# WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Information and news from Wicklow County Council Gheimhridh / Winter 2019

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Christmas Greetings to all the residents of County Wicklow from the Cathaoirleach, Councillor Irene Winters and the Chief Executive, Mr. Frank Curran, together with the elected members and staff.





Nollaig shona agus athbhlian faoi mhaise daoibh.



# Message from the Wicklow County Council Chief Executive

elcome to the Winter Edition of Countywise Magazine. The Council welcomes the adoption of the 2020 Budget which provides a sum of €116m to ensure delivery of countywide services.

Wicklow County Council and Greystones 2020 have commissioned a team of specialists, to create a plan for the Public Realm in Greystones. The team have conducted a spatial and technical analysis of Greystones and developed an initial Draft Plan for consideration.

The Draft Plan includes a broad range of innovative and bespoke projects to be delivered across the short, medium and longer term that seek to address climatic, demographic and economic change in Greystones. Once finalised, these will be used as the basis for funding applications.

Wicklow County Council, in conjunction with Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, is progressing the development of the N11/M11 Junction 4 to Junction 14 improvement scheme. All the information, drawings of the proposed route options and known constraints are published on the project website at <a href="https://n11m11.ie">https://n11m11.ie</a>

Fifty-five new homes were opened in Arklow, in two new developments, by Wicklow County Council. Heatherside is a 38-house development of energy efficient, 2, 3- and 4-bedroom homes while Delaney Park is a 17-house scheme of energy efficient, 2- and 3-bedroom homes. Over the course of the next two years, the Council's Housing programme is expected to deliver newly constructed homes for more than 400 households on the Council's social housing list.

Wicklow County Council have commenced the review of the Wicklow County Development Plan 2016 - 2022 and preparation of a new County Development Plan for the period 2021 - 2027. The County Development Plan sets out an overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of County Wicklow. Comments and submissions are invited on the Issues Paper via the Online Consultation Hub on Wicklow.ie. Remember this is your opportunity to have your say.

Wicklow welcomed a delegation of 41 citizens of Würzburg to celebrate the 20th anniversary of our partnership. Wicklow County Council, Bray Municipal District and the Irish German Society of County Wicklow hosted a series of special events to mark the 20th anniversary of the partnership.

Our magazine is packed full of Winter Safety Tips and Advice. We urge all citizens to stay safe this Winter and throughout the festive season.

This edition of Countywise shows many examples of the great work being carried out in our County. I hope you enjoy reading the Winter edition and remember to check out our website, Wicklow.ie for up to date information and follow our social media channels for news and events.

Wishing you a happy Christmas, Frank Curran





# Civic Reception for Arklow MD's Tidy Towns Groups

civic reception took place to acknowledge the work of the Arklow Tidy Towns volunteer group, Arklow Tidy Towns, Community Employment Group, Aughrim Tidy Towns, Clean-up Aughrim, Rathdrum Tidy Towns, Avoca Tidy Towns and Ballycoog Tidy Towns who all increased their points in this year's Supervalu National Tidy Towns Competition. Arklow and Aughrim both achieved medal status.













## **Arklow Tidy Towns**



rklow was awarded a Gold medal in the National Tidy Towns Competition.

Congratulations to Arklow Tidy Towns volunteers, Volunteer groups and Arklow Municipal District staff on this fantastic result. Arklow was up 13 points from the 2018 results.

# **Aughrim Tidy Towns**

ughrim was awarded a Silver medal in the National Tidy Towns Competition. Congratulations to Aughrim Tidy Towns, Volunteer groups and Arklow Municipal District staff on this great achievement. Aughrim was up 7 points from the 2018 results.





# **Special Waste Prevention award** for the Xeriscape Garden

rklow Tidy Towns also received a special Waste Water prevention award for the Xeriscape Garden in Seaview Avenue.



# School Children get moving for European Mobility Week

rklow Municipal District supported European Mobility Week Initiative and piloted an event with SS Michael and Peter Junior School. It encouraged the children to walk, cycle or scoot to school and it is envisaged that all schools in the town will participate and support the initiative next year.

Arklow MD will keep in contact with the schools throughout the school year to ask for their assistance in planning events to promote sustainable transport modes to and from school.

The District Engineer, John Bowes and Executive Engineer Rob Mulhall, Arklow MD participated in European Mobility Week also by carrying out local inspections by bicycle.



# Cathaoirleach's Reception for Drummer Tiernan Kavanagh

presentation to acknowledge the achievement of drummer Tiernan Kavanagh was made by Arklow Municipal District at a Cathaoirleach's Reception in November. Congratulations to Tiernan, a 15-year-old Transition Year student, who won his category in the World Solo drumming Championship in Glasgow. Tiernan is a member of the Arklow Pipe Band who also attended and played on the night.

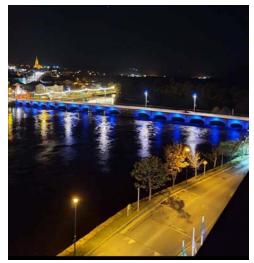






# Wave of Light

rklow Municipal District took part in the National Wave of Light campaign in October. The 19 Arches Bridge was lit up in blue to mark Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness month. This is a global campaign which hopes to spark conversations about baby loss and give bereaved parents and families an opportunity to talk about their precious babies.



# Shine a Light for Mental Health

isling Nolan, Release Wellness hosted a 'Shine a Light for Mental Health Awareness' candlelight service in October at Arklow River Walk. The aim of the event was to spread a message of support with the candles symbolising the community spirit and solidarity.

# **Junior Parkrun comes to Arklow**

rklow Duck Pond Junior Parkrun is a 2K event which takes place every Sunday morning at 9.30am. This is a free weekly timed event for 4-14 year olds which aims to get children in an early cycle of activity. It also provides an opportunity for families to be fit and active every week. 130 children plus adults turned out to support the first event and it is growing each week. Well done to all the Volunteers who made the Parkrun happen. If you are not a Junior, check out Avondale Forest Park Parkrun in Rathdrum on Saturday mornings.



# Arklow Town Team - Little Christmas Lunch

fundraising event, organised by members of Arklow Town Team will take place at the Woodenbridge Hotel on Sunday 5th January 2020, to raise funds for a local charity and a local project. This year's charity is the Samaritans Arklow Branch.





# **Arklow Christmas Festival**

he magic of Christmas descended on Arklow on Saturday 23rd November when the festive lights were turned on and the annual Christmas Festival got underway.

TODAY FM's Phil Cawley returned as Master of Ceremonies. Local groups Arklow Dance Studio and Arklow Ukulele players performed for the crowd, while Santa was led by the Arklow Pipe Band who travelled from Bridgewater Shopping Centre over to the Main Street car park for the switching on of the Christmas Tree lights.

The festival finale was a spectacular fireworks display.

On Saturday, December 7th, a Park Market took place. Budding musicians and artists also showcased their talents in a Busking competition.

For 2019 the Arklow Christmas Festival introduces a Santa Dash in association with Inbhear Mor AC at the Arklow Duck Pond on Saturday, 21st December, at 9.30am. People are encouraged to dress in festive gear to add to the Christmas spirit and to soak in the atmosphere as they walk, run or jog for one mile with family and friends around the Duck Pond.

The Best Dressed Festive Pet competition will run through the Festival Facebook page this year. Send in photos of your festive felines and pooches to the Festival Facebook page to be in with a chance to win. The Golden Ticket draw has returned this year with prizes in excess of  $\in$ 5,000. Entries can be left in over 90 shops and businesses throughout Arklow. The programme of events contains a Golden Ticket entry form.

The Best Christmas Business Window Display Competition will once again feature as dressing windows for Christmas really helps to create a wonderful atmosphere in the town. This competition is open to all businesses - whether a shop, hotel, hairdressers, restaurant, office or a café – with a superb advertising prize for the winner.

All competition winners will be announced on Tuesday evening, December 17th, in Arklow Library which will also host a series of events over the festive season.

Full details of events taking place can be found on the Arklow Christmas Festival Facebook page. Arklow Christmas Festival Committee would like to thank all businesses and individuals who have supported this event in any way.







# **Christmas Light Funding 2019**

or the past number of years Baltinglass Municipal District has awarded grant assistance to towns and villages across the Municipal District to support Community & Voluntary groups in the purchase and maintenance of Christmas lights. The funding is allocated to recognise the tremendous work that the Community & Voluntary groups carry out to improve the quality of life of all citizens. At the November meeting of Baltinglass Municipal District, members were delighted to approve €12,500 in funding for eighteen community groups across the Municipal District to purchase Christmas lights.

Baltinglass MD encourages people to shop local this festive season and enjoy all that the fantastic towns and villages across the area have to offer.





# Blessington Have Your say!



A s part of its commitment to developing Blessington as a vibrant and sustainable town, Blessington Town Team, after a tendering process, have commissioned consultants Future Analytics to carry out a Blessington Town Health Check. The project is being funded by Blessington and District Forum and Wicklow County Council. The Blessington Town Health Check is an opportunity to consider the vibrancy and vitality of the town. As we measure the current performance of the town, we will plan for future needs of residents and visitors in Blessington. Businesses, residents and visitors with an interest in the future of the town are invited to participate in this Health Check.

Future Analytics have engaged in consultation with key stakeholders in the town with one to one sessions and facilitated round table discussions including a public meeting in the Avon on the 12th November.

It is intended that the Health Check will be completed by the end of December and will deliver a roadmap for the development of Blessington through a set of community owned recommendations that are SMART and evidence based. The key findings from the Blessington Town Health Check and baseline data will inform plans and strategies in relation to public realm improvements e.g. historic streetscapes, parks and public spaces, tourism development, strategic planning and place-making, live in the town, enterprise development.





# **Blessington E-Greenway Project Board First Meeting**

he Project Board to oversee the development of Blessington E-Greenway held its first meeting on 1st November 2019. Michael Nicholson, Margaret Hartnett and Caroline Fox represented Wicklow County Council. Michael Quinlan from ESB and John Horan from Blessington Town Team also attended. Eoin O'Mahony, Regional Director, Transportation with AECOM Ireland Ltd briefed the Board on how work on finalising the detailed design and construction of the new greenway will proceed.



Provision has been made for the completion of the full route of over 40kms and it was confirmed at the meeting that the new E-Greenway will be built in its entirety, including the upgrading of the existing section which links the town of Blessington with the Palladian Mansion at Russborough.

Initial funding for the project of €5million has been granted to the Council through the National and Regional Greenway Strategy Fund and the balance will come from this and other sources as the work progresses. In addition to the undoubted economic benefits which will follow from the influx of tourists and visitors to the area, the new E-Greenway will be used and enjoyed by the local community for decades to come.

The coming months will now be focussed on developing a timeline for the detailed design work and the tendering process and this will be followed by the appointment of the Contractor for the construction phase.







# **Bray to Greystones Cliff Walk**

he Bray to Greystones Cliff Walk has been shortlisted in the Ireland's Favourite Local Attraction category in the 2020 Irish Independent Reader Travel Awards.



# **Christmas in Bray**

his festive season why not take advantage of the incredible event experiences in Bray. From watching 'Christmas Movies at Mermaid', visiting 'Santa at Killruddery', catching 'Candlelight Concerts' to exploring the 'Killruddery Christmas Market', Bray really has something for everyone this festive season. You can pick up a gift or simply enjoy some festive cheer at one of the many pubs, clubs and restaurants throughout the town. Free parking is available on Saturdays and Sundays for the month of December 2019 in the Wicklow County Council Car Parks in Bray. For more information go to <u>www.bray.ie</u>

# Partnership Agreement between the City of Würzburg and Bray

2019 marked the 20th anniversary of the signing of the Partnership Agreement between the City of Würzburg, Bray and County Wicklow. This has been a very successful partnership which has grown from strength to strength over the years, bringing our communities together through arts, culture, sport and education. A delegation of over forty citizens of Würzburg, led by Mayor Marion Schäfer-Blake visited Wicklow and participated in a programme of events hosted by Wicklow County Council, the Irish German Society of County Wicklow and Bray Municipal District to mark the occasion.



New Public Mural in the People's Park

he new public mural in the People's Park, is a comment on how everyday actions of humanity contribute to the damage of our ecosystem. Toxins leach into wildlife and threaten the intrinsic biodiversity of our earth. The design is a vivid reminder of the universality of pollution and was produced by Subset.





# **Civic Reception**

he members of Bray Municipal District hosted a civic reception for a number of Bray sporting groups and individuals to acknowledge their recent successes in various sporting events. Bray Emmets Girls Under 14 Team, Daina Moorehouse, Lara Gillespie and Regan Buckley were all acknowledged for remarkable achievements.













# **Christmas Photo Competition**

nter a fabulous Christmas Photo Competition to win a hamper packed full of festive goodies. Just capture a special Christmas moment in Bray. Be sure to use **#ChristmasInBray** hashtag when sharing your favourite memories on social media and you'll be in with a chance to win this competition! You can also submit your photos using the online form which can be found at <u>www.bray.ie/christmasinbray</u>

Closing date for entries is Wednesday, December 18th 2019. Full terms are available on <u>www.bray.ie</u>

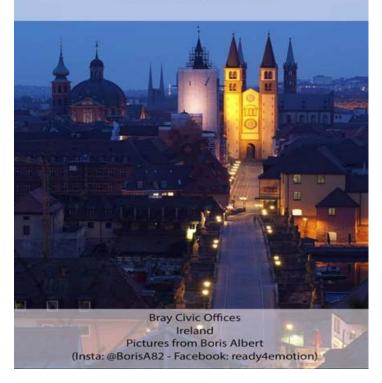
CHRISTMAS PHOTO COMPETITION

CAPTURE A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS MOMENT IN BRAY, SHARE IT & WIN

Photo Exhibition
- "Würzburg the Beauty"

photo exhibition titled "Würzburg the Beauty" by Boris Albert took place at the Bray Civic Offices. A selection of 30 pictures were on display and captured everyday life and the extraordinary architecture of the city of Würzburg.

### Würzburg the Beauty Photo exhibition







# **Tidy Towns**

Wedal winners in this year's Tidy Towns Silver Medal winners in this year's Tidy Towns awards. It's great to see national recognition for all the hard work done around Greystones. Greystones Municipal District is delighted to continue working with all the Tidy Towns volunteers throughout the district to support their projects.





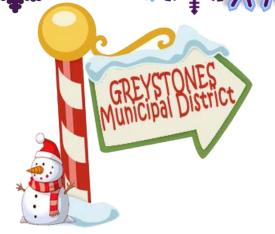
# Twinning

Greystones Municipal District was delighted to welcome a delegation of over 40 visitors from their twin town of Holyhead in Wales at the end of November. The visitors included the Mayor of Holyhead, Councillor Alan Williams and Town Clerk Rob Henderson together with a number of Councillors and the Holyhead Male Voice Choir who performed in a joint concert with Newtownmountkennedy Male Voice Choir, to a packed audience in Greystones Rugby Club. The fabulous Magee brothers, a family folk band of four brothers from Holyhead also performed on the night.









### **Public Realm Plan**



reystones 2020 and Greystones Municipal District with funding from LEADER & support from Greystones Tidy Towns, commissioned a team of specialists to create a Public Realm Plan for the town. The aim of the project is to deliver a detailed action-based plan which can be used to guide public and private investment in the town to maximise and enhance its existing cultural assets, in tandem with economic and social development. Following very successful consultation and engagement with the local community, including local students, a draft plan has been prepared which includes a broad range of innovative and bespoke projects across the short, medium and longer term that seek to address climatic, demographic and economic change in Greystones. Please see www.greystones.ie/2nd-consultationphase-public-realm-plan-for-greystones

### Works completed in 2019

Road, Timmore Lane and Church Road, Newcastle, Creowen, Kilcoole, Knockroe Delgany, Kendlestown Rise and Drummin Road.

There were footpaths & public lighting works completed in Beechwood Park, and Monteith Park Kilcoole and Mount Haven, Greystones.

Other projects completed in the district during 2019 included

- Installation of three drinking water fountains
- Refurbishment of Killincarrig roundabouts
- Traffic signals at Redford junction upgraded to LED signals
- Stream bank strengthening works and path improvements on Dromont to Kindlestown Heights walkway
- Construction of storm sewer and installation of roadside gullies on R761 approach road to Kilcoole
- Leamore Lane local improvement scheme
- Bus stop improvement works at Redford







# **Christmas Lights**

he switching on of this year's Christmas lights took place in Burnaby Park on Saturday 23rd of November. The event which was organised by Greystones Municipal District and Greystones 2020, included an afternoon of family entertainment with performances from Coláiste Chraobh Abann school choir and Greystones Players. The Male Voice Choir from Holyhead performed a number of songs to entertain the large crowd. Santa arrived in his specially adapted vehicle and took some time out of his busy schedule to meet with the many children and families who attended. There are over 1km of icicle lights throughout the town and two 30-foot-tall Christmas trees, each adorned with 3,000 lights, one at the train station and one at the Harbour Marina.











# **Filming in Wicklow Town**

ilming has come to a close on the new Irish TV drama series entitled, 'The South Westerlies', written by local Wicklow based writer, Catherine Maher.

Wicklow town was chosen in the summer 2019 as the key location for the new series and the Wicklow Municipal District worked closely with the film makers at the various locations in Wicklow Town throughout the last few months.

Principal photography for the new series began in mid-September and stars Orla Brady (American Horror Story, Mistresses,) as Kate, Eileen Walsh (Catastrophe, Women on the Verge, Can't Cope Won't Cope) as Breege, Ger Ryan (Little Dog, Rialto, Raw) as Noreen, Sam Barrett as Conor, Lily Nichol (MJ, Handymen) as Poppy, Steve Wall (Vikings, An Klondike, Rebellion) as Baz and Patrick Bergin (Sleeping with the Enemy, Patriot Games, EastEnders, Red Rock) as Michael.

# **Roundabout Sponsorship**

wo roundabouts in the Wicklow Municipal District have been successfully sponsored. Broomhall and Merrymeeting roundabouts have been landscaped to a high standard.









# Wicklow Tidy Towns Achieves Gold and No. 1 in County

icklow Town has achieve Gold and number 1 in the County for the first time.

The Mural in the Abbey Car park was a big winner along with the many other Tidy Town projects, including the orchard garden project.

The Judges were so impressed with Wicklow this year they came back for a second visit and awarded an increase of 13 marks. Marks were gained in all 8 categories this year to achieve an overall mark of 336.



# Parking in Wicklow Town -Parking Tag

ake your life easier by using Parking Tag, the cashless mobile parking payments system in Wicklow.

The service is designed to take advantage of mobile

technology allowing motorists to park in the most hassle-free way possible – via the Parking Tag app, by SMS or phone call.

Once registered, customers can park immediately and can also take advantage of day rate parking, where available. Several One-Off payment options are also available by credit and debit card, online, by SMS or through the 3 and Vodafone Charge to Mobile service.

For full instructions on how to use the service visit <u>www.parkingtag.ie.</u>

Paying for parking in Wicklow is faster and easier with Parking Tag. The cashless parking solution allows motorists to park by phone in the town and extend their parking without returning to their vehicle.

As per the Parking Bye Laws 2017 the following applies all year round in Wicklow Town:

- Free parking between 9.00am and 10.00am each morning
- 15 minutes courtesy period applies for all vehicles legally parked in a designated pay & display parking bay at any time of the day
- Wicklow Town continues to offer 2 hours free parking on Saturdays and free parking all day on Sundays

The traffic wardens monitor parking and enforce all other aspects of the parking bye laws in relation to illegal parking.





# **November Rain**

eavy rain has been the predominant feature of our weather in recent weeks, with rainfall amounts of over 10mm recorded on 8 separate days and a high of over 40mm recorded on the 20th November. There were some flooding events which occurred around the district due to the severity of the rainfall. However Wicklow Municipal District Staff had been proactive in clearing leaves and debris from drains beforehand which helped to prevent flooding on a bigger scale.



# **Christmas Lights**

he switching on of this year's Christmas lights took place in Wicklow Town on Saturday 23rd November. Santa Claus made a special appearance and the Wicklow Pipe Band, Wicklow Community Choir and Robert Vickers put on a great performance.

The Santa Parade and Christmas Lights 2019 is organised by Wicklow Town & District Chamber of Commerce and Wicklow Municipal District.

# **Ireland's Favourite Visitor Attractions**

Brittas Bay and Glendaough have been shortlisted in the Ireland's Favourite Visitor Attraction category in the 2020 Irish Independent Reader Travel Awards.



# **Christmas Market**

he Wicklow Christmas Market returned again this year commencing on the 23rd followed by the 24th & 30th November and 1st, 7th, 8th, 14th & 15th December from 12 p.m. to 6p.m. each day.

The Wicklow Christmas Market is set within the Magical Abbey Grounds with plenty of craft stalls and local artisan foods on offer to get you in the Christmas mood. Don't miss out on this year's Alpaca experience, Gingerbread decorating workshop, magical funfair, with live music and entertainment every weekend. This is an event to be enjoyed by all the family.

Further information can be found on: www.wicklowchrismasmarket.com



# Wicklow County Development Plan 2021 – 2027

icklow County Council is commencing the review of the current County Development Plan and will be preparing a new County Development Plan for the period 2021 to 2027. The Council would like to know your views and opinions on the issues affecting planning in County Wicklow.

The Council have a webpage dedicated to the review of the County Development Plan and have prepared an 'Issues Booklet' which identifies the kind of planning issues that the next County Development Plan will address. A copy of this document can be obtained from the Wicklow County Council website and hard copies are also available to view at local council offices and libraries.

We are inviting the public to make submissions by 5pm Friday 10th January 2020. Submissions should be marked 'County Development Plan Review' and can be made to the Planning Authority through the website, by email or by post.

Online: Log on to <a href="http://www.wicklow.ie">www.wicklow.ie</a> and follow the link to Wicklow CDP 2021 – 2027 Email to: <a href="mailto:planreview@wicklowcoco.ie">planreview@wicklowcoco.ie</a> Post to: Forward Planning Section, Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Wicklow Town.

This stage of the plan review process is strategic in nature. Therefore requests for zoning of land will not be considered at this stage.

# Free Parking In Arklow for the Christmas Period

CHRISTMA

PARKING

Free parking will be provided in Arklow town for the Christmas period, running from Monday December 2nd to Tuesday, 2nd January 2020. Free parking will apply to all areas with the exception of Main Street, Lower Main Street, Upper Main Street and the Wexford Road.

Pay and display will remain as normal in these areas. 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.





# ACROSS THE COUNTY

# **Free Parking in Greystones**

2 hours free on street parking will be available in Greystones on each Saturday in December 2019. Wardens will be on duty to enforce illegal parking on these dates.

Free parking is available in the car parks at South Beach, Trafalgar Road and La Touche Road every Saturday and throughout the town on Sundays. Greystones Park & Ride car park has 460 free spaces every day.

Free parking daily between 9am and 10am and 15 minutes grace period is allowed on commencement of parking. Cashless parking is available in Greystones using Parking Tag, which allows motorists to park by phone and extend parking times without returning to the vehicle. Details available on <u>www.parkingtag.ie</u> motorists can register online or on the Parking Tag mobile app.

# Christmas Parking Arrangements Wicklow Town

Shoppers will enjoy two hours free Christmas parking in all Pay and Display Parking areas in Wicklow town from Monday,2nd December 2019, to Wednesday, 1st January 2020, inclusive.

There will be free parking at the Seafront Car Park for the Christmas period and traders and staff can also avail of this.

Please note the Traffic Wardens will continue to monitor and enforce illegal parking during this time.

Loading Bay restricted hours between 9am to 12 noon, Monday to Friday, will also still apply.



# Christmas Water

# Safety Awareness

This Christmas, many people are planning to take part in Christmas swims and may take chances beyond what is acceptably safe. Wicklow County Council & Irish Water Safety are cautioning the public to minimize the length of time they remain immersed due to the risk of hypothermia.

"Cold shock" and hypothermia can overwhelm the fittest of swimmers but steps can be taken to remain accident free:

- Swimmers should "Get In, Get Out and Warm Up", avoiding extended periods of exposure.
- Each Charity Swim should appoint a Safety Officer, who has the ultimate responsibility for making decisions regarding the event.
- The Safety Officer should ensure that they provide comprehensive details of each event to the Irish Coast Guard, RNLI and local Gardai,
- If the seas are rough and weather deteriorates, wait for a more suitable day to honour your charity commitment.
- Cold water cools muscles faster than during warmer summer swims and may cause cramp.
- Alcohol should be avoided before and immediately after swimming as it impairs judgment.









Enquiries: Wicklow County Council Water Safety Development Officer Tel: 0404 20100



# Road Safety Advice & Tips for the Festive Season

icklow County Council encourages all road users to stay safe on our roads at all times but in particular during the festive period.

Wicklow County Council is committed to working with the Road Safety Authority and all agencies involved in road safety to reduce fatal and serious injuries on our roads.

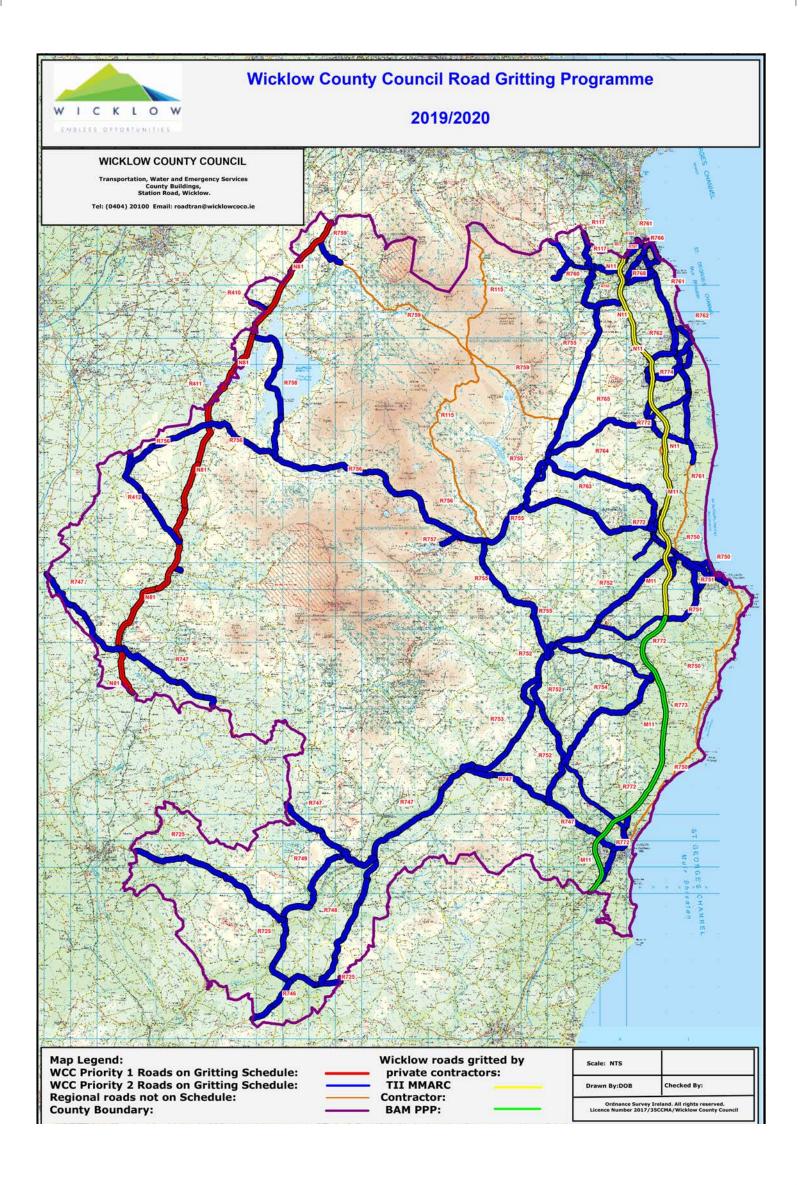
It is important that all road users heed the warnings and road safety messages and be road safety conscious. The greatest gift you can give this Christmas is to safeguard the lives of others by driving responsibly, while the greatest gift you can receive is that other drivers and road users are careful 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 have been 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, and never ever drink or drug drive.

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

To date in 2019 (20th November)<br/>a total of 130 families, friends and communities<br/>have lost a loved one.Pedestrians25Passengers15Privers65Pedal Cyclists9Motorcyclists16Total130





<b>BE WINTER-READY</b>	<image/>			and the Winter			<b>Rialtas na hÉireann</b> Government of Ireland
GENTLE REMINDER: CHECK ON YOUR OLDER RELATIVES AND NEIGHBOURS			If it's difficult for you to get around it will be impossible for them.	<ul> <li>Do you have their phone number(s)?</li> <li>Phone them or call around</li> <li>Make sure they have enough fuel, food supplies and necessary medications</li> <li>If in doubt call the Gardaí and ask them to check</li> </ul>	You can get more information from:	<ul> <li>www.winterready.ie</li> <li>www.drcd.gov.ie</li> <li>www.mapalerter.com</li> <li>www.undertheweather.ie</li> <li>www.emergencyplanning.ie</li> <li>www.met.ie</li> </ul>	Avw.winterready.ie
AVAILABLE SUPPORTS	<b>Seniors Alert Scheme (SAS)</b> Are seniors in your area aware of the Seniors Alert Scheme? The SAS supplies emergency alarm pendants for seniors. For further information, please visit <u>www.pobal.ie</u>	<b>CLÁR Programme</b> The Department of Rural and Community Development has provided funding under the CLÁR programme to provide support for emergency responders in disadvantaged rural areas.	Details on eligibility and the application process are published on the Department's website <u>www.drcd.gov.ie</u>	Libraries Libraries are welcoming spaces at the centre of the community where people can access newspapers, books, online resources, free WiFi, computers and communal spaces. People can go to their libraries to reflect, connect and learn. For more information on the services you can	access at your local library, please see <u>www.librariesireland.ie</u>	<b>Volunteering</b> Ireland has a strong tradition of volunteer activity. From checking in on vulnerable neighbours to staffing helplines, formal and informal volunteers have made a huge contribution during recent extreme weather events. For more information on how you can contribute to your community, please see <u>www.volunteer.ie</u>	LoCall OEP: 1890 252 736 or 0761 001 608 e-mail: oep@defence.ie

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Winter readiness is a challenge for individuals and communities across Ireland each year, and calls for cooperation and collaboration between many different groups.

The Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD) has a unique role to play in fostering the links that bring communities together. Our mission is to "promote rural and community development and to support vibrant, inclusive and sustainable communities throughout Ireland." Strengthening community links helps to improve preparedness for emergencies. Experience has shown that active preparation leads to a better response in an emergency, leading to the best possible outcome for all concerned. This preparedness enables the community to come together to use locally identified resources (people and equipment) during an emergency affecting their community, such as the flooding and heavy snowfall of recent years. Although the response to severe weather events is coordinated both nationally and locally, communities have an important role to play in emergencies. Central to this is neighbours knowing each other and working together. Being prepared, knowing your neighbours and working together will help to ensure that you and your community are winter ready in the months ahead.

# **BEING PREPARED**

# Know Your Community

ls your community based around an apartment building, a housing estate, a street, a road or a village? Is there a local residents' association or community alert group? **Neighbourhood Supports** 

Do you have your neighbours' contact details? How can you help each other? For example, do you or your neighbour have an off-road vehicle or medical experience?

# Planning

What emergencies might your community have to plan for? For example, fire, flooding, snow, power outage, water shortage or accessibility problems. Vulnerable Neighbours

Are some of your neighbours particularly vulnerable? For example, older people, people with disabilities or mobility problems, neighbours with young children or people without access to transport.

# Remember

- Know your Eircode
- Know your GP's Contact Details
  - Get the flu vaccine
- Keep your phone charged
- Keep warm, eat well and avoid unnecessary travel
- Know how to turn off your utility services (electricity, gas, water) in your home

# You, Your Community and the Winter

# EMERGENCY CONTACTS

<ul> <li>Fill in your contact numbers below</li> <li>Keep your contact numbers on display</li> <li>In the event of an emergency, dial 999 or 112</li> </ul>	nbers below nbers on display gency, dial 999 or 112
Eircode:	
Electrician:	
Emergency Contact:	
Family GP:	
Hospital:	
Local Authority:	
Neighbour:	
Pharmacist:	
Plumber:	
Residents' Associa- tion/Community Alert Group:	

# New Mobile Library



People of all ages around the county in villages, housing estates and remote areas are now enjoying the brand-new Mobile Library which was launched in October. The mobile library service is valuable to isolated communities without a local library, for people with limited mobility or places with scant access to public transport. It travels to 34 locations on a fortnightly basis.

For many, the mobile library is a much-loved service with users regularly expressing their delight and appreciation of the service. In recent months when the older vehicle was becoming less roadworthy, readers were dismayed when it was occasionally off the road – 'We miss the driver and librarian so much; they are always ready to help and give us ideas on what to read next as well as have a chat'.

The investment of €230,000 on this modern and technologically advanced vehicle is money very well spent, this vehicle carries over 3,000 items and boasts a "bounce pad" providing easy internet access to users and an electronic notice board which will be used to showcase and promote Wicklow County Council events and notifications.

Mr Frank Curran, Chief Executive, Wicklow County Council, said it was encouraging, despite the increased use of electronic devices, that the libraries continue to grow in popularity with people borrowing in excess of 600,000 items a year.





Literacy Supports for All from Wicklow County Library Service



hrough funding acquired from Dormant Funds, the Library service has made available two literacy support programmes to all Primary and Post-primary schools, Youthreach and Adult education services across the county.

Lexia is a reading-based programme which is targeted at young children from junior infants, teens in secondary schools and is also ideal for adults experiencing literacy difficulties. The programme is especially useful for anyone with a diagnosis of Dyslexia and is often recommended to parents by educational psychologists. The second widely recommended programme is TTRS, Touch, Type, Read and Spell which is a touch-typing course targeting children and adults from approximately age eight. This programme uses a multi-pronged approach to help with reading and spelling.

Wicklow County Library is delighted to offer these supports - 'Children sometimes cannot avail of these programmes because of the cost involved for parents; their free availability now in schools and libraries means that no child or adult is marginalised, everyone can have access to these supports if they wish'. If you need any further information about these resources, please contact the library at 01 2866 566.



# Wicklow County Campus, Clermont House, Rathnew

# IT Carlow Providing Third Level Education for Wicklow

Instituid Teicneolaíochta Cheatharlach INSTITUTE of TECHNOLOGY CARLOW At the Heart of South Leinster

Institute of Technology Carlow Celebrates the Accomplishments of Over 200 Graduates from Wicklow County Campus

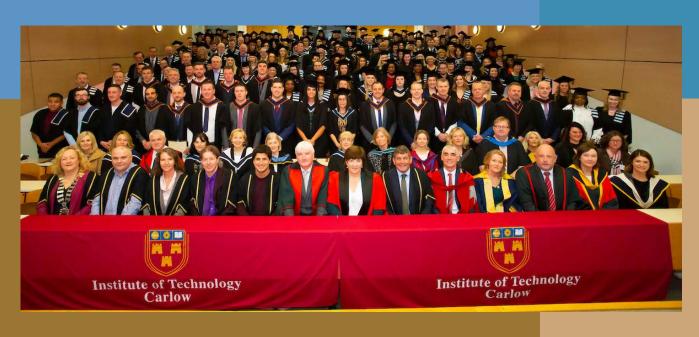
ore than 200 awards up to Masters level were presented to graduands who pursued their higher education programmes of study at Wicklow County Campus at a special ceremony at Institute of Technology Carlow, marking the highest number of graduates and enrolments at Wicklow County Campus since its establishment.

Founded in 2005 in a collaborative partnership with Wicklow County Council, Wicklow County Campus has risen to become a centre of excellence in enterprise, education and innovation in County Wicklow, acting as a catalyst for economic development in the county. Some 1,400 higher education graduates have been conferred since the first conferring ceremony took place in 2009.

Wicklow County Campus graduates exemplify workready and highly competent individuals and the Campus is increasingly seen as a gateway for identifying and recruiting talent across the region.

IT Carlow is enrolling now for courses commencing at The Wicklow County Campus in early January 2020. See more information on: www.itcarlow.ie/study/lifelong-learning Contact the IT Carlow office at Clermont on 0404 67125.





# Positive Budget Adopted for County

icklow County Council adopted the Annual Budget for 2020, on the 25th November 2019. The Adopted Budget 2020 provides for the ongoing delivery of countywide services within a challenging financial environment. The 2020 Budget provides for expenditure of €116m and represents an increase of €13.1m (or 13%) on last year's budget. This ensures the continuation of a number of important community programmes.

As well as normal day to day operational expenditure, there is also provision in this Budget for the following:

Increased funding for Housing of the Homeless and Disabled Persons Grant.

Additional funding for Housing Maintenance including central heating installation, boiler maintenance and Fabric Upgrade Works.

Funding for Social Housing Conditional Surveys and associated works.

Additional staff provisions for Libraries and increased book fund.

Additional funding for Regional and Local Roads works.

New energy saving measures to meet 2020 reduced energy consumption targets. New funding for Climate Action initiatives including the appointment of a Climate Action Officer

Implementation of a Free WiFi Plan across all Municipal Districts.

Increased funding for County Wicklow Fire Services.

Continued funding for grants and contributions to community, cultural and sporting organisations and groups through-out the County - €1.8m in total.

6

Introduction of a Rates Incentive Scheme for New Businesses re-occupying Vacant Properties.



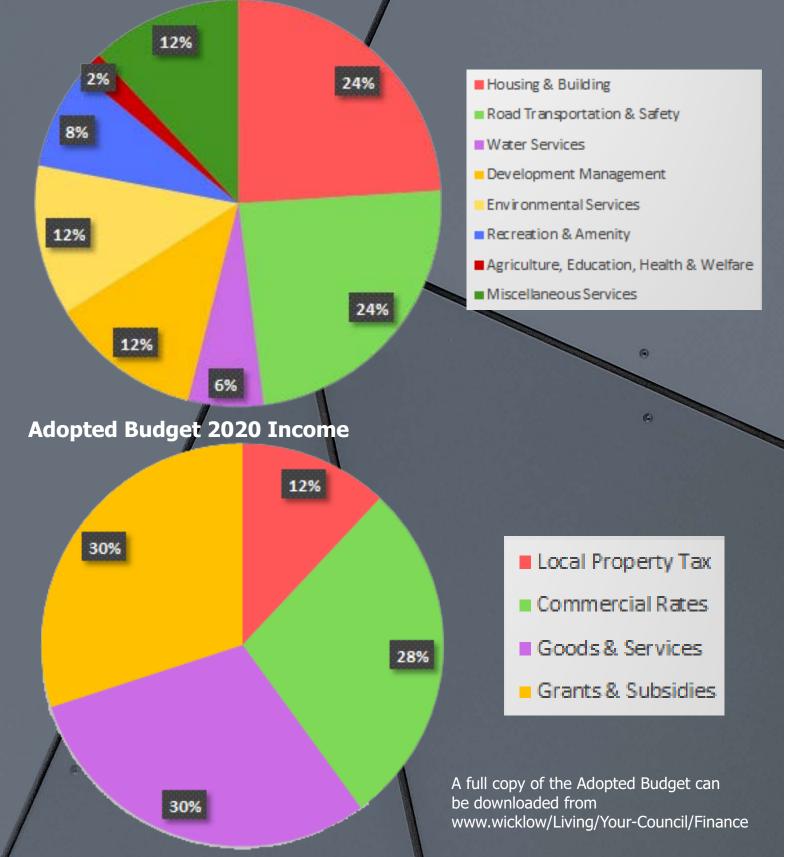
# Total Expenditure €116 million

# **Discretionary Funding**

For Municipal Districts in 2020 General Municipal Allocation €242,500 (Festival, Twinning, Tidy Towns, Economic Development, Town Teams)

Public Realm Funding €1,264,000 Footpath and Repair Scheme Upgrade €600,000

# Adopted Budget 2020 Expenditure





# Wicklow

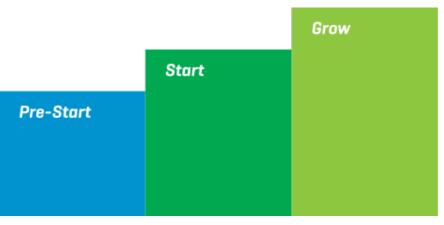
### Get in Touch enterprise@leo.wicklowcoco.ie 0404 30800

# ...Let's talk business

# Are you in the Pre-Start, Start or Grow stage of your business?

ocal Enterprise Office Wicklow's Business Advisors are here to give guidance no matter what stage of business development you are at. We run Business Advice Clinics weekly here in the office in Rathnew, and externally in The Glenview Hotel. We also have a clinic monthly in Blessington.

These meetings are approximately one hour in length, one-to-one, confidential and free. Our business advisors provide advice on LEO's financial and non-financial supports,



revenue, legal structures, Microfinance Ireland, marketing, etc.

To make an appointment call our office on 0404 30800 or email enterprise@leo.wicklowcoco.ie

# **Spring/Summer Training Programme**

raining is an important aspect in the management and development of any small business. Local Enterprise Office Wicklow recognises the need to provide training courses across a wide range of business topics. Courses are significantly subsidised by LEO Wicklow. The Spring/Summer programme will be launched in January 2020.



Examples of training topics include:

- Start Your Own Business Courses essential for any pre-start or start-up business.
- Become efficient in Effective & Practical Human Resources.
- Business IT skills such as Website Optimisation, Social Media, and Digital Marketing Clinics are fundamental for businesses who want to increase their online presence.
- Financial training courses that will give you an edge when it comes to Accessing Finance, Tax & Vat for Start-Ups, Bookkeeping, and many more.
- Topical Seminars, such as Brexit Essential & Prepare Your Business for Customs.

Follow this link to book: <u>https://www.localenterprise.ie/Wicklow/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/</u>





Wicklow

Get in Touch enterprise@leo.wicklowcoco.ie 0404 30800

# ...Let's talk business

# Does your website need to be upgraded: Trading Online Voucher?

ocal Enterprise Office Wicklow is helping more Irish businesses get online through the Trading Online Voucher Scheme, funded by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment under the National Digital Strategy. This matched funding scheme gives small businesses access to expert mentoring, training and a €2,500 voucher to set themselves up online\*.

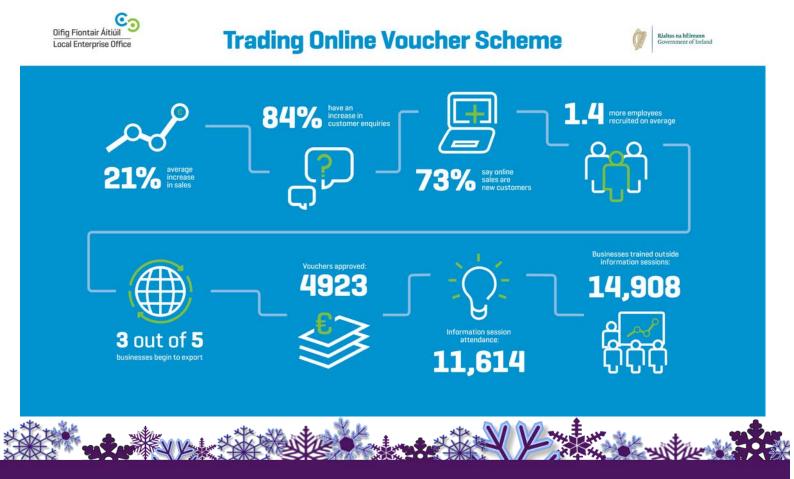
Since the Trading Online Voucher Scheme began in 2014, almost 6,000 small companies in Ireland have been able to grow their business online through the initiative. In addition to this, the Local Enterprise Offices have advised over 22,000 small Irish businesses how to effectively use e-commerce to grow their business. Over 300 applications for the Trading Online Voucher received in Local Enterprise Office Wicklow have been approved.

Research has shown that a business which establishes an online presence sees a 21% increase in sales and an 84% increase in customer enquiries, on average. The research also highlights that 73% of sales online among small businesses come from new customers, as opposed to existing ones.

Small companies who set up an online presence are also likely to create new jobs. On average, a small business which begins to sell online will hire 1.4 new employees. Those companies who establish themselves on the internet also increase their opportunities to sell internationally and open their business to new markets. 3 out of 5 businesses who set up an online presence begin to export for the first time.

Local Enterprise Wicklow's next Trading Online Seminar will be taking place on the 23rd of January 2020.

\*Eligibility criteria apply





# Wicklow

### Get in Touch enterprise@leo.wicklowcoco.ie 0404 30800

# ...Let's talk business

National Women's Enterprise 2019 proves to be as big a success as ever!

ow in its 13th year, the largest-ever programme of events for National Women's Enterprise Day took place on October 17th. An annual initiative of the Local Enterprise Offices (LEOs), including LEO Wicklow, the theme for this year's event was "Making It Happen" with the aim of inspiring more women in Ireland to start and grow their own business.

The networking event for entrepreneurs in Co. Wicklow took place at beautiful Ballyknocken Cookery School, Ashford. Over 40 local female entrepreneurs and businesswomen participated and enjoyed facilitated networking, while cooking Italian antipasti with the fabulous Catherine Fulvio.



Catherine, the NWED Ambassador for Wicklow, delivered a motivational talk on her rise from local B&B owner to celebrity chef, emphasising how she made it happen, tying in with the theme for NWED 2019.

All who attended are looking forward to National Women's Enterprise Day 2020.

# Management Development Programme MDP 2018/2019 Graduates

he Management Development Programme has been running through the Local Enterprise Office Wicklow for over 20 years. It is an in-depth programme that covers core modules such as planning for expansion/consolidation, strategic positioning, sales management, pricing, etc. Blaise Brosnan, MD of Management Resource Institutes delivers the programme and has received stellar feedback from participants who appreciate his ability to relate to them and their business.

All Graduates for the 2018/2019 MDP will be receiving their Institute of Technology Carlow accreditation (level 7) in a ceremony on Thursday the 12th of December, in The Glenview Hotel. Congratulations to the MDP class of 2018/2019 from the team here in the Local Enterprise Office Wicklow.



# <complex-block><complex-block>

Wicklow County Campus offers meeting rooms and classrooms for hire for periods of days, weeks or months.

Beautiful old-style meeting rooms equipped with projector and screen are available for hire at Wicklow County Council.Numerous classrooms with seating for up to 60 people are also available for at very reasonable rates. All classrooms come with projector/screen and white board. Flip charts can be provided.



# Phone: 0404 30800 Email: enterprise@leo.wicklowcoco.ie

### **Proposed Enterprise Hub** at Wicklow County **Campus Rathnew**

n accordance with Part XI of the Planning & Development Act 2000, as amended, and Part 8, Article 81, of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001, as amended, Wicklow County Council hereby gives notice of its intention to undertake development at Wicklow County Campus, Rathnew.

The proposed development to create an Enterprise Hub will consist of;

Alteration and refurbishment of the courtyard cottages and conversion to office use. Alterations include formation of additional window openings and enclosing the carriage arch to create a new stairwell. Upgrading of the courtyard storage outbuildings including re-slating and improvements to the roof structure.

Demolition of redundant farm outbuildings to the north of the courtyard to facilitate construction of new 2 storev office building with main entrance to the Enterprise Hub, roof mounted PV solar array and link element to the refurbished courtyard offices.

parking, e-car charging posts, hard and soft January, 2020. landscaping.

Refurbishment of section of former dormitory 2nd floor level of the school block and conversion to office use.

Alterations and refurbishment of former school chapel and conversion to conference centre.

New foul effluent pumping station to serve Wicklow County Campus with rising main to the public sewer. Clermont House including the later half-octagon wings, the chapel and the school block of 1950 is included in the Record of Protected Structures for County Wicklow, RPS Ref. 25-13.



The development has been the subject of an Appropriate Assessment screening in accordance with Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC) and the Planning and Development Acts 2000 - 2016. The Appropriate Assessment Screening Statement concluded that the proposed development would not be likely to give rise to significant or indeterminate impacts on any Natura 2000 site.

Plans and particulars of the proposed development are available for inspection, or purchase at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council, Station Road, Wicklow Town and at the offices of Wicklow Municipal District, Town Hall, Market Square, Wicklow Town during opening hours between 9.00 a.m. and 3.30 p.m. Monday to Friday excluding weekends, and Associated services, set-down bay, accessible car Bank Holidays, from 27th November, 2019 to 2nd

> Submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development, dealing with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which the development will be situated, may be made in writing to Ms. Christine Flood, Enterprise and Corporate Services, Wicklow County Buildings, Wicklow by email to part8@wicklowcoco.ie or online at www.wicklow.ie/Living/ConsultationHub to arrive no later than 4.00 p.m. on 16th January 2020.

> All submissions or observations should be clearly marked 'Proposed development at Wicklow County Campus, Rathnew, Part 8'.





Local Sports Partnership Comhpháirtíocht Áitiúil Spóirt Chill Mhantáin

SPORT IRELAND

### Arklow Duck Pond Junior Parkrun



November 3rd kicked off the inaugural Arklow Duck Pond Junior parkrun. Over 130 children took part plus adults supporting them. Wicklow Sports Partnership was delighted to support another parkrun, as a fantastic way for people to be active in their community. There are now two junior parkruns in the County, Bray and Arklow which take place every Sunday morning at 9.30am and two adult p,arkruns in Avondale Forest and Russborough House, which both take place on a Saturday morning at 9.30am.

All parkruns are free, fun and run entirely by volunteers. All are welcome. The only requirement for parkrun is to register and bring your printed barcode on the day. You can find your local parkrun by visiting www.parkrun.ie.



## Aquatit 55+

ten week Aquafit 55+ Programme started in Coral Leisure Centres, Wicklow Town and Arklow in October. Both programmes have been a huge success with over thirty people taking part each week. There are many benefits of the Aquafit Programme, it works out heart muscles, enhances balance and coordination, is easy on the joints and reduces risk of injury.







Local Sports Partnership Comhpháirtíocht Áitiúil Spóirt Chill Mhantáin

### SPORT IRELAND

### Activator Poles Workshop

Wicklows first Activator Poles Workshop took place in Newcastle Parish Hall on the 21st of September. There are now six leaders trained up in Wicklow all with a background in physiotherapy, occupational therapy, nursing or exercise & fitness. These new classes will be rolled out throughout the county in the coming months. There a several benefits of activator poles such as, improved posture and gait, enhanced core and muscle strength, reduced impact on joints and reduced falls to name a few. The first six week activator poles programme started Monday November 11th 12-1pm in Newcastle Community Centre.

If you would like information on getting these programmes set up in your community e-mail us at wicklowlsp@wicklowcoco.ie or call us on 0404-20100.



### INCLUSION IN SPORT TRAINING WORKSHOPS





Date: Saturday 18th of January Time: 10am-1pm Venue: Clermont House, Rathnew Cost: €35 per person



Date: Saturday 1st of February fTime: 10am-4pm Venue: Shoreline Leisure, Greystones Cost: €35 per person

For more information visit www.wicklowlsp.ie or contact us on 0404 20100 Ext 2335 or email WicklowLSP@wicklowcoco.ie





## UISCE éireann : irish WATER

Decision by An Bord Pleanála to grant planning permission for the Arklow Wastewater Treatment Plant

Wicklow County Council and Irish Water welcomes the decision in August 2019 by An Bord Pleanála to approve planning permission for the Arklow Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Project will result in significant improvements to water quality in Arklow by ending the current practice of the discharge of raw sewage directly into the Avoca River. With over 15,000 people set to be connected to the new treatment plant on completion, this project is important in terms of protecting the environment, facilitating economic development and providing for a growing population.



Further information on this proposed project can be found at <u>https://www.water.ie/projects-plans/arklow-wwtp/</u>





### **Online Consultation Hub**

- County Development Plan 2021 2027
- Part VIII Proposed Enterprise Hub at Wicklow County Campus, Rathnew
- Part VIII 36 Houses Greenhill Road, Wicklow Town

www.wicklow/Living/ConsultationHub



### Christmas Shoebox Appeal

Staff of Wicklow County Council donated over 80 shoeboxes to the Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal. The efforts of the staff will positively affect children living in often very difficult situations and bring some joy and excitement to them.



теам Уноре

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL



Check the register on www.checktheregister.ie

# DURE 10th Year of the Pure Mile

he Pure Mile, an environmental initiative which aims to create a greater awareness of the countryside of Wicklow and South Dublin, had its annual Gala Evening in October at The Brooklodge Hotel, Macreddin, Aughrim.



The Pure Mile Project encourages groups in Wicklow and South Dublin to adopt a mile of road, or miles of road, in their local area, or in the Wicklow/Dublin Uplands and organise litter picks, clean-ups, and anti-dumping campaigns. The Gala Evening is an opportunity for all of the Pure Mile Groups to meet for one night, in one room, and celebrate all of their hard work and achievements in Cleaning Up the Wicklow/Dublin Uplands, and for Pure to thank them all.

Over 100 certificates of participation were presented by Mr. Andrew Doyle, T.D., Minister of State for Food, Forestry and Horticulture, and the Cathaoirleach for Wicklow County Council, Cllr. Irene Winters.

2019 was the tenth year of the Pure Mile, and this year over 100 communities, groups, scouts, beavers, primary schools, walking groups, cycling groups, businesses and organisations, collectively improved and enhanced over 550 miles of roads, mountains, valleys, forestry's, woodlands, and upland amenities, with the removal of tonnes of illegal dumping and litter from the Wicklow/Dublin Uplands.

The groups ranged from all over Wicklow and South Dublin, and each one received a Pure Mile Certificate, a selection of native Irish trees, and all will be included in the popular Pure Mile Calendar, which was launched in November.

The Pure Mile has grown every year and in 2019 it had over 2,500 volunteers involved in the project. It has had some major clean-ups this year which resulted in the removal of over 4,000 bags of rubbish and illegal dumping from the Wicklow/Dublin Uplands. It's amazing the amount of time, effort, and enthusiasm that groups invest in the Pure Mile. All of the people involved in the Pure Mile make a huge difference to the areas they live in or recreate in.

Anyone interested in the 2020 Pure Mile competition can request an application form and information pack by emailing info@pureproject.ie or it can be downloaded from www.pureproject.ie/the-pure-mile/\_You can also write to; Pure Project, Wicklow Mountains, National Park, Kilafin, Laragh, Bray, Co. Wicklow, A98 K286, and they will post out all the information or request an application form and information pack by phoning Pure on 0404 45547.

















### 20th Anniversary of partnership with Würzburg









o celebrate the 20th anniversary of the partnership with Würzburg a delegation of 41 citizens of Würzburg travelled to Wicklow.

Wicklow County Council, Bray Municipal District and the Irish German Society of County Wicklow hosted a series of special events to mark the 20th anniversary of the partnership. The celebration began with the formal renewal of the Partnership Pledge between Würzburg, Bray and County Wicklow which took place in Bray Town Hall. The group then moved on to the Civic Offices at Bray Municipal District for the opening of the Images of Würzburg, a collection of photographs by Herr Boris Albert, one of the German party.

During their visit to County Wicklow the delegation visited various locations including Glencree, Brooklodge, Powerscourt and the EPIC Irish Museum in Dublin.

The visit concluded with an anniversary dinner which was attended by over one hundred people and included An Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Councillor Irene Winters, Marion Schäfer-Blake Mayor of Würzburg and Her Excellency, Deike Potzel German Ambassador and former Ambassador to Germany Michael Collins. Cllr. Winters thanked Ambassador Potzel for her support for the partnership and Michael Collins, for his commitment to German-Irish relations she paid tribute to George Jones and Matthias Fleckenstein for maintaining the lively relationship between Bray, County Wicklow and Würzburg.

Ambassador Potzel spoke about the importance of the strong partnership between our communities and how it fits in with the Joint Plan of Action between Ireland and Germany fostering economic ties, tourism, people to people engagement and educational exchanges.

Mayor Schäfer-Blake paid tribute to the late Kevin Meehan, Principal of St Kilian's School in Bray who helped to bring the partnership about through developing educational exchanges with Würzburg.

Events such as this strengthen the bonds between the communities of Würzburg, Bray and County Wicklow and it is hoped that these links will continue to grow and flourish as they have since the seeds of friendship were first sown on the signing of the Partnership Agreement on 1st November 1999.













he County Wicklow Food and Beverage Strategy was launched with the 'Feast from the East' food producers' event at Killruddery Estate in Bray earlier this year. The strategy is a key part to the economic, community and social development of the County. It recognises the contribution and creativity of the many and varied food producers in County Wicklow. It is consistent with Wicklow's clean green image as the Garden of Ireland and enhances our tourism offering. This strategy provides a roadmap which will help develop existing and emerging producers as well as addressing issues such as food resilience and food poverty.

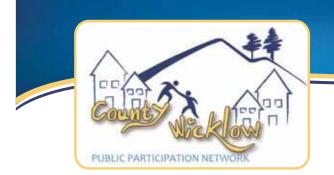
Wicklow County Council in partnership with County Wicklow Partnership successfully applied for LEADER funding for the implementation of the Food and Beverage Strategy. Jonathan Birnie Associates (JBA) were appointed to work with the Food and Beverage Steering Group to implement the actions contained in the Strategy. Working groups have been established to progress actions from the Strategy including:

- 1. Tell the Wicklow Story
- 2. Develop a Food Activity Calendar
- 3. Get Local Food to Local Consumers
- 4. Provide Appropriate Business Supports

An enhanced Wicklow Food Ambassador programme is also being arranged, through Birnie Associates and the Steering Group. The consultants JBA are currently engaging with stakeholders in order to deliver the actions identified.

Members of the Steering Group representing the Food & Beverage sector have worked with brand specialists to develop the Wicklow Food Brand which will be launched in the New Year.

A new Wicklow Food and Beverage Website will be launched early in the New Year to coincide with the launch of the new brand. The website will help promote the excellent food and beverage offering in the County and will help publicise Wicklow's fantastic food and beverage offering.



### **County Wicklow PPN Presents to The National PPN Conference**



r Seán Canney TD, Minister of State for • Community Development, Natural Resources and Digital Development addressed the third National Public Participation Network Conference held in the Woodford Dolmen Hotel in Carlow on 10th & 11th October this year. In his address, he referred to the outstanding work carried out by PPNs to date on behalf of communities. He highlighted the increased engagement with community groups stating that membership of PPNs now exceeds 14,846 groups representing the community & voluntary, social inclusion and environmental sectors of society. In 2018, PPNs supported their member groups by providing 499 training opportunities to 3,858 community volunteers. At the end of 2018, 924 PPN community representatives worked on 375 decisionmaking committees. The Minister continued by saying, "We each must do what we can to ensure the concept of citizen engagement not only succeeds but thrives. We need to consider the many people we can empower. Those whose voices need to be heard on local and national policy issues that have a direct, and at times, an indirect effect on their lives"

The conference was well attended by a wide and diverse audience of community volunteers, community support and advocacy agencies, local authority personnel and department officials. Several presentations and workshops took place that highlighted the importance of community engagement in local development and ways in which it can be supported and honoured.

Co Wicklow PPN facilitated a workshop about our

work with communities in developing our Vision for Community Wellbeing. We highlighted how we have used these visions and our community consultations to feed into local policies, plans and strategies. In 2019 Co. Wicklow PPN has contributed to:

- The Call for Input into the National Volunteering Strategy
- The EMRA Draft Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy
- Heritage Ireland 2030
- An Garda Siochana 2020 Policing Plan
- PPN User Guide
- Wicklow County Council Draft Corporate Plan
- Wicklow County Council Draft Climate Change & Adaptation Strategy
- Wicklow County Council Draft Strategic Policy Committee Scheme
- Co Wicklow Outdoor Recreation Strategy
- Bray Area Partnership 2020 SICAP Plan
- County Wicklow Partnership 2020 SICAP Plan





If your group would like to know more about Co. Wicklow PPN contact Helen Howes Email: <u>countywicklowppn@gmail.com</u> Tel: 087 189 5145

## **Environment and Climate Action**

### Wicklow County Council Stays Ahead of the Curve

he environment section of Wicklow County Council took possession of their new AQ400 Nutrient Auto Analyser after fifteen years of service from their previous model.

This investment maintains Wicklow's position as one of only three Local Authorities in the Country with the capabilities to do their own water analysis, which ensures quick results turnaround, huge cost savings and most importantly ensures a further layer of protection for the environment and public health.



### Wicklow County Council tackles plastic waste at work and in secondary schools

We installed water bottle refill stations in nine secondary schools across the county with additional stations to come in 2020. The aim is to encourage students to choose the refill option rather than buying a drink every day. A refill station provides a healthier drinking option, saves money for students and parents, and eliminates plastic waste. The machines have a counter, so schools can track usage of the refill stations. In a pilot undertaken in 2018 with three schools, one school recorded 48,000 uses of the machine in its first six months. Crystal Clear won the contract to install the water fountains. The project was part funded by the EPA under the Local Authority Prevention Network to demonstrate innovation in waste prevention.

The schools involved in the project are:

- Avondale College Rathdrum
- Colaiste Bhride Carnew
- Colaiste Chill Mhantain Wicklow
- Colaiste Chraobh Abhann Kilcoole
- Dominican College Wicklow
- Glenart College Arklow (2020)
- Loreto College Bray
- St. Kevin's Community College Dunlavin
- St. Mary's College Arklow
- Templecarrig School Greystones

Wicklow County Council has also taken steps to eliminate single use plastics in its own workspaces. Single use plastic cups have been banned. Staff have been supplied with a reusable water bottle and drinking glasses have been made available. Avoiding single use plastics is one easy step we all do to take Climate Action.

### **Relove Fashion**

icklow County Council has developed a new fashion focused waste prevention initiative for secondary schools, working with three other Local Authorities and the Rediscovery Centre, Ballymun on its implementation.

The competition for secondary school students, involved designing and creating a new outfit using second hand items of clothing or textiles.

Four teams from Wicklow competed against entries from Dublin, Meath and West Wicklow, with the overall winner coming from Dublin for the first ever event. Participating teams were assessed on their use of fabric, their creativity in design, their skill in working with textiles and their knowledge on sustainability in the fashion and textile industry. Each team presented their outfit to a judging panel and answered questions from the judges.

The competition proved to be a hit with schools in the four participating local authorities, produced entries of an exceptional quality. It is hoped to repeat the competition again in 2020 inviting more schools to get involved. Taking a second look at reuse in fashion and textiles can help us all to reduce resource consumption and take Climate action.









### Christmas Opening / Closing Times County Wicklow Recycling Centres

VVaste Networkpurporting the pace against ac							
				The Murrough,	Rampere,		
	Arklow	Avoca	Bray	Wicklow	Baltinglass		
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup>							
December	Closed	Closed	9.00am – 1.45pm	9.00am – 1.45pm	8.30am – 4.00pm		
Christmas Eve	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed		
Christmas Day	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed		
St. Stephens Day	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed		
Friday 27th							
December	Closed	Closed	9.00am – 1.45pm	Closed	Closed		
Saturday 28th							
December	9.00am – 1.45pm	Closed	9.00am – 1.45pm	9.00am – 1.45pm	8.30am -1.00pm		
Monday 30th							
December	Closed	Closed	9.00am – 1.45pm	9.00am – 1.45pm	8.30am – 4.00pm		
New Year's Eve	Closed	Closed	Closed	9.00am – 1.45pm	8.30am -1.00pm		
New Year's Day	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed		
				9.00am – 4.30pm			
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup>				(closed for lunch			
January	9.00am – 4.30pm	Closed	9.00am -4.00pm	1pm – 1.45)	8.30am – 4.00pm		
		9.00am – 3.30pm		9.00am – 3.30pm			
		(closed for lunch 1-		(closed for lunch			
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January	9.00am – 3.30pm	2pm)	9.00am -4.00pm	1pm – 1.45)	8.30am – 4.00pm		
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am – 1.45pm	9.00am – 1.30pm	9.00am – 1.45pm	9.00am – 1.45pm	8.30am -1.00pm		

### Christmas Tree Shredding January 2020

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	Mon-Thur: 9.00-4.30pm Fri: 9.00am-3.30pm Sat: 9.30am-1.45pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> January
Aughrim	Tidy Towns Pavillion	Mon-Sat:9.00-4.00pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> January
Аvoca	Avoca Recycling Centre	Mon-Thurs: 9.00-4.30pm Fri: 9.00 am- 3.30pm Sat: 9.30am-1.30pm Closed for lunch1.00- 2.00pm every day.	3 <sup>rd</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> January
Baltinglass	Rampere Landfill & Recycling Centre	Mon- <u>Thur</u> : 9.00-4.00pm Fri: 9.00am-3.30pm Sat: 9.00 am – 1.00pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> -18 <sup>h</sup> January
Blessington	County Council Yard, Naas Road	Mon to Fri:10.00-4.00pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> January
Bray	Bray Recycling Centre, Beechwood Close, Boghall Road	Mon-Fri:9.00-4.00pm Sat:9.30am-1pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> January
Bray	Festina Lente Foundation, Old Connaught Avenue 10am-4pm Daily		3 <sup>rd</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> January Donations in aid of Festina Lente
Greystones	Carpark in front of the Wicklow County Council Offices on Mill Road opposite the bottle banks	This site is monitored by CCTV. Only Christmas trees accepted.	3rd -18 <sup>th</sup> January
Hollywood	Church Carpark, Hollywood	10.00am -12.00 midday	11 <sup>th</sup> January Donations in aid of Tidy Towns
Wicklow	The Murrough Recycling Centre, Wicklow	Mon-Thur: 9.00-4.00pm Fri: 9.00-1.00pm Sat: 9.30am -1pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> January
Wicklow	Green King, Coolbeg (road opp. Beehive)	Mon-Fri: 8-5.30 Sat: 9.00-1.00pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> January



### **CHRISTMAS LIGHTING TIPS**

The house with the most lights used to be the 'best'. Times have changed! The cost of electricity goes way beyond the utility bill. Electricity drains natural resources and contributes to climate change and costs money!

Below are some tips to consider when putting up the Christmas lights.

A smaller presentation of lights can still be attractive and more appropriate in the 'season of giving'.

Turn off Christmas lights during the day and when you go to bed.

If you're buying new Christmas lights, there are many new energy-efficient lights available, often at a better price. These give the same amount of light as their higher wattage counterparts, at lower cost, as well as being easier on the environment. They also give off less heat, making your lights safer. A 100 mini-light string will typically use less than 20 watts.

For maximum energy-saving, try new LED Christmas lights. The LED (Light Emitting Diode) Christmas lights use up to 90% less energy than larger, traditional Christmas bulbs and last up to 100,000 hours when used indoors. (Most can also be used out of doors - check the manufacturers instructions). LED lights also emit significantly less heat than conventional lights. As an added bonus, if one of the LED lights burns out the rest of the strand will stay lit.

Light Wattage: The large, traditional bulbs use 4-10 watts per bulb. Mini-lights will use 0.1-1 watt per bulb, and the new LED lights use a fraction of this again.

Lights per String: If you're buying a new set of lights, remember to compare based on equal 'lighted lengths'. The larger bulbs are usually sold 25-50 to a string, while the smaller bulb sets may have 35 to 200 bulbs per string. Icicle lights typically have 100 lights per 10-foot string. LED lights have 35-100 bulbs per string.

Strings per House: To save energy and money, use fewer lights strands on your tree. The more lights you use, the more power you'll use. But whether you use only one light string or many, you'll be rewarded with a lower power bill if you use energy-efficient lights.

Timing: Avoid leaving tree lights on all day; try using them only at night. You can reduce your energy use by running outdoor lights on a timer pre-set for three to five hours.



### **Twelve Green Days for Christmas**



**Day 1. Make a list and plan your Christmas:** Good planning can make your Christmas preparations less stressful, easier to manage, save on waste and save you money. Think about who you need to buy presents for and what they would like rather than just browsing. Make a detailed list for grocery shopping and stick to it. Before buying a Christmas outfit check if there is anything in the Wardrobe that you would like to wear.



**Day 2. Experience the Christmas present:** We all like to receive presents but many of us would also say we have enough stuff already. Buy a gift of an experience instead this year such as a spa treatment for the mother, a round of golf for the wife, a restaurant voucher for the husband, a visit to the bowling alley or cinema for the kids. A treat to enjoy, which can also ensure we spend our money in the local economy and also don't end up with another unused item.



**Day 3. Beat the traffic with public transport:** Traffic congestion reaches its annual peak in the run up to Christmas and parking can be hard to find. This year why not look for opportunities to leave the car at home. Walk, cycle, bus or train for a stress free visit to your town centre when possible.



**Day 4. Don't overindulge the bin when you party:** We often put out too much food when hosting a party. Cooked foods leftover from a party can be a hard sell the next day at a time of plenty. Avoid this waste by cooking less and having some non perishable foods such as crisps, nuts, crackers and dips in reserve if you have a hungry mob that eat all the cooked foods. Don't forget if you're going out to a party to buy fewer groceries for home when you know you won't be there. Too much food ends up in the bin in the run up to Christmas.



**Day 5. Deck the halls with boughs of Holly:** Decorations have got a bit cheaper in recent years but we are also using a lot more both indoors and outdoors. Every year a large proportion of decorations get binned. When buying decorations think of how durable they will be and do think about their storage from year to year for reuse. Natural decorations from the garden can be used. Many types of greenery from the garden will work to decorate the house not just holly and ivy. Logs and cones were also traditionally widely used.

**Day 6. Ditch tradition when it's not for your household:** Don't be afraid to ditch a Christmas tradition if it doesn't suit your household. We often buy food stuffs because they are seen as part of the Christmas celebrations but then don't eat them. If nobody like brussels sprouts don't serve them, if nobody has space for pudding leave it off the menu, if nobody really likes Turkey why not try something else.



**Day 7. Lights! Action! Thermostat turned down:** Christmas arrives just after the winter solstice, the darkest and coolest part of the year. It is the time of year when we use most energy both for heating and lighting. It is no surprise that for Christmas we love to feel cosy and we love to light up or homes to counter all that darkness. On the big day the national grid is under pressure from all that lighting, heating and cooking. Often our homes can get very warm on the day with the oven on for hours and maybe a fire lit. Why not turn the thermostat down to reduce energy usage and put the outdoor lights on a timer to save electricity.



**Day 8. Make the leftovers interesting:** After the big day we often have plenty of leftovers. Check out Wicklow County Council's Twelve Days of Christmas for some exciting recipes to use up a range of typical Christmas foods. If sick of eating turkey take it off the bone and freeze so that it can be used later.



**Day 9. A brown bin for a green Christmas:** There will always be some food waste and peelings generated over Christmas. Home composting is great when you can, but the other option which is available to all of us is a brown bin. Your bin service provider is required by law to offer you a brown bin if you live in a town with a population over 500. If you don't have one already ask for one. You will save money and also help the environment.



**Day 10. Get moving on one of Wicklow's great walks:** We all like to get out and about after Christmas. Wicklow has some of the best walks in Ireland. Why not get out with family or friends and try one over the Christmas. There are walks in all parts of the county like the Bray to Greystones Cliff Walk, The Vartry Reservoir Walk, the Blessignton Lakes Walk, the Tinahely Railway Walk. Outdoor places like Glendalough, Brittas Bay or Avondale can be a bit quieter this time of year so let's get out and explore them and enjoy Wicklow's great environment.

**Day 11. A second Christmas list:** If visiting the January sales have a clear idea of what you need. For clothes make a list of items that need replacing rather than browsing the stores. Before making big purchases like furniture and electrical items assess whether a replacement is needed or whether the lifespan of existing items should be extended. Consider repairing items of furniture or electrical items when appropriate. See <u>www.repairmystuff.ie</u> for repair services in County Wicklow.

**Day 12. A visit to the recycling centre:** Even with the best of efforts to prevent waste there will always be extra waste to recycle after Christmas. Extra cardboard and wrapping paper, plastic and glass bottles, drink cans and Christmas cards can result in an over flowing green bin. Why not bring the excess to your local recycling centre. We also have items that need recycling like batteries, electrical goods , vegetable oil, lighting and Christmas trees which can't go into the kerbside green bin so a trip the recycling centre will maximize your recycling.



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

## STOP FOOD WASTE

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. That's not good for your pocket or our environment!

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  $\in$ 700 a year. For some households this can be over  $\in$ 1,000! 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: <u>www.wicklow.ie</u> or email us at <u>eao@wicklowcoco.ie</u> / phone **1890 22 22 76** 

> Go to <u>www.StopFoodWaste.ie</u> And check out how to: Buy Better Get Savvy with Storage And Start some Canny Cooking with their Recipes

More Christmas leftover recipes and a clever menu planner is available on: <u>www.lovefoodhatewaste.com</u>

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

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! Information on composting is available Wicklow County Council Environmental Awareness Office - call **1890 22 22 76** Email: <u>eao@wicklowcoco.ie</u>



### ssels Sprou Mustard

#### Ingredients

- 500g Leftover Brussels Sprouts
- 2 tablespoons Grain Mustard
- 2 tablespoons Honey
- 300ml Vegetable stock or Turkey Stock

### Instructions

- 1. Place oil or butter in a frying pan.
- 2. Cut spouts in half. Cook for 2 minutes.
- 3. Add the mustard and stock carefully and cook for 3-4 minutes.
- 4. Remove from the heat, stir in the honey and serve.

Tip! Brussels sprouts are in season for December. Home grown sprouts may tempt younger members of the family to give them a try

### **Nutty Veggie Couscous**

This is a great accompaniment or serve as a main course with some grilled goats cheese. Can also be made using the left over Nut Roast.

### **Ingredients - Serves 10 people**

- 450ml vegetable stock
- 400g can chick peas, drained
- 50g ready-to-eat apricots
- 125g mixed nuts
- 25g butter or olive oil
- 125g leftover vegetables, roughly chopped
- A pinch of salt
- Freshly ground black peppercorns
- Chopped herbs such as coriander, p a r s l e y or mint
- 450g Couscous

### Instructions

1. Place the couscous in a bowl with 200ml hot stock. Leave for 5 minutes and break up the lumps with a fork.

2. Add the remaining hot stock, chickpeas, chopped apricots and nuts.

Melt the butter in a frying pan and stir-fry the 3. vegetables until piping hot. Add to the couscous

and season well; add the herbs just before serving.

**Tip!** Mint is easily grown in the garden, to easy as it 4. can spread rapidly if soil conditions suit. It is best sown in a pot which can be sunk into the ground if desired to control the spread of roots. Harvest in summer for drying in the hot press.

#### Turkey or Chicken Vol au Ingredients

- Onion, finely chopped
- Some mushrooms

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- Small amount of oil or butter
  - Leftover turkey or chicken chopped into cubes and gravy or stock
  - Thyme chopped finely
- Small amount of cream
- Salt and pepper

### Instructions

Cook the onion and mushrooms in oil/butter until transparent and cooked. Allow to cool. Add stock or gravy and the meat, thyme and seasoning. Cook for 5-10 minutes until completely heated through. Ensure that it is thickened using cornflour or roux until it is like a very thick gravy. Allow to cool. Stir in a small amount of cream. Cook the vol au vent cases and allow to cool. Fill with the meat mixture.

**Tip!** Thyme and Chives are both easily gown in the garden. Can be planted in the flower border.

### Cranberry Brownies

This is a great quick recipe to finish off the cranberry sauce. You can add other festive leftovers such as nuts or dried fruit.

#### Inaredients

- 100g of butter
- 50g of plain chocolate
- 150g of caster sugar
- 4 tablespoons cranberry sauce
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> teaspoon vanilla extract
- 40a of flour
- A pinch of salt

### Instructions

- Preheat the oven to 180° celsius, 1. gas mark 4.
- 2. Melt the butter and chocolate in a heavy pan over a low heat, stirring frequently until melted and smooth.

Beat the sugar with the eggs and cranberry sauce in a bowl and pour in the chocolate mixture with the vanilla extract, flour and salt.

Pour into a 21cm square tin and bake for 15 to 20 minutes.

**Tip!** Cranberries can be grown in the garden but need an acid soil. Grow in a pot or hanging basket if soil conditions don't suit in the ground.









# Wicklow County Council becomes a Partner to the Pollinator Plan

t the November meeting of Wicklow County Council, the members voted to officially sign up as partners to the All Ireland Pollinator Plan. The aim of the Plan is to make Ireland more pollinator friendly and councils are being asked to take actions to combat the worrying decline in pollinator species in recent years. Members heard that in Ireland, pollination is primarily carried out by our wild bees of which we have 99 species (1 honey bee, 21 bumble bee and 77 solitary bees). Despite the fact that pollination is essential for food and crop production, overall the populations of pollinators are suffering and have declined by 30% since 1980. The main causes of pollinator decline are loss of habitat, loss of food sources, use of pesticides, climate change and disease.

By signing up as partners to the Plan, Wicklow County Council has committed to endorsing a pollinator friendly ethos in all plans and strategies; to altering the frequency of mowing in selected open spaces, parks and verges in order to provide food and nesting habitats and to promoting the planting of native and pollinator friendly species.

As part of awareness raising initiatives, this year Wicklow County Council Heritage Officer worked with the National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC) on the production of a new education animated video clip 'Which bee?'. This follows on from last year's joint animation 'Blooming Bees'. Both animations are available to watch on: <u>www.pollinators.ie or</u> <u>https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Arts-</u> <u>Heritage-Archives/Heritage/Natural-Heritage.</u>

Contact Deirdre Burns, Heritage Officer <u>dburns@wicklowcoco.ie T: 0404 20100 for more</u> <u>information</u>









## Funding Wicklow's Built Heritage

recent announcement from the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht confirms funding allocations for Wicklow County Council for 2020, through the Historic Structures Fund and Built Heritage Investment Schemes.

As in previous years, the Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS) and the Historic Structures Fund (HSF) will support the owners and custodians of protected structures in county Wicklow as they carry out small-scale, labour-intensive projects to repair and conserve our historic built environment. The projects will also provide vital support for local jobs in conservation, traditional skills and construction. A set funding allocation of €60,000 has been made for County Wicklow under the BHIS, which will be allocated to successful applicants on a match funding basis of 50%, with individual grants of between €2,500 and €15,000. There is also a new small scale allocation to fund routine maintenance. Grants under the HSF will be larger, with a focus on caring for and restoring historic structures and buildings for the benefit of communities and the public. There is no set allocation for County Wicklow under the HSF, but projects are invited under two streams. Stream 1 will offer grants from €15,000 up to €50,000 and Stream 2 will offer a small number of grants nationally from €50,000 up to €200,000. Application forms and further information about each of the schemes is available on www.wicklow.ie.

Applications may be made by post or e mail. The deadline for receipt of applications under both schemes is 31st January 2020. Multiple applications for the same structure under the BHIS and the HSF will not be considered. The Record of Protected Structures for Wicklow may be viewed at www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Arts-Heritage-Archives/Heritage/Built-Heritage. All queries to Planning Office on T: 0404 20148

### Projects supported under the BHIS and HSF in 2019

St. Mary & Peters Church, Arklow, and St. Saviours Church, Arklow were successful in receiving allocations of €20,000 each under the HSF in 2019. Other projects supported under the BHIS included Ballyarthur House, Davidstown Church, Hollywood Church (boundary walls), houses in Dunlavin and in Rathgorragh, West Wicklow.



## Wicklow County Council Energy Projects 2019

kicklow County Council continues to strive to achieve our statutory 33% Energy Efficiency target for 2020. In 2019, Wicklow County Councils Energy Team, through a SEAI E Better Energy Communities grant programme, successfully carried out a number of projects to help meet its challenging energy targets.



Over 50 individual projects took place, covering everything from lighting to insulation to Solar PhotoVoltaic panels at 11 Wicklow County Council sites and 6 Local Authority houses. The sites were: Bray Public Library Head Quarters, Bray Library Eglington Road, Greystones Depot, Greystones Civic Offices, Coral Leisure Centre Arklow, Coral Leisure Centre Wicklow, Clermont House, Bray Fire Station and Wicklow, Arklow & Bray Recycling Centres.

2030 targets are even more challenging, at 50% energy efficiency and 30% Greenhouse Gas reduction, so expect to see many more such programmes in the years ahead.



# EUROPEAN MOBILITY WEEK

uropean Mobility Week is an annual initiative that invites Local Authorities across Europe to arrange activities and events which promote and contribute to a shift towards sustainable urban transport.

Local Authorities are encouraged to use European Mobility Week to test new transport measures and provide feedback on the programme. This is an excellent opportunity for Wicklow County Council Staff to identify innovative solutions to reduce car use and resulting emissions and test new technologies or environmental measures.

Wicklow County Council identified and carried out several actions that were implemented during the Mobility week and participation by staff of Wicklow County Council was appreciated.

The event was used to promote sustainable modes of transport across the county

### 1. Provision of Shared cars for use of WCC staff

TWO Nissan Leaf Electric vehicles were available for use by staff at County Buildings. These vehicles were provided by GO CAR. The vehicles were used by staff for attendance of meetings or business trips and promoted alternative sustainable transport and demonstrated the driving experience/ benefits of electric vehicles for staff.



#### 2. Bikes

Staff were also encouraged to use their own bikes and choose a day per week to cycle to work. Bray MD & Arklow MD used bikes around the town for inspections etc.

#### 3. Electric Bikes

There were TWO E-BIKEs available at County Buildings over the course of the week. The SPORTS ROOM here in Wicklow Town come on board and kindly provided this facility. Again, the bikes were available for staff attending meetings or business trips around the town.



#### 4. Car Free Day

September 22nd was national car free day and Staff of Wicklow County Council were encouraged to share lifts, cycle, walk or use public transport to get to work. This element of car sharing was a great success.

#### 5. Schools

Wicklow County Council contacted all the schools in County Wicklow to join us in marking European Mobility Week. We requested their participation in celebrating a car free day and we chose to go with Wednesday the 18th of September as our day of action in County Wicklow. We chose Wednesday as this is a day many schools have used as part of their Green Schools WOW days (Walk on Wednesday). Participation on the day was by encouraging students to choose car free transport for their commute to school for that day. Students have options to explore many ways to get to school. They can walk (WOW), cycle (COW), Scoot (SOW), bus, carpool, or park n stride. Each school will have different local circumstances and can choose the best options to promote, given their location and transport links. On the day Wicklow County Council also requested school staff to participate.



# Fifty-Five New Homes in Arklow

ifty-five new homes were opened in two new developments by Wicklow County Council in Arklow in October. The official openings were performed by the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government, Mr Eoghan Murphy TD, while Olympic Gold Medallist Ronnie Delany was present at one scheme named in his honour.

Heatherside is a 38-house development of energy efficient, 2, 3- and 4-bedroom homes while Delany Park is a 17-house scheme of energy efficient, 2- and 3-bedroom homes.

Speaking at the event, the Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Cllr Irene Winters, said it was one of many official openings that will take place over the coming months and years as the Council vigorously progresses its development programme under the Rebuilding Ireland banner.

Mr Frank Curran, Chief Executive, Wicklow County Council, joined in the welcome to Ronnie Delany who won Gold for Ireland in the 1500 metres at the Summer Olympics in Melbourne in 1956. The Delany Park homes, he added, were located close to the town centre within safe and easy walking distance to shops, schools and parks. The new estate has been laid out in keeping with the adjacent Meadow Vale estate to give the development a sense of an integrated community.

Mr Curran said that over the course of the next two years, the Council's programme was expected to deliver newly constructed homes for more than 400 households on the Council's social housing list. The Council currently has 18 projects at various stages of construction and tendering, with funding of over €58m already sanctioned by the Department. A further 16 Schemes are under active consideration with a potential yield for a further 260 units by 2021.

















### Part 8 - 36 Houses, Greenhill Road, Wicklow Town

In accordance with provisions of PART XI of the Planning Acts 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations (as amended), notice is hereby given that Wicklow County Council proposes:

To construct 36 no. houses and all associated works at Greenhill Road, Wicklow, Co. Wicklow (Townland of Corporation Lands). The accommodation shall consist of the following:

- 12 no. 2 bed houses (two storey)
- 24 no. 3 bed houses (two storey)

In accordance with Article 81 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2018, Wicklow County Council had concluded from a preliminary examination pursuant to the provisions of article 120(1)(b)(i) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2018 that there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development and that an Environmental Impact Assessment is not required.

Where any person considers that the proposed development would be likely to have significant effects on the environment, he or she may, at any time before the expiration of 4 weeks beginning on the date of publication of this notice, apply in accordance with the provisions of Article 120 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2018, to An Bord Pleanála for a screening determination as to whether the development would be likely to have such effects.



Plans and particulars of the proposed development may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the Housing Authority at Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Wicklow and Wicklow Municipal District Office, Town Hall, Market Square, Wicklow, Co. Wicklow, during opening hours from 9.00 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. Monday to Friday excluding Bank Holidays, for a period between Wednesday 27th November 2019 to Friday 3rd January 2020.

Submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development dealing with the proper planning and sustainable developments of the area in which the developments would be situated may be made in writing to the Administrative Officer, Housing Section of Wicklow County Council on or before 12 noon Monday 20th January 2020. Submissions may also be made by email via the following address: part8@wicklowcoco.ie or online at www.wicklow.ie/Living/ConsultationHub



### Arklow becomes County Wicklow's 1<sup>st</sup> Age Friendly Town

n the 13th November Arklow became County Wicklow's first Age friendly town. In order to achieve this status, there was a commitment to action items from the walkability survey which took place, and these actions included new age friendly car spaces, extra pedestrian crossings and new age friendly benches (with backs and arm rests).

WICKLOW

AGE FRIENDLY

Forty-one businesses signed commitments to be more Age Friendly and each noted three actions which they would take to be more age friendly. Several consultations took place with some of the older people and the results complied into a report which was presented to the Arklow Municipal District Council meeting on the 13th November. Age friendly circus workshops took place in Arklow to mark the occasion and to show how it is never too late to learn a new skill. The journey to an Age Friendly Wicklow has begun so here's to an exciting new chapter of Age Friendly in Wicklow.











### **1<sup>st</sup> Youth Representative to sit on** a Strategic Policy Committee



Rhona Lennox has become the first young representative to sit on a Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) in Ireland. Rhona is the Comhairle na nÓg representative on the Climate and Biodiversity SPC in Wicklow County Council. Big thanks to Chairperson Councillor Jennifer Whitmore, SPC Chairperson, and the members of the SPC who made Rhona feel very welcome at the inaugural meeting of the committee. Rhona will ensure that youth voices are heard in the debate.

### Dail na nÓg 2019



icklow Comhairle were well represented at Dáil na nÓg which took place in Leinster House on the 23rd November 2019. It was held in Leinster House as a tribute to mark 100 years of democracy.

The five Wicklow representatives contributed in the chamber, in committee, and in a final vote to decide the priority topic for the incoming National Executive which includes our own Imogen Horton. They will work on Transport in the context of Climate action for the next two years.





**Celtic Routes Project to boost Tourism** links between Ireland and Wales

Wicklow, Wexford and Waterford to Partner with three Welsh Councils

together local authorities in Wicklow, Wexford and Waterford with colleagues in Carmarthenshire, Pembrokeshire and Ceredigion in Wales was launched in late November.

The Celtic Routes project aims to encourage visitors to explore new areas of South East Ireland and West Wales en route to their final tourist destination.

It hopes to transform less well-known areas from transit zones to new touring sites, increasing the time visitors spend in these regions and capitalising on the opportunities to boost local economies.

The project – which was launched recently in Wales – has been developed through customer research, trade events and workshops as well as cross border visits by businesses in Ireland and Wales to bring together expertise and ideas.

n exciting international project which brings The objective is to increase the visitor appeal of the targeted areas, including through the development of new trails linking local culture, heritage and the natural environment. The Celtic Routes project will run until December 2020.

> The underlying aim of the Celtic Routes project was to convert potential visitors transiting through our cities into staying visitors. Another objective was to increase sustainable economic developments by maximising visitor spend, income retention, adding value to the combined tourism offerings within the region through a tailored marketing and promotional campaign for both visitors and tourism providers, supported by the three Local Authorities.

> Further information can be found on: www.celticroutes.irish



Ceredigion









### N11/M11 Junction 4 to Junction 14 Improvement Scheme Public Consultation #2 | November 2019 Information Brochure



### Introduction

Wicklow County Council in conjunction with Dún Laoghaire – Rathdown County Council are progressing the development of the N11/M11 Junction 4 to Junction 14 Improvement Scheme. The project is being managed by Kildare National Roads Office with Arup appointed as lead consultant to advance the project through the planning and design process. The N11/M11 Scheme proposes to alleviate congestion and improve safety, journey time reliability and the strategic function of the N11/M11 corridor.

The N11/M11 national road is the primary artery connecting Dublin to the south east of the country. The section under consideration for this commission is approximately 22km long and extends from the M11/ M50 junction (J4) to the N11/M11 junction at Coyne's Cross (J14)

### **Progress to Date**

Following the Public Information Day in December 2018, an initial Study Area for the N11/M11 Scheme was firstly defined. The study area is a boundary within which key scheme constraints are identified and appropriate options are examined and developed. A comprehensive Constraints Study has since been undertaken in order to identify the nature and extent of constraints within the defined study area. The Constraints Study seeks to identify the issues of international, national, regional and local importance which must be considered when planning and designing the scheme so that the phases which follow (Options Selection and Environmental Evaluation) can be properly informed. The constraints gathering exercise has comprised of a desktop study, with the extent and nature of certain constraints verified by means of windshield or walkover field surveys. These constraints are documented and mapped on the posters displayed at this Public Consultation and are used to inform the development of feasible options for the scheme.

The Public are invited to inform the Project Team of any additional constraints which should be considered.

Following extensive multidisciplinary environmental surveys, traffic data collection and stakeholder engagement throughout 2019, a number of **Feasible Transportation Solutions** have been identified.

### What's Happening Now?

The N11/M11 Scheme is currently at Phase 2 – Options Selection. Phase 2 involves the examination of alternative options, the identification of key constraints, the development of feasible options and the systematic assessment of these options leading to the selection of a preferred option. The feasible transportation options identified for the N11/M11 Scheme include a range of possible public transport, demand management and road upgrade components. These components may be provided independently or in combination with each other depending on the outcome of further studies.

A number of feasible corridors have been identified to date, within which the transportation options will be developed in further detail. The corridor options are presented on the next page of this brochure. The 7 corridors are colour coded, with the red corridor centred along the existing N11/M11 for the full length of the scheme.

A number of shorter offline corridors have been developed along certain sections of the scheme – these are coloured yellow, green, blue, cyan, orange and pink. The offline corridors have been developed in response to specific deficiencies or constraints along the existing N11/M11 at particular locations, such that an offline section may be preferable to re-using the existing road at that location. At the northern end of the scheme (Points A – B) and the southern end of the scheme (Points J – K), the online red corridor is considered preferred as no alternative has been identified to better meet the project objectives.

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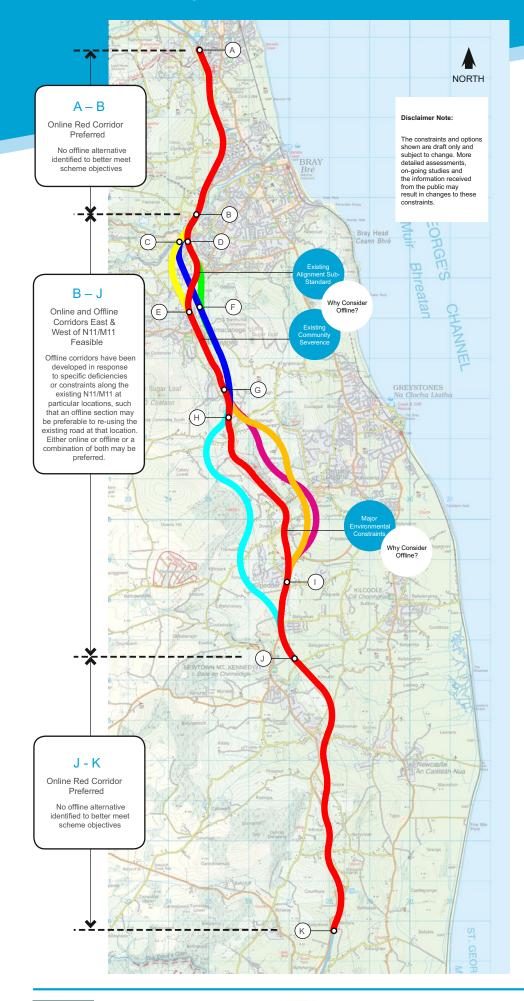








#### **Possible Corridor Options**





#### Red Corridor (Online):

The Red Corridor commences at point A at M11 Junction 4 / M50 Junction 17. This cor-ridor then follows along the line of the existing M11 Motorway and N11 Dual Carriageway all the way to point K at Junction 14 (Coyne's Cross)

#### Yellow Corridor (Offline):

The Yellow Corridor is a short offline corridor of approximately 2.7km in length, commencing at point B immediately south of Junction 6 (Bray / Fassaroe) and moving offline to the west of the existing N11 before re-joining the existing N11 at point E, close to Jameson's Corner to the north of Kilmacanoge.

Blue Corridor (Offline): The Blue Corridor is an offline corridor of approximately 5.3km in length, commencing at point B immediately south of Junction 6 (Bray / Fassaroe). From here, the corridor moves offline to the west of the existing N11 as far as point C, before moving south and crossing the existing N11 to the south of Junction 7 (Bray South). The corridor then continues along a line east of and parallel to the existing N11, bypassing Kilmacanoge, before re-joining the existing N11 at point H just north of Junction 9 (Glenview).

#### Green Corridor (Offline):

The Green Corridor is a short offline corridor of approximately 1.6km in length, commencing at point D to the north of existing Junction 7 (Bray South) before moving offline on a straight alignment to the east of the existing N11 and then turning west and connecting with the Blue Corridor at point F.

Pink Corridor (Offline): The Pink Corridor is an offline corridor of approximately 5.8km in length, commencing at point G to the north of Junction 9 (Glenview), before moving offline to the east of the existing N11. Moving south, the corridor passes to the east of the Glen of the Downs and crosses the existing R762 to the west of Delgany. The cor ridor then turns west and re-ioins the existing N11 at point I just to the south of Junction 11 (Kilpedder).

#### Orange Corridor (Offline):

The Orange Corridor is an offline corridor of approximately 5.8km in length, commencing at point G to the north of Junction 9 (Glen view), before moving offline to the east of the existing N11. The corridor is an alternative to the pink corridor, moving further to the east at the northern end of the Glen of the Downs before crossing the existing R762 to the west of Delgany and also re-joining the existing N11 at point I just to the south of Junction 11 (Kilpedder).

#### Cyan Corridor (Offline):

nro

The Cyan Corridor is an offline corridor of approximately 7.9km in length, commencing at point G to the north of Junction 9 (Glenview), before moving offline to the west of the existing N11. Moving south, the corridor passes to the west of the Glen of the Downs and to the west of Kilpedder village, before re-joining the existing N11 at point J at Junction 12 (New townmountkennedy).



An Roine Iompair, Turasoireachta agus Spóirn Department of Transport, Toasian and Sport

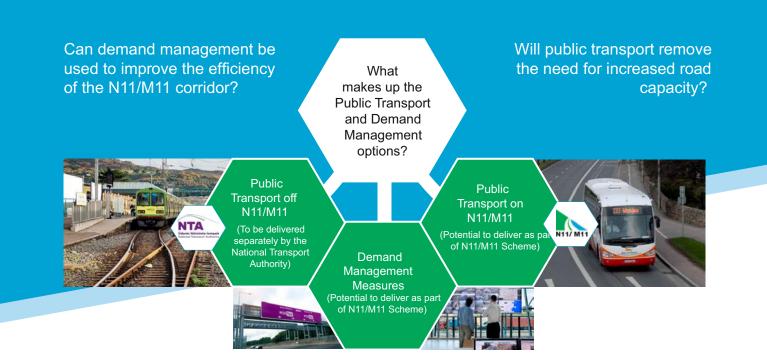




TIV

ARUP

### Why consider Public Transport / Demand Management?



### What happens next

- Following this Public Consultation, the questions and submissions received from the public will be processed and incorporated into the options selection study.
- Options will be reviewed and revised where necessary
- An Emerging Preferred Option will be identified and displayed at a future public consultation.

#### How to Make a Submission

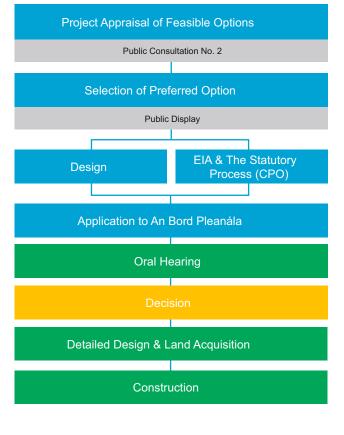
A Comment Sheet accompanies this information brochure. The comment sheet can also be downloaded from the project website: www.n11m11.com

Comment Sheets can be returned via email to **n11m11@arup.com** or via post to the following address:

#### **Public Liaison Officer**

Wicklow County Council County Buildings Whitegates Wicklow Town A76 FW96

#### N11/M11 Scheme Roadmap



Website: www.N11M11.ie

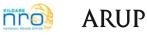




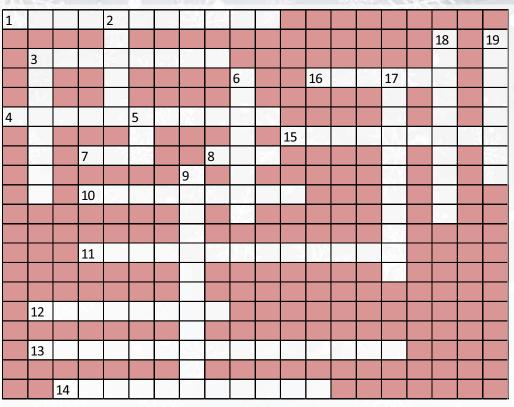




TIV



**Crosfhocal** Tír Eolais Chill Mhantáin



### Trasna

- 1 An tsliabh is airde I gCúige Laighean!
- 3 Sráidbhaile beag cóngarach do Bhaile Coimín
- 4 Tógadh damba ar an Life ann I 1942
- **7** Bóthar mór in Oirthear Chill Mhantáin le comharthaí gorm seachas glas!

8 - Baile is mó sa chontae

**10** - Tá Bealach Conglais ar bhruach na habhainn seo!

- **11** Cuan agus longchearta cáíliúil sa bhaile seo.
- **12** Sliabh ar an teorain idir Loch Garman agus Cill Mhantáin
- 13 Déantar an clár teilifíse "Glenroe" anseo.
- **14** Bíonn seó mór talmhaíochta anseo gach bhlian

**15** - Bhí Dinny, Miley agus Biddy ina gcónaí sa sráídbhaile seo!

**16** - Sráidbhaile beag cóngarach do Ghleann O Mail

### Síos

- 2 Ballykissangel mar a deirfeá!
- **3** An sráidbhaile is airde in Eirinn
- **5** Bóthar mór in Iarthar an Chontae
- **6** Ceann ceathrú an Chumann Lúthchleas Ghael I gCill Mhantáin
- 9 Thóg Naomh Chaoimhín mainistir anseo.
- 17 Ceann scríbe an bhus uimhir 44
- 18 Abhainn I Tuaisceart an Chontae
- **19** Tá na dathanna chéana ag peileadóirí an sraidbhaile seo agus ag Co Mhaigh Eo.

Bua €50 dearbhán leabhar. Chur d'iontráil in éineacht le do ainm agus seoladh go Countywise Competition, Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Station Road, Wicklow Town, Co. Wicklow faoi De hAoine, 9ú la d'Eanáir.

Carúl Nollag

### **Oíche Chiúin**

Oíche chiúin, oíche Mhic Dé, Cách 'na suan dís araon, Dís is dílse 'faire le spéis Naoín beag gnaoigheal ceananntais caomh

Críost, 'na chodhladh go séimh. Críost, 'na chodhladh go séimh.

Oíche chiúin, oíche Mhic Dé, Aoirí ar dtús chuala 'n scéal; Allelúia aingeal ag glaoch. Cantain suairc i ngar is i gcéin

Críost an Slánaitheoir Féin Críost an Slánaitheoir Féin

Oíche chiúin, oíche Mhic Dé, Cách 'na suan dís araon, Dís is dílse 'faire le spéis Naoín beag gnaoigheal ceananntais caomh

Críost, 'na chodhladh go séimh. Críost, 'na chodhladh go séimh.

### **Rudolf an Fia Rua**

Rudolf an fia rua, Bhí loinnir ar a shrón chomh maith, Agus dá bhfeicfeá ariamh é, Déarfá linn go raibh sé geal.

Bhíodh na fianna eile, Ag gáire is ag magadh faoi. Ní ligeadh siad ariamh do Rudolf, Páirt a ghlacadh i gcluichí. Oíche Nollag cheomhar bhán, Tháinig San Níoclás. "Rudolf le do shrón gheal ghlé, An rachaidh tú os comhair mo shlé?"

Bhí grá ag na fianna eile dó, Is bhéic siad amach os ard, "Rudolf an fia rua, Nach ortsa bhéas an clú is cáil.



Happy Christmas to you Happy Christmas to you Christmas Greetings (Season's Greetings Prosperous New Year (Happy New Year to you

Do you speak Irish? Where is the meeting? Where did you leave the file? Where did you get the documents? Who signed it? From whom did you get the letter? With whom were you discussing it? How did you get on? How long will the meeting be on? How important / urgent is it? We got a letter stating that.. Keep us informed about..... I would like to confirm that.... DO you know when it will be done? Let us have your observations please A couple of members expressed that opinion at the meeting

We will have to consider the recommendations

Nollaig shona duit Nollaig shona daoibh Beannachtaí na Nollag Beannachtaí an tSéasúir Athbhliain faoi mhaise duit Bliain úr faoi shéan is faoi mhaise duit

Comhfreagras trí Ghaeilge

> An bhfuil Gaeilge agat? Cá bhfuil an cruinniú? Cá fhág tú an comhad? Cá bhfuair tú na doiciméid? Cé a shínigh é? Cé uaidh a fuair tú an litir? Cé leis a raibh tú á phlé? Conas a d'éirigh leat? Cá fhad a bheih an cruiniú ar siúl? Cé chomh tábhachtach / práinneach is atá sé? Fuaireamar litir a rá go /ur..... Coinnigh ar an eolas sinn / muid faoi.... Ba mhaith liom a dheimhniú go / gur.. An bhfuil a fhios agat cathain a dhéanfar é? Cuir do chuid tuairimí in iúl dúinn le do thoil Nocht cúpla ball an tuairim sin ag an gcruinniú

Beidh orainn na moltaí a bhreithniú



### **Contact Wicklow County Council...**

	Telephone	Fax	Email	
General enquiries	0404 20100	0404 67792		
Arklow Municipal District	0402 42700		ArklowMD@wicklowcoco.ie	H
Baltinglass Municipal District - Blessington	045 891222	045 865813	BaltinglassMD@wicklowcoco.ie	
- Tinahely Bray Municipal District	0402 38174 01 2744900	01 2860930	BrayMD@wicklowcoco.ie	www
Greystones Municipal District Wicklow Municipal District	01 2876694 0404 20100	01 2877173	GreystonesMD@wicklowcoco.ie WicklowMD@wicklowcoco.ie	
Arklow Recycling Centre	0402 32759		eao@wicklowcoco.ie	
Avoca Recycling Centre	087 2288132		eao@wicklowcoco.ie	@wic
Bray Recycling Centre Rampere Landfill and	01 2116666		eao@wicklowcoco.ie	work
Recycling Services Baltinglass	059 6481677		eao@wicklowcoco.ie	
Wicklow Recycling Centre	0404 64120 (LoCall 1890 222 276)		eao@wicklowcoco.ie	ag o
Arts Office	0404 20155		wao@wicklowcoco.ie	Workpla
Civil Defence	0404 67402	0404 67294		
Community, Cultural & Social	0404 20208	0404 20113	dce@wicklowcoco.ie	
Enterprise & Corporate Services Environmental Services	0404 20158 0404 20236	0404 20112	corporate@wicklowcoco.ie env@wicklowcoco.ie	
Litter Line	(Lo Call 1890 548 837)	0404 67792		WIC
Environmental Awareness Officer			eao@wicklowcoco.ie	ENDLESS
Fire Services - HQ Fire Prevention				This r
& Administration	01 2862929	01 2861535	firehead@wicklowcoco.ie	produ
Freedom of Information	0404 20158	0404 20112		by W
Heritage Officer	0404 20191	0404 67792	dburns@wicklowcoco.ie	Co
Housing & Corporate Estate	0404 20120	0404 67792		
Law Agents	0404 20122	0404 20144	lawagents@wicklowcoco.ie	
Local Enterprise Office	0404 30800		enterprise@leo.wicklowcoco.ie	
Local Sports Partnership	0404 20100		ahubbard@wicklowcoco.ie	Lib
Motor Tax - Wicklow	0404 20118	0404 20293	motortax@wicklowcoco.ie	
	(Lo Call 1890 333 339)		-	
Motor Tax - Bray	01 2744900 <sup>(</sup>	01 2744955	motortax@wicklowcoco.ie	County
Motor Tax - Blessington	045 858031	045 891248	motortax@wicklowcoco.ie	Headqu
Planning	0404 20148	0404 69462	plandev@wicklowcoco.ie	Tel: 01
Register of Electors	0404 20161	0404 20112	franchise@wicklowcoco.ie	Fax: 01
Revenue	0404 20128	0404 20140	finoff@wicklowcoco.ie	library@
Roads & Transportation	0404 20181	0404 20101	roadtran@wicklowcoco.ie	
Wicklow Family History	0404 20126	0404 67792	wfh@eircom.net	• Arklo
Wicklow Film Commission	0404 30800		wfc@wicklowcoco.ie	0402

### **Out of Hours Calls Service**

Wicklow County Council has put in place an out of hours call service to deal with calls which are considered to be of an emergency nature and require immediate assistance outside of the normal office hours i.e. 9.00am to 5.00pm.

The service is provided between the hours of 5.00pm and 9.00am, Monday to Friday and all day Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays.

Calls relating to:

- Public Water or Sewerage matters; callers will be advised to call Irish Water directly on 1850 278278.
- For all other Council Services please phone the Wicklow County Council out of hours emergency service at **01 2916117**.
- For emergency services such at Fire Service, Ambulance or Gardai etc callers are advised to ring **112 or 999** directly.



- Aughrim
- 0 0402 36036
- Ballywaltrim
- 01 2723205
- Bray Eglington Rd. 01 2862600
- 0 Baltinglass 059 6482300
- Blessington 045 891740
- Carnew 053 9426088
- Dunlavin
- 045 401100
- 0 Enniskerry 01 2864339
- Greystones
- 01 2873548 Rathdrum
- 0404 43232 0 Tinahelv
- 0402 38080 0 Wicklow
  - 0404 67025