learners decide to embark upon further study because they feel they have reached a stage in their lives where they now want to take on a new challenge. Many feel that they missed this opportunity when they were younger and that the time is now right for them to commit to a period of study.

Do you want to understand how Human Resources is implemented in an organisation?

To understand the Psychology of a 4 year old child? To gain more knowledge in Building Regulations? Our programmes will enhance your knowledge and add to your skills in your chosen area of study. This may create opportunity in your career that you cannot yet foresee as you undertake this degree.

In order to have an enjoyable and rewarding college experience, you should start to plan as early as possible. Talk to your employer about the course you are about to undertake and understand the supports that may be available. Talk to current and past students who have undertaken your chosen course so you are best prepared. You may need to plan financially and it is worth talking to your college about payment options.

To find out more about courses commencing in January 2016, visit our website
www.itcarlow.ie/III

Check us out on Facebook (Wicklow County Campus - IT Carlow) to learn more about our Wicklow campus.

Graduation Ceremony 2014





COUNTY WICKLOW HERITAGE PLAN



The County Wicklow Heritage Plan Review Process is currently underway. As part of this process the Heritage Forum invite you to submit your views until 29th January 2016. Submissions can be made by completing a short online questionnaire at the following link: www.surveymonkey.com/r/9B6TZ57 or by filling in and returning the questionnaire on www.wicklow.ie. Alternatively if you prefer you can send your views, clearly marked ' Heritage Plan Submission' by e-mail to: dburns@wicklowcoco.ie or by post to: Heritage Office, Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Wicklow Town. A background briefing document on the Wicklow Heritage Plan is available on www.wicklow.ie.



Expression of Interest sought for Long Term Social Leasing Arrangements

Wicklow County Council is currently seeking private properties to lease in the Wicklow Administrative Area for social use under the Long Term Social Leasing Initiative.

- The local authority will lease private dwellings 10 - 20 years
- Guaranteed rent for the duration of the agreement
- Built-in rent review
- Local Authority will secure tenants for the properties
- Landlord paid during vacant periods

In assessing the suitability of a property for leasing, the Council will consider the demand for social housing in all areas of County Wicklow.

Properties must be of good quality and comply with all planning and building regulations.

For further information on this scheme please contact the Social Housing Unit, Housing Department, Wicklow County Council on 0404 20120 or by email ras@wicklowcoco.ie

PURE (Protecting Uplands and Rural Environments) is the first project of its kind in Ireland which incorporates statutory and non-statutory organisations, including; Wicklow County Council, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, South Dublin County Council, Coillte, National Parks & Wildlife Service, and the Wicklow Uplands Council, and was established to combat illegal dumping/fly-tipping in the Wicklow/Dublin Uplands.

The PURE truck has been collecting illegal dumping in the Wicklow/Dublin uplands since 2007 and to-date it has removed over 2,600 tonnes of rubbish, which is the equivalent of over 360,000 standard household rubbish bags, from over 8,000 locations in the beautiful Wicklow Mountains. If you lined up each of these bags they would stretch the same distance as a journey from Glendalough to Dingle in County Kerry.



PURE do more than just combat illegal dumping, and recently the project had a Multi Media Environmental Awareness exhibition in The Courthouse Arts Centre in Tinahely. This exhibition concentrated on the various multi media projects that PURE has produced to create environmental awareness, featuring: 16 award winning short environmental animations, 7 environmental music videos, a short film on the community/environmental initiative, The PURE Mile and short films on illegal dumping in the Wicklow/Dublin Uplands.

The launch of exhibition also saw the announcement of the winners of the PURE MUSIC Competition with the award being presented to Colaiste Bhride Secondary School in Carnew by renowned Irish musician, Dave Hingerty (The Frames, Josh Ritter, The Swell Season, Kila). The winners received the prize of a one day professional recording session at the Temple Lane Studios in Dublin where acts such as, Snow Patrol, Kanye West, Rihanna and Morrissey have



recorded. The exhibition also included the first public screening of PURE WISDOM. This short documentary is a selection of interviews from junior and senior classes (4 to 6 years of age) of Kilcommon National School, Tinahely, Co. Wicklow, about their opinions and thoughts regarding the environment, illegal dumping, litter, pollution, nature, etc. Insightful, enlightening, and on many occasions, humorous, but all are full of WISDOM.



PURE has created a number of environmental awareness initiatives, including the popular community/environmental competition, The PURE Mile. This competition encourages communities in Wicklow to keep a mile stretch of road (approx. 1.6 km) litter and rubbish free. The PURE Mile has really benefited the county of Wicklow and a PURE Mile of road looks completely different than a normal mile of road. All of the groups work extremely hard cleaning up their areas. PURE provides all groups with bags, litter pickers, gloves, and the PURE Truck removes all of the rubbish that groups collect.



The 2016 PURE Mile competition is now open for entries and you can request an application form and information pack by emailing info@pureproject.ie or it can be downloaded from www.pureproject.ie/what-we-do/the-pure-mile/. You can also write to: PURE Project, Wicklow Mountains, National Park, Kilafin, Laragh, Bray, Co. Wicklow and they will post out all the information, or request an application form and information pack by phoning PURE on 0404 45547.

PURE will soon be launching their 2016 PURE Mile Calendar and copies will be available at the Wicklow County Council building or by contacting PURE directly.

DRAFT COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2016-2022

HAVE YOUR SAY!!

A new draft County Development Plan has just been published. The County Council is seeking the views of the public on this plan and YOU are invited and encouraged to get involved and make YOUR voice heard on the future development of this County.

What is the County Development Plan?

The County Development Plan sets out the planning and land use framework for the proper planning and sustainable development of Wicklow for the six year period 2016-2022.

Development Plans focus on 'big picture' planning issues. The plan is not a 'spending plan', however it sets a framework within which developments could be undertaken, in the event that the public or private sector are in a position to develop. The development plan includes development policies and objectives, which set out the agreed position of the Council on a particular issue, e.g. where new housing is to be located, how the countryside and natural resources are to be protected and enhanced and what new infrastructure is needed if the County is to grow and prosper.

The plan also includes a number of local plans that will set out the vision and strategy for the future sustainable development of a number of towns across the county: including Ashford, Aughrim, Avoca, Baltinglass, Carnew, Donard, Dunlavin, Enniskerry, Kilmacanogue, Laragh-Glendalough, Newcastle, Roundwood, Shillelagh and Tinahely.

The following towns are covered by separate plans and the County plan does not include the detailed planning objectives for these towns: Bray, Wicklow-Rathnew, Arklow, Greystones-Delgany, Kilcoole, Rathdrum, Blessington and Newtownmountkennedy. The County Plan does however set out high level goals and objectives for these towns and will impact on future development plans for these towns. New local plans for these towns will be prepared between 2017-2019.

How do I get involved?

The public are being invited to view the draft plan, to talk to the Development Plan team and to make submissions regarding the plan.

The Draft Plan and associated documents will on display at the following locations from Friday 27th November 2015 to 19th February 2016:

- The Council's website www.wicklow.ie (documents are available to view and download)
- Lobby of County Buildings, Station Road, Wicklow Town (9.00am-5.00pm)

Hard copies and CDs of the draft Plan [written statement, including appendices, environmental report and maps] will be available to purchase only on request.

There will be several public information days held around the County when staff from the Council's Planning Department will be available to answer questions and to assist in making a submission. These sessions will be held in early January 2016, and details will be publicised closer to that date in local media and on the Council's website. Prior to these local meetings, planning staff will be available to deal with any queries, and can be contacted in the following manner:

- at the Planning Counter in County Buildings, Wicklow Town
- by phone on 0404 20100
- by email on planreview@wicklowcoco.ie

Submissions may be made in one of the following ways:

1. Write to: County Development Plan Review, Planning Department, Wicklow County Council, Station Road, Wicklow Town.
2. Email to: planreview@wicklowcoco.ie

All submissions should include your name and a contact address, a map (where appropriate) and, where relevant, details of any organisation, community group or company etc, which you represent. Please make your submission by one medium only, i.e. hard copy or e-mail.



Water Safety Advice to keep you safe this Christmas

Irish Water Safety is appealing to the public to take extreme care when taking part in sponsored swims. Participants can be distracted by the occasion and take chances beyond what is acceptably safe and can be left without sufficient strength to climb out of the water due to the cold. Cold winter waters can cause “cold shock” and hypothermia can set in within minutes, overwhelming the fittest of swimmers.

- People organising Christmas swims should ensure that they provide comprehensive details of each event to the Irish Coast Guard and local Gardai.
- Each event should have a Safety Officer appointed, who will advise those concerned on safety and have the ultimate responsibility for making decisions in relation to the swim being on or off on the day dependent on weather and tidal conditions.
- If the seas are rough and weather deteriorates, they should defer the event to a more suitable day without question and not take a chance on running the event.
- Many participants will not have swum since the summer and the temperature of the water has now dropped from approximately 17°C to 10°C, therefore we advise inexperienced swimmers to wear a wetsuit.
- It is a fallacy that alcohol will keep you warm when entering the water; in fact it has the reverse effect and could kill you. Irish Water Safety strongly recommends that no alcohol be taken either before the swim or after the swim and also remind people that they may be in breach of the drink driving laws when driving to or from the event.
- Cold water can cause cold shock and Hypothermia in minutes, because the temperature of the water at this time of year will be below 10°C. Christmas day charity swimmers occasionally remain too long in the water in a gesture of bravado and can find themselves left without sufficient strength to climb out of the water becoming unbalanced and disoriented due to them becoming hypothermic. Two or three minutes is plenty of time in the water for the inexperienced. Remember, shivering and teeth chattering are the first signs of Hypothermia.
- Ensure that you have safe access and egress with shallow shelving or ladders as appropriate. People should be mindful that steps leading into the water might be dangerous due to the growth of algae.
- Remaining in the water for extended periods is dangerous.

The message is **“Get In, Get Out and Warm Up”** and in the event of an emergency call the Coast Guard on 112.



BÍ ULLAMH DON GHEIMHREADH BE WINTER-READY



www.winterready.ie



[@emergencyIE](https://twitter.com/emergencyIE)



Oifig um Pleanáil Éigeandála, An Roinn Cosanta. Glao Áitiúil 1890 251890 / 076 1001608
Office of Emergency Planning, Department of Defence. LoCall 1890 251890 / 076 1001608

Contact Wicklow County Council...

	Telephone	Fax	Email
General enquiries	0404 20100	0404 67792	cosec@wicklowcoco.ie
Arklow Municipal District	0402 42700		ArklowMD@wicklowcoco.ie
Baltinglass Municipal District			BaltinglassMD@wicklowcoco.ie
- Blessington	045 891222	045 865813	
- Tinahely	0402 38174		
Bray Municipal District	01 2744900	01 2860930	BrayMD@wicklowcoco.ie
Greystones Municipal District	01 2876694	01 2877173	GreystonesMD@wicklowcoco.ie
Wicklow Municipal District	0404 20100	0404 67792	WicklowMD@wicklowcoco.ie
Arklow Recycling Centre	0402 32759		eao@wicklowcoco.ie
Avoca Recycling Centre	087 2288132		eao@wicklowcoco.ie
Bray Recycling Centre	01 2116666		eao@wicklowcoco.ie
Rampere Landfill and Recycling Services Baltinglass	059 6481677		eao@wicklowcoco.ie
Wicklow Recycling Centre	0404 64120 (LoCall 1890 222 276)		eao@wicklowcoco.ie
Arts Office	0404 20155		wao@wicklowcoco.ie
Civil Defence	0404 67402	0404 67294	mrichardson@wicklowcoco.ie
Community, Cultural & Social	0404 20208	0404 20113	dce@wicklowcoco.ie
Enterprise & Corporate Services	0404 20158	0404 20112	cosec@wicklowcoco.ie
Environment - General Office	0404 20236	0404 67792	env@wicklowcoco.ie
Environmental Services	0404 20185		env@wicklowcoco.ie
Waste Management	0404 20127		env@wicklowcoco.ie
Litter Line	(Lo Call 1890 548 837)		
Environmental Awareness Officer	0404 64120	0404 64100	eao@wicklowcoco.ie
Fire Services - HQ Fire Prevention & Administration	01 2862929	01 2861535	firehead@wicklowcoco.ie
Freedom of Information	0404 20158	0404 20112	foi@wicklowcoco.ie
Heritage Officer	0404 20191	0404 67792	dburns@wicklowcoco.ie
Housing & Corporate Estate	0404 20120	0404 67792	housing2@wicklowcoco.ie
Law Agents	0404 20122	0404 20144	lawagents@wicklowcoco.ie
Local Enterprise Office	0404 30800		enterprise@leo.wicklowcoco.ie
Local Sports Partnership	0404 20100		ghickey@wicklowcoco.ie
Motor Tax - Wicklow	0404 20118 (Lo Call 1890 333 339)	0404 20293	motortax@wicklowcoco.ie
Motor Tax - Bray	01 2744900	01 2744955	motortax@wicklowcoco.ie
Motor Tax - Blessington	045 858031	045 891248	motortax@wicklowcoco.ie
Planning	0404 20148	0404 69462	plandev@wicklowcoco.ie
Register of Electors	0404 20161	0404 20112	franchise@wicklowcoco.ie
Revenue	0404 20128	0404 20140	finoff@wicklowcoco.ie
Roads & Transportation	0404 20181	0404 20101	roadtran@wicklowcoco.ie
Wicklow Family History	0404 20126	0404 67792	wfh@eircom.net
Wicklow Film Commission	0404 30800		wfc@wicklowcoco.ie



www.wicklow.ie



@wicklowcoco



Workplace Partnership

This newsletter was produced in-house by Wicklow County Council staff.

Libraries

County Library Headquarters
Tel: 01 2866566
Fax: 01 2865811
library@wicklowcoco.ie

- Arklow 0402 39977
- Aughrim 0402 36036
- Ballywaltrim 01 2723205
- Bray Eglington Rd. 01 2862600
- Baltinglass 059 6482300
- Blessington 045 891740
- Carnew 053 9426088
- Dunlavin 045 401100
- Enniskerry 01 2864339
- Greystones 01 2873548
- Rathdrum 0404 43232
- Tinahely 0402 38080
- Wicklow 0404 67025

Members of Wicklow County Council

Arklow Electoral Area

FF - Pat Fitzgerald	087 2049013
FF - Pat Kennedy	087 4198022
FF - Tommy Annesley	087 2508205
FG - Sylvester Bourke	087 2501734
IND - Miriam Murphy	086 2410065
SF - Mary McDonald	085 2251980

Bray Electoral Area

SF - John Brady	087 0666780
IND - Joe Behan	086 8375602
IND - Christopher Fox	086 8374765
SF - Oliver O'Brien	087 1420586
IND - Brendan Thornhill	086 0663144
GP - Steven Matthews	086 6086420
FG - John Ryan	087 2585738
FF - Pat Vance	086 8391871

Wicklow Electoral Area

SF - John Snell	087 2210222
IND - Daire Nolan	085 1374099
FF - Pat Casey	086 2649483

Baltinglass Electoral Area

IND - Thomas Cullen	087 1934300
SF - Gerry O'Neill	087 2629129
IND - James Ruttle	01 4582234
FG - Edward Timmins	087 2357914
FG - Vincent Blake	087 2322521
FF - Pat Doran	087 2770349

Greystones Electoral Area

SD - Jennifer Whitmore	086 6634747
IND - Tom Fortune	086 2488195
FG - Derek Mitchell	01 2874115
FG - Grainne McLoughlin	086 8329686
FF - Gerry Walsh	085 8639848
SF - Nicola Lawless	086 1607686

FG - Shay Cullen	086 7275000
FG - Irene Winters	087 2443610
IND - Pat Kavanagh	087 2771871