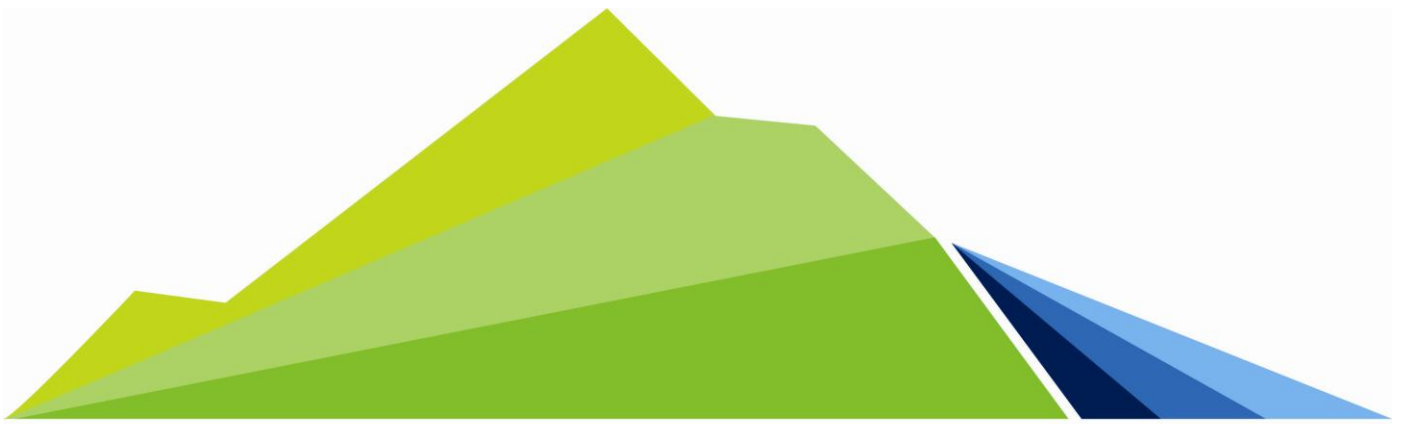


February 2018



Wicklow County Council Chief Executive's Report



W I C K L O W

ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES



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This Month:

Official Opening of Baltinglass Skate Park, Rathdangan Playground, Knockanna Multi-use Games Area and Carnew Playground – Minister Michael Ring and Minister Simon Harris in attendance

Wicklow Council Council approved Part 8 planning for 47 units at Delaney Park, Arklow and 24 units at Farrankelly, Greystones

Contract signed for 7 Housing Units at the Old Library Site, Arklow

The Arklow and Environs Local Plan was adopted by Wicklow County Council



HOUSING AND COMMUNITY

1. Social Housing Support

No. on list for Social Housing Support – (includes RAS and HAP)	3630
No. availing of Rental Assistance Scheme (RAS)	487 as at 01/01/2018
No. availing of Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)	467
No. in Long Term Leasing accommodation	7
No. in Short Term Leasing accommodation	9

2. Allocation of Social Housing

WCC Social Housing	3
Approved Housing Bodies	1

3. Social Housing Stock

- › 4340 tenancies occupied
- › Casual Vacancies/Relets 40
- › Total weekly rental accrual €240,573 (€12.5m per annum)
- › Minimum rent €24 pw - Maximum rent €275 pw
- › Arrears €940,903.87

4. Housing Supply – Programme of Delivery

12 schemes approved €35,500,000

Scheme	Units	Current status
Brewery Bends, Rathdrum (Phase 2)	20	Commenced
Delany Park, Arklow (Phase 1)	17	Commenced November 2017
Kilbride Lane, Bray (Murphy's Lands)	42	Tender out 3 rd November 2017
Farrankelly, Greystones (Phase 2)	24	Part 8 approved January meeting.
O'Byrne Road, Bray	1	Commencing 27 th November 2017
Delany Park, Arklow (Phase 2 + 3)	47	Part 8 approved at February meeting.
Sugarloaf View, Kilmacanogue	20	Part 8 adopted – proceeding to tender stage
FCA Hall, Wicklow Town	8	Detailed design being prepared
Kilmantin Place, Bray	4	Detailed design being prepared
Ard Na Mara, Kilcoole	2	Detailed design being prepared
Druids Brook, Kilcoole	2	Detailed design being prepared
Old Library, Arklow	7	Contracts signed Feb.18

5. Part V

1 unit purchased and allocated

2018

- 4 units purchased January 2018
- 2 units - Agreement reached.
- 3 units DOE approval received.
- 5 units with SCHEP for CALF approval.

› Potential units

- Negotiations ongoing with a number of developers at preplanning and planning stage
- › 98 units approved, planning granted
- › 192 at pre planning stage

6. PPP Social Housing Project

[Bundle 1)

Development Site at Convent Lands, Wicklow. The Department of Housing has dedicated €300 million towards delivery of housing through the public,



private partnership model in the Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan. Wicklow has been included as a project in Bundle 1. The Part 8 was passed by the members at the Council Meeting of 3rd July 2017.

7. Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs)

Capital Advance Leasing Facility (CALF) - 5 units were provided under a CALF lease to Co-operative Housing on the Greenpark Road in Bray.

Approval has been received from the Department of Housing, Planning Community and Local Government for a leasing arrangement with Cluid to provide 45 units of accommodation on the Council's site at St. Earnan's View, Ballybeg, Rathnew. Estimated delivery date of these units is quarter 3 2019.

Expressions of Interest – Social Housing on Council lands - A preferred proposal has been identified.

8. Housing Schemes Remediation

Glending, Blessington – Remediation

Stage 2 and Stage 3 Phase 3A – No 1 to No. 12 Glending Road has been completed.

› *Stage 3 Phase 3B – No. 1 to No. 10 Glending Square and No. 1 to No. 4 Glending Way – Contract commenced on 3rd January 2018 on 1 - 4 Glending Square, with internal remediation works substantially complete. Internal works to 6 – 8 Glending Square ongoing with works programmed to commence on 1 – 4 Glending Way over the coming weeks. External works to commence early March as weather allows.*

Decanting of the remaining properties is currently underway.

Parknasilloge, Enniskerry - Remediation

Remediation works completed. Legal proceedings have been settled subject to a court order.

Hillview, Wicklow - Remediation

Roofing contract completed and contractor off site. Refurbishment works to "B Types" 12 of 14 completed, 1 more almost completed but being kept for site storage and final house to start soon when tenant is decanted. Bridge works to "F Types" and ceiling repairs to "C and F Types" as before at 30% and 20% respectively.

9. Home Improvement/Adaptation

Mobility Aid Grants/Housing Adaption Grants/Housing Aid for Older People

- › Grant funding for private houses - €1.1M
- › Grant funding for social houses - €650,000

35 Open Applications to value of €563,267

Housing Assistance for Older People - (9) € 42,821
Mobility Aid Grants - (7) € 35,446
Housing Adaptation Grants - (19) €485,000

Approved

- › 58 Mobility Aid Grants €311,590
- › 23 Housing Adaption Grants €366,888
- › 50 Housing Aid for Older People €283,239

House Purchase Loans

- › 69 applications
- › 10 granted
- › 7 pending
- › 52 declined

2016 Incremental Tenant Purchase Scheme

- › 143 applications to date
- › 92 offers to purchase to date
- › 15 sales completed

10. Addressing Homelessness

No of presentations to date: 31/01/2018

22 individuals (16 male and 6 female)
21 Families
20 Adults and 30 dependent children.

No in emergency accommodation :-

Private Providers:

1 Individual – male.
2 Families - 7 adults – 10 children.

Emergency Accommodation – Council Houses

Families – 4
Adults - 6 Children -15

B & B Accommodation

Families – 3
Adults – 4 Children 9
3 single adults.



Serviced Units

1 family
2 adults 2 children.

Cold Weather Initiative on night of 31st January 2018 – 8 Adults -6 male and 2 female.

Sonass Facility, Wicklow – 6 Adult Female & 10 children.

Wicklow County Council owned properties in Wicklow, Bray and Arklow, leased to AHBs, provide 22 units of low to medium supported accommodation targeted to the particular support needs of the clients.

11. Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP):

The negotiated process in relation to Co. Wicklow's two SICAP tender applications remains ongoing. As reported on last month, the LCDC has contracted consultants to support the two Partnerships involved – Bray Area Partnership and Co. Wicklow Partnership – with the process of submitting new tender applications. Final submission date is 2nd March 2018.

12. Wicklow Library Service

“Healthy Ireland in your Library”

The aim of this national initiative is to encourage people to engage in a healthier and more active lifestyle which in turn has a positive impact on mental health. The activities organised by Wicklow County Council Library Service, to date, combine both physical and meditative workshops and are supported by new book stock purchased under this initiative.

- Wicklow library - “Active Ageing” – in association with Wicklow Local Sports Partnership + talks on “Healthy Eating” & “Walking in Wicklow”
- Bray library – “Soundbath Sessions”
- Enniskerry library – “Introduction to Mindfulness”

Wicklow Library & Archives

Applications from architects to lead the programme for the development of the new Wicklow library and Archives have now been assessed. The stand still period has been observed and Wicklow county

Council intends to appoint the lead architect to this project.

13. Local Sports Partnership

Inclusive Sport and Physical Activity Workshops:

Wicklow Sports Partnership, in conjunction with the disability federation of Ireland, are holding a series of workshops around the county to assess the current access needs to physical activity and sport for people with disabilities. Those interested in making their sports clubs more inclusive and anyone with a disability or with a child with a disability are invited to attend. These workshops will inform requirements for future plans and any current issues there are around physical activity in Wicklow.

The workshops will take place as outlined below;

- 21st Feb – Glenview, Delgany
- 27th Feb – Arklow Bay Hotel
- 1st March – Coimín Centre, Blessington

Healthy Ireland Programmes Schedule:

The first ‘Buggy Fit’ programme as part of the Healthy Ireland Schedule began in Baltinglass on 27th Feb being facilitated by Ruth Kavanagh for 12 weeks. This exercise programme is for mothers to bring their children along to and is at a cost of €2 per person. The remaining Healthy Ireland Programmes will roll out in March.

Wicklow Sports Partnership hosted a “Get Wicklow Walking” talk in Wicklow Town library on 14th of Feb.

Avondale Parkrun

Public meeting & information night - The Corner House, Rathdrum on 26th February about beginning Avondale Parkrun.

Primary School Programmes

Dance

Primary schools dance programme is ongoing in the following schools:

- Carnew NS
- Carysfort NS
- Baltinglass NS
- Jonathan Swift NS, Dunlavin

February 2018



The aim of this programme is to target young classes in primary schools and using dance, to aid the motor skill development of the children.

Tug of War

Our primary schools tug-of-war programme has begun again with Carysfort NS, Arklow on 23rd February.

One Million Step Challenge

The Sports Partnerships One Million Step Challenge took place in the following schools in February:

- Brittas Bay NS
- Bray School Project

- Wicklow Educate Together
- The Glebe NS, Wicklow Town

New Recreation Facilities

- Four new recreation facilities were officially opened in February 2018:
- 14th February 2018 - Baltinglass Skate park, Rathdangan Playground and Knockananna Multi Use Games Area
- 23rd February 2018 - Carnew playground

Training & Education:

Fundamentals Ladies Football course and the beginning of Gaelic for Teens - Roundwood GAA on 27th February.

Course	Date	No	location
Safeguarding 2	05/02/2018	15	Glenview Hotel, Wicklow
Safeguarding 1	06/02/2018	12	Rathnew GAA
Safeguarding 1	12/02/2018	12	Glenview Hotel, Wicklow
Safeguarding 1	15/02/2018	15	Avoca Camogie
Safeguarding 1	20/02/2018		Wicklow Tennis Club
Safeguarding 1	22/02/2018		Bray Emmets GAA
Safeguarding 1	28/02/2018		Grand Hotel, Wicklow

14. Comhairle na nÓg

- Comhairle have been busy at the launch of the “safer internet day” in the Parkview where they launched their cyber bullying charter. They visited the Oireachtas and appeared on the RTE news. They visited Leinster house on the 21st February 2018

15. Older Person’s Council (OPC)

- Planning for the National convention of Older Persons Councils in November 2018 is ongoing.
- The OPD are currently working towards the older person’s directory which they hope to launch at the AGM in the Brockagh Centre in May of this year.

16. Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) (Community)

LCDC

The LCDC last met on 16th January 2018.

LECP

The Advisory Group is continuing to monitor the implementation of the LECP, both the community and the economic actions, and to ensure the integration of economic and community actions. Update on Community Actions:



LECP Update Summary

Goal	Actions		
<p>Goal 1: Develop Community Capacity in disadvantaged communities and engage in urban regeneration and rural development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Build capacity and social capital across all communities - Maximise opportunities for urban regeneration and rural development 	<p>Town & Village 2016</p>	<p>Rathdrum Kilcoole Shillelagh Wicklow Carnew Rathdangan</p>	<p>Complete Complete 80% complete 90% Complete Complete Complete</p>
	<p>2017</p>	<p>Baltinglass Ballinaclesh Rathnew Blessington</p>	<p>Project underway 80% complete Project underway Project underway</p>
	<p>Rural Regeneration Schemes 2018</p>	<p>Countywide</p>	<p>Information sessions held for 2018 applications. 85 potential projects received.</p> <p>Suite of schemes to be announced in March (CLAR) and April (Town & Village; Outdoor Recreation)2018</p>
<p>Goal 2: Promote active citizenship underpinned by good governance and participation in decision making</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop strong representative fora in the county 	<p>Ongoing support for:</p> <p>PPN Comhairle na nÓg Co. Wicklow Older Persons Council Wicklow Disability Access Action Group</p>		
<p>Goal 3: Develop high quality integrated services available to all communities, in particular disadvantaged communities and vulnerable groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The LCDC will provide the strategic direction for the integration of existing services - The LCDC will provide representation for additional services and resources where gaps are identified or where new issues arise 	<p>Connecting for Life: Suicide Prevention Strategy for West Wicklow/Kildare - launched on 21st February 2018</p> <p>Healthy Ireland plan for Wicklow is on target. Projects are underway. The development of a strategy for Healthy Wicklow will to begin in March 2018</p>		
<p>Goal 4: A vibrant and innovative community and social enterprise sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish a strong social & community enterprise sector in the county 	<p>Consultant appointed to:</p> <p>Map social enterprise in the county Outline steps to develop the sector Identify supports needed for start-ups and up scaling stages</p>		



Economic Development, Planning and Infrastructure

1. Wicklow Economic Think Tank

(CWETT) Action Plan/Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) (Economic)

The Economic Development Unit of the Enterprise and Corporate Services Directorate is charged with implementing the economic actions in the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP). Many of the 142 actions listed in the LECP have come from the County Wicklow Economic Think Tank (CWETT) Action Plan. The CWETT which was initiated in 2013 was a collaborative project initiated by Wicklow County Council and involved the business community from across the county and the County Enterprise Board (now LEO Wicklow).

BRAND

During the research phase of the County Wicklow Economic Think Tank the committee ran a public engagement campaign entitled *What's the Big Idea?* The Campaign was designed to identify strategic priorities for County Wicklow. One such priority that emerged as the result of public engagement was to build a strong brand for County Wicklow.

The Think Tank Action Plan proposed that the brand should encapsulate what County Wicklow has to offer across multiple dimensions including business potential, investment potential, tourism, lifestyle and commerce.

It was further recommended that Wicklow.ie be redeveloped as a web portal and that together the new brand and the new web portal would project a fresh image and would take account of the way younger generations consume data.

Following a procurement process, Brando was engaged to develop the new brand. Brando considered the results of the surveys carried out as part of the *What's the Big Idea* Campaign, engaged with the CWETT Marketing and Communications Group and carried out focus groups and independent research. They developed the brand model based on the needs of the community, business and visitors and came up with the brand line "*Endless Opportunities*". The brand promise being that Wicklow offers you every opportunity to be what you want to be and to achieve what you want to achieve. The brand promise is supported by the logo representing the Sugarloaf and the sea.

A number of versions of the logo have been

developed for use with and without the tagline and "As Gaeilge" as "Deiseanna Sioraí".

The brand is being rolled out gradually on Council stationery and signage and will be launched in the coming weeks in conjunction with the Wicklow.ie web portal.

FILM

Wicklow County Council continues to liaise with local service providers and state agencies with regard to the development of the film industry in County Wicklow. The development of Wicklow County Campus as a Content Creation hub, with possible funding from the Regional Enterprise Development fund, is being explored.

RETAIL

The Florentine Centre

The drafting of the contract with Navybrook, the successful bidder for the Florentine development, is progressing and is expected to be signed once the respective legal teams have finalised details.

It is anticipated that that development will commence in quarter 2, 2018. The intention is to have the development available for December 2019.

Retail – Other

Reports from Retail Excellence Ireland would indicate that the move towards online purchasing continues. Wicklow County Council via the Local Enterprise Office offers support and training for retailers wishing to sell goods online, it is vitally important that local retailers have a digital "shop window".

Wicklow County Council is working with the town teams to identify ways in which retail in the county can be improved and enhanced. Various projects for consideration include shop-front schemes and targeted rates support.

In 2018 it is intended to further expand the Age Friendly Business Recognition programme for County Wicklow businesses in the retail and hospitality sectors by developing Arklow as an Age Friendly Town.



TOWN TEAMS

Town Teams have been established in Bray, Arklow, Greystones and Wicklow. A key objective of the Town Team initiative is to encourage more collaboration, communication and cooperation between the Local Authority, business and the wider community and to develop one voice from one team for each town.

Wicklow County Council is working with the Town Teams to develop one or more digital hubs within the County in 2018.

Town Teams will be established in Rathdrum and Blessington in 2018. *An initial meeting was held in Blessington on 30th January to discuss the feasibility of establishing a Town Team.*

WEB PORTAL PROJECT:

The web-portal project is due to "Go Live" during week commencing 5th March. It is proposed to launch the portal and the Wicklow Brand shortly thereafter

TOURISM

Tourism Statement of Strategy and Work plan 2017-2022:

Following a tendering process Wicklow County Council appointed 'Bluesail Consulting Ltd.' to draft a County Wicklow Tourism Strategy in November, 2017.

The overall vision is to make Wicklow the number one choice for visitors seeking an idyllic escape that harmonises a wide range of outdoor pursuits in Wicklow's world class natural arena, while driving job creation.

A workshop was held on 23rd in mid February with representatives of Wicklow County Council, Wicklow Tourism Strategy Group and Wicklow County Tourism and the tourism trade generally, to present and test recommendations prior to the roll out of the tourism strategy the strategy will be presented to

Strategy Group, the Council and to Wicklow County Tourism following some further data analysis requested by participants at the workshop.

Other Tourism Activity

In anticipation of direct flights from China commencing in 2018, Wicklow is positioning itself as the ideal location for visitors to base themselves while visiting Ireland. Wicklow County Council and Wicklow Tourism will be participating in the 2018 EU China Lightbridge Project aimed at attracting increased visitor numbers from China though developing a better understanding of visitor needs.

As part of the EU China Lightbridge Project Wicklow County Council and Wicklow Tourism are working with Powerscourt House to light up Powerscourt House as part of the EU China Lightbridge Project on Friday 2nd March. It is proposed to launch the Mandarin version of the Wicklow brochure at this event which will be attended by members of the Chinese community and the Chinese media.

A group of 20 educationalists from Lower Franconia will be spending a week in County Wicklow as part of an Erasmus programme. In addition to touring Wicklow and Dublin the group will be meeting educationalists in County Wicklow and visiting Wicklow County Campus.

MARITIME

A representative of the Irish Marine Development Office attended the Maritime Business Development Group Meeting to give an update on the national ports policy, offshore renewable energy and E-Insist (an infrastructure project for smart Irish Sea Tourism).

The council has appointed consultants to prepare a vision strategy for Bray Harbour and will shortly commence procurement of an overall maritime statement of strategy for County Wicklow aimed at maximising opportunities arising out of tourism, wind energy and aquaculture.



3. Local Enterprise Office (LEO)

LEO Objectives
<p>To foster an enterprise culture and stimulate enterprise at local level by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promotion of the enterprise message at local level. - Working with the relevant stakeholders in the county to foster entrepreneurship. - Delivering appropriate enterprise training and mentoring to entrepreneurs. - Providing funding options to entrepreneurs, early stage promoters and viable businesses to support growth and development of micro enterprises. - Developing a progression pathway for clients to Enterprise Ireland - Acting as a First Stop Shop for business information and referral

METRICS: Grants	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	YEAR TO DATE
	2017	2018	2018
Grants Approved (number/ value)			
- Measure 1	- 25/€520,084.90	- Meet Demand	
- Technical Assistance for Micro Exporters	17/€27,664.03	- Meet Demand	
NB: Ability to meet demand is influenced by the amount of funding allocated to the LEO			
METRICS: Training/ Capacity Building	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	YEAR TO DATE
	2017	2018	2018
Start Your Own Business Participant numbers	75	75	15
Management Development Programme Participant numbers (commences September)	21	18	Figures available in Sept 18
Business Skills Training Courses Participant Numbers	217	200	0
Business IT Training Courses Participant numbers	163	150	0
Women in Business Network Number of Meetings	6	6	1
Seminars participant numbers	366	400	48



METRICS: Business Advice & Mentoring	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	YEAR TO DATE
	2017	2018	2018
Number of new clients added to database *criteria has been amended for this metric	590	450*	93
Number of One to One Business Advice meetings	363	350	32
Businesses assigned a Mentor	79 *includes once off SECC Initiative	60	1
Businesses assigned a MFI pre-application mentor	9	10	0
Businesses assigned a MFI post-approval mentor	7	10	0

METRICS: Student Enterprise Programmes	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	
		Academic Year	Year to Date
	2017/2018	2018/2019	Year to Date
No. of Senior Cycle Secondary Student Participants	1,302	1,200	Figures available in Sept 2018

February 2018 Activities

- 9 Wicklow Food and Beverage companies participating in the LEO/ Bord Bia/ Supervalu Food Academy programme made their pitch to the Musgraves/ Supervalu buying team in Wicklow County Campus on February 6th and all 9 were successful in securing a trial listing in 5 Wicklow Supervalu stores from May 2018.
- In addition to business advice clinic meetings, 9 one to one meetings took place with LEO Staff in January.
- 4 mentors were assigned to Wicklow business Clients during January in addition to mentoring which was provided to Wicklow entrepreneurs as part of the Food Academy and Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur Training Programme.
- LEO Wicklow staff provided information about the Local Enterprise Office supports on the LEO stand at the Bord Bia Small Business Open Day in Johnstown House Hotel, Enfield Co Meath on 23rd January.
- Wicklow's two National Finalists in the Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur Competition, Kate Dempsey of the Irish Mussel Seed company and Maurice Sheehy of Fleet are due to meet with Taoiseach Leo Varadkar in February in advance of the National Final to be held in Google Headquarters on March 4th.
- On 1st February the Social Media for your Business Beginners course took place with 12 participants in ABEC, Arklow.



- On 7th February the Network of Entrepreneurial Women meeting took place in the Glenview Hotel.
- On 14th February the first day of the Low Cost Customer Validation workshop took place with 7 participants. The Second day is on 28th February.
- On Thursday 22nd February the 'Viking in Focus' exhibition was launched by actor Moe Dunford at the Mermaid Arts Centre. The exhibition is organized by the Wicklow Film Commission and supported by WCC and World 2000 Entertainment.
- On 24th, 26th and 4th staff of LEO will talk on East Coast Radio about the upcoming events during Local Enterprise Week, 4-9th March.
- The Accessing Finance for your Business workshop will take place on 27th February with 15 participants booked on.
- The deadline for TOV applications was on 15th February and 12 applications have been received.

4. Planning and Development

Forward Planning

Arklow and Environs Local Area Plan 2018:

The plan was adopted by the Members on 5th February, with the plan coming into effect on 5th March 2018

Bray Municipal District Local Area Plan 2018:

At the Council Meetings of 15th and 22nd January, the Members agreed 30 material alterations to the plan. These alterations are on public display until 9th March, with submissions only invited on the material alterations.

Newtownmountkennedy LAP:

A Consultation Issues Booklet has been published and a public consultation day was held in Newtown on 1st February. Submissions are invited regarding the review of the plan up to 23rd February.

Vacant Site Levy:

Phase 1A sites within the higher settlements of Bray, Greystones, Wicklow, Rathnew, and Newtownmountkennedy have now all been assessed and it has been decided that 18 sites from these settlements will now be put on the Vacant Site Register. Letters issued to landowners in December 2017 to notify them of this. To date 7 no. sites have been appealed to An Bord Pleanála.

Phase 1B sites within the lower settlements of Rathdrum, Kilcoole, Ashford, Baltinglass, Carnew and Enniskerry have been assessed and the first letters of intent have been sent out to landowners. Please note that the towns of Dunlavin, Enniskerry, Tinahely, Auhgrim, Arklow and Blessington are not

being assessed due to lack of water / wastewater infrastructure.

Heritage:

The 31st January 2018 was the closing date for receipt of applications for funding from owners of Protected Structures and structures within Architectural Conservation Areas under the:

- Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS) 2018
- Structures at Risk Fund (SRF) 2018

Applications received are currently being assessed with the shortlist of applications recommended for funding, being submitted to the Department during February.

Planning Applications:

A total of 78 applications were received during January, these include applications as follows:

Type of Development	Number Received
Individual Houses	22
Housing Developments	7
Agricultural Structures	1
Commercial	16
Other Developments	32
Total	78

Decisions issued in respect of 73 applications in January, being:

Type of Development	Number of Decisions
Housing Developments	1
Individual Houses	26

February 2018



Other Developments	46
Total	73

In relation to decisions issued to date, in comparison to 2017, the details are as follows:

	31/01/2017	31/01/2018
Total Number of decisions issued	58	73
Total Number of decisions to grant	42	64
% grant rate	72%	88%

Planning Enforcement:

Details of activity during January:

- 12 New files were opened
- 11 Advisory letters issued
- 21 Warning Letters issued
- 5 Enforcement Notices served
- 0 Files was referred for legal action
- 8 Files have been closed

0 court hearings were held in January.

Derelict Sites:

8 inspections were carried out during January.

5. Water and Environmental Services

BLUE FLAGS

4 Blue Flag applications made to An Taisce in December 2017 for the following beaches

- Bray South Promenade
- Greystones South Beach
- Brittas Bay south Beach
- Brittas Bay North Beach

DANGEROUS SITES

2 Dangerous Site inspections carried out in December

WASTE MANAGEMENT SECTION – JANUARY 2018

No. of Complaints Opened	231
No. of Cases Closed, Resolved or Completed (including 2017 cases)	345
No of Litter Fines Issued	31
No. of Waste Management Files Open	11
No. of Warning Letters Issued	12
No of Abandoned Car Notices Issued	7
No. of Burning Applications Granted	2
No. of Temporary Signs Granted	3
No. of Notices Issued under Section 14 of the Waste Management Act	3
No. of Cases in Court under Litter Pollution Act	1
No. of Cases in Court under the Waste Management Act	2
Income - Litter Fines	€4,000.00
Income- Waste Management	8,847.15



HARBOURS AND PORT

Senior Marine Officer and Marine Officer attended a photo shoot for the Press Launch of Round Ireland Yacht June 2018.

On the 14th February 2018, an application was made for grant funding for Wicklow Port in the sum of €150,000 under the Fishery Harbour and Coastal Infrastructure Programme 2018.

The Marine Officers and the Wicklow Port general operative attended a Personal Survival Training in Dunmore East on 6th February 2018.

POLLUTION CONTROL

Licensed Discharges to Waters

- 3 discharge applications were assessed and reported.
- 18 samples of licensed discharges to water were analysed.
- 11 proprietors were compliant with discharge licences.
- 4 proprietors were non-compliant with discharge licences and are required to undertake investigations and improvements.

Pollution Response & Investigation

- 3 water pollution complaints were received.
- 1 noise pollution complaints was received.
- 1 air pollution complaint was received.

Solvents

- 3 certificate applications for dry cleaner installations were assessed and reported on.
- 5 suspected vehicle refinisher installations were inspected.
-

Septic tanks

- 31 septic tank inspections will be undertaken in 2018.

Private Water Supplies

- 1 boil water notices was lifted from a private water supply.
- 1 water supply connected to public mains to improve their water supplies.

Water Framework Directive

National Monitoring Programme

- 69 samples were taken from rivers for analysis.
- 14 samples were taken from lakes for analysis.

FIRE SERVICE

Operational Fire Statistics January 2017

	TOTAL	Bray	Greystones	Wicklow	Rathdrum	Arklow	Blessington	Dunlavin	Baltinglass	Carenew	Tinahely
Callsign		1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.1
Two Stations Mobilised											
Fire Domestic Persons Reported	4	1	1	1		1					
Fire Domestic	10	3	3	1	1					1	1
Fire Institutional	2									1	1
Road Traffic Collision	24	3	6	6	4	1	2	1			1
Fire Caravan	2			1	1						
Fire Bus / Coach / Truck	3		1	1			1				
One Station Mobilised											

February 2018



Fire Small/bin/skip	10	5				3	1	1			
Fire Chimney	10	2	3		1	1	1		2		
Fire Alarm Activation	9	1	3	3	1		1				
Fire Car	12	2	2	2		2	2	2			
Ambulance Assist	4		1	1	1		1				
Alarm Carbon Monoxide	1			1							
Make Scene Safe	1		1								
Fire Gorse	2			1	1						
Fire Smoke Visible	4	1				3					
Trees Down	7	4	2	1							
Lock Out (vulnerable person)	1										1
Animal Rescue	2	1		1							
Times Stations mobilised	108	23	23	20	10	11	9	4	2	2	4

Wicklow County Fire Service has developed training for Confined Space Rescue. Pilot Courses were run on 15th Jan, 16th Jan, 17th Jan, 29th Jan and 30th Jan

The course and associated training and guidance material will be adopted as the national standard during 2018.

25th January 2018

Officers attended seminar on Critical Incident Stress Management in Newbridge, County Kildare

Sample Incidents (January 2018)

- 29/01/18 Wicklow Town fire crew assisted to extricate a horses leg that had pushed through a horse trailer and become trapped
- 24/01/18 Dunlavin Fire Crew assisted Kildare Fire Service at an RTC at Battlemount, Ballitore
- 19/01/18 Fire crews from Greystones and Wicklow assisted at an RTC on the M11, Junction 11.
- 14/01/18 Fire crews from Bray and Greystones extricated a casualty from an overturned car which had left the road striking a wall and an ESB pole.
- 06/01/18 Fire crew from Bray used foam to extinguish plant / machinery which had caught fire.
- 04/01/18 Fire crews from around the county attended incidents involving trees down and fallen debris in order to make the scenes safe and prevent accidents.

Incidents mobilised outside county Wicklow (January 2018):

Kildare

02/01/18	Fire Chimney	Yellowbogcommon	<u>Dunlavin Crew</u>
17/01/18	RTC	Hacklow, Kilcullen	<u>Dunlavin Crew</u>
20/01/18	Fire Domestic	Ballitore, Kildare	<u>Dunlavin Crew</u>
25/01/18	RTC	Glending, Newpark	<u>Blessington Crew</u>
24/01/18	RTC	Ballyadams, Athy	<u>Dunlavin Crew</u>

Carlow

05/01/18	Fire Domestic	Ladystown	<u>Baltinglass Crew</u>
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Operational Fire Statistics December 2017

Fire Prevention Statistics January 2018

Application type	Received	Requested additional information	Validate BCMS /liaise with Building Control	Inspection of works	Recommended Grant
Fire Safety Certificates	3	7			16
Regularisation Certificates					
Visual inspection of works					
FSC as part of 7 Day Notice	3		3	3	3
General Query			2		
Disability Access Certificates	7	1	5		15

Licensing	Received, acknowledged	Inspected	Requested further info	No Objection letter	Not raising an objection
District	2	1		1	
Circuit					

General

- Meeting with consultants 2
- Fire Safety queries by telephone 7

6. Transportation & Roads Infrastructure

Funding announced for 2018 National Roads Allocation (29.12.17)

<i>TII</i>	<i>2018 Allocation</i>
2018 NATIONAL ROADS ALLOCATION	
National Primary	
HD15 & HD17 Minor Works	
N11 Kilmacanogue Parallel Service Road	€100,000
National Secondary (Minor Works)	
N81 Hangmans Bend Realignment Scheme	€10,000
N81 Irishtown	€10,000
N81 Knockroe Bend Realignment Scheme	€2,500,000
N81 Tuckmill	€10,000
N81 Whitestown Lower	€10,000
National Secondary (Pavement)	
HD28 NS Pavement Renewals 2018	€700,000
Both NP & NS	
Local Authority Support (Improvement) 2018 WW	€100,000
Maintenance	
National Primary	
NP Motorway MMarC Lighting 2018	€115,941

February 2018



National Secondary	
NS Ordinary Maintenance 2018	€46,548
NS Winter Maintenance 2018	€81,509
NS Route Lighting 2018	€10,279
Both NP & NS	
Support (Maintenance) 2018	€15,200
Support (Winter Maintenance) 2018	€10,000
Total	€3,719,477

Funding announced for 2018 Regional & Local Roads Allocation (26.1.18)

Restoration Improvement	€4,460,000
Restoration Maintenance	€767,000
Supplementary Restoration Maintenance	€348,500
Discretionary Grant	€1,586,500
Bridge Rehabilitation	€200,000
Safety Improvement Works	€290,000
Specific Improvement Grants	€650,000
Speed Limits	€104,175
Training Grant	€38,500
Drainage Works	€233,000
Total Allocation	€8,677,675
2018 Specific Improvement Grant	
R755 Calary Road Realignment	€650,000

2018 Bridge Rehabilitation Works on Regional & Local Roads	
Killabeg Bridge, Coolkenna L-7525	€25,000
Rathdrum Bridge, Rathdrum R-752	€50,000
White Bridge, Avoca, L-6155	€50,000
Liffey Bridge Upper, Kippure R-759	€20,000
Beechdale Bridge, Kilcoole L-50462	€20,000
Tinnehinch Bridge, Enniskerry R-760	€20,000
Knockrath Bridge, Knockrath R-755	€15,000
Total	€200,000

2018 Safety Improvement Works on Regional & Local Roads	
R759 Manor Kilbride (The Branch)	€145,000
Coolgreaney Road, Arklow L-2190-100	€30,000
Vale Road, Arklow R747	€30,000
Dublin Road, Arklow R772	€30,000
Lackereagh, Baltinglass R747	€55,000
Total	€290,000



Public lighting

	18-Dec-17	16-Jan-18	29-Jan-18
<i>Access Issues (Attended)</i>	17	21	15
<i>Cable Fault (Attend)</i>	6	6	4
<i>ESB Required (Attended)</i>	61	53	49
<i>Knock Down (Attended)</i>	1	1	1
<i>Materials required</i>	47	34	26
<i>No Supply</i>	5	5	6
<i>On Hold</i>	21	19	17
<i>Submitted</i>	398	455	235
<i>Traffic Management Required</i>	21	21	19
TOTAL	577	615	372

Row Labels	ARKLOW MD	BALTINGLASS MD	BRAY MD	GREYSTONES MD	WICKLOW MD	Grand Total
Access Issues (Attend)	3		2	4	6	15
Cable Fault (Attend)			1	2	1	4
ESB Required (Attended)	13		14	14	8	49
Knock Down (Attended)	1					1
Materials required	4		8	4	10	26
No Supply	1	1	1	3		6
On Hold	6		1	8	2	17
Submitted	44	39	53	37	62	235
TMR	2	1	5	4	7	19
Grand Total	74	41	85	76	96	372



Parking Income by Municipal District - Jan 2018	€
Income Florence Road Carpark Bray MD	21,083
Income Herbert Road Carpark Bray MD	11,872
Income North Beach Car Park - Strand Road Bray MD	2,627
Income Restricted Parking Bray MD	49,914
Income Parking Fines Bray MD	21,233
Income Residential/Special Parking Discs Bray MD	9,780
Bray Municipal District	116,508
Income Greystones Pay Parking Scheme	34,867
Greystones Municipal District	34,867
Income Parking Charges Wicklow MD	20,173
Income Residential Parking Disk Wicklow MD	425
Income Traffic Fines Wicklow MD	3,500
Wicklow Municipal District	24,098
Income Parking Traffic Fines Arklow MD	2,477
Income Pay Parking Fees And Permits Arklow MD	18,658
Arklow Municipal District	21,135
Wicklow County Council	196,608

- *The 2017/2018 winter maintenance programme continued during January with 214 call outs made and approximately 1,002 tonnes of salt used over 9 individual gritting routes across the county. A further 1,000 tonnes of salt was ordered to replenish the stock levels at the depots in Avoca, Baltinglass, Blessington, Carnew, Kiladreenan and Roundwood and deliveries of salt commenced during the latter half of January and was delivered in early February.*

- **M11/N11 – Kilmacanogue Parallel Service Road**

Roughan & O'Donovan, Consulting Engineers, have been appointed to

determine the feasibility of introducing safety measures on the southbound lane on the approach to junction 8 in Kilmacanogue. Survey Work has commenced on the N11 Parallel Relief Road at night time as part of this scheme.

The aim of the service road is to:

- *Improve safety for all road users in and around the junction 8 area on the N11;*
- *Maintain and improve access to and from existing properties*
- *To increase the mainline speed of the N11 while maintaining or reducing the existing 60km/h speed on the parallel service road.*



- **N81 Knockroe Bend Realignment.**

Archer Heritage Planning is the Contractor for the Archaeological Works Contract. The Archaeological dig is currently in progress with completion scheduled for May 2018. Invitation of tenders for construction works is projected for May also. A grant allocation of €2.5m has been notified by TII for 2018.

- **N81 Baltinglass Town Centre Surfacing Works.**

- The current programme envisages:
 - (I) Installation of ducts and relocation of services within remainder of Section 2 during 2018.
 - (II) Construction and surfacing works in Section 2 during 2018.

Local Improvements Schemes (LIS)

The Department for Rural and Community Development (DRCD) introduced ring-fenced funding for LIS in 2017 and proposes to continue to operate this scheme in 2018. In anticipation of funding Wicklow County Council has invited applications for the Local Improvement Scheme, the closing date is the 22nd March 2018.

Community Involvement Scheme (CIS)

Ring-fenced funding of €10 million is being made available for the Community Involvement Scheme in 2018. The Department of Transport Tourism and Sport on the 19th February 2018 have advised that application to bid for funding under the revised scheme must be made to them by the 23rd March 2018.

Wicklow County Council has invited applications for the Community Involvement Scheme, the closing date is 22nd March 2018.

Sanction has been given to proceed with appointment of Consultant Engineers for the above scheme



Organisational Development and Financial Matters

1. Recruitment

Competitions for the posts of Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Temporary Sports Administrator and Burial Ground Registrar were held in February 2018 together with preliminary competition for the posts of Staff Officer and Senior Staff Officer

	Q1 2017	Q2 2017	Q3 2017	Q4 2017
Managerial/Administrative	246	245	246	250
Professional/Technical	103	109	109	119
Outdoor	305	311	311	317
Temporary/Seasonal	47	58	46	41
Non DOECLG	45	14	14	13
Total	746	737	726	740

(Excludes figures for Firefighters)

2. Access to Information

No. of FOI requests

January 2018 – 10	January 2017 - 21
Jan to Jan 2018 – 10	Jan to Jan 2017 - 21

No. of Ombudsman Requests

January 2018 – 2	January 2017 - 0
Jan to Jan 2018 – 2	Jan to Jan 2017 - 0

3. Register of Electors

Wicklow County Council met the statutory deadline of having the 2018/2019 Register of Electors published on the 1st February 2018. The number of registered electors is 97,067.

4. Press Releases

December – 9 Press Releases

5. I.C.T. Report

IT Helpdesk

- Workflow analysis of IT Helpdesk function has been used to develop a working model for customer care & case management.
- Tickets handled now reach 450 items per month

- Asset Management Module has been implemented

Customer Relations Management(CRM)

- Workflow analysis in Environmental Services area has been used to develop a proof of concept in the use of Microsoft Dynamics.
- Test Cloud Tenancy has been created to allow deployment of dynamics CRM and comparison with other CRM systems
- Live trial will continue from January 2018

Managed Print Service (MPS)

- Renewal of MPS is progressing. Vendor neutral audit of print requirement complete and request for tenders was published with closing date in December 2017.
- Tender evaluation is complete, project roll-out plan has been developed and new devices will be in place over the next number of weeks.

Unified Communications

- Voice over IP phone solution has been extended to main Council sites across county Wicklow. This includes Bray MD, Greystones MD, Arklow MD. Consolidation of a number of installations will be complete when CORE network upgrade has been finalised.

CORE Network

- Procurement exercise for network hardware refresh is complete and Phase 1 of LAN upgrade was implemented in February. Extension to external sites including Fire HQ, Library HQ, Clermont etc will take place during March.

Data Collection Systems

- Data collection systems using mobile devices have been used for the Register of Electors.
- Projects in Housing and Roads departments are on-going.
- Housing Condition Survey is live while other project including Health & Safety audit and CCTV survey are underway.



1. Revenue Account

Due to year-end adjustments that are currently being carried out as part of the 2017 Annual Financial Statement (AFS) process, we are not in a position to provide January 2018 expenditure figures in the normal format at this time. This situation will be regularised during the Quarter 1 period.

2. Cashflow/Overdraft

Wicklow County Council manages its cashflow requirements on a daily basis and did not avail of its overdraft facility during the period 1st January 2018 to 31st January 2018.

3. Capital Account

CAPITAL ACCOUNT				
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 31st JANUARY 2018				
	Opening Balance at 01/01/2018	Actual Expenditure	Actual income	Closing Balance at 31/01/2018
	€	€	€	€
Housing and Building	22,481,571	324,326	(75,394)	22,730,503
Road Transport & Safety	-31,454,648	(2,496)	(402,074)	-31,859,218
Water Services	-8,445,716	(36,702)	(103,862)	-8,586,280
Development Management	-9,071,415	(19,859)	(28,175)	-9,119,449
Environmental Services	1,861,162	52,537	(110,594)	1,803,105
Recreation and Amenity	854,488	7,286	(133,424)	728,350
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	-549,640	21,208	-	-528,432
Miscellaneous Services	-12,482,039	11,793	(250)	-12,470,496
	-36,806,237	358,093	(853,773)	-37,301,917



4. Commercial Rates, Rents and Loan Collections

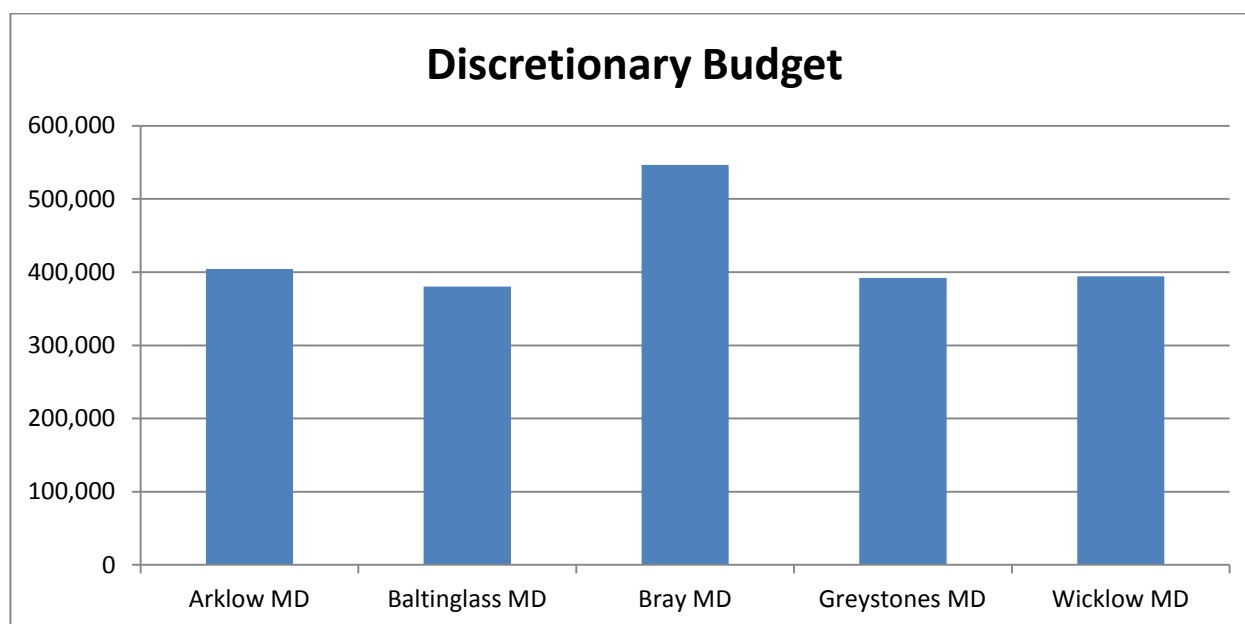
SUMMARY OF MAJOR COLLECTIONS AT 31st JANUARY 2018									
Income Collection Area	Opening Balance 01/01/2017	Accrued	Vacancy Property Adjustments	Write Offs	Total for Collection	Collected	Closing Arrears 31/12/2017	Specific Doubtful Arrears	% Collection
Rates *									
Rents & Annuities	1,539,935	1,297,303			2,837,238	1,136,012	1,701,226		40%
Housing Loans *									

* The annual rate demands issue in February each year, therefore this segment of the table will be updated in next month's report. Similarly the updated 2018 housing loan figures will also be available in next month's report.

N.B. The rent collection percentage for January is below normal levels due to the carry forward of arrears at the start of the new financial year. This situation will be regularised over the course of the year.

General Municipal Allocation and Discretionary Fund 2018

Discretionary Budget 2018 €2,117,500. The graph and table below outline the discretionary budget for 2018 by Municipal District.



Municipal District	Balance to Expend
	€
Arklow MD	404,250
Baltinglass MD	380,250
Bray MD	546,500
Greystones MD	392,250
Wicklow MD	394,250
Total	2,117,500

