



Wicklow County Council Chief Executive's Monthly Report



W I C K L O W

ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES



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This month:

➤ **Content Creation Enterprise Hub – Wicklow County Campus**

Wicklow County Council has been allocated the sum of €1.434,000 through the Regional Enterprise Development Fund, to develop a Content Creation Enterprise Hub, at Wicklow County Campus.

This development will provide 10,000sq feet of private and co-working space and will offer specialised 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.

➤ **Wicklow County Council Signs Climate Action Charter**

Wicklow County Council has signed the Climate Action Charter which commits the Council to playing its part in tackling Climate Change.

The Charter was developed in consultation with the local government sector and commits signatories to a number of objectives to address the climate challenge and advocate for climate action and behavioural change among citizens.

➤ **Community Funding Tops €4 million in 2019**

Grant funding of €4.245m was administered by Wicklow County Council's Community, Cultural & Social Development Directorate in 2019.

The CLAR programme delivered €134,000 to three projects in Knockananna and Rathcoyle, while the Town & Village enhancement programme provided €250,173 to five projects in Dunlavin, Coolkenno, Aughrim, Redcross and Delgany.

The Council's own Community Grants scheme for 2019 allocated €177,000 to 330 community groups throughout the county.

➤ **National Enterprise Town Awards Night**

Rathdrum was recognised as Leinster Runner-Up in their category in the Bank of Ireland Enterprise Town Awards at an award ceremony in the Lyrath Hotel, Kilkenny on Thursday 5th December, receiving an award of €2,000. The awards aims to promote enterprise by bringing business and community groups together in towns and villages across Ireland to showcase the spirit of enterprise in their local area.

➤ **Tidy Town Awards**

Arklow and Wicklow Town claimed gold medals in the recent 2019 SuperValu National Tidy Towns awards.

Wicklow Town, was awarded the honour of being named County Wicklow's tidiest town. The gold medal is the first ever received by the county town.

Arklow received its gold medal in the Category F section, which awards tidy towns containing 10,001 - 15,000 residents in the population.

Elsewhere in the Garden County, Aughrim claimed a Category C silver medal.



HOUSING AND COMMUNITY

1. Social Housing Support

	Nov 2019	Nov 2018
No. on list for Social Housing Support – (includes RAS and HAP)	4344	3,941
No. availing of Rental Assistance Scheme (RAS)	356	437
No. availing of Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)	1624	901
No. in Long Term Leasing accommodation	10	7
No. in Short Term Leasing accommodation	10	10

2. Allocation of Social Housing

	Nov 2019	Nov 2018
WCC Social Housing	183	117
Approved Housing Bodies	108	1

3. Social Housing Stock

	Nov 2019	Nov 2018
Tenancies occupied	4435	4309
Total weekly rental accrual	€303,738.35	€254,993.66
Arrears	€1,699,836.84	€953,758.46

4. Casual Vacancies/Relets

	2019	2018
Municipal District	No	
Arklow	17	12
Baltinglass	18	11
Bray	5	7
Greystones	6	3
Wicklow	20	14

5. 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	307 Units
Further schemes to commence on site in 2020	<u>220 Units</u>
<u>TOTAL</u>	575 Units



SCHEMES COMPLETED	UNITS	CURRENT STATUS	PART 8 APPROVAL
O'Byrne Road, Bray	1	Completed and allocated	Yes
Old Library Arklow	7	Completed and allocated	Yes
Avondale Heights Rathdrum	20	Completed and allocated	Yes
Delany Park, Arklow (Phase 1)	17	Completed and allocated 2019	Yes
16A Oak Drive, Blessington	1	Completed and allocated 2019	Yes
Druids Brook, Kilcoole	2	Completed and allocated 2019	Yes
TOTAL	48		
SCHEMES ON SITE	UNITS	CURRENT STATUS	PART 8 APPROVAL
Whitehall, Baltinglass RAPID BUILD	34	Completion anticipated December 2019 and January 2020.	Yes
Kilbride Lane Bray (Murphy's Lands)	42	Completion anticipated August 2020	Yes
FCA Hall Wicklow Town	8	Completion anticipated October 2020	Yes
Kilmantan Place Bray	4	Completion anticipated September 2020	Yes
Farrenkelly Greystones Phase 2	24	Completion anticipated April 2020	Yes
Sugarloaf View, Kilmacanogue	20	Completion anticipated August 2020	Yes
Convent Lands	51	Completion anticipated August 2020	Yes
Rathnew RAPID BUILD	47	Completion anticipated September 2020	Yes
Carnew RAPID BUILD	30	Completion anticipated November 2020	Yes
Delany Park Arklow (Phase 2 + 3)	47	Completion anticipated April 2021	Yes
TOTAL	307		
PIPELINE SCHEMES	UNITS	CURRENT STATUS	PART 8 APPROVAL
Avondale Phase 2 RAPID BUILD	20	Site start anticipated May 2020	Yes
Ard na Greine RAPID BUILD	30	Site start anticipated May 2020	Yes
Greenhills Road Wicklow RAPID BUILD	36	Site start anticipated June 2020	Part 8 approval by Wicklow M.D. required
Ashtown Lane RAPID BUILD	40	Site start anticipated June 2020	Yes
Mountainview NTMK RAPID BUILD	26	Site start anticipated September 2020	Yes
Old Fire Station Arklow	7	Site start anticipated September 2020	Part 8 approval Arklow M.D. Required.
Cedar Court Bray RAPID BUILD	9	Site start anticipated October 2020	Part 8 approval by Bray M. D. required.
Three Trouts Greystones RAPID BUILD	32	Site start anticipated November 2020	Part 8 approval Greystones M.D.required
Shillelagh RAPID BUILD	20	Site start anticipated November 2020	Yes
TOTAL	220		



6. 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.
- 4 units (Greystones) Acquisition completed via CALF 2nd October 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.
- 2 units (Kilcoole) acquisition completed by CALF 4th November 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 November into Council stock
- 4 Part V units in Newtown being snagged - due to close into Council stock December 2019.

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. 13 further units acquired to end of November with the remaining 5 due to close in December 2019.
- Construction ongoing on a turnkey project at Bollarney Woods, Wicklow – 14 units purchased into Council stock by 31st October 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.

8. 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 completed 9th October 2019.
- CALF application for the remaining 56 units with Housing Agency and Department.
- Construction ongoing 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 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.

10. Home Improvement/Adaptation

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

- › Grant funding for private houses - €1,768,217 (€1,571,367.14 spent to date)
- › Grant funding for social house - € 500,000 (€564,636.00 spent to date)

DECEMBER 2019



House Purchase Loans – Rebuilding Ireland

November 2019

134 received up to 30/11/2019

36 approvals

44 declined

17 either incomplete, withdrawn

November 2018

152 to 30/11/2018

64 approvals

8 further information

5 with Housing Agency

2016 Incremental Tenant Purchase Scheme

November 2019

66 applications to 30/11/2019

4 sale completed

12 declined.

54 remaining various stages – incomplete, with L.A., withdrawn.

November 2018

42 applications to 30/11/2018

9 completed.

11. Addressing Homelessness

Period 01/11/2019 to 30/11/2019

No. of Presentations	77
No. of Repeat Presentations	3
No. of Households (Families)	40
No. of Adults (Individuals)	91
No. of Children	67
NTQ/Asked to Leave/Landlord	20
Selling	1
Family Circumstances	24
Leaving Prison/Hospital Care	1
Sofa Surfing	12
Rough Sleeping	6

Period 01/11/18-30/11/18

48
1
23
26
52
16
0
4
0
12
1

Temporary Emergency Accommodation 30/11/2019 Own Door

12 families (25 adults and 2 children)

4 single adults

Period 01/11/18-30/11/18

17 families (20 adults, 35 children)

6 individuals

B & B Accommodation

Families - 8(12 Adults, 14 Children)

2 single adults.

Cold Weather Initiative

The Cold Weather Initiative, a partnership arrangement between the Council and the Dublin Simon Community, with the assistance of Five Loaves Homeless Services, opened on 14th November, in Bray to provide emergency night shelter for homeless individuals.

Referral protocol is through Wicklow County Council, Dublin Simon, Five Loaves and the Gardai.



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, 177 households (134 families & 43 singles) have been assisted under the Homeless HAP Scheme in Wicklow County Council from the inception on 1st October 2018 to 30th November, 2019.

95 homeless cases and 82 prevention cases to date. 62 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.

Refurbishment work is scheduled to commence before the end of 2019.

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.

Peter McVerry Trust has been appointed as the Housing First Programme Implementer for the Mid East Region and Wicklow County Council is committed to working with them to achieve the targets identified in the programme. Properties will be provided by both Wicklow County Council and Peter McVerry Trust for the programme.



12. Local Sports Partnership (LSP)

Training and Education

Two courses were held in the Glenview Hotel:

- Wicklow LSP – Safeguarding 2 on 2nd December
- Wicklow LSP – Safeguarding 3 on 4th December.

Dormant Account Funding

Wicklow Sports partnership has been allocated €97,900 in Dormant Account funds under the following measures:

- | | |
|---|---------|
| • Community Sports Hub Phase 1 – Arklow based programme | €66,900 |
| • Sports Inclusion Disability Projects – Provision of equipment to increase accessibility in clubs for people with disabilities | €10,000 |
| • Volunteer Supports – Training and education supports for clubs in Wicklow | €15,000 |
| • Youth Leadership – Sport leader courses for youth clubs and schools in Wicklow | €6,000 |

13. Wicklow Library Service

New “Work Matters” Hubs FOR BLESSINGTON Library

Work Matters is a nationwide library programme to support those seeking employment and also to provide information and resources to entrepreneurs and new business start ups.

Blessington Library has acquired two hot desks that allow members of the public free and practical access to computers, scanning and printing resources. Users also have access to online business information from Vision Net and the facility will be further augmented in the coming weeks with the set up of a jobs board, where jobseekers can check recruitment opportunities locally.

Family Time at YOUR LIBRARY

‘Family Time at Your Library’ is part of the national Right to Read campaign which supports a family-focused approach to children’s reading, with the aim of promoting reading as a fun recreational activity for children during the month of December. Free events were held in most libraries throughout the county and include Family Story Times in winter decorated children’s sections, Christmas Family Sing Alongs, Polar Express Teddy Bear Sleepovers, Pyjama Parties and Design your own Christmas Decorations for Wicklow Town library and many more seasonal family events.

LEGO® Exhibition from Brick.ie at Blessington Library

Approximately 750 people came along to view the final exhibition from LEGO® enthusiasts at Brick.ie in Blessington Library on Sat 7th December. There were ten exhibitors whose passion for STEM was apparent in the magnificent models including ‘The Secret Garden’, ‘General Custer’s Last Stand’, a



creation of the 'Great Hall' in Hogwarts, and a quidditch field for Harry Potter fans and an amazing dragon from LEGO® master, Jessica Farrell. It was lovely to see families using their imaginations and playing together with the thousands of bricks in the pit. This was a fantastic event which despite the crowds attending was often eerily quiet because the children were so engrossed in what they were doing with the bricks!

14. County Wicklow Archives

The Wicklow County Archives Service has commissioned 12 County Wicklow historians to write articles and essays for the Wicklow Decade of Centenaries Programme 1914-1923. Funded by the Commemorations Unit of the Department of Culture, Heritage & the Gaeltacht and by Wicklow County Archives, the content will be presented on our online community archives Our Wicklow Heritage. The articles cover a number of themes from the assassination of Earl Fitzwilliam's Coolattin Estate agent in 1920 to Enniskerry during the War of Independence. Themes span a number of localities in Wicklow – Bray, Enniskerry, Greystones, Dunlavin, Ashford, Wicklow, Arklow and Carnew. The programme will continue next year to cover other County Wicklow districts including Roundwood, Glendalough, Rathdrum and Glenmalure. This project will create a rich archive of stories and information relating to this important period of Wicklow history and will form the basis for a seminar and exhibition.

15. Age Friendly Initiatives

Age Friendly Alliance

The Age Friendly Alliance received a mid strategy report regarding the County Wicklow Age Friendly Strategy 2017-2022. This report highlights the works completed and the action plan for 2020. The Older Person's Council worked in conjunction with the Citizens Information Centre to produce a document "Accessibility of online services to older people in Co. Wicklow" and this was presented at the Age Friendly Alliance meeting.

Comhairle na nÓg

Members of Wicklow Comhairle took centre stage at the December Council meeting to highlight all the works they have done throughout the year, to showcase their projects and to garner support for a future project of the three councils working together on a particular theme (Youth Council, Older Person's Council and Wicklow County Council).

The drugs awareness survey is in print form and the Comhairle hope to get at least 1,000 survey forms completed and returned in order to collate the information and then show the results to the relevant stakeholders.



16. Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP)

Bray Area Partnership (BAP) and Co. Wicklow Partnership (CWP) have submitted their SICAP Annual Plans 2020 to the LCDC and presented them to at the LCDC meeting for feedback and approval.

There is a 3% budget increase in 2020: Bray Area Partnership budget €733,455 and Co. Wicklow Partnership budget €620,294

Both Partnerships on track to meet all 2019 targets by year end

17. Public Participation Network (PPN)

There are four new members this month: West Wicklow Environmental Network, Macra na Feirme, Greystones Players and Alone

The PPN hosted a seminar on Housing & Accommodation on 20th November 2019 – Report available online.

The PPN facilitated webinar training for local community groups on Good Governance in collaboration with County Wicklow Volunteer Centre and CWP

A new PPN booklet entitled “Our Vision for Community Wellbeing in Co. Wicklow” has been published and is available online.

Community Enhancement Programme (Shed Funding) 2019

Members of Shed groups from around the county met at the Glenview Hotel on 10th December to be presented with their funding awards for 2019. There was also an opportunity to meet with members of the Local LCDC for a cuppa and to chat about current Shed projects.



18. Local Community Development Committees (LCDC's)

LECP UPDATE DECEMBER 2019

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

Rural Regeneration Development Fund 2019

Area	Overview of Proposal	Project Cost
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

Town & Village Scheme 2019

Area	Overview of Proposal	Funding awarded
FUNDED		
Redcross	Streetscape works	€80,000
Aughrim	Recreational amenity	€95,600
Dunlavin	Healthcheck plus public realm works	€20,973
Coolkenno	Public lights and rails	€24,000
Delgany	Community plan	€29,600

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 - Awaiting Decision on Measure 2 and 3

Area	Overview	Funding Sought
Measure 1		
Funded		
Co. Wicklow	Long distance Walks Videos on each of the Wicklow Walks	€14,720
Co. Wicklow	Donard Glens Walking Trail – installation of trail infrastructure, signage, maps, gates and benches	€7,200
Co. Wicklow	Maintenance and Upgrade of Wicklow Way Infrastructure – Marley Park to Clonegal	€20,000
Co. Wicklow	Knockananna Walking Loop – installation of trail infrastructure, signage, maps, gates and benches	€7,840
Co. Wicklow	Baltinglass Cycling Trails – establishment of a network of marked on-road looped cycling trails around Baltinglass. Works include trail headboard/design and installation and signage on route.	€8,800

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

Age Friendly:

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

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

Comhairle na nOg:

Wicklow Comhairle na nOg were well represented at Dáil na nOg which took place at Leinster House on the 23rd November 2019. It was held in Leinster House as a tribute to mark 100 years of democracy. The topic for this year's incoming executive will be Climate Change.



Wicklow Comhairle na nÓg gave a presentation at the full Council on the 2nd December and they were very well received. The drugs awareness survey will be distributed around Wicklow and the aim is to have a survey of at least 1000 and the information returned will be collated and form a basis for any relevant stakeholders.

PPN:

Have raised awareness of:

- Climate Action Training
- The Review of the County Development Plan
- JPC public meeting
- Dept Transport Tourism & Sport public consultation on Sustainable Mobility Policy
- Review of the National Disability Strategy
- EPA Stop Food Waste Campaign

They recently held a seminar on 'Let's Talk About Housing' in the Taylor Centre in Bray.

The PPN are holding their end of Year Members Meeting on 4th December Brockagh.

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 underway

2. Co. Wicklow Food & Beverage Strategy.

The Branding process for County Wicklow is completed. The implementation partners for the strategy have been contracted. Subgroups have been established to begin the work of implementation.

3. Digital Strategy – has been adopted by Wicklow County Council

4. Migrant Integration Strategy

The procurement process is underway for a consultant to develop the Migrant Integration Strategy for the County.

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

DECEMBER 2019



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. A funding scheme is running at present.

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.



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. An announcement on successful applications is expected in early January, 2020.

Retail

Bray Town Centre

Work is continuing on the Florentine Site but due to a number of factors such as weather, practical completion has been delayed. A revised timetable will be made available to the project team in early January 2020.

Interest by potential tenants has been very positive; negotiations with anchor tenants are ongoing.

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 has submitted 7 Expressions of Interest to LEADER for funding in December for new projects.

The U16 & U21 World Shore Angling Championships will be hosted by Arklow in October 2020. Members of the Arklow Town Team met with the promoters of the festival to form a sub-group to organise events around the championships. More than 20 international teams will compete in the event. The championships are set to bring a welcome economic boost to the town.

DECEMBER 2019



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

A new survey for parents of school going children in Arklow has been finalised to distribute in January 2020. The survey is to identify whether or not there is a need for a Local School Bus Service to ease traffic congestion in the town at school collection and pick up times.

Blessington Town Team

The last meeting of Blessington Town Team for 2019 was held on the 10th December 2019 and the Chairperson opened the meeting by welcoming Ms. Breege Kilkenny and wishing her well in her recent appointment as Director of Services for Planning, Development and Environment and as District Manager for Baltinglass Municipal District.

One of the main issues highlighted during the Blessington Town Team meeting was the importance of the upgrade of the N81 and the completion of the Blessington Town relief road. It was noted that while the upgrading of the N81 is a long term aim and will require significant national funding, the completion of the relief road should be prioritised. The completion of the relief road will require a partnership between Wicklow County Council and Kildare County Council.

There was a discussion on the Blessington Town Health Check phase two and members were circulated with a comprehensive draft report from the consultants Future Analytics. Members were asked to submit their comments / observations on the draft Blessington Town Health Check report by the end of the week (13th December 2019) to facilitate the report being completed by the end of the year.

Bray Town Team recently presented to the Bray Municipal District Members on the Bray Town Centre Health Check. The Council are now examining the best vehicle to deliver the recommendations contained within the report.

Greystones 2020 - Following on from the initial public consultation on the proposed Public Realm Plan for Greystones, a draft plan was produced and a second consultation on the draft plan took place in recent weeks. This included public displays in Greystones Library on Saturday 23rd November from 1 pm to 5 pm, when the consultants were on hand to discuss proposals and answer questions. Public feedback so far is reassuring that the Public Realm Plan, which seeks to maximise the towns built and natural heritage and build on environmental attractions such as the Cliff Walk, is moving in the right direction. The final plan is due for publication in January 2020.

The switching on of this year's Christmas lights took place in Burnaby Park on Saturday 23rd of November 2019. The event which was organised by Greystones Municipal District and Greystones 2020 included an afternoon of family entertainment with performances from Coláiste Craobh Abhainn school choir and Greystones Players. There are over 1km of icicle lights throughout the town and two 30-foot-tall Christmas trees, each adorned with 3,000 lights, one at the train station and one at the Harbour Marina. The event and lighting is funded by contributions from local businesses and Greystones Municipal District.

Wicklow Town Team - The Tourism Section of the Wicklow Town Team has been successful in obtaining funding from LEADER to fund the planned Heritage Trail for Wicklow Town. Storyboard Lecterns shall be erected at St. Patrick's Church, Bachelors Walk, Market Square, Travilahawk Beach,



and Wicklow Gaol. These storyboard lecterns shall maintain the uniformity of those being provided by Wicklow Tidy Towns, at the Black Castle and Abbey Grounds.

The funding shall also go towards updating the Town Map and updating the information contained in the existing information boards as well as including two extra information boards at the Train Station and the Abbey Car Park.

This directorate is working with the Town teams to develop a retail event in quarter 2 of 2020 aimed at promoting retail in the County.

Enterprise Town Awards

Rathdrum was recognised as the Leinster Regional Runner-up in the small (less than 2,000) population category in the Bank of Ireland National Enterprise Town Awards 2019.

The gala awards ceremony took place in the Lyrath Hotel, Kilkenny on Thursday last (5th December). It was attended by over 500 people along with Minister Heather Humphreys, Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation, and Bank of Ireland CEO, Francesca McDonagh.

This is the fourth year of the awards which aims to promote enterprise by bringing business and community groups together in towns and villages across Ireland to showcase the spirit of enterprise in their local area.

Cllr Pat Kennedy, who is a member of the committee, stated "This is a huge honour for Rathdrum and follows on from the success of winning the Pride of Place award in 2018. To come second in Leinster is a big achievement. I would like to extend a huge thank you to the committee, the business community, community groups, Wicklow County Council and Arklow Municipal District for all their work and effort to make this possible. It is great to see a competition that brings the community groups and the business together. Well done to all".

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. Additional funding has been allocated to the Wicklow Town project (Fitzwilliam Square and the Library) following submission of revised costings.

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.

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

DECEMBER 2019



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.

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 and an announcement is expected before the end of the year.

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.

Failte Ireland has set aside up to €500,000 in Destination Town Funding for County Wicklow.

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.

The final version of the Maritime Strategic Review was presented to the MBDG in November. The Maritime Strategic Review was also circulated to the Economic Development and Economic Support Strategic Policy Committee on 9th December 2019 and will be sent to the full council meeting to be 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 awarded to this project, Wicklow County Council has requested a time extension to Q1 2020..

NORRI have been appointed to carry out a study 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 and Beverage Strategy

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 (JBA) were awarded the contract and have since met twice with the Food & Beverage Steering Group.

Working groups have been established to progress actions from the Strategy viz:

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

The consultants JBA are currently engaging with stakeholders in order to deliver the actions identified.

Some of the key decision points agreed at the most recent food strategy meeting included:

- 1) The drafting of a definition for Wicklow Food.
- 2) The creation of a website and social media feed dedicated to the food strategy.

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



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	30/€759,104.62 07/€8,927
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	44
Start Your Own Business Participant numbers (included in total training programmes)	72	70	73
Total No. of all Participants participating in above Programmes	876	850	730
Women in Business Network Number of Meetings	6	6	5 (as at 30/11/19)

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METRICS: Business Advice & Mentoring	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	YEAR TO DATE
	2018	2019	2019
Number of new clients added to database *criteria have been amended for this metric	623	470*	545
Number of One to One Business Advice meetings including Businesses assigned a mentor	446	430	423

METRICS: Student Enterprise Programmes	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	
Academic Year	2017/2018	2018/2019	Year to Date
No. of Secondary Student Participants	1606	1150	1134

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	38

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

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December 2019 Activities

The student Enterprise Programme is in full swing in Secondary schools across county Wicklow, with a number of schools holding Enterprise week events and Christmas fairs. The LEO Wicklow Student Enterprise programme co-ordinator is continuing her schedule to school visits to help students develop their business ideas.

The LEO continues to provide Free business advise sessions during December on Monday evening in the Glenview, and Tuesday and Thursday mornings in the LEO offices.

The final meeting of the Network of Entrepreneurial Women in 2019 took place in the Glenview Hotel on 4th December.

LEO Wicklow will host the graduation ceremony for 19 participants of the 'Owner Manager Development Programme 2018/2019' on 12th December 2019, at the Glenview Hotel at 8pm, to be attended by the Chief Executive and Director of Services, Enterprise & Corporate Services, in addition to the Head of Lifelong Learning, IT Carlow, Dr. Joe Collins.

7 businesses attended one to one Digital Marketing Clinics on the 3rd December in Wicklow County Campus.

The Spring Summer 2020 Training Programme is currently being finalised and will be circulated to all clients in early January. Courses will be available for booking online via the LEO website from 6th January 2020.



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 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 he appointed an inspector to review this matter and report back to him by 01 November 2019 and it is understood that this report is currently with the Minister.

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 variation or a development plan review.

In this regard, the review of the current Wicklow County Development Plan commenced on 06 November 2019. As part of the public consultation, public information meetings were held in Greystones, Baltinglass, Bray, Wicklow, Arklow, Blessington and Tinahely. Submissions may be made up to 5pm on Friday 10th January 2020.

Local Plans

The County Development Plan includes 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.

Heritage

Biodiversity Plan Actions: €32,540 recouped from NPWS, DCHG for the implementation of approved programme of actions under the Wicklow Biodiversity Action Plan 2019



- Brittas Bay Biodiversity project: Year 1 works complete, pilot vegetation mowing plot and community invasive species mapping workshop took place in November
- A County Swift survey for Wicklow complete and final report submitted.
- People + Nature programme @ East Coast Nature Reserve with BWI; Final events- Winter Migrants workshop 17th November and Wreath Making 15th December. Riparian bird survey of Avonmore River catchment complete.
- 'Which Bee' short animation produced in partnership with National Biodiversity Data Centre and hosted on their website.

Heritage Plan Programme:

- Fourth Wicklow Heritage Forum meeting held on 19th November in Arklow.
- Glendalough Community Archaeology Project in collaboration with UCD School of Archaeology. Final report complete
- Baltinglass Hillfort Archaeology Project: Research excavation completed and funded by the Baltinglass Municipal District. Programme of outreach events held for Heritage Week. Final report complete.
- New ICAN Network for Wicklow: People and Place project supported by Wicklow's Creative Ireland programme. Redevelopment of Wicklow's online community heritage archive to facilitate six additional local community archives in the new multi platform site. Groups are; Delgany Tidy Towns, Glens Of Lead, Greystones Tidy Towns, Medieval Bray Project, Glendalough Heritage Forum, The Glen/ Donard Heritage Group. New sites in development, two community training sessions held in digitisation, copyright and online content creation held on 20th November.

Protected Structures Grants: All projects for 2019 completed and funding recoupments of €42,000 under Historic Structures Fund and €48,000 under the BHIS for Wicklow. Official launch by Archbishop Diarmuid Martin of St. Mary's and Peter's Church Arklow, restoration works was held on 7th November. New schemes of conservation grants under BHIS and HSF 2020 now launched , applications invited until end of Jan 2020.

Planning Applications

A total of 98 applications were received during November, these include applications as follows:

Type of Development	Number Received
Individual Houses	27
Housing Developments	5
Agricultural Structures	6
Commercial	4
Other Developments*	56
Total	98

*Other Developments include, Porch/Sunroom, Extensions, finger sign post, Well, change of use, Hoarding, relocation of vehicular entrance, extend the appropriate period of permission, various amendments/modifications to previous planning permission, conversion, retention, film studio, boundary screen wall, green house, attic conversion, reclamation of land, effluent treatment system & percolation area.

Decisions issued in respect of 74 applications in November, being:

Type of Development	Number of Decisions
Housing Developments	5
Individual Houses	19
Other Developments	50
Other Developments Requiring EIA	0
Total	74



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

	30/11/2018	30/11/2019
Total Number of decisions issued	927	887
Total Number of decisions to grant	763	753
% Grant Rate	82%	85%

No. of Applications withdrawn

November 14

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

Planning Enforcement

Vacant Sites

- 32 no. sites stand on the Register.
- 06 no. sites are currently on appeal to ABP.
- 01 Section 12 Notice – Market Valuation of Site
- Valuations are being carried out on 8 sites
- 1 site referred to Law Department for Debt Collection proceedings

Derelict Sites

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

Enforcement

- 13 New Files were opened
- 28 Advisory letters issued
- 04 Warning letters issued
- 03 Enforcement Notices served
- 11 Files have been closed
- 01 Files referred for legal action

Court Activity - 7 Cases came before the Circuit Court:

- 1 Order made to remove certain works on site. Adjourned to February for legal submissions
- 1 Application for substitute consent granted
- 1 Application for costs – granted
- 2 Adjourned on consent with undertakings given to Court
- 2 Orders on Consent granted with costs to WCC



4. Transportation, Water & Emergency Services

Public Lighting

	4th November 2019	11th November 2019	18th November 2019	27th November 2019	2nd December 2019
Access Issues (Attended)	16	17	18	18	19
Cable Fault (Attend)	42	36	47	52	41
ESB Required (Attended)	24	24	24	24	25
Knock Down (Attended)	3	3	3	3	3
Materials required	5	5	4	4	4
No Supply	27	28	28	27	27
On Hold	2	2	2	2	2
Submitted	407	419	416	419	465
Traffic Management Required	13	12	12	12	10
TOTAL	539	557	554	561	596

	ARKLOW MD	BALTINGLASS MD	BRAY MD	GREYSTONES MD	WICKLOW MD	Grand Total
Access Issues (Attended)	4	1	7	2	5	19
Cable Fault (Attend)	18		5	9	9	41
ESB Required(Attended)	1		6	1	17	25
Knock Down (Attended)	1				2	3
Materials required			3		1	4
No Supply	4	3	3	11	6	27
On Hold		2				2
Submitted	54	129	103	59	120	465
Traffic Management Required	2	1	3	4		10
Grand Total	84	136	130	86	160	596

Transportation Statistics (General)

	October 2019	November
Solicitors Queries	58	61
Road Closure Applications	2	2
Road Opening Licences	105	95
Abnormal Load Applications	2 Single 1 quarterly	4 single

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. The weather in November was quite variable with some cold periods. In total, 87 salting calls out were made and 411 tonnes of salt was used over the 9 routes throughout the County.

M11/N11 Junction 4 to 14 Improvement Scheme

A second public information day was held in the Glenview Hotel on Tuesday 12th November, 2019, and in excess of 600 people attended.

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

The Public are invited to inform the Project Team of any additional constraints which should be considered. Following extensive multidisciplinary environmental surveys, traffic data collection and stakeholder engagement throughout 2019, a number of Feasible Transportation Solutions have been identified, and the closing date for receipt of submissions is Friday 13th December 2019.

N81 Knockroe Bends

Work is progressing on the N81 Knockroe Bends realignment scheme just south of Hollywood and for safety reasons it is proposed to introduce a roadwork's speed limit of 60km/h on all public roads. The reduction in the speed limit is required for the completion of necessary road works in the area.

Sustainable Transport Measures Programme

Bray Transport Interchange Scheme

The Bray Transport Interchange Scheme involves the redevelopment of Bray Train Station forecourt and surrounding roads. The scheme aims to facilitate improved interchange between walking, cycling, taxi, bus and rail, whilst providing a high quality public realm that complements the heritage of the station building.



Atkins Consulting Engineers has been appointed as consultants to bring the Bray Transport Interchange scheme through Detail Design, Tender and Construction Stages. It is anticipated that works will commence in Quarter 3 or Quarter 4 of 2020.

Bray Seafront Plaza Scheme

The Bray Seafront Plaza Scheme involves the redevelopment of a section of Strand Road, Bray at the Aquarium building to provide linkage between cycle tracks already provided to the north and south of the Aquarium building. In addition to the provision of the missing link it is intended that the scheme will also provide a high quality civic space that will allow people to move about easily and comfortably between the Sea Life Aquarium and the other restaurants, cafes and businesses on both sides of the plaza.

Tender documents are currently being prepared for the appointment of a Contractor for the Construction Stage of the scheme. It is anticipated that construction works will commence in Quarter 3 of 2020.

Oldcourt Permeability Scheme

The Oldcourt Permeability Scheme aims to provide pedestrian and cycle linkages between Killarney Road, Vevay Road and Boghall Road in Bray. These links will provide for shortcut trips through the surrounding residential estates which can be used to access schools, shops, employment and community facilities.

DBFL Consulting Engineers have been appointed as consultants for the scheme. A Constraints Report is to be completed in Quarter 1 of 2020.

Wicklow Port Access Road Link

The Wicklow Port Access Road Link aims to provide improved pedestrian and cycle linkage between the Port Access Road and Wicklow Train Station. It will also provide improved linkage to East Glendalough School and other facilities along Station Road in Wicklow Town.

A Feasibility Study has been completed and tender documents are being prepared for the appointment of a consultant to bring the Scheme through Design, Tender and Construction Stages. It is anticipated that a Consultant will be appointed in Quarter 1 of 2020.

Arklow to Shillelagh Recreational Trail

The Arklow to Shillelagh Recreational Trail Project aims to provide a substantially segregated off-road experience for cyclists and pedestrians, linking places of interest, recreation and leisure in areas of beautiful scenery of different types with plenty to see and do.

Consultants Roughan O'Donovan is compiling the Natura Impact Statement for the project. This will be completed in Quarter 1 of 2020.

Kilmacanogue to Southern Cross Greenway

The Kilmacanogue to Southern Cross Greenway Scheme aims to provide a purpose built pedestrian and cyclist connection between Kilmacanogue and the Southern Cross in Bray. The Greenway will provide pedestrians and cyclists with a more attractive and safer alternative to travelling along the N11 carriageway and having to negotiate the busy roundabouts on the Southern Cross Road.

Tenders have been sought for the provision of Consultancy Services for the Scheme and it is intended that Consultants will be appointed in Quarter 1 2020.



Road Improvement Scheme

Rathdrum – Ballinaclash Junction Improvement Project

The R752 heads south from Rathdrum towards Avoca and Arklow. It meets the R753 at Corballis Lower in Rathdrum. The R753 heads south west towards Ballinaclash and Aughrim. A significant number of vehicles turn off the R752 onto the R753 daily. The Rathdrum – Ballinaclash Junction Improvement Project aims to provide an improved road layout at the junction of the R752 and R753 roads at Corballis Lower.

Tenders have been sought for the provision of Consultancy Services for the Project and it is intended that Consultants will be appointed in Quarter 1 2020.

Part VIII – Blacklion to Delgany – Chapel Road (L1027) Upgrade Scheme

The overall scheme aims to deliver an upgrade to a section of the existing Chapel Road, extending from the Chapel Road / Convent Road Roundabout, north to the Blacklion Manor Road located approximately 2km west of the Greystones Town Centre. This upgrade will consist of improvements for pedestrians and cyclists with the upgrade of footpaths and inclusion of cycle track facilities as well as improvements for vehicular traffic with the realignment and widening of the Chapel Road as well.

The final date for submissions for the Part 8 was the 5th December 2019 and these are currently being reviewed and assessed with the intention to submit the final report to the Council Members in January 2019.

Parking Income

Parking Income by Municipal District November 2019	EURO
INCOME FLORENCE ROAD CARPARK BRAY MD	40,439
INCOME HERBERT ROAD CARPARK BRAY MD	249,271
INCOME NORTH BEACH CAR PARK - STRAND ROAD BRAY MD	39,817
INCOME RESTRICTED PARKING BRAY MD	702,652
INCOME PARKING FINES BRAY MD	233,767
INCOME RESIDENTIAL/SPECIAL PARKING DISCS BRAY MD	58,845
BRAY MUNICIPAL DISTRICT	1,324,791
INCOME GREYSTONES PAY PARKING SCHEME	388,158
GREYSTONES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT	388,158
INCOME PARKING CHARGES WICKLOW MD	326,710
INCOME RESIDENTIAL PARKING DISK WICKLOW MD	2,520
INCOME TRAFFIC FINES WICKLOW MD	11,931
WICKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT	341,161
INCOME PARKING TRAFFIC FINES ARKLOW MD	8,680
INCOME PAY PARKING FEES AND PERMITS ARKLOW MD	227,340
ARKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT	236,020
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL	2,290,131

Fire Services

Operational Fire Statistics November 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	0										
Fire Domestic	17	2	2	4	3	1	1	2	2		
Fire Caravan	2							1	1		
Road Traffic Collision (RTC)	29	7	8	7	3	2	2				
Fire Vehicle (HGV /motorway)	6	2	2	1	1						
Fire Institutional	2	1	1								
Fire Industrial / Commercial	2			1	1						
Single Station Mobilised											
Fire Alarm or CO ₂ Activation	13	4	4	3			1	1			
Fire Outdoor: Gorse / bushes	3	2	1								
Fire Chimney	7	2				1	1	1		1	1
Fire Small / bin / skip	10	2	2	4	1	1					
Fire Vehicle	4	2				1					1
Fire Barn	2		2								
Flooding	8	2	5	1							
Trees Down, Make Scene Safe	0										
Ambulance Assist	13	2	1	2	1	3		1		2	1
Garda Assist	1					1					
Electrical Incident	1	1									
Gas Leak	1		1								
River Rescue	1					1					
Fire Oil / Petrol	0										
Entrapment / Rescue / Lift	3	1	1		1						
Oil Spill / Road Hazard	0										
Malicious False Alarm	0										
Mobilised into other County	3							3			
Times Stations mobilised	128	30	30	23	11	11	5	9	3	3	3

There were **99 incidents** attended during the month of November 2019. Individual Fire Stations were mobilised on a total of **128 occasions**. On two occasions during the month an Incident Commander requested an additional crew above what has been predetermined for the incident type to deal with wide scale flooding incidents.

Operational activity for the month November was **down 3%** on the preceding month (October – 132 mobilisations). Activity for the month was **up 36%** on November 2018, mainly due to an increase in domestic fires (+9) RTCs (+6) ambulance assists (+11).

Sample Incidents (November 2019)

- 02/11/2019 Wicklow Town and Rathdrum Crews were mobilised to a domestic fire at Fitzwilliam Road. A boiler had exploded.
- 04/11/2019 Greystones attended a domestic gas leak at Sycamore Drive.
- 06/11/2019 Baltinglass and Dunlavin attended a caravan fire at Parkmore, Baltinglass. No injuries.

DECEMBER 2019



- 09/11/2019 Wicklow Town Crew assisted ambulance service to remove a patient from a flooded house.
- 14/11/2019 Greystones attended flooding in Newcastle (10.30 am) and 20/11/19 (7.00 am) Rathdown (7.30 am) Charlesland (09.30 am) and Redford Park 23/11/19 at midnight.
- 19/11/2019 Wicklow Town and Rathdrum crews attended a fire in an industrial spray booth in Rathnew.

Incidents mobilised outside county Wicklow (November 2019):

Kildare (3-incidents)

- 11/11/19 Dunlavin Fire Crew were mobilised to an alarm activation in Calverstown, Kilcullen, County Kildare.
- 22/11/19 Dunlavin Fire Crew were mobilised to a Haybarn Fire at Colbinstown, County Kildare.
- 30/11/19 Dunlavin Fire Crew were mobilised with Naas Fire Crew to a domestic house fire at Brewel East, County Kildare.

Incidents where stations from outside Wicklow were mobilised into the county (November 2019):

- 01/11/2019 Blessington Fire Crew supported by a crew from Naas attended an RTC where a trapped female patient with neck pains was extracted from a car.
- 07/11/2019 Blessington Fire Crew supported by a crew from Naas attended a domestic house fire at Burgage Manor. Smoke and sparks from dish washer.
- 10/11/2019 Wicklow Town Fire Crew supported by Dublin Fire Brigade responded to an RTC at Junction 7 southbound on the N11.
- 18/11/2019 Blessington Fire Crew supported by a crew from Naas attended a single car RTC with a trapped patient with oxygen cylinders on board.
- 19/11/2019 Arklow Fire Crew supported by a crew from Gorey attended a single car RTC with 4 trapped patients.
- 23/11/2019 Bray Fire Crew supported by Dublin Fire Brigade responded to an RTC in Enniskerry.

General

- Compressed Air Foam Systems (CAFS) Training was completed in the month for over 80 fire fighters.
- Hazardous Materials (HazMat) Training for all personnel was completed including SOGs 3-day Chemical Protective Clothing (CPC) wearers courses and all Station Officers and Sub Station Officers receiving the HazMat for Incident Commander Course.
- Currently 8 of the 10 stations have received training on drill nights to cover the SOG on Suicides and refresher training on the SKED stretcher.
- One Wicklow Instructor was part of the NDFEM Instructional Team for the delivery of Methods of Instruction course held in Ennis.
- 5 Breathing Apparatus Training nights were held in Bray.
- A number of flood response refresher training events took place during the month, managed and led locally in Carnew, Tinahely and Baltinglass.
- Emergency Services Driving Standard (ESDS) is continuing to be rolled out.
- The Primary Schools Programme has commenced, all schools in the County will be visited with nationally developed programme.
- All Traveller Accommodation was visited and equipment replaced, training provided.

Fire Prevention Statistics November 2019

Application type	Received	Deemed Invalid	Requested additional information	Inspections	Recommended Grant
Fire Safety Certificates	3	0	3	0	8
Regularisation Certificates	3	1	1	1	0
FSC as part of 7 Day Notice	0	0	0	0	0
Disability Access Certificates	8	0	5	0	10

Licensing	Received	Inspected	Request further info	No Objection letter	Not raising an objection
District	11	0	3	5	0
Circuit	0	0	2	0	0

Building Control

Commencement Notices

19 Commencement Notices Submitted

Of which:

6 were Commencement Notices with Compliance Documents

1 Seven day Notice

8 Opt Out Declarations

4 were Commencement Notices without Compliance Documents

Statistics

Opt Out rate => 42% of Commencement Notices for November

16% inspection rate on Commencement Notices

14 new build units

8 of which are one off houses

- **Certificates of Compliance on Completion (CCC)**

16 No. CCC Submitted

- 11No. Certificates of Compliance on Completion validated
- 05No. CCC, Revised Information requested



BCA not notified on completion of opt out development

- **Non-Compliance, this period**

- By Desk Top Assessment, Pre-validation
 - 2No. Commencement Notices deemed Invalid
- By Site Inspection, Pre-Validation
 - 1No. Submission, Works commenced without Valid Commencement Notice,
⇒ Commencement Notice deemed Invalid
- By Site Inspection, Post Validation
 - 2No. Commencement Notices significant Non-Compliance identified

- **Inspection Rate, this period**

20% Inspection Rate on all Notices

Environment, Climate Adaptation and Biodiversity Action

1. Environmental Services

Waste Management Section

No. of Complaints Opened	118
No. of Cases Closed, Resolved or Completed	101
No of Litter Fines Issued	8
No. of Waste Management Files Opened	8
No. of Warning Letters Issued	4
No. of Abandoned Car Notices Issued	7
No. of Burning Applications Granted	8
No. of Temporary Signs Granted	7
No. of Notices issued under Section 14 of the Waste Management Act	4
No. of files prepared for Court included in Court lists	40
Income – Litter	€7,694.39
Income – Waste Management	€2,788.00
Income – Anti-Dumping Initiative 2019	€75,915.94

Blue Flag Beaches

Applications have been submitted to An Taisce for 4 beaches in County Wicklow to be recognised as Blue Flag Beaches for 2020. These beaches are Bray, Greystones, Brittas Bay North and Brittas Bay South. The results will be known in May 2020.

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- results of the site investigation will inform the proposed remediation plan which is scheduled for completion in May 2020.
- Website is up and running and regular updates will be made to keep the Public and Members informed of progress.
- Environmental risk assessments as per EPA guidance document are currently being carried out.

Ports and Harbours

- 4 Marine Notices issued in November
- 3 Marine Notices issued in December

During November 8 ships berthed and either discharged or received cargo at Wicklow Port. Of these ships, 6 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 scrap metal while the imports consisted of logs from Scotland and timber from Sweden.



During December 6 ships berthed and either discharged or received cargo at Wicklow Port. Of these ships, 5 had a single transaction i.e. either an import or an export of cargo while 1 had two transactions i.e. an import and an export of cargo from the same ship. The exports consisted of pulp and scrap metal while the imports consisted of logs from Scotland and timber from Sweden.

November - Import	November - Export	December - Import	December - Export
Import		Import	
Import			Export
	Export		Export
Import	Export	Import	
Import		Import	
Import		Import	Export
	Export		
Import	Export		

Nine intermediate bollards were installed during December – 8 at Wicklow Port and 1 at South Quay Arklow.

Draft Wicklow County Council (Wicklow Port) Explosives Bye-Laws 2020 went on public display on the 20th November 2019.

On the 11th December a presentation was made to the members of Arklow Municipal District detailing the proposed design and layout of the new fishermen storage facilities planned for South Quay, Arklow.

On the 19th December the 'Scot Explorer', the newest vessel in the Scotline fleet arrived at Wicklow on her maiden voyage from Varberg (Sweden).

Pollution Control

Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants - Ambient Monitoring

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

Pollution Response & Investigation

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

Private Water Supplies

- 4 Private water supplies were sampled.
- 4 Private water supplies were sampled and deemed compliant with microbiological parameters.
- 1 Private water supplies were sampled and deemed non-compliant with radon parameter. Do not consume notice issued and remedial action required.
- 1 boil water notice lifted from private water supply after remedial works.

Septic Tank Inspections - National Inspection Plan 2019

- 1 domestic wastewater treatment system was inspected and deemed non-compliant with advisory notice issued requiring remedial action.



Licensed Effluent Discharges to Waters

- 2 licensed wastewater discharge to river were monitored which were non-compliant with key parameters and were required to improve treatment performance.

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.
- 8 Rivers were monitored involving 8 samples for analysis for the purposes of the WFD/River Management Plan.

National River Management Plan – Priority Area

Executive Scientist of Pollution Control Team attended the community information and engagement evening meeting hosted with LAWPRO (LA Water Programme Office) regarding the Derry/Rosnastraw/Coolboy Rivers Priority Area for Action held in Shillelagh on 7th November.

Smokeless Coal

- Published newspaper notice advert to remind supplier, distributors, retailers and householders of obligations regarding specified fuels.
- 4 premises inspected for compliance with smokeless coal ban.

Planning & Development

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

Well Grants

- Number of New Applications 10
- Number of Provisional Approvals 7
- Number of Grants provided 18
- Number of Inspections 10
- Number of New Wells 0
- Number of New Pumps 12
- Number of New Equipment (Filters etc.) 20

Environmental Awareness

Creative students who made Christmas decorations out of junk materials were rewarded at a prize-giving ceremony organised by Wicklow County Council on Tuesday (December 17th).

The Christmas Decoration Competition provided students with the opportunity to show their creativity, making decorations with items of junk. The challenge was to produce a decoration from items of waste that would often end up in the bin.

Students responded by making decorations as diverse as snowmen, angels, cribs, ornaments for the tree, stars, and candleholders.



Waste items reused included plastic bottles, light bulbs, sweet wrappers, toilet rolls, drink cans, polystyrene and bits of old toys, socks and fabrics. The students showed an amazing ability to see the potential to use items of junk creatively.

Winners were presented with their prizes by the Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Cllr Irene Winters, and Mr Frank Curran, Chief Executive, at a ceremony in County Buildings.

The Environmental Awareness Office of Wicklow County Council has produced a recipe book to help use up all those food leftovers - including the turkey, ham, cheeses or salmon – and turn them into interesting dishes for the Christmas holiday.

Recycling centres in County Wicklow will be reopening after Christmas for what is the busiest time of the year. Christmas trees will be accepted for recycling from Friday, 3rd January.

Sustainable Energy

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

Two additional SEC applications have been received from:

- Wicklow Town
- Blessington

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 the findings is due in Q1 2020.

A second study on the Hydro-geomorphology of the river was completed by Gavin Doherty Geosolutions. This has identified that removing the pinch point would have negligible effect on the silt



deposition in the area and hence the proposal to remove the pinch point has been reversed. Public realm drawings are presently being updated to reflect this.

Site investigation which includes an archaeological investigation at the 19 arches bridge was completed in early December 2019.

Further analysis of the material in the bed of the river is required to identify disposal options for the proposed dredged material

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.

Climate Action

The CCMA signed up local authorities to a new Climate Charter. The Charter agreed that government set up a framework for local government to play a key role in delivering the National Climate Action Plan published in June. It provides a shared vision of the role of local government to deliver on Climate Adaptation and Climate Mitigation. Wicklow County Council signed the Climate Action Charter on Friday 20th December.



Organisational Development and Financial Matters

1. Recruitment

Competitions for the following posts were held in November 2019:

- Assistant Chief Fire Officer
- Temporary Executive Engineer
- Arts Officer (confined)
- Staff Officer (Library Service) (confined)
- Librarian (open & confined)
- Senior Library Assistant (open & confined)
- Assistant Staff Officer
- Clerical Officer short-listing
- Temporary Substitute School Traffic Warden
- ICT Technicians

Employee Numbers

	Q4 2018	Q1 2019	Q2 2019	Q3 2019
Managerial/ Administrative	278	280	272	280
Professional/ Technical	104	104	98	103
Outdoor	312	316	318	318
Temporary/ Seasonal	38	65	88	62
Non DOHPLG	8	8	8	8
Total	740	773	784	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-fighter)

2. Access to Information

No. of F.O.I. Requests

November 2019	16
January to November 2019	126

November 2018	13
January to November 2018	121



No. of Ombudsman Requests

November 2019	3
January to November 2019	25

November 2018	1
January to November 2018	12

3. Press Releases

November 2019 – 12 Press Releases

4. Register of Electors

The 2020/2021 Draft Register was published by Wicklow County Council on the statutory publication date of 1st November 2019, both in hard copy and online on www.checktheregister.ie There are currently 100,079 electors on the Draft Register, this figure will more than likely increase when we do the re-run of the draft in January 2020 in advance of the publication of the Live 2020/20201 Register on February 15th 2020.

The closing date for receipt of additions, amendments or deletions on the Draft Register was Monday 25th November 2019. We had a huge response to the 3.5k letters we issued in October and there is a lot of movement of people within the county and some movement from Wicklow to other Local Authorities. These letters/ forms have been processed and will continue to be processed as they come in.

We had our Claim Court meeting with Mrs. Mary Delahanty, Wicklow Returning Officer on Tuesday 3rd December 2019, where Mrs. Delahanty adjudicated on a number of applications/ claim for correction forms. All forms presented to Mrs. Delahanty were approved.



5. I.C.T. Report

IT Helpdesk

- The IT Helpdesk continues to streamline the workflow for the technical support team with an average of 23 tickets a day.

Customer Service Delivery

- Customer Relations Management (CRM) System – Arklow Municipal District have begun piloting the new system for Housing Repairs and work continues on the business process mapping.

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. 360 plus, users and pcs are now migrated.

Managed Print Service

- A review of print volumes and devices are currently underway.

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.
- Resister of Elector Database now has over 95% Eircode match, making the collection of electoral details more efficient.

eServices

- The Online Consultation Hub is working well on the Wicklow.ie website. There were 4 items up for consultation during December; Have your say in the County Development Plan 2021-2027 Issue Paper, Blessington Health Check, Proposed Enterprise Hub at Wicklow County Campus Rathnew and the Part 8 - 36 Houses, Greenhill Road, Wicklow Town.
- Wicklow.ie – pageviews for 2019 were 1,440,368. That reflects a 21% year on year increase.
- Social media accounts
 - Facebook (Wicklow County Council) – 6177 followers. A 117.35% increase year on year.
 - Twitter (@WicklowCoCo) – 6100 followers. A 13.89% increase year on year.
 - Instagram (@WicklowCoCo) – 906 followers. A 306.28% year on year

DECEMBER 2019



6. Financial

Revenue Account

REVENUE ACCOUNT							
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 30TH NOVEMBER 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	17,538,815	19,892,855	88	(22,020,934)	(24,370,271)	90	(4,482,119)
B - Road Transport & Safety	19,541,725	20,449,070	96	(11,922,381)	(13,354,096)	89	7,619,344
C - Water Services	5,164,734	5,818,773	89	(6,059,783)	(6,759,744)	90	(895,049)
D - Development Management	8,578,958	9,868,577	87	(4,521,722)	(5,501,133)	82	4,057,236
E - Environmental Services	10,137,574	10,987,633	92	(1,752,322)	(1,971,500)	89	8,385,252
F - Recreation and Amenity	6,210,123	6,990,426	89	(661,059)	(894,778)	74	5,549,064
G - Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	1,345,776	1,541,865	87	(686,492)	(812,728)	84	659,284
H - Miscellaneous Services	9,696,169	11,098,626	87	(7,174,121)	(8,257,821)	87	2,522,048
J - Central Management Charges	14,239,419	16,052,449	89	(984,084)	(1,005,217)	98	13,255,335
LG - Local Government Fund				(10,984,806)	(11,983,425)	92	(10,984,806)
PL - Pension Levy				-			-
RA - Commercial Rates				(25,600,250)	(27,939,561)	92	(25,600,250)
	92,453,293	102,700,274	90	92,367,954	102,850,274	90	85,339

Cashflow/Overdraft

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

Capital Account

CAPITAL ACCOUNT					
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 30TH NOVEMBER 2019					
	Opening Balance at 01/01/2019	Actual Expenditure	Actual Income	Transfers To/From Reserves	Closing Balance at 30/11/2019
	€	€	€	€	€
Housing and Building	23,666,606	69,986,865	(66,015,978)	(740,366)	26,897,127
Road Transport & Safety	(39,057,744)	6,934,680	(7,230,893)	(454,010)	(39,807,967)
Water Services	(10,100,125)	450,865	(779,119)	4	(10,428,375)
Development Management	(9,430,657)	320,836	(794,782)	(262,038)	(10,166,641)
Environmental Services	322,578	4,194,640	(3,138,737)	(375,011)	1,003,470
Recreation and Amenity	(237,760)	1,775,902	(2,138,640)	(161,250)	(761,748)
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	(929,822)	222,021	0	(228,750)	(936,551)
Miscellaneous Services	(14,953,999)	2,873,792	(2,595,411)	(11,530)	(14,687,148)
	(50,720,923)	86,759,601	(82,693,560)	(2,232,951)	(48,887,833)

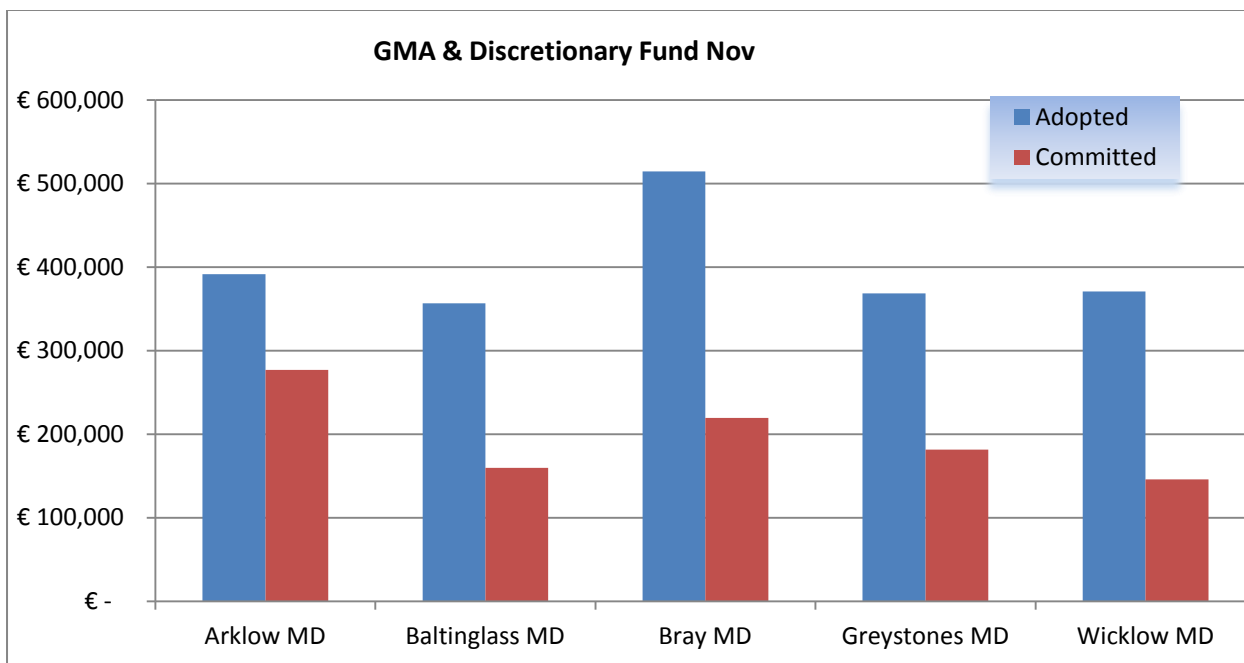
Commercial Rates, Rents and Loan Collections

NOVEMBER									
Income Collection Area	Opening Balance 01/01/2019	Accrued	Vacancy Property Adjustments	Write Offs	Total for Collection	Collected	Closing Arrears 30/11/2019	Specific Doubtful Arrears	% Collection
Rates *	6,804,584	27,927,545	(1,240)		34,733,369	22,665,793	12,067,576		71%
Rents & Annuities	1,470,372	13,659,159		(132)	15,129,663	12,886,951	2,242,712		85%
Housing Loans *	399,710	1,295,415			1,695,125	1,437,774	257,351		85%

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.

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	378,197	114,903
Baltinglass MD	269,230	356,750	429,138	196,842
Bray MD	168,672	514,500	388,377	294,795
Greystones MD	-6,637	368,750	174,980	187,133
Wicklow MD	188,759	370,750	334,686	224,823
Total	721,374	2,002,500	1,705,378	1,018,496



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