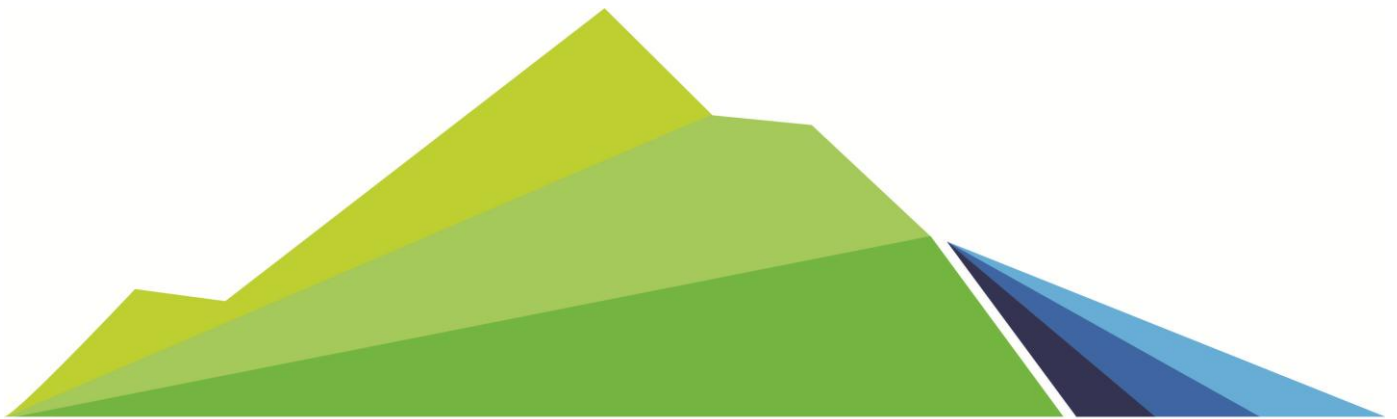


JANUARY 2019



Wicklow County Council Chief Executive's Monthly Report



W I C K L O W

ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES



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This Month:

➤ **Projects shortlisted for National All Ireland & Community Awards**

- Moments in Time – Best community Health Initiative (ARKLOW)
- Bray.ie – Best Connected Council (BRAY)
- Bray Air Display – Best Tourism Initiative (BRAY)
- Summer in Bray – Best Art/Culture (BRAY)
- Multi agency emergency Response Bray Head – Emergency Response Person/ Team (BRAY)
- The Volvo Round Ireland Yacht Race in the category - Best Tourism Initiative (WICKLOW)
- Marine House Hospitality Training Centre, The Murrough in the category – Best Educational Building (WICKLOW)
- Vartry Trails Project in the category – Best Community Health Initiative (WICKLOW)
- KWETB Riverwalk Cafe Culinary Entrepreneurship in the category – Best Education/Training Initiative (WICKLOW)
- Vartry Trails Project in the category – Best Tourism Initiative (WICKLOW)
- Ray of Sunshine after school – Best business working with the Community
- Back in 5 Campaign – Best Disability Access & Inclusion Initiative

➤ ***WCC reintroduces Real Time Captioning and Live Texting of Council Meetings***

➤ **Book of Kells Replica goes on display in Arklow Library**



HOUSING AND COMMUNITY

1. SOCIAL HOUSING SUPPORT

| | |
|---|------|
| No. on list for Social Housing Support – (includes RAS and HAP) | 4026 |
| No. of new applicants 2018 | 595 |
| No. availing of Rental Assistance Scheme (RAS) | 436 |
| No. availing of Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) | 976 |
| No. in Long Term Leasing accommodation | 7 |
| No. in Short Term Leasing accommodation | 10 |

2. ALLOCATION OF SOCIAL HOUSING

| | | |
|--|----------------------------|-------------|
| <i>WCC Social Housing (excluding Bray M. D.)</i> | <i>39 Bray MD Plus WCC</i> | <i>117</i> |
| Approved Housing Bodies (excluding Bray M. D.) | | 20 |
| | | 137 Pending |

3. SOCIAL HOUSING STOCK

4329 tenancies occupied @ 31/12/2018

- › Total weekly rental accrual €235,744.79
- › Minimum rent €24 pw - Maximum rent €275 pw

Arrears at 31st December 2018 - €947,219.03

Casual Vacancies/Relets 46

| <i>Municipal District</i> | <i>No</i> |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| <i>Arklow</i> | <i>12</i> |
| <i>Baltinglass</i> | <i>11</i> |
| <i>Bray</i> | <i>7</i> |
| <i>Greystones</i> | <i>3</i> |
| <i>Wicklow</i> | <i>13</i> |

4. HOUSING SUPPLY – PROGRAMME OF DELIVERY

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

Following a number of consultations with Wicklow County Council and others and a number of separate appearances before the High Court over the past number of weeks, MDY Construction Limited exited the Examinership process with effect from 15th November 2018 when the High Court approved the Scheme of Arrangements proposed by the appointed Examiner. This occurrence has facilitated Wicklow County Council in withdrawing the termination notice previously issued to MDY, which in turn will allow MDY to complete the works at the Kilbride Lane 42 Unit Social Housing Development in Bray.



Social Housing Supply Programme

| | |
|---|------------------|
| 9 schemes on site 2018 | 102 Units |
| 8 schemes to commence on site in 2019 | 222 Units |
| 1 PPP Bundle 1 scheme to commence on site in 2019 | <u>51 Units</u> |
| <u>TOTAL</u> | 375 Units |

| Priority List 1 SCHEMES | UNITS | CURRENT STATUS |
|--------------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------------|
| O'Byrne Road Bray | 1 | Completed October 2018 |
| Old Library Arklow | 7 | Completed and allocated |
| Avondale Heights, Rathdrum | 20 | Completed and allocated |
| Delany Park, Arklow (Phase 1) | 17 | Completion anticipated March 2019 |
| Kilbride Lane, Bray (Murphy's Lands) | 42 | Completion anticipated February 2020 |
| Druids Brook Kilcoole | 2 | Completion anticipated October 2019 |
| FCA Hall, Wicklow Town | 8 | Completion anticipated September 2019 |
| Kilmantan Place, Bray | 4 | Completion anticipated September 2019 |
| 16A Oak Drive, Blessington | 1 | Completion anticipated June 2019 |
| Sugarloaf View Kilmacanogue | 20 | Completion anticipated February 2020 |
| Farrenkelly Greystones (Phase 2) | 24 | Completion anticipated February 2020 |
| Ard Na Mara, Kilcoole | 2 | Tender Return November 2018 |
| | | |
| Priority List 2 SCHEMES | UNITS | CURRENT STATUS |
| Delany Park Arklow (Phase 2 + 3) | 47 | Completion anticipated October 2020 |
| Whitehall Baltinglass RAPID BUILD | 34 | Completion anticipated November 2019 |
| Rathnew RAPID BUILD | 47 | Stage 1 Approval August 2018 |
| Avondale RAPID BUILD | 20 | Stage 1 Submission January 2019 |
| Ard na Gréine RAPID BUILD | 28 | Stage 1 Submission January 2019 |
| Carnew RAPID BUILD | 30 | Stage 1 Approval November 2018 |
| Ashtown RAPID BUILD | 35 | Stage 1 Submission January 2019 |
| Cedar Court, Bray RAPID BUILD | 30 | Stage 1 Submission January 2019 |
| Three Trouts Greystones RAPID BUILD | 34 | Stage 1 Submission January 2019 |
| Greenhills Road, Wicklow RAPID BUILD | 34 | Stage 1 Submission January 2019 |
| Mountainview NTMK RAPID BUILD | 26 | Stage 1 Submission January 2019 |
| Old Fire Station, Arklow | 7 | Stage 1 Submission February 2019 |

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5. PART V

2018

- 4 units purchased January 2018
- 5 units CALF approval. These Part V units are complete and occupied – delivered through CALF by Tuath AHB.
- 2 units - Department approval received. Contracts and replies to legal queries awaited from Developer.
- 3 units completed and have been allocated.
- 15 units under negotiation - possible delivery through CALF by an AHB. Likely delivery first half 2019.
- *The purchase of 7 Part V units via CALF was completed in December 2018 by Tuath AHB.*
- *The purchase of 3 Part V units was completed in December 2018.*
- *The purchase of 8 Part V units via CALF was completed in December 2018 by Tuath AHB.*
- 2 Units Part V agreement completed – delivery expected in Q1 2019 (Newtownmountkennedy).
- 16 units (Ashford) negotiations completed. Department approval received – delivery of bulk of units expected 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.

› 98 units approved, planning granted

Turnkey

- 3 turnkey units purchase completed and have been allocated (2 in Tinahely, 1 in Arklow)
- 1 turnkey unit (Tinahely) due to be completed in December.
- Remaining 2 units under construction and will complete by Q1 2019.
- Construction is ongoing on turnkey project at Vale Road, Arklow.

6. PPP SOCIAL HOUSING PROJECT

[Bundle 1]

Development Site at Convent Lands, Wicklow for 51 Social Housing units. The Department of Housing has dedicated €300 million towards delivery of

housing through the public, private partnership model in the Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan. Wicklow has been included as a project in Bundle 1. The Part 8 was passed by the members at the Council Meeting of 3rd July 2017. *The project is expected to commence on site in March 2018.*

7. APPROVED HOUSING BODIES (AHB'S)

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

6 apartments (Abbey St. Wicklow) purchase not yet completed. *Tuath AHB working to complete purchase as soon as possible.*

Approval has been received from the Department of Housing, Planning Community and Local Government for a leasing arrangement with Cluid to provide 45 units of accommodation on the Council's site at St. Earnan's View, Ballybeg, Rathnew. It is anticipated that works will commence in 2019.

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

Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS) Purchase has been completed on 3 properties with Dublin Simon under the Capital Assistance Scheme in 2018 and 2 further properties have been agreed with Ark Housing. These properties will be allocated to households experiencing homelessness.

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

8. HOUSING SCHEMES REMEDIATION

Glending, Blessington – Remediation

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

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

Hillview, Wicklow - Remediation

Works substantially complete, with some outstanding ceiling works ongoing.

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9. HOME IMPROVEMENT/ADAPTATION

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

- › Grant funding for private houses - €1,266,829
- › Grant funding for social house - € 650,000
- 73 Open Applications to value of € 115,168

Housing Assistance for

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Older People (70) | € 296,017 |
| Mobility Aid Grants (99) | € 422,183 |
| Housing Adaptation Grants (69) | € 759,203 |

Approved

- › 25 Mobility Aid Grants € 105,661
- › 20 Housing Adaption Grants € 387,636
- › 22 Housing Aid for Older People € 132,659

House Purchase Loans – Rebuilding Ireland

- 158 received up to 31/12/2018
- 68 approvals.
- 76 declined
- 9 awaiting further information.
- 5 awaiting a reply from Housing Agency.

2016 Incremental Tenant Purchase Scheme

- 46 applications to 31/12/2018
- 12 sales completed

10. ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS

Period 01/12/2018 to 31/12/2018

| | |
|------------------------------|----|
| No. of Presentations | 29 |
| No. of Repeat Presentations | 2 |
| No. of Households (Families) | 17 |
| No. of Adults (Individuals) | 12 |
| No. of Children | 36 |
| NTQ/Asked to Leave/Landlord | |
| Selling | 4 |
| Family Circumstances | 0 |
| Leaving Prison/Hospital Care | 0 |
| Sofa Surfing | 0 |
| Rough Sleeping | 2 |
| Squatting | 2 |

Period - 01/01/2018 to 31/12/2018

| | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| No. of Presentations | 623 |
| No. of Repeat Presentations | 66 |
| No. of Households (Families) | 355 |

| | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| No. of Adults (Individuals) | 247 |
| No. of Children | 672 |
| NTQ/Asked to Leave/Landlord | |
| Selling | 110 |
| Family Circumstances | 89 |
| Leaving Prison/Hospital Care | 3 |
| Sofa Surfing | 43 |
| Rough Sleeping | 3 |
| Squatting | 2 |

Temporary Emergency Accommodation 31/12/2018

8 families (9 adults and 21 children)
4 single adults

Homeless HAP

The recent appointment in October of the Homeless HAP Placefinder is seen as a welcome and necessary addition to the Homeless Team.

The Homeless HAP Placefinder will provide 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, 22 (18 families & 4 singles) have been assisted under the Homeless HAP Scheme in Wicklow County Council. This includes 17 families from the inception on the 1st October 2018 to 31st December 2018, and 5 families for the month of January thus far.

Of these 8 properties were sourced by WCC, whilst the remainder was sourced by the clients themselves. 5 families were residing in Emergency Accommodation, 2 rough sleeping, 1 family in a women's refuge and the majority of remaining cases prevention - as the clients were on Notice to Quit in PRA.



One standout case is a family 1 Adult, 2 Children who had been residing in Emergency Accommodation since 4th July 2018 and were moved into a rental property, sourced by WCC, on 21st January 2019.

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 from early 2019.

The Council has provided a support worker under a service level agreement with Dublin Simon Community to assist the families to transition to alternative, suitable accommodation.

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 and is currently liaising with Kildare and Meath County Councils to prepare tender for services.

In advance of this and to ensure robustness of numbers, an analysis of rough sleepers in County Wicklow is being undertaken which will inform the plan.

Cold Weather Initiative

A property in Bray was identified as suitable to implement a Cold Weather Initiative and the facility opened its doors to homeless individuals in December. The initiative is a partnership arrangement between Dublin Simon Community, Wicklow County Council and the Five Loaves Homeless Services. *The initiative commenced on the night of 17th December 2018 with a capacity of 12 beds – 10 male and 2 female.*

11. SOCIAL INCLUSION COMMUNITY ACTIVATION PROGRAMME (SICAP)

Both Local Development Companies (LDC's), namely Bray Area Partnership and Co. Wicklow Partnership met the deadline of 15th January for submitting their 2018 End of Year Reports. The LCDC's SICAP Sub-group will review and assess these reports over coming weeks and will bring a recommendation in relation to approval to February LCDC meeting.

Both LDC's have commenced implementation of their 2019 Annual Plans.

SICAP payments for January and February have been made to both LDC's; Bray Area Partnership - €118,682 and Co. Wicklow Partnership - €100,371.

Public Participation Network (PPN)

Wicklow PPN have appointed Gráinne Quinn as its new PPN Support Worker.

New PPN reps elected in November have taken up their positions on Committees and structures throughout the county and have begun attending meetings.



12. COMMUNITY AWARDS SCHEMES AND COMMUNITY PRIDE SCHEME

The Community Awards Scheme and Community Pride Scheme applications are available for the year 2019 funding. The closing date for receipt of these applications is noon on Thursday 28th February 2019.

13. WICKLOW LIBRARY SERVICE

BOOK OF KELLS REPLICA

Thanks to the Ashford Heritage Centre and the generosity of one of their benefactors, Mr. John de Paor, Wicklow County Council is currently displaying a beautifully produced replica of the Book of Kells at Arklow Library.

The display of this beautiful item was launched on Tuesday 22nd of January at Arklow Library and included an informative talk by Professor Ciaran Brady, History Department, Trinity College Dublin.

2018 STATISTICS

Wicklow County Council Library Service issued a record figure of 602,408 items in 2018. This has increased from 574,657 in 2017. Wicklow performed 6th highest out of 30 local authorities re items borrowed per head of population. This equated to 4.23 items per head of population versus a national average of 3.57 items per head of population.

A total of 559,097 visits were made to our libraries and 71,968 IT/Wi-Fi sessions were availed of, which held steady with the 2017 statistics.

WICKLOW LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

Stage 3 approval is now with the Department of Community & Rural Development. Construction tender will now be issued. It is anticipated that builders will be on site in April 2019 and the building will open to the public in April 2020 approx.

RATHDRUM LIBRARY

A decision has been made to purchase, rather than lease, a new library for Rathdrum. This will be in the new Market Square development, also the location of the new HSE Primary Care Centre. The matter is currently with Wicklow County Council Law Section. Construction is likely to commence in March 2019,

and the building should be completed and open to the public, in early 2020.

A number of meetings have now taken place between Wicklow County Council staff and the architect.

14. COUNTY WICKLOW LOCAL SPORTS PARTNERSHIP (LSP)

OPERATION TRANSFORMATION 2019

The Nationwide Operation Transformation walks took place in County Wicklow on Saturday 12th January 2019 in three locations. These were The Bandstand Bray Seafront, Baltinglass GAA and McGreals Primary Care Centre Blessington. Each venue was well represented with 150 people participating in each location. Following on from the success of the Nationwide Operation Transformation Walks, a Walking Group is continuing to meet on a Saturday at 11.00 a.m. in Bray and on a Saturday at 10.00 a.m. in Blessington. Also, as RTE's Operation Transformation returns to our screens for its 12th series, Ireland Lights Up encourages GAA clubs to switch on their floodlights/lighting systems every Thursday between 7.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. for a 5 week period (17th January to 21st February 2019) to make exercise more accessible on the dark winter nights. 7 clubs in County Wicklow have registered for this. They include Annacurra GAA, Arklow Geraldines, Baltinglass GAA, Bray Emmets GAA, Kilbride/Lacken GAA, Newtown GAA and Shillelagh GAA.

BUGGYFIT

Rolling on from the success of last year's Buggyfit Programme, a new Programme is starting on Monday 21st January 2019, 2 mornings a week in Purelight Studio, Shoreline Leisure Bray. This is a fun exercise Programme where mums can bring their baby along to their workout sessions.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Wicklow Local Sports Partnership provided two Safeguarding 1 Child Protection Courses in January. They were held on Tuesday 15th January 2019 in Scoil Chonglais, Baltinglass and Wednesday 16th January 2019 in The Glenview Hotel. 29 people benefitted from these 2 Courses.

SPORT CAPITAL 2018

An announcement was made from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport in relation to allocations for resubmitted applications under the



2018 Sports Capital Programme. Congratulations to the 5 clubs in Wicklow who will receive allocations.

- Wicklow Enniskerry Youth Club AFC for Enniskerry YC Ground upgrade - €47,700
- Wicklow Roundwood & District Athletics Club for Club Facility - €83,400
- Wicklow County Council for improvement to running track at Seaview Avenue, Arklow - €49,700
- Wicklow RFC Wicklow for Dressing Room & Gym Upgrade - €96,300
- Wicklow Triathlon Juniors for Equipment - €6,600

SPORT IRELAND CORE FUNDING 2019

Wicklow Local Sports Partnership has retained their funding of €35,000 for one Community Sports Development Officer for 2019. They have also been allocated an additional €35,000 for a Sports Inclusion Disability Officer.

15. LOCAL ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY PLAN (LECP) (COMMUNITY)

LECP

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



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).

The application for Regional Enterprise Development Funding (REDF) for a Screen Content Enterprise Hub for Wicklow County Campus has been reviewed with Enterprise Ireland. A new application is now being compiled so that it will be ready when the call for proposals is announced (expected in Q2 2019).

Wicklow County Council is in the process of developing a Masterplan for Wicklow County Campus, to complement its use as a Screen Content/Film hub.

RETAIL

The Florentine Centre

Works continue on the development of the Florentine Site which should be completed in 2019. The project has achieved another major milestone in January, reaching ground floor podium slab on the North East of the site. Along with other works completed, the scale of the project can now be appreciated.

TOWN TEAMS

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

Arklow Town Team organised a very successful Ladies Lunch in the Woodenbridge Hotel to celebrate Little Christmas on 6th January. Proceeds from the event were divided between the Arklow Community Action Resource Centre and an Arklow Town Team project. Further to this, plans are

underway to celebrate International Women's Day on the 8th March. Arklow Town Team will host their second annual luncheon to acknowledge famous women.

Two applications have been submitted from Arklow Town Team for LEADER Funding.

The CCTV project for Arklow is progressing with a letter of Intent issued to successful contractor.

Blessington Town Team continues to work in conjunction with Blessington Forum to progress various projects listed under the Town & Village Renewal Scheme.

Preparations are underway for phase 2 of the Health Check, which will focus on Retail in Blessington from both a consumer and a retailer point of view.

Greystones 2020 are currently finalising the new Greystones website and are also working with the company commissioned to carry out a review of the costs for proposed Public Realm Plan in light of the reduced funding available.

Greystones 2020 are continuing to work with Tidy Towns to finalise plans and funding for renewal of Burnaby Park. The team are also working on proposals for 2019 projects, details of which will be announced in due course.

Wicklow Town Team are preparing tender documents, following the award of funding for backlighting of historical sites, with a view to completion of the project by Summer 2019.

Funding applications are also being prepared through LEADER for a Festival of Light to incorporate night historical tours and an Irish Festival to promote the Irish language.

Wicklow Town Team successfully negotiated with a private company and landowner resulting in a Park & Ride facility now available with Wexford Bus from the Beehive.



URDF Funding

Wicklow 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. Each of these projects has planning approval and will start as early as possible in 2019.

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 is being established to oversee these actions and drive all sectors towards helping Wicklow achieve the target of **£200m in tourism revenue by 2023**.

A plenary meeting was held on 30th January in the Glenview Hotel, where over 30 participants including industry experts, representatives of local businesses and Town Teams, along with staff and elected representatives, were designated to the following working groups:

- Accommodation
- Key Towns as Visitor Hubs
- Thematic Experiences
- Marketing /Developing a common narrative
- Glendalough

Each working 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.

MARITIME

National Marine Planning Framework

Wicklow County Council and the members of the Maritime Business Development Group made a submission to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in respect of a Marine Spatial Plan for Ireland.

The next stage in the process will be the development of a full draft plan for publication in 2019 with a further consultation process running until end 2019.

Maritime Strategic Review for County Wicklow

The intent of the strategic review is to provide non-statutory guidance for uses and activities within the marine area and to assist Wicklow County Council and other statutory agencies with their policy formulation process as well as providing Wicklow County Council with a clear picture of its maritime area so that it is in a position to respond and provide input to higher level policy, where necessary. The Strategic Review will identify ways the economic base of County Wicklow could be strengthened through its ports and harbours and formulate recommendation for Wicklow County Council.

Tenders from suitably qualified consultants are due in on 4th February 2019.

Maritime Business Development Group

The MBDG continues to meet on a regular basis. In January, an Aquaculture working group was 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 is being prepared and will be submitted to BIM under the Fisheries Local Action Group (FLAG) Programme 2016 – 2023.

COMMUTER SURVEY

A Commuter Survey was carried out during the first two weeks of November with the aim of capturing the current level of commuting and the opinion of those commuters.



The results of the Commuter Survey were presented to the elected members at the January meeting of Wicklow County Council. The excellent response rate was noted, along with the dissatisfaction of 74% of respondents with their current commute.

Wicklow County Council will use this information to encourage the development of facilities such as enterprise hubs, co-working spaces and second sites and to attract further investment into the county.

GAMMA Ltd, who carried out the survey on behalf of Wicklow County Council, outlined how they utilised data from POWSCAR (Place of Work, School or College, Census of Anonymised Records) and the Central Statistics Office in conjunction with the information on commuter's attitudes and opinions gathered during the survey period.

The full report on the Commuter Study can be found at: www.wicklow.ie/commutersurvey

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"> - Promotion of the enterprise message at local level. - Working with the relevant stakeholders in the county to foster entrepreneurship. - Delivering appropriate enterprise training and mentoring to entrepreneurs. - Providing funding options to entrepreneurs, early stage promoters and viable businesses to support growth and development of micro enterprises. - Developing a progression pathway for clients to Enterprise Ireland - Acting as a First Stop Shop for business information and referral | | | |
| METRICS: Grants | HISTORICAL | TARGETS | YEAR TO DATE |
| | 2017 | 2018 | 2018 |
| Grants Approved (number/ value) - Measure 1 - Technical Assistance for Micro Exporters | - 25/€520,084.90 - 17/€27,664.03 | - Meet Demand - Meet Demand | - 24/€476,558.50 - 14/€26,219.06 |
| NB: Ability to meet demand is influenced by the amount of funding allocated to the LEO | | | |
| METRICS: Training/ Capacity Building | HISTORICAL | TARGETS | YEAR TO DATE |
| | 2017 | 2018 | 2018 |
| Start Your Own Business Participant numbers | 75 | 75 | 72 |
| Management Development Programme Participant numbers (commences September) | 21 | 18 | 21 |
| Business Skills Training Courses Participant Numbers | 217 | 200 | 122 |
| Business IT Training Courses | 163 | 150 | 114 |



| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|
| Participant numbers | | | |
| Women in Business Network Number of Meetings | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| Seminars participant numbers | 366 | 400 | 434 |

| METRICS: Business Advice & Mentoring | HISTORICAL | TARGETS | YEAR TO DATE |
|---|--|---------|--------------|
| | 2017 | 2018 | 2018 |
| Number of new clients added to database *criteria has been amended for this metric | 590 | 450* | 619 |
| Number of One to One Business Advice meetings | 363 | 350 | 370 |
| Businesses assigned a Mentor | 79 *includes once off SECC Initiative | 91 | 76 |

| METRICS: Student Enterprise Programmes | HISTORICAL | TARGETS | |
|--|------------|-----------|--------------|
| Academic Year | 2017/2018 | 2018/2019 | Year to Date |
| No. of Senior Cycle Secondary Student Participants | 1,302 | 1,200 | 1152 |

January 2019 Activities

The Ireland Best Young Entrepreneur Competition 2019 run by the network of Local Enterprise Offices was officially launched by Minister Heather Humphreys and Minister Pat Breen on Thursday 17th January. All Entrepreneurs aged between 18 and 35 years are encouraged to apply online at www.ibye.ie. Entries are sought from in three categories, Best Idea (Pre trading), Best Startup Business (trading for under 18 months) and Best Established Business (18 months Plus). A prize fund of €50,000 is up for grabs in County Wicklow.

Showcase, Ireland's premier design and craft fair is taking place in RDS from 20th – 23rd of January 2019 with numerous Wicklow Companies presenting their products to national and international buyers. Showcase Ireland is presented by the Design & Crafts council of Ireland and supported by Enterprise Ireland and Local Enterprise offices. Local Enterprise Office, Wicklow has approved funding in

respect of 6 Wicklow businesses at the event via the TAME (Technical Assistance for Micro Exporters) Grant.

The first Start Your Own Business Course will kick off on 22nd January with 13 participants booked on. 12 participants signed up for a new Local Enterprise Office training programme for Food and Beverage companies in Wicklow County Campus on 24th, 30th and 31st January. The programme comprises a workshop and individual mentoring sessions with the objective to help businesses strategically review their business model or re-energise their approach to sales/ profit growth.

LEO Wicklow staff members in January continued to assist Clients concerned by the impact of Brexit by providing information regarding the new online resource the Customs Insights Course <https://www.prepareforbrexit.com/customs-insights-course/> and assisting with client specific queries.



The Business Advice Clinics kicked off on the 7th January for the New Year. Clinics take place on Tuesdays and Thursday in Wicklow County Campus, in the Glenview Hotel on Monday evening and in Blessington Civic offices on the first Thursday every month depending on demand.

The new Training programme for Spring/Summer 2019 has been launched and information booklets have been circulated directly to LEO Clients and to the general Public via Wicklow County Council Offices, Libraries, Citizens Information offices and social welfare offices throughout the county in early January. The first Trading Online Seminar of 2019 will take part on 30th January at Wicklow County Campus with guest speaker Noel Davidson. Over 50 participants have booked their place.

The Business Advice Clinics continued throughout December. Clinics take place on Tuesdays and Thursday in Wicklow County Campus, in the Glenview Hotel on Monday evening and in Blessington Civic offices on the first Thursday every month depending on demand.

The Student Enterprise Programme is well underway in schools throughout the County with 1152 students busy in December selling their product at Christmas fairs etc. The Evaluations

3. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

FORWARD PLANNING

National Planning Framework (NPF) & Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy (RSES)

The NPF was adopted by the Government in February 2018 and the plan was formally adopted on 29 May 2018.

The Regional Assembly gave notice on 05 November that a draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy is available for Public Consultation, and that submissions are invited on the draft strategy and associated environmental reports between 05 November 2018 and 5pm on 23 January 2019 (both dates inclusive). *The Regional Assembly held an information day for stakeholders, including public representatives, on 06 December 2018 at the Osprey Hotel in Naas, Co. Kildare to answer questions and encourage engagement in the public consultation on the*

Committee met on 13th December to review 1 Feasibility Study grant funding application for Wicklow based business.

The Network of Entrepreneurial Women had their Christmas meeting on Wednesday 6th December. The new Training programme for Spring/Summer 2019 has been finalised and information booklets printed and will be circulated directly to LEO Clients and to the general Public via Wicklow County Council Offices, Libraries, Citizens Information offices and social welfare offices throughout the county in early January.

The Ireland Best Young Entrepreneur Competition 2019 run by the network of Local Enterprise Offices is now open for entries at www.ibye.ie Entries are sought from Entrepreneurs between 18 and 35 years in three categories, Best Idea (Pre trading), Best Startup Business (trading for under 18 months) and Best Established Business (18 months Plus). A prize fund of €50,000 is up for grabs in County Wicklow.

draft Strategy. Work is underway to prepare a submission.

Vacant Site Levy:

Ongoing investigation of regeneration sites throughout the County.

1 no. appeal to the Valuations Tribunal as a result of Section 12 Valuation Notices. *Hearing is re-scheduled for April 2019.*

*31 no. sites now stand on the Register.
04 no. sites are currently on appeal to ABP.*

HERITAGE

Heritage 2030 – National Heritage Plan public consultation process announced by



Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. Consultation document circulated to members of Wicklow Heritage Forum for input and discussed at meeting on 5th Dec. *Public information session organised for 29th January in County Buildings where members of the public can find out more about the process and how to get involved. Closing date for submissions end of Feb 2019.*

Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS) and Historic Structures Fund (HSF): The council has advertised grant funding under each of these schemes with closing dates 25th Jan and 31st Jan 2019 respectively. Owners of protected structures and other relevant buildings are eligible to apply. The allocation for County Wicklow under the BHIS is €60,000, while the HSF is a competitive process with €1.8m made available nationally.

River Liffey Stories Film Night The official screening of a series of short films to highlight the rich natural and cultural heritage and folklore of the River Liffey as it flows from the Wicklow Mountains to Dublin City. Commissioned jointly by the Heritage Offices of Wicklow, Kildare and South Dublin county councils and supported through the Creative Ireland programme. The event is being timed to coincide with World Wetlands Day on 2nd February, at 7 pm in the Band hall, Ballymore Eustace.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

A total of 113 applications were received during December, these include applications as follows:

| Type of Development | Number Received |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Individual Houses | 31 |
| Housing Developments | 5 |
| Agricultural Structures | 7 |
| Commercial | 10 |
| Other Developments | 30 |
| Total | 113 |

Decisions issued in respect of 66 applications in December, being:

| Type of Development | Number of Decisions |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| | |

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| | |
| Housing Developments | 1 |
| Individual Houses | 11 |
| Other Developments | 53 |
| Other Developments Requiring EIA | 1 |
| Total | 66 |

In relation to decisions issued between January to December 2018, in comparison to the same period for 2017, the details are as follows:

| | 31/12/2017 | 31/11/2018 |
|------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Total Number of decisions issued | 1027 | 993 |
| Total Number of decisions to grant | 839 | 816 |
| % grant rate | 82% | 82% |

No. of Applications withdrawn

Jan to December 2018 - 121
December 2018 - 9*

*These withdrawals may not have been lodged in the month of December.

PLANNING ENFORCEMENT

Details of activity during December:

- 04 New files were opened
- 24 Advisory letters issued
- 11 Warning Letters issued
- 01 Enforcement Notices served
- 01 File was referred for legal action
- 10 Files have been closed

Court Cases

- 1 Case before the High Court – Judgment Reserved.



Derelict Sites Activity December:

- No. of sites on Register 8

- No. of Inspections 2
- No. of Notices issued 0

4. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

WASTE MANAGEMENT SECTION – DECEMBER 2018

| | <i>December</i> |
|---|------------------|
| <i>No. of Complaints Opened</i> | 136 |
| <i>No. of Cases Closed, Resolved or Completed</i> | 104 |
| <i>No of Litter Fines Issued</i> | 15 |
| <i>No. of Waste Management Files Opened</i> | 0 |
| <i>No. of Warning Letters Issued</i> | 3 |
| <i>No of Abandoned Car Notices Issued</i> | 14 |
| <i>No. of Burning Applications Granted</i> | 2 |
| <i>No. of Temporary Signs Granted</i> | 4 |
| <i>No. of Notices Issued under Section 14 of the Waste Management Act</i> | 4 |
| <i>No. of Cases in Court under Litter Pollution Act</i> | 1 |
| <i>No. Of Cases in Court under Waste Management Act</i> | 7 |
| <i>Income - Litter Fines</i> | 3,410.00 |
| <i>Income- Waste Management</i> | €2,133.47 |

DOG LICENCES

All dog owners must have a current dog license for each pet. Licenses are available from any post office at a cost of €20. Since July 2018 dog licences and lifetime dog licences, at a cost of €140, can also be purchased on **Licences.ie**. General Dog Licences (€400) are only available from Environment Section, Wicklow County Council.

There has been an increase in the purchasing of dog licences since the launch of Licences.ie website.

For the period 1st December to 31st December 2018 - 197 dogs were licensed.

For the same period in 2017 - 148 were issued

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.

- Topographical, Geophysical and Drone Surveys are now complete.
- 49 No. Trial Pits complete.
- Scope of Site Investigation - Contract finalised, to be advertised w/c 21st Jan 2019.
- Second round of water sampling of Carrigower River complete. Awaiting results.
- Website will be up and running w/c 28th Jan 2019. This will be hosted by WCC with access given to FT&Co. for updating



PORTS AND HARBOURS

Tenders were invited in October 2018 from consultants to develop a Maritime Strategic Review for County Wicklow. The intent of the strategic review is to provide non-statutory guidance for uses and activities within the marine area and to assist Wicklow County Council and other statutory agencies with their policy formulation process as well as providing Wicklow County Council with a clear picture of its maritime area so that it is in a position to respond and provide input to higher level policy, where necessary. Tenders were assessed in December and as there was no successful tender received it will be re-advertised in January 2019.

A debt management process for the collection and management of unpaid harbour dues commenced late November / early December.

Wicklow Harbour

- There were 9 ships in total berthed in Wicklow for month of December; of the 9 ships, 7 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, scrap metal and SRF while the imports consisted of logs and timber.
- One marine notice was issued during December

A meeting held with a representative from the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform in early December regarding the drafting of Bye Laws sanctioning the importation of Explosives through Wicklow Port. The preliminary draft wording has been agreed and will be sent to the Law Department for review prior to circulation to the members / publication.

Contract for the installation of a new automated security gate at the North Quay and CCTV was awarded to the successful tenderer in December with works to commence in January 2019.

Arklow Harbour

Contracts for the removal of five wrecks from Arklow Harbour were awarded in December with works to

remove the wrecks to commence in January 2019 subject to tides and weather.

POLLUTION CONTROL

Section 4 Licensed Discharges to Waters (Surface & Ground)

- Proposal from Hotel received and assessed satisfactory to improve performance of wastewater treatment plant.
- 1 licence application received and undergone assessed

Pollution Response & Investigation

- 4 Water pollution complaints were received and investigated.
- 2 Oil pollution complaints were received and investigated.

Private Water Supplies

- Sampling programme completed in November 2018
- 254 samples taken in 2018
- 98.9% compliance with e.coli
- 90.7% compliance with coliform bacteria
- 2 boil water notices lifted from:
 - 25 houses in Annacurra after connection to public supply
 - Creche after improvement works including installation of UV disinfection

Solvents

- 4 inspections of vehicle refinisher installations and drycleaners were carried out

Septic Tank Inspections - National Inspection Plan 2019

- EPA risk maps examined and 32 septic tank selected from each risk category

Well Grants

| | |
|--|----|
| Number of Applications | 15 |
| Number of New Wells | 5 |
| Number of New Pumps | 10 |
| Number of New Equipment (Filters etc.) | 8 |



Water Framework Directive National Monitoring Programme

- 14 River sample locations were visited and 54 Samples taken for analysis.
- 2 samples were taken from lakes for analysis and 9 Samples taken for analysis
- 1 Catchment investigation – Redcross River.
- 3 Catchment Investigations (Potters, Three Mile Water & Redcross) in 2018

WFD Public Engagement Activities

- 2 Engagement Activities – Tinahely, Greystones
- 24 Engagement Activities in 2018

Planning & Development

8 environmental reports on referred planning applications were completed

CLIMATE ADAPTATION STRATEGY

Wicklow County Council is statutorily obliged to have a Climate Adaptation Strategy adopted by 30th 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

It is anticipated that the plan will be advertised for public consultation in April 2019

5. TRANSPORTATION & ROADS INFRASTRUCTURE

PUBLIC LIGHTING

| | <i>03 December 2018</i> | <i>10 December 2018</i> | <i>17 December 2018</i> | <i>7 January 2019</i> |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Access Issues (Attended) | 13 | 14 | 13 | 21 |
| Cable Fault (Attend) | 9 | 9 | 8 | 8 |
| ESB Required (Attended) | 15 | 15 | 14 | 14 |
| Knock Down (Attended) | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Materials required | 14 | 14 | 13 | 17 |
| No Supply | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| On Hold | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Submitted | 403 | 399 | 295 | 247 |
| Traffic Management Required | 30 | 30 | 24 | 28 |



| | ARKLOW MD | BALTINGLASS MD | BRAY MD | GREYSTONES MD | WICKLOW MD | Grand Total |
|-----------------------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|---------------|------------|-------------|
| Access Issues (Attended) | 1 | | 2 | 1 | 6 | 10 |
| Cable Fault (Attend) | 1 | | 2 | 2 | 3 | 8 |
| ESB Required(Attended) | 1 | | 2 | 4 | 1 | 8 |
| Knock Down (Attended) | 1 | | 1 | | 2 | 4 |
| Materials required | 1 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 14 |
| No Supply | 1 | 3 | | | 1 | 5 |
| On Hold | | 4 | | | | 4 |
| Submitted | 27 | 107 | 42 | 29 | 72 | 277 |
| Traffic Management Required | 2 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 26 |
| Grand Total | | 2 | | | | 2 |
| | 35 | 118 | 62 | 48 | 95 | 358 |

| Parking Income by Municipal District Jan-Nov 2018 | EURO |
|---|------------------|
| Income Florence Road Carpark Bray MD | 142,351 |
| Income Herbert Road Carpark Bray MD | 205,823 |
| Income North Beach Car Park - Strand Road Bray MD | 38,768 |
| Income Restricted Parking Bray MD | 736,322 |
| Income Parking Fines Bray MD | 182,837 |
| Income Residential/Special Parking Discs Bray MD | 40,445 |
| Bray Municipal District | 1,346,546 |
| Income Greystones Pay Parking Scheme | 465,691 |
| Greystones Municipal District | 465,691 |
| Income Parking Charges Wicklow MD | 337,397 |
| Income Residential Parking Disk Wicklow MD | 6,210 |
| Income Traffic Fines Wicklow MD | 45,621 |
| Wicklow Municipal District | 389,229 |
| Income Parking Traffic Fines Arklow MD | 32,773 |
| Income Pay Parking Fees And Permits Arklow MD | 235,330 |
| Arklow Municipal District | 268,103 |
| Wicklow County Council | 2,469,570 |

JANUARY 2019



NATIONAL PRIMARY AND NATIONAL SECONDARY

Transport Infrastructure Ireland has allocated funding in the sum of €9,272,768 as the 2019 National Roads Allocations.

The main allocations are as follows:

| | |
|--|------------|
| Minor works N11 Kilmacanogue Parallel Service Road | €2,150,000 |
| Major Scheme N11/M11 Junction 4 to 14 Improvement Scheme | €1,000,000 |
| Minor Works Knockroe Bends | €3,600,000 |

WINTER MAINTENANCE

The Winter Maintenance 2018/2019 Season commenced on 16th October. *There were 44 call outs in December and 198 tonnes of salt were used over the 9 individual routes. This is in comparison to*

12 call outs made and 52 tonnes of salt used during November. Salt stocks throughout the County were replenished with the delivery of 250 tonnes of salt.

8. WATER SERVICES

In 2018 WCC continued to provide Water and Wastewater Services under the current Service Level Agreement (SLA).

In 2018 various targets were achieved including:

- A major upgrade of 3 Wastewater Treatment Plants in Kilcoole, Enniskerry and Newcastle took place. These works were planned and overseen by Wicklow County Council staff in conjunction with Irish Water.*
- Wicklow County Council located over 1,200 leaks in 2018. This and the ensuing repairs lowered our countywide daily demand by over 2,500 metres cubed a day. In the Greater Dublin Area (GDA), which Co. Wicklow is part of, the Unaccounted For Water (UFW) in our daily demand went from 49.89% in December 2017 to 28.65% in December 2018.*

For overall Key Performance Indicators (KPI) Performance in 2018 under the Annual Service Plan with Irish Water, Wicklow County Council scored 93.95%. This high score was comprised of a range of KPI scores over the year, including:

- A score of 99.8% was achieved for microbiological compliance in the drinking water supply.*
- A score of 99.56% was achieved for chemical compliance in the drinking water supply.*
- A score of 100% was achieved for the number of compliant assessments taken at Waste Water Treatment Plants meeting mandatory UVWWT D effluent quality standards.*
- A score of 91.75% was achieved for the number of fully completed templates provided for unplanned interruptions.*
- A Score of 90.18% was achieved for a timely response to Workflow Queries.*
- A Score of 100% was achieved for Financial – Operations Expenditure Control.*



9. EMERGENCY SERVICES

FIRE SERVICE

Operational Fire Statistics December 2018

| | 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 | 18 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 3 | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Fire Institutional | 13 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | | | | |
| Fire Industrial | 5 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | | |
| Road Traffic Collision | 2 | | | 1 | | 1 | | | | | |
| Major Gorse / Forest Fire | 0 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Single Station Mobilised | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fire Grass / Gorse / Trees | 14 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| Fire Alarm or CO2 Activation | 12 | 4 | 4 | 3 | | | | | 1 | | |
| Fire Vehicle | 6 | 2 | 2 | | | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| Fire Chimney | 5 | 3 | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Fire Shed | 5 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 2 | | | | | |
| Trees Down | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | |
| Electrical incident | 3 | 2 | | | | 1 | | | | | |
| Ambulance Assist | 3 | 2 | | | 1 | | | | | | |
| Times Stations mobilised | 96 | 30 | 21 | 15 | 10 | 7 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 1 |

Call numbers are consistent with the previous month, down slightly on 2018 (9%) mainly due to a reduction in Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs). RTCs have an automatic response of 2 Fire Stations. This incident type resulted in 19% of responses during the month. Heavy rains during the month resulted in 5 mobilisations to flooding incidents. Domestic Fires increased on the previous month representing 14% of resources mobilised consistent with 2018 figures.

Nuisance outdoor fires were responsible for 13% of call-outs, automatic fire and carbon monoxide alarms were also responsible for 15% of call-outs. No fire was discovered at these incidents.

Sample Incidents (December 2018)

- 01/12/18 Bray and Greystones crews responded to an RTC in the Glen of the Downs. The vehicle had overturned into a stream. Water rescue techniques were used to assist in the rescue of casualties.
- 08/12/18 Carnew and Tinahely Crews supported by Bunclody attended a serious RTC at Ballingate involving an overturned car.
- 09/12/18 Crews from Wicklow and Rathdrum dealt with an overturned single car RTC at Deputy's Pass.
- 11/12/18 Serious RTC outside Bray golf club on the R761 involving a car and a lorry. Difficult extraction performed by crews from Bray and Greystones.
- 15/12/18 Heavy rain contributed to a 3 car RTC on the M11, junction 11, including one overturned car, attended by Bray and Greystones.



Incidents mobilised outside County Wicklow (December 2018)

Kildare (3-incidents)

- 13/12/18 Dunlavin Fire Crew were mobilised to an alarm activation at Narraghmore, Crookstown. It was a false alarm.
- 18/12/18 Dunlavin Fire Crew attended a Road Traffic Collision (RTC) at Kilgowan on the R448 (Old N9) involving an overturned car.
- 27/12/18 Dunlavin Fire Crew attended a single vehicle RTC at Portersize Cross Roads, Ballytore. Single casualty in cardiac arrest.

Incidents where crews from neighbouring counties were mobilised to assist in County Wicklow (December 2018):

Kildare (1-incident)

- 23/12/18 Naas Fire Crew assisted Blessington at a domestic fire at Burgage More in the town.

General

- The Fire Service maintains a Twitter account which has 708 followers.
- Selected personnel were provided training and specialist equipment in rescues from ice and mud.
- Wicklow Fire Service hosted a joint training exercise with trainee paramedics from national ambulance service in Bray.
- Staff from the Eastern Regional Control Centre visited to discuss enhanced co-ordination and additional services.
- Regional Major Emergency Management meetings were attended in Dun Laoghaire and the Major Emergency Management Committee met on 11th to adopt a new severe weather plan for the county.
- Two 1-day Emergency Traffic Management courses were held during the month.

Fire Prevention Statistics December 2018

| Application type | Received | Deemed Invalid | Requested additional information | Validate BCMS /liaise with Building Control | Recommended Grant |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|---|--|--------------------------|
| <i>Fire Safety Certificates</i> | 8 | 2 | 4 | | |
| <i>Regularisation Certificates</i> | 2 | | 3 | | 1 |
| <i>FSC as part of 7 Day Notice</i> | 1 | | 4 | | |
| <i>Disability Access Certificates</i> | 8 | | 1 | | |

| Licensing | Received, acknowledged | Inspected | Requested further info | No Objection letter | Not raising an objection |
|------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <i>District</i> | 4 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| <i>Circuit</i> | | | | | |



BUILDING CONTROL

Commencement Notices – December 2018

17 Commencement Notices

Of which:

- 5 were Commencement Notices with Compliance Documents
- 1 were Commencement Notices without Compliance Documents (1 invalid)
- 1 Seven day Notice
- 10 Opt Out Declarations
- 59% of Commencement Notices are opt out.
- 42 % inspection rate on all notices
- 57 new build units
- 6 of which are one off houses

Completion Certificates – December 2018

- 8 completion certificates validated (30 housing units)

Building Control are not notified of the completion of opt out houses

Non compliance issues (on going)

- 4 pre validation of commencement notices
- 18 post validation of commencement notices based on construction and completion stage site inspections.
- 20 post validation of commencement notices based on construction and completion stage site inspections.

General

Attended Eastern Midlands Region Building Control Committee) meeting, in conjunction with Building Control staff members, 18th December 2018

Section 11(3) of Building Control Act correspondence issued by Building Control.



Organisational Development and Financial Matters

1. RECRUITMENT

Competitions for the following posts were held in January 2019:

Executive Engineer, Assistant Foreman, Machinery (Confined), Caretaker, Bray Seafront (Confined)

Employee Numbers

| | Q1 2018 | Q2 2018 | Q3 2018 | Q4 2018 |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Managerial/ Administrative | 246 | 263 | 280 | 278 |
| Professional/ Technical | 119 | 105 | 105 | 104 |
| Outdoor | 317 | 306 | 313 | 312 |
| Temporary/ Seasonal | 41 | 79 | 54 | 38 |
| Non DOECLG | 13 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| Total | 736 | 761 | 752 | 740 |

| | Q1 2017 | Q2 2017 | Q3 2017 | Q4 2017 |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Managerial/ Administrative | 246 | 245 | 246 | 250 |
| Professional/ Technical | 103 | 109 | 109 | 119 |
| Outdoor | 305 | 311 | 311 | 317 |
| Temporary/ Seasonal | 47 | 58 | 58 | 41 |
| Non DOECLG | 45 | 14 | 14 | 13 |
| Total | 746 | 737 | 738 | 740 |

(Excludes figures for Firefighters)

2. ACCESS TO INFORMATION

No. of FOI REQUESTS

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| December 2018 | 4 | December 2017 | 8 |
| Jan to Dec 2018 | 125 | Jan to Dec 2017 | 141 |

No. of OMBUDSMAN REQUESTS

| | | | |
|-----------------|----|------------------|----|
| December 2018 | 0 | December 2017 | 0 |
| Jan to Dec 2018 | 13 | Jan to Dec. 2017 | 11 |

4. PRESS RELEASES

December 2018 - 6 Press Releases

5. I.C.T. REPORT

IT HELPDESK

- Workflow analysis of the IT Helpdesk function facilitated development of a proof of concept for customer care & case management systems. The initial deployment was a cloud based open source platform customised by staff in the Technical Support Unit.
- *During 2018 more than 8,000 tickets were handled by the system. Heat mapping of issues arising has allowed development of a knowledge database which is in daily use and allows tracking of most frequently arising issues. This model will form basis for extension to other customer care type systems.*
- During 2018 the Asset Management Module of the ticketing system was deployed to allow performance monitoring across the network and prepare a strategic deployment model for ICT Infrastructure. *This allowed preparation of an upgrade schedule for the PC estate and allowed review of software licensing requirements.*
- A Mobile Device Management (MDM) system is in place for all new mobile devices since Summer 2018. Roll out to existing estate commenced at that stage and continued through to the end of year. *This system facilitates focus on data and information security and GDPR compliance.*

CUSTOMER RELATIONS MANAGEMENT (CRM)

- Business Process Modelling in the Housing & Environmental Services Departments were used for preparation and development of customer care unit proofs of concept.
- An initial implementation of Office 365 is in place and a "Sandbox" was created on Wicklow's Cloud Tenancy. This platform will be used for in-house development and testing purposes and will form the basis for development of organisational cloud strategy.
- Microsoft Dynamics has been used to develop customer care initiatives in a number of departments and will be used to integrate to mobile data collection systems in HR, Transportation and



Environmental Services directorates. *The CRM system deployed will facilitate improvements in customer care.*

MANAGED PRINT SERVICE (MPS)

- Renewal of MPS is complete following vendor neutral print audit and RFT of December 2017.
- Project roll-out plan was completed in 2018 and all new devices have completed two full quarterly cycles.
- Full device utilisation and support centre analysis took place with the supplier in Q4 2018 with a view to ensuring continuous review and strategic management of all devices. The current printer estate will be reviewed during Q3 of 2019.
- The Managed Print Service policy is in place for all departments & MD's and allows planned development of printing facilities and services.

UNIFIED COMMUNICATIONS

- Voice over IP phone solution has been extended to most Council sites across Wicklow. This includes Municipal Districts and other sites such as Clermont Campus, Fire HQ and Library HQ.
- *The VOIP system will underpin county wide communications, improved customer services and unified communications and during 2019 will be used to focus on call routing, customer care & management of total costs.*

CORE NETWORK

- Procurement of core and edge network hardware refresh is complete and Phase 1 of LAN upgrade

was implemented in Q1 2018. Extension to other sites including Bray MD, Fire HQ, Library HQ, Clermont was completed during Q2 2018.

- A fully updated core network is now in place.
- Network traffic analysis and load balancing has informed update of virtual infrastructure and change from copper to fibre for connections to core network. This work is on-going.
- Business case for connection to government networks and government cloud networks is underway and will be advanced during Q1 2019.

DATA COLLECTION SYSTEMS

- Data collection systems using mobile devices are currently in place for Register of Electors Fieldworkers. Currently 94.25% of Electors have an assigned EIRCODE.
- Projects in Housing, Roads and Environmental Services departments are on-going and integration to CRM systems is being developed.
- A new project to update and edit Wicklow's Storm Water Network more effectively is underway and includes off site data collection.
- Revenue Collectors Handhelds have been upgraded to Tablets to allow more efficient data transfers to the financial management system.
- Offsite data collections systems have been consolidated and applied to Housing Condition Surveys, Health & Safety Audits, CCTV surveys etc.



6. REVENUE ACCOUNT

| REVENUE ACCOUNT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 31st DECEMBER 2018 | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| | 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 | 20,451,996 | 17,210,674 | 119 | (22,660,127) | (22,083,086) | 103 | (2,208,131) |
| B - Road Transport & Safety | 24,669,886 | 18,214,957 | 135 | (14,062,433) | (10,808,946) | 130 | 10,607,453 |
| C - Water Services | 7,376,776 | 5,732,213 | 129 | (7,177,204) | (6,649,630) | 108 | 199,572 |
| D - Development Management | 11,049,026 | 9,233,906 | 120 | (5,023,564) | (4,909,183) | 102 | 6,025,462 |
| E - Environmental Services | 13,708,985 | 10,751,474 | 128 | (2,700,955) | (1,918,500) | 141 | 11,008,030 |
| F - Recreation and Amenity | 8,295,998 | 6,403,014 | 130 | (1,141,552) | (520,600) | 219 | 7,154,446 |
| G - Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare | 1,483,245 | 1,511,045 | 98 | (694,113) | (745,228) | 93 | 789,132 |
| H - Miscellaneous Services | 12,847,136 | 11,086,145 | 116 | (8,111,102) | (7,505,975) | 108 | 4,736,034 |
| J - Central Management Charges | 1,414,655 | 15,405,007 | 9 | (77,070) | (955,217) | 8 | 1,337,585 |
| LG - Local Government Fund | | | | (11,971,635) | (11,971,634) | 100 | (11,971,635) |
| PL - Pension Levy | | | | - | - | | - |
| RA - Commercial Rates | | | | (27,932,059) | (27,630,436) | 101 | (27,932,059) |
| | 101,297,703 | 95,548,435 | 106 | 101,551,814 | 95,698,435 | 106 | (254,111) |

10. CASHFLOW/OVERDRAFT

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

12. CAPITAL ACCOUNT

| CAPITAL ACCOUNT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 31ST DECEMBER 2018 | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | Opening Balance at 01/01/2018 | Actual Expenditure | Actual Income | Transfers To/From Reserves | Closing Balance at 31/12/2018 |
| | € | € | € | € | € |
| Housing and Building | 19,982,975 | 38,486,495 | (36,384,076) | 766,166 | 22,851,560 |
| Road Transport & Safety | -34,490,964 | 4,344,873 | (7,442,537) | (506,000) | (38,094,628) |
| Water Services | -9,503,006 | 1,559,391 | (2,247,351) | 0 | (10,190,966) |
| Development Management | -9,163,993 | 704,266 | (144,309) | (829,001) | (9,433,037) |
| Environmental Services | 1,744,994 | 5,192,983 | (6,057,958) | (664,783) | 215,236 |
| Recreation and Amenity | 179,527 | 1,038,325 | (2,168,522) | (132,288) | (1,082,958) |
| Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare | -1,042,916 | 361,057 | (114,762) | (96,289) | (892,910) |
| Miscellaneous Services | -12,936,991 | 561,902 | (779,223) | (249,187) | (13,403,499) |
| | -45,230,374 | 52,249,292 | (55,338,738) | (1,711,382) | (50,031,202) |

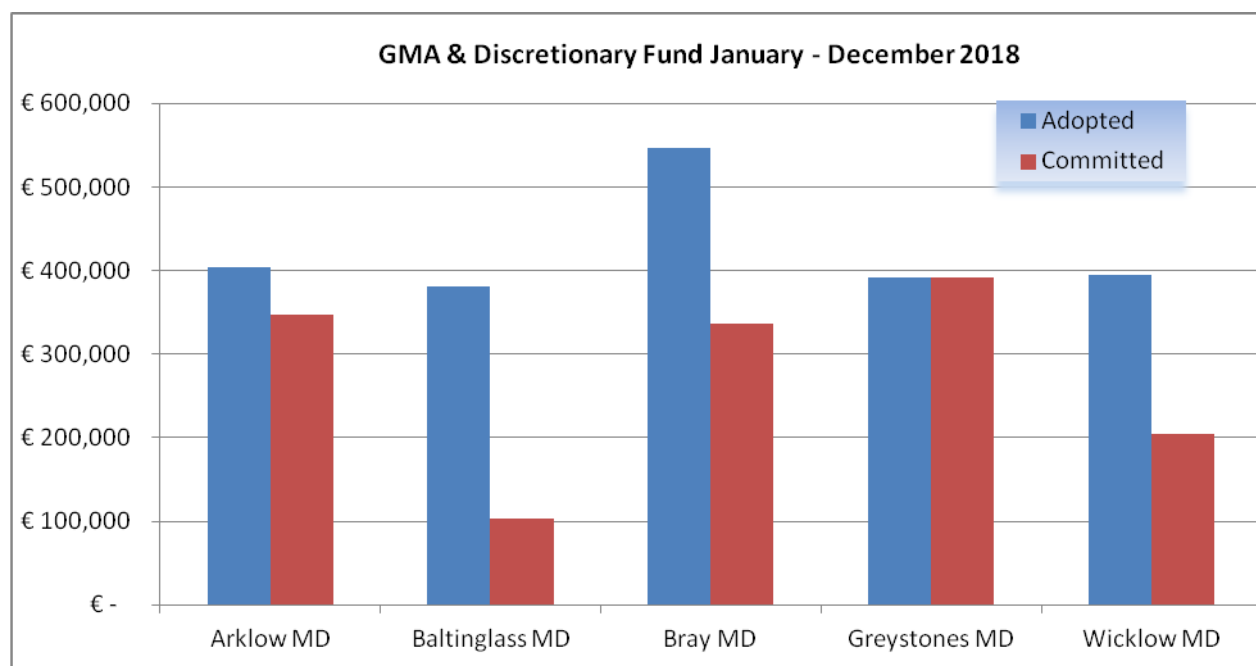


9. COMMERCIAL RATES, RENTS AND LOAN COLLECTIONS

| SUMMARY OF MAJOR COLLECTIONS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2018 | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|------------|------------------------------|------------|----------------------|--------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| Income Collection Area | Opening Balance 01/01/2018 | Accrued | Vacancy Property Adjustments | Write Offs | Total for Collection | Collected | Closing Arrears 31/10/2018 | Specific Doubtful Arrears | % Collection |
| Rates | 7,477,320 | 27,932,059 | | | 35,409,379 | (23,987,201) | 11,422,178 | | -68% |
| Rents & Annuities | 1,539,925 | 13,420,878 | | (17,556) | 14,943,247 | (13,469,488) | 1,473,759 | | -90% |
| Housing Loans * | 413,129 | 1,254,547 | | -1,120 | 1,668,796 | (1,268,024) | 400,772 | | -76% |

10. GENERAL MUNICIPAL ALLOCATION AND DISCRETIONARY FUND 2018

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



| Municipal District | C/F from 2017 | Adopted | Committed | Balance to Expend |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| | € | € | € | € |
| Arklow MD | (60,226) | 404,250 | 406,866 | 57,610 |
| Baltinglass MD | (138,525) | 380,250 | 242,170 | 276,605 |
| Bray MD | (108,084) | 546,500 | 445,204 | 209,380 |
| Greystones MD | (14,475) | 392,250 | 405,573 | 1,152 |
| Wicklow MD | (33,041) | 394,250 | 237,248 | 190,043 |
| Total | (354,351) | 2,117,500 | 1,737,061 | 734,790 |



11. CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2018 - 2020

The Capital Investment Programme 2018-2020 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 12th 2018.

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

| PROGRAMME GROUP | Proposed Expenditure | | | |
|--|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | TOTAL |
| | € | € | € | € |
| HOUSING AND BUILDING | 53,300,000 | 87,000,000 | 87,300,000 | 227,600,000 |
| ROAD TRANSPORT & SAFETY | 4,300,000 | 1,800,000 | 2,500,000 | 8,600,000 |
| WATER SERVICES | 433,000 | 150,000 | 150,000 | 733,000 |
| ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT | 3,070,000 | 2,150,000 | 1,900,000 | 7,120,000 |
| ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES | 150,000 | 100,000 | 1,600,000 | 1,850,000 |
| RECREATION AND AMENITY | 5,072,000 | 6,160,000 | 3,515,000 | 14,747,000 |
| AGRICULTURAL, EDUCATION, HEALTH & WELFARE | 2,500,000 | 6,800,000 | 10,550,000 | 19,850,000 |
| OVERALL TOTAL | 68,825,000 | 104,160,000 | 107,515,000 | 280,500,000 |