

SEPTEMBER 2019



# Wicklow County Council Chief Executive's Monthly Report



W I C K L O W

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ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES

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## This Month:

### ➤ **National Enterprise Town Awards 2019**

The pride of County Wicklow shone-through in spite of the bad weather on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September when the NETA judges visited Ashford and Rathdrum. Local community groups worked together with Wicklow County Council to showcase the spirit of enterprise in each town.

### ➤ **Destination Towns**

Bray becoming a Destination Town - A comprehensive funding application for the restoration of the Victorian seafront pavilions at Bray Promenade and improved wayfinding in Bray was submitted to Fáilte Ireland in September. The proposal would enhance the visitor experience to Bray and encourage more visitors to stay longer and explore the Wicklow Outdoors.

### ➤ **Regional Enterprise Development Fund**

September saw the submission of an extensive application for funding for a Screen Content Creation Hub at Wicklow County Campus under the Regional Enterprise Development Fund. Assessment will take place in the coming months, with strong support from both the film industry and Wicklow County Council.

### ➤ **Ecotrail Update:**

Ecotrail Wicklow took place on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> with the start and finish line on Bray Seafront. More than 1100 participants ran up the Wicklow Mountains, through iconic locations such as Bray Head, Killruddery, Big Sugarloaf, Powerscourt Waterfall, The Wicklow Way and Roundwood Reservoir. Ecotrail Wicklow offered 4 distances to choose from: 18k, 28k, 45k and 80k.

### ➤ **Culture Night**

The annual Culture Night took place in County Wicklow in September. Music, Theatre, Movies and Poetry were some of the performances that took place, at over fifteen free events throughout the county.



## HOUSING AND COMMUNITY

### 1. Social Housing Support

	31/8/2018	31/8/2019
No. on list for Social Housing Support – (includes RAS and HAP)	3,810	4,348
No. availing of Rental Assistance Scheme (RAS)	439	386
No. availing of Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)	837	1,489
No. in Long Term Leasing accommodation	7	8
No. in Short Term Leasing accommodation	9	10

### 2. Allocation of Social Housing

	31/8/2018	31/8/2019
WCC Social Housing	41	134
Approved Housing Bodies	7	18

### 3. Social Housing Stock

	31/8/2018	31/8/2019
Total No of houses occupied @ 25/08/2018	4311	4397
Total weekly rent payable @	235,314.92	299,764.31
Minimum rent 24 - Maximum Rent 275.50		

### 4. Casual Vacancies/Relets

Municipal District	No
Arklow	17
Baltinglass	22
Bray	8
Greystones	6
Wicklow	19

### 5. Housing Supply – Programme of Delivery

#### Social Housing Supply Programme

3 schemes completed in 2018	28 Units
1 scheme completed 2019 so far	17 units
10 schemes currently on site in 2019	233 Units
2 further schemes to commence on site in 2019	77 Units
9 further schemes to commence on site in 2020	<u>220 Units</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>575 Units</b>



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
SCHEMES ON SITE	UNITS	CURRENT STATUS
Druids Brook Kilcoole	2	Completion anticipated September 2019
16A Oak Drive, Blessington	1	Completion anticipated September 2019
Whitehall Baltinglass RAPID BUILD	34	Completion anticipated November 2019
Kilbride Lane, Bray (Murphy's Lands)	42	Completion anticipated March 2020
FCA Hall, Wicklow Town	8	Completion anticipated March 2020
Kilmantan Place, Bray	4	Completion anticipated March 2020
Farrenkelly Greystones (Phase 2)	24	Completion anticipated March 2020
Sugarloaf View Kilmacanogue	20	Completion anticipated April 2020
Rathnew RAPID BUILD	47	Completion anticipated August 2020
Convent Lands PPP	51	Completion anticipated October 2020
PIPELINE SCHEMES	UNITS	CURRENT STATUS
Delany Park Arklow (Phase 2 + 3)	47	Site start anticipated September 2019
Carnew RAPID BUILD	30	Site start anticipated September 2019
Avondale Phase 2 RAPID BUILD	20	Site Start anticipated March 2020
Ard na Gréine RAPID BUILD	30	Site start anticipated March 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 RAID BUILD	32	Site start anticipated November 2020
Shillelagh RAPID BUILD	20	Site start anticipated November 2020

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

Construction of the 42 No. social housing units at Kilbride Lane in Bray is progressing well. The carpenters have installed the roof to 5 units in the front of the site facing Kilbride Lane and 2 units at Cloverhill. Blocklayers are currently working on bringing the remaining units up to roof level. The two bungalow house types at the end of Cloverhill estate have the first fix of M & E installed and plastering is to start after the windows are installed. The first delivery of windows and doors occurred mid August. The contractor is concentrating their efforts to finish the bungalow units to Cloverhill and the front units first and then work their way back up through the site.

The project delay has been reduced down to 4.5 weeks behind the programme. The contractor is currently reducing the programme delay by 1 week per month. They plan to mitigate the delay further by adding additional crews of blocklayers and expect to be back on programme by December. At present, the project is still due to finish at the agreed completion date.

Groundworkers are installing manholes and the main storm drain down through the site at present. 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.

## 6. Part V

### 2019

- 2 units (Rathdrum) - Department approval received. Acquisition into Council stock completed 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019.
- 2 Units Part V (Newtownmountkennedy) Acquisition completed into Council stock 28<sup>th</sup> June 2019.
- 2 Units (Rathnew) Acquisition completed into Council stock 20<sup>th</sup> June 2019.
- 7 units (Greystones) Acquisition completed via CALF 14<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> April 2019. 2 further units expected delivery Q4 2019.
- 1 unit (Kilcoole) Agreement purchase into Council stock completed 19<sup>th</sup> July 2019.
- 1 Part V Unit (Ashford) acquisition into Council stock completed 28<sup>th</sup> 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 are 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 29<sup>th</sup> March 2019.
- Remaining 1 turnkey unit Tinahely completed and purchased into Council stock on 5<sup>th</sup> 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

## 7. 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.

The Allocations Team is currently working with the AHB on the allocation process.

## 8. Approved Housing Bodies (AHB)

### 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.

**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.

## 9. Housing Schemes Remediation

### Glending, Blessington – Remediation:

**Stage 2** completed.

**Stage 3 Phase 3B** – Glending phase 3B completed in December 2018.

**Stage 3 Phase 4** - to commence in October 2019. This phase will close out the remediation works in the estate

### Hillview, Wicklow – Remediation:

Works substantially complete, with some outstanding ceiling works ongoing.

## 10. Home Improvement/Adaptation

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

› Grant funding for private houses - €1,768,217

› Grant funding for social house - € 500,000

61 Open (not yet approved)

Applications to the value of €695,654.63 – figure is subject to change if/when approved.

# SEPTEMBER 2019



## Housing Assistance – not yet approved so figures are subject to change

Older People (12)	€ 56,000
Mobility Aid Grants (10)	€ 36,000
Housing Adaptation Grants (39)	€ 603,654.63

## Approved

15 Mobility Aid Grants	€ 72,130.00
18 Housing Adaption Grants	€ 104,763.64
16 Housing Aid for Older People	€ 219,670.32

**Actual spend so far in 2019** € 976,001.48

**Approval amount carried over from 2018 (30)** €348,934.06

## House Purchase Loans – Rebuilding Ireland

- 103 received up to 31/08/2019
- 17 approvals.
- 27 declined
- 5 to be assessed.

## 2016 Incremental Tenant Purchase Scheme

- 26 applications to 31/08/2019
- 1 sales completed
- 4 declined.

## 11. Addressing Homelessness

No. of Homeless Presentations & Primary reasons for their presentations – August 2018

No. of Presentations	51
No. of Repeat Presentations	
No. of Households (Families)	27
No. of Adults (Individuals)	24
No. of Children	49
NTQ/Asked to Leave/Landlord Selling	16
Family Circumstances	8
Leaving Prison/Hospital Care	4
Sofa Surfing	5
Rough Sleeping	1
Squatting	0

## No. of Homeless Presentations & Primary reasons for their presentations – August 2019

No. of Presentations	61
No. of Repeat Presentations	7
No. of Households (Families)	34
No. of Adults (Individuals)	30
No. of Children	71
NTQ/Asked to Leave/Landlord Selling	24
Family Circumstances	21
Leaving Prison/Hospital Care	0
Sofa Surfing	2
Rough Sleeping	3
Squatting	0

### **Temporary Emergency Accommodation 31/08//2019**

#### **Own Door**

12 families (19 adults and 26 children)  
3 single adults

#### **B & B Accommodation**

Families - 14(18 Adults, 32 Children)  
8 single 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 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019.

74 homeless cases and 57 prevention cases. 50 properties were sourced by Wicklow County Council.



## **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 moveons 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. Tenders were recently assessed and the successful Service Provider will be appointed in October 2019.



## 12. Fáilte Ireland Funding

Wicklow Gaol - a Virtual Reality Storytelling Project opened to the public at the end of August 2019. This project was funded by Fáilte Ireland and match funding of €74,887 was provided by the Council. The overall cost of the project was €299,550

An application for the development of the Arklow Pottery and Heritage Museum has been made under Fáilte Ireland's Platforms for Growth funding programme. The funding amount sought was €2,500,000 and the Council is required to provide match funding of €625,000 for this project.

## 13. Local Sports Partnership (LSP)

### Civic Reception for Special Olympic Athletes

Wicklow County Council held a Civic Reception on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September for the County Wicklow Special Olympic Athletes who competed in the Special Olympic World Summer Games in Abu Dhabi this year. Aisling Beacom competed in swimming and won Gold in the 800m Freestyle, Bronze in the 1500m Open Water Swimming and 4th in the freestyle relay. Rukki Atiyota took part in Basketball and placed 4th overall. Pdraig Reilly took part in Bowling and placed 8th in the Singles, 6th in the Doubles and 4th in the team competition.

### Training and Education

Event	Date & Location	No of attendees
Safeguarding 3 – Designated Liaison Person (DLP)	10 <sup>th</sup> September, Glenview Hotel, Glen of the Downs	16/16
Safeguarding 1 – Child Protection Course	11 <sup>th</sup> September, Glenview Hotel, Glen of the Downs	16/16
Safeguarding 1 – Child Protection Course	18 <sup>th</sup> September, Blessington Community Education Centre	16/16

### European Week of Sport

Wicklow Local Sports Partnership hosted an event on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September from 5-9pm at Bray Bandstand as part of European Week of Sport. #BeActive Nights is a Pan European event to celebrate the European Week of Sport with night time events taking place across Europe. There are five different



locations in Ireland with Wicklow being selected as one of the hosts and with that, Wicklow LSP have organised a Fun Neon Fitness Event for all to enjoy.

## 14. Wicklow Library Service

### Mobile Library

Wicklow County Council's new mobile library has been completed and delivered to County Buildings. Cahill Truck Bodies, Graiguenamanagh, Co. Kilkenny was the company awarded with the contract. They have also provided mobile libraries to other local authorities, including Wexford, Cork County and Kerry, and so have developed expertise in this area.

The vehicle will carry approximately 2,500 books to all areas of county Wicklow, ensuring that the library service is available to all. Special features in the new Mobile library include

- 6 solar panels, which will provide the lighting and power to the internal parts of the vehicle
- An electronic notice board, which, in particular, will highlight Wicklow County Council's upcoming events and services
- Internet access for the public, by means of a "bounce pad"

The new mobile library will be formally launched at County Buildings on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

### Touch, Type, Read, Spell (TTRS) and Lexia Update

The August report gave details of grant aid received by Wicklow County Council from the Department of Rural and Community Development for "Touch, Type, Read, Spell" (TTRS) and Lexia – which provides assistance for people with dyslexia and dyspraxia. Training has now been offered to all primary and secondary schools in County Wicklow. The enthusiasm for these projects has been even greater than anticipated. 180 teachers have committed to training sessions at the following locations between now and mid October:

- Bray Town Hall (2)
- Greystones Municipal Offices (2)
- County Buildings (2)
- Arklow library
- Blessington library
- Baltinglass library
- Carnew library

Special thanks to Bray and Greystones Municipal staff for co-operating in this (potentially life-changing) venture.

## 15. Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP)

To date in 2019, 600 marginalised individuals and 38 local community groups from all across the county have received supports and interventions through the SICAP programme. 2019 Q4 funding has been



released to the Programme Implementers: €178,023: Bray Area Partnership and €150,556: Co. Wicklow Partnership.

September marks the commencement of a range of new training programmes, employment supports, English language classes for migrants and family support initiatives. Please see Partnership websites for more details.

### 16. Public Participation Network (PPN)

Ongoing public consultations are taking place in relation to:

- Bray Town Health Check
- Greystones Public Realm Plan
- County Wicklow Policing Plan 2020
- ESB Networks consultation on smart meters
- Government Policy for Rural Ireland 2020-2025
- St. Gabriel's Cemetery Interment Policy, Arklow.

Please contact Wicklow PPN if you would like to get involved in any of these consultations.

Working is ongoing with regard to the following:

- Establishment of West Wicklow Environmental Network
- Linking local community groups with upcoming national training on Good Governance
- Publication of article in Changing Ireland magazine on Co. Wicklow PPN's Vision for Community Wellbeing in each of Wicklow's Municipal Districts
- PPN Training Fair Day on 21<sup>st</sup> September in Brockagh Centre and St. Kevin's N.S. There will be 12 workshops, 18 exhibition stands with over 140 people registered for workshops, expected attendance of upwards of 200 people.

### 17. Local Community Development Committees (LCDC's)

#### Review of LCDC's - July 2019

The Department of Rural and Community Development (the Department) commenced a review of Local Community Development Committees (LCDC's) in October 2017. The review sought to assess strategic and operational development of LCDC's in the three years since they were established and to identify opportunities to strengthen and support them in the coming years.

The review was overseen by a steering group established by the Department for that purpose. It was underpinned by comprehensive consultation and supported by an analysis of data gathered during the





review process. The methodology included online surveys, one-to-one interviews and workshops, and was supported by a review of documentation and good-practice approaches.

It highlighted a range of challenges for LCDC's and findings are presented under four themes –

- Governance and Structure;
- Strategic Effectiveness;
- Participation and Engagement; and
- Administrative Support and Development.

The review showed reasonable progress to date with good practice approaches emerging across many LCDC's, though it also emphasised the need for stronger and more consistent communication in this regard.

Review respondents and workshop participants suggested good progress had been made since 2014, referencing in particular progress establishing new systems, processes and ways of working (Respondents to review surveys and participants in workshops and the contributors to the review generally will be referred throughout as 'respondents', except where the distinction is required to contrast views or findings from the different engagement processes.).

Moreover, respondents felt the collaborative nature of the initiatives progressed at a local level had improved in the three years since the committees have been established; they were keen for this to be built upon in the future with support from local and central government.

The more significant issues included, but were not limited to –

- a lack of clarity around the LCDC role and the role of the members, as well as a general lack of awareness of the work of the committees;
- the need for a comprehensive training and support programme for LCDC members and local authority support staff; and
- the need for stronger, more consistent and more formal communication between the Department and LCDC's, as well as between LCDC's across administrative boundaries.

At a strategic level, respondents suggested Government Departments should have greater regard to the intended role for LCDC's, and that responsibility for this lies at national level (most likely with the Department of Rural and Community Development). In addition, a far greater emphasis is needed on the role of the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) in the day-to-day work of the LCDC, with more support required from the Department around LECP implementation and monitoring.

The review did not examine programme delivery or management by LCDC's as this is a matter primarily for programme funders. That said, LCDC's seem to be growing into these roles, though feedback suggests the work required to manage national programmes (in particular the LEADER programme) limits time available for more strategic considerations and planning by the LCDC.

In the area of participation and engagement with LCDC's, respondents suggested more guidance and direction was required to improve engagement, particularly with more marginalised communities. Many felt this should be secured by improving engagement with Public Participation Networks (PPNs), linking this to the need for greater communication within and between LCDC's, as well as between LCDC's and communities. There was strong feedback from coordinators of Children and Young People's Services Committees (CYPSCs) that greater engagement was needed between CYPSCs and LCDC's, especially given the importance and influence of the latter from the coordinators' perspective.



The review identified good progress vis-à-vis local coordination and collaboration. Good examples of inter-agency working, improved collaboration and integrated services were identified; however, it is probably fair to say that such approaches are not yet established as the norm. They show the LCDC's capacity to drive and facilitate improved coordination and collaboration. The challenge in the medium term is to embed these good practices as the norm and the minimum performance standard for all LCDC's and local authorities.

While a broad range of issues and challenges were highlighted, two or three messages emerged consistently. These issues cut across the four thematic areas; accordingly, the recommendations are aligned with the broader issues raised rather than the original themes set out in the Terms of Reference.

To this end, the report recommends the Department takes a stronger role at national level, leading on cross-Government coordination of local development and community development and securing greater national and local buy-in to the nascent structures. This is supported by recommendations grouped under the following three objectives –

- effective communication of the LCDC role to relevant local and national stakeholders;
- comprehensive training and support for LCDC Chief Officers, LCDC members and local authority support staff; and
- streamlined supports for LCDC's to sustain effective programme delivery and impact monitoring.

The recommendations will be implemented in 2019 as a key action in the Government's Five-Year Strategy to Support the Community and Voluntary Sector in Ireland. It is recommended the next review be carried out in 2021.



## 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 is in the process of applying for Regional Enterprise Development funding to develop Wicklow County Campus, as a Screen Content/Film hub providing work space and training facilities to support the industry.

#### Retail

##### Bray Town Centre

Bray Town Centre is progressing with installation of steel frame and concrete flooring. Expected practical completion is Q4 2019. Interest by potential tenants has been very positive.

#### 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** lit up the 19 Arches Bridge and the Courthouse gold during September to support Childhood Cancer Foundations Light it up GOLD for Childhood Cancer Awareness Campaign #LIUG2019

Arklow is to host the 2020 World U16-U21 Shore Angling Championships which will be held in October. Members of the Irish Federation of Sea Anglers (IFSA) and representatives from the organising committee gave a presentation to the Town Team on the event. With more than 20 international teams expected to compete, the championships are set to bring a welcome economic boost to the town and region. A working group, which will include representatives from the Town Team, is being set up to prepare for the exciting event and to organise themed events around the championships.

Work has commenced on the installation of the CCTV, making Arklow a safer place to live, work and shop.

Arklow Town Team, in conjunction with Arklow Tidy Towns has identified the Arklow Harbour as the area to benefit from a cleanup as part of the Let's Do it! World Cleanup Day 2019 on the 21st September.

**Blessington Town Team** hosted a celebration of Dame Ninette de Valois as part of Culture Night on 20<sup>th</sup> September.



Following a procurement process, Blessington Town Team have awarded a contract for Phase 2 of a Blessington Health Check to Future Analytics. Phase 2 will look at the diversity of uses in the town, customer views and behaviour, environment and public realm, crime and other matters such as tourism and the night time economy. Work will begin in the coming weeks, with a focus on public consultation and input from the community.

**Bray Town Team** are progressing work with Future Analytics on the Bray Health Check Phase 2 with both a focus group and an open public consultation meeting held during September. A draft report is expected in the coming weeks and a presentation will be made to the Members of Bray Municipal District in November.

**Greystones 2020** held a public consultation evening in relation to the Public Realm Plan on 19<sup>th</sup> September which was well attended.

Preparations have begun on the Christmas Lights for 2019 with members of Greystones 2020 liaising with Greystones Municipal District and local businesses to secure support for a seasonal display.

Greystones 2020 held their AGM on the 26<sup>th</sup> September where an update on all activities carried out for the previous year was provided.

**Wicklow Town Team** have been progressing work on the back lighting of historical sites around the town. Wicklow Municipal District are consulting with the ESB to determine the most practical approach to installing the lighting as set out in the original design and following that, the civil works in consultation with the contractor will commence. This project will compliment the Heritage Trail which is currently being progressed also.

There is continued support from both Wicklow County Council and Wicklow Town Team for the proposed Wicklow to Greystones Greenway. The consultants have completed a Dunes Survey, the results of which will be available next month.

Wicklow Town Team held their AGM on the 25<sup>th</sup> September.

### **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 have been nominated for the 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.

Judging took place on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September with the judges visiting Ashford in the morning and Rathdrum in the afternoon. The Ashford entry consisted of visits to local businesses, a private tour of Mount Usher Gardens, a behind the scenes visit to Ashford Studios with a presentation by representatives of the community at the Ashford Community & Heritage Centre. Rathdrum chose to bring the judges to a traditional market in the Market Square, before making a presentation. They then visited local businesses at Comerfords, Hidden Valley and Zoetis to sample the range of employment and business opportunities in the area. The communities in both Ashford and Rathdrum were very well represented on the day, with pride in their area demonstrated clearly to all in attendance.

### **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 the Library has commenced and is expected to commence on the other projects in the coming weeks.

6<sup>th</sup> 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.

The Towns as Visitor Hubs group are working closely with each of the Town Teams to carry out an assessment of the towns in line with the Tourism Destination Town Guidelines, as set out by Failte Ireland. Even where the town may not meet the criteria for funding, the results will inform the team on how best to plan for each town in becoming a destination town with particular focus on the capacity to attract visitors to stay overnight. The Accommodation group are awaiting the results of a county-wide audit of the tourism accommodation in Wicklow which is being produced by Failte 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

The closing date for applications was 19<sup>th</sup> September 2019. 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 is being finalised and was considered by the Maritime Business Development Group in September.

#### **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.

Following a procurement process County Wicklow Partnership with the support of Wicklow County Council, have been awarded LEADER funding for the implementation of the Food & Beverage Strategy. The process of appointing a consultant is underway and further details will be announced shortly.



## 2. Local Enterprise Office (LEO)

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

METRICS: Grants	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	YEAR TO DATE
	2018	2019	2019
<b>Grants Approved (number/ value)</b> - Measure 1 - Technical Assistance for Micro Exporters	- 24/€476,558.50 - 14/€26,219.06	- Meet Demand - Meet Demand	19/€414,796.62 04/€4041
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	25
Start Your Own Business Participant numbers (included in total training programmes)	72	70	44
Total No. of all Participants participating in above Programmes	876	850	399
Women in Business Network Number of Meetings	6	6	4 (as at 31/07/19)



# SEPTEMBER 2019



<b>METRICS: Business Advice &amp; Mentoring</b>	<b>HISTORICAL</b>	<b>TARGETS</b>	<b>YEAR TO DATE</b>
	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2019</b>
Number of new clients added to database *criteria has been amended for this metric	623	470*	448
Number of One to One Business Advice meetings including Businesses assigned a mentor	446	430	282

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

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

<b>Trading Online Voucher</b>	<b>HISTORICAL</b>	<b>TARGETS</b>	
<b>No of Trading Online Vouchers approved</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>Year to Date 2019</b>
Trading Online Vouchers	66	50	23

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



## September 2019 Activities

### Training Programme

The 2019 Autumn/Winter Training Programme commenced in September. All courses are now ready for booking online on [www.localenterprise.ie/wicklow](http://www.localenterprise.ie/wicklow) and 2000 training brochures have been posted to clients and circulated to other agencies and stakeholders.

- The fourth Trading Online Seminar for 2019 took place on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September delivered by guest speaker Noel Davidson of the Entrepreneurs Academy, as well as a member of the LEO team. 21 people attended the Seminar and applications for a Trading Online Voucher are due to be submitted to the LEO by 1<sup>st</sup> October.
- The first of the Autumn Winter “Start Your Own Business Courses” commenced on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September in Wicklow County Campus with full participation of 15 persons.
- The final of The Ireland’s Best Young Entrepreneur Competition took place in Google headquarters in Dublin on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September. Wicklow was excellently represented by Ross Lawless of Calt Dynamics based in Kilcoole. Ross was shortlisted to the final three in the Best Startup Category.
- The student enterprise programme for 2019-2020 has kicked off in secondary schools around county Wicklow with Student workbooks and teaching resources currently being distributed to all participating schools in the County.
- The LEO continue to assist Wicklow based businesses with their Brexit preparations with 20 companies availing of mentoring support. An additional 22 people attended the Prepare your Business for Customs Workshop held in Blessington on 11<sup>th</sup> September.

### Upcoming activities October:

- **Accessing Finance for your Business** is a half day workshop taking place on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October in Clermont House, Rathnew.
- A “**Start Your Own Business**” course will commence on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October in the Glenview Hotel, Glen of the Downs. The course is run over 10 weeks and there is still some availability.
- A “**Prepare your Business for Customs**” workshop will be held in Clermont House, Rathnew on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October.
- The final “**Trading Online Voucher Seminar**” for 2019 will be held in Clermont House, Rathnew on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October.
- A half day course on the “**Effective & Practical Human resource Management: Recruitment, Retention & Performance Management**” will take place in Clermont House, Rathnew on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October.
- On Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October in Arklow Business Enterprise Centre, Kilbride, Arklow the LEO is running a course “**Increasing Traffic to your Website: Search Engine Optimisation for Beginners**”. This is a vital course for anyone that has invested in a website, yet doesn’t feel they are generating enough traffic to it.



During the month of October the Local Enterprise Office will be hosting the following Seminars:-

- Brexit Essentials Seminar on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October in the Parkview Hotel, Newtownmountkennedy. Guest speakers will be Moira Creedon, Artemis Consulting, Tom McGrath, BDO Ireland and John Madigan, Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland.
- National Women's Enterprise Day takes place on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October and this year LEO is hosting a Seminar in Ballyknocken House and Cookery School, Glenealy with a cookery class and presentation by Catherine Fulvio.

Information on all of the above course and seminars can be found on [www.localenterprise.ie/wicklow](http://www.localenterprise.ie/wicklow)



## 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 for the Eastern and Midland Region 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.

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 28<sup>th</sup> 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, Newtownmountkenedy, 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 – August**

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.
- No Notice of Intent issued

## **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 Lets get buzzing award in National Tidy Towns Competition
- Sustainable Gardening Course for community representatives in Bray area (five weeks commencing 29<sup>th</sup> Sept)

### **Heritage Plan Programme:**

Glendalough Community Archaeology Project in collaboration with UCD School of Archaeology. Two week volunteer excavation took place 6<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> Aug. 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

A total of 127 applications were received during August, these include applications as follows:

Type of Development	Number Received
Individual Houses	30
Housing Developments	7
Agricultural Structures	5
Commercial	17
Other Developments	68
<b>Total</b>	<b>127</b>

Decisions issued in respect of 67 applications in August, being:

Type of Development	Number of Decisions
Housing Developments	4
Individual Houses	17
Other Developments	45
Other Developments Requiring EIA	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>

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

	31/08/2018	31/08/2019
Total Number of decisions issued	689	643
Total Number of decisions to grant	569	552
% grant rate	82%	86%

## No. of Applications withdrawn

July: 9

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

## Planning Enforcement

### Details of Activity during August:

- 10 New Files were opened
- 32 Advisory letters issued
- 12 Warning letters issued
- 0 Enforcement Notices served
- 15 Files have been closed
- 00 files referred for legal action
- No legal cases in August

### Derelict Sites Activity August

- 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 – August 2019

No. of Complaints Opened	<b>187</b>
No. of Cases Closed, Resolved or Completed	<b>407</b>
No of Litter Fines Issued	<b>27</b>
No. of Waste Management Files Opened	<b>6</b>
No. of Warning Letters Issued	<b>7</b>
No. of Abandoned Car Notices Issued	<b>12</b>
No. of Burning Applications Granted	<b>9</b>
No. of Temporary Signs Granted	<b>4</b>
No. of Notices issued under Section 14 of the Waste Management Act	<b>11</b>
No. of files prepared for Court action	<b>29</b>
No. of files referred to Law Dept for legal advice	<b>2</b>
No. of cases in Court under the Litter Pollution Act	<b>No Court Sitting during August</b>
Income – Litter	<b>€11,250.00</b>
Income – Waste Management	<b>€1,630.00</b>

### Mattress Amnesty

During the summer months Wicklow County Council held free mattress disposal days at 4 of their recycling centres. Each household could bring a maximum of 3 mattresses. This was not open to commercial operators. Approximately 2,500 mattresses were collected over the 4 days.

### Blue Flag Beaches

Wicklow County Council has 4 Blue Flags for beaches in Brittas Bay North, Brittas Bay South, Greystones South and Bray. A Green Flag is in place in Arklow. The blue flag season commenced on the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2019, with lifeguards on a number of beaches in the county.

Lifeguard Patrols for Co. Wicklow finished for the season on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

In summary the lifeguards from Bray (2 Stations); Greystones, Wicklow Harbour, Brittas Bay (2 stations) & Arklow South provided the following services during the Summer of 2019.

- Advice Given - 4,392
- Lost Children – 144
- First aid administered - 96
- Rescues – 11
- Drowning - 0

Unfortunately, in August the Wicklow Harbour Lifeguards were involved in a fatality in their patrol area. Both Lifeguards were widely commended for the assistance they provided on the day, however the person had sadly passed away due to medical causes while swimming.

Finally, lifeguarding by its nature has a constant turn around in staff. Lifeguard courses are commencing this autumn in Bray, Greystones, Wicklow and for the first time in many years Arklow. I

# SEPTEMBER 2019



## Dog Licence

July 2019 marked the one year anniversary of An Post taking over the issuing of dog licences. An Post now send out the reminders for these licences. Prior to this the renewal letters were sent by Wicklow County Council. The dog wardens will continue to patrol the county to ensure all dogs are licenced.

## 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Ports and Harbours

Two Marine Notices were issued during August.

## Wicklow

During August 11 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 3 had two transactions i.e. an import and an export of cargo from the same ship. The exports consisted of pulp, woodchips and wood pallets while the imports consisted of logs from Scotland and timber from Sweden.

The quinquennial port security and port facility assessments, in accordance with EU Directive 65/2005 and Regulation (EC) No. 725/2004, ISPS, Solas Ch 11, for Wicklow Port covering the period 2019 to 2023 were completed in August 2019.

Preparatory works and site investigation works for the new 50 tonne bollard planned for the North Quay, Wicklow were completed during August. The contractor is scheduled to commence site works in late September 2019.

The tender for the proposed pontoon system at South Quay, Wicklow was advertised on e-tenders in August and subject to receipt of valid tender(s) is scheduled to be awarded in early September 2019.

## Arklow

Finbar Harding, Marine Officer assigned to Arklow Harbour resigned at the start of August. We wish Finbar well in his future endeavours.

On the 29<sup>th</sup> August a consultation evening was held with active commercial fishermen from Arklow regarding the fishermen storage facilities planned for the South Quay, Arklow.

## 1969 Tragedy Remembered

A Plaque was unveiled by Wicklow County Council on the 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2019 to mark and honour the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of a tragic accident which claimed the lives of three people

Both families who lived in Dublin were spending the weekend in the Silver Strand to mark the 12<sup>th</sup> Birthday of the twins Brenda & Rosemary..





James Mulvaney, Michael Wilson and Mary Wilson all lost their lives following the accident on August 3<sup>rd</sup> 1969, after the car they were travelling in entered the water at the Packet Pier, Wicklow.

Staff of Wicklow County Council welcomed the families to Wicklow to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and thanked Wicklow Sailing Club for providing the families with refreshments prior to the unveiling.

Bernadette Mulvaney was the only survivor and she was present for the official unveiling and blessing of a commemorative plaque.

Other relatives and extended family of the Wilson & Mulvaney Families were also present including twins Brenda and Rosemary Wilson, the daughters of Michael & Mary Wilson.

Councillor Paul O'Brien sombrely started the proceedings and thanked the very large gathering and Wicklow Lifeboat for attending.

Pat Brennan recited a poem he had written entitled "Six Knots towards Wicklow". Flowers and wreaths were placed by the relatives and the ceremony concluded with local Clergy blessing the plaque, which overlooked the Packet Pier.

### Pollution Control

#### Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants - Ambient Monitoring

- 10 River/Lake samples were taken and analysed upstream and downstream of discharges of public wastewater treatment plants involving 90 individual analyses were monitored on behalf of Irish Water.

#### Pollution Response & Investigation

- 7 Water pollution complaints were received and investigated.
- 1 Air Pollution complaints were received and investigated.

#### Private Water Supplies

- 16 Private water supplies were sampled.
- 2 Private water supplies were sampled and deemed non-compliant with microbiological parameters.
- 2 boil water notices were issued on private water supplies.
- 4 boil water notices were lifted from on private water supplies following from remedial action and satisfactory testing.
- 7 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 11

#### Water Framework Directive National Monitoring Programme

- 6 Lakes were monitored involving 14 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).
- 25 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

14 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 13<sup>th</sup> June 2019. All petrol station owners in the county written to and advised of their responsibilities under current legislation.,

## Well Grants

- Number of Applications 21
- Number of New Wells 14
- Number of New Pumps 18
- Number of New Equipment (Filters etc.) 5

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

August was largely taken up with work on the Climate Adaptation strategy.

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

## Climate Adaptation Strategy

Wicklow County Council is statutorily obliged to have a Climate Adaptation Strategy adopted by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019. 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.

Ninety seven public submissions were received on the strategy, all of which were addressed in a report prepared for the Chief Executive. Twenty three further actions and three amendments were proposed in response to the public submissions.

The new proposed and amended actions were screened for SEA and AA.

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 2<sup>nd</sup> of September. Wicklow was the first of seventeen local authorities in its region to adopt a Climate Adaptation Strategy as required before the 30<sup>th</sup> of September 2019.

### Sustainable Energy

WCC's Better Energy Communities Grant application to SEAI was successful and a letter of offer for c. €180,000 grant (30%) has been received. Work on approx. 40 projects has commenced across 11 WCC buildings and 6 LA houses. Deadlines are extremely tight with all projects and documentation needed by mid October.

4 Sustainable Energy Communities have submitted applications to SEAI for support in developing Energy Masterplans. WCC is leading all 4 applications. The first grant award letter has been received from SEAI for €15, 000.

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 second study, which is also ongoing, is a Hydro-geomorphology Study being carried out by Gavin Doherty Geosolutions.

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

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

	22 July 2019	29 July 2019	27 August 2019	2 September 2019	9 September 2019
Access Issues (Attended)	20	15	16	17	14
Cable Fault (Attend)	15	16	12	12	12
ESB Required (Attended)	9	10	14	13	17
Knock Down (Attended)	4	4	3	3	3
Materials required	6	5	4	4	4
No Supply	20	30	28	28	28
On Hold	4	4	3	2	2
Submitted	247	219	224	222	218
Traffic Management Required	36	35	24	22	18
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>316</b>

	ARKLOW MD	BALTINGLASS MD	BRAY MD	GREYSTONES MD	WICKLOW MD	Grand Total
Access Issues (Attended)	5		5		4	14
Cable Fault (Attend)	3		3	3	3	12
ESB Required(Attended)	2		5		10	17
Knock Down (Attended)	1				2	3
Materials required			3		1	4
No Supply	11	3	2	5	7	28
On Hold		2				2
Submitted	28	49	34	18	89	218
Traffic Management Required	5	1	4	5	3	18
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>316</b>



## Transportation Statistics (General)

	July 2019	August 2019
<b>Solicitors Queries</b>	78	76
<b>Road Closure Applications</b>	1	0
<b>Road Opening Licences</b>	134	95
<b>Abnormal Load Applications</b>	0	0

## N81 Knockroe Bend Realignment

Wicklow County Council signed the Main Works Contract with Clonmel Enterprises Ltd on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019. The N81 Knockroe Bend Realignment Scheme involves the upgrade of the N81 National Secondary Road at Knockroe Bend. This bend is situated on the N81 approximately 800m south of Hollywood Cross (Junction of N81 and R756) and approximately 11km south of Blessington. This bend is situated between two sections of relatively good alignment and has been the scene of numerous collisions. This scheme has been prepared to improve road standards, to implement an improvement in the road safety performance of this section of the N81 and reduce the occurrence by realigning and widening the road at this location.

The scheme will involve the realignment of the N81 at Knockroe Bend over a length of approximately 1km.

Site works commenced the week of 2<sup>nd</sup> September and it is anticipated the main works contract will be 72 weeks.

The scheme has been funded by Transport Infrastructure Ireland.

Site supervision of the Main Works Contract will be provided by RPS Consulting Engineers.

## Noise Action Plan

Wicklow County Council received submissions on the Draft Noise Action Plan 2018 – 2023 up to and including the 15th August 2019 and are examining same with a view to finalising the Plan.

The Draft Noise Action Plan 2018 – 2023 will review the results of Strategic Noise Mapping undertaken within County Wicklow previously and the Draft Noise Action Plan 2018 - 2023 details the intended approach to be undertaken over the lifetime of the action plan to manage and control environmental noise. The Noise Action Plan will be available on our website when finalised and anyone who made a submission will be advised of same.

## Surface Dressing

The Municipal Districts and Roads Department concluded surface dressing on the different routes identified in the Road Programme in August for 2019.



## Parking Income

<b>Parking Income by Municipal District August 2019</b>	<b>EURO</b>
INCOME FLORENCE ROAD CARPARK BRAY MD	40,439
INCOME HERBERT ROAD CARPARK BRAY MD	176,048
INCOME NORTH BEACH CAR PARK - STRAND ROAD BRAY MD	29,897
INCOME RESTRICTED PARKING BRAY MD	525,716
INCOME PARKING FINES BRAY MD	142,266
INCOME RESIDENTIAL/SPECIAL PARKING DISCS BRAY MD	41,470
<b>BRAY MUNICIPAL DISTRICT</b>	<b>955,837</b>
INCOME GREYSTONES PAY PARKING SCHEME	291,603
<b>GREYSTONES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT</b>	<b>291,603</b>
INCOME PARKING CHARGES WICKLOW MD	230,643
INCOME RESIDENTIAL PARKING DISK WICKLOW MD	2,500
INCOME TRAFFIC FINES WICKLOW MD	11,172
<b>WICKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT</b>	<b>244,315</b>
INCOME PARKING TRAFFIC FINES ARKLOW MD	8,680
INCOME PAY PARKING FEES AND PERMITS ARKLOW MD	165,842
<b>ARKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT</b>	<b>174,522</b>
<b>WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL</b>	<b>1,666,276</b>

## Arklow Wastewater Treatment Plant Project

Irish Water and Wicklow County Council have welcomed the decision of An Bord Pleanála to grant planning permission for the Arklow Wastewater Treatment Plant Project.

Irish Water is currently in the process of tendering the works to enable the appointment of contractor. It is planned that works will commence in Autumn 2020. The project will take approximately three years to construct.

The objectives of the Arklow Wastewater Treatment Plant project are as follows:

- To stop the current practice of discharging untreated wastewater to the Avoca River
- To provide a wastewater treatment facility that will comply with all relevant legislative requirements and will service the population of Arklow into the future
- To improve water quality in the Avoca River

Further updates will be provided once the contract has been awarded and Irish Water has a programme of works. The Project Team will also endeavour to keep the local community updated in advance of works commencing.



## Fire Services

### Operational Fire Statistics August 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
<b>Two Stations Mobilised</b>											
Fire Domestic Persons Reported	0										
Fire Domestic	8	3	2	2	1						
Fire Caravan	0										
Road Traffic Collision (RTC)	22	1	2	7	6	1				2	3
Fire Vehicle (HGV /motorway)	9	2	2	1		2				1	1
Fire Institutional	0										
Fire Industrial / Commercial	8	2	1	2		1		1	1		
<b>Single Station Mobilised</b>											
Fire Alarm or CO <sub>2</sub> Activation	11	2	1		2	2	1		1	1	1
Fire Outdoor: Gorse / bushes	13	3	2	3	2		2				1
Fire Chimney	0										
Fire Small / bin / skip	4	1	1	2							
Fire Vehicle	5	2	1	2							
Fire Shed	1		1								
Flooding	2	2									
Trees Down, Make Scene Safe	0										
Ambulance Assist	7	3				1				3	
Garda Assist	2					2					
Electrical Incident	1	1									
Gas Leak	0										
River Rescue	0										
Animal Rescue	0										
Entrapment / Rescue	0										
Oil Spill / Road Hazard	1		1								
Malicious False Alarm	2	1	1								
Mobilised into other County	5						2	3			
<b>Times Stations mobilised</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>

There were **72 incidents** attended during the month of August 2019 and individual Fire Stations were mobilised on a total of **101 occasions**.

Operational activity for the month of August was similar to the preceding month (July). Activity for August 2019 was **down 16 %** of August 2018, mainly due to a reduction in the number of "gorse fires" in 2019.

#### Sample Incidents (August 2019)

- 02/08/2019: Fire Crews from Wicklow Town and Arklow responded to a 2 car RTC with 5 casualties reported.
- 05/08/2019: Fire Crews from Wicklow Town and Rathdrum responded to a single car RTC which had overturned at junction 17 on the M11.
- 09/08/2019: Fire Crews from Carnew and Tinahely responded to a single car RTC which had overturned at Killaveney, Tinahely.



## Incidents mobilised outside county Wicklow (August 2019):

### Kildare (4-incidents)

- 03/08/19: Blessington Fire Crew were mobilised to assist ambulance personnel with a patient in the town of Naas.
- 06/08/19: Dunlavin Fire Crew were mobilised to assist a Fire Crew from Athy, County Kildare at an RTC at Crookstown (old N9).
- 15/08/19: Blessington and Dunlavin Fire Crews were mobilised to an RTC at Silverhill, Ballymore Eustace involving a HGV and a van.
- 22/08/19: Dunlavin Fire Crew were mobilised to an alarm activation at Kennycourt.

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

- 31/08/2019: Arklow Fire Crew supported by Gorey Fire Crew, Wexford, attended a car fire on the motorway at junction 21 North.

## General

- Staff from all Fire Stations gave their time to organise events such as car washes to raise funds for “Aoibheann’s Pink Tie” Charity. Over €15,000 was raised across the county.
- The local Fire Crew put on various demonstrations and provided fire safety advice at the Tinahely Show.
- Breathing Apparatus training nights were arranged at the facilities in Hacketstown Fire Station, County Carlow.
- Wicklow County Fire Service hosted a delegation EU Civil Protection trainers consisting of representatives of the German Federal Office for Civil Protection, the Austrian Ministry of the Interior, the Main School of Polish Fire Services and the Luxemburg Ministry of the Interior.
- Wicklow Fire Service attended an exercise debrief in Baldonnel with the Air Corps in relation to the Aerial Firefighting exercise which took place at Lough Dan in July.
- Wicklow County Fire Service prepared a draft national “Standard Operational Guidance” document for “Working with Helicopters” and a draft inter-agency protocol for the use of helicopters in wild-land firefighting.

## Fire Prevention Statistics August 2019

Application type	Received	Deemed Invalid	Requested additional information	Inspections	Recommended Grant
Fire Safety Certificates	9		1		9
Regularisation Certificates			2		
FSC as part of 7 Day Notice			2		
Disability Access Certificates	5	1			8

Licensing	Received, acknowledged	Inspected	Requested further info	No Objection letter	Not raising an objection
District	35	25		1	
Circuit					





## General

Queries from the public / consultants:	15
Meetings with consultants:	2

## Building Control

### August 2019 Commencement Notices

- 30 Commencement Notices, of which:
- 3 were Commencement Notices with Compliance Documents
- 4 were Commencement Notices without Compliance Documents
- 1 Seven-day Notice
- 22 Opt Out Declarations
- 73 % of commencement notices are opt out.
- 30 % inspection rate on all notices
- 17 new build units
- 12 of which are one-off houses

### Completion Certificates

- 20 completion certificates validated  
(53 housing units)

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

### Non-compliance issues (on-going)

- 2 invalid submissions
- 4 pre-validation of commencement notices
- 4 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 August 2019:

Retained Station Officer – Bray Fire Brigade  
 Retained Station Officer - Dunlavin Fire Brigade  
 Retained Station Officer – Carnew Fire Brigade

#### Employee Numbers

	Q3 2018	Q4 2018	Q1 2019	Q2 2019
<b>Managerial/ Administrative</b>	280	278	280	288
<b>Professional/ Technical</b>	105	104	104	106
<b>Outdoor</b>	313	312	316	320
<b>Temporary/ Seasonal</b>	54	38	65	93
<b>Non DOHPLG</b>	8	8	8	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>752</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>773</b>	<b>815</b>

	Q3 2017	Q4 2017	Q1 2018	Q2 2018
<b>Managerial/ Administrative</b>	246	250	246	263
<b>Professional/ Technical</b>	109	119	119	105
<b>Outdoor</b>	311	317	317	306
<b>Temporary/ Seasonal</b>	58	41	41	79
<b>Non DOHPLG</b>	14	13	13	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>738</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>736</b>	<b>761</b>

(Excludes figures for Fire-fighters)

### 2. Access to Information

#### No. of F.O.I. Requests

August 2019: 12	August 2018: 10
Jan to August 2019: 94	Jan to August 2018: 79

#### No. of Ombudsman Requests

August 2019: 1	August 2018: 1
Jan to August 2019: 10	Jan to August 2018: 10

### 3. Press Releases

August 2019 – 8 Press Releases



## 4. Register of Electors

We've extended the initial deadline for receipt of workbooks for some of the fieldworkers from 20<sup>th</sup> September until 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> September, this is to allow the new fieldworkers more time as they began their work later than our more experienced staff and also to allow some of our fieldworkers who have taken on extra areas the time to complete these door-to-door calls.

We have received a large amount of workbooks back in the last two weeks, from our seasoned fieldworkers and we continue to receive a large amount of RFA forms in the post on a daily basis. We will begin to work through and key the returned workbooks in the coming weeks in advance of publishing the Draft Register in November.



## 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 pcs 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](http://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](http://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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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 31ST AUGUST 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	12,780,166	19,892,855	64	(15,185,094)	(24,370,271)	62	(2,404,928)
B - Road Transport & Safety	13,555,727	20,449,070	66	(8,227,342)	(13,354,096)	62	5,328,385
C - Water Services	3,482,541	5,818,773	60	(3,948,905)	(6,759,744)	58	(466,364)
D - Development Management	6,099,866	9,868,577	62	(3,383,717)	(5,501,133)	62	2,716,149
E - Environmental Services	6,942,794	10,987,633	63	(1,128,311)	(1,971,500)	57	5,814,483
F - Recreation and Amenity	4,515,664	6,990,426	65	(556,536)	(894,778)	62	3,959,128
G - Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	946,258	1,541,865	61	(452,876)	(812,728)	56	493,382
H - Miscellaneous Services	7,192,430	11,098,626	65	(5,715,249)	(8,257,821)	69	1,477,181
J - Central Management Charges	10,686,121	16,052,449	67	(726,815)	(1,005,217)	72	9,959,306
LG - Local Government Fund				(7,988,950)	(11,983,425)	67	(7,988,950)
PL - Pension Levy				-			-
RA - Commercial Rates				(18,618,363)	(27,939,561)	67	(18,618,363)
	<b>66,201,567</b>	<b>102,700,274</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>65,932,158</b>	<b>102,850,274</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>269,409</b>

### 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 1<sup>st</sup> August 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019.

### 3. Capital Account

CAPITAL ACCOUNT					
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 31ST AUGUST 2019					
	Opening Balance at 01/01/2019	Actual Expenditure	Actual Income	Transfers To/From Reserves	Closing Balance at 31/08/2019
	€	€	€	€	€
Housing and Building	23,666,606	38,846,024	(34,698,752)	(338,366)	27,475,512
Road Transport & Safety	(39,057,744)	3,931,177	(6,339,096)	(270,614)	(41,736,277)
Water Services	(10,100,125)	312,503	(759,121)	0	(10,546,743)
Development Management	(9,430,657)	231,858	(676,441)	(144,280)	(10,019,520)
Environmental Services	322,578	2,288,308	(2,074,520)	(253,136)	283,230
Recreation and Amenity	(237,760)	1,087,636	(1,860,353)	(107,500)	(1,117,977)
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	(929,822)	137,776	0	(152,500)	(944,546)
Miscellaneous Services	(14,953,999)	2,201,936	(1,122,956)	143,353	(13,731,666)
	<b>(50,720,923)</b>	<b>49,037,218</b>	<b>(47,531,239)</b>	<b>(1,123,043)</b>	<b>(50,337,987)</b>

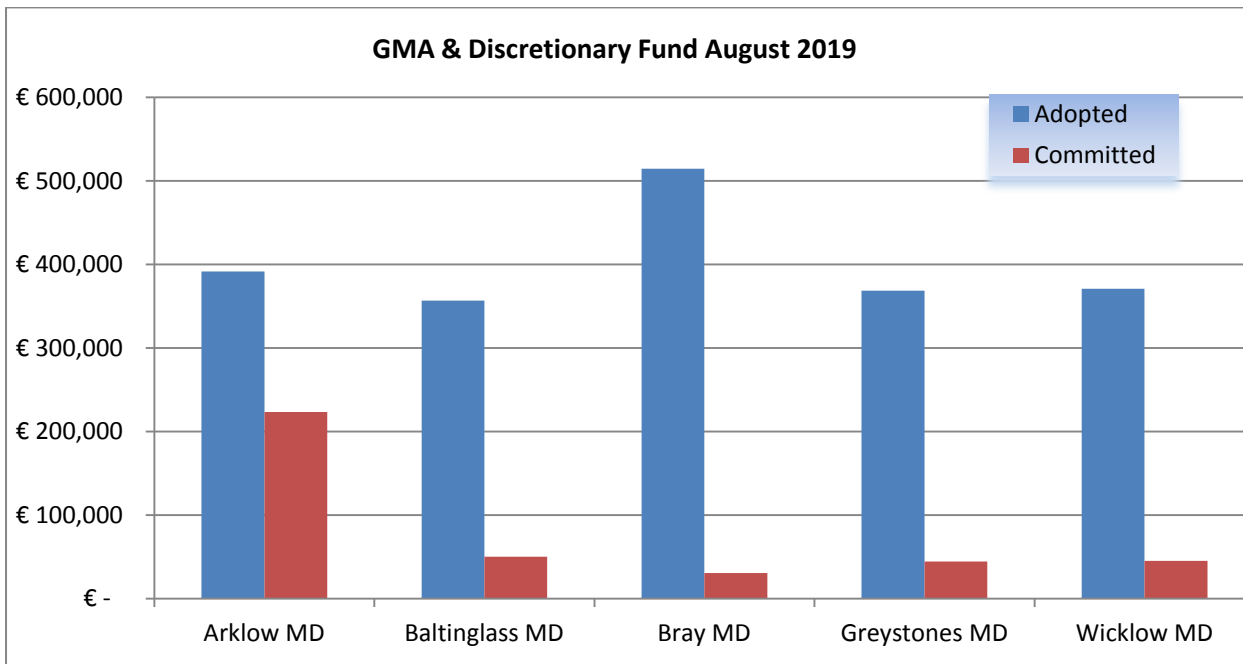
## 4. Commercial Rates, Rents and Loan Collections

AUGUST									
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)		34,733,064	18,586,194	16,146,870		49%
Rents & Annuities	1,470,372	9,482,858		(2,709)	10,950,521	8,962,198	1,988,323		83%
Housing Loans *	399,710	1,021,961			1,421,671	1,101,030	320,641		75%

**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	324,805	168,295
Baltinglass MD	269,230	356,750	319,448	306,532
Bray MD	168,672	514,500	199,135	484,037
Greystones MD	-6,637	368,750	37,872	324,241
Wicklow MD	188,759	370,750	234,109	325,400
<b>Total</b>	<b>721,374</b>	<b>2,002,500</b>	<b>1,115,369</b>	<b>1,608,505</b>

## 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 4<sup>th</sup> 2019.

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

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