

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT – JUNE 2026



Comhairle Contae Chill Mhantáin
Wicklow County Council



W I C K L O W

ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES

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This month:

Housing Infrastructure Investment Fund

Wicklow County Council welcomes the announcement from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage of funding allocated to infrastructure projects supported in the first phase of the Housing Infrastructure Investment Fund (HIIF) programme.

These projects are the first to be funded as part of a major multi-annual fund committed to unlocking land and enabling the delivery of housing at scale. These infrastructure projects will unlock housing in towns and cities across the country.

Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage James Browne T.D. announced that three projects across within County Wicklow will receive support through this first phase:

- **Rathnew Inner Relief Road, between €10m and €20m.** Directly unlocks lands for 418 residential units and indirectly supports a further 186 residential units.
- **Fassaroe - Pedestrian & Cycle Bridge across N11/M11, Bray, < €10m.** Bray MD and Environs LAP identifies capacity for 4,000 residential units in this area. The project also indirectly supports a further 3,000 residential units.
- **Fassaroe - Road Infrastructure N11 to Enniskerry, Bray > €20m.** The Fassaroe LAP identifies capacity for 4,000 residential units in this area. The project also indirectly supports a further 3,000 residential units

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Social Development

Housing

	April 2026	April 2025
No. availing of Rental Assistance Scheme (RAS)	82	93
No. availing of Housing Assistance Payment	1319	1368
No. in Long Term Leasing Accommodation	19	20
No. in Short Term Leasing Accommodation	18	21

Allocation of Social Housing

	May 2026	May 2025
Wicklow County Council	8	9
Approved Housing Bodies	7	4

Social Housing Applications

	April 2026	May 2026
Customer Care: New Applications	3	2
Customer Care: Awaiting Information	51	64
Customer Care: Awaiting Processing	0	1
Housing: Awaiting To Be Logged & Then Processed	77	124
Housing: Awaiting Further Information	113	94
Housing: Awaiting EHO	26	14
TOTAL	270	299

*This represents an increase on applications received compared to April 2025. The reason for that increase is due to the inclusion of figures regarding applications that have been received by our Customer Hub and are en route to Housing. This gives an overall picture of applications being dealt by WCC at the present time.

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Social Housing Stock

	May 2025	May 2026
Tenancies Occupied	5045	5170
Total Weekly Rent Accrual	€342,527.78	€369,441.69
Arrears	€3,016,002.13	2,254,832.79

Rent

- Income based Differential Rent Scheme - Last Review – 2019. A full rent review will be carried out this year.
- 2 Schemes in the County – one in Bray and one for the rest of the County (new tenants in Bray now go onto Wicklow Scheme)

Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)

Under CAS, the Department is accepting applications for capital funding for the delivery, through either construction or acquisition, of housing accommodation, to cater for priority groups including:

- elderly.
- homeless persons (including “care leavers” exiting State care on reaching the age of 18).
- people with a disability, with particular emphasis on moving people with disabilities from congregated settings into community-based living.

Assessment criteria

CAS funding operates in partnership with Local Authorities and Approved Housing Bodies.

Local Authorities assess the specific need for CAS funded housing being cognisant of the actual housing need of the CAS groups identified in the latest Social Housing Assessment, consultations with suitable local inter-agency/co-ordination groups that deal with special needs, such as the housing and disability steering groups, national policies and guidelines, including the National Housing Strategy for Disabled People.

April 2026, Wicklow County Council continues to work in partnership KARE, St John of God & Sunbeam to deliver properties under the disability category of social housing need. Wicklow LA also continues to work with Sunbeam House Services and NAHVI/Positive-Futures, to bring active projects to completion.

Areas of delivery below:

CAS Acquisitions 2026	No. of Units	Delivery Schedule	Scheme
Rathnew	1	Delivery Q2 2026	CAS
Arklow	1	Delivery Q2 2026	CAS

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2016 Tenant (Incremental) Purchase Scheme

	<u>To Date</u>	<u>June 2026</u>
<u>Applications Received</u>	502	6
<u>Completed</u>	127	2
<u>Declined</u>	280	0
<u>Ongoing</u>	15	15

Voids / Re-Letting Programme

MD	Not Started	In Progress	Completed but not yet tenanted	TOTAL Vacant	TOTAL Completed in 2026
Arklow	4 (-1)	5 (+1)	1 (0)	10 (0)	6 (0)
Baltinglass	3 (+2)	8 (-2)	8 (0)	19 (0)	7 (+3)
Bray	4 (0)	7(+1)	5 (-2)	16 (-1)	9 (+2)
Greystones	3 (0)	4 (+1)	3 (+1)	10 (-2)	7 (+2)
Wicklow	9 (+4)	8 (-2)	6 (0)	23 (+2)	11 (+3)
2026 Totals	23 (+5)	32 (-1)	23 (-5)	78 (-1)	40 (+10)
2025 Totals					142
Total Vacancy as % of Total Stock		Figures in brackets indicate change on previous month			1.4 (-0.1)

As part of the Voids Funding Programme, the Council can recoup a maximum of €11,000 per house from the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) on a once off basis. The cost of refurbishing and re-letting social housing stock in Wicklow is currently averaging €42,275 per property.

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A Local Area Term Maintenance Framework for Planned Building Maintenance and Refurbishment Works was setup in 2024 and has a 2-year term. 17 contractors were appointed under this Framework to cover Wicklow's five Municipal Districts for works such as housing refurbishments works, repairs and adaption grants. Also, the Housing Direct Labour Team complete a proportion of housing upgrades as part of the Voids Programme. This framework will be renewed in Q3 2026.

Traveller Accommodation (TAU)

Scheme	Current Status
Barndarrig Group Housing scheme: 3 group housing units and 17 social houses	This three-unit group housing scheme forms part of the Housing Capital Works Project at Barndarrig. The Part 8 planning application for this project was approved in October 2025. Design team appointed in March 2026.
Vale Road, Arklow	This is a two-unit group housing scheme. The Part 8 planning process is complete. TAU funding approved and design team appointed.
Ballintесkin – 2 extensions	The tender for the construction contract has been awarded, and the contractor has commenced works. It is expected to reach substantial completion by Q4 2026.

Infill Sites/Age Friendly & Disability Schemes

Scheme	Units	Current Status
1A Mill Road, Greystones- Age Friendly	4	Construction works are ongoing and it is expected that the works will be completed in Q3 2026

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Energy Retrofit Program

As part of our ongoing Energy Efficiency retrofit programme, housing services are undertaking works across the county. This includes, depending on house surveyed, and not limited to external wall insulation, attic insulation, heat pumps and upgraded windows and doors. These works comply with our policy on energy fabric upgrades which went through the SPC in 2023.

The driver of this programme is the improvement to energy efficiency of local authority properties (BER – B2 or better), energy cost savings and sustainability. The move from solid fuel to more sustainable, energy efficient and cost-effective heating systems contributes to the climate change agenda and dramatically improves the comfort levels of tenants in these properties.

A new Framework has been developed and contracts are moving towards tender stage to deliver on projects in 2026, in line with DHLGH requirements.

EERP	Numbers carried out as - 2026
Houses complete	0



Energy Retrofit works completed at Seamount Drive Kilcoole 2025.

Regeneration Projects/ Special Projects

Hillview, Wicklow Town

Wicklow County Council have initiated meetings with the DHLGH regarding the inclusion of Hillview Estate, Wicklow Town as one of the first potential schemes under the new Delivering Housing Building Communities Housing Regeneration Fund. This estate has been identified as a location that would benefit from a housing regeneration project, due to the complexity of issues both structural and social. It is proposed to develop a suite of proposals for this housing development in Q3 2026 and apply for funding when the DHLGH Regeneration Programme is open.

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Farrankelly Close, Greystones

Stock condition surveys (+Adjust) have been completed at Farrankelly Close. Phase 1 of the works to install new windows and doors to 11 properties has been delivered with associated improvements to insulation and ventilation completed by the Greystones MD team. The contract was recently awarded, and it is expected that the windows will be installed in Q3/Q4 2026.

Disabled Person Grant (DPG) and Housing Adaptation Grant (HAG/MAG/HOP)

Grant	Home Adaptations
Disabled Persons Grant (DPG) completed May 2026	28
Housing Adaptation Grant complete May2026 (HAG/MAG/HOP)	212

Includes: Housing Adaptation Grant / Mobility Aid Grant /Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant complete in 2026

Private Rented Accommodation Regulation & Enforcement

The Targeted Inspection programme on private rented accommodation continues. Housing For All requires 25% of all private rented properties to be inspected annually. This equates to approximately 1560 properties in County Wicklow every year. Target properties are selected using a Risk Based approach. The Council is responsible for enforcing the Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations 2019 (SI 137 of 2019).

Private Rented Inspections	Numbers carried out 2026 to date:
Targeted and complaint inspections	145

So far in 2026, the following Notices have been served by Wicklow County Council in relation to breaches of SI 137 of 2019:

Notice Type	Notices currently active:
Improvement Notice	10
Prohibition Notice	4

Prohibition Notices are published on the Council's website. Note that in the case of properties subject to HAP, service of Prohibition Notice results in the HAP payment being stopped as per Section 41(2) (d) (i) of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2014 and this happens within a maximum of 13 weeks.

Stock Condition Surveys (SCS)

Wicklow County Council completed 404 stock condition surveys on local authority properties to date. This formed the basis of drawdown of planned maintenance funding from the DGLGH in terms of surveys, electrical inspections, electrical upgrade works, heating upgrade works and replacement of windows and doors.

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Mortgage to Rent (MTR)

The Local Authority Mortgage to Rent scheme is a government initiative to help homeowners who are at risk of losing their home due to mortgage arrears. The scheme enables householders to continue to live in their home as a tenant of either an Approved Housing Body or a Local Authority.

There are currently 109 households in the County availing of this scheme.

Wicklow County Council (MTR)Tenants	Approved Housing Body (MTR) Tenants	In Progress
57	52	13

Local Authority Home Loans up to 31st May 2026

Received	Approved in Principle
12	1

Local Authority Home Loans up to 31st May 2025

Received	Approved in Principle
28	5

Homeless Services

Homeless Figures for May 2026

Addressing Homelessness			
	As at 31/05/2026	Year To Date	As at 31/05/2025
No of New Presentations	21	184	20
No. of Repeat Presentations	27	86	2
No. of Families (Minimum 1 Adult + One Child)	15	65	7
No. of Individuals (Single Adult, no children)	43	238	19
No. Of Couples (2 Adults, no children)	4	24	2
No. of Children	18	102	16
NTQ/Asked to Leave/Landlord selling	24	86	6
Family Circumstances	11	54	5
Leaving Prison/Hospital Care	3	22	1
Mental Health	1	5	0
Risk of Homelessness	23	95	16
Arrears/Loss of Income	0	0	0
Addiction Issues	5	19	3

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DV/DA	2	5	0
Medical Issues	2	6	1
Overcrowding	0	3	3
Unsuitable/Voluntarily Left	0	4	0
ASB:	0	4	0
Rough Sleeping*	1	10	1
Sofa Surfing*	1	27	1
Staying with Family*	2	18	4
Staying with Friends*	4	17	1

*(Recorded as a consequence of Homelessness as opposed to a Reason for Homelessness)

Own Door Temporary Accommodation at 31/05/2026	
Families	17
Adults	37
Children	46
Single individual	12

Bed & Breakfast Accommodation - No. of Homeless Emergency Accommodation Placements & Duration @ 30/05/2025								
	No. of Households	No. of Adults	No. of Children	< 3 mths	3-6 mths	6-9 mths	9-12 mths	>12mths
Household breakdown	22	25	21	7	2	7	3	6
Bed & Breakfast Accommodation - No. of Homeless Emergency Accommodation Placements & Duration @ 31/05/2026								
	No. of Households	No. of Adults	No. of Children	< 3 mths	3-6 mths	6-9 mths	9-12 mths	>12mths
Household breakdown	27	35	26	12	6	0	1	9

The Homeless HAP Place finder 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, 710 households (496 families & 212 singles) have been assisted under the Homeless HAP Scheme in Wicklow County Council from the inception on 1st October 2018 to 31st May 2026. (276 homeless cases, 386 prevention cases to date and 48 direct provision). 178 properties were sourced by WCC.

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	May 2026	May 2025
No. availing of Rental Assistance Scheme (RAS)		
No. availing of Housing Assistance Payment	1301	1364
No. in Long Term Leasing Accommodation		
No. in Short Term Leasing Accommodation		

Addressing Homelessness in Partnership with Approved Housing Bodies

Homeless Supported Temporary Accommodation – Kilmantin Hill, Wicklow

Kilmantin Hill has 11 rooms to support persons either homeless, exiting a higher support facility, or in danger of becoming homeless.

There are 10 clients supported in the Kilmantin Hill facility, operated by Dublin Simon. There is continuous transition by the clients to suitable alternative accommodation.

A report is being undertaken at present to cost the refurbishment of the current rooms with a view to making them all ensuite. More details will be available over the coming months.

Homeless Family Service – Fitzwilliam Road, Wicklow

Dublin Simon are engaged by Wicklow County Council to operate and manage the facility at Fitzwilliam Road, Wicklow as a Family Homeless Service. The building comprises of three 1-bed units, two 2-bed units, and two 3-bed units.

It is envisaged that families will avail of the service for circa 6-months STA (Supported Temporary Accommodation) with key working support to enable families to transition from homelessness into Homeless HAP, or alternative longer-term accommodation.

Homeless Supported Temporary Accommodation – San Remo, Bray

San Remo is operated by Dublin Simon and incorporates a service model whereby there are a number of emergency/cold weather initiative beds and Supported Temporary Accommodation Beds (STA). There is on site key working support linking in with clients.

The Neighbourhood Liaison Committee is now operational and meets monthly.

Bi-monthly meetings are held with Dublin Simon and Wicklow County Council staff.

Homeless Supported Accommodation - Carraig Eden, Greystones

This facility provides 35 ensuite bedrooms with associated kitchens and common areas and is fully operational. Wicklow County Council run an in-reach service with the clients to support them as they continue their journey into more permanent accommodation.

Other Homeless Supported Accommodation

Wicklow County Council owned properties in Wicklow, Bray, and Greystones, leased to Approved Housing Bodies, provide 12 units of low to medium supported accommodation targeted to the particular support

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needs of the clients. Six of these persons living in shared accommodation have now successfully moved into their forever homes and this in turn created space to move further people out of homelessness.

A homeless outreach service has been rolled out in Bray and is proving very successful.

Housing First

Peter McVerry Trust has been appointed as the Housing First Programme Implementer for the Mid-East Region. Wicklow County Council is committed to working with them and has now reached and surpassed the targets identified in the programme. Housing First recognises that a stable home provides the basis for recovery in other areas.

Properties will be provided by both Wicklow County Council and Peter McVerry Trust for the implementation of the programme.

Wicklow County Council has, to date, successfully accommodated 19 clients under Housing First. Other clients proposed for Housing First have been assessed by the team and are availing of key support work pending finalisation of sourcing of accommodation. The main issue facing this programme is the availability of 1-bed units in suitable locations with easy access to required services.

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Community

Community Awards Scheme (CAS) 2026

As part of its commitment to supporting local community development, Wicklow County Council operates an annual Community Award Scheme.

The fund for 2026 will be available as grant aid to successful community groups and local organisations wishing to undertake community projects in their area.

Maximum grant amount of €1,000.00 per organisation for small projects and group running costs.

This year saw a significant increase in demand, with 309 grants approved this year compared to 215 last year an increase of approximately 44% and payments will issue shortly.

Local Enhancement Programme (LEP) 2026

This funding will provide capital supports that are essential for many small community groups and organisations, particularly those who serve disadvantaged communities in rural and urban areas.

The scheme is designed to ensure local priorities are identified and met, to improve and enhance community facilities for all. Funding will be available to a diverse range of community groups including, but not limited to, community centres, parish halls and local voluntary groups.

County Wicklow has received €199,043.66 as part of the Local Enhancement Programme 2026.

The Wicklow Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) is responsible for allocating funding through this scheme. Applications must relate to one or more key priority areas identified in their LCDC's Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) to be eligible for consideration.

Applications are now closed and we are expecting an announcement from the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht in late June or early July 2026.



IPB Pride of Place Competition 2026

Wicklow County Council recently invited expressions of interest from local community groups who would like to be considered for nomination to the 2026 IPB Pride of Place Competition, delivered in partnership with Co-Operation Ireland.

This much-loved annual all island competition, run in collaboration with local authorities, shines a spotlight on the incredible work happening in communities across Ireland. It celebrates the people who roll up their sleeves, work together, and make their local communities vibrant, welcoming, and inspiring places to live.

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The standard of applications this year was exceptionally high, and the selection process was very competitive. Wicklow County Council have nominated the following five entries to represent the county in the national awards in October. Judging by the Cooperation Ireland will take place in August.

Project / Group Name	Category
Enniskerry Village	Population 2000-5000
Made in Wicklow – For the Love of Creativity	Creative Communities
Care & Repair Helping Hands	Age Friendly Communities
Murrough Pump Track	Community Youth Initiative
Plot to Plate Sustainable Greystones	Urban Neighbourhoods & Housing Estates



County Wicklow Age Friendly Programme 31st May 2026

Wicklow Age Friendly Strategy:

Age Friendly Alliance: Alliance meet 4 times per year. Met with Library branch Age Friendly Champions to review AF initiatives in place in each branch. Next meeting 16th June 2026.

OPC Executive Committee: There are 3 subgroups working on 4 actions in the Strategy. Next meeting 29th June.

Meetings Held 2026	Future Meetings
23 rd January 20 th March 22 nd May	29 th June
3	7

OPC Convention: Athlone 6 – 8th May very successful event, with three members from the OPC Executive Committee attending from Wicklow

Care & Repair, County Wicklow Partnership: Soft launch took place in 28th May, with ongoing linking in with the Healthy Age Friendly Homes Coordinator, Age Friendly Ireland & CWP to keep updated. CRF photo op to take place 11th June.

Age Friendly Ireland Public Realm Steering Group: 19th May meeting - This group is updating the current Age Friendly Ireland [Public Realm Guidelines](#) and consists of the Wicklow Age Friendly Programme Manager/Access Officer, along with key national stakeholders. Consultants are O'Herlihy Access Consultancy. Next meeting 7th July

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Age Friendly National Recognition & Achievement Awards: submitted two nominations for two projects, Maitland Street Bray & CWP Helping Hands Care & Repair. If shortlisted, Awards ceremony is 8th October, Limerick.

Over 55's Climate course: The Age Friendly Programme Manager along with the Climate Action Officer Wicklow County Council are running a Climate Action Programme which is run by Jacinta Barrins. This six-week programme held 5th of its 6 sessions in April. Final session held in May.

Visited: Carnew Nursing Home, CWP & CEART Traveller project to discuss how Age Friendly programme could assist.



Comhairle na nÓg

- Group met Cynthia Ní Mhuchú MEP, in Greystones on 27th May.
- Dáil na nÓg took place 1st May
- Regional Comhairle Networking event Dublin Wednesday 8th July
- Steering group development ongoing,



Access Officer: Disability & Inclusion

- **Disability & Inclusion Steering Committee (DISC)** Met 13th May. Next meeting 1st July.
- **Customer Hub disability awareness training:** took place 21st May in Council Chambers, facilitated by Laura O'Callaghan, Disability Federation of Ireland.
- **Website Accessibility:** Met with Communications team 23rd April 2026. Funding agreed for Inventise to make necessary adjustments required for current Wicklow.ie website to ensure it is as accessible as possible. New website is being planned, which DISC will have an active part in development of to ensure maximum accessibility from the start. Next meeting 23rd June 2026.
- **Make Way Day 29th May:** Events took place in Arklow & Bray for this awareness campaign.

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- **Access Officer queries:** dealing with ongoing queries for support and/or information, linking in with WCC staff including Laura O'Callaghan weekly and externally, as appropriate.
- **The Sunflower Lanyard** aims to support people with hidden disabilities.
- **Communication Boards:** Wicklow MD 6 playground erected in May. Work ongoing to have 3 remaining MDs playgrounds ordered, delivered and erected.

Healthy Age Friendly Homes Bimonthly Report



Wicklow County Council

Programme Delivery

Outlined below are details of the number of older people in Wicklow who have been assisted by Healthy Age Friendly Homes to continue to live in their own home with dignity and independence. Since the 1st January 2025, 288 older people across Wicklow have benefited from support from Healthy Age Friendly Homes.

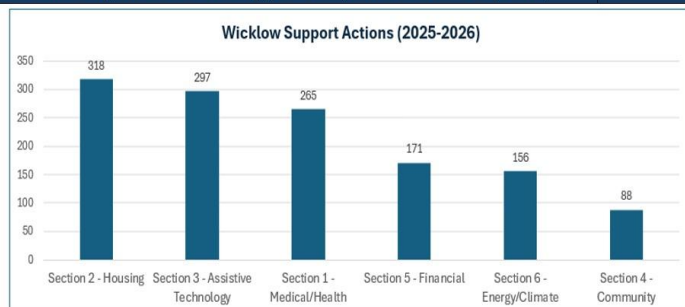


*Date of Data Extract: 08th May 2026

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Healthy Wicklow

Total Number of Participants Awaiting a Visit	49
Total Supports Offered for: Medical/Health; Housing; Assistive Technology; Community; Finance and Energy/Climate (Jan 2025 – 08 th May 2026)	1,295



- The local Coordinator conducts home-based assessments and works with vulnerable and elderly people to develop a personalised action plan across six key domains such as, housing, community, health, technology, finance, climate, and energy.
- The data depicted in the infographic depends on and is subject to what resources are available in the respective county. Further information on the support shown can be obtained from the Regional Programme Managers or the National Office.



• Programme Details:

Healthy Age Friendly Homes is a free service which is available to homeowners, private, Approved Housing Body and local Authority tenants.

Local coordinators play a critical role in ensuring older people receive timely and appropriate support and reinforce the Councils commitment to the development of age friendly communities through measurable social benefit.



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Maternal Mental Health

Maternal mental health is a key focus during May, with Healthy Wicklow providing funding to support targeted community initiatives. This funding will enable the delivery of the Minding Mums Programme in The Colour Club every Thursday throughout May, offering a supportive space for mothers to connect, share experiences, and access wellbeing resources. In addition, a Buggyfit Programme will be delivered in Carnew every Monday throughout May, promoting physical activity and social engagement for new mothers in an inclusive setting.



Food Poverty

First of three cooking/shopping/budgeting events was held in Rathdrum Library. There were 21 people in attendance. Collaboration between HSCLS, KWETB, MABS, CIC and Healthy Food Made Easy was achieved. There was very good feedback from participants. The next Event is in The Little Flower Hall Bray on 12th May 2026 from 10-12.30.

Exhale for Exams

A 5 week in person series designed to support teens (16+) as they prepare for exams, because it's not just about studying harder, it's about feeling calmer, more focused, and confident.

Running every Friday in May (1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th) in The Colour Club, Arklow from 16:30–17:30, this series will gently guide participants through:

- Building a positive mindset
- Strengthening resilience
- Managing stress & exam anxiety
- Simple breathwork techniques they can use anytime, anywhere

Each session gives teens practical tools to stay grounded and clear headed in the lead up to exams.

Slaintecare Healthy Communities-Bray



1. Children's Wellness Hub

The evaluation of the Children's Wellness Hub is now complete, following almost two years of work between Mary Immaculate College and multiple local stakeholders. This evaluation provides a strong evidence base for the work being delivered in Bray and highlights the importance of trusted, community-based early intervention supports for children and families.

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The project has now entered its second year of SEED funding, with a further €75,000 secured to support continued development. The Hub continues to expand, with three staff now employed and workshops ongoing with both children and parents. Planning is underway for a formal launch of the evaluation findings in early September, involving key stakeholders, services, organisations, and Wicklow County Council.

2. Bray Traveller Project

The Bray Traveller Project continues to progress positively and is meeting its key objectives under the current phase of Genio funding. The Housing Accommodation Officer role is now well embedded and continues to support Traveller individuals and families across housing advocacy, homelessness, tenancy sustainment, repairs, and wider wellbeing initiatives.

Key areas of progress include:

- 16 transfer cases currently being worked on, including overcrowding and medical priority cases
- 4 trailer loan applications progressing
- 54 individuals currently not housed, with ongoing support around applications and emergency accommodation
- 6 new social housing applications submitted during this period
- 18 homelessness cases, including 6 without secure accommodation, with active interagency engagement ongoing
- Continued progress on housing repairs, insulation, disability adaptation works, and refurbishments following fire damage

3. Period Poverty Initiative

The Healthy Communities Period Poverty Initiative has now secured funding for 2026. This funding will support the continued provision of free menstrual products through community organisations and services working with vulnerable individuals and families in Bray. It will also support the delivery of targeted menstrual health education workshops within disadvantaged communities, helping to promote awareness, dignity, and longer-term wellbeing. At present, at least four workshops / talks are being planned across community settings and secondary schools in Bray.

4. Food Poverty Research Project / Family Food Skills Pilot

As part of the Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme, a community food and nutrition research project is now underway in Bray. The purpose of this work is to build community-informed evidence to support future local interventions, planning, and policy responses in relation to food poverty, food insecurity, and nutrition.

Alongside this, Sláintecare Healthy Communities has submitted a funding application with Bray & North Wicklow Area Partnership under the New Solutions Innovation Fund Programme for a new Bray Family Food Skills Pilot.

This proposed pilot aims to build on the success of Healthy Food Made Easy by addressing a key barrier identified by participants: the difficulty of continuing to cook healthy meals at home due to food cost, limited equipment, and lack of confidence. The pilot proposes a whole-family model, combining:

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- cooking and nutrition education for children
- practical cooking and budgeting support for parents
- and a Cook at Home Support Model, including ingredient packs, shopping lists, recipes, and meal planning resources

The aim is to support more sustained behaviour change within families and strengthen local responses to food poverty in Bray through a practical, community-based model.



The members of Wicklow's Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP) were officially appointed by the Minister for Justice on 1 December 2025. The first meeting was held on 4th December 2025.

Chair: Cllr Tom Fortune

Vice-Chair: Selena McKenzie

Meetings held in 2026:

- LCSP – 3 meetings
- LCSP Steering Group – 5 meetings
- Domestic Violence Working Group – 2 meetings
- Roads and Road Safety Working Group – 2 meetings
- Anti-Social Behaviour Working Group – 2 meetings (next meeting scheduled for 2 September 2026)

The adopted minutes of both the Partnership and Steering Group meetings are published on the Wicklow County Council website under the Local Community Safety Partnership page in the Community section:

<https://www.wicklow.ie/LCSP>

Progress to Date

- A property-marking machine has been purchased by the LCSP. Training on the use of the machine will be delivered to 30 members of the community and An Garda Síochána during June/July. A date is currently awaited from the service provider.
- The LCSP has secured a grant of €16,500 from the Department of Agriculture to provide Tractor Driving Safety Awareness training for young people aged 14 years and over in County Wicklow. Procurement of a service provider is currently underway. Sessions will be delivered between June and September 2026.
- The LCSP will coordinate with Pyscare Ireland to deliver a Night-Time/Nightlife Preparedness course for young people aged 18+ in the coming months.
- A new working group, "Safe and Secure at Home", will be ratified at the meeting on 15th June.

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Wicklow Local Community Safety Plan

- To date the youth survey has received 265 responses and the adult survey has received 375 responses. These will continue to be promoted until July
- A domestic violence-focused consultation took place on 10 June. Additional targeted consultations will be coordinated.
- Four public consultations for the Community Safety Plan were held in May as follows:
6th May Carnew, 12th May Baltinglass, 14th May Bray. 19th May Newtownmountkennedy

Public Consultations Scheduled for June:

- Tuesday, 10 June – Áras Lorcáin, Arklow, Y14 R822
- Monday, 15 June – Kilian House Family Centre, Greystones

The first public meeting of the LCSP will be held on 15 June at Kilian House, Greystones, in conjunction with the planned public consultation.



Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP):

Mid-Year Review 2026: This will be undertaken by Wicklow LCDC and Pobal to review year to date implementation by the two programme implementers (PIs) namely, Bray & North Wicklow Area Partnership for the Bray & Greystones MD areas and by Co. Wicklow Partnership for the Wicklow, Arklow and Baltinglass MD areas. A preliminary assessment of KPIs and action targets indicates strong achievement to date.

2026 Case Studies: Bray & North Wicklow Area Partnership will focus their case study on initiatives addressing food poverty such as: Direct provision of food; Education and learning; Development of collaborative food partnerships; Food environment research study with disadvantaged groups. Co. Wicklow Partnership's case study will focus on the Sail Training Ireland Youth Initiative which is a collaborative project delivered by Wicklow Youth Services and which provides young people with a range of opportunities through the medium of sailing to develop practical and social skills.

Wicklow Public Participation Network (PPN):

New PPN Reps have been nominated onto the Community & Social Development SPC; Wicklow Heritage Forum; Wicklow Children & Young People's Services Committee; Wicklow PPN Secretariat (Greystones MD seat).

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Disability & Inclusion Steering Committee undertaking initiatives relating to access, training and awareness-raising. WCC Climate Action Team undertaking initiatives in relation to biodiversity and the development of projects under the Community Climate Action Fund.

PPN planning future training to assist community groups in running local festivals and events.

15 funding streams advertised and 7 public consultation events open for submissions.

Wicklow PPN Members' Mid-Year Plenary Gathering taking place on June 13th at Arklow Arts Centre. This networking event will include discussion on the banking challenges faced by community organisations and the insights gathered will help inform wider conversations with the Central Bank of Ireland and Social Justice Ireland as part of a national consultation process.

See www.countywicklowppn.ie and Wicklow PPN Facebook page for further information on above, including newsletters, funding streams, public consultations, events, daily updates and membership.

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Planning, Economic & Rural Development

Forward Planning

County Development Plan

The Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028 was adopted in September 2022 and came into effect in October 2022. The County Development Plan has been subject to five variations since 2022, and the consolidate updated County Development Plan is available to view here:

<https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Development-Plans-Strategies/National-Regional-County-Plans/Wicklow-County-Development-Plan-2022-2028/Stage-7-Adopted-Plan>

Local Plans

There are 5 settlements / areas with Local Area Plans (LAP) / Local Planning Frameworks (LPFs) in Co. Wicklow– 'Bray Municipal District', 'Wicklow Town - Rathnew', 'Greystones – Delgany & Kilcoole', 'Arklow' and 'Blessington'.

LAPs/LPFs have been adopted for Wicklow Town – Rathnew, Greystones – Delgany & Kilcoole and 'Blessington' and can be viewed at the following link:

<https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Development-Plans-Strategies/Development-Plans-Strategies>

Draft Arklow Local Planning Framework (Proposed Variation to the Wicklow County Development Plan)

This Proposed Variation to the County Development Plan is to incorporate the draft Arklow Local Planning Framework. The draft LPF went on display from 01 October 2025 to 12 November 2025 with submissions invited. A public information day was held in Arklow MD Office on the 23 October 2025. 67 submissions were received. A Chief Executive's (CE) Report on submissions received was prepared and issued to the Elected Members. The CE Report was considered by the Elected Members at the Wicklow County Council meeting of the 13 April 2026. Proposed Material Alterations were on display from 01 May 2026 until 29 May 2026 and 22 valid submissions were received. A Chief Executive's Report on submissions received was prepared and issued to the Elected Members in June 2026. This report is due to be considered at the Council meeting in July 2026.

The submissions can be viewed here:

<https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Development-Plans-Strategies/Development-Plans-Strategies/Arklow/Arklow-Local-Planning-Framework-Variation-to-the-Wicklow-County-Development-Plan-2022-2028/Proposed-Material-Alterations/Submissions-made-to-the-Proposed-Material-Alterations>

Bray Municipal District (including Enniskerry and Kilmacanogue) Local Planning Framework/ (Proposed Variation to the Wicklow County Development Plan)

The pre-draft public consultation for this plan has been completed, and work is being carried out on preparing the draft LPF. The LPF will be done through a variation of the County Development Plan. There is no specific date to publish the Draft Bray Municipal District LPF.

More information can be found here - <https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Development-Plans-Strategies/Local-Area-Town-Settlement-Plans/Bray/Bray-Municipal-District-Local-Area-Plan-2025>

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Call for Sites

In response to the new NPF Housing Target Guidelines, Wicklow County Council has undertaken a non-statutory **'Call for Sites'** consultation inviting landowners, homebuilders and other interested parties (including members of the public) to make submissions, identifying possible sites that they suggest could be considered for zoning for new housing development and could meet the objectives of the Guidelines in terms of contributing to the acceleration of housing delivery over the next 15 years.

A 'Call for Sites' consultation portal was created to assist those wanting to send in a submission. Drop -in services were also held in County Buildings to provide assistance during the consultation stage. The **"Call for Sites"** consultation was open from December 2025 to 27th February 2026. Over 200 submissions were received and are currently being reviewed, with the view to preparing a Proposed Variation of the County Development Plan. It is anticipated that this Proposed Variation will be commenced in Q3 2026.

More information is available here: <https://call-for-sites-wicklow.hub.arcgis.com/>

Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT)

The Government's [Housing For All – A New Housing Plan for Ireland](#) has introduced a new tax to activate vacant land for residential purposes as a part of the 'Pathway to Increasing New Housing Supply'.

The final RZLT maps for lands liable in 2026 were published on 31 January 2026 and can be viewed here: <https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Residential-Zoned-Land-Tax>

Submissions to Final 2026 RZLT Maps. The final map for 2026 identifies land that may be liable for the tax in 2026. Owners of such land are invited to make a request to Wicklow County Council to change the zoning of this land until 1 April 2026. If certain conditions are met, a landowner may be exempt from the 2026 liability on foot of such a request. One submission was received in 2026. WCC is currently assessing this submissions and will communicate in writing to the landowner its decision on whether to progress with an intended variation to the statutory land use plan by 30 June 2026.

More information is available here: <https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Residential-Zoned-Land-Tax/Draft-Residential-Zoned-Land-Tax-2026/Making-a-rezoning-request>

The annual draft RZLT maps for 2027 were published on 31 January 2026 and can be viewed here: [Wicklow > Living > Services > Planning > Residential Zoned Land Tax > Draft Residential Zoned Land Tax 2026 > Residential Zoned Land Tax 2027 > Liable Land](#)

Submissions to Draft 2027 RZLT Maps. The draft map for 2027 identifies land that may be liable for the tax in 2027. Owners of such land – and interested third parties – were invited to make submissions by 01 April 2026 regarding the inclusion of land on this draft map. Eight submissions were received. WCC is currently assessing these submissions and must notify the owner of its decision not later than 1 July.

The following link provides some general information on the RZLT process including a short information video:

<https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Residential-Zoned-Land-Tax/RZLT-General-Information>

A frequently asked questions document has also been prepared and is available to view here:

Residential Zoned Land Tax — FAQ's:

<https://www.wicklow.ie/Portals/0/adam/Documents/5Cn831T6AES8TXmR2C3i4A/Link/RZLT%20FAQs%20Your%20Questions%20Answered.pdf>

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Vacant Site Levy

The Vacant Site Levy has been replaced by the Residential Land Zoned Tax. There are currently 17 sites remaining on the Vacant Sites Register. Levies have been applied up to and including 2024, and no further levy demands will issue. All outstanding levies are actively being pursued.

The Vacant Sites recorded on the Vacant Sites Register as of 31 May 2026 are as follows:

Municipal District	No. of Sites on Register
Arklow	6
Baltinglass	1
Bray	2
Greystones	2
Wicklow	6

More information is available here: <https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Derelict-Vacant-Sites/Vacant-Sites>

Development Management

Planning Applications

Total valid applications received	To 31 May 2025	To 31 May 2026
Received (Valid)	441	460

A total of 102 valid applications were received during May as follows:

Type of Development	Number
Individual Houses	17 (16 Rural)
Housing Developments*	05
Agricultural Structures	01
Commercial	04
Other Developments**	75
Total	102

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

Decisions issued in respect of 87 applications in May 2026;

Type of Development	Number of Decisions
Housing Developments	00
Individual Houses	02
Other Developments	82
Other Developments Requiring EIA	02
RED III	01
Total	87

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Decisions issued between January to May 2025, in comparison to the same period for 2026.

	31 st May 2025	31 st May 2026
Total Number of decisions issued	369	424
Total Number of decisions to grant	302	375
% Grant Rate	82%	88%
No of applications withdrawn		6 (4 refer to rural house)

Applications Lodged with An Coimisiún Pleanála

Strategic Infrastructure Development

An Coimisiún Pleanála has received a planning application for permission by Sure Partners Limited for offshore wind energy development – Arklow Bank Wind Park 2 located off the coasts of Co. Wicklow and Co. Wexford under Section 291 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended – ABP-319864-24 refers. Further Information requested 10 April 2025.

An Coimisiún Pleanála has received a planning application for a strategic infrastructure development in respect of proposed material recovery/recycling facility and inert landfill Ballinclare & Carrigmore near Kilbride, Co. Wicklow – ABP-321255-24 refers. Granted 19 February 2026

An Coimisiún Pleanála has received a planning application for proposed development of a soil recovery facility in the townland Kilmartin, Coyne's Cross, Co. Wicklow – ACP-324033-26 refers.

Substitute Consent

An Coimisiún Pleanála has received an application for substitute consent for development that consists of a sand/gravel extraction pit including extraction areas, processing areas, stockpiling areas and ancillary works (circa 23.7 hectares). The development also includes a sand/gravel washing/screening plant & buildings comprising workshop/machinery shed, tools storage container, pump – house, 2 no. portable office buildings, 1 no. portable office/canteen/WC, Sand processing plant electrical control room, 3 no. storage containers, sand processing plant electrical control room, 3 no. storage containers, sand processing plant control cabin, bonded oil storage tanks, diesel generator container & electrical substation (all totalling circa 376sqm) The application is accompanied by a remedial EIAR and remedial NIS. Lands at Ballinabarney North & Bolagh Lower, Redcross, Co. Wicklow.

E-Planning Project

The Eplanning system has been in place since 17th April 2023.

From **1st January 2026 to May** a total of 447 valid applications were received of which 54 (12.08%) were hard copy applications and **393 / (87.92%) were received online.**

For the **month of May**, a total of 98 planning applications were received of which 6 (6.12%) were hard copy applications and **92 (93.88%) were received online.**

Due to the complexities of larger applications, it has been necessary to request one hard copy for larger multi-unit developments.

There has been a mix of application types received during the month of May via the Eplanning portal including:

- A number of one-off rural dwellings throughout the county
- Extensions and alterations to existing properties throughout the county
- Development and retention of livestock shed with underground slatted tank and straw bedded area at Hacketstown

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- Construction of 99 no. residential units with a mix of semidetached and terraced houses along with triplex apartments at Lands at Kilbride
- The construction of a sheltered canopy for the purpose of providing 2 no. "Click and Collect" car parking spaces at Wexford Road
- Change of use to a number of properties throughout the county
- 6 No detached dwellings with individual wastewater treatment systems. 2. new access road to serve item 1. 3.alterations to car parking facility in Glenealy
- Redevelopment of the existing Arklow 220kV / 110kV substation at the townlands of Coolboy
- Construction of 53 houses and new vehicular access at Lott Lane
- Numerous demolitions throughout the county

Planning Enforcement – May 2026

Enforcement Files	Total
New Files	3
Advisory Letters	21
Warning Letters	11
Enforcement Notices	9
Legal Files	1
Closed	12

Derelict Sites as of 30th April 2026

Municipal District	No sites on Register
Baltinglass	2

A number of properties in Wicklow Town and a property in Ashford are under consideration for formal Section 8(2) Notices.

Heritage Office

County Heritage Plan (CHP) Work Programme: Local Authority County Heritage Plan Fund 2026 allocation of €60,000 awarded from the Heritage Council for two projects. Confirmation of €20,000 funding received for the Community Archaeology role and €40,000 for County Heritage Plan allocation.

Historic Towns Initiative (HTI): Application for Heritage-led Regeneration Plan for Wicklow prepared in association with Wicklow Town Team, submitted to The Heritage Council. Confirmation that application was successful, €50,000 secured. Tender documents issued and heritage consultants appointed.

Wicklow Heritage Forum: Four meetings scheduled for 2026. First meeting held on 25th March in Russborough House, next meeting July.

Built Heritage Funds (Architecture): Co-ordination of the annual Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS) and Historic Structure Fund (HSF) grant schemes for 2026. BHIS 2026 allocation of €175,000 for County Wicklow confirmed for 18 projects. HSF 2026 funding confirmed for two projects as follows:

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- Russborough House €101,817 to support a programme of extensive and essential stone repairs; and
- Old Lacken Schoolhouse €66,433 to repair timber windows, overhaul of cast-iron rainwater goods, lime repointing, re-rendering in lime plaster and stone repairs.

Built Heritage Funds (Archaeology): Applications to the Community Monument Fund secured a total allocation of €544,415 from National Monuments Service for seven projects as follows:

- Kilpipe Medieval Church €130,000 to repair and consolidate ruins;
- Kilmacanogue Old Church €105,038 for phase 2 programme of masonry repairs;
- Drumgoff Barracks €130,000 for phase 2 repairs to early 19th century building associated with the Military Road construction;
- Black Castle, Wicklow Town €100,000 for conservation and stabilisation of the upstanding masonry remains;
- Killougher (Old) Church and Graveyard €23,724 for a Conservation Management Plan, including archaeological, architectural, engineering, ecological and arboricultural assessment;
- Killadreenan Church €25,695 for a Conservation Management Plan, including assessment of significance, condition and vulnerability, and the development of conservation policies and a prioritised schedule of works to guide future conservation and management; and
- Castletimon Church Ruins €30,000 for small-scale, preventative conservation works to include consolidation of collapsed masonry and targeted stabilisation.

Irish Community Archive Network (iCAN): Co-ordination of *Our Wicklow Heritage* (County Wicklow online community heritage archive) plus a network of 11 groups in County Wicklow in association with WCC Archives and library services and in partnership with National Museum of Ireland and the Heritage Council. Regional meeting held in Donard on 29th April. Three Wicklow groups (Blessington, Delgany and Donard) awarded iCAN grants for equipment and activities.

Historic Graveyards: Working with Community Archaeology service to undertake digital headstone recording and creation of digital story maps and in situ information boards at selected sites.

Placenames Project 2026: Local heritage initiative co-ordinated by Pat Reid, with Expressions of Interest opened in June.

Wicklow Creative Ireland Programme: HO working with CI Team on 2026 work programme.

Biodiversity Working Group and Climate Action Teams: HO participation in internal working groups to support implementation of the County Biodiversity Action Plan, launched in February, and integration of heritage into the Climate Action Plan delivery.

Town Regeneration

1.0 Town Teams

There are currently eight Town Teams in County Wicklow: Arklow, Baltinglass, Blessington, Carnew, Greystones, Newtownmountkennedy, Rathdrum, and Wicklow. Newcastle is about to begin the process of becoming a Town Team.

2.0 Town Centre First Masterplans

2.1 Blessington Town Centre First Masterplan

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2.2 Newtownmountkennedy Town Centre First Masterplan

3.0 Town Centre First Measure 3 Suite of Support

Two applications have been approved for funding under the Town Centre First – Measure 3 Suite of Supports: one for Blessington and one for Wicklow Town. Both projects were originally required to be completed and all associated claims submitted by 30th September 2025. However, an extension has been granted.

a) Blessington:

This project involves developing plans to transform Market Square into a high-quality public space. It includes commissioning professional services to carry out a pre-development study of the site as a de-risking exercise ahead of a potential construction phase, subject to future funding.

Update: Three public consultation workshops were held between August and October 2025, giving the community opportunities to contribute ideas and share their vision for the future of Market Square. The first draft of the final plan was presented to the Elected Members of the Baltinglass Municipal District in December 2025 and is expected to be finalised and published later in 2026. A briefing meeting is to be held for Baltinglass elected members in June.

b) Wicklow Town:

This project will develop a comprehensive design plan aimed at enhancing the public lands surrounding the Black Castle. The work will also include an assessment of the structure and condition of the Castle itself.

Update: The final plan was presented to the Elected Members of the Wicklow Municipal District and published in December 2025. A Part VIII application is being prepared.

4.0 Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2023

Wicklow County Council was awarded €725,000 from the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht under the 2023 Town and Village Renewal Scheme, with three projects successful in securing funding. The selected projects were originally required to be completed, with all associated claims submitted by 31st October 2025. Extension requests were submitted to and approved by the Department for each project to allow additional time for delivery.

- a) **Kirikee, Glenmalure** - Renovation works are planned for the Community Centre, including upgrades to the roof, windows, ceilings, and walls. Construction works are progressing. Works are almost complete and a case study is being prepared in advance of Department drawdown.
- b) **Lacken** - The old schoolhouse will be renovated and transformed into a community centre featuring a café, community shop, and a small heritage section. Construction works are complete with case study and final drawdown to be finalised.

5.0 Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2025

Six applications were submitted of which two were successful and awarded funding.

Main Scheme Funding

- a) Rathdrum RDA hall – grant funding of €225,000 secured which will be used to replace the electrical system to ensure compliance with current safety standards and to refurbish the existing toilet block, including the installation of a fully wheelchair-accessible facility. These works are essential to ensuring

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the hall remains safe, functional, and inclusive, and continues to meet the needs of Rathdrum's growing population.

Tendering on Supply gov is due to take place shortly for contractor to complete the works.

Project Development Measure

- b) Arklow St. Mary's Park – grant funding of €49,500 has been awarded to engage a professional consultancy to prepare a detailed design for the regeneration of St. Mary's Park in Arklow. The project aims to create a vibrant, multi-functional public space capable of accommodating community gatherings, events, outdoor dining, and markets, thereby boosting footfall and supporting local employment along Main Street. The proposed design will enhance the park's amenities, visibility, and green infrastructure, ensuring sustainability, accessibility, and stronger integration with surrounding civic and cultural assets. Full brief has been prepared; site plans are being completed. Request for quotations has begun with deadline of July 3rd for receipt of same

Health checks

Quotations were sought for Health checks for two towns: Carnew and Wicklow

Successful tenderers, Studio Myco. Walkability survey was carried out on the 21st of June, and public consultations are due to take place on the 23rd July in St. Brigids Hall, Carnew-

Rural Regeneration Development Fund Grant Applications

(Department of Rural and Cultural Development and the Gaeltacht, DRCDG)

- Category 1: Applications for large-scale, ambitious capital projects that are ready to proceed to construction with all necessary planning and consents in place.
- Category 2: Provides smaller grant funding to help develop project proposals so they can be submitted for Category 1 funding in future calls.

Blessington RRDF (Category2)

Category 2 funding is for design and consent processes only to enable a project to move forward to Category 1 funding application which is for construction.

A meeting between WCC's Capital Delivery Team (CDT) the Department's RRDF Team of the took place on the 25th February 2026. The Department requested some further information on the Councils proposals for Blessington and how they align with the original RRDF Application and grant of funding. The Department were accepting of the fact that a Town Centre First (TCF) Plan had been developed in line with the Departments guidelines since the awarding of the RRDF Grant and that it had been prudent to wait until that process had been completed to progress the RRDF further during the same time period to ensure the RRDF complimented the TCF Plan. The requested further information was sent to the Department on the 9th March and a response is expected during the week commencing 16th March. Despite numerous reminders, no response has issued from the Department to date. A meeting was held with the Department to try and address their questions; further information was requested by the Department.

Baltinglass RRDF (Category 1)

The original RRDF grant was awarded in 2019. It was a category 1 application and included the cost of works. The costings for Baltinglass Gateway to Southwest Wicklow came in over budget on both the public realm and the Courthouse refurbishment. The proposals have been revised, and the necessary technical plans are complete in order for the works to commence. Works on the Public Park and playground are completed.

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The required Quality Audit process on the design of Public Realm has been completed in late February 2026. Some minor changes to the designs are required on foot of the outcomes of the QA process. Tender documents will be uploaded to eTenders as soon as they are completed by the consultants. A briefing is to be held for Baltinglass elected members in June.

The Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, Dara Calleary TD, has announced the Sixth Call for Category 1 proposals for the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF) is now open. This is a call for projects which are shovel ready.

Discussions have taken place with regard to potential RRDF project entries. Deadline for entries is 28th July 2026.

Urban Regeneration Development Fund Grant Applications (Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage, DHLGH)

- Category A: Applications for projects that are "ready to go" and have the necessary consents (like planning permission) in place to begin in the current year.
- Category B: Applications for projects that require further development work to enable them to become eligible for Category 1 status in subsequent funding call.

Bray Harbour Improvements – URDF Wic0004 (Category B)

A revised business case was sent to DHLGH in December 2024. A tender brief is currently being prepared for the procurement of engineering consultancy services to produce detailed designs, environmental reports and an application to An Bord Pleanála for both the proposed land based and marine works. The department have approved this scheme to progress to the next stage: Planning and Design. Tenders will be placed on eTenders in the coming weeks.

The approval covers the Planning and Design stages only at this stage.

Bray Sustainable Transport Bridge – URDF Wic0002 (Category B)

Arising from the ABP decision that an NIS was required, this project has been delayed. The Capital Delivery Team will review the project and discuss further with the Department. The Department have indicated approval for a review of the project with a view to seeing what parts of the project may proceed. An initial in house review is being carried out.

The Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage James Browne TD have announced a new Town and Cities Investment Regeneration fund to replace the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund. Scheme outlines and details to be clarified. Towns of 9,000 and above will be eligible for funding.

Three projects were submitted to the Department for funding:

- Arklow Harbour Plan Development
- Wicklow Harbour Plan Development
- The Murrough Waterfront Park Enhancement

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Tourism

1. Wicklow Gaol

Extensive electrical upgrade is underway at the Gaol. As per the Conservation Management Plan and electrical inspection, extra lighting and interpretation is being removed to allow for the building to 'speak' again.

Following the recent fire safety plan for Wicklow Gaol, the tendering process is underway to appoint a supplier to install a completely new fire safety system. This system is to include new fire detection, alarm system, emergency lighting, fire doors and compartmentalisation. Works are to be started as soon as possible and will be prioritised to potentially allow partial opening of the Gaol if safe.

The signing of contracts with the new operator for the Gaol is nearing completion.

2. Wicklow Naturally

Wicklow Naturally has been successful and will receive financial support from the 2026 Rural Innovation Development Fund. The funds will be dedicated towards brining local foods and drinks, local agri-food and local crafts to 'Taste of Wicklow' event scheduled for early July.

3. Destination Experience Development Plan (DEDP)

The latest draft has been received and is being reviewed. Various actions are already under way including the Glendalough Masterplan, Screen Tourism Study or Access & Movement Assessment.

4. Glendalough and Wicklow Mountains National Park Visitor Experience and Management Masterplan (VEMMP)

Work continues with the implementation of recommendations contained in the 7–10-year VEMMP. The Local Advisory Group and the Working Group of the Glendalough Partnership continue to meet regularly to support the implementation of actions contained in the VEMMP. OPW and National Monuments Services have worked together to procure a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) to support actions in the VEMMP and ensure a collaborative approach is taken and that the heritage of the area is preserved and protected. They have appointed 7L Architects as the lead consultant for the development of the CMP and a support team has been put in place comprising a range of disciplines such as landscape architect, stone conversation expertise and ecological professionals. The Local Advisory Group met in December where they received an update on the CMP process along with anticipated timelines.

Economic Development

1. Abbey Grounds, Wicklow

The status of the Destination Towns project at the Abbey Grounds remains unchanged as the phased implementation continues. The delivery of new public amenities remains on track for the remainder of the year.

2. Special Projects

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Avondale Business Park: Site sales at Avondale Business Park continue to move forward, with the disposals of Sites 4A, 4B, 5, 6 & 7 successfully approved at the June council meeting. The review of expressions of interest and the assessment of on-site infrastructure options both remain ongoing.

Strategic Enterprise Lands: Strategic enterprise lands in County Wicklow remain under active review, while assessments continue to determine optimal and suitable use.

The GRID: The formal handover to the new operator is now complete, marked by a coffee morning held to introduce the new management to licensees. Office occupancy is now at full capacity.

Sites on Mill Road, Greystones: The status of the site registration process remains unchanged while the Law Agent maintains ongoing engagement with the Property Registration Authority regarding the anticipated resolution.

3. Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE)

A meeting of the ORE network took place where members agreed a schedule of activities for the remainder of the year.

4. Skills Strategy

Implementation of the Wicklow Skills Strategy remains at its current stage following a taskforce meeting on June 9th. Updates from the meeting reflect that projects continue under their existing timelines, and the rollout of priority 2026 initiatives remains a key objective.

Local Enterprise Office (LEO):

LEO Objectives			
To foster an enterprise culture and stimulate enterprise at local level by:			
- 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
	2025	2026	2026
Grants Approved (number/ value) - Measure 1 - Market Explorer Grant	14 BEG / 2 Priming / 8 Feasibility / 3 (MEG) Total: 27- €546,033	33	1 BEG/ 1 Priming/ 1 Feasibility Total: 3 (€71,060)
Gross Jobs Created	696	188	-

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Net Jobs Created	50	105	-
New Job Commitments 3 Years	N/A	84	5
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
	2025	2026	2026
Total number of participants at Management Development type programmes.	117	90	59
Start Your Own Business Participant numbers (included in total training programmes)	156	90	75
Total No. of all Participants participating in training Programmes and events (all programmes except SYOB and MDP)	1139	720	372
Women in Business Network Number of Meetings	20	20	5

Metrics: Business Advice & Mentoring	Historical	Targets	Year To Date
	2025	2026	2026
Number of new clients added to database. *Criteria have been amended for this metric	580	-	271
Number of One-to-One Business Advice meetings including Businesses assigned a mentor	544	270	315

Metrics: Student Enterprise Programmes	Historical	Targets	
Academic Year	2025/26	2026/2027	Year to Date 2026/27
No. of Secondary Student Participants	1170	1170	1449

Metrics: Client Transfers To Enterprise Ireland	Historical	Targets	
No of transfers	2025	2026	Year to Date 2026
Number of transfers	6	5	3

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Lean, Green & Digital Start For Micro Projects	Historical	Targets	Year To Date
	2025	2026	2026
No. of Companies who have undertaken a Lean for Business Assessment by a Lean Expert	15	15	11
No. of Companies who have undertaken a Green for Business Assessment by a Green Expert	21	27	14
No. of Companies who have undertaken a Digital for Business Assessment by a Digital Expert	34	27	16
Number of Grow Digital Vouchers approved	5	18	2
Energy Efficiency Grant	9	18	10
RD&I Grants (inc IP) Approved	1	1	1
Microfinance Ireland	Historical	Targets	Year To Date
	2025	2026	2026
No. of Companies who have submitted an MFI loan application through the LEO	17	19	11
New Exporters	Historical	Targets	Year To Date
	2025	2026	2026
No. of Companies who have started exporting (at least €10k in first time export sales).	3	3	TBC

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Activities took place in May/June

- **Student Enterprise Programme – National Final**

Preparations were undertaken to support the Junior, Intermediate, and Senior category winners from the Wicklow County Final of the Student Enterprise Programme 2026 following their success at the Arklow Bay Hotel, as they prepared to represent Wicklow at the National Finals held at the Mullingar Park Hotel on 7th May. Supported by Local Enterprise Office Wicklow, Elodie O'Brien and Ema Marcu from Woodbrook College won the Sustainability Award for their student enterprise, Bin Better, a sustainable bokashi food waste bin.

- **AI Works for Ireland – Regional Development Sessions**

Explores practical applications of AI in SMEs to improve efficiency, enhance customer experience, and unlock growth opportunities, while providing real world insights and future trends shaping the business landscape. These sessions are being delivered collaboratively by Local Enterprise Offices across the regions in partnership with Google.

- **Expression of Interests**

Expressions of Interest are currently open for participation in Food & Drink Export Development Programme targeted at businesses within the food and beverage sector seeking to expand into international markets with the Local Enterprise Office Wicklow

- **Dublin Tech summit**

The Dublin Tech Summit took place on 27 and 28 May at the RDS. The Local Enterprise Offices were represented through a dedicated stand, which promoted enterprise supports and raised awareness of the services available to businesses. Complimentary tickets were also allocated to relevant LEO clients, supporting their attendance, networking opportunities, and engagement with the wider technology and innovation ecosystem.

- **National Enterprise Awards**

The National Enterprise Awards 2026 will take place on Thursday, 18 June at the Mansion House in Dublin, bringing together the best small businesses from across the country to compete for the prestigious National Enterprise of the Year title. Representing County Wicklow at this year's finals is SiSú Juice Company Ltd., supported by Local Enterprise Office Wicklow. Founded by Brian McGann and now led by Aisling McGann, SiSú has grown from a family kitchen business into a nationally recognised producer of premium health and wellness products, selling more than two million products annually and continuing to expand into new export markets.

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Climate, Environment, Recreation & Amenity

HARBOURS AND PORTS

1) Local Authority Marine Infrastructure Scheme (LAMIS) - DAFM

Grant applications submitted for 10no. harbour improvement projects. Combined value €1.37m.

Funding Conferred for three projects. LAMIS Combined value of €175,402.97.

2) Upgrade to Harbour security gates / entrance Wicklow and Arklow Harbours.

Completion Certificates and Warranties for all CCTV related installed assets submitted. Currently working on a maintenance plan for implementation.

3) Mara Applications

Marine Area Consent (MAC) and Marine Usage Licence (MUL) applications for Wicklow Harbour dredging project submitted to MARA 26th January.

4) Harbour Infrastructure & Accessibility Upgrades

Wicklow Harbour Amenities: Works have been successfully completed on the new age friendly steps access to the bathing area. This project included the installation of supportive hand railings, alongside general surface cleaning and fresh painting.

Public Toilet Accessibility: Arklow and Wicklow public toilets have been upgraded with improved door access using a dedicated button for disabled people, upgrading the approach ramps, and improved general drainage.

5) Storm Damage, Wicklow Harbour

Storm Damage Repair: Major damage has occurred to Wicklow harbour beach due to multiple storms and persistent easterly winds. Temporary works have been completed to make area safe for public. Full design required for permanent sea wall / barrier solution is this area.

OPW Minor Works Funding: An Application was successfully submitted to the OPW under the Minor Flood Mitigation and Coastal Protection Scheme. The application requested € 100,000 to appoint an engineering consultant to conduct a comprehensive flood assessment, including all necessary hydrological and investigative works.

Funding Approval & Scope: The assessment covers four specific risk areas within Wicklow Town and Harbour. The OPW has formally approved and granted funding to Wicklow County Council to the value of € 90,000 to progress these works.

WICKLOW HARBOUR STATISTICS

Month / Year	Ships	Single (Import or Export)	Double (Import & Export)	Transactions	Imports	Exports
Jan-26	7	6	1	8	4	4
Feb-26	4	4	0	4	3	1
Mar-26	4	4	0	4	2	2
Apr-26	6	6	0	6	5	1
May-26	8	8	0	8	5	3

GENERAL CARGO DATA 2026	
General Cargo/Container	29
Gross Tonnage	75,964

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SIZE OF VESSELS BREAKDOWN 2026			
Tonnes		Number of Vessels	Gross Tonnage
Lower Limit	Upper Limit		
500	999	2	1704
1,000	1,999	1	1767
2,000	2,999	21	55652
3,000	3,999	5	16841
			75964

2026 CARGO BREAKDOWN			
CATEGORY	Imports	Exports	Total
Forestry Products	29412.006	3256.56	32,668.566
Metals		21062.012	21062.012
	29412.006	24318.572	53730.578

WATER SAFETY AND BEACHES

Fulltime Water Safety Development Officer (WSDO) appointed at start of April

Water Safety Development Officer duties to date

- Recruitment of beach lifeguards complete for season
- Water Safety Ireland (WSI) examiners to conduct the Beach Lifeguard Swim Tests.
- WSDO provided a full day's induction training to the incoming Beach Lifeguards
- Introduced a new rostering system
- Updated lifeguard station equipment to meet requirements of Water Safety Ireland and International Lifesaving Europe (ILSE)
- Engagement with Local area water safety committee of Water Safety Ireland
- Advertisements and Social media information on water safety and lifeguard service provided for distribution on WCC social media channels
- Arranged emergency repairs to the lifeguard structure in Brittas Bay South
- Reviewed previous ILSE Risk Assessments for Designated Bathing Areas (DBAs) in Wicklow

ILSE Risk Assessments with Water Safety Ireland for the summer of 2026 at the following locations:

- Greystones Beach South - to take place June 2026
- Brittas Bay North - to take place 12th June 2026
- Brittas Bay South - to take place 12th June 2026
- Wicklow Harbour – to take place 24th June 2026
- Magheramore Beach – to take place 24th June 2026

Once Risk Assessments are received, the recommendations of the report and safety signage will be updated and or renewed at these locations.

A current ILSE Risk Assessment is a requirement in applying for Blue Flag status.

Missing Ringbuoys: 10 reports of missing Ringbuoys through the national reporting website of www.ringbuoys.ie and attended too.

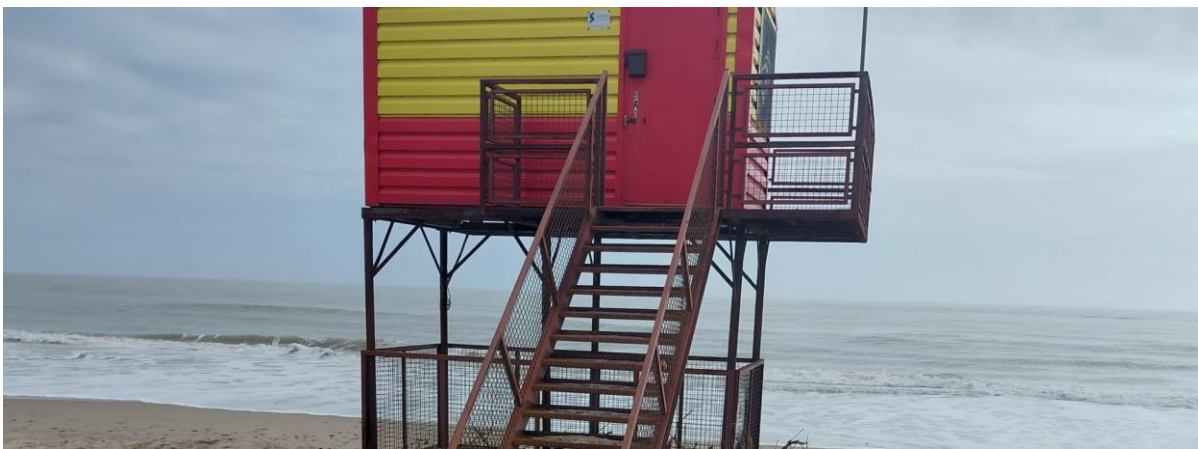
Beaches: The Blue Flag season commenced on 1st June 2026.

Sampling of Identified and Non-Identified Bathing Waters commenced on 25th May, in line with the bathing season.

Beach Lifeguards: In 2026 Wicklow County Council has employed 28 rostered Beach lifeguards and 6 standby Beach Lifeguards at 7 designated bathing areas for water-based activities in the County during the summer months from 11am

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to 7pm daily, until the end of August, with lifeguards working on the weekends in September until 15th September at Brittas Bay North, Brittas Bay South and Greystones, to comply with conditions of the Blue Flag.



CLIMATE & BIODIVERSITY ACTION AND ENVIRONMENT AWARENESS

E-Mobility Scheme: A Shared Mobility Hub scheme has been tendered for the County. The scheme includes Bray, Greystones and Wicklow with options to extend to Arklow and Blessington. Bolt has won the tender and have commenced operations in Bray and Greystones with an extension to Kilcoole in progress and will extend to Wicklow Town.

Dark Skys: A County Wicklow Light Pollution Policy and an Environmental lighting master plan, light assessment report and lighting energy audit for the towns of Donard, Laragh, Roundwood and Aughrim were tendered with Kerem Asfuroglu winning the tender. Work commences in early June on the four lighting energy audits. This work will enable Wicklow to explore development of a Dark Sky reserve. The reserve core would be located in the southern part of the Wicklow Mountains National Park with a buffer zone of 700 KM around the park where the lighting policy will be developed to reduce the impact of light pollution. Wicklow County Council along with twelve other local authorities jointly held a conference on artificial light at night in Maynooth on the 18th of June. The biodiversity Officers from the thirteen local authorities organised the event with funding from the NPWS and the Heritage Council.

Spongeworks EU horizon programme: Work has commenced on the scoping of opportunities for nature-based sponge measures on farms and in wetlands. Wetland Survey Ireland is undertaking a wetland survey to assess current status and identify protection and restoration measures. The first is a wetland survey of 22 sites which will be undertaken by Wetlands Survey Ireland.

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The second assessment is a farm water management assessment and opportunity mapping. This piece of work is led by Prof. Mary Bourke of Trinity College. It will identify measures specific to demonstration farms and map out opportunities across the wider landscape. Assessments will be undertaken on arrangement of farm types

Community Climate Action Programme (Phase 1):

Strand 1: Building Low Carbon Sustainable Communities

A total of 19 projects have completed Phase 1 with a total spend of €627,218.00.



Coolkenno Sports, bicycle parking and solar PV installation



Arklow United FC, water refill, rainwater harvesting, inverter and smart switches for Solar PV installation

Community Climate Action Programme (Phase 2):

27 groups in Wicklow have been allocated a total of €766,469.36 to assist in building low carbon sustainable communities.

They are as follows:

- Rewild Wicklow
- Stratford Grangecon GAA
- Blessington Men's Shed
- Coolboy Development Group
- Blessington GAA
- Vallemount GAA
- Powerscourt Church Enniskerry
- Whale Theatre Company
- Open Door Day Centre
- Coolboy Handball Club

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- Donard Community Enterprises
- 1st Wicklow 2nd Dublin St. Kilian's Greystones Scouts
- Grangecon Tidy Towns
- Shillelagh People's Property
- Tiglin Challenge
- Greystones Lawn Tennis Club
- Carnew Emmets GAA
- Rathdrum Rugby Club
- Arus Lorcan Arklow Parish
- St. Patrick's GAA Kilcoole
- Ashford Development Association
- Imaal Hall Dunlavin
- Greystones United AFC
- Aughrim Tidy Towns CLG
- Arklow Town FC
- Annacurra Tidy Towns / Community Development
- Arklow Geraldine's Ballymoney GAA
- An Tochar GAA Roundwood

Wicklow Sustainable Energy Communities:

An information clinic was in Wicklow Library on Thursday the 14th of May.

Wicklow SEC also held its annual Energy Awareness Day for the 13th of June with support from Wicklow County Council and SEAI. Over 550 people attended the event with more interest in home retrofitting this year than the electric vehicles on display. Wicklow County Council exhibited at the event.

Greystones SEC has signed up 26 homes for the latest round of its solar meitheal project.

Wicklow Biodiversity Week: As part of National Biodiversity Week 2026, the Biodiversity Officer organised and supported a number of public engagement events, including a Women in Farming event in Tinahely (21 May), a Swift Walk and Talk in Arklow (21 May), and a guided coastal flora walk at Bray Head (22 May). A further Swift Walk and Talk was held in Rathdrum on 10 June, while a guided biodiversity walk, *Life Behind the Beach*, took place at Brittas Bay on 5 June.

The Biodiversity Officer also attended a meeting of the County Wicklow Executive of the Irish Farmers' Association to promote biodiversity initiatives and strengthen engagement with the farming community. The presentation focused on the ReFarm Wicklow pilot project and the SpongeWorks programme, highlighting opportunities for farmers to contribute to biodiversity enhancement, water quality improvement and climate resilience.

Coastal Erosion: Greystones North Beach – Jacobs from the ECRIPP project have issued a proposal to complete a coastal erosion management study for the Greystones North Beach that will review various options. WCC are in discussions with the OPW on the proposed study. The council have queried SISPAR in relation to the restoration of the access to the North Beach, the ongoing Beach Nourishment (which will reduce erosion) and the possible removal of construction debris on the North Beach

Arklow: Interim report 1 and 2 for the Seabanks project is completed in draft, which in summary considers a range of options for each of the study locations and recommends options that should be brought forward and considered in the Economic appraisal of the Final report.

Brittas Bay & Ennerilly: An interim report has been submitted by the consultants MWp who hope to submit a final report next month

ECRIPP: Advancing towards submitting a planning application in Q3 2026

The Murrough: Irish Rail is considering emergency works for another 100m, will be advanced after planning submission.

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WASTE MANAGEMENT

No. of Complaints Created	204
No. of Cases Closed, Resolved or Completed	124
No of Litter Fines Issued	10
No. of Waste Management Files Opened	4
No. of Warning Letters Issued	3
No of Abandoned Car Notices Issued	17
No. of Notices Issued under Section 14 of the Waste Management Act	22
No. of files prepared for Court and included in Court Lists	28
No. of Cases in Court under the Litter Pollution Act. No cases were heard during the month under the Litter Pollution Act	0
No of Cases in Court under the Waste Management Act 7 cases were listed during the month of May for presentation before the courts. The Council were happy to withdraw 2 cases before the courts as the waste issues were resolved to the Council's satisfaction. The other 5 cases were adjourned for hearing at later dates.	
Income - Litter	€1,200
Income- Waste Management	€5,088

DOG CONTROL, DOG LICENCES AND HORSES

Dog Licences: For the month of May 2026, a total of 564 yearly dog licences were purchased, and 29 lifetime licences were purchased. This is an increase of 44 on licences purchased in May 2025.

The Dog Wardens have commenced a targeted approach to ensuring that all dogs are licenced by visiting every house in certain locations. This may be a reason for the increase in licences purchased. They started in Arklow and so far, several fixed penalty notices have been issued. Anyone to be found not in possession of a dog licence will be given 10 days to produce a valid licence or a fine will issue.

Horses: No horses were seized during the month of May 2026.

POLLUTION CONTROL

Pollution Response & Investigation	
7	Water pollution complaints received and investigated.
6	Water pollution complaints closed.
7	Noise pollution complaints received and investigated.
1	Noise pollution complaints closed.
2	Air pollution complaints received and investigated.
1	Air pollution complaints closed.
Water Framework Directive National Monitoring Programme	
2	Lakes monitored for checking compliance with environmental quality standards
55	Rivers monitored for compliance with environmental quality standards.
Water Framework Directive River Management Engagement and Investigations	
1	Catchment assessments carried out to identify the risks and impacts
1	Catchment activity/engagements/consultations
4	Investigative samples taken.
Good Agricultural Practice Inspections	

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1	Inspections of farms carried out for adherence to good agricultural practice.
1	Follow up inspections of farms carried out for adherence to good agricultural practice
1	Inspection of a farm carried out on foot of pollution complaint.
1	Sewage sludge nutrient management plan applications to land reviewed.
Well Grants	
8	New Water Grant application received
1	New Well granted
6	New Pumps granted
7	Water Treatment/Disinfection Equipment Units granted
17	Inspections in advance/completion of works
Private Water Supplies	
1	Drinking Water Monitoring Plan for 121 Regulated Private Water Supplies prepared.
19	Regulated Private Water Supplies were monitored.
19	Regulated Private Water Supplies were compliant with available results for microbiological standards.
2	Regulated Private Water Supplies were non-compliant with available results for indicator parametric value and 1 was required to take remedial action.
1	Regulated Private Water Supplies was non-compliant with a chemical standard and in consultation and agreement with the HSE place on do no consume water restriction and to take remedial action.
Bathing Water Monitoring Programme	
7	Bathing waters monitored and had excellent quality
Petrol Vapour Recovery	
1	Stage 1b (petrol tanker delivery vapour recovery) application assessed
Licensed Effluent Discharges to Waters/Sewer	
5	Licensed wastewater discharges to waters were monitored and deemed compliant.
3	Licensed wastewater discharges to waters were monitored and deemed non-compliant and corrective action requested.
Septic Tank Inspections	
9	Inspections of domestic wastewater treatment systems carried out.
7	Domestic wastewater treatment systems found compliant.
2	Domestic wastewater treatment systems found non-complaint and advisory notices issued/
1	Follow up Inspection to assess compliance with advisory notice.
1	Inspection relating to grant application in high status catchment.
Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants – Ambient Monitoring	
40	River samples were taken upstream and downstream of wastewater discharges of municipal wastewater treatment plants.
4	Lake samples were taken upstream and downstream of wastewater discharges of municipal wastewater treatment plants.
5	Coastal waters samples taken upstream and downstream of wastewater discharges of municipal wastewater treatment plants.
Planning & Development	
2	Environmental reports on referred planning applications/consultations were completed concerning agricultural development.
2	Environmental reports on referred planning applications/consultations were completed concerning commercial development.
3	Environmental reports on referred planning applications/consultations were completed concerning housing development.
0	Environmental reports on referred planning applications/consultations/compliance were completed concerning quarries development.
1	Environmental report on compliance with planning permission conditions was completed.

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CEMETERIES

Wicklow County Council operates 34 active burial grounds across the county. The Environment Office deals with applications to erect headstones, exhumation licences, and general queries.

Published Death Notices Data

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Total	138	94	125	105	99							
WCC	55	32	42	44	38							
Cremation	49	27	42	40	44							
Other	34	35	41	21	17							

561	Total Published Death Notices 2026
38%	Traditional Interment in Local Authority Burial Grounds
36%	Cremation/Other non-traditional interments
26%	Other Burial Grounds

OUTDOOR RECREATION

The Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) supports the development of new outdoor recreational infrastructure and the necessary repair, enhancement, or promotion of existing outdoor recreation infrastructure in countryside areas across Ireland.

The table below is a list of current projects funded under ORIS:

ORIS	Project Name	Brief description	Completion/ Update
OR221WW02	Bray to Greystones - Cliff Walk Protection Scheme	The walk remains closed due to safety concerns. Route corridor has been identified. Discussions with landowners on rerouting on Greystones side, specialist contractor to carry out investigation of the slopes identified in the RPS report, subject to possible environmental considerations.	Extension granted by DRCD.
OR221WW01	Jubilee Loop and Avonmore Way link 2021 Scheme	Engineering contractors engaged to provide report on remedial works and costs following flood damage to bridge. Tenders being prepared for remedial works. Bridge to remain closed until works complete	Ongoing 2026
OR222WW03	Coolkenno Equestrian Trail	Project decommissioned due to landownership constraints	N/A
OR322WW01	Roundwood Recreation Area	Car park upgrade and 5 play areas completed. Bike pump track works nearing completion. Signage installation complete	Ongoing 2026 – near completion

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OR423WW02	Bray Head Sustainable Recreation Plan	Feasibility project to deliver: AA screening, a biodiversity survey, trail design, landscape design, bike hub design. Final draft of Plan nearly completed following public consultation.	Ongoing 2026 – near completion
OR123WW01	Hollywood Natural Play Area	Provision of a natural play area within Ballysize forest. Awaiting sign off to publish tender, subject to Licence Agreement	30/07/2026
OR123WW06	Wicklow Uplands rebranding to Sugarloaf Way	Signage replacement along an 18km route. Signage contract awarded for 4 new trailheads will be erected at Raheen, Kilmacanogue, Great Sugarloaf, Mullinaveigue. Sign installation nearly complete	30/06/2026
OR223WW01	Baravore Car Park, Glenmalure	Car park upgrade works and fencing completed during November 2025. Multi-disciplinary design team appointed to prepare feasibility / scoping study	30/06/2027
OR223WW02	Three Trout's Bridge, Delgany	New bridge across Three Trout stream, linking 2 sections of the pathfinder route. Consent process to progress managed by MD office – under review	Q4 2026
OR223WW03	Tinahely New Loop Trail	Project decommissioned due to landownership constraints	N/A
ORIS 2024	Project Name	Brief description	Completion
OR424WW01	Disability and Outdoor Recreation	Creation of a strategy and work plan to ensure accessibility for walking, cycling and water access for the disabled community in Co Wicklow. Background specification underway to identify available/usable sites for 2 x water, 2 x bike and 2 x trail access for exploration in the study.	26/02/27
OR124WW01	Brockagh Forest Science and Discovery Area	Provision of rustic, timber exploration, science tables, magnifying glasses play equipment and seating in Brockagh Forest. Awaiting licence agreement prior to tender for contract	26/02/27
OR124WW02	Wicklow Harbour Sea-Trac	Installation of a Sea-Trac system in Wicklow Harbour to create independent swimming access for those with a physical disability. Tender awarded	26/02/27
OR124WW03	Vartry Anglers Disabled Access	Disabled access to the lakeshore with 320m of new trail surfacing for wheelchair use and installation of a self-contained eco toilet and tree planting. Project under review	TBC
OR124WW04	Wild Swimming Infrastructure	Installation of changing screens at 4 locations where wild swimming is popular throughout Wicklow. Bike shelter installation at 3 of those locations.	26/02/27
OR224WW01	Glen Turn Cliff Walk	Complete surface upgrade and drainage work on cliff walk trail.	30/11/27
OR224WW02	Russelstown Link to Russborough House	Proposed trail linking Russelstown Wood to Russborough House & Park. Tender for planning development being evaluated	30/11/27

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OR324WW01	Djouce Mountain Trail construction and habitat restoration	Djouce Mountain trail construction works to improve safety issues and restore habitat. Draft MOU and route planning discussed with NPWS and Powerscourt estate. Works specification tender awarded.	30/11/27
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WICKLOW SPORTS & RECREATION PARTNERSHIP

Training & Education

Activity	Venue	Date
Safeguarding 1	Online	18th May 2026
Safeguarding 2	Online	27th May 2026

General Programmes: Bike Week was funded by the National Transport Authority and coordinated locally by Wicklow Sports & Recreation Partnership, with funding of €25,624 received for the 2026 programme. Over 20 free events were delivered across the county, with activities taking place in both East and West Wicklow. The programme received very positive feedback from participants and local communities. The highlight of the week was the Bike Week Festival in Wicklow Town, which saw hundreds of people take part on two wheels throughout the day. Overall, the programme successfully promoted cycling participation, community engagement, and active travel across all age groups.

Inclusive Programmes

Learn to Cycle – Rathnew: A six-week Learn to Cycle programme concluded on Thursday, 21st May at Rathnew Soccer Club. The initiative was well attended, with 21 participants taking part over the course of the programme, developing their cycling skills in a supportive environment.

Sensory Swim: Wicklow Sports and Recreation Partnership hosted a sensory swim session at Coral Leisure Arklow on Sunday, 24th May, from 4:00pm to 5:00pm. The calm and inclusive session provided a relaxed environment, benefiting 10 families.

ESF+

Social Integration Soccer - In collaboration with the LAIT, using funding from CYPSC 60 children from youth at risk groups and IPAS centres in Blessington completed their 6-week social integration soccer programme. All children received a full adidas kit.

Teenage Girl Olympic Lifting - 8 teenage girls from a Youth at risk group took part in a taster session for Olympic lifting before starting a 6-week programme in June.

Cycle & Kayak - 17 Youths from LGBTQ & Young girls group took part in a cycle & Kayak session during bike week.

Tony10 Talk – 18 Young people from Ballywaltrim attended a Gambling Awareness Workshop on 20th May with Tony O'Reilly.

Shelton Abbey Football Programme – 18 prisoners in Shelton Abbey have started an 8-week football & coaching programme in the lead up to the open prison tournament in July.

Cross Care – while waiting for the Growth on the Green Golf programme & Badminton programme to begin, both groups have continued designing new creative games for playing outdoors to maintain an increase in physical activity levels.

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Physical Activity for Health Programmes

Chronic Condition Programmes

Programme	Venue	Start Date	No. of Weeks	No. of Attendees	Funding
Woodlands for Health	Recovery Village, Newcastle	12 th April – 29 th June	10- weeks	16	HSE Seed Funding
Get Active, Stay Active	Shoreline Leisure, Greystones	22 nd April – 10 th June	6- weeks	12	HSE Seed Funding
Stronger for Life	St. Kevins Community Centre, Blessington	28 th April – 16 th June	8- weeks	28	HSE Seed Funding
Active Bones	Coral Leisure, Wicklow Town	Mondays 18 th & 22 nd May	8-weeks	18	HSE Seed Funding
Active Bones	Tinahely Sports Hall	13 th May – 1 st July	8-weeks	12	HSE Seed Funding
Bray Outdoor Mobility Programme	Bray Promenade	21 st April – 26 th May	8 weeks	12	HSE Grant Aid Funding
Circuit Programme	Shoreline Leisure, Bray	22 nd May – 26 th June	6-weeks	10	HSE Grant Aid Funding

Up Coming Programmes for People with Chronic Conditions

- **Prime Time of Life**, Ballywaltrim community Centre, starting Tuesday 2nd June for 11- weeks. Sláintecare Healthy Communities Funding.

LIBRARY SERVICE

CALLS FOR URGENT MEETING TO DEAL WITH SCHOOL PLACES CRISIS p5

Jeweller sees surge in orders after Mala Dunphy sports her earrings p10

Bray People

Wednesday, June 10, 2026 €4.00

Inaugural music festival is postponed for a year

Craig David gig is delayed because of policing demands linked to Ireland's EU Presidency

TOM GALVIN
Plans for an inaugural new outdoor concert series in Bray this summer have been postponed, with organisers confirming the event will now take place in August 2027 due to a clash over a combination of factors, including the 2027 Ireland's EU Presidency.

The Under The Stars event, with Craig David among the headline acts, had been scheduled for the 'Bray Festival' grounds in August 2026, but has now been moved to August 2027, after the organisers of the event, who are based in the town, said they could not proceed as planned.

Despite the delay, organisers say the series is now in a position to proceed for next year, subject to continued cooperation with local authorities and other stakeholders.

The inaugural event, which will be held on the grounds of the town's main park, is expected to attract around 10,000 people.

Blowing bubbles: All smiles at library workshop

Blair and Peter Glynn at the glass bubble workshop at Bray Library as part of the Enniskerry 100 celebrations. Photograph: Laura Heffernan



Plans for 91 homes on lands linked to historic estate

TOM GALVIN

Anger brewing over plans for 91 new homes on lands linked to the historic Penrose estate, as the town's council faces a challenge from the local community.

The plans, which include a mix of residential and commercial development, have been met with opposition from the local community, who are concerned about the impact on the historic estate and the surrounding area.

The council has defended the plans, stating that they are necessary to meet the town's growing demand for housing and to revitalize the area.

The dispute is expected to continue for some time, with the council and the local community both determined to see their way through.



Photos: Bray Library on the cover of Bray People & some special visitors to Enniskerry Library

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Overview

June is a particularly busy month across Wicklow Libraries, marked by major national initiatives including Cruinniú na nÓg, the launch of Summer Stars, Pride Month alongside a broad programme of regular community engagement activities. Wicklow Library branches serve as inclusive and welcoming community spaces, supporting learning, creativity and wellbeing while attracting strong engagement across all age groups.

National Initiative: Cruinniú na nÓg

This National initiative from Creative Ireland took place on Saturday June 6th and celebrates creativity for a day with free events across the country for children and young people. This year's theme was "Unleash your creative spark!" and Wicklow Libraries embraced the theme through a diverse programme of events and activities which covered STEM and digital sessions, live performances and demonstrations and some fun interactive events which drew large crowds.

Selected highlights include:

Arklow Library	Stained glass workshop, tote bag printing, lino printing, vocal workshop, ukulele workshop, kite-making workshop, and a Wicklow Miners CCE demonstration and performance.
Ballywaltrim Library	Kite-making and felting workshops, and a magic show with Reuben the Magician.
Blessington Library	Minecraft workshop and a nature walk with Pat Hunt, including the opportunity to use a high-powered microscope to examine leaves, mushrooms and other natural materials.
Greystones Library	Storytelling with Helena Byrne, poster painting with Nicola Sedgwick, kite making, a Little Library Bags visit and story time at Convent Montessori, as well as poetry, creative writing and STEM workshops.
Wicklow Town Library	Kite-making workshop, cartoon animal drawing workshop, Minecraft workshop, Little Library Bags bookmark activity, story time, and a felting workshop where participants created their own dinosaur.
Bray Library	Irish-language author workshop with Sadhbh Devlin based on Gruaig Aine, comic book workshops with Kate Escolin, and giant bubbles and balloon sword battles, attracting over 100 attendees.
Enniskerry Library	A visit from K2 Alpacas alongside a range of alpaca-themed creative craft activities.

Summer Stars & Early Years Engagement

The annual **Summer Stars** national reading programme is back for another exciting summer! This programme continues to be a key driver of early literacy and family engagement and comes under the Right to Read campaign. As schools across the County break for the holidays, our libraries step in to help keep young readers inspired, while making reading fun for the whole family. Staff across all branches are enthusiastically championing the initiative through direct engagement with children and families, contributing to strong early uptake and community interest.

Libraries are delivering the Summer Stars initiative in the following ways:

- Hosting sign-up drives, school visits and outreach visits to schools
- Sign-up booklets, bookmarks and other incentives such as activity books (Wicklow Library) and a community star wall (Ballywaltrim Library) and Tree of names window display (Carnew Library)
- Spot prizes and end of programme prizes to be won including lots of vouchers from local businesses
- Linking with the My Little Library Bag initiative and promotions
- Delivering family-focused launch events, including a Family Puppet Show (Ballywaltrim Library)

Community & Inclusion

Some examples of how libraries are supporting the community this month:

- Refugee Week: Book displays & film screenings including: *Courage in our world, our culture and in our lives in Film* (Arklow Library)
- Community Integration Forum in partnership with local stakeholders (Blessington Library)
- Bray and North Wicklow Area Partnership CARA services workshop: Healthy Eating on a Budget (Ballywaltrim)
- Ongoing partnerships with organisations such as HSE, KWETB and community groups
- Support groups including carers' groups, integration forums and wellbeing sessions, Chime Outreach Clinic for Deaf/Hard of Hearing People, Tuatha – Male Carers Support Group, Alzheimer's Society of Ireland – Young Onset Group Therapy
- Inclusive initiatives such as sensory spaces and accessible programming

Interesting/Notable highlights

- Forensic Crime Psychologist Eric Shepherd – Listening and communication talk (Wicklow Library)

Chief Executive's Report – June 2026

- Online chess lessons for students in collaboration with local secondary schools and the launch of *Teen-time* for the summer, with crafts and chess (Ballywaltrim Library)
- Pride-related programming – a talk from the translator who translated the first three *Heartstopper* graphic novel series from English into Irish (Ballywaltrim Library)
- Meditation with Simon from Heartfulness Ireland (Arklow Library)
- Life Cycle of a Butterfly workshop with Viktoriia Bihun (Greystones Library)
- Strong engagement with fully booked creative writing and history groups (Blessington Library)

Core Library Activity

Across all branches, libraries continue to deliver a consistent and high-demand programme of services, including:

- Storytimes, rhyme times and class visits
- Book clubs for children, young adults and adults
- Arts & crafts and STEM activities
- Digital literacy and IT support
- Language conversation groups
- Community meetings and support services
- School and Early Learning Centre visits, outreach initiatives, study spaces and partnerships with local organisations.

These regular activities remain the backbone of library service delivery and continue to attract strong participation.

ARTS OFFICE AND CREATIVE IRELAND

County Wicklow Creative Ireland Team

Co. Wicklow represented at the national launch of Cruinniú

Co. Wicklow was represented by 11-year-old Siena Ní Mhurchú from Gaelscoil Na Gcloch Liatha during the official Cruinniú launch by Minister O'Donovan at TU Dublin Grangegorman on 18th May. Coverage of the event was featured on RTE, Cula4 and in print media.



Cruinniú na nÓg 2026 in Wicklow – 6th June 2026

Hundreds of children and young people from Co. Wicklow joined 54 free events in 23 locations across the county (exact statistics to follow). This year's ambitious program featured a diverse and extensive line-up of events, activities and workshops designed to inspire creativity. All events and activities were free. Children and young people engaged in music, dance, STEM activities, poetry, visual arts, and many more. Many events, performances, and workshops took place in the local libraries, art centres and other venues across the county. Children could enjoy anything from kite making to filmmaking, dance, crafts, printmaking, felting, singing, storytelling, Minecraft, comedy, traditional music, giant bubble making and even an innovative Alpaca crafts workshop in Enniskerry library Cruinniú na nÓg 2026
<https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Arts-Heritage-Archives/Arts/Programmes-/Cruinniu>

The innovative Cruinniú na nÓg social media campaign reached over 114,000 people in Co. Wicklow and beyond, up to date.

Chief Executive's Report – June 2026

28 News

Bray People
Wednesday, June 10, 2026

Celebrating creativity: More than 50 free events took place



Julia, Oliver and Grace Harkin at the Creative Imaginations event at Greengarden Library. Photo: Loughlin.



Best Friends Dance Company and young people from the family poetry workshop at The Whale in Greengarden.

Young imaginations shine at Cruinniú na nÓg events

TOM GALVIN

Cruinniú na nÓg returned to County Wicklow on Saturday. There is a wide selection of free events for young people and their families, including workshops, talks, and performances. The events are designed to inspire creativity and imagination in young people, and to provide a chance for them to share their ideas and talents with others.

Over 50 free events took place across the county, including workshops, talks, and performances. The events were held in a variety of venues, including libraries, community centres, and schools. The events were designed to inspire creativity and imagination in young people, and to provide a chance for them to share their ideas and talents with others.

Each event was designed to be fun and engaging, and to provide a chance for young people to learn new skills and techniques. The events were held in a variety of venues, including libraries, community centres, and schools. The events were designed to inspire creativity and imagination in young people, and to provide a chance for them to share their ideas and talents with others.

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Laura, Nicola and Henry Byrne.



Oliver Brown and Nicola Kinnaird at the Whale in Greengarden for the children's poetry workshop.



Sam, Tommy and India Brown at Killybeggy Bray for the Creative Fun with Mr. And The Moon.



Benjamin McPherson, Julia Anne O'Neill, Rose McPherson, Lyndie O'Donnell, and all the other children and adults who took part in the Creative Fun with Mr. And The Moon.



James and Amy Kelly at Killybeggy Bray for the Creative Fun with Mr. And The Moon.



Conor James and Amy Kelly at Killybeggy Bray for the Creative Fun with Mr. And The Moon.



Children and adults at Greengarden Library for the Creative Fun with Mr. And The Moon.



Oliver Brown and Nicola Kinnaird at the Whale in Greengarden for the children's poetry workshop.



Benjamin McPherson, Julia Anne O'Neill, Rose McPherson, Lyndie O'Donnell, and all the other children and adults who took part in the Creative Fun with Mr. And The Moon.

2026

Cruinniú na nÓg

a day of free creativity for young people in County Wicklow

For booking and more details, please visit
cruinniu.gov.ie and click to Wicklow

Sat 6 June

Arklow

AMA - Stained Glass Workshop

Arklow Library
10.10-10.45 am

Design Your Own Tote Bag

Arklow Library
10.30-12 pm

AMA - Vocal Workshop with Denise Brennan

Arklow Library
10.45-11.45 am

AMA - Ukulele Workshop

Arklow Library
11.45-12.45 pm

AMA - Irish Trad Music and Dance

Arklow Library
12.30-1.30 pm

Lino Printing with Terry Lawless

Arklow Library
1-4 pm

Kite Making Workshop

Arklow Library
3.45-4.45 pm

Ballinglass

Music and Movement for Babies and Toddlers

Ballinglass Library
10-11 am

Moves of Belonging

Stratford Lodge
12-1 pm

Echoes from the Hills - A Neolithic Mosaic for Scoll Naomh Iosaif

Scoll Naomh Iosaif
1.30-2.30 pm

Little Makers: Garden Creatures Workshop

Tearmann Community Gardens
2-3 pm, 3-4 pm, 4-5 pm

Threads of the Touth: A Botanical Yarn Trail

Tearmann Community Gardens
2-3.20 pm, 3.40-5 pm

Pathways Home

Tearmann Community Gardens
4-5 pm

Blessington

Minecraft Lab

Blessington Library
10-11.30 am

Little Explorers Nature Walk & Creative Workshop

Blessington Library
10.30-12 pm

Printing in Nature at Russborough House

Russborough House
10.30-11.30 am, 12-1.30 pm, 2.30-4 pm

Podcasting Lab

Blessington Library
3-5 pm

Bray

Gravely Áine le Sathbh Devlin

Bray Library
10-11 am

Construct Fun!

The Stable Studio, Killruehy House
10-11 am, 11-12 pm, 12-1 pm, 2-3 pm, 3-4 pm

Kite Making Workshop

Ballywaltrim Library
10-11 am

Pop up Comic Club with TinyGreens

Bray Library
11.30-1.30

Raise Your Spear

The Mermaid Arts Centre
12-2 pm

Mark Making with Bray Lakers

Bray Lakers - In-house event
1-3 pm

Mr Sands Youth Theatre

Wolfe Tone Community Centre
2-3.30 pm

Needle Felting - create your own dinosaur

Ballywaltrim Library
2-4 pm

Giant Bubble Workshop with The Bubble Guys

Bray Library
2-4 pm

Enniskerry

The Alpaca Crafts

Enniskerry Library
10-12 pm

Greystones

DJ Workshop with Helena the Storyteller and DJ Sean

Greystones Library
10-11 am

Our Place - Family Poetry Workshop

The Whale Theatre
10.30-12 pm

Kite Making Workshop

Greystones Library
11.45-12.45 pm

Our Place - Children's Haiku Workshop

The Whale Theatre
12.15-1.45 pm

Our Place - Art Poetry Workshop

The Whale Theatre
2-3.30 pm

Create Your Own Personal Poster

Greystones Library
3-4.30 pm

Rathdrum

Family Magic and Comedy Show with Reuben

Rathdrum Library
10.30-11.30 am

Rathnew

Help Your Child Unleash Their Inner Filmmaker

ScreenHub, Clermont House
10-12 pm

Dance Together - Lyrical Choreography Workshop

Our Space Movement and Wellness Centre
11-12.15 pm

Dance Together - Hip Hop Choreography Workshop

Our Space Movement and Wellness Centre
12.30-2 pm

Make a Movie on Your Mobile: A Workshop for Young Creators!

ScreenHub, Clermont House
1-3 pm

Tinahely

Felling with Miriam Brady

Tinahely Library
11-12 pm

Clorcal Ceoil

Courthouse Arts Centre
11-12 pm

Tetra Pak Printmaking

Courthouse Arts Centre
2-3 pm

Wicklow Town

Cartoon Animals Drawing Workshop

Wicklow Town Library
12-1 pm

Go Fly A Kite!

Wicklow Town Library
1.45-2.45 pm

Minecraft - "New Tricks" Workshop

Wicklow Town Library
2-4.30 pm

Dance Together - Emerging Young Choreographer's Platform

Wicklow Community Resource Centre
3-5 pm



Scan here for more details about events in Wicklow

County Wicklow Council

Wicklow County Council

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Chief Executive's Report – June 2026

Transportation & Infrastructure Delivery

Transportation

Public Lighting Maintenance

Please find attached the latest update on the outstanding public faults. The total number of faults currently (15/06/2026) outstanding stands at 270 – 1.641% of total stock of 16,430. Please note that some of these faults are dependent on ESB attendance and co-operation and we have ongoing liaison with the ESB to repair these faults, and progress has been made to repair long standing faults. A large number of faults also require civil works or infrastructure installations to undertake the repair; a number of these faults have been completed, and others are currently in progress. A total of 103 faults were attended in May, while 114 faults were reported during the month.

Status	ARKLOW MD	BALTINGLASS MD	BRAY MD	GREYSTONES MD	WICKLOW MD	Grand Total
Faults Reported – May	53	1	14	26	20	114
Faults Attended – May	29	2	37	21	14	103
No Supply						0
Access Issues (Attended)	2	1	6	1	5	15
Cable Fault (Attended)			3		2	5
Civils	2		5		11	18
Council Approval				4		4
ESB Notified	13	24	9	5	15	66
ESB Required	5	10	16	7	8	46
On Hold	1	1	11	3	2	18
PLEEP Fault	3	2	2	2	2	11
Submitted	19	7	3	3	13	45
TMR	9		10	3	5	27
Tree Cutting Required	2	1	8	2	2	15
Grand Total	56	46	73	30	65	270
Percentage not working	1.70%	1.87%	2.09%	0.95%	1.61%	1.64%
No. of Lamps	3301	2459	3488	3150	4032	16430
Percentage of Total Lamps	20%	15%	21%	19%	24%	100%

Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project (PLEEP)

The retrofitting of lanterns has commenced in all MDs with c. 1,568 lanterns upgraded to date (27/03/2026).

Chief Executive's Report – June 2026

Transportation Statistics

	Total 2024	Total 2025	Total 2026	April 2026	May 2026
Solicitors Queries	1014	1065	475	90	112
Road closure Applications	53	56	27	3	9
Road Opening Licences	1254	1494	534	104	122
Abnormal Load Applications	50	33	22	4	5

National Roads Projects

Junction 4 to 14 Improvement Scheme

The scheme is currently suspended as no funding is provided. The Wicklow County Council project team are continuing to meet with the public and any interested parties. Visit www.n11m11.ie for more details.

M11N11 Bus Priority Interim Scheme

The Phase 3 design and environmental evaluation work is progressing with submission to An Coimisiún Pleanála expected in Q2 2028.

Bulletin #8 – Project Status & Commencement of Phase 3 was published in April 2026 on the project website www.n11m11bpis.ie

The project team will continue to engage with all stakeholders as the project progresses through its various phases.

N11 Junction 12 Road Safety Improvement Scheme

A Feasibility and Options report was submitted to TII in July 2025 for approval and funding for proposed improvements to the southbound diverge ramp at the Garden Village / Newtownmountkennedy exit. TII's response advised that funding is not currently available to progress this scheme at this time.

N11 Kilpedder 'Rat-Run' Road Safety Improvement Scheme

The primary objective of the scheme is to address recurring safety issues and rat running during peak hours through the village and area of Kilpedder. The scheme aims to eliminate this rat-running through residential areas, enhance pedestrian and cyclist safety, and improve public transport accessibility. The scheme also aims to improve safety on the mainline of the N11.

The Phase 3 Design Report has been approved by TII on 09/02/26.

A public consultation under Part 8 took place between 29th April 2026 and 28th May 2026 with an in-person Public Information Event held in the Glenview Hotel on the 14th of May 2026 between 4:00pm and 8:00pm. Submissions were accepted up until 12th June 2026. Full details including a summary presentation are available on the Council's Online Consultation Hub at www.wicklow.ie/Living/ConsultationHub.

Chief Executive's Report – June 2026

The scheme had been screened for the requirement of an Appropriate Assessment and Environmental Impact Assessment, and it was determined that neither was required. The screening reports and determinations were included in the Part 8 documents. Nevertheless, a third-party application has been received by An Coimisiún Pleanála for their screening determination as to whether an EIA and/or an AA is required.

N11/M11 Strategic Bus Park & Ride Facilities

Proposals for bus-based Park & Ride facilities are being progressed adjacent to the N11/M11 at Junctions 6 (Fassaroe), Junction 11 (Kilpedder) and Junction 16 (Ashford/Rathnew).

- The Park & Ride at Junction 6 Fassaroe commenced construction work in April 2025. Commissioning and testing by the NTA have commenced and is ongoing. Opening expected in 2026.
- The Bus Park & Ride at Junction 16 (Ashford/Rathnew) was approved by the Elected Members at the meeting of the full Council in March 2025. Land purchase has been completed. Construction is expected to commence later in 2026 subject to funding being available.
- The preliminary design for the Bus Park & Ride at Junction 11 (Kilpedder) is being progressed in conjunction with the NTA Park & Ride Delivery Office. Lodgement to An Coimisiún Pleanála is expected in 2027.

N81 Hollywood Cross to Tallaght Road Improvement Scheme

The preferred route corridor was published in 2016. The scheme is not included in the National Development Plan.

N81 Whitestown Lower Project; and N81 Hangman's Bend and Tuckmill Project

Following completion of Phase 1 feasibility studies (The N81 Four Studies – Feasibility Report), Wicklow County Council are now progressing the following two projects:

- N81 Whitestown Lower Project; and
- N81 Hangman's Bend and Tuckmill Project.

The Phase 2 Preferred Option was published in October 2025 on the project website www.N81whitestownandtuckmill.ie. The project team is currently progressing at Phase 3 (Design & Environmental Evaluation).

N81 Hollywood Cross Rural Traffic Calming Road Safety Improvement Scheme (RSIS)

The construction contractor was appointed and commenced in July 2025. The construction was substantially completed in March 2026. The bus shelters were installed at the end of April 2026. Snagging and landscaping are continuing.

Park & Ride/Share at Hollywood

A suitable P&R location, that can be accessed from the regional road is being investigated. Based on this location, a supplementary Feasibility and Options Report and request for funding approval was formally submitted to TII on 20th May 2026.

TII's response on the 11th of June 2026 refused funding stating that *"Without the relocation of the parking and bus stop" (from Annalecky) "to Hollywood there is no safety improvement evident in the submitted F&O report. As the proposal does not address the safety concern identified, safety funding is not applicable in this instance."*

WCC advised that whilst the removal of N81 parking at Annalecky is likely to be supported, the removal of the Annalecky bus stops altogether would be problematic as they will continue to support local use.

N81 Blessington Gateway Project

Wicklow County Council are progressing this project at the design phase (Phase 3) to be followed by any necessary statutory approvals process (Phase 4).

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N81 Baltinglass South Gateway Project

The Feasibility and Options report (Phase 2) for the proposed scheme on the southern approach to Baltinglass was approved by TII on 22nd October 2025. The tender to procure a Technical Consultant to progress the scheme through to next phases was published in December 2025. The Technical Consultant was appointed in June 2026 and is now progressing the Phase 3 design.

N81 Hearn's Cross

A Feasibility and Options Report is being prepared to support an application to TII for funding for road improvements.

N11M11 Resurfacing Works

Road resurfacing works will be carried out by the MMARC contractor on the N11 northbound between junction 7 and junction 5 between 22nd June and 18th July. A weekday nighttime road closure will be in effect with signed traffic diversions in place. A reduced road works speed limit order of 60km/h will also be in place.

Greenway & TII Active Travel Projects

Arklow to Shillelagh Greenway

The Technical Consultant for Phase 3 (Design and Environmental Evaluation) and Phase 4 (Statutory Processes) was completed in April 2026 with the appointment of a project consultant. The Phase 3 design and environmental evaluation work is progressing with submission to An Coimisiún Pleanála expected in Q2 2028.

Wicklow Greystones Greenway

non-statutory public consultation for the Emerging Preferred Route was undertaken in January and February 2026. The Public Consultation included two public display events taking place in Greystones and Wicklow. Submissions and observations were accepted up to 13th February 2026. Meetings are ongoing with landowners along the emerging preferred route. Any updates required following the Public Consultation will be undertaken and reflected in the Options Selection Report submitted to TII for the Phase 2 Options Selection Gateway Review approval. Following this TII approval, this route will advance to Phase 3 for Preliminary Design.

Blessington eGreenway

Wicklow County Council was notified by letter dated 04/12/2024 that An Bord Pleanála has refused permission for the Blessington Greenway. Wicklow County Council has examined the decision by An Bord Pleanála. In consideration of the time and resources that would be necessary to prepare a new and/or revised submission and the uncertainty regarding the potential for a successful outcome, Wicklow County Council is not currently in a position to dedicate resources to the progression of a greenway scheme at this location. Wicklow County Council's priority in the short term is to consider opportunities to progress with shorter locally based trails to extend on the existing routes. These trail schemes can build on and benefit from the work completed to date for the Blessington Greenway. However, these trails would not meet the criteria for TII Greenway Schemes and therefore are unlikely to attract TII funding. Accordingly, any such trails will need to be progressed at Municipal District level.

Kilmacanogue to Bray Southern Cross Active Travel Scheme

The Phase 3 design and EIA works are in progress and landowner meetings are ongoing.

Road Capital Projects

Blessington Inner Relief Road

Construction work is progressing with completion expected later in 2026.

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Chapel Road Pedestrian and Cycle Infrastructure Improvement Scheme - Wicklow County Council Compulsory Purchase No. 1 Order 2021

Construction work on the project commenced in April 2025. Section 1 construction works are complete and are fully open to the public. The road closure for Section 2 is in operation up to 30th September 2026. The original contract completion date for the full project was May 2026 with the contractor now reporting a completion date in September 2026.

Arklow Southern Port Access Road

A tender process is currently underway to appoint Technical Consultants to progress this project.

Active Travel Updates

Project Updates

Active Travel Bridge (Wicklow Train Station to Port Access Route) Pathfinder

New pedestrian and cycle bridge to be provided at Wicklow Train Station, linking Station Road to the Port Access Road. Bus and vehicle set down to be provided along with cycle parking. The acquisition of lands on northern side of rail line has been completed. Archaeological Testing completed. NTA Rail Infrastructure Team to advise in relation to the management of the project.

Wicklow Active Travel Pathfinder Project (Wicklow MD)

Provision of pedestrian and cycle improvements along the R750 and Station Road from Abbey Street carpark to Station Road Junction to improve linkage to Wicklow Train Station. Preliminary Design stage completed and approval received from the NTA to move to Statutory Stage. Atkins Realis appointed as consultants to manage the project through Phases 4-7. Design to be revised and submitted to NTA for approval.

Bray Bridge footbridges and tie ins (Bray MD)

New footbridges and alterations to the road to make provision for cyclists. Atkins are progressing with the preliminary design phase. Topographic/GPR surveys have been completed. Atkins to complete the Options Report for the new pedestrian bridge structures. Preliminary design for scheme to be progressed. Atkins to prepare tender documents for the Ground Investigation works.

Baltinglass Bridge Active Travel Scheme (Baltinglass MD)

Provision of improved facilities for pedestrians and cyclists at Baltinglass Bridge. Atkins Realis have completed the Options Selection Phase, and an emerging preferred option has been selected. The emerging preferred option is for the provision of a new pedestrian bridge structure on the north side of the existing bridge. Atkins are progressing with additional feasibility works - environmental, land acquisition, geotechnical etc. The recommended ecological surveys have been completed, and the ecological impact assessment report is being prepared. A Contract has been awarded for the proposed geotechnical investigation works. The GI works are scheduled to be completed in July. Ongoing consultation with the two affected landowners.

Greystones Pathfinder (Greystones MD) - Greystones Seafront to Charlesland Active Travel Provision

Provision of pedestrian and cycle improvement works to be completed along the public road linking Greystones Train Station with the Marina to the north and Charlesland to the south. Atkins Realis appointed as consultants to manage the project through Phases 4 -7 Preliminary Design completed and issued to NTA. Atkins appointed as consultants for Phase 4 - 7. Preliminary design issued to NTA and presented to Greystones MD Members. Part 8 to be prepared

Safe Routes to Schools: Kilmacanogue NS (Bray MD)

Provide infrastructure for schools to increase walking and cycling as the preferred travel mode where possible and improve safety at front of school. Section 38 non-statutory public consultation to be advertised in June following approval from the NTA.

Chief Executive's Report – June 2026

Convent Road Active Travel Scheme (Greystones MD)

The provision of new and improved pedestrian facilities on Convent Road, Delgany. The Preliminary Design Phase has been completed, and the project has progressed to Phase 4 – Statutory Processes. It has been identified that the Chief Executive's Report for the proposed Part 8 development was not completed within the statutory timeframe prescribed under the Planning and Development Regulations. To ensure procedural compliance, it is proposed to recommence the Part 8 process, including a new period of public consultation. This will commence on Wednesday 17th June.



Killincarrig Village Enhancement Scheme (Greystones MD)

The provision of new and improved pedestrian facilities on the R761 Kindlestown Lower Road, with new Public Lighting, and Public Realm improvements in Killincarrig Village. The Detailed Design phase is ongoing. A meeting was held with the Killincarrig Village Residents Association to update them on the latest design. Positive Feedback received. Construction works are scheduled to commence when the Chapel Road Scheme has been completed. Expected start date is Q4 2026

Blessington Main Street to Deerpark

WCC and NTA met to review preliminary design. NTA have approved gateway 2/3 pack to proceed to statutory process and Part 8. PART 8 to be advertised following approval of determination reports for environmental screenings.

Delgany Village Accessibility Scheme – Mill Road (Greystones MD)

The provision of new and improved pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure along Church Road, Delgany. The Scheme is at Phase 5 – Detailed Design and Procurement. The Consultant for the scheme, EGIS, have advised that they do not have resources available to continue working on this project. A tender process will be required to appoint a new consultant for the scheme.

Other Projects -

- **SRTS Round 3: Scoil Mhuire Realt na Mara HSRR*, Brittas Bay.**

The project will include Brittas Bay NS Safe Routes to School project. Brittas Bay footpath construction underway. Gateway 4 approval has been submitted to the NTA following the Section 38 for the SRTS element. The Phase 1 Brittas Bay footpath project has now been included in the Safe Routes to School project under the active travel program for 2026.

Chief Executive's Report – June 2026

- **SRTS Round 3: Scoil Mhuire na n-Aird**

Provide infrastructure for schools to increase walking and cycling as the preferred travel mode where possible and improve safety at front of school. An Taisce and WCC to engage with school on revised delivery report

- **Scalp Road Footpath, Enniskerry**

Provision of footpath along Scalp Road, Enniskerry. Topographical survey is complete. Tender to be prepared for consultant to carry out feasibility study.

- **Aughrim Road Pedestrian Crossing, Tinahely**

Provision of a new Zebra/Controlled Crossing and upgraded footpath to link Kilcommon National School to residential areas. Topographic survey completed. Works extended to include two additional pedestrian crossings on School Road. Section 38 consultation completed. Construction works ongoing.



- **Vale Road Pedestrian Improvement Scheme, Arklow**

Project extended to include 560m footpath, pedestrian crossing and access ramp at link to Coolgreaney Road. WCC to fund cost of ramp construction. Construction works ongoing.



- **Redford Park Junction, Greystones**

Redford Park Junction upgrade to provide improved pedestrian and cycle facilities Lidl have verbally confirmed the boundary lines with their solicitor. WCC waiting on written confirmation from Lidl

- **Bus Priority Little Bray**

Enhancement of bus and active travel infrastructure between Fassaroe Townland and Sunnybank Junction
Review drawing and options assessment as bridge in Rehill's development is no longer part of this plan and not feasible as part of river cycle way option. Draft Feasibility & Options Report under review with WCC

- **Wicklow MD Pedestrian Improvement Scheme**

2026 list of proposed locations to be submitted to Active Travel Team by WMD and issued to NTA for approval.

Chief Executive's Report – June 2026

- **Arklow MD Pedestrian Improvement Scheme**

Construction completed in Rathdrum and Avoca. 2 Pedestrian crossings to be completed as part of the Coolgreany Road improvement scheme which will be funded under Arklow MD Junction

Tightening Works.

- **Greystones MD Pedestrian Improvement Scheme**

Pedestrian crossing installed in Kilcoole. Awaiting ESB connection. Gateway 5 approval request issued to NTA for approval.

- **Baltinglass MD Pedestrian Improvement Scheme**

2026 list of locations to be listed in PGAF and issued to NTA for Gateway 5 approval.

Bus Stop Enhancement Programme

- New NTA BSEP tracker being actively populated from sources below to Outline Plan for BSEP that can be delivered in 2026 & into 2027. Includes Bus Shelter requests.
 - TFI/NTA directly
 - LA - CRM, MD's inputs.
 - Representations – Councillor / TD requests / SPC
 - Public Consultations
 - Reporting Safety / Accessibility Issues – directly TFI/LA
- SPC items from each MD have been added to the BSEP tracker. The requests are primarily Shelters, but locations noted also highlighted ancillary works also needed. NTA will these for suitability and will recommend level of works/progress required. Some items may overlap with Connecting Ireland (CI) works & some have already been installed.

New Projects in 2026

- **SRTS Round 4 Scoil Naomh Brid, Talbotstown**
Prepare brief Design support for round 4 schools
- **SRTS Round 4 St. Brigid's NS, Greystones**
Prepare brief Design support for round 4 schools
- **SRTS Round 4 St Brigid's NS. Manor Kilbride**
Prepare brief Design support for round 4 school
- **SRTS Round 4 Wicklow Educate Together**
Prepare brief Design support for round 4 schools
- **Deerpark Cycle Link, Bray –**
Phase 1 – PGAF approved. Consultant to be appointed to complete design.
- **Giltspur to Charnwood Active Travel Link -**
Phase 1 – PGAF approval to be sought from NTA
- **Arklow MD Permeability Links**
Phase 1 - 2026 list of 2026 list of locations to be listed in PGAF and issued to NTA for Gateway 5 approval.

Chief Executive's Report – June 2026

- **Arklow MD Junction Tightening works –**

GAF approved. Coolgreaney Road Pedestrian Improvement works scheme will use this funding to provide junction tightening and new pedestrian crossings on Coolgreaney Road. Consultant Engineers appointed to complete design for the scheme.

- **Bray MD pedestrian crossings**

GAFs to be submitted to crossings on Upper Dargle Road and Springfield Cemetery

Bridge Rehabilitation (Local and Regional Roads)

- Work complete at Carrigmore (Coolacork) Bridge, road reopened 24/05/2026.
- Flood emergency overflow installed at Porter's Bridge R750 Sea Road Arklow. Works Complete, road reopened 16/06/2026.
- Structural assessments of Colbinstown Bridge undertaken by consultants. Bridge Inspection report and load assessment report received from consultant. Progress meeting for Colbinstown Bridge to be held on the week of the 6th of July, to discuss bridge rehabilitation options.

Winter Maintenance

The season ended on the April 30th. Season stats are currently being compiled for assessment.

Between 18/04 and 30/04, over 13 nights there were 0 callouts.

Machinery Yard

- Framework Circle K cards usage is increasing, and all cards have been delivered.
- 3 new telescopic handlers have been received.

Road Maintenance Programme

The Road Maintenance Programme commenced 29/05/2026 and was substantially completed by the 15/06/2026.

Parking Income

January to May 2026

Parking Income by Municipal District	EURO
Bray Municipal District	€435,902.28
Greystones Municipal District	€158,057.86
Wicklow Municipal District	€207,849.23
Arklow Municipal District	€113,463.57
Parking Permits	€49,350.00
Parking Fines	€238,184.50
Wicklow County Council Total	€1,202,807.44

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Infrastructure Delivery

Affordable Housing Information as of 31st May 2026

Mariner's Point, Wicklow – 4 x Affordable Houses

- 4 x two-bedroom houses have been assigned. Liaison with applicants and our Legal Department

Lott Lane, Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow – 26 x Affordable Houses

- 26 Affordable houses have been approved. 24 x three-bedroom, 2 x two bedroom
- Due to launch Q4 2026
- Showhouse will be ready Q3 2026

Rockbrae, Bray, Co. Wicklow – 9 x Affordable Houses

- Application for 9 Affordable Houses at Rockbrae, Bray was approved 28/01/2026. Tender is out

Market Close, Dunlavin, Co. Wicklow – 7 x Affordable Houses

- AHF application for 4 Affordable Houses at Market Close, Dunlavin, was submitted 24/09/2025, approval granted 4/03/2026
- The sale of 3 x 3 bed terraced houses in Market Close has been Part V agreed

Housing Supply – Programme of Delivery

Schemes Recently Completed	UNITS	CURRENT STATUS
Ballard, Shillelagh	20	Completed and allocated
Merrymeting, Rathnew Phase 2	21	Completed and allocated
Liam Kavanagh Park, Ballynerrin	10	Completed and allocated
Cois Droichead, Greystones	41	Completed, allocated
Lugduff, Tinahely	20	Completed, allocated
5A Rednagh Road, Aughrim	1	Completed, allocated
Scheme on Site	Units	Current Status
Fassaroe, Bray	11	Completion expected Q3 2026
Lott Lane, Phase 2	26	Contractor on site. Completion expected Q4 2026.
Lott Lane, Kilcoole	75	Completion expected Q3 2026
1A Mill Road, Greystones	3	Completion expected Q3 2026
Merrymeting, Rathnew, Phase 3	7	Completion expected Q3 2026
Ballinahinch, Ashford	19	Completion expected Q4 2026
Pipeline Schemes	Units	Current Status
Central Garage, Old Conna Bray	16	Stage 2 submitted
Burgage More, Blessington PPP	106	Contractor on site
Rehills, Bray Phase 1	140	Options being considered
Rockbrae, Bray	53	Tender award imminent
Carrig Eden Tiglin	14	On hold
Ballyguile Rd, Wicklow	16	Stage 2 submitted
Burnaby, Greystones PPP	262	Options being considered
Tinahask, Arklow	74	Tender award imminent

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Tinahask PPP, Arklow	128	Options being considered
Sheephouse, Arklow	57	Stage 1 approved
Mountainview, Blessington	10	Tendered award imminent
Hawkstown Park Phase 2, Wicklow Design & Build	54	Detailed design and tender docs underway
Barndarrig Group Housing scheme for 3 houses and 17 social houses	20	Part 8 approved Oct 25
18 Old Conna, Bray	3	Part 8 approved Dec 25

Traveller accommodation

Capital Programme

Ballintreskin – 3 houses	Houses allocated
Avondale Heights, Rathdrum – 3 houses	Houses allocated
Barndarrig Group Housing scheme for 3 houses and 17 social houses	Part 8 approved October 25
Vale Road Arklow – 2 Units	Part 8 permission expected July

Fire safety annual checks on Halting sites for 2024 has been carried out.

Framework for consultants for one off housing projects Age Friendly/Disability Schemes has been awarded and in process of being established.

Tender for multiparty design consultant for Ballyguile Road (Hillview) Age Friendly Scheme mix of Housing/Community/Regeneration type works to be complete Q1 2025. Works Being done in coordination with the Housing Agency.

Our Age Friendly Scheme at The Greens Kilcoole was nominated for a LAMA award in 2024.

Energy Efficiency upgrades to Council Stock

Wicklow county council has an ongoing Programme of works retrofitting our council housing stock. The works selected and completed comply with our Energy Fabric Upgrade Policy that went through SPC in 2023. In 2024 we took on a second contractor from our framework to cover the Arklow, Tinahely Area. Work has been completed on 110 units by the end of the year. Monastery Grove Was Nominated for LAMA award 2024.

Part V

The following Part V units are due during 2026:

Location	No. of Units	Due for Delivery	Method
Wicklow	4	Delivery due Q2 2026	WCC
Roundwood	6	Delivery due Q3 2026	WCC
Baltinglass	7	3 Delivered Q2. Remainder due Q3 2026	WCC
Delgany	3	Delivered Q2 2026	WCC
Dunlavin	7	Delivery due Q2 to Q4 2026	WCC
Wicklow	7	Delivery due Q2 to Q3 2026	WCC
Newcastle	1	Delivered Q1 2026	WCC

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Delgany	6	2 delivered Q2. Remainder due Q3 2026	WCC
Wicklow	4	Delivery due Q3 2026	WCC
Arklow	2	Delivery due Q1 2027	WCC
Delgany	11	Delivered Q2 2026	WCC
Rathnew	19	Delivery due Q2 2026 to Q4 2026	WCC
Rathnew	16	Delivery due Q2/Q3 2026	WCC
Delgany	1	Delivered Q2	WCC
Kilcoole	1	Delivery due Q2	WCC
Enniskerry	8	Delivery due Q2 to Q3	WCC
Delgany	4	Delivery due Q3	WCC
Rathdrum	7	Delivered Q2 2026	CALF
Rathnew	15	Delivered Q1 2026	CALF
Wicklow	13	Delivered Q2 2026	CALF
Newcastle	5	Delivery due Q3 2026	CALF
Newtownmountkennedy	16	Delivery due Q2 2026	CALF
Bray	12	Delivery due Q2 2026	CALF

Potential units

Wicklow County Council currently has agreements in place for units in Delgany, Rathnew, Bray, Roundwood, Newtownmountkennedy, Baltinglass, Wicklow, Rathdrum, Newcastle and Arklow with delivery in 2026. This includes the units listed above. WCC is in negotiations in respect of over 100 further units with delivery dates yet to be confirmed.

Wicklow County Council is currently holding discussions with a number of developers at preplanning and planning stage. There are over 100 potential Part V units with planning permission but it's difficult to determine whether they will all proceed or even on what timescale.

Turnkey

The following Turnkey units are due during 2026:

Location	No. of Units	Due for Delivery	Method
Baltinglass	2	Delivery due Q2 2026	WCC
Roundwood	4	Delivery due Q2 2026	WCC
Delgany	1	Delivered Q2 2026	WCC
Arklow	2	Delivery due Q2 2026	WCC
Rathdrum	3	Delivered Q2 2026	CALF
Baltinglass	10	Delivered Q1 2026	CALF
Newcastle	11	Delivery due Q3 2026	CALF

- Negotiations are on-going with a number of Developers and AHB's in relation to acquiring further Turnkey units.

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- Expression of Interest for Turnkey Housing Developments/Housing Schemes and or land for the provision of social housing/affordable housing to be advertised in Q3.

Vacant Homes Scheme

Current Compulsory Purchase Orders on long term vacant houses around the county 2026.

No.	Property Location	Current Status
1.	114 Hillside, Greystones	Allocated.
2.	108 Charnwood, Bray	Allocated.
3.	36 Wheatfield, Bray	Allocated.
4.	10 Liam Mellows Avenue, Arklow	Works completed.

Further long-term vacant properties are currently being identified for future batches of CPOs.

Croí Cónaithe (Towns, Cities and Rural) – Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant

The Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant is a payment you can get if you are turning a vacant house or building into your permanent home or a rental property. The grant applies to qualifying vacant properties in cities, towns, villages and rural parts of the country.

There are 2 types of Grants available:

- Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant of up to €50,000
- Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant including the Derelict Property top up grant of up to €70,000

To qualify for the top up of €20,000, an independent report prepared by a Structural Engineer, along with a copy of their Professional Indemnity Insurance, is required to be submitted along with the application, confirming, to the satisfaction of the local authority, that the property is derelict i.e. structurally unsound and dangerous.

To qualify for the grant, applicants must:

Have proof of ownership or evidence of active negotiations to buy the property (that is, confirmation of engagement from the estate agent or owner of the property) where you are seeking approval in principle for a grant.

- Live in the property as your principal private residence or make it available for rent.
- Have proof that the property has been vacant for at least 2 years and that it was built up to and including 2007.

Number of Applications to date	327
Applications in progress/information requested from applicants to date	4
Applications Approved in Principle to date	165
Number of Applications paid to date	93
Value of 93 Grants paid out to date	€5,006,165.00
Applications withdrawn/Rejected to date	65

In addition, 3 new schemes have launched:

- The Expert Advice Grant (up to €5,000)
- The Vacant Above the Shop the Grant (up to €135,000)
- The Conversion of former Commercial/Public Use Building (up to €110,000)

Detailed information on all 3 schemes is available at www.wicklow.ie

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Integration and Emergency Response

Fire Service

Operational Fire Statistics April 2026

There were **191** incidents attended during the month of May 2026. Due to false alarms (non-incidents) and laid down procedures to mobilise two stations to potentially serious incident types, individual Fire Stations were mobilised on a total of **230 occasions** including **12** mobilisations in other counties. On no occasion did an incident commander request additional resources over what was prescribed in the Pre-Determined Attendance.

Operational activity for the month of May 2026 **increased by 48% (74 mobilisations) on the preceding month April 2026 (152 mobilisations)**. The expected annual trend for a decreased number of gorse fires in May did not occur, instead there was an increase of 15 incidents in the number when compared to April (from 35 to 50). At the same time there was an increase in mobilisations to RTC (+33). Small fires started maliciously in urban areas also had a significant impact on statistics, 31 mobilisations in total during the month of May.

There was a increase of 49% in operational activity for the month of May 2026 **over the equivalent month in 2025** (May 2025, 152 mobilisations). There was an increase in gorse fires (+36) an increase in mobilisations to RTCs (+21) and an increase in maliciously lit fires in urban areas (+8).

During the month of May 2026 11% of overall activity across the county was responding to fires in buildings, mainly domestic houses in the east of the county. 23% of mobilisations were to RTCs. 22% of mobilisations were to gorse fires and 14% of mobilisations were to maliciously set fires in urban areas. Bray Head and the Sugarloaf area accounted for approximately 25 fires attended over long duration in difficult conditions.

Incidents in County Kildare (6-incidents total, samples below):

- 03/05/2026 Blessington Fire Crew attended a car fire at Cupidstown, Killeel.
- 05/05/2026 Blessington Fire Crew supported a crew from Newbridge attended a single car RTC, car overturned near Fitzpatrick's Garage Naas.
- 09/05/2026 Baltinglass Fire Crew supported fire crews from Carlow Town and Athy at a 2-car RTC near Oak Park, Knocknagee.
- 17/05/2026 Blessington, Dunlavin and Baltinglass Fire Crews supported Naas fire crews at a hay barn fire in Broadleas Commons, Ballymore Eustace.

Incidents in County Wexford (5-incident total, samples below):

- 14/05/2026 Carnew crew supported an ambulance crew at an incident at Boley Lower, Camolin.
- 03/05/2026 Arklow Fire Crew supported Gorey crews at a domestic fire involving two mobile homes at Ballymoney.

Incidents in County Carlow (1-incident total, samples below):

- 30/05/2026 Tinahely Fire Crew supported units from Tullow and Hacketstown at a 2-car RTC at Ballinagilky, Hacketstown.

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Fire Prevention Statistics May 2026

Fire Safety Certificates (FSCs), Disability Access Certificates (DACs)

Application type	Received	Deemed Invalid, or withdrawn	Requested additional information	Inspections	Recommended for Grant
FSCs	9		4		4
Revised FSCs	0				
FSC 7-Day Notice	0				
Regularisation FSCs	0				
DACs	10		3		6
Revised DACs	0				
Dispensations / Relaxations	0				

30 planning files were referred to the Chief Fire Officer for comment in May. Observations were made on 28 files received.

Licensing	Received	Inspected	Request further info	Letter/ Licence Issued	No objection entered on Courts on-line Service
District	1	4	0	4	4
Circuit					
Dangerous Substances Act					
Explosive Act	1	1	0	1	0

Activities during the month of May included:

- A 5-day Pump Operators Course took place in Blessington with 12 personnel successfully completing the training.
- A meeting of the inter-agency Road Safety group took place on 12th May with a presentation from the RSA.
- A meeting of Wicklow County Council's Major Emergency Management Committee took place on 21st May to review Storm Chandra and to discuss Community Support Centres.

Building Control Statistics May 2026

Commencement Notices for May 2026:

- Commencement Notices Submitted: 43
- 11 Commencement Notices with Compliance Documents
- 29 Opt Out Declarations
- 6 Commencement Notices without Compliance Documents
- 0 Seven Day Notice

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Submission Statistics

- 67 % of Commencement Notices - Opt Out
- 67 % of Commencement Notices Revised Information required & requested = 29 No. Commencement Notices (CN) of which
 - 7 with Compliance Documentation (24%)
 - 20 are Opt Out (69%)
 - 2 Without Compliance Documentation (7%)
 - 0 Seven Day Notice (%)
- 29 Valid Commencement Notices
- 57 new build residential units
- 55 Apartments
- 9 domestic extensions
- 3 Non Res new builds
- 10 Invalidated CNs from May

Certificates of Completion processed in May 2026

- 20 New No. of CCC submitted
- 15 Required Revised Information (75%)
- 24 No. Validated
- 0 No. Invalid
- 44 new Residential units & 20 Apartments
- 6 Non Res. Builds

Submission Statistics

24 No. Validated CCCs related to;

- 7 No. CCCs submitted in April
- 17 No. CCCs submitted in May

**BCA not notified on completion of opt out developments

57 new residential houses, 55 apartments, 9 residential extensions and 3 Non-res buildings were notified to LA for Commencement & 44 newly residential units with an additional 20 apartments were for completion submitted, assessed and validated in May. This commencement figures would indicate that construction activity in Wicklow will continue to rise in 2026.

10 No. Commencement Notice submissions were invalidated this month; this is due to a joint direction by both NBCO & Dept of HLGH to LA's. Commencement Notice data extracted from BCMS is being used in the National Action Plan on Housing Supply. If Revised Information request have not been responded to by the Commencement Date, submissions are to be invalidated, so BCMS real time statistics can be extracted.

BER certificates for all newly completed units were requested & submitted to Building Control as per S.I. No. 243/2012 - European Union (Energy Performance of Buildings) Regulations 2012.

In May, Building Control increased site inspections to identify non-compliances with Building Regs onsite and 6 Section 11 Compliance Requests were issued. Building Control also carried out joint inspections with the Fire Service and the National Building Control Office.

Revised Information requests remained high in May for both Commencement Notices and Certificates of Compliance on Completion, 67% of Commencement Notice submissions & 75% of Certificate of Compliance on Completion submissions

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required revised information. Revised information requests are issued to nominated role holders of submissions when compliance with Building Regs has not been demonstrated.

Wicklow Building Control continues to perform standardised assessment of submissions at commencement stage and onsite presence during construction. These methods remain the best way to promote compliance with Building Regs.

Building Control staff continue to contribute to the NDFEM Codes of Practice Subgroup on a weekly basis both online and in person.

Civil Defence

Overview

May was a busy and productive month for Civil Defence Wicklow, with volunteers supporting community events, delivering training, engaging with local groups, and continuing to develop operational capabilities.

Operational Duties & Event Support

- Wicklow Mountain Bike Festival – Ballinastoe Woods

Civil Defence Wicklow provided medical and operational support during the Wicklow Mountain Bike Festival, held over three days from 8th to 10th May. Volunteers were deployed throughout the event to ensure participant safety and provide medical response as required.



- Darkness Into Light – Baltinglass

Volunteers provided first aid cover and event support for the Darkness into Light walk in Baltinglass. This annual community event was well attended, and our crews were on hand to support participants throughout the event.



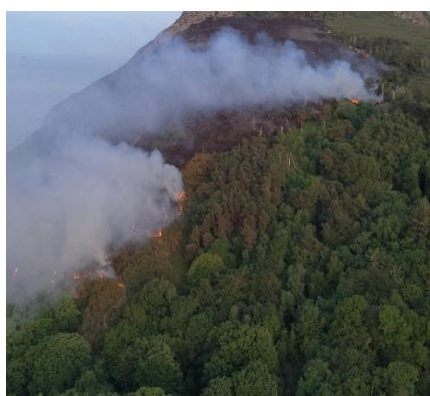
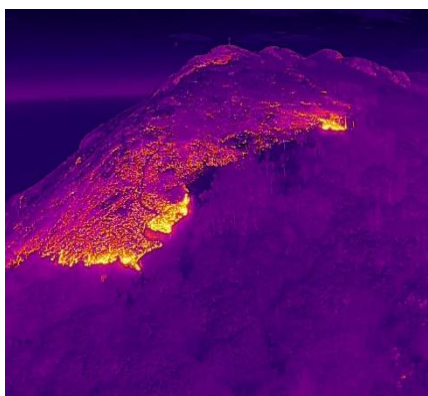
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- Bike Week Festival – The Murrough, Wicklow Town

Civil Defence assisted Wicklow Sports and Recreation Partnership by providing first aid cover and public safety support during the Bike Week Festival held on the Murrough in Wicklow Town, helping to ensure a safe and enjoyable event for all attendees.

- Drone Support – Wildfire Bray Head

On 28th and 29th May, Wicklow Civil Defence provided vital drone support to Wicklow Fire Service during a significant wildfire incident on Bray Head. Civil Defence drone operators supplied real-time thermal imagery and situational awareness, enabling fire crews to monitor the spread of the fire, identify hotspots, and deploy resources more effectively. The collaboration between both services played an important role in supporting firefighting operations and helping to protect the local environment and surrounding areas.



Training & Development

- First Aid Responder (FAR) Course

A First Aid Responder course was delivered over a weekend during May. Volunteers successfully completed training designed to enhance medical response capability within the unit and strengthen operational readiness.

- Generator Training – Carlow

The Civil Defence Officer attended specialist generator training in Carlow, developing knowledge and practical skills in the deployment and operation of emergency power generation equipment.

- Ongoing Unit Training

Regular training continued throughout the month across several disciplines, ensuring volunteers maintain competency and preparedness in line with operational requirements.

Community Engagement

- Scout Group Visit

A local Scout Group visited the unit to learn more about Civil Defence, our role within the community, and the various skills and capabilities volunteers develop through their service. The visit provided an excellent opportunity to engage with young people and promote volunteerism.

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- Lifeguard First Aid Presentation

The Assistant Civil Defence Officer delivered a presentation to a group of upcoming lifeguards, focusing on first aid principles and emergency response. This engagement supported the development of essential skills among future lifeguards and strengthened relationships with partner organisations.

Wicklow Integration Services

1) Wicklow Community Integration Forum

- Meetings

The Wicklow CIF East Regional Group held its most recent meeting at County Wicklow Partnership, Arklow, on the 26th of May 2026. And the Wicklow CIF West Regional Group held its most recent meeting at Blessington Library, on the 4th June 2026.

These meetings provided an important opportunity for members to come together and reflect on progress made since the previous meeting on the 26th of March 2026. The primary focus was to further strengthen collaboration across the CIF members' network and to finalise the Regional Group Directories.

Members revisited the infographics developed at previous sessions, which highlighted key strengths, good practices, and areas of challenge for their respective organisations. Building on this work, the group began drafting its first regional workplan and identified priority areas for action across East and West Wicklow.

Policy updates were also shared with members, including information on new measures relating to Ukrainian citizens holding Temporary Protection status.



The Wicklow CIF East Regional Group held a follow up meeting online on the 25th June 2026 to review and amend the first draft of the East workplan.

- Wicklow CIF – Visibility Awards

Members of the Wicklow Community Integration Forum, which included the Wicklow Local Authority Integration Team, County Wicklow Partnership and Wicklow Volunteer Centre, proudly collaborated on the Dignity Partnership's 6th Visibility Awards, which took place on the 13th of June 2026 at Clermont House in Rathnew.

The event was a wonderful celebration of inclusion, diversity and the strength of community, recognising the contributions of individuals and organisations who work tirelessly to create a more welcoming and connected County Wicklow. Through partnership and shared commitment, the Visibility Awards highlighted the positive impact that collaboration can have in fostering understanding, equality and belonging for all.

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Bringing together community groups, volunteers, local organisations and residents, the awards showcased the power of people working together to build an inclusive society where every voice is valued and every person has the opportunity to thrive. The afternoon was not only an occasion to honour achievements, but also an opportunity to celebrate the rich diversity of the county and to reaffirm a collective commitment to dignity, respect and community spirit.



- Refugee Week

From the 15th –21st June 2026, Wicklow Integration Services joined communities across Ireland and around the world in marking Refugee Week, an annual celebration of the strength, resilience and contributions of refugees and people seeking protection.

Refugee Week takes place every year around World Refugee Day (20th of June) and has grown into a global movement involving more than two million participants across over 20 countries. At its heart, Refugee Week is a celebration of diversity, inclusion, community and belonging. It is an opportunity to recognise the many ways refugees enrich our workplaces, communities and society through their skills, talents, experiences, cultures, and perspectives. Refugees make valuable contributions across every sector, helping to strengthen the social, cultural, and economic fabric of our communities.

This year's theme is "**Courage**".

In Ireland, courage takes many forms. It can mean navigating unfamiliar systems, learning a new language, building a life in a new country, finding employment, or helping children settle into new schools and communities. It is the determination to begin again despite uncertainty and challenge.

Courage is also demonstrated by those who offer support, friendship, and welcome. It is shown by volunteers giving their time, sports clubs opening their doors, neighbours reaching out, families offering practical support, and communities standing up for fairness, dignity, and inclusion. Sometimes courage is found in simple everyday actions – offering a smile, sharing a conversation, inviting someone to join a local activity, or helping a newcomer feel that they belong.

As an organisation, we recognise that providing protection to people fleeing conflict, persecution and hardship reflects our shared values of respect, dignity, equality, and compassion. Supporting those in need of protection is not only a humanitarian responsibility but also a reflection of the kind of inclusive and welcoming society we aspire to build.

[Refugee Week Ireland](#) celebrates these everyday acts of courage by individuals, families, and communities across the country. Through sharing food, music, stories, conversation, and learning, it highlights both the courage it takes to seek safety and the courage it takes to be welcoming.

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2) Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT)

Topline data

IPAS Centre information	
Current number of IPAS centres in County Wicklow	9
Number of new centres opened	0
Total number of residents	1,134
Of which are children	380

IPAS Totals per MD	
Arklow	35
Baltinglass	704
Bray	196
Greystones	0
Wicklow	199

WCC LAIT Activity to date in 2026	
Total number of Integration Clinics delivered	89
Total number of face-to-face support sessions	332
Total number of sessions with single adults	111
Total number of sessions with couples	13
Total number of sessions with families	180

LAIT Integration Support Data Recorded for May 2026

Basic Clinic Data	
No. of clinics	12
No. of Individuals	5

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No. of Couples	1
No. of Families	16
No. in Ireland less than 1 month	1
No. in Ireland 1-3 months	3
No. in Ireland 3-6 months	2
No. In Ireland more than 6 months	16
No. of International Protection Applicants	15
No. Persons with Status	5
No. of BOTPs	0
Total number of Referrals to outside agencies	5

Integration Supports – Key Enablers

In Session Support	Incidence
Accommodation	1
Community/Family	7
Culture/Religion	0
Education/Training	5
Employment/Enterprise	3
Events	0
Finance/Welfare	8
Health/Wellbeing	7
Language/Communication	0
Legal/Justice/Civic	5
Transportation	1
Miscellaneous	6

Follow up Support	Incidence
Accommodation	1
Community/Family	3
Culture/Religion	0
Education/Training	3
Employment/Enterprise	0
Events	0
Finance/Welfare	2
Health/Wellbeing	2
Language/Communication	1
Legal/Justice/Civic	2
Transportation	0
Miscellaneous	1

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Overall Support April	
Emails sent for Clinic work	28
Emails Received	260
Emails Sent	190
Contacts with stakeholders	22
Referrals	5

3) Ukrainian Response

- BOTP in State Contracted Emergency Accommodation

As of the end of May 2026, there are **740** Ukrainian displaced persons in emergency accommodation, although it is known that there are significantly more in the county.

The breakdown of Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection from DOJHAM is as follows:

- Arklow MD: **16**
- Baltinglass MD: **31**
- Bray MD: **495**
- Greystones MD: **109**
- Wicklow MD: **89**

Note: These figures do not contain details of BOTP clients placed in accommodation providers by any other bodies separate to DOJHAM (Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration). Therefore, the total in any accommodation provider may not reflect the total number of BOTP clients in that establishment.

BOTP Centre information in Wicklow	
Current number of BOTP centres in County Wicklow	14
Number of new centres opened	0
Total number of residents	740
Of which are children	180

- BOTP accommodation changes in 2026/2027

Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration Jim O'Callaghan and Minister of State for Migration Colm Brophy secure Government approval for new measures in relation to Ukrainian citizens with Temporary Protection status on 26th May 2026. Please see Press Release.

- Phased withdrawal of State-contracted commercial accommodation will commence in August 2026 and be completed by March 2027. Those impacted in the first phase (August) will be notified in the coming weeks. Others will be notified as soon as possible but not less than three months in advance.
- Accommodation Recognition Payment (ARP) monthly contribution will be set at €400 from October 2026.
- Temporary Protection Transition Scheme will introduce an alternative permission for those with temporary protection status. The eligibility criteria for this permission will include:
 - being resident in Ireland for a minimum of one year as a beneficiary of temporary protection;
 - employment or self-employment for six months, with a minimum yearly salary of €29,432;

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- not be availing of state supported accommodation such as commercially provided, rapid build programme or hosted accommodation supported by the Accommodation Recognition Payment at the time of application. (Further details on how to apply will be available in September 2026.)
- Subject to developments at EU level support will be given to the development of a voluntary return and reintegration programme for those who return to Ukraine.
- Offer a Home programme

The 'Offer a Home' programme is being managed by local authorities on behalf of Government. Rent is not payable to homeowners as they are offering the property but a tax-free payment, Accommodation Recognition Payment (ARP), of €600 per month per property is available through the Government's Recognition Payment Scheme, managed by the Department of Social Protection. ARP is due to reduce to €400 in September, with the first payment at this rate due to property owners in October.

Changes to the eligibility criteria for the Accommodation Recognition Payment (ARP) have been introduced under [Part 3 of the Residential Tenancies \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 2026](#).

From 3 March 2026, new applications for properties that have been registered with the Residential Tenancies Board (RTB) will no longer meet the scheme's eligibility criteria. This applies to properties registered with the RTB at any time since 4 March 2022. Tenants in rental properties will also no longer be eligible to make new applications for the scheme.

The Government has extended the ARP to 31 March 2027, in line with the [EU Temporary Protection Directive](#).

The Wicklow Integration Services currently mediates 63 Offer A Home Licences under the Ukrainian Response function.

4) Irish Refugee Protection Programme: Wicklow IRPP3

Wicklow County Council launched IRPP3 on 1st May 2026. This will be the third round of the programme to be delivered in Wicklow and is set to settle and support 51 individuals in the county. **IRPP** is a state lead initiative that provides a safe and legal route to Ireland for displaced and vulnerable refugees. It is distinct from the International Protection system in that all applications for the programme are processed before arrival. Hence, all IRPP refugees arrive in Ireland already holding official refugee status.

Two properties have been identified to housing incoming refugees to the county through the programme.

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Organisational Development

Recruitment

The following interviews were held in May 2026:

- Shortlisting Library Assistant

Employee Numbers	Q2 2025	Q3 2025	Q4 2025	Q1 2026
Managerial/Administrative	356	365	361	367
Professional/Technical	150	144	146	151
Outdoor	246	245	238	234
Temporary/Seasonal	95	96	58	60
Non DoHPLG	2	2	2	2
Total	849	852	805	814

Freedom of Information

May 2026: 12	May 2025: 8
January – May 2026: 93	January – May 2025: 38

Ombudsman Requests

May 2026: 2	May 2025: 1
January – May 2026: 10	January – May 2025: 15

Press Releases

May 2026 – 16

Register of Electors

Wicklow Co Co Franchise Section went live on www.voter.ie on Thursday 11th June 2026 along with 3 other local authorities for the migration to the new National Register of Electors. WCC went live as part of Wave 2 and are now working on www.voter.ie with these 3 other local authorities and with the 4 Dublin authorities.

All applications for updating details and new registrations are now coming to Wicklow County Council via www.voter.ie but we will continue to utilise www.checktheregister.ie for changes of address into Wicklow until all local authorities who have not migrated to date are also using the new system.

We are continuing to work on data quality on the Register and are also planning a programme of works for voter registration including visiting Secondary Schools in late summer/early Autumn 2026.

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Customer Hub

Customer Service Innovation Hub			
2026 - May			
Communication Channels	No.	Public Counters	No.
No. of Phone Calls received to (0404) 20100	7,850	Motor Taxation transactions in County Buildings	1,819
No. of Customer Service Emails received	4,059	Revenue Transactions	1,597
No. of Elected Members / Deputy Representatives Received	78	Housing Counter Visits	386

Energy Office

Wicklow County Council achieved ISO 50001 certification in September 2024. This international standard supports the establishment, implementation, maintenance, and continuous improvement of an energy management system. To retain certification, an annual surveillance audit is required. The National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) was appointed as the external auditor to conduct these annual assessments of the Council's ISO 50001 energy management system. The Energy Office remains committed to ongoing improvement, proactively identifying non-conformances and implementing corrective actions monthly. The 2026 ISO 50001 surveillance audit took place on 20 March and concluded with a recommendation that Wicklow County Council retain its certification.

The Energy office collaborates with all sections of the council and supports the development of other energy efficiency opportunities.

- Monthly energy reports on our Significant Energy Users (SEU)
- Library Service – New builds and energy efficiency projects in existing libraries
- Fire Service - New builds and energy efficiency projects in existing fire stations and fleet
- Fleet Management – Monitoring energy and carbon emissions of the WCC fleet
- Wicklow Gaol – Installation of a new boiler system, transitioning from kerosene to HVO (Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil) fuel to improve sustainability and reduce emissions.

Ongoing energy monitoring and verification of projects completed in 2025 to verify energy savings.

The Energy Office is currently investigating several energy efficiency and carbon reduction projects for 2026 with support from the Mid-East Energy Unit, Codema and SEAI

Planned SEAI Pathfinder Projects for 2026.

- Arklow MD / Library - Part removal of gas boiler, installation of Air Source Heat Pump, Solar Photovoltaic Panels
- Blessington MD office - Removal of gas boiler, installation of Air Source Heat Pump & Solar Photovoltaic Panels
- Shoreline Leisure Centres Energy Performance Contract (EPC) - Invitation to participate in competitive dialogue issued

Other ongoing projects - District Heating Feasibility Study – Arklow Decarbonised Zone final version due Q2 2026

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Mid-East Energy Unit

- Tender published to establish multi-party framework for smaller works outside EPC
 - One stop shop for SEAI Pathfinder projects for Mid-East Region
 - Framework agreement established with the three successful contractors
- First EPC project for Kildare County Council anticipated contract signing Q2 2026
- Second EPC for Meath County Council anticipated contract signing Q3 2026
- Installing heat meters in leisure centres across the region to inform EPC process
- Third EPC for Wicklow County Council invitation to compete in competitive dialogue ongoing
- Forth EPC for Louth County Council invitation to compete in competitive dialogue ongoing

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Finance, Water & Information Systems

Finance

Revenue Account

DRAFT REVENUE ACCOUNT							
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 31st MAY 2026							
	EXPENDITURE			INCOME			NET
	Actual Expenditure	Adopted Full Year Budget	% Budget Spent to Date	Actual Income	Adopted Full Year Budget	% Budget Spent to Date	Actual Expenditure / (Income)
	€	€	%	€	€	%	€
Housing and Building	20,662,629	62,990,719	33%	(21,636,972)	(65,142,671)	33%	(974,342)
Road Transport & Safety	7,352,517	28,055,651	26%	(4,114,151)	(19,804,843)	21%	3,238,366
Water Services	1,455,779	4,382,330	33%	(1,906,119)	(5,354,831)	36%	(450,340)
Development Management	6,943,562	19,296,387	36%	(3,552,523)	(11,199,854)	32%	3,391,039
Environmental Services	8,593,338	20,044,291	43%	(2,639,314)	(6,082,483)	43%	5,954,025
Recreation and Amenity	4,349,462	10,517,175	41%	(460,951)	(1,393,762)	33%	3,888,511
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	1,036,258	2,081,928	50%	(347,909)	(694,328)	50%	688,349
Miscellaneous Services	4,106,756	9,588,050	43%	(7,248,373)	(17,287,651)	42%	(3,141,617)
Central Management Charges	11,437,665	27,283,644	42%	(404,900)	(1,050,000)	39%	11,032,766
Local Government Fund	0	0	0	(9,087,533)	(21,810,080)	42%	(9,087,533)
Pension Levy	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0
Commercial Rates	0	0	0	(14,378,513)	(34,419,672)	42%	(14,378,513)
	65,937,966	184,240,175	36%	(65,777,257)	(184,240,175)	36%	160,709

Cashflow/Overdraft

Wicklow County Council manages its cashflow requirements daily and did not avail of its overdraft facility during the period 1st to 31st May 2026.

Capital Account

CAPITAL ACCOUNT					
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 31st May 2026					
	Opening Balance at 01/01/2026	Actual Expenditure	Actual Income	Transfers to/from Reserves	Closing Balance at 31/05/2026
	€	€	€	€	€
Housing and Building	12,487,427	30,852,877	(22,021,080)	(201,725)	21,117,499
Road Transport & Safety	(24,249,158)	7,266,736	(1,641,020)	(675,000)	(19,298,442)
Water Services	(6,335,116)	400,443	(5,731)	(45,000)	(5,985,405)
Development Management	(64,738,651)	414,529	(2,561,795)	296,250	(66,589,667)
Environmental Services	4,635,816	1,754,541	(1,674,200)	(208,125)	4,508,033
Recreation and Amenity	3,302,756	2,384,258	(767,193)	(74,500)	4,845,321
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	(2,225,465)	46,507	0	(88,750)	(2,267,708)
Miscellaneous Services	(6,311,917)	174,098	(242,766)	2,691,579	(3,689,006)
	(83,434,307)	43,293,988	(28,913,785)	1,694,729	(67,359,374)

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Commercial Rates, Rents and Loan Collections

SUMMARY OF MAJOR COLLECTIONS AT 31st May 2026										
Income Collection Area	Opening Balance 01/01/2026	Accrued	Vacancy Property Adjustments	Write Offs	Waivers	Total for Collection	Collected	Closing Arrears 31/05/2026	Specific Doubtful Arrears	% Collection
Rates	2,830,358	34,507,183	(11,259)	(104,225)	121,396	37,170,498	(20,318,173)	16,852,325	524,004	55%
Rents & Annuities	2,760,539	8,189,760	0	0	0	10,950,298	(8,533,690)	2,416,609	0	78%
Housing Loans	447,005	1,027,706	0	0	0	1,474,711	(1,011,117)	463,594	0	69%

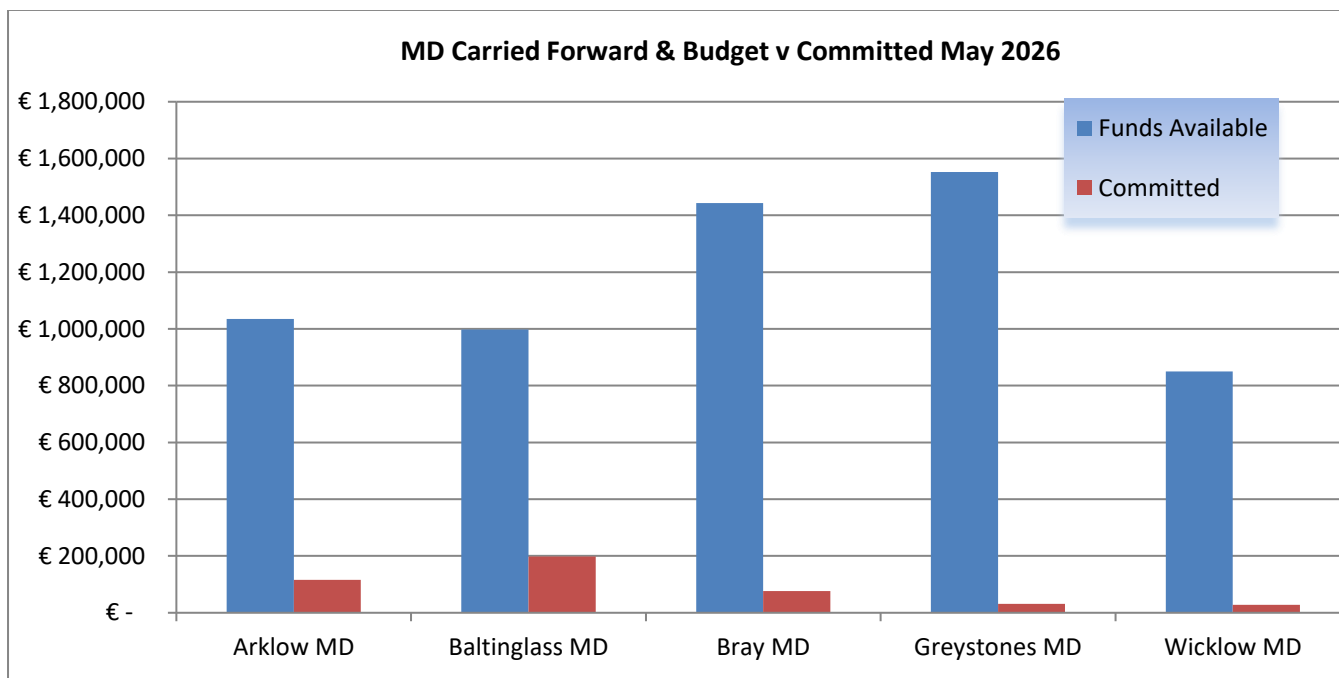
NB: Collection percentages are below normal levels due to the carry forward of arrears at the start of the new financial year. This situation will be regularised over the course of the year.

General Municipal Allocation and Discretionary Fund 2026

The decision taken by Members at the LPT meeting on 7th July to maintain the LPT basic rate increase at 6% generated circa €1.4m which was ring-fenced for discretionary funding within the 5 Municipal Districts to implement important public realm projects. The total Municipal District's General Municipal Allocation funding for 2026 is set out below:

Municipal District	C/F from 2025	Adopted Budget 2026	Funds available to MD	Committed	Balance to Expend
	€	€	€	€	€
Arklow MD	517,434	518,009	1,035,443	116,005	919,438
Baltinglass MD	317,834	679,901	997,735	197,765	799,970
Bray MD	604,785	838,142	1,442,927	76,446	1,366,481
Greystones MD	1,040,878	511,584	1,552,462	31,212	1,521,250
Wicklow MD	213,125	637,288	850,413	27,656	822,757
Total	2,694,056	3,184,924	5,878,980	449,084	5,429,896

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Capital Investment Programme 2026-2028

The Capital Investment Programme 2026-2028 for Wicklow County Council details proposed capital expenditure projects over the next 3 year period, subject to available funding, was noted by the Members at the Council meeting of 11th May 2026. The table below outlines the proposed capital expenditure by programme group.

PROGRAMME GROUP	Expected Outlay				Proposed Funding				
	2026	2027	2028	TOTAL	Dev Charges ¹	Loan	Grant Aid ²	Other ³	TOTAL
	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
HOUSING AND BUILDING	114,226,000	128,000,000	130,400,000	372,626,000	-	30,000,000	295,418,500	47,207,500	372,626,000
ROAD TRANSPORT & SAFETY	29,906,000	31,040,000	35,960,000	96,906,000	38,851,000	-	54,465,000	3,590,000	96,906,000
WATER SERVICES	255,000	140,000	140,000	535,000	-	-	535,000	-	535,000
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT	4,021,000	5,185,000	4,270,000	13,476,000	3,206,000	-	7,260,000	3,010,000	13,476,000
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	14,080,000	33,165,000	26,895,000	74,140,000	-	-	64,365,000	9,775,000	74,140,000
RECREATION AND AMENITY	12,865,000	16,660,000	32,890,000	62,415,000	19,337,500	-	41,017,500	2,060,000	62,415,000
AGRICULTURAL, EDUCATION, HEALTH & WELFARE	7,250,000	22,310,000	23,200,000	52,760,000	2,377,500	-	44,657,500	5,725,000	52,760,000
MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES	1,350,000	950,000	950,000	3,250,000	-	-	-	3,250,000	3,250,000
OVERALL TOTAL	183,953,000	237,450,000	254,705,000	676,108,000	63,772,000	30,000,000	507,718,500	74,617,500	676,108,000

NOTES

1. Commencement of, and progression on, projects funded fully or in part by Development Charges is subject to the availability of funds.
2. Where grant aid is not forthcoming the associated schemes may not progress.
3. Other Income includes among others, disposal of assets, own resource revenue and capital account provisions, and private sector investment.

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Capital Funded Projects

Project Scheme	Project Name	Project Cost	Match Funding
NRGF	Blessington Greenway	€15,000,000	€0
URDF	Arklow Historic Town Core	€3,134,684	€783,671
URDF	Wicklow Town - Library and Fitzwilliam Square	7,034,879	€2,407,470
URDF	Bray Public Transport Bridge	€8,600,000	€1,000,000
URDF	Bray Harbour Area Integrated Regeneration	€9,520,000	€2,380,000
RRDF 2019	Blueprint for Baltinglass	€3,566,968	€891,742
RRDF 2020	Placemaking Newtownmountkennedy	€477,000	€119,250
REDF	Wicklow County Campus - Content Creation Hub	€4,500,000	€2,700,000
REISS (REDF)	Wicklow Naturally Food Incubation and Innovation Centre	€249,500	€49,900
Fáilte Ireland Destination Towns	Abbey Grounds Wicklow Town	€1,000,000	€500,000
Fáilte Ireland Outdoor Dining Scheme	Market Square Wicklow Town	€119,000	€19,000
Community CCTV Scheme	Greystones CCTV	€115,000	€75,000
Community CCTV Scheme	Blessington CCTV	€115,000	€75,000
WCC	Mill Road, Greystones Masterplan	€50,000	€50,000
Sports Capital Programme	Charlesland All Weather Pitch Refurbishment	€52,500	€2,750
Sports Capital Programme	Coral Wicklow	€68,759	€20,628
Sports Capital Programme	Coral Arklow	€28,999	€8,700
Sports Capital Programme	Arklow Running Track	€62,434	€18,730
Sports Capital Programme	Dr. Ryan Park	€45,320	€13,596
LSSIS	Wicklow Swimming Pool	€2,443,654	€1,579,477
LSSIS	Charlesland Running Track	€411,674	€123,502
Dormant Accounts Action Plan 2022	Wicklow Libraries	€26,500	€2,650
T&V 2018	Blessington	€100,000	€20,000
T&V 2018	Wicklow	€150,000	€30,000
T&V 2019	Dunlavin	€26,216	€2,623
T&V 2019	Coolkenno	€30,000	€3,000
T&V 2019	Aughrim	€119,500	€17,925
T&V 2019	Redcross	€100,000	€20,000
T&V 2019	Delgany	€37,000	€3,700
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Bundled	€28,000	€2,800
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Dunlavin	€4,950	€495
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Roundwood	€40,000	€4,000
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Ballinaclesh	€44,000	€4,400
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Enniskerry	€44,000	€4,400
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Laragh	€27,000	€2,700
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Tinahely	€5,500	€550
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Baltinglass	€10,000	€1,000
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Arklow	€39,500	€3,950
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Wicklow	€44,444	€4,444
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Greystones	€44,444	€4,444
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Rathdrum	€27,000	€2,700
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Broadband Connection Points	€44,444	€4,444
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Kilcoole	20,000	2,000
T&V 2020 Main	Stratford	€200,000	€22,222
T&V 2020 Main	Avoca	€100,000	€11,111
T&V 2020 Main	Enniskerry	€100,000	€11,111
T&V 2020 Main	Annamoe	€100,000	€11,111
T&V 2021	Ballinaclesh	€70,000	€7,000
T&V 2021	Donard	€29,000	€2,900
T&V 2021	Wicklow	€245,931	€24,593
T&V 2022 PMD	Carnew	€55,555.00	€5,555
T&V 2022 PMD	Kiltegan	€55,555.00	€5,555
T&V 2022	Ashford - GAA Wall	€127,000.00	€12,700
T&V 2022	Blessington - Community Space	€20,000.00	€2,000
T&V 2022	Kilcoole - Stakepark	€277,777.00	€27,777
	Sub-Total	€58,988,686	€13,104,276

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Project Scheme	Project Name	Project Cost	Match Funding
CLAR 2019	Rathcoyle NS	€55,556	€2,778
CLAR 2019	Knockananna	€46,000	€3,000
CLAR 2021	Knockananna community allotment	€10,830	€1,083
CLAR 2021	Askanagap	€55,557	€5,557
CLAR 2021	Knockananna	€27,514	€2,501
CLAR 2022	Kilpipe	€18,000	€1,800
CLAR 2022	Askinagap - Boundary Wall	€50,000	€5,000
CLAR 2022	Askinagap - Carpark	€50,000	€5,000
CLAR 2022	Knockanna - Pitch	€20,000	€2,000
ORIS 2018	Avonmore Way Link Bridge	€460,000	€91,000
ORIS 2018	Vartry Reservoir Walks & Car Park	€165,157	€33,031
ORIS 2018	St. Kevin's Way	€200,000	€40,000
ORIS 2018	The Spinc	€160,000	€30,000
ORIS 2019	Wicklow Way Infrastructure Enhancement	€25,000	€5,000
ORIS 2019	Baltinglass Road Cycle Trails	€11,000	€2,200
ORIS 2019	North Wicklow Trails Network Development	€240,700	€108,140
ORIS Measure 1 2020	Avondale Avonmore	€20,330	€2,033
ORIS Measure 1 2020	Trail Digitising	€19,600	€1,960
ORIS Measure 1 2020	Tinahely	€20,000	€2,000
ORIS Measure 1 2020	Stratford	€20,000	€2,000
ORIS Measure 1 2020	Long Distance Video	€21,400	€2,140
ORIS Measure 1 2020	Brockagh Mountain Access	€11,100	€1,110
ORIS Measure 1 2020	People Counters	€22,000	€2,200
ORIS Measure 1 2020	Sean Lenihan	€21,200	€2,120
ORIS Measure 1 2020	Glenmalure Bridge	€12,500	€1,250
ORIS Measure 3 2020	Bright light Blueway	€754,820	€205,482
ORIS 2021 Measure 1	Kilmacanogue Nature Trail	€20,000	€2,000
ORIS 2021 Measure 1	Lacken Mass Path	€18,000	€1,800
ORIS 2021 Measure 1	Kilcoole Mass Path	€13,000	€1,300
ORIS 2021 Measure 1	Avonmore Kayak Project	€16,500	€1,650
ORIS 2021 Measure 1	Age Friendly Triobikes for older people	€23,160	€3,160
ORIS 2021 Measure 1	Keadeen Access	€13,500	€1,350
ORIS 2021 Project Development	Three Trout Route	€27,000	€3,000
ORIS 2021 Measure 3	The Sugarloaf Repair	€500,000	€50,000
ORIS 2021 Measure 2	Jubilee Loop and Avonmore Way link	€180,000	€18,000
ORIS 2021 Measure 2	Cliff Walk Protection Scheme	€220,000	€22,000
ORIS 2022 M1	Avonmore Way Clara Vale	€33,000	€3,300
ORIS 2022 M1	Ballyboy Equestrian Trail	€33,000	€3,300
ORIS 2022 M1	Glen Turn Cliff Walk Airlift	€33,300	€3,600
ORIS 2022 M1	Miners Way Ballinafunshogue	€28,000	€2,800
ORIS 2022 M1	Red Kite Loop Play Area	€33,000	€3,300
ORIS 2022 M1	West Wicklow Access Points	€33,000	€3,300
ORIS 2022 M1	Wicklow Uplands Airlift	€33,000	€3,300
ORIS 2022 M1	Aughrim Heritage Access to Stoneworks	€30,000	€3,000
ORIS 2022 M1	Devil's Glen river Walk Extension	€30,000	€3,000
ORIS 2022 M1	Oakwood Ballinagee Trail Upgrade	€30,000	€3,000
ORIS 2022 M2	Blessington Greenway Link to Russborough	€198,200	€19,820
ORIS 2022 M2	Glenmalure Riverside Walk & Recreation Area	€133,100	€13,310
ORIS 2022 M2	Coolkenno Equestrian Trail	€220,000	€22,000
ORIS 2022 M3	Roundwood Recreation Area	€550,000	€55,000
	Total to date	€63,955,710	€13,910,951

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Information Systems

Operations

- The IT Helpdesk continues to streamline the workflow for the technical support team with an average of 50 tickets a day this month, providing assistance for both in-house and remote workers.

GIS & Systems Analysis

Statutory Mapping & Local Area Plans

- Continued work on the Council's statutory mapping programme, including detailed quality assurance checks on zoning datasets used within the MyPlan planning system. Mapping for a number of Local Area Plans was finalised and uploaded, ensuring planning information remains accurate and up to date. This work supports future planning decisions and provides a reliable source of information for the public and stakeholders.

Baltinglass Regeneration Project

- Produced a range of maps to support the Baltinglass Town Centre Refurbishment Scheme (Phase 1A). Additional mapping information was provided in response to project queries and design requirements. This work supports the delivery of regeneration initiatives aimed at enhancing the town centre environment.

Heritage – Placenames Project

- Worked with the Heritage Section on a project to preserve and document minor placenames throughout County Wicklow. Discussions are ongoing regarding the integration of this information into the Council's GIS systems. The project has the potential to make valuable local heritage information more accessible to the public.

Wicklow Fire Service GIS Support

- Provided mapping support to Wicklow Fire Service in relation to an upcoming inter-agency training exercise. Detailed maps were prepared to assist planning and coordination activities. GIS information continues to support emergency planning and operational preparedness across the county.

Agricultural Inspections Mobile App

- Met with staff from Cavan County Council and Environment Section personnel to review a mobile application used for agricultural inspections. The discussions focused on streamlining field data collection and enhancing reporting processes. Collaboration with other local authorities helps identify best practice and improve service delivery.

Infrastructure

- Ongoing upgrades of WAN connections at remote sites by Wicklow County Council aim to optimize performance and cost-effectiveness.