

OCTOBER 2019



Wicklow County Council Chief Executive's Monthly Report



W I C K L O W

ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES



Table of Contents

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY	6
1. Social Housing Support	6
2. Allocation of Social Housing	6
3. Social Housing Stock	6
4. Housing Supply – Programme of Delivery	6
5. Part V	8
6. PPP Social Housing Project	8
7. Approved Housing Bodies (AHB's)	9
8. Housing Schemes Remediation	9
9. Home Improvement/Adaptation	9
10. Addressing Homelessness	10
11. Local Sports Partnership (LSP)	12
12. Wicklow Library Service	12
Age Friendly Initiatives.....	14
Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP).....	14
Public Participation Network (PPN)	15
13. Local Community Development Committees (LCDC's)	15
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE	20
1. Wicklow Economic Think Tank (CWETT) Action Plan Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) (Economic)	20
Film	20
Retail.....	20
Town Teams	20
Enterprise Town Awards	21
URDF/RRDF Funding.....	21
Tourism	22



Glendalough.....	22
Failte Ireland.....	22
Maritime.....	23
Food.....	23
2. Local Enterprise Office (LEO).....	24
3. Planning and Development.....	27
Forward Planning.....	27
Heritage.....	28
Planning Applications.....	29
Planning Enforcement.....	29
4. Environmental Services.....	30
Waste Management Section.....	30
Whitestown Remediation Project.....	30
Ports and Harbours.....	30
Pollution Control.....	31
Water Framework Directive National Monitoring Programme.....	31
Bathing Water Monitoring Programme.....	31
Planning & Development.....	31
Petrol Vapour Recovery.....	31
Well Grants.....	32
Environmental Awareness.....	32
Climate Adaptation Strategy.....	32
Sustainable Energy.....	33
Arklow Flood Relief Scheme.....	33
5. Transportation, Water & Emergency Services.....	34
Public Lighting.....	34
Parking Income.....	35



Transportation Statistics (General).....	35
Fire Services	36
Building Control.....	38
ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCIAL MATTERS	40
1. Recruitment	40
2. Access to Information.....	40
3. Press Releases.....	40
4. Register of Electors.....	41
5. I.C.T. Report.....	42
IT Helpdesk.....	42
Email Archiving.....	42
Customer Service Delivery	42
Unified Communications.....	42
Core Network.....	42
GIS & Data Collection Systems	42
Domain Migration	43
eServices	43
Open Data	43
Broadband Development.....	43
Digital Strategy.....	43
FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS.....	44
1. Revenue Account.....	44
2. Cashflow/Overdraft	44
3. Capital Account.....	44
4. Commercial Rates, Rents and Loan Collections.....	45
5. General Municipal Allocation and Discretionary Fund 2019	45
6. Capital Investment Programme 2019-2021	46



This Month:

➤ **Storm Lorenzo:**

The local Severe Weather Co-ordination Group met in order to put in place preparations for the arrival of this forecasted storm event.

➤ **Wicklow Gaol:**

The Gates of Hell Virtual Reality Project has been nominated for the 2020 All-Ireland Community and Council Awards.

➤ **Park in Wicklow Town with Parking Tag:**

Parking Tag, the cashless mobile parking payment system is now available for motorists, in Wicklow Town.

➤ **Mobile Library:**

A new €230,000 mobile library launched on Monday 7th October – the mobile library service is used regularly by 1,500 people, as it visits different parts of rural Wicklow.

➤ **Arklow Halloween Festival:**

The Arklow Municipal District is holding the 3rd Halloween Festival on Halloween night – the highlight of the Festival is a street parade and a fireworks display.

➤ **Brittas Bay Biodiversity Project Information Evening:**

A plan to protect the unique biodiversity of Brittas Bay is under consideration by Wicklow County Council – A public information event on the programme was held on Tuesday 15th October in Wicklow Town Hall.



HOUSING AND COMMUNITY

1. Social Housing Support

No. on list for Social Housing Support – (includes RAS and HAP)	4367
No. availing of Rental Assistance Scheme (RAS)	372
No. availing of Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)	1518
No. in Long Term Leasing accommodation	10
No. in Short Term Leasing accommodation	10

2. Allocation of Social Housing

WCC Social Housing (including Bray M. D.)	134
Approved Housing Bodies (including Bray M. D.)	14

3. Social Housing Stock

4396 tenancies occupied @ 28/09/2019

- Total weekly rental accrual €298,570.61
- Minimum rent €24 pw - Maximum rent €275.50 pw
- Arrears at end of September 2019 - €1,088,713.58

Casual Vacancies/Relets 67

Municipal District	No
Arklow	15
Baltinglass	19
Bray	7
Greystones	6
Wicklow	20

4. Housing Supply – Programme of Delivery

Social Housing Supply Programme

3 schemes completed in 2018	28 Units
3 scheme completed 2019 so far	20 units
10 schemes currently on site in 2019	311 Units
2 further schemes to commence on site in 2019	47 Units
9 further schemes to commence on site in 2020	<u>220 Units</u>
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>626 Units</u>



SCHEMES COMPLETED	UNITS	CURRENT STATUS
O'Byrne Road Bray	1	Completed and allocated
Old Library Arklow	7	Completed and allocated
Avondale Heights, Rathdrum	20	Completed and allocated
Delany Park, Arklow (Phase 1)	17	Completed and allocated 2019
16A Oak Drive Blessington	1	Completed and allocated 2019
Druids Brook Kilcoole	2	Completed and allocated 2019
TOTAL	48	
SCHEMES ON SITE	UNITS	CURRENT STATUS
Whitehall Baltinglass RAPID BUILD	34	Completion anticipated December 2019
Kilbride Lane, Bray (Murphy's Lands)	42	Completion anticipated May 2020
FCA Hall, Wicklow Town	8	Completion anticipated October 2020
Kilmantan Place, Bray	4	Completion anticipated September 2020
Farrenkelly Greystones (Phase 2)	24	Completion anticipated March 2020
Sugarloaf View Kilmacanogue	20	Completion anticipated August 2020
Convent Lands	51	Completion anticipated August 2020
Rathnew RAPID BUILD	47	Completion anticipated September 2020
Convent Lands PPP	51	Completion anticipated September 2020
Carnew RAPID BUILD	30	Completion anticipated November 2020
TOTAL	311	
PIPELINE SCHEMES	UNITS	CURRENT STATUS
Delany Park Arklow (Phase 2 + 3)	47	Site start anticipated November 2019
Avondale Phase 2 RAPID BUILD	20	Site Start anticipated May 2020
Ard na Gréine RAPID BUILD	30	Site start anticipated May 2020
Greenhills Road, Wicklow RAPID BUILD	36	Site start anticipated June 2020
Ashtown Lane RAPID BUILD	40	Site start anticipated June 2020
Mountainview NTMK RAPID BUILD	26	Site start anticipated September 2020
Old Fire Station, Arklow	7	Site start anticipated September 2020
Cedar Court, Bray RAPID BUILD	9	Site start anticipated October 2020
Three Trouts Greystones RAPID BUILD	32	Site start anticipated November 2020
Shillelagh RAPID BUILD	20	Site start anticipated November 2020
TOTAL	267	

Update on Kilbride Lane Social Housing Scheme, Bray, Co Wicklow

The construction of 42 social houses at Kilbride lane is progressing well. The delay to the programme has reduced to 3.5 weeks and the contractor is currently hitting all milestones to complete the project on the agreed date.

The external render has started on 6 of the 11 house blocks. The scaffolding is being dropped on all blocks which have received their final coat of render. Plasterboarding and skim coating is ongoing internally in the front 3 blocks. The two bungalows to Cloverhill have received their first coat of paint and is ready for trades to start second fixing.

The final two house foundations have been excavated and blockwork is being built and prepared for the floor slabs. The blocks to the rear of the site are all now up to floor joist level and external first floor blockwork is due to start on these.



Through the ER, Wicklow County Council has been pursuing the contractor to ensure safe egress from the site onto Kilbride Lane along with daily inspection of road conditions to ensure the road remains clear of mud and debris.

5. Part V

2019

- 2 units (Rathdrum) - Department approval received. Acquisition into Council stock completed 12th March 2019.
- 2 Units Part V (Newtownmountkennedy) Acquisition completed into Council stock 28th June 2019.
- 2 Units (Rathnew) Acquisition completed into Council stock 20th June 2019.
- 7 units (Greystones) Acquisition completed via CALF 14th June 2019. 4 further units expected delivery Q4 2019.
- 16 units (Ashford) negotiations completed. Department approval received – delivery of 9 units expected Q.4 2019 via CALF.
- 4 units (Kilcoole) Acquisition completed via CALF 8th April 2019. 2 further units expected delivery Q4 2019.
- 1 unit (Kilcoole) Agreement purchase into Council stock completed 19th July 2019.
- 1 Part V Unit (Ashford) acquisition into Council stock completed 28th March 2019.
- 4 Part V Units in Rathdrum acquisition by AHB via CALF due Q 3 2019.
- 2 Part V units in Greystones due to close early October into Council stock

Potential units Negotiations ongoing with a number of developers at preplanning and planning stage. There are over 100 Part V units with planning permission but it's difficult to determine whether they will all proceed or even on what timescale.

Turnkey

- 2 turnkey units purchase completed and have been allocated in Rathnew.
- 1 turnkey unit (Tinahely) acquisition into Council stock completed 29th March 2019.
- Remaining 1 turnkey unit Tinahely completed and purchased into Council stock on 5th April, 2019.
- (Construction is ongoing on turnkey project at Vale Road, Arklow – 10 units acquired into Council stock in June 2019 -10 further units purchased into Council stock in July 2019. 18 more units to be completed before the end of 2019.
- Construction ongoing on a turnkey project at Bollarney Woods, Wicklow – first units expected to be completed Q3 2019.
- Negotiations are ongoing with a number of Developers and AHB's in relation to acquiring further Turnkey units

6. PPP Social Housing Project

[Bundle 1]

Development Site at Convent Lands, Wicklow for 51 Social Housing units commenced on site in March 2019. The project is progressing well and is currently on programme. The Department of Housing has dedicated €300 million towards delivery of housing through the public, private partnership model in the Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan. The Convent Lands site in Wicklow has been included as a project in Bundle 1.



7. Approved Housing Bodies (AHB's)

Capital Advance Leasing Facility (CALF)

The Approved Housing Bodies are actively pursuing a number of potential CALF projects and are liaising closely with the Council on a regular basis. The members will be kept updated.

- Acquisition by AHB of 73 turnkey units via CALF in Rathnew due Q3 2019.
- Construction under way on a 40 unit CALF Turnkey in Dunlavin 26 units expected to be delivered in 2019 and 14 in 2020.

Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS) Wicklow County Council is continuing to support acquisitions under the Capital Assistance Scheme with Dublin Simon, Circle Housing, Ark Housing and Peter McVerry Trust.

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 have been completed.

Stage 3 Phase 3B – Glending phase 3b is complete as of 18th December 2018.

Phase 4 - to commence by end Q.2 2019

Hillview, Wicklow - Remediation

Works substantially complete, with some outstanding ceiling works ongoing.

9. Home Improvement/Adaptation

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

› Grant funding for private houses - €1,768,217 (€1,155,243.12 spent to date)

› Grant funding for social house - € 500,000 (425,658.28 spent to date)

61 Open Applications to value of € 555,654.63 – figure subject to change if/when approved.

Housing Assistance – Breakdown of the above 61 open applications, not yet approved so figures are subject to change.

Older People (13)	€ 48,000.00
Mobility Aid Grants (14)	€ 24,000.00
Housing Adaption Grants (34)	€ 483,654.63

Approved

13 Mobility Aid Grants	€ 63,111.50
22 Housing Adaption Grants	€ 350,843.79
17 Housing Aid for Older People	€ 105,745.69
	€ 519,700.98



Approval amount carried over from 2018 (26) €290,713.21

House Purchase Loans – Rebuilding Ireland

- 115 received up to 30/09/2019
- 17 approvals.
- 38 declined
- 8 to be assessed.

2016 Incremental Tenant Purchase Scheme

- 48 applications to 30/09/2019
- 1 sale completed
- 10 declined.

10. Addressing Homelessness

Period 01/09/2019 to 30/09/2019

No. of Presentations	60
No. of Repeat Presentations	8
No. of Households (Families)	30
No. of Adults (Individuals)	79
No. of Children	60
NTQ/Asked to Leave/Landlord	
Selling	9
Family Circumstances	34
Leaving Prison/Hospital Care	1
Sofa Surfing	6
Rough Sleeping	1

Temporary Emergency Accommodation 30/09/2019

Own Door

12 families (20 adults and 26 children)
4 single adults

B & B Accommodation

Families - 11(25 Adults, 22 Children)
3single adults.

Homeless HAP

The Homeless HAP Placefinder provides assistance in:

- seeking out potential properties suitable for households currently identified as homeless or at risk of homelessness;
- liaising with specific households to establish their specific needs;
- establishing relationships with local property agents and landlords; and,
- supporting those homeless households to (a) prevent the necessity to enter emergency accommodation or (b) to exit emergency accommodation and secure a tenancy.



To date, 131 households (100 families & 31 singles) have been assisted under the Homeless HAP Scheme in Wicklow County Council from the inception on 1st October 2018 to 31st August 2019.

74 homeless cases and 57 prevention cases to date. 50 properties were sourced by WCC.

Sonas Facility, Wicklow - Transition to Family Homeless Hub.

Following the advice that Sonas was withdrawing services from Wicklow, the operation of the facility was tendered out to Approved Housing Bodies to operate and manage the facility as a Family Homeless Hub.

The successful tenderer was Dublin Simon Community, who will be in a position to commence operations and management of the facility pending finalisation of the legal handover.

Other Temporary Supported Accommodation

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. There has been a significant number of move ons from these properties, signalling the success of this model.

Housing First

With Housing First, the priority is to support a person who has experienced homelessness into permanent housing as quickly as possible, without any preconditions around sobriety or mental health treatment. Then, continue working intensively with them on these issues once they are housed. Housing First recognises that a stable home provides the basis for recovery in other areas.

The National Implementation Plan for Housing First 2018-2021 was published in September 2018. It commits to the rollout of Housing First in every county in Ireland and sets annual targets for each local authority. It also highlights the need for local authorities and Approved Housing Bodies to work together on increasing the supply of single person housing. The alignment of housing and health supports means that Housing First is very much a joint initiative of the Department, the Department of Health, local authorities, HSE and NGO providers.

Wicklow County Council is committed to implementing the Housing First model and is currently liaising with Kildare and Meath County Councils is currently assessing tenders received for services. It is hoped to appoint the Service Provider for Housing First by October 2019.



11. Local Sports Partnership (LSP)

KATIE TAYLOR BURSARY

The Katie Taylor Bursary closed for applications on 20th of September 2019. The aim of this bursary is to support a sports person who is entering college to continue playing the sport/sports they love while in third level education and is worth €1,500 per year for up to 4 years.

12. Wicklow Library Service

MOBILE LIBRARY

Wicklow County Council's new mobile library was launched on 7th October 2019, by Cathaoirleach, Councillor Irene Winters. It took to the road the following day and has been very well received – having issued 1,500 items in its first fortnight. The vehicle has been given great coverage via a press release and photos to all the local newspapers plus extensive promotion on social media. The emphasis is on the fact that being a member of the mobile library gives one the same benefits as being a member of a branch library, especially with regard to it providing access to all the online library facilities and the ability to request items from any of the 330 libraries nationwide.

DORMANT FUNDS ACCOUNT

Wicklow County Council is accessing €37,000 from Dormant Funds Account grants in 2019. Touch Type Read Spell (TTRS) training is now almost completed and Lexia online training will be provided in the coming weeks. Teachers across the county are greatly appreciative of the possibilities these two programmes offer, regarding assistance for those with dyslexia and reading difficulties. Other programmes being provided under the funds are LEGO workshops, Toddler Time facilitated by Rachel Drew of 'Let's Sing' and 'Storytime with a View to Sparking and Interest in Reading' delivered to two separate groups of children over a 6 week period in Bray and Ballywaltrim libraries.

TTRS (TOUCH, TYPE, READ AND SPELL) AND LEXIA LITERACY RESOURCES

Currently all schools in the county have been offered TTRS and Lexia. Both these programmes have been created with helping children with learning differences improve their reading. TTRS is a multi-sensory programme that approaches literacy difficulties using touch-typing. Essentially pupils learn to 'talk with their fingers', through feeling the keyboard, seeing the screen and hearing the words aloud, learners transfer what they are learning from short to long term memory. This is especially useful for children with a diagnosis of dyslexia or dyspraxia.

At this stage most SEN teachers have received training in Touch, Type read and Spell and are now giving their students access to the programme. Schools are hugely appreciative, many teachers mentioned that pupils have often been recommended the programme but due to cost have been prevented from accessing it while their better off counterparts were able to afford the subscription; the free availability of this resource closes this gap.



There is also a use for this programme in the general population and it is anticipated that adults experiencing literacy difficulties will be encouraged to avail TTRS in their local libraries in the near future.

Lexia is another amazing literacy resource and is completely reading based; it is suitable for children from junior infants upwards and once a child receives a diagnosis of a reading deficit, this programme will be of tremendous assistance to them. It is expected that this resource will be in use in all schools in the next couple of weeks.

LEGO® WORKSHOPS

These LEGO workshops are fun, challenging, team-building creative family events and took place in a variety of library settings as well as the Imaal Hall in Dunlavin. Families left their mobile devices aside and worked together as teams solving a series of LEGO® building challenges. Friendly competition between teams created a level of excitement. Throughout the sessions, families were given tasks that focused on key elements which included teamwork, communication, creativity and learning through play. Feedback from all events was very positive with parents reporting surprise at how much they enjoyed the activity. The following is just a flavour of the feedback and has been placed on Wicklow County Council page, with writer's permission:

"Thank you so much for a fantastic afternoon. The lego workshop was a brilliant family event which really got the creative juices flowing. Absolutely brilliant for the kids, learning a wide range of skills, whilst having so much fun! Thank you to all the staff. We'd be lost without you!!!" - #weloveourlibrary – from Facebook-dormant funds well spent

Comments from participants included – 'Very enjoyable and interactive', 'loved working as a group', children said 'it was lovely to work as a family'.

TODDLER TIMES DUNLAVIN

Audiences of up to 40 attended these sessions. Rachel from 'Let's Sing' devised a programme of stories, rhymes and music which was pitched at an audience of parents and their children not yet attending a preschool. This activity encouraged parents to join in and focus on the fun aspect of rhyming, singing, musical instruments and other interaction. Many participants were new to the library and started borrowing books for themselves and their children. Feedback from attendees has been very complimentary with many expressing the wish that this kind of event featured more regularly in Dunlavin Library.

STORY TIME WITH A VIEW TO SPARKING AN INTEREST IN READING

This series of events was developed by Anita Nicholson and devised with a view to encouraging two groups of 7-11 year old children to join the library and become more engaged with reading and using the library. The children were introduced to a variety of books and encouraged through drama, movement and art to really engage with the stories and the characters. There has been a full attendance every week and all participants are enjoying the programme immensely.



RIGHT TO READ CHAMPION AWARD

Right To Read Co-ordinator for Wicklow County Library, Margaret Birchall accepted this award recently on behalf of Wicklow County Libraries. Ms. Birchall stated that historically literacy and reading have always been natural partners with libraries and our librarians show a great interest in supporting parents of young children in this area; story times are a regular feature in most of our libraries and increasingly book clubs for older children are being established in our larger branches. The Summer Stars Reading programme saw upwards of 3000 children use their local libraries during the summer and borrowing thousands of items as well as attending a range of literary events. This is just one of four strands to Right to Read, there is also 'Spring Into Storytime', 'Children's Book Festival' and in December 'Family Time at Your Library'

Age Friendly Initiatives

Parking Bays at County Buildings

Three parking bays were designated Age Friendly at the County Council Offices, Whitegates, Wicklow. The bays are for use by any person over 55. The parking bays are for members of the public, staff members and indeed councillors who are all encouraged to avail of the spaces once they are over 55. It is hoped to see Age Friendly parking spaces set aside where possible at all council buildings and centres across the county in order to fulfil our ambition of making Wicklow a great county in which to live and grow old.

CLÁR

Knockananna has been awarded €34,000 for a sensory garden. Preparations have already begun to progress the garden which should be a very welcome addition to the village.

Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP)

Bray Area Partnership and Co. Wicklow Partnership have commenced work on their SICAP Annual Plans 2020.

The Department of Rural & Community Development is seeking a budgetary increase of circa. 3% for SICAP nationally in 2020.

The Local Government Audit Service has notified Wicklow LCDC of an upcoming audit of SICAP in Wicklow including Co. Wicklow Partnership



Public Participation Network (PPN)

Co. Wicklow PPN Training Fair was held on 21st September - 123 attendees; 85 Community Volunteers; 48 community groups; 12 workshops.

New PPN members include Tinahely Toastmasters Club; Alzheimer Society of Ireland Wicklow Services; Wicklow Town Team.

PPN's gained significant media/radio coverage both nationally and locally on their research report into the negative impact of high insurance costs on local community & voluntary groups.

Co. Wicklow PPN has made a submission made to the Wicklow Division Policing Plan.

Co. Wicklow PPN is holding an upcoming seminar on Housing & Accommodation issues in the county- See Facebook for more details.

13. Local Community Development Committees (LCDC's)

LECP UPDATE OCTOBER 2019

Goal 1: Develop community capacity in disadvantaged communities and engage in urban and rural regeneration

Rural Regeneration Development Fund 2019

Applications submitted – Awaiting Decision

Area	Overview of Proposal	Project Cost
Glendalough	Provision of e-hub digital visitor information points at Laragh, Rathdrum, Roundwood and Hollywood. Public Realm /Roads enhancements at Glendalough Green, Glendalough Village, entrance to visitor centre. Roads, junctions and traffic improvements between Lynhams and the Wicklow Gap Road. Enhanced facilities for pedestrians and cyclists.	€3,499,931
Baltinglass	Restoration of the Courthouse reuse as a library/Heritage and Digi-hub with outdoor event space Public Realm enhancement, parking improvement, pedestrian crossings, ramps, boardwalk and riverside fencing	€3,566,968
Blessington	Greater linkages to the villages on the Greenway; Signage & access, resurfacing of original 6.5 km of greenway, enhancement of 6 car-parks, provision of charging points. Restoration of tunnel to Russborough House	€3,546,834



Town & Village 2019

Applications Submitted – Awaiting Decision

Area	Overview of Proposal	Funding Sought
Redcross	Streetscape works	€80,000
Aughrim	Recreational amenity	€95,600
Avoca	Public realm and recreational enhancement	€125,600
Dunlavin	Healthcheck plus public realm works	€20,973
Coolkenno	Public lights and rails	€24,000
Delgany	Community plan	€29,600
Laragh	Smart village	€30,560
Barndarrig	Footpath and friendship tree	€50,000
Kilcoole	Community building enhancement	€60,000
Shillelagh	Community development plans	€72,000
Roundwood	Community building enhancement	€148,000

CLAR 2019 - The following three projects were approved for funding by DRCD

Area	Overview of Proposal	Funding awarded
Knockananna	Footpaths	€50,000
Knockananna	Sensory Garden	€34,000
Rathcoyle	Multi-Use Games Area	€50,000



Outdoor Recreation 2019

Applications submitted - Awaiting Decision

Area	Overview	Funding Sought
Co. Wicklow	Maintenance and Upgrade	€20,000
Co. Wicklow	Maintenance and Upgrade	€20,000
Co. Wicklow	Maintenance and Upgrade	€7,200
Co. Wicklow	Maintenance and Upgrade	€7,840
Co. Wicklow	Maintenance and Upgrade	€8,800
Co. Wicklow	Maintenance and Upgrade	€14,720
Co. Wicklow	Maintenance and Upgrade	€10,000
Kilcoole	Maintenance and Upgrade	€16,000
Co. Wicklow	Maintenance and Upgrade	€190,700
Baltinglass	Development of walkway	€156,560
Arklow		€114,800
Greystones		€160,000
Arklow		€500,000
Co. Wicklow	Wexford, Waterford Wicklow partnership for Blueway	€475,856



Goal 2: Promote Active Citizenship and Public Participation to improve governance, participation and enrich decision making

Comhairle na nOg:

- Conducting a Drugs Attitude Survey – focus on attitudes towards drugs
- AGM 15th November – the Comhairle na nOg Youth Summit

Age Friendly:

- In July 2019 41 businesses in Arklow got their Age friendly business recognition certificates and window stickers. Each business has signed up to three age friendly commitments for example: have seating available, adjust music volume, keep spare glasses at hand, clearer signage etc.

The age friendly business launch took place in the Arklow library and was launched by Dragons Den star Gavin Duffy.

- Three Age friendly car spaces have been assigned at County Buildings and it is hoped to roll out the age friendly car spaces across the local authority spaces
- Kildare and Wicklow are working together with the HSE to create national age friendly guidelines for Primary Care Centres beginning with the Athy PCC and the Baltinglass PCC. A draft set of guidelines has been created and a commitment has been given by the estate management section that the next 50 primary care centres will have the guidelines built in to them

Goal 3: Strategic Direction – Develop high quality integrated services, available to all communities, in particular, disadvantaged communities and vulnerable groups

1. Healthy Wicklow Strategy - Round 3 of Programme submitted and awaiting approval
 - Recruitment of Co-ordinator
2. Food Strategy – Branding process completed; Implementation partners contracted
3. Digital Strategy – adopted by Wicklow County Council
4. RSES adopted – LECP to comply; Review of Guidelines expected soon



Goal 4: Develop a vibrant and innovative community and social enterprise sector

The National Social Enterprise Strategy was launched by DRCD in July 2019. It focuses on

- Building awareness
- Growing and strengthening social enterprises
- Achieving better policy alignment

This reflects the themes that emerged in the County Wicklow Social Enterprise Strategy, following which, supports for social enterprises in the county have been put in place.

Nationally, supports have also been put in place through the Dormant Accounts Fund. Both County Wicklow Partnership and Bray Area Partnership have applied for funding to run training and mentoring programmes for social enterprises.

LECP 2016 – 2022 - Guidelines to issue soon on review of the LECP. There is no point in a full review at this stage but an internal review is to be done as part of the planning for new LECP.

Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP)

Bray Area Partnership and Co. Wicklow Partnership have commenced work on their SICAP Annual Plans 2020.

The Department of Rural & Community Development is seeking a budgetary increase of circa. 3% for SICAP nationally in 2020.

The Local Government Audit Service has notified Wicklow LCDC of an upcoming audit of SICAP in Wicklow including Co. Wicklow Partnership



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).

Film

Wicklow County Council has applied through the Regional Enterprise Development Fund to develop a Content Creation Enterprise Hub at Wicklow County Campus. This development would provide 10,000 sq. ft of private and co-working spaces in a dynamic and synergetic environment for creative/media cross-fertilisation. It will offer specialised and customised, sector specific business supports that drive start-ups, growth and the internationalisation of the Irish content creation sector in the Mid East and surrounding regions.

A comprehensive application was compiled and submitted in September. Senior management from Wicklow County Council were joined by two leading film industry representatives in making a presentation to a judging panel during October.

Retail

Bray Town Centre

Bray Town Centre is progressing well with expected practical completion by Q4 2019. Interest by potential tenants has been very positive. The developer is at an advanced stage of negotiation with the main anchor tenant.

Town Teams

Town Teams in Arklow, Blessington, Bray, Greystones and Wicklow continue to meet on a monthly basis and to progress various projects.

Arklow Town Team welcomed members of Wexford County Council and Wexford Chamber of Commerce who are looking to set up a Town Team in their area and wish to model it on Arklow's successful team.

Arklow Harbour benefitted from a very successful World Cleanup Day on the 21st September. This was run by the Town Team, in conjunction with Arklow Tidy Towns, with support from all the schools, clubs and volunteers around Arklow. Smurfit Kappa kindly donated 100 cardboard recycling bins to use for the event and donated two picnic benches for the area.

Arklow Town Team is currently working with AslAm.ie and local groups to see if Arklow could become an Autism Friendly Town.

Blessington Town Team paid tribute to the Blessington Tidy Towns group on their significant points increase in this year's National Tidy Towns awards and especially to their Chairman Jason Mulhall, who was selected as the Supervalu Tidy Towns National Community Hero.

Work has begun on Phase 2 of a Blessington Health Check. Future Analytics, on behalf of Blessington Town Team, will hold public engagement sessions in November.

OCTOBER 2019



Blessington Town Team welcomed a presentation by the Community Pool for West Wicklow group at their October meeting. The group are hoping to secure a commitment and funding for the location of a swimming pool in Blessington.

Bray Town Team continues preparations for the Bray Health Check Phase 2 in conjunction with Future Analytics. The draft report is being finalised at present.

Bray Town Team entered into the Halloween spirit by encouraging people to shop local using Bray businesses for all their Halloween and seasonal needs. Bray.ie is the main forum for this advertising.

Greystones 2020 continue to work with the Paul Hogarth Company in preparing a Public Realm Plan for Greystones Town Centre. The public realm has a significant impact on how Greystones functions and on its attractiveness as a place in which to live and work, or as a destination for tourism and investment.

With the Christmas season rapidly approaching, Greystones 2020 together with Greystones Municipal District have been liaising with local businesses to secure support for the Christmas lights display.

Wicklow Town Team held the official launch of the Wicklow Town Team website www.wicklowtown.ie on Wednesday 16th October in Marine House.

In relation to the Wicklow to Greystones Greenway, Wicklow Town Team have welcomed the recent draft survey carried out by WS Atkins on behalf of Wicklow County Council and praised the quality of the report.

Wicklow Town Team are liaising with Wexford Bus to market and promote the park and ride facility at the Beehive.

Mapping detail and new lectern signage content is being prepared on the Wicklow Heritage Trail by the Tourism Section of the Town Team.

Enterprise Town Awards

The Bank of Ireland National Enterprise Town Awards (NETA) 2019 has been launched. With a prize fund of over €193,000 the competition provides towns and villages with a chance to promote their area and demonstrate the various enterprises located there.

Ashford and Rathdrum participated in NETA 2019. The aim of this national competition is to promote enterprise in an area by bringing business and community groups together to showcase the spirit of enterprise in their town. The results will be announced at an awards ceremony on 5th December 2019.

URDF/RRDF Funding

In 2018 Wicklow County Council applied for funding for nine projects under the Urban Regional Development Fund. The following three projects were awarded funding in the first round; Arklow Historic Town Core €1,645,000, Wicklow Library/Fitzwilliam Square €1,626,000, Bray Public Transport Bridge €3,450,000. Final approval has now been received from the Department of Housing Planning and Local Government to proceed with these projects and arrangements for reporting and drawdown are in place.

Work on Wicklow Library is underway and Council officials are engaging with the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in advance of awarding contracts for the remaining projects.

6th August 2019 was the closing date for the next round of Category 1 proposals under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund. Wicklow County Council applied for funding for three projects – Regenerating Gateways to Glendalough, Blessington eGreenway Enrichment Project and Making Baltinglass the Hub for South West Wicklow.

It is expected that a call for Category 2 proposals will be announced before the end of the year.



Tourism

Tourism Strategy and Marketing Plan 2018-2022

The strategy sets out a number of challenging but achievable priorities along with a series of detailed actions to be implemented over the next 5 years

The Key Priorities are:

1. Develop New Accommodation
2. Develop Key Towns as Visitor Hubs
3. Develop a Masterplan for Glendalough
4. Grow Thematic Experiences
5. Market our County by Developing A Common Narrative

A Tourism Implementation Group has been established to oversee these actions and drive all sectors towards helping Wicklow achieve the target of **€200m in tourism revenue by 2023**.

Key stakeholders including industry experts, representatives of local businesses and Town Teams, along with staff and elected representatives, were designated to the following Tourism Implementation groups:

- Accommodation
- Towns as Visitor Hubs
- Thematic Experiences & Marketing
- Glendalough

Each group will host a series of meetings throughout the year with a view to implementing the recommendations contained in the Tourism Strategy and Marketing Plan.

Wicklow County Council is awaiting a report on accommodation by Crowe Howarth commissioned by Fáilte Ireland.

Glendalough

The Chief Executive is chairing a working group consisting of representatives of Failte Ireland, NPWS, Coillte and OPW, aimed at progressing the development of Glendalough as one of Ireland's premier visitor destinations. The aim is to enhance the visitor experience through improved interpretation, signage, facilities and access.

The work of this group is enhanced by the recent adoption of a report by the elected members of Wicklow County Council in relation to Laragh – Glendalough Visitor Access Infrastructure Improvements, in accordance with Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, and Part VIII of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 – 2006, as amended.

This is further supported by the recent application made under the Rural Regeneration & Development Fund in relation to Regenerating Gateways to Glendalough. This application was made stronger by the collaboration of local statutory agencies working together to improve the visitor experience to Glendalough.

Failte Ireland

Platforms for Growth

Failte Ireland announced a new funding stream for large scale capital projects, Platforms for Growth. The first round of funding focuses on 'Immersive Heritage and Cultural Attractions'. Wicklow County Council has applied for funding for two projects:

An immersive augmented reality experience telling the story of Coolattin House, an important stately home in Co. Wicklow; re-imagining life as it was through the eyes of both residents and servants; and the emigration of 6,000 tenants who left the Estate for a new life in Canada.



The development of Arklow Pottery and Heritage Museum on a site beside the old Abbey grounds, just off the Main Street. This is central to the proposed regeneration of the Abbey Quarter and the town of Arklow. The aim of the project is to tell the story around the production of the pottery, the lives of the workers at the time and life in an industrial town.

These applications were submitted on 7th August 2019.

Destination Towns

Failte Ireland also announced an investment of €15.5 million available through local authorities to boost the attractiveness and tourism appeal of towns across the country. Funding of between €250,000 and €500,000 will be available to local authorities to develop towns in their area which have the potential to become a 'destination town' for tourists. The 'destination towns' will need to demonstrate their capacity and appeal to attract more international visitors to stay overnight.

Wicklow County Council submitted an application for Bray which looks at the restoration of Victorian seafront pavilions on the promenade while also improving wayfinding in Bray which will enhance the visitor experience and increase dwell time by visitors to the area.

Maritime

Maritime Strategic Review for County Wicklow

The Strategic Review will identify ways in which the economic base of County Wicklow could be strengthened through its ports and harbours and formulate recommendation for Wicklow County Council.

Work has begun by Gavin & Doherty Geosolutions, who were awarded the contract to prepare the Maritime Strategic Review for County Wicklow. The first draft of the Strategic Review has been prepared and was considered by the Maritime Business Development Group in September.

It is expected that a final version of the Maritime Strategic Review will be available by the end of November and considered by the elected members thereafter.

Maritime Business Development Group

The MBDG continues to meet on a regular basis. An Aquaculture working group has been established to work with industry experts and investigate the proposal to restore natural oyster reefs off the coast of County Wicklow.

An application for funding for a feasibility study on regeneration of the oyster banks was submitted to BIM in February under the Fisheries Local Action Group (FLAG) Programme 2016 – 2023. An allocation of €20,000 has been made to this project, confirmation of which was received in May.

NORRI have been appointed to carry out a feasibility study for the Oyster Reef Restoration project in line with the FLAG funding received. This first phase of the project will include examination of sustainable sourcing of native Irish seed, consultation with stakeholders, and environmental impact/displacement of habitats.

Food

Wicklow County Council's Economic Development Unit and Community, Cultural and Social Development section, along with LEO Wicklow supported the development of a Food and Beverage Strategy for County Wicklow. The strategy was launched in April at Killruddery during the first Wicklow Food Producer's Showcase. The implementation of the strategy will be industry led.

County Wicklow Partnership with the support of Wicklow County Council, have been awarded LEADER funding for the implementation of the Food & Beverage Strategy. Following a procurement process, Jonathan Birnie Associates were awarded the contract and held an introductory meeting with the Food & Beverage Steering Committee during October.



2. 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
	2018	2019	2019
Grants Approved (number/ value) - Measure 1 - Technical Assistance for Micro Exporters	- 24/€476,558.50 - 14/€26,219.06	- Meet Demand - Meet Demand	22/€507,599.62 06/€7654
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
	2018	2019	2019
Total No. of All Programmes (Training/Networking/Events/Seminars)	52	52	29
Start Your Own Business Participant numbers (included in total training programmes)	72	70	58
Total No. of all Participants participating in above Programmes	876	850	463
Women in Business Network Number of Meetings	6	6	4 (as at 31/08/19)



METRICS: Business Advice & Mentoring	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	YEAR TO DATE
	2018	2019	2019
Number of new clients added to database *criteria has been amended for this metric	623	470*	539
Number of One to One Business Advice meetings including Businesses assigned a mentor	446	430	323

METRICS: Student Enterprise Programmes	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	
Academic Year	2017/2018	2018/2019	Year to Date
No. of Secondary Student Participants	1606	1150	1152

METRICS: Irelands Best Young Entrepreneur	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	
Academic Year	2018	2019	Year to Date 2019
Number of Applications	N/A	44	57

Trading Online Voucher	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	
No of Trading Online Vouchers approved	2018	2019	Year to Date 2019
Trading Online Vouchers	66	50	31

Lean For Micro Project	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	YEAR TO DATE
	2018	2019	2019
No. of Companies who have undertaken a Lean for Micro Assessment by a Lean Expert	7	8	11



October 2019 Activities

The student enterprise programme for 2019-2020 is continuing in secondary schools around county Wicklow. Student workbooks and teaching resources have been distributed to all participating schools in the County and Local Enterprise office representatives are currently visiting school to assist Students with their enterprise Projects.

The LEO continues to assist Wicklow based businesses with their Brexit preparations. In addition to the Brexit mentoring clinics held in the Local Enterprise Offices in Rathnew, 19 meetings have been held at client premises for a more in-depth review of Brexit preparations within Wicklow based businesses. There were 24 attendees at the Prepare your Business for Customs Workshop held in Wicklow County Campus on 9th October and an additional 51 participants are booked on to attend the Brexit Essentials Seminar to be held in the Parkview Hotel, Newtownmountkennedy on 25th October. Guest speakers will be Moira Creedon, Artemis Consulting, Tom McGrath, BDO Ireland and John Madigan, Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland. Significant promotion to highlight Brexit Supports was undertaken in the month of October including radio interview on East coast FM with Head of Enterprise Vibeke Delahunt and John Madigan SBCI.

The final Trading Online Seminar for 2019 was held on the 16th October in Clermont House, Rathnew with 41 attendees.

Other courses held during October were Accessing Finance for your Business (6 attendees), Start Your Own Business (15 attendees), Effective & Practical Human resource Management: Recruitment, Retention & Performance Management (14 attendees) and Increasing Traffic to your Website: Search Engine Optimisation for Beginners (12 attendees).

National Women's Enterprise Day took place on Thursday 17th October and this year LEO hosted a Seminar in Ballyknocken House and Cookery School, Glenealy with a cookery class and presentation by Catherine Fulvio with 41 participants.

Upcoming activities November:

During the month of November the Local Enterprise Office will be hosting the following Courses:-

- ✚ Accessing Finance for Your Business – Wednesday 27th November in Clermont House, Rathnew.
- ✚ Bookkeeping for Small Business – Thursday 14th & 21st November in Clermont House, Rathnew.
- ✚ Public Procurement for SME's Introduction to Tendering Workshop – Wednesday 6th November in Clermont House, Rathnew.
- ✚ Design Your Own Social Media Campaign – Beginners level – Tuesday 12th November in Arklow Business Enterprise Centre.
- ✚ Design Your Own Social Media Campaign – Intermediate level – Friday 22nd November in Clermont House, Rathnew.
- ✚ Bookkeeping using Excel – Thursday 28th November in Clermont House, Rathnew.



3. Planning and Development

Forward Planning

Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Eastern and Midlands Regional Assembly 2019-2031 The new Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) for the Eastern and Midland Region (EMRA) came into effect on the Friday 28th June 2019.

On 07 August 2019, the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government issued the EMRA with a Notice of Intent to issue a Direction under Section 31A of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), relating to the RSES as the Minister had formed the provisional opinion that -

- (i) The Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly in making the RSES has ignored or has not taken sufficient account of the submissions made by the Minister on 23 January and 12 April 2019, and
- (ii) the RSES is not in compliance with the requirements of sections 23(7)(a) and 23(7)(c) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

The draft Direction was on display between 20 August and 02 September, during which period submissions were invited. The Director of the Regional Assembly prepared a report on submissions received and submitted this to the Minister in late September 2019.

The Minister has considered this report, as well as submissions made directly to him, has determined that further investigation is necessary and therefore has decided to appoint an inspector to review this matter and report back to him by 01 November 2019.

Only those parts of the adopted RSES that are the subject of the draft Direction shall be taken as not having come into effect until the Section 31A procedure has completed. All other aspects of the RSES are considered to have been made as of 28th June 2019.

County Development Plan review Within 26 weeks of the making of the new Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy, in accordance with Section 11 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) each Planning Authority shall either give notice of a development plan variations or a development plan review. In this regard, it is intended to commence a review of the current Wicklow County Development Plan before the end of 2019.

This review will commence with a period of public consultation including public consultation meetings, which will be widely advertised.

Local Plans The County Development Plan includes the local plans for the towns of Ashford, Aughrim, Baltinglass Carnew, Dunlavin, Tinahely, Avoca, Donard, Newcastle Roundwood, Shillelagh and Laragh-Glendalough. The County Development Plan review will therefore include a review of the plans for all of these settlements. The Municipal District of Bray (which includes the settlements of Bray, Enniskerry and Kilmacanogue), as well as the settlements of Arklow, Blessington, Greystones – Delgany, Kilcoole, Newtownmountkennedy, Rathdrum and Wicklow – Rathnew all have their own 'Local Area Plans' which do not form part of the County Development Plan; these plans will be reviewed after the new County Development Plan is adopted.



Vacant Site Levy – September

Assessment of regeneration sites throughout the County is ongoing

- 32 no. sites now stand on the Register.
- 06 no. sites are currently on appeal to ABP.
- 06 Section 12 Notices issued regarding Valuations
- 1 site referred to Law Department for Debt Collection proceedings (T.J Foley Site Newtown) (€9,000)

Heritage

Biodiversity Plan Actions: The Heritage Officer is co-ordinating a number of biodiversity County Biodiversity Action Plan implementation programme. These include;

- A County Swift survey for Wicklow
- People + Nature programme of free public events (Monthly May – December)
- A riparian bird survey along the Avonmore River catchment.
- Implementation of dune management and invasive species mapping at Council owned property at Brittas Bay.
- Local Authority Let's Get Buzzing award in National Tidy Towns Competition
- Sustainable Gardening Course for community representatives in Bray area (five weeks commencing 29th Sept)

Heritage Plan Programme:

Glendalough Community Archaeology Project in collaboration with UCD School of Archaeology. Two week volunteer excavation took place 6th – 16th Aug, one day teen excavation. 60 participants.

Baltinglass Hillfort Archaeology Project: Research excavation completed and funded by the Baltinglass Municipal District. Programme of outreach events held for Heritage Week.

Heritage Week 17th 25th August. County Wicklow Heritage Week Event Guide produced and circulated. 60+ events scheduled in 15+ locations.

New ICAN Network for Wicklow: Redevelopment of Wicklow's online community heritage archive to facilitate seven additional local community archives in the new multi platform site. Groups are; Delgany Tidy Towns, Glens Of Lead, Dunlavin & District Forum, Greystones Tidy Towns, Medieval Bray Project, Glendalough Heritage Forum, The Glen/ Donard Heritage Group.

Our Wicklow Women: Exhibition hosted in Greystones library in August, Blessington in Sept and due to move to Baltinglass in October.

River Liffey Stories: Three short films commissioned as part of Creative Wicklow programme to animate the natural, built and cultural heritage of the area surrounding the River Liffey in County Wicklow.

Protected Structures Grants: Funding allocations have been made to 9 projects under the BHIS and 2 projects under the HSF. All applicants have been notified; projects will be monitored and are due to be completed by end Oct 2019.



Planning Applications

Type of Development	Number Received
Individual Houses	21
Housing Developments	9
Agricultural Structures	3
Commercial	6
Other Developments	54
Total	93

Decisions issued in respect of 79 applications in September

In relation to decisions issued between January to September 2019, in comparison to the same period for 2018, the details are as follows:

	30/09/2018	30/09/2019
Total Number of decisions issued	767	724
Total Number of decisions to grant	639	619
% grant rate	83%	85%

Type of Development	Number of Decisions
Housing Developments	5
Individual Houses	17
Other Developments	57
Other Developments Requiring EIA	0
Total	79

No. of Applications withdrawn

September 15

*Withdrawals may not have been lodged in the month of September.

Planning Enforcement

Details of Activity during August

- 14 New Files were opened
- 48 Advisory letters issued
- 10 Warning letters issued
- 3 Enforcement Notices served
- 27 Files have been closed
- files referred for legal action

Court Activity:

- 1 Case listed for hearing in the District Court in September – adjourned to October 2019
- County Registrar's call over in September : 7 Cases listed for hearing in November in Circuit Court

Derelict Sites Activity September

- 04 No. of sites on Register
- 00 No. of Inspections
- 00 No. of Notices issued
- 00 Site removed from the register



4. Environmental Services

Waste Management Section

No. of Complaints Opened	229
No. of Cases Closed, Resolved or Completed	215
No of Litter Fines Issued	29
No. of Waste Management Files Opened	10
No. of Warning Letters Issued	5
No. of Abandoned Car Notices Issued	11
No. of Burning Applications Granted	8
No. of Temporary Signs Granted	4
No. of Notices issued under Section 14 of the Waste Management Act	7
No. of files prepared for Court included in Court lists	3
No. of cases i Court under the Waste Management Act	3
No. of cases in Court under the Litter Pollution Act	6
Income – Litter	€6,300
Income – Waste Management	€1,450

Whitestown Remediation Project

Wicklow County Council have employed Fehily Timoney & Company to advise on the remediation of the site at Whitestown, in accordance with the judgments of Mr. Justice Humphreys.

- Priority Geotechnical Limited completed site Investigation on Friday 13th September and factual report is awaited
- Website is up and running and regular updates will be made to keep the Public and Members informed of progress.

Judgement delivered by the court of appeal on Wednesday 16th October rejected Brownfields (landowners) appeal regarding the timelines for remediation specified by Judge Humphries in July 2017.

The appeal also dealt with costs from previous proceedings and the judgement overturned the original judgement of 2017 in a small number of modules and awarded costs of these modules to Brownfield limited.

Ports and Harbours

Three Marine Notices were issued during September and one Radio Navigation Warning with Irish Coast Guard.

Wicklow During September 10 ships berthed and discharged cargo at Wicklow Port. Of these ships, 8 had a single transaction i.e. either an import or an export of cargo while 2 had two transactions i.e. an import and an export of cargo from the same ship. The exports consisted of pulp and woodchips while the imports consisted of logs from Scotland and timber from Sweden.

Wicklow Port Waste Management Plan submitted to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport.

Design works on the new 50 Tonne mooring bollard at Wicklow Port commenced in September.



Pollution Control

Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants - Ambient Monitoring

- 36 River/Lake samples were taken and analysed upstream and downstream of discharges of public wastewater treatment plants involving 368 individual analyses were monitored on behalf of Irish Water.

Pollution Response & Investigation

- 16 Water pollution complaints were received and investigated.
- 2 Air Pollution complaints were received and investigated.

Private Water Supplies

- 28 Private water supplies were sampled.
- 3 Private water supplies were sampled and deemed non-compliant with microbiological parameters.
- 2 boil water notices were issued on private water supplies.
- 1 boil water notices were lifted from on private water supplies following from remedial action and satisfactory testing.
- 4 letters were issued to private water suppliers to address minor issues.

Septic Tank Inspections - National Inspection Plan 2019

- 2 compliance certificates were issued in respect of domestic wastewater treatment systems deemed compliant after remedial actions were taken.

Well Grants

Number of Inspections carried out in respect of water grant applications 6

Water Framework Directive National Monitoring Programme

- 2 Lakes were monitored involving 9 samples were taken for analysis for the purposes of WFD/River Management Plan.
- 14 Rivers were monitored involving 19 samples for analysis for the purposes of the WFD/River Management Plan.

Bathing Water Monitoring Programme

- 4 Blue Flags awarded to beaches in Bray(1), Greystones(1) and Brittas Bay(2).
- 20 samples were taken from 6 Identified (designated) bathing waters and 7 non-designated bathing water for analysis.
- All bathing waters were excellent or good quality.

Planning & Development

9 environmental reports on referred planning applications/consultations were completed concerned agricultural, commercial and forestry development.

Petrol Vapour Recovery

Wicklow County Council appointed two companies as approved assessors under European union (stage 11 Petrol Vapour Recovery during refuelling of motor vehicles at service stations)regulation 2011 on 13th June 2019. All petrol station owners in the county written to and advised of their responsibilities under current legislation.



Well Grants

- Number of Applications 16
- Number of New Wells 6
- Number of New Pumps 12
- Number of New Equipment (Filters etc.) 6

The Department has stated that it is hoped that the new Regulations would be available in July which will increase the grant to 90%.

On receipt of Circular, it will be put up on the Web and details circulated.

Environmental Awareness

The Community Environment Action Fund, formerly known as the Local Agenda 21 Environmental Partnership Fund was announced. It was advertised through the PPN, local papers and radio and on social media. Consideration will be given to Climate Action and Biodiversity in assessing applications this year. Sixty seven applications were received, a fifty percent increase in last year.

Wicklow County Council developed a new competition for secondary school students focusing on fashion called ReLove Fashion and is working with four neighbouring local authorities and the Rediscovery Centre in Ballymun to roll it out to mark National Reuse Month in October. The competition involves students taking an older item of clothing and upcycling it using repair alterations or remaking of the garment. Nine teams have registered for the completion in County Wicklow

The annual Tidy Towns, Estates and Environmental Awareness Awards were judged with awards due to take place later in the year. The number of special environmental awards was increased to include new themes such as Climate Action, Energy, protection of water, and Biodiversity in Schools.

A project to implement water bottle filling fountains in secondary schools is being part funded under the Local Authority Prevention Network by the EPA. Nine schools have expressed an interest in having the fountains installed. Funding was also provided to the Refill Ireland campaign to facilitate work at public events.

A leaflet outlining local waste services was developed for each of the five principal towns under the Anti-dumping Initiative. The leaflets are titled My Waste, My Town to link to the mywaste.ie information portal on waste management services. They provide information on local services, local reuse opportunities, illegal man with the van collections and local Tidy Towns Groups.

Climate Adaptation Strategy

Wicklow County Council adopted its Climate Adaptation Strategy. The adoption of the Climate Adaptation Strategy is a reserved function of the members of Wicklow County Council

Climate adaptation involves taking steps to adjust our operational systems and planning processes in response to existing and anticipated Climate Change. The completed strategy will allow us to mainstream adaptation over time into the plans and policies of Wicklow County Council. It will provide a strategy to ensure corporate activities are climate proofed.

The amended strategy with screening documents and the Chief Executives Report were submitted to the elected members of Wicklow County Council at the end of August with members voting to adopt the amended strategy at the Council Meeting held on the 2nd of September. Wicklow was the first of seventeen local authorities in its region to adopt a Climate Adaptation Strategy as required before the 30th of September 2019.



The adopted plan was presented to the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment meeting the statutory requirement to do so before the 30th of December.

A meeting was held between the Chairperson of the Climate and Biodiversity SPC and staff from the Planning and Environment Section to discuss opportunities to quickly enable the newly established SPC to start up and take actions within its remit on Climate Action and Biodiversity.

Sustainable Energy

WCC's Better Energy Communities programme was successfully completed by the deadline of 14th October. Work on approx. 40 projects across 11 WCC buildings and 6 LA houses and associated extensive documentation were completed and returned to SEAI and we anticipate that we will receive the full grant. Significant lessons learned have been noted and as a learning exercise, we will be much better placed for future energy works.

4 Sustainable Energy Communities have now been approved by SEAI for grant support totalling €65,000 to develop Energy Masterplans. WCC is leading all 4 applications and 3 Counties Energy Agency will be carrying out the Masterplans. The 4 communities are:

- Glendalough/Laragh
- Glenmalure
- Greystones/Delgany
- Newtown

WCC appointed 3Counties Energy Agency for Energy Services consultancy to support delivery of the above, work has commenced and an action plan has been agreed.

Arklow Flood Relief Scheme

The Office of Public Works (OPW) and Wicklow County Council have commissioned Byrne Looby PH McCarthy (BLP) and Arup to undertake engineering and environmental studies respectively to assess and develop a viable, cost effective and sustainable Flood Relief Scheme for the Avoca River, Arklow.

The process of identifying a preferred scheme to address fluvial and coastal flooding in Arklow includes a detailed assessment of a range of flood risk management measures to determine their technical, economic, social and environmental viability.

Following a detailed scheme options assessment process, the series of measures that will make up the emerging preferred flood relief scheme for the Avoca River, Arklow have now been identified.

A number of questions have arisen regarding the affect of the flood defences on the hydrology of the Arklow Marsh and a study of the water levels in the marsh is now being carried out. A report on this study will be finalised by the end of November 2019.

A second study, which is also ongoing, is a Hydro-geomorphology Study being carried out by Gavin Doherty Geosolutions. This will identify the effects of removing or leaving in the pinch point and slip way on the south quay.

Site investigation which includes an archaeological investigation is ongoing at the 19 arches bridge and is about to commence in the Marsh.

Following the confirmation of the preferred flood relief scheme an Environmental Impact Statement will be prepared and submitted to An Bord Pleanala.

Initial meeting with the foreshore section of the Department of Housing Planning and Local Government has taken place.



5. Transportation, Water & Emergency Services

Public Lighting

	2 September 2019	9 September 2019	16 September 2019	30 September 2019	7 October 2019
Access Issues (Attended)	17	14	15	16	14
Cable Fault (Attend)	12	12	12	10	10
ESB Required (Attended)	13	17	17	19	19
Knock Down (Attended)	3	3	3	3	3
Materials required	4	4	4	4	4
No Supply	28	28	27	27	27
On Hold	2	2	2	2	2
Submitted	222	218	218	271	287
Traffic Management Required	22	18	17	16	12
TOTAL	323	316	315	368	378

	ARKLOW MD	BALTINGLASS MD	BRAY MD	GREYSTONES MD	WICKLOW MD	Grand Total
Access Issues (Attended)	2		5	3	4	14
Cable Fault (Attend)	3		2	3	2	10
ESB Required(Attended)	2		6		11	19
Knock Down (Attended)	1				2	3
Materials required			3		1	4
No Supply	11	3	2	5	6	27
On Hold		2				2
Submitted	35	75	58	19	100	287
Traffic Management Required	1	1	3	5	2	12
Grand Total	55	81	79	35	128	378

Parking Income

Parking Income by Municipal District September 2019	EURO
INCOME FLORENCE ROAD CARPARK BRAY MD	40,439
INCOME HERBERT ROAD CARPARK BRAY MD	196,968
INCOME NORTH BEACH CAR PARK - STRAND ROAD BRAY MD	32,770
INCOME RESTRICTED PARKING BRAY MD	577,455
INCOME PARKING FINES BRAY MD	171,499
INCOME RESIDENTIAL/SPECIAL PARKING DISCS BRAY MD	47,390
BRAY MUNICIPAL DISTRICT	1,066,522
INCOME GREYSTONES PAY PARKING SCHEME	323,428
GREYSTONES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT	323,428
INCOME PARKING CHARGES WICKLOW MD	260,244
INCOME RESIDENTIAL PARKING DISK WICKLOW MD	2,470
INCOME TRAFFIC FINES WICKLOW MD	11,562
WICKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT	274,276
INCOME PARKING TRAFFIC FINES ARKLOW MD	8,680
INCOME PAY PARKING FEES AND PERMITS ARKLOW MD	185,102
ARKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT	193,782
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL	1,858,007

Transportation Statistics (General)

	August 2019	September 2019
<i>Solicitors Queries</i>	76	77
<i>Road Closure Applications</i>	0	2
<i>Road Opening Licences</i>	95	101
<i>Abnormal Load Applications</i>	0	4 single 1 quarterly and 1 annual permit

N81 Knockroe Bend Realignment

Site works have commenced on the N81 Knockroe Bends over a length of approximately 1km and it is anticipated the main works will be 72 weeks.

Winter Maintenance

The winter maintenance programme commenced on the 1st October 2019 and monitors conditions for the winter season of October 2019 to April 2020.

Fire Services

Operational Fire Statistics September 2019

	TOTAL	Bray	Greystones	Wicklow	Rathdrum	Arklow	Blessington	Dunlavin	Baltinglass	Carnew	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	2	1	1								
Fire Domestic	11	2	2	1	2		1			1	2
Fire Caravan	0										
Road Traffic Collision (RTC)	21	4	4	2	2	3	1	2	2		1
Fire Vehicle (HGV /motorway)	2			1		1					
Fire Institutional	0										
Fire Industrial / Commercial	1	1									
Single Station Mobilised											
Fire Alarm or CO ₂ Activation	15	3	4	5	2		1				
Fire Outdoor: Gorse / bushes	15	2	5	1		4	1		1	1	
Fire Chimney	3		1	1							1
Fire Small / bin / skip	17	15	1	1							
Fire Vehicle	5	3	1	1							
Fire Shed	3					2			1		
Flooding	4		1			2			1		
Trees Down, Make Scene Safe	1		1								
Ambulance Assist	4	3		1							
Garda Assist	1	1									
Electrical Incident	0										
Gas Leak	0										
River Rescue	1					1					
Animal Rescue	0										
Entrapment / Rescue	2	1	1								
Oil Spill / Road Hazard	0										
Malicious False Alarm	0										
Mobilised into other County	3						1	1		1	
Times Stations mobilised	111	36	22	14	6	13	5	3	5	3	4

There were **93 incidents** attended during the month of September 2019.

Operational activity for the month of September was slightly up (10%) on the preceding month (August – 101 mobilisations). Activity for September 2019 was **down 8 %** of September 2018, mainly due to a reduction in the number of “gorse fires” in 2019.



Sample Incidents (September 2019)

- 20/09/2019 Bray and Greystones Crews mobilised to a domestic fire “persons reported” at James Connolly Square. One occupant evacuated from house.
- 22/09/2019 Greystones Crew attended a flooding incident at Rathdown.
- 24/09/2019 Bray and Greystones Fire Crews attended an RTC on the N11 (north) at Fassaroe involving a motorbike.
- 27/09/2019 Wicklow Town Fire Crew attended a car fire outside the Grand Hotel. The incident caused traffic congestion for a while.
- 27/09/2019 Baltinglass and Dunlavin Fire Crews attended a single vehicle RTC at Tinoran. The car came to rest on its roof.
- 29/09/2019 Arklow Fire Crew were mobilised to a number of flooding incidents in the town due to a combination of heavy rain and high tides.

Incidents mobilised outside county Wicklow (September 2019):

- Kildare (2-incidents)
- 05/09/19 Dunlavin Fire Crew were mobilised to assist Crews from Newbridge and Monasterevin at a 2-car RTC at Knockaulin, Kilcullen.
- 27/09/19 Blessington Fire Crew were mobilised to assist a Fire Crew from Naas at an RTC involving a van with a person trapped at Hartwell, Kill.
- Wexford (1-incident)
- 15/09/19 Blessington and Dunlavin Fire Crews were mobilised to an RTC at Silverhill, Ballymore Eustace involving a HGV and a van.

Incidents where crews from neighbouring counties were mobilised to assist in County Wicklow (September 2019):

- 16/09/2019 Naas Fire Crew were mobilised to support Blessington at a “Domestic Fire” at Avon Ri Holiday Village. Sitting room on fire, all occupants had evacuated.

General

- The Fire Service Twitter Account has reached over 1,130 followers.
- Wicklow County Fire Service held a commemoration and wreath laying ceremony at Bray Fire Station on 26th September to honour the 12th anniversary of the deaths of Firefighter Mark O’Shaughnessy and Sub Station Officer Brian Murray.
- A national 2-week Sub Station Officers training course began in Bray Fire Station. The course was attended by 18 students from around the country including 1 Wicklow student.
- One Wicklow Student attended a 2-week National Hazardous Materials Course in Middleton Fire Station.
- A series of Hazardous Materials courses for officers and firefighters were organised in Greystones.
- A week of Mandatory Breathing Apparatus Refresher training took place in Bray during the month.
- Arklow Fire Crew were involved in road safety and fire safety demonstrations for staff at Servier Industries.
- Tinahely Fire Crew appeared on RTE’s Nationwide television programme (16/09/19) performing an RTC demonstration at the Tinahely Show (05/08/19).
- A firefighter from Baltinglass qualified to compete in the “World Rescue Challenge” in France. He was accompanied by an officer who was part of the international organising committee.
- Preparations for Fire Safety Week in October.

Fire Prevention Statistics September 2019

Application type	Received	Deemed Invalid	Requested additional information	Inspections	Recommended Grant
Fire Safety Certificates	4		2		1
Regularisation Certificates	1				
FSC as part of 7 Day Notice					
Disability Access Certificates	7				

Licensing	Received	Inspected	Request further info	No Objection letter	Not raising an objection
District	38	60	13	53	
Circuit					

General

Meetings with consultants	2
Consultant queries	17
Assistance to Building Control Section	1

Building Control

Commencement Notices

- 40 Commencement Notices
 - Of which:
 - 11 were Commencement Notices with Compliance Documents
 - 7 were Commencement Notices without Compliance Documents
 - 2 Seven day Notice
 - 20 Opt Out Declarations
 - 50 % of Commencement notices are opt out.
 - 40 % inspection rate on all notices
 - 79 new build units
 - 14 of which are one-off houses



Completion Certificates

- 14 completion certificates validated
 - (145 housing units)

Wicklow County Council are not notified of the completion of opt out houses

- **Non compliance issues (on-going)**
 - 1 invalid submissions
 - 8 pre validation of commencement notices
 - 2 post validation of commencement notices based on construction and completion stage site inspections.



Organisational Development and Financial Matters

1. Recruitment

Competitions for the following posts were held in September 2019:

Employee Support Advisor

Employee Numbers

	Q4 2018	Q1 2019	Q2 2019	Q3 2019
Managerial/ Administrative	278	280	288	280
Professional/ Technical	104	104	106	103
Outdoor	312	316	320	318
Temporary/ Seasonal	38	65	93	62
Non DOHPLG	8	8	8	8
Total	740	773	815	771

	Q4 2017	Q1 2018	Q2 2018	Q3 2018
Managerial/ Administrative	250	246	263	280
Professional/ Technical	119	119	105	105
Outdoor	317	317	306	313
Temporary/ Seasonal	41	41	79	54
Non DOHPLG	13	13	8	8
Total	740	736	761	752

(Excludes figures for Fire-fighters)

2. Access to Information

No. of F.O.I. Requests

September 2019: 8	September 2018: 13
Jan to September 2019: 102	Jan to September 2018: 92

No. of Ombudsman Requests

September 2019: 4	September 2018: 0
Jan to September 2019: 15	Jan to September 2018: 10

3. Press Releases

September 2019 – 5 Press Releases



4. Register of Electors

In October of each year, the Register of Electors section is busy preparing the Draft Register. This involves keying additions, deletions, modifications, change of address and any other data required, from 62 workbooks, from 34 fieldworkers. It is noted that this year is the first Draft Register in many years where there is a marked increase in the amount of elector movement within the county (e.g. moving from one local electoral area to another or within local electoral area) and with the coming on-stream of a lot of new developments, particularly in east Wicklow, there is a significant increase in electors moving into Co. Wicklow from other local authorities.

The net effect of this increase will be evident when the keying has been processed and the Draft Register is published in November. This may then involve the creation of extra polling stations in a number of areas. As per previous registers, there will be a social media and print media campaign carried out to encourage electors to check the Draft Register to ensure they will have a vote when the Live Register comes into effect on 15th February 2020.



5. I.C.T. Report

IT Helpdesk

- The IT Helpdesk continues to streamline the workflow for the technical support team with 352 tickets closed in the past 4 weeks.

Email Archiving

- Since October 2018, all email has been archived and all personal folders have been added to the archive. All staff has access through a link in their email.
- Since its completion, IT have been able to tidy up the exchange servers and apply retention policies to make the servers more efficient in preparation for domain migration.
- This solution will enhance the search capabilities on email and will greatly assist discovery orders and GDPR requests.

Customer Service Delivery

- Customer Relations Management (CRM) System – Business process and workflow modelling for all departments are being assessed and where necessary, redeveloped in preparation for the new Customer Service Unit. 86 teams have been identified in the organisation.
- Service Catalogue – in line with the LGMA's Service Catalogue Project Team, IT are assisting in the formation of this national catalogue. Services identified are feeding into the workflows in the CRM System and IT staff are working with the departments on cataloguing these processes.

Unified Communications

- The Voice over IP phone solution will have a major software upgrade in the coming weeks. This will allow us to focus on call routing, customer care & management of total costs and ensure readiness of call handling systems during roll of the customer care unit.

Core Network

- A fully updated core network is now in place.
- The Business case for connection to government networks and government cloud networks has been advanced and should be complete during 2019 to support customer care systems.

GIS & Data Collection Systems

- Cloud mapping is being more widely used by Arklow and Greystones MD's.
- Parallel projects in Housing, Roads and Environmental Services departments are on-going and integration to CRM and GIS systems are being developed.
- The GIS team are starting the County Development Plan mapping process with the Forward Planning team. Roughly 100 maps will need to be produced and plans are afoot to make more mapping interactive.



Domain Migration

- Wicklow County Council is currently undertaking a domain migration project which includes the replacement of historic domain controllers and the migration of all users and servers to the new infrastructure. 172 users migrated and 154 pc's migrated. Sections are being done in batches, and this involves some downtime for users. Servers and applications will follow.

eServices

- The Online Consultation Hub is working well on the Wicklow.ie website. There are currently 3 items up for consultation; Strategically Planning for the Arts, Interment of ashes at St. Gabriel's Cemetery, Arklow and the Greystones Public Realm Plan. It is intended to use the consultation hub for the County Development Plan process and the eService's team are working with the Forward Planning team on development of this.
- Wicklow.ie has had 1,080,296 pageviews to date in 2019
- Social Media – the accounts have increased significantly since the end of 2018.
Twitter – 11.28% increase @WicklowCoCo
Facebook – 142.95% increase www.facebook.com/WicklowCountyCouncil
Instagram – 237.22% increase @WicklowCoCo
- September campaigns on Wicklow's Social Media Channels have been – Hazardous Waste Collections, Culture Night and Make Way Day.

Open Data

- Wicklow County Council is adding to its datasets on Ireland's Open Data Portal www.data.gov.ie which promotes innovation and transparency through the publication of Irish Public Sector data in open, free and reusable formats. There are currently 35 datasets uploaded.

Broadband Development

- Broadband Development Officer and D.O.S. TWES met with Dept. Rural and Community Development Officials and Minister Sean Canney on 13th Sept. to discuss Local Authorities responsibilities under the National Broadband Plan. A positive meeting underpinned the need for Local Authorities to prepare for the start of NBP state Intervention project and support Broadband Development Officers in their role.

Digital Strategy

- The Digital Strategy Steering Group met on 12th September and approved the final draft of Implementation Plan for the strategy. The review of the current draft report is ongoing with the final strategy report due for release in early October 2019.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

1. Revenue Account

REVENUE ACCOUNT							
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2019							
	EXPENDITURE			INCOME			NET
	Actual Expenditure	Adopted Full Year Budget	% Budget Spent to date	Actual income	Adopted Full Year Budget	% Budget Spent to date	
	€	€	%	€	€	%	€
A - Housing and Building	14,393,338	19,892,855	72	(17,421,645)	(24,370,271)	71	(3,028,307)
B - Road Transport & Safety	15,329,193	20,449,070	75	(9,766,341)	(13,354,096)	73	5,562,852
C - Water Services	3,850,421	5,818,773	66	(4,481,284)	(6,759,744)	66	(630,863)
D - Development Management	7,077,742	9,868,577	72	(3,861,223)	(5,501,133)	70	3,216,519
E - Environmental Services	8,341,659	10,987,633	76	(1,456,441)	(1,971,500)	74	6,885,218
F - Recreation and Amenity	5,015,954	6,990,426	72	(546,084)	(894,778)	61	4,469,870
G - Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	1,095,521	1,541,865	71	(602,535)	(812,728)	74	492,986
H - Miscellaneous Services	7,773,473	11,098,626	70	(5,527,053)	(8,257,821)	67	2,246,420
J - Central Management Charges	11,815,686	16,052,449	74	(818,835)	(1,005,217)	81	10,996,851
LG - Local Government Fund				(8,987,569)	(11,983,425)	75	(8,987,569)
PL - Pension Levy				-			-
RA - Commercial Rates				(20,945,659)	(27,939,561)	75	(20,945,659)
	74,692,987	102,700,274	73	74,414,669	102,850,274	72	278,318

2. Cashflow/Overdraft

Wicklow County Council manages its cash-flow requirements on a daily basis and did not avail of its overdraft facility during the period 1st September 2019 to 30th September 2019.

3. Capital Account

CAPITAL ACCOUNT					
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2019					
	Opening Balance at 01/01/2019	Actual Expenditure	Actual Income	Transfers To/From Reserves	Closing Balance at 30/09/2019
	€	€	€	€	€
Housing and Building	23,666,606	52,282,096	(40,321,190)	(338,366)	35,289,146
Road Transport & Safety	(39,057,744)	4,292,146	(6,603,589)	(270,614)	(41,639,801)
Water Services	(10,100,125)	316,707	(775,120)	0	(10,558,538)
Development Management	(9,430,657)	235,979	(747,541)	(144,280)	(10,086,499)
Environmental Services	322,578	3,251,954	(2,397,422)	(253,136)	923,974
Recreation and Amenity	(237,760)	1,340,314	(2,025,667)	(107,500)	(1,030,613)
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	(929,822)	138,893	0	(152,500)	(943,429)
Miscellaneous Services	(14,953,999)	2,506,385	(2,181,734)	143,353	(14,485,995)
	(50,720,923)	64,364,474	(55,052,263)	(1,123,043)	(42,531,755)



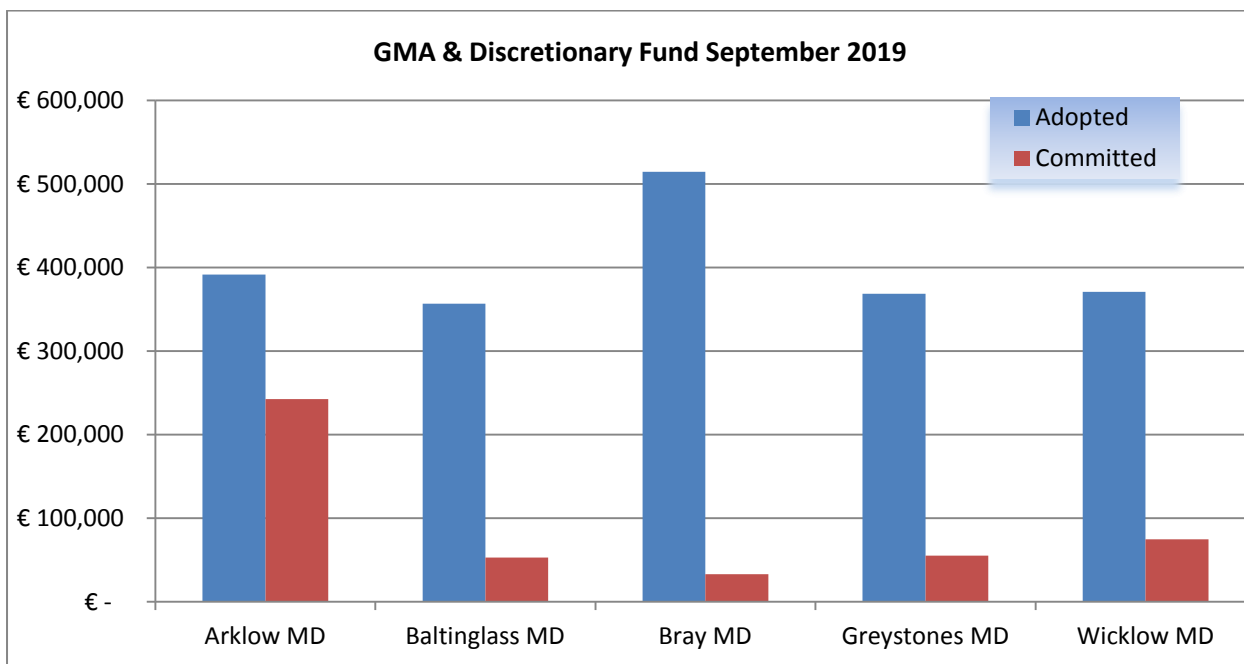
4. Commercial Rates, Rents and Loan Collections

SEPTEMBER									
Income Collection Area	Opening Balance 01/01/2019	Accrued	Vacancy Property Adjustments	Write Offs	Total for Collection	Collected	Closing Arrears 31/07/2019	Specific Doubtful Arrears	% Collection
Rates *	6,804,584	27,927,240	(1,240)		34,733,063	20,360,259	14,372,804		64%
Rents & Annuities	1,470,372	10,445,252		(132)	11,915,756	10,323,828	1,591,928		87%
Housing Loans *	399,710	1,162,346			1,562,056	1,237,347	324,709		79%

N.B. The rent and rates collection percentages are 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.

5. General Municipal Allocation and Discretionary Fund 2019

Discretionary Budget 2019 €2,002,500. The graph and table below outline the discretionary budget for 2019 by Municipal District.



Municipal District	C/F from 2018	Adopted	Committed	Balance to Expend
	€	€	€	€
Arklow MD	101,350	391,750	343,789	149,311
Baltinglass MD	269,230	356,750	322,149	303,831
Bray MD	168,672	514,500	201,527	481,645
Greystones MD	-6,637	368,750	48,657	313,456
Wicklow MD	188,759	370,750	263,433	296,076



Total	721,374	2,002,500	1,179,555	1,544,319
--------------	----------------	------------------	------------------	------------------

6. Capital Investment Programme 2019-2021

The Capital Investment Programme 2019-2021 for Wicklow County Council which details proposed capital expenditure projects over the next 3 year period, subject to available funding, was approved by the Members at the Ordinary Council meeting of March 4th 2019.

The table below outlines the proposed capital expenditure by programme group.

PROGRAMME GROUP	Proposed Expenditure			
	2019	2020	2021	TOTAL
	€	€	€	€
HOUSING AND BUILDING	71,127,000	119,392,000	146,372,000	336,891,000
ROAD TRANSPORT & SAFETY	17,201,600	24,692,200	31,043,000	72,936,800
WATER SERVICES	150,000	150,000	150,000	450,000
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT	2,015,000	3,945,981	2,130,000	8,090,981
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	720,000	2,675,000	2,175,000	5,570,000
RECREATION AND AMENITY	7,439,000	17,950,000	9,988,000	35,377,000
AGRICULTURAL, EDUCATION, HEALTH & WELFARE	2,200,000	7,300,000	11,050,000	20,550,000
MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES	1,975,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	3,975,000
OVERALL TOTAL	102,827,600	177,105,181	203,908,000	483,840,781